



Jednota

THE UNION

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photo courtesy of Linda Stasiková

A view of Spiš Castle from the west

Spišský Hrad – Spiš Castle

By Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.
University of Maryland University College

In addition to the history of Spiš region discussed in a previous article, the architecture and historical artifacts of Spiš deserve special mention for those interested in learning more about the county. Castles blend in with the surrounding scenery to provide a dashing, romantic setting. In nearly all the Spiš villages and towns, Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque architecture provide a captivating picture of life in previous centuries and a special appreciation for the strong religious traditions of the Slovak people.

No discussion of the early history and architecture of Spiš county would be complete without a detailed look at one of the most prominent landmarks in Slovakia – Spišský Hrad, known in English as Spiš Castle. The Hungarians call the castle Szepesi vár, and the Germans spell it Zipser Burg.

One of the largest castles in all of Europe, Spiš Castle sits atop a limestone cliff, 634 meters above sea level. Rising majestically out of the nearby valleys, Spiš Castle represents in every sense of the word, the kind of inspiration which can motivate a person to be creative and dream. But before emotions carry us away, let us take a look at the historical background.

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Message From the President

“Fun, fun, fun, till her daddy takes the T-bird away”; this is a line from the very popular Beach Boys song of 1964.

The August 14th FCSU Family Picnic date is close, and we'll have fun, fun, fun..... See you there.

While it looks like the NFL season is saved, it's unfortunate that some people are more serious about the football season than their spiritual life.

On a business note, our Board approved moving forward with my proposal to move the “Doughboy” monument, create a memorial for all Jednota members KIA and memorialize the former Jednota orphanage at a very visible site on our property in Middletown, Pennsylvania. James Marmol, our Region 4 Director, developed a draft drawing that will serve as the basis for the project. We will have up-dates as the project progresses.

Later this year we will introduce a program to help interested members to obtain a fraternal insurance license. We don't want to rely solely on independent insurance agents as some other fraternal do.

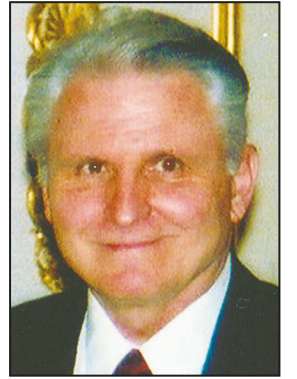
The Society recently held our Annual Golf Tournament in Sharon, Pennsylvania; Very hot! We will soon be announcing joint fraternal sporting events with other Slovak fraternal. Remember we had our first joint golf event with the Slovak Catholic Sokols two years ago.

We will be announcing, before year-end, a “final expense” program intended to cover the funeral and last illness expenses that all of us eventually incur.

On a final note, I want to thank all our dedicated Branch and District Officers for their work and support. They are the foundation of our Society. We need more of them.

Till we meet again, have “fun, fun, fun...”

Fraternally,



Andrew M. Rajec

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Wiegand's
Lake Park
Novelty, Ohio

2011 National Picnic August 14th

This year's National Picnic will be held on August 14 at Wiegand's Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio. The day will begin with a Mass at 11 AM. There are paddle boats, playgrounds, horseshoes, and swimming available for guests.

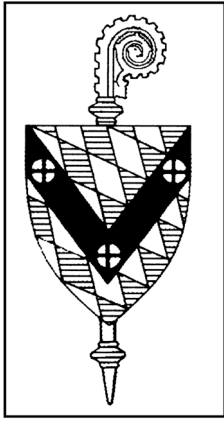
The U.S. Women's National team captured the attention and hearts of millions in the 2011 World Cup. We are giving our children, ages 6 – 14, the chance to learn some soccer skills with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO). AYSO is proud to announce that 5 AYSO alumni were a part of the Women's World Cup team. All skill levels are welcome.

There will be plenty of delicious picnic food served from noon until 6 pm. Kontakty from New Jersey and the Slovenske Mamičky from Cleveland will provide music for your listening & dancing pleasure throughout the afternoon. Other games and activities will take place for all participants. There will be a few surprises, too!

We look forward to seeing all the Jednotars on Sunday, August 14, at Wiegand's Lake Park.

Susan Ondrejco, Director of Fraternal Activities
See page 13 of this issue for directions to the picnic.

Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Campion P. Gavalier O.S.B., Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B.

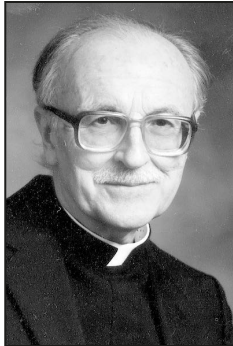
August 21, 2011

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 16:13-20

Gospel Summary

This Sunday's passage is part of the fourth section (13:54-18:35) of Matthew's gospel in which he explains the meaning of Jesus in relation to the church. Throughout this section we learn that many people did not understand who Jesus was and even took offence at him



Campion P. Gavalier,
O.S.B.

because of their lack of belief (Mt 13:54-58). It is against this background that Jesus asks his disciples: "But who do you say that I am?"

Simon replies: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus congratulates him as blessed because the heavenly Father has revealed this truth to him. Jesus then, like Yahweh giving Abraham a new name, gives Simon a new name -- Peter, Rock. (Petros in Greek means rock.) He then states that upon this Rock he will build his church, against which no evil will prevail. Further, Jesus promises to give Simon Peter (Rock) the keys to the kingdom of heaven so that whatever he binds or looses on earth will be bound or loosed in heaven.

Life Implications

The historical, earthly Jesus is no longer present to ask us: "Who do you say that I am?" We may mistakenly be inclined to think that if we did have that first-hand experience today, it would be much easier to affirm Jesus as "Christ, the Son of the living God." The presence of the earthly Jesus, however, is not an advantage in regard to the gift of faith. As we know, most people who heard him and talked with him did not recognize his true identity.

In his humanity, Jesus was a sacrament, a visible sign of the invisible divine presence. There was a double reality about him -- one visible, able to be grasped by human reason; the other, invisible, able to be grasped only when revealed by the heavenly Father and accepted in faith. The life implication for us lies in the fact that Jesus, to whom "all power in heaven and on earth has been given" (Mt 28:18), extends his meaning as sacrament of divine presence to others.

Jesus identifies Simon Peter as the Rock upon which his church will be built so that Peter's binding and loosing on earth simultaneously binds and looses in heaven. Thus the church with its visible structure of authority, through Christ's power, becomes an extension of Christ as the sacrament of his presence in history. There is as a consequence a double reality about the church through its communion with Christ -- one visible, able to be recognized by human reason; the other, invisible, able to be recognized only when revealed by the heavenly Father and accepted in faith.

Today, against the background of so many diverse opinions about his identity, Jesus asks us through the sacramentality of his church: "But who do you say that I am?" We pray that, like Peter, we will be congratulated as blessed because the heavenly Father reveals to us that Jesus has kept his promise to be with us "always, until the end of the age" (Mt 28:20).

The church, by giving us Matthew's gospel, proclaims the good news that Christ is with us, and his presence may be recognized in our time just as during the time of his earthly life. Through the sacrament of baptism we become his followers and enter with him into the divine life of the Father and Holy Spirit (Mt 28:18-20). In the sacrament of the Eucharist, the Risen Lord is truly present, praying with us and giving himself to us as life-giving bread and wine (Mt 26:26-29).

We also hear the good news that Jesus is present and identifies himself with every human being, however lowly -- the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the criminal (Mt 25:31-46). This strange presence of Jesus in our midst may prove to be a stumbling-stone when we respond to the question: "But who do you say that I am?"

Peter was able to affirm Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God: but balked at the notion

that Jesus would suffer and die (Mt 16:21-23). We too may affirm Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, but balk at the notion that Jesus is now present as the one in need. In fact, every human being by Christ's power becomes a double reality -- one visible, recognized by reason; the other, invisible (the presence of Christ in need), recognized only when revealed by the heavenly Father and accepted in faith.

In this Sunday's liturgy we thank God that we are numbered among the blessed to whom is revealed the true identity and presence of Jesus in our midst. We also pray for a deeper, more complete faith so that we may recognize the divine presence even when it does not make sense to our human understanding, and will cost us something to respond. Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.

August 28, 2011

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 16: 21-27

Gospel Summary

At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus had questioned the disciples about his identity and Peter responded confidently, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). In today's gospel, we see how poorly Peter understood the true mission of Jesus. He still had to learn that God's ways are often not our ways.

When we hear the words, "Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly...and be killed and on the third day be raised," we recognize the familiar story of the death and resurrection of Jesus. But this was a story that the disciples had not even imagined. They expected a political Messiah and a new kingdom of David. They are stunned, therefore, by the words of Jesus. Jesus talked about resurrection indeed, but all they could hear was that Jesus would suffer and die...and that their dreams would die with him.

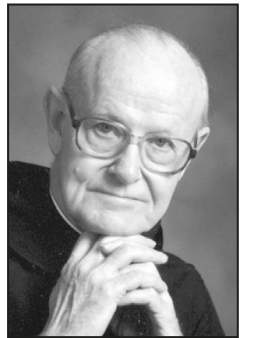
When Peter tried to dissuade Jesus, he received a sharp rebuke, and was told that he must abandon human plans in favor of God's way of doing things. And God's way is first the way of the cross...and then only the blessings of freedom and joy. This does not mean seeking pain, or even awaiting pain; it means simply trying to be a loving, caring person--something that will surely entail suffering, but which will also end in joy and fulfillment, as it did for Jesus.

Life Implications

We are all familiar with the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus and most of us know that in some general sense we must share in that experience. However, it is only when we are faced with the reality of a human life that is fragile and mortal that we begin to share the disciples' dismay. Death or betrayal or personal illness can suddenly bring home to us the reality of the cross and the need to let go of the dangerous illusion of happiness merely through the success of our human plans.

This does not mean, of course, that we should avoid making plans and working hard for their success. But it does mean that we should not become wedded to those plans to the extent that we cannot imagine success or happiness in some other scenario. Anyone who has lived very long will remember how once cherished plans sometimes had to be abandoned and how something much better often took their place. What we should strive for is an attitude that is both persistent and open to revision. Once we get used to dealing with occasional revision of our plans, we will be ready for the ultimate revision of plans which will be our dying...something that can also be replaced by an outcome that is better than anything we could ever have planned.

In the meantime, we must avoid a false understanding of the meaning of the cross. It does not mean that suffering is good in itself but rather that the suffering that comes from loving is ultimately victorious and thus leads to a happiness that goes far beyond our wildest dreams. Moreover, for those of us who are facing the uncertainties of old age, suffering will simply be part of our trust in God's promises--something that can be very difficult, but which can also be suffused by the sweet experience of hope. We should often ponder those comforting words of the Letter to the Hebrews: "...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before him endured the cross...and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God" (12:1-2). We need to fix our eyes steadfastly on that illuminated horizon.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.



Come Celebrate Mass Sept 18 with FCSU At National Shrine



A Mass will be celebrated at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, on September 18, 2011 to commemorate the 46th anniversary of the dedication of the Mother of Sorrows Chapel. This chapel was donated to the Shrine by the First Catholic Slovak Union and was consecrated during religious ceremonies at the Shrine over the week-end of September 4-5, 1965. Thousands of Slovak Catholics attended these ceremonies.

The chapel has a life size Pieta of the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is considered the most beautiful chapel in the Shrine. It is located on the right side of the Shrine about half way towards the altar.

Mass will take place at 11:00 a. m. on Sunday, September 18, 2011 in the Crypt Church which is downstairs in the Shrine at street level.

The address of the National Shrine is 400 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20017.

For further information, contact Katherine Nowatkoski at 701-860-1693 or Stephen Matula at 703-671-3013, Financial Secretary and President of Branch 856, respectively.

Submitted by Stephen Matula, Branch 856 President

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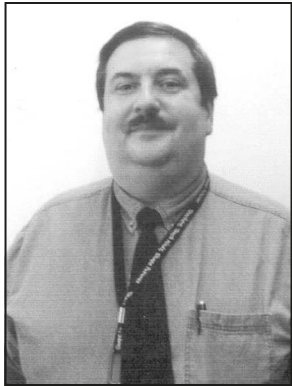
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The Best of the Best!

Top Guns Thru June 2011



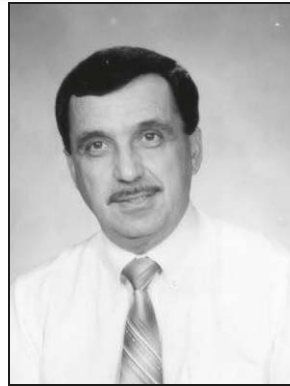
Michael J. Slovenkai
First Place



Michael E. Lako
Second Place



Audrey J. Balazik
Third Place



Cluey Sandy
First Place



Robert J. Kopco
Second Place



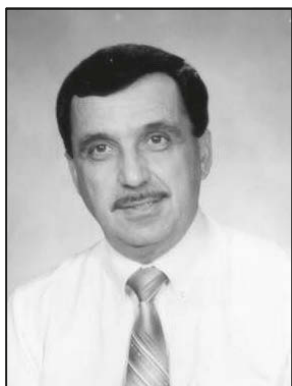
Joseph T. Scavina
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance Amount
Slovenkai, Michael J.	382	200,000
Lako, Michael E.	2	140,000
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	130,000
Rura, Joseph Edward	484	120,000
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	105,000
Marmol, Dolores	162	95,000
Rimarcik, Joseph C.	743	90,000
Matta, Florence K.	38	85,000
Marmol, James Robert	162	60,000
Holly, Barbara Ann	410	60,000

TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

Name	Branch	Total Points
Sandy, Cluey	322	486
Kopco, Robert J.	24	345
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	241
Lako, Michael E.	2	221
Rajec, Andrew M.	89	221
Jurcenko, John A.	153	176
Kelchak, George J.	581	151
Kapitan, Mary J.	746	140
Swartz, Douglas J.	228	120
Rura, Joseph Edward	484	112
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	105



Cluey Sandy
First Place



Robert J. Kopco
Second Place



Joseph T. Scavina
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

Name	Branch	Annuities
Sandy, Cluey	322	486,614.65
Kopco, Robert J.	24	347,127.94
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	242,089.57
Rajec, Andrew M.	89	221,422.29
Jurcenko, John A.	153	166,500.00
Swartz, Douglas L.	228	110,000.00
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	99,441.17
Kelchak, George J.	581	94,000.00
Rura, Joseph Edward	484	72,279.04
Nowatkoski, Katherine	856	70,000.00



ATTENTION

THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2011 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2011 Scholarship Program.

THE COMMITTEE SHALL AWARD UP TO TEN ONE-TIME \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE CANDIDATES WHO BEST SATISFY THE AWARD CRITERIA.

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who will attend an Approved Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:
 - Scholarship
 - Leadership
 - Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
 - An official college transcript of grades or an official copy of applicant's high school transcript which indicates applicant's high school grades and all standardized test scores achieved, including all ACT or SAT scores; (if applicable)
 - One (1) letter of recommendation authored by a teacher, counselor, administrator or an employment supervisor familiar with the applicant;
 - Examples of applicant's community involvement;
 - A list and description of leadership positions held by applicant;
 - A list of awards received by applicant for scholastic excellence, community involvement, or leadership ability;
 - A description of the applicant's academic or career objectives;
 - A statement demonstrating an applicant's need for education financing.

For applications, please contact:
Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310
E-mail: fcsu@aol.com - Website: www.fcsu.com

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

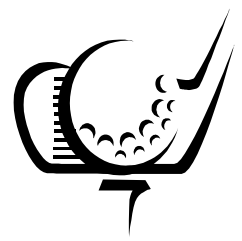
*Family members of the Scholarship Committee are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

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.



Accent on Activities



August 2011

2011 International Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament was held Saturday and Sunday, July 16-17, at the Oak Tree Country Club and Tam O'Shanter Golf Courses in Sharon, PA. Through the generosity of our social sponsor, a hospitality room allowed the golfers to mingle with their out-of-town friends before the competition began on Friday night.

The beautiful weather on Saturday and Sunday allowed the golfers to play their best. The results of the tournament are posted at www.fcsu.com and are listed on another page of this issue.

The golfers had tee times on Saturday and enjoyed a shotgun start on Sunday. Saturday night, National Chaplain, Fr. Tom Nasta, celebrated Mass at the Park Inn hotel. Afterwards, a tasty buffet dinner took place.

After the golfers finished their round on Sunday, a picnic was held at Tam O'Shanter. Golfers had the opportunity to socialize with each other before heading back home.

Pictures from the golf tournament have been posted at: http://www2.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnailshare/AlbumID=7777110013/a=129316620_129316620/otsc=SHR/otsi=SA_LBlink/COBRAND_NAME=snapfish/



Prize Amounts:

Name	Flight	Place	Prize
CJ Andre	A	First	\$176.00
Richard Yokopenic	A	Second	\$135.00
Stephen Yokopenic	A	Third	\$95.00
Lou Falbo	A	Fourth	\$25.00
Tony Menich	A	Fourth	\$25.00
Milos Mitro	B	First	\$190.00
Clarence Shank, Sr	B	Second	\$120.00
Al Ulishney	B	Third	\$120.00
Gene Torok	B	Fourth	\$50.00
Mike Columbus	C	First	\$190.00
Robert J. Kopanic	C	Second	\$145.00
Michael Lako	C	Third	\$95.00
Terry Eller	C	Fourth	\$50.00
Loretta Smith	W	First	\$92.00
Mary M Starr	W	Second	\$52.00
Edward Metzinger	CAL	First	\$125.00
Timothy Quinn	CAL	Second	\$91.00



Skins Winners

Saturday

- Robert Hudec – Hole #4 Birdie
- Rick Piper – Hole #8 Birdie
- CJ Andre – Hole #10 Birdie
- Ed Metzinger – Hole #11 Birdie
- Ed Metzinger – Hole #15 Birdie

Sunday

- John Kavulic – Hole #8 Birdie
- Lou Falbo – Hole #10 Birdie
- Barry Andre – Hole #12 Birdie
- CJ Andre – Hole #13 Eagle
- Robert Hudec – Hole #16 Birdie



2011 International Golf Tournament Results



Last	First	Flight	HDCP	SAT GROSS	SAT TOTAL	SUN GROSS	SUN TOTAL	FINAL SCORE
Andre	CJ	A	6	77	71	76	70	141
Yokopenic	Richard	A	9	80	71	81	72	143
Yokopenic	Stephen	A	7	77	70	82	75	145
Falbo	Lou	A	8	80	72	83	75	147
Menich	Tony	A	4	77	73	78	74	147
Metarko	John	A	10	83	73	86	76	149
Lako	Raymond	A	9	85	76	83	74	150
Harr	Scott F.	A	9	88	79	84	75	154
Piper	Rick	A	11	86	75	92	81	156
Quinn	Patrick	A	7	85	78	85	78	156
Miscovich	Frank	A	5	86	81	82	77	158
Hudec	Robert	A	8	84	76	91	83	159
Andre	Barry	A	8	87	79	89	81	160
Groner	Rusty	A	12	91	79	93	81	160
Miller	Roy	A	9	89	80	91	82	162
Quinn	Bill Jr	A	12	92	80	96	84	164
Felus	Bruno	A	12	98	86	90	78	164
Brekosky	James	A	10	90	80	96	86	166
Terpin	Mark	A	9	94	85	92	83	168
Mitro	Milos	B	16	84	68	89	73	141
Shank, Sr	Clarence	B	19	90	71	94	75	146
Ulishney	Al	B	16	89	73	89	73	146
Torok	Gene	B	14	86	72	89	75	147
Porter	Tim	B	17	97	80	85	68	148
Kavulic	John E.	B	19	92	73	95	76	149
Gbur	Paul	B	16	91	75	92	76	151
Morella	Tom	B	13	88	75	90	77	152
Gmerek	Leonard	B	17	97	80	93	76	156
Garver	David	B	15	90	75	97	82	157
Krenicky	Gene	B	14	90	76	95	81	157
Nemcheck	Mike	B	13	94	81	90	77	158
Brekosky	Larry, Sr	B	14	99	85	90	76	161
Yokopenic	Jim	B	14	93	79	97	83	162
Tokarsky	John	B	18	95	77	104	86	163
Vargo	Stephen	B	13	96	83	95	82	165
Halula	Barry	B	14	101	87	95	81	168
Collins	James	B	14	95	81	102	88	169
Olenick	Donald D	B	13	91	78	105	92	170
Maloskey	Robert	B	18	DNF	DNF	111	93	DNF
Columbus	Mike	C	37	112	75	107	70	145
Kopanic	Robert J.	C	21	97	76	97	76	152
Lako	Michael	C	25	102	77	106	81	158
Eller	Terry	C	22	101	79	103	81	160
Ferrance	George	C	23	108	85	100	77	162
Hodos	Richard	C	21	103	82	102	81	163
Albrecht	Michael	C	27	113	86	105	78	164
Vargo	Dan	C	21	103	82	103	82	164
Collins	Greg	C	22	101	79	108	86	165
Brekosky	Regis P.	C	32	117	85	114	82	167
Nasta	Fr. Tom	C	29	109	80	119	90	170
Nasta	Damian	C	36	122	86	123	87	173
Kacsanek	George	C	32	111	79	127	95	174
Collins	Patrick	C	26	114	88	114	88	176
Ritz	Paul	C	22	113	91	109	87	178
Hassay	Henry	C	28	115	87	119	91	178
Smith	George	C	25	124	99	109	84	183
Ferrance	Jerome	C	24	119	95	116	92	187
Matula	Stephen	C	25	119	94	118	93	187
Burkhart	Joe	C	35	142	107	133	98	205



Applications Now Accepted for 2011 Youth Volunteer Award

One of the most important fraternal programs offered by the New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance is its Youth Volunteer Award. Each year, the New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance chooses deserving young students for this award based on their volunteer achievements with their society as well as the community at large.

This year, each award winner will receive \$500 with an additional \$500 award to their designated charity thanks to the generosity of the Recreation Farm Society. The Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance will make the selection of the award recipients and all decisions are final. Award recipients will be announced

at the 78th New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance Convention on October 6 – 7m 2011, at the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City, NJ.

Deadline for application submission is September 1, 2011. Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 22 at the time of the application and a resident of New Jersey, New York and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance. If you are interested in receiving an application form or for more information, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA MARCH 28-29, 2011

FIRST SESSION:

Monday, March 28, 2011

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Reverend Thomas Nasta, Chaplain, to offer the opening prayer. The President asked Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, to lead the Board in singing the Anthems of the United States, Canada, Slovakia and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call with the following members present:

Rev. Thomas Nasta	National Chaplain
Andrew Rajec	President
Andrew Harcar, Sr.	Vice President
Kenneth Arendt	Executive Secretary
George Matta	Treasurer
Karen Hunka	Chairman of Auditors
Susan Ondrejco	Fraternal Activities Director
Gary Matta	General Counsel
Joseph Minarovich	Regional Director, Region 1
Damian Nasta	Regional Director, Region 2
Carl Ungvarsky	Regional Director, Region 3
James Marmol	Regional Director, Region 4
Regis Brekosky	Regional Director, Region 5
Henry Hassay	Regional Director, Region 6
Rudolph Bernath	Regional Director, Region 7
Milos Mitro	Regional Director, Region 8 & 9

At this time the President welcomed our new Regional Directors, James Marmol (Region 4) and Rudolph Bernath (Region 7) to our Board. He said that this Board Meeting was the first one away from the home office in Cleveland (except for one held in Pittsburgh) since he has been President starting in January 1, 2007. The Society has reached record assets and profitability since that time. The President thanked the Board for their cooperation and contributions to this profitability. The cost of this board meeting was only marginally higher than meeting in Independence, Ohio because of the current deals offered by Las Vegas hotels. However, the President noted that this was a special event and not likely to be repeated soon.

READING OF THE CALL:

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Annual Meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 18, 2010:

A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by James Marmol to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Regis Brekosky to accept the agenda and allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES:

The President appointed the following committees:

DONATION COMMITTEE

George Matta
Carl Ungvarsky

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Reverend Thomas Nasta
Gary Matta
Karen Hunka

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:

The President read his welcome to the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:

President Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Harcar, who recognized President Rajec. President Rajec read his annual report. At the conclusion of the President's Report, a motion was made by Carl Ungvarsky and seconded by James Marmol for its acceptance. Motion carried. (The President's Report is to be published in the Jednota Newspaper).

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2010:Executive Secretary's Report

Kenneth Arendt presented the financial summary for the year ending 2010 and answered the Board's questions. The year end results included an increase in assets to \$272,289,975, an operating gain of \$1,861,798, and an increase in surplus to \$17,519,864. The level of surplus and assets as of December 31, 2010 is the highest in the history of our Society. The Executive Secretary stated that his financial report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

AQS ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Larry White, representing AQS Asset Management, at the invitation of the President presented his report to the Board of Directors. Mr. White gave his report to the Board of Directors with the following agenda:

- Portfolio metrics and distribution
- Cash on hand and projections
- Market data

- Current markets
- Fed Fund futures
- Credit actions
- Transactions
- FCSU equity positions
- Commentary

During and after his presentation, Mr. White answered the Board of Directors' questions.

RECESS OF SESSION:

The Board broke for lunch.

SECOND SESSION:

Monday afternoon, March 28, 2011

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and call to order. The Executive Secretary stated that all members were present.

ACTUARIAL REPORT:

Edward DePersis, of Bruce and DePersis, presented the actuarial report for 2010 telephonically. Mr. DePersis stated that since each board member received a copy of the report, he will not read the entire report, but will just give the highlights. He gave a very positive report for 2010. A motion was made by James Marmol and seconded by Milos Mitro to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. The actuary recommended that a dividend be paid in 2011. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to pay a dividend in 2011 using the same format as used in 2010. Motion carried.

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF CINCINNATI:

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Board of Directors which gave a complete update of the investments and all current transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

After an analysis the President ask for an increase on our advancements with Federal Home Loan Bank from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000. The President noted that this strategy allows the FCSU to earn excellent revenues with limited risk. Motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Milos Mitro to raise our advancement limit from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR 2010:Executive Secretary Report

Executive Secretary Arendt presented the financial report for 2010 and answered the Board's questions. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. The Executive Secretary stated that his 2010 Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer George Matta presented the Treasurer's Report for 2010 and answered all the Board members' questions. Motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Henry Hassay to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

Chairman of Auditors Report

Chairman of Auditors, Karen Hunka, presented the 2010 Auditor's Annual Report and answered the Board's questions. The Chairman stated that the internal auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything in order. Motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by James Marmol to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. The Chairman of Auditor's Report will be published in the Jednota Newspaper.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:Jednota, Inc.

The President of Jednota, Inc., George Matta, gave his report to the Board of Directors and answered all the Board's questions.

Jednota Properties, Inc.

Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., presented a report for the Jednota Properties, Inc. and answered the Board's questions.

The reports of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., are informational in nature.

APPOINTMENT FOR ACTUARIAL SERVICE FOR 2011:

The President led a discussion concerning the appointment of our Actuary for 2011 and asked the Board if this decision could be delayed until the next Board Meeting. Motion was made by Carl Ungvarsky and seconded by Rudolph Bernath to delay the appointment. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL:

General Counsel, Gary Matta, gave his 2010 report and answered the Board's questions.

There being no further business, Henry Hassay made a motion to adjourn and Damian Nasta seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Father Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

continued on page 7

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

continued from page 6

THIRD SESSION:

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.. Reverend Thomas Nasta led the Board in prayer.

ROLL CALL:

The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call. He stated that everyone is present.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

At this time the President recognized the Vice President, who presented his annual report to the Board of Directors and answered the Board's questions. The motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Father Nasta to accept the Vice President's report. The Vice President's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING:

Membership

The Vice President distributed a written report to the Board of Directors. The report contained a listing of the top proposers of insurance and annuity sales, a detailed report of sales production by districts and a five year comparison report broken down by districts.

Executive Secretary gave a demonstration of our new Illustration Software Program and answered all the Board's questions.

OUTSIDE AUDITORS REPORT:

Edward Mertz, of the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP, presented a written report to the Board. He found all FCSU financial reports in excellent order.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Director of Fraternal Activities, Susan Ondrejco, gave a Power Point presentation to the Board of Directors and answered their questions. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Fraternal Director's report. Motion was carried. The report will be published in the Jednota.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND NATIONAL CHAPLAIN:

The Regional Directors and our National Chaplain presented their annual reports. All reports will be printed in the Jednota newspaper. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by James Marmol to accept the reports as presented. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee Meetings. He stated that in accordance with the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Executive Committee meets monthly and whenever else it is necessary to take care of the business of the Society.

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the regulations adopted by the Board of Directors. All investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee members work very closely with the Society's Investment Advisor, AQS Asset Management.

Pension Committee

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the FCSU Pension Plan. He stated that we are in full compliance with all federal regulations and answered the Board's questions.

Scholarship Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Scholarship committee comprised of three independent professional educators. The applications for FCSU scholarships are being processed and will be sent to the Scholarship Committee. He also gave a report on the Jednota Benevolent Foundation and answered the Board's questions.

Donation Committee

George Matta made the report of the Donations Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon.

Resolutions Committee

Father Thomas Nasta gave the report on the Resolutions Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon.

A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by James Marmol to accept all committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated once the meeting dates are finalized for 2011 the list will be sent to the Directors.

PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Damian Nasta to pay all the bills associated with the meeting. Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Damian Nasta to adjourn. Motion carried.

Father Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



6th Annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest at St. Matthias Church

The summer festival season is well under way and it is time to mark your calendars for the 6th Annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest on Sunday, August 14th in Youngstown, Ohio. This festival has gotten better every year since it began in 2006 on the grounds of St. Matthias Church at 2800 Shady Run Road, Youngstown, Ohio, 44502. Each year, improvements have been made and new groups and displays have been added.

The SlovakFest kicks off with a wonderful Polka Mass at St. Matthias Church, on Youngstown's Southside, an area where many Slovak families settled in the early 1900s. This joyful Mass will be offered at 11:30AM with the music provided by the Eddie Vallus Band. After the celebration of Mass, the festivities will move to the church parking lot and the former school, in the Father Snock Center.

Inside the hall, dinners will be served from noon till 3 with a choice of lamb, chicken or halubky (stuffed cabbage). Outside you will find halušky, klobassi, lamb, pirohy and more throughout the day. And of course, Slovak pivo (beer) will be available! There will also be wonderful Slovak baked goods for sale! All of these are made by local men and women from local Slovak parishes such as St. Matthias, St. John the Baptist, Holy Name and Holy Trinity! There will also be indoor displays of Slovak crafts, outfits, pictures and books. There will be information about various Slovak organizations and projects, cookbooks and recipes, and maps for you to locate your ancestral villages.

The Eddie Vallus band will play outdoors for your listening and dancing pleasure until about 3pm and indoors, the entertainment will continue with the Living Traditions Folk Ensemble under the direction of Tom and Cathy Katrenich of Brecksville who will entertain with singing and folk dances. Starting at 4PM, the Grammy nominated Del Sinchak polka band will be playing outside under the tent for those who love to polka or those who just want to sit and listen. It has been said, "kde je Slovak, tam je spev" -- "where there is a Slovak, there is singing." And there will be plenty of music and singing at the Mahoning Valley SlovakFest.

The SlovakFest also has many Slovak items on display or for sale including a selection of beautiful Slovak crystal. There will be a silent auction of baskets filled with all sorts of items, and a raffle of \$2000 worth of Get Go/Giant Eagle gift cards for gasoline or food! There will be children's games, clowns and other activities throughout the day. So if you remember the Slovak picnics of your childhood, or if you don't, but would like to make some new memories, plug us into your GPS, jump in your car, and join us on August 14th for a wonderful time at the 6th Annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest!

Please note:

Members from District 14, the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District, will be helping out at the 6th Annual Mahoning Valley SlovakFest.

- Joe Scavina, District 14 Recording Secretary,
Branch 682 Financial Secretary

Slovak Festival in September

The Great Slovak Festival will be held on Sunday, September 4, 2011 from 12:00 noon – 8:00PM at St. Anthony of Padua, 6750 State Road, Parma, OH. Outstanding food and bakery will be available. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the Johnny Pastirik Band and the Frank Moravick Band. The Slovak Festival also features performances by the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS) with songs, music, and dances of Slovakia under the direction of Angela Lipchick, with musical direction by John Lipchick.

The Lucinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland will perform, as well. Admission is \$5.00. For more information, call 440-886-4828, 440-845-0282, or 440-885-1994.

Scenes from Frank T. Holly, Jr. District, District 9, Sales Seminar

On Sunday, June 12, 2011, the Frank T. Holly District held a meeting during which district activities and insurance programs were discussed. A key feature of that meeting was an insurance and annuity presentation by National Vice President Andrew Harcar and National Secretary Kenneth Arendt. National President Andrew M. Rajec also was in attendance.

The event started at 1:00 pm at the Hampton Inn in Uniontown, PA. A light luncheon was served. A special invitation was extended to all members and guests of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District, District 12, as well as any member or guest interested in learning more about the FCSU by James R. Marmol, Region 4, Regional Director and President of the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District. Some 20 people participated.



YOUTH ROUND-UP

Branch 1 Member Adam Hornack Makes First Holy Communion



Branch 1 Member Adam J. Hornack made his first holy communion on May 7, 2011 at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Parma, OH. Adam is a student at St. Charles, active in the Cub Scout Pack at the school, enjoys reading and electronic games, participates on all sport teams. He is the proud son of Nancy J. Hornack and grandparents Joe & Dolores Hornack of Independence, OH. Grandpa is a fulltime volunteer at the Slovak Institute located in the Slovak Benedictine Abbey. Adam has enjoyed dancing in the Lučinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble for the past year and a half.

Joe Hornack, Branch 1



Branch 162 Members Zane and Zachery Rozzell Hold Fundraiser

Zane and Zachery Rozzell, the newest members of Branch 162, hold a lemonade stand/ yard sale fund raiser for the local no-kill animal shelter. Zane saw a commercial on television and wanted to go "...get the kitty that hadn't been loved." His mom explained to him that they can't go get that kitty, but could help less fortunate animals at our local shelter. The fundraiser was held on Sunday, July 17th, 2011 from 10 am to 3 pm at their home with the help of many neighbors and friends. Zane, who is 6, will enter first grade at Hatfield Elementary School this year and Zachery is 3. They are the children of Sadie and Bill Rozzell.

Jim Marmol Region IV Regional Director,
President, Frank T. Holly, Jr. District President, Branch 162



Branch 410 Member Aaron Soltis Makes First Holy Communion

FCSU member and second grader Aaron Soltis made his first Holy Communion at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Canton, OH, on Mother's Day, May 8, 2011.

Aaron attends Sauder Elementary School in Jackson Township, OH. He is the third son of Roger and Cherise Soltis of Massillon, OH, and the younger brother of Ethan and Ryan Soltis.

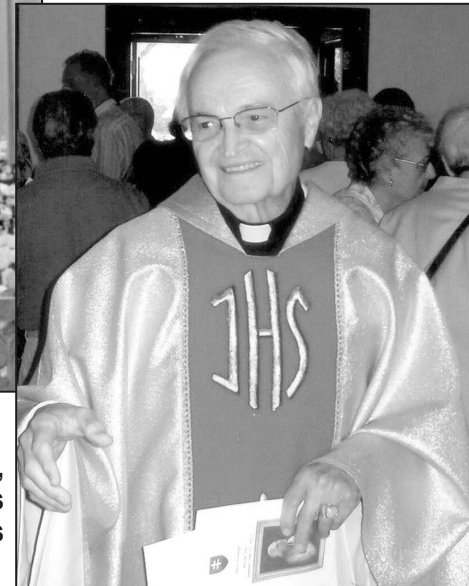
Thomas Soltis, Branch 410



Scenes from a Fantastic 38th Slovak Day, Sunday, July 17, 2011 in Merrillville, IN



Slovak Day opens with a
10:30AM Holy Sacrifice of
Mass celebrated at Our Lady
of Czestochowa Shrine



Fr. Joe Kelchak,
Branch 581, greets
attendees after Mass



– Šarišan Dancers from
Sterling Heights, MI,
directed by Milan Straka,
Branch 743, perform at the
38th Slovak Day



Enjoying the
day (L -R):
George and Betty
Kelchak, Branch
581; Region 7
Director Rudy
Bernath and
Liz Bernath;
and Branch 581
President Ann
Buczek

FCSU National Vice
President Andrew
R. Harcar, Sr. sells
a lot of homemade
pastries at Slovak
Day 2011 in
Merrillville, IN



FCSU Pittsburgh District Semi-annual Spring Meeting

On Sunday, April 10, 2011, the Pittsburgh District held its spring meeting at Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin, PA. The meeting was attended by 47 members representing nine branches. Patricia Guidish of host branch 738 provided a warm welcome to all. The meeting began with a moment of silence for past District President Margaret Perla, who passed away on January 10th of this year. Local officers George Matta II and Joseph Yuros delivered reports on district activities and finances. Treasurer George Matta and Regional Director Rege Brekosky reported on sales of insurance and annuities. Activities Director Susan Ondrejco listed the many contests and tournaments open to FCSU members, as well as the picnic to be held at Weigand Park on August 14, 2011. There was a discussion of the costs associated with holding district meetings. A vote was taken to increase district dues from \$6 to \$10 for branches with greater than 50 members.

Branch 35 will host the fall meeting. The date is tentatively set for Sunday, December 11, 2011. Look for additional information in the next district announcement.

Thanks to Rege Brekosky, Regional Director of District 5, for providing these photos.

Margaret Nasta, Recording Secretary, Pittsburgh District



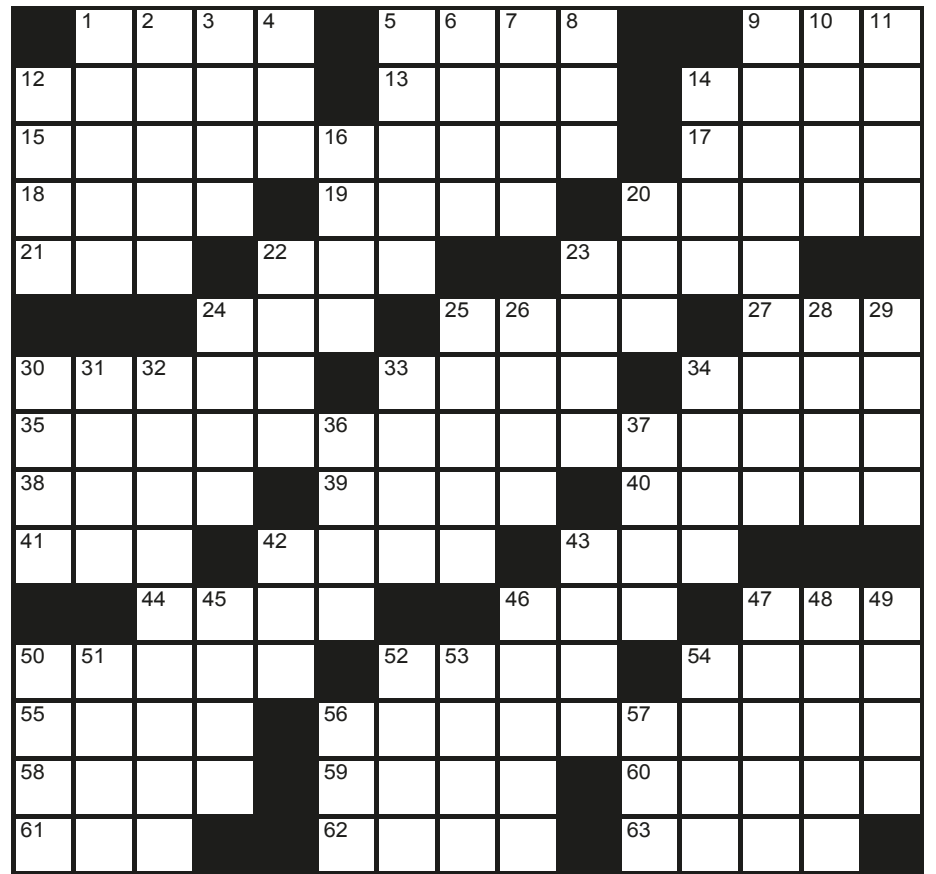
**If each member would sign up just one new member, we could
double our Society immediately
*THINK ABOUT IT!***

FCSU Pittsburgh District

continued from page 10



Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Rational
- 5 Fake
- 9 Wager
- 12 Protective garment
- 13 Employ
- 14 Singe
- 15 Party device
- 17 To be (Lat.)
- 18 Lazy Susan
- 19 Minerals
- 20 Teases
- 21 Common contracti
- 22 Enemy
- 23 Foodfish
- 24 Mutt
- 25 Easter plant
- 27 Acquired
- 30 Lounges
- 33 Nevada gambling city
- 34 Short skirt
- 35 Political Q&A session
- 38 Area unit
- 39 Taro
- 40 Anxious
- 41 Chin. principle
- 42 Brews
- 43 Insect
- 44 Ringlet
- 46 Sandwich inits.
- 47 Sheep
- 50 Moron
- 52 Musical group
- 54 Astronaut Shepard
- 55 Henhouse
- 56 Wedding party participant
- 58 Flightless birds
- 59 ___ lang syne
- 60 Pub offerings

- 61 Distress signal
- 62 Depend
- 63 Contributes

Down

- 1 Archery, for one
- 2 Operas
- 3 Snoopy
- 4 Compass pt.
- 5 Divvy up
- 6 Long walk
- 7 Greek god of war
- 8 Sea (Fr.)
- 9 Attacking
- 10 Direction
- 11 Very (Fr.)
- 12 Opposed
- 14 Glue shut
- 16 Make fast
- 20 Male child
- 22 Agitation
- 23 Wild plum
- 24 Lawsuit
- 25 Gives temporarily
- 26 Details, for short
- 28 Formerly
- 29 Layer
- 30 Squabble
- 31 Killer whale
- 32 Fierce
- 33 Travelled
- 34 Beef
- 36 Prison room
- 37 Lease
- 42 River islet
- 43 Health-giving plant
- 45 Mistake word
- 46 Adult female chicken
- 47 Antelope
- 48 Looks forward to
- 49 Conclusions
- 50 Frosts
- 51 Major ___
- 52 Genuine
- 53 Streamlet
- 54 Among
- 56 Soap measure
- 57 Watering hole

See Solution on Page 18



NORWEGIAN SKY

Enjoy a 4 Day Cruise in the Eastern Caribbean leaving from Miami, Florida

This magnificent cruise experience begins the moment you step onto the Norwegian Sky. On this floating resort you're in for an all-time fantastic vacation! Your first port of call is Grand Bahama Island, Bahamas and on to Nassau, Bahamas where you'll marvel at gorgeous white sand beaches. Next is Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas, Norwegian's private island where you can enjoy a delicious surfside barbecue. What will you remember most?

JOIN
FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
MEMBERSHIP MEET
 NOVEMBER 14 – 18, 2011
 From

INTERIOR	OCEANVIEW	BALCONY
\$449	\$479	\$669

3RD & 4TH Guests – Rates from \$299

NCL reserves the right to charge a fuel supplement without prior notice should the closing price of West Texas Intermediate Fuel increase above \$65 per barrel on the NYMEX.

***All prices include cruise, meals, port taxes, airport transfers, gratuities, FCSU cocktail party and many FCSU extras!**

Cruise rates are capacity controlled in U.S. dollars, per guest and based on double occupancy. Government taxes/fees are included. Air transportation is additional for all guests. Rates are available on select sailings only. Some restrictions (including stateroom category availability) apply. Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
 Ships Registry: The Bahamas and USA.



<u>DAY</u>	<u>PORT</u>	<u>ARRIVE - DEPART</u>
Mon.	Miami, Florida	5:00 pm
Tue.	Grand Bahama Island	8:00 am-5:00 pm
Wed.	Nassau, Bahamas	8:00am- 6:00 pm
Thu.	Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas	
	Norwegian's Private Island	8:00 am- 5:00pm
Fri.	Miami, Florida	7:00am

The Society is not responsible for airline delays or cancellations, please allow adequate time for transfers between the airport and pier. We strongly suggest you allow at least 3 hours before departure from Miami which is 5:00 pm.. The cruise is contingent on booking at least 25 cabins or 50 passengers; please do not make airline reservations before July 1st.

ADVENTURE INTL TRAVEL
 P. O. Box 770410
 Lakewood, Ohio 44107
 Phone: (800) 542-2487
 Fax: (216) 228-7174
Paul@aits.webmail.com
www.adventure-intl-travel.com





Driving directions to Wiegand's Lake Park:

From the east:

1. Take I-76 W/PA Turnpike toward OH Exits 48-2 (Portions toll)
2. Keep LEFT at the fork to go on I-76 W (portions toll) (Crossing into Ohio)
3. Merge onto I-80 W toward Cleveland (portions toll)
4. Take Exit 193 to your RIGHT to OH- 44 (toward Mantua/Chardon)
5. Turn left onto OH-44 North – (Painesville Ravenna Road) – continue to follow OH-44
6. Turn left to merge onto US-422 West
7. Take the OH-306 exit toward (Bainbridge Road/Chagrin Road)
8. Turn right onto OH-306 North
9. Turn left onto OH-87 West – (Kinsman Road)
10. Go 0.5 miles to Park entrance

From the Northeast (USA or Canada):

1. Take I-90W toward Erie PA
2. Take exit 193 for OH-306 toward Mentor/Kirtland
3. Turn left onto OH – 306 South - continue to follow OH-306 South
4. Continue straight onto OH -306 South
5. Turn right onto OH- 87 West (Kinsman Road) about 1 minute
6. Go 0.5 miles - Park entrance

From the west (USA or Canada):

1. Take I-90E to I-80 E (portions toll)
2. Merge onto I-480E via Exit 151 toward Cleveland
3. Follow signs toward I-271 North
4. Take the Route. 422 (Warren) exit, towards Solon
5. Exit Route. 422 at Route 306 (Bainbridge/ South Russell)

6. Turn left (North) onto Route 306
7. Travel North to Route 87 (Kinsman Road)
8. Turn right (East) on Route 87 (Kinsman Road)
9. Go 1.5 miles. Park entrance is directly after Waft Road, on the left

LOCALLY

From I 480:

1. Take I-480 East.
2. Take the Route. 422 (Warren) exit, towards Solon
3. Exit Route. 422 at Route 306 (Bainbridge/ South Russell)
4. Turn left (North) onto Route 306
5. Travel North to Route 87 (Kinsman Road)
6. Turn right (East) on Route 87 (Kinsman Road)
7. Go 1.5 miles. Park entrance is directly after Waft Road, on the left

From I 271:

1. Exit at Route 322 (Mayfield Heights / Gates Mills)
2. Take the Gates Mills ramp to Route 322 (Mayfield Road)
3. Take Route 322 East to Route 306 in Chesterland. Turn right (South)
4. Take Route 306 (Chillicothe Road) to Route 87 (Kinsman Road). Turn left (East)
5. Go 1.5 miles. Park entrance is directly after Watt Road, on the left

From US 20 (Mentor):

1. Take Route 20 to Route 306
2. Go South on Route 306 to Route 87 (Kinsman Road)
3. Turn left (East) on Route 87 (Kinsman Road)
4. Go 1.5 miles. Park entrance is directly after Watt Road, on the left

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 3 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:30AM on Sunday September 18, 2011, in St. Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. All members are urged to attend and to get involved in branch activities. Members of Branch 266 will join us for the meeting, and will also join us for a breakfast buffet immediately following the meeting. Please spread the word to fellow members. If you have any questions or concerns, please call M. Koval at 570-454-0004.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 4 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph, Branch 4, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 21, 2011, at 3:00PM at the residence of Financial Secretary Anna Marie Hanlon, 2338 Lucina Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15210. Members are welcome.

Anna Marie Hanlon, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 14, 2011, at 9:00AM at Christ the King Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, PA. Members are urged to attend.

Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its regular meeting on Sunday, September 11, 2011,

at 9:30AM, in the Church Hall of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

We will discuss our plans for our breakfast brunch to be held on November 13, 2011. We award our college-bound members with scholarships at this meeting.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meetings, which are conducted on the second Sunday of the month at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall. Our Annual Meeting is held on December 11, 2011, when we elect our officers for the following year.

Fraternally, Henry Zach, Secretary

BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 23 will hold a semi-annual meeting at Our Son's Family Restaurant, Broad Street, Johnstown.

The meeting will commence at 2:00 PM, Sunday, Sept 11, 2011. All members are encouraged to attend.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Fenimore, President

BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Slovak Society, Branch 35, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 21, 2011, at 1:30PM at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 15 Sumner Avenue, Forest Hills, PA.

All members are invited to attend.

Janet M. Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 55 – BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

On September 18, 2011, Branch 55 KJ is sponsoring a trip to the Basilica in Washington D.C. for the Annual Re-Dedication of Our Mother of Sorrows Shrine. (editor's note: see p 2 of this issue for details). There will be two pickups: One in the Northeast at Our Lady of Calvary Church, 11024 Knights Road, Philadelphia, PA; and the other at St. Pius X Church, 220 Lawrence Road, Broomall, PA.

On September 25, 2011, Branch 55 is sponsoring a trip to the Slovak Festival in Holmdel, NJ. Again there will be two pick-ups as on Sep-

tember 18, 2011.

All members are free or both trips. Adult non-members are welcome for a fee of \$10 and their children are free. For information, please call Helena at 610.356.7956

Fraternally yours,

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 75 – SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 75, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 7, 2011, at 10:30PM at the residence of President and Financial Secretary Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA. The agenda items will include a discussion of mid-year business activities. Additional information will be presented relative to the recent merger of Branch 18K, Kulpmont, PA, into Branch 75, Shamokin, PA. All members are urged to attend this semi-annual meeting.

Ronald M. Anderson, President/Financial Secretary

BRANCH 173 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society Branch 173 located in the greater Wilkes-Barre-Wyoming Valley area will hold its semi-annual meeting on August 7, 2011 at Norms North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, at 1:00pm.

General business will be discussed and the insurance, new annuity reporting requirements and the fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

If you plan to attend please notify Dorothy A. Ungvasky at 570-403-2967 so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

Dorothy A. Ungvasky, President

BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday September 18, 2011 at 9:30AM in St. Joseph's church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Members of Branch 003P will join us for the meeting, and will join us for a breakfast buffet immediately following the meeting. If you have questions or concerns, please call society officers for details. All members are invited to attend.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 293 - LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting at the home of Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch Street, Lansford, PA, 18232, on Monday, August 8, 2011, at 6PM.

Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society Branch 393 will hold a meeting and picnic on Sunday, August 28, 2011, at 1:00PM at the home of Mary Ann Nalevanko on 459 Front Street, Greensburg, PA. All members and their families are invited to attend.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary

BRANCH 401 – NORTH APOLLO, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Anthony of Padua Branch 401K will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 14, 2011, at 11:00AM, King's Restaurant, 315 Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, PA. On the agenda: recognizing our members who are high school graduates with a monetary award retroactive to 2009. This is special to Branch 401 members. Also retroactive to 2009, members who are college graduates may present a copy of their diploma for a four-year study curriculum to receive a monetary award.

We hope everyone will attend the meeting but if distance is a problem and you are interested and qualify for either of these awards, please send a copy of your diploma to: Branch 401,

c/o Rose Froncek, P.O. Box 178, North Apollo, PA 15673. For those attending the meeting, if possible, bring a recommended friend of family member that can add to our membership. Our JEP product is a great way to begin, with the flexibility to be changed at a later date. Just ask!

Thank you.

Rose Froncek, Secretary

BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

**Geri Buchheit,
Recording/Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567KJ, will have a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 1:00PM in St. John the Baptist Social Hall, 924 N. Front St., Allentown, PA.

A discussion will be held regarding our upcoming nut/kiffle fundraiser.

All members are welcome to attend. Thank you and have a nice summer!

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

Monthly meetings are held at Tatra Hall, Sixth Street and Sherman Blvd., on the third Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. (September through May). The meeting on Sunday, September 16, 2011, will include some important information concerning the forthcoming year. We encourage all members to attend. Our future depends on the outcome of this meeting.

The election of officers for the 2012 year, will be held at the Sunday, December 16, 2011, meeting.

As always, you can call 231 733 7525 for additional information of current events.

Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest will be held on Sunday, August 14 from noon until 9 PM at Saint Matthias Church, Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. Branch 731 will be helping out with various aspects of the event. We will be gathering at the Jednota information tent. Try to join us, meet fellow members, and enjoy the Fest.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 would like to invite all FCSU members and friends to the St. Cyril & Methodius Parish Festival and FCSU Michigan District Picnic to be held on Saturday August 27th and Sunday August 28th on the Parish grounds located at 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314.

Festival hours are: Saturday 2 pm to 11 pm and Sunday 12 noon to 8 pm.

For complete and current Festival information, please visit the website at www.saintcyriils.org. (editor's note: or see p. 20 of this issue).

Come and enjoy the festival and meet with your fellow Slovaks!

Joseph C. Rimarcik, President & Fin. Secretary

BRANCH 769 – ENDICOTT, NEW YORK

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 769, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, Sept 6, 2011 at the residence of Henry J. Pochily, 2809 Smith Drive, Endwell, NY. All members are encouraged to attend.

The meeting will include a discussion of the value and benefits of membership in the FCSU.

Henry J. Pochily, President

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 1 – REV. MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT – NEW ENGLAND

The Rev. Matthew Jankola District 1 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 11:00AM at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church Hall (now called the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall), 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of district officers will take place at this meeting.

Members of the various branches in the district are encouraged to attend this annual meeting. We look forward to seeing many members of District 1 at this meeting.

Jacqueline Zack, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District is considering hiring a bus to provide transportation to the FCSU picnic at Weigand Park on August 14. The cost of the round trip depends on the number of people who sign up. For more information, please contact Flo Matta as soon as possible at 412-466-7460.

Margaret Nasta, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – REV. FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Furdek District #10 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 21, 2011 at 2:00 pm. The meeting will be held at The Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

We invite all members of our district to attend and take an active roll in your organization.

If you plan to attend, please contact Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com. We need a headcount for refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 11 – MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Msgr. Josef Tiso District will make its third attempt to hold this year's **Semi-Annual Meeting** on Sunday, September 11, 2011, at the C.U. Club, 912 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA, at 1:30 PM.

Delegates from all Branches should call okres secretary Grace Charney at (724) 763-1104 to confirm their attendance.

The **Annual Meeting** of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District will be on Sunday, October 30, 2011, at the C.U. Club, 912 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA, at 2:00 PM.

Delegates from all branches should call okres secretary Grace Charney at (724) 763-1104 to confirm their attendance.

Reminder: Attendance (at least one representative) at a District meeting each year and up-to-date payment of District dues (\$3/yr) are requirements for eligibility to Branches to receive their annual membership reimbursements from Headquarters and to send delegates to quadrennial FCSU Conventions. NO waivers will be granted, and Branch non-compliance with these requirements will be noted in minutes and reports.

Grace M. Charney, Secretary



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



The First Catholic Slovak Union has a Mass said for each of our deceased members at St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio.

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	John W Day	089K	Paul Frank Gabor	320K	Virginia M Simala	624K	Jane Luljak
001P	Jo Ann Lazo	169P	Frances M Tompkins	353P	Edward Sherrock	633K	Stephen Uhelski
005P	Michael M Pramick Jr	173K	Carol Ann Harris	367K	Edward Joseph Jestat	714K	Kathleen M Plsek
007K	Dr Mark P Holencik	175K	Mary A Check	367K	Karen Roderick Tummons	716K	Theresa Barile
024K	Mary G Baluk	175K	Joseph S Galdun Jr	380K	John P Tropeck	746K	Albert Pribula
038K	Robert A Thomas	228K	Ladislav T Kalis	408K	Kathryn Marie Macko	756K	Joseph A Minarik
040K	Arthur E Allen	259K	Edward R Macejko	454K	John M Soltis	796K	Verna Makovsky
040K	John B Kaschak	270K	Helen Martin	497K	Mary G Alexa		
040K	Hubert Van Dorn	320K	Anne B Gogol	584K	Frank A Krupansky		

* Processed in the month of July 2011



Stella A. Papson

Branch 96 –
Carrolltown, Pennsylvania

Stella A., 83, Carrolltown, passed away July 7, 2011, at home. Born Nov. 16, 1927, in Garmantown, daughter of John Sr. and Helen (Chuck) Penksa. Preceded in death by parents; husband, Andrew Papson; brothers, Albert Sr., John Jr., Walter A. and Joseph E.; and sisters, Nellie Penksa and Ann Kaminsky. Survived by sister, Helen Slansky, Mentor, Ohio; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Stella was a longtime employee of Barnesboro Van Heusen Shirt Factory. Member of St. Benedict Catholic Church and the First Catholic Slovak Union, where she served as financial secretary and past president. Stella enjoyed cooking and baking for her family and friends.

Friends were received from 2 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 10, 2011, at Stevens Funeral Home Inc., Carrolltown, PA, where a vigil for the deceased was held. Additional viewing was held from 9 a.m. until time of funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Monday, July 11, 2011, at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Carrolltown, by the Rev. Jude W. Brady, OSB. Committal, Holy Cross Cemetery, Northern Cambria.

Albert M. Penksa, Branch 96 President

Clement Putirka

Branch 600 –
Leechburg, Pennsylvania

Clement Putirka, 86, of Frazer Township, died Friday, July 1, 2011, in Allegheny Valley Hospital, Natrona Heights. He was born October 24, 1924, in Leechburg, to the late Henry and Katherine (Kotec) Putirka.

During World War II, he served in the Navy and was awarded the Pacific Theater Ribbon with one star, American Theater Ribbon, Victory Medal, and Presidential Unit Citation. Mr. Putirka worked for John Veltri Construction, New Kensington and Moret Construction, Lower Burrell as a carpenter.

He was a long-time member of the St. Mary Society, FCSU Branch 600. He like watching sports, especially his grandson playing volleyball and enjoyed spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Betty Elaine (Harris) Putirka; and eight brothers and sisters. Survivors include his son, Clement W. Putirka, of Evansville, IN; daughters Susan Robinson, of Creighton, PA; and Lisa Putirka, of Frazer Township, PA; three grandchildren, Katie Putirka, William Putirka, and Kody Buttyan; and two great-grandchildren, Jordan Hughes and Abby Baggett.

Friends were received from 6PM – 8PM on Saturday, July 2, 2011, and 2PM – 4PM and 6PM – 8PM on Sunday, July 3, 2011 at the Paul R. Ajak Funeral Home, Creighton, PA, where funeral services were conducted at 10AM on Monday, July 4, 2011, by the Rev. Dawn Lynn Check. Burial followed in Prospect Cemetery, Brackenridge, PA, with military honors accorded to him by the United States Navy.

John Mago, Branch 600 President

Joseph A. Minarik

Branch 756 –
Owosso, Michigan

Joseph A. Minarik of Flint, MI, age 94, died Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at Brian's House in Davison.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 14, 2011, at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Flint; Father Frederick H. Taggart, O.S.A. officiating. Burial was in New Calvary Catholic Cemetery. Visitation was 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 13, 2011, at the Swartz Funeral Home. A rosary was prayed that same evening at the funeral home.

Joseph was born in Detroit, MI on Sept.



22, 1916, the son of Joseph and Magdelene (Dvonch) Minarik. He graduated from Owosso High School and in 1939 from Kettering University (GMI). He married Falice Filbert on Aug. 17, 1940, and she preceded him in death on July 17, 2004.

He was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 756, St. Matthew Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, General Motors Executive Club, Cody Crime Watch and was a volunteer with Junior Achievement for many years. Mr. Minarik was employed as an engineer by General Motors and retired from Fisher Body, Grand Blanc Plant, in 1976 after 40 years of service.

Surviving are daughters Rebecca (Robert) Sibilsky of Grand Blanc and Cheryl (Terry) Chittle of Davison; grandchildren David (Catalina) Sibilsky, Sara (Tim) Byrd, Michelle (Thomas) Curless, Matthew (Jane) Chittle and Cindy (Dean) Bowen; great-grandchildren Elizabeth, Joshua, Sarah, Sophia, Madeline, McKenna, Claire, Kate, Lars and Alek; sister Emma Molnar; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his beloved son David Joseph in 1957, great-grandson Connor and brother Steve.

He had lived his life giving away his time and energy, his money and his love. He taught us to love one another, to enjoy life, to respect our elders and to die uncomplaining and gracefully.

SISTER M. SUSANNE (HELEN) CHERNEY, OSF

Sister M. Susanne Cherney, a member of the School Sisters of St. Francis of the United States Province and in her 62nd year of profession, died on Friday, July 8, at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh at the age of 84. Sister Susanne entered the community from Sacred Heart parish in Sagamore PA in 1947 and pro-



fessed her first vows in 1949 at Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh PA. She received a Bachelor of Science in Education from Carlow University, a Master of Arts in Special Education in Counseling from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and a Ph.D in Counseling and Psychology from Columbia Pacific in San Rafael CA. Throughout her years of ministry, Sister Susanne taught elementary classes in parish schools in McKees Rocks, North Side Pittsburgh, Canonsburg, Stowe and Ambridge in Pennsylvania. In many of these parishes Sister Susanne was also the organist and director of choirs. She spent five years working as a psychologist at St. Joseph Home for Children in Dayton OH. She later studied at Kettering OH to become a hospital chaplain. Sister Susanne spent five years at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale AZ as a retreat director, director of counseling and ministered to the separated and divorced. She was in pastoral care ministry for the Sisters of Divine Providence and chaplain at St. Francis Hospital in Pittsburgh PA. Before retiring to the motherhouse, Sister Susanne spent a number of years working at LIFE (Living Independence for the Elderly) Pittsburgh.

Sister Susanne was a person loved by many and she enjoyed teasing others. She was proud of her Hungarian heritage. She made others happy by her presence. She always had a listening ear and was willing to give her advice.

Sister Susanne was the daughter of the late Steve and Mary (Zavotsky) Cherney. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Isabelle Chauly, Matilda Cherney, and Yolanda Cherny; her deceased brothers, William, Alex, Joseph, Steven and Albert. She is survived by her sisters, Veronica Metro, Eliza Amato and Emma Gregorchick and her brother, John.

The viewing was from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Mount Assisi Convent on Monday, July 11, 2011. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 12, 2011, in Queen of Angels Chapel, Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh PA.



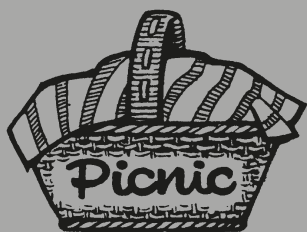
Correction

The obituary of Matilda Kazimir in the March 16, 2011 edition of Jednota, p. 15, incorrectly listed her as formerly from Carteret, Pennsylvania. The correct listing should have stated that Matilda Kazimir was formerly of Carteret, New Jersey.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Branch 746, Linden, NJ Hosts Picnic in August



The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746 cordially invites you to a picnic on Sunday, August 21, 2011. The picnic will take place in Linden Memorial Park, South Wood Avenue, Tremley Point, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM. There will be a \$10.00 charge for non-members. To RSVP and for more information, please contact Mary Karch @732-572-2331.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

Spišský Hrad – Spiš Castle

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Historical Origins

Since the location of Spiš Castle is such a natural spot for a formidable fortress, there exists evidence that people inhabited the plateau it sits on even during the early Stone Age. The area around the castle became more populated during the early A.D. centuries, when Dacian, Celtic and other tribes of the so called Púchov culture migrated to the region. Even in these early times, the castle hill was surrounded by an extensive wall. Until the end of the second century A.D., the site served as an administrative and economic center for the eastern part of Spiš.

The fortress, which currently stands on the castle hill, traces its origins to the early twelfth century. The earliest extensive written records about the castle date from 1209, when it became the political and economic center of the region. For much of the Middle Ages, the Drugets and other feudal families ruled the castle. It became a property of the Hungarian crown, which the king then parceled out to feudal lords.

The castle lay at a very important intersection of trade routes from the Medieval era. Merchants traveling both the north-south and east-west routes had to pass through the region, so it became a natural place for a massive fortress.

A medieval complex grew up around what became the center of the castle, a massive, round tower known as the keep. Next to the castle keep, the occupants built a water tower, several buildings, and a few small structures for businesses. A large wall encircled the entire complex and provided a place of refuge and protection from the uncertainties of feudal life in the Middle Ages.

Spiš Castle developed into an important administrative center for the region. Historians believe the castle supported a relatively large population. The castle is believed to have even minted its own silver coins.

Like many other medieval castles, Spiš castle underwent new construction and renovation at various times over the centuries. For example, new and yet stronger walls were added during the thirteenth century. A newly built Romanesque style palace became the center of the complex. Its ground floor housed places for the conducting of various businesses. A Chivalry Hall and other rooms were built on the second and third floors; a Romanesque chapel was later added. A new round tower was constructed next to the palace and served as a watchtower. The tower resembled similar structures in Lombardy (Italy), and experts have surmised that Italian stonemasons may have contributed to its construction.

Battles for Spiš Castle

Various episodes in the history of the castle led to further added modifications and additions. Invading Tartar armies stormed the bastion in 1241, but it held, and as a result, the Hungarian king started building stone castles throughout Slovakia. Spiš Castle served as a main fortress on the northern frontier of Hungary and Poland.

Spiš Castle became a bone of contention between Hungarian King Charles Robert and the Czech Bohemian King Václav III (Wenceslas III). Although damaged from the conflict, the castle once again held. The castle only fell in 1437, when Queen Elizabeth hired the reknown Czech commander, Ján Jiskra, and his army to take the castle in order to protect it



Spiš Castle armor and weapons



Spiš Castle Tower



Spiš Castle Cannon, with Gothic Arches

from the Polish King Wladislaw (Vladislav). Even then, Jiskra could only capture the castle with the traitorous help of the castle's captain, Baska. Jiskra then reformed the castle and built a separate fortress on the western slope. A deep moat and sturdy palisades combined with large masonry ramparts (measuring 285 by 115 meters) helped protect the castle. Jiskra also directed the construction of two new huge watchtowers and a new entrance gate leading to the nearby village of Spisšské Podhradie.

Following Jiskra's departure, the lower part of the castle fell into disuse as a fortress. The Hungarian king reasserted his control in 1460, and then granted it to the Zápoľský family, who established the castle as its main seat for many years (1464-1528). The Zápoľský family also built many other chapels and mausolea in the region and redecorated Spiš Castle in the Gothic and Renaissance styles. It was here that the last pre Habsburg who claimed the Hungarian crown was born, Ján Zápoľský.

After Zápoľský lost his throne to the Emperor Ferdinand of Austria, the castle was entrusted to the wealthy and influential family of merchants, the Thurzos, who controlled it from 1531 to 1635. They also ruled lands from the Orava region into Poland. The Thurzos added more Renaissance style innovations and equipped the fortress with the most modern weaponry, some of which can be seen on display today in the castle fabulous museum.

When the Thurzo family died out in 1636, the Csáky family captured the castle. The Csáky family, a Hungarian family which moved from Transylvania in what is today Romania, became the last major noble household to rule the Spiš fortress. The family also headed the county administration of Nitra and Komárno. During the 1660s, Štefan Csáky beautified the grounds by uniting the separate buildings with a storied arcade. He also replaced many windows and created a charming fenced garden. The basic appearance of Spiš Castle today is what has survived from the time of the Csáky family.

Like many other stone castles, the introduction of more sophisticated and powerful cannons made the fortress increasingly obsolete. By the eighteenth century, the Csáky family decided to move to more comfortable quarters outside the castle and on some of their other lands.

The last military encounter involving the castle occurred in 1710 when the Austrian Imperial Army seized it after defeating the Rákóczi rebellion (1703-1711). A fire left some of the castle in ruins and only a small garrison remained there. After another even more devastating fire gutted the castle in 1780, it was completely abandoned.

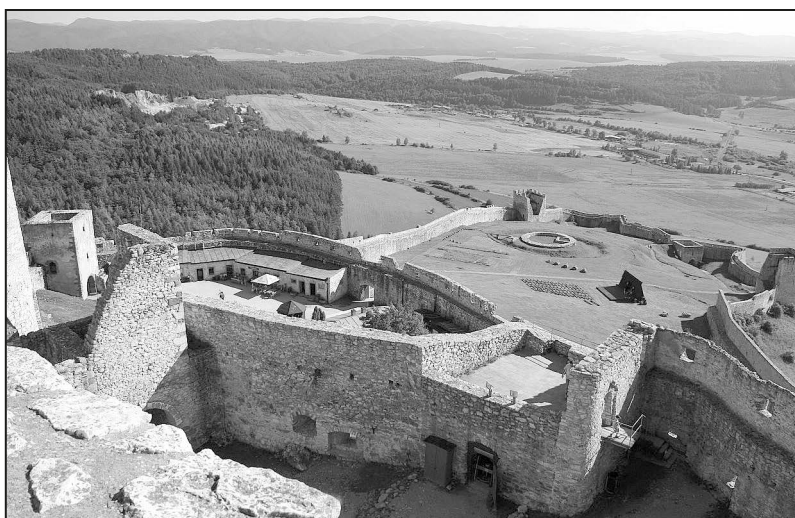
Although the Csáky family retained ownership, the once proud Spiš castle degenerated into little more than a massive ruin.

Spiš Castle in the 20th Century

After 1945, the Czechoslovak state expropriated the structure from the Csáky family. Finally, in 1961 Spiš castle was declared a National Cultural Monument. By the end of the decade, experts began extensive archeological research, which unearthed many of the artifacts currently in the castle museum.

Since Slovakia acquired independence in 1993, Spiš Castle has acquired more recognition as an international historical monument. That same year, UNESCO included the castle

Landscape of Spiš Castle interior



photos courtesy of Linda Stasiková

continued on page 17



Spiš Castle kitchen

continued from page 16

on its list of World Heritage Sites, along with the nearby Spiš towns of Spišská Kapitula, Spišské Podhradie and Žehra.

Personal Experiences

Every time I visit Slovakia, I always visit this most magnificent castle, and its size and magnificence never ceases to amaze me. Amazingly, I had thought it was a mirage at first sighting. But it was real.

The most impressive experience was the first time I saw Spiš Castle. It happened one morning, when we were visiting my wife's cousin, Ján Filip. He was driving us for a visit to the Tatra Mountains. Then there it was! I thought it was a vision, something right out of a fairy tale. It literally rose out of the heavens, and streamed upright, above the pillowy clouds! As we wound our way around the site, Spiš Castle was sitting proudly atop the quaint villages below.

Ever since then, I had longed to visit the inside of this marvelous castle. Excavation work and painstaking restoration continued at a slow pace for many decades. I was finally able to do visit the inside of the castle in 1990, and again in 1998. It was a treat indeed.

One may find everything from a battling axe to a horrific medieval torture chamber. (The museum is visitor friendly and even permitted my daughter Erika to lay out on one of the creepy torture racks.) Although it is a lengthy walk up a steep grade to the entrance, the travail is well worth the effort.

Spiš Castle Today

Today most visitors to eastern Slovakia would not neglect visiting Spiš Castle, at least once. It is one the largest surviving Medieval castles in central Europe. According to a count in 2006, over 170,000 tourists paid the castle a visit.

In addition to visiting the regular museum, the Spiš Castle employs a staff that regularly stages events for visitors, both at the castle and in neighboring towns and fairs. For instance, when I visited a fair (jarmok) in the former mining center of Gelnica in 2004, employees from Spiš Castle staged a Medieval tournament of knights fighting with battle axes and mace. On the grounds, the castle regularly schedules Medieval jousts and reenactments so that visitors gain a sense of what life was like in past eras.

Here is a list of some the late summer events which Spiš Castle is hosting. One will notice that they occur mainly on weekends, and there are plenty of special programs for children as well as adults, in order to promote learning about the past.

August 6-7, 2011 – An exciting weekend and mysterious night of Spis Castle

Throughout the entire weekend, Spis Castle will feature the grand tones of baroque music



Spiš Castle Chapel



Spiš Castle Dining Room



Spiš Castle Bedchamber

Nighttime tour: O beautiful Hedwig - a musical-dramatic treatment of the legend of the region around Spiš Castle. (presented by the Musical Theatre Association of Torment)
Saturday 6 August, 10 p.m.: the group FRAGILE – performs a Concert

August 13-14, 2011 – A weekend of historical fencing

Weekend night tour with a performance (Group of Historical Fencing Spiš Masters)

August 20-21, 2011 – A weekend of historical fencing

Night tour - Lights of the Orient and a fire show - Experience the world of fairy tales; A Thousand and One Nights

August 27-28, 2011 – A Farewell to Summer Break

Saturday 27 August: Hradohranie (historical games for young and old)

2:30 p.m. - Snehová kráľovná (Snow White) – A theatrical performance

Night tour: O krásnej Hedvige (O beautiful Hedwig) - A musical-dramatic treatment of the legends surrounding Spiš Castle.

Sunday, August 28: Hradohranie (period games for children and adults)

In addition to portraying life in the past, filmmakers have also utilized Spiš Castle as a fantastic location for shooting Medieval scenes. Films which have featured the castle include Dragonheart (1996), Phoenix, Kull the Conqueror (1997), The Lion in Winter (2003), and The Last Legion (2006).

Atop the castle one can get a spectacular panorama of much of Spiš county, including many nearby villages and the Tatra Mountains. And then one can dream . . .

Here is a "YouTube" link to Spiš Castle, and one may do other searches on the internet to find what others have posted.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vq5rKA_wOzU

This is the land of our ancestors!

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Branch 153 Welcomes New Members

Regional Director Rudolph Bernath welcomes new members Ken LaPorte and baby Alexander Jurcenko at the semi-annual meeting of Branch 153. Sgt-at-arms Pat LaPorte (R) presented the new members.

Submitted by Dorothy Jurcenko, Branch 153 Financial Secretary



Minneapolis Parish Festival in August

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish in Minneapolis, MN, will hold their annual festival on Sunday, August 21, 2011 on the parish grounds. The festival will begin with a polka Mass at 10:30AM and conclude at 5:00PM with a cash raffle drawing.

There will be Slovak and Spanish food available, along with games for children, cake walk, pull tabs, refreshments and door prizes.

All Jednota members and their families and friends are invited. Members will be volunteering at the food and game booths. Members are invited to register at the Big Raffle Booth for a free chase raffle entry, and a food/refreshment ticket.

This activity replaces our annual family picnic.

James T. Genosky, Branch 3 Financial Secretary



Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

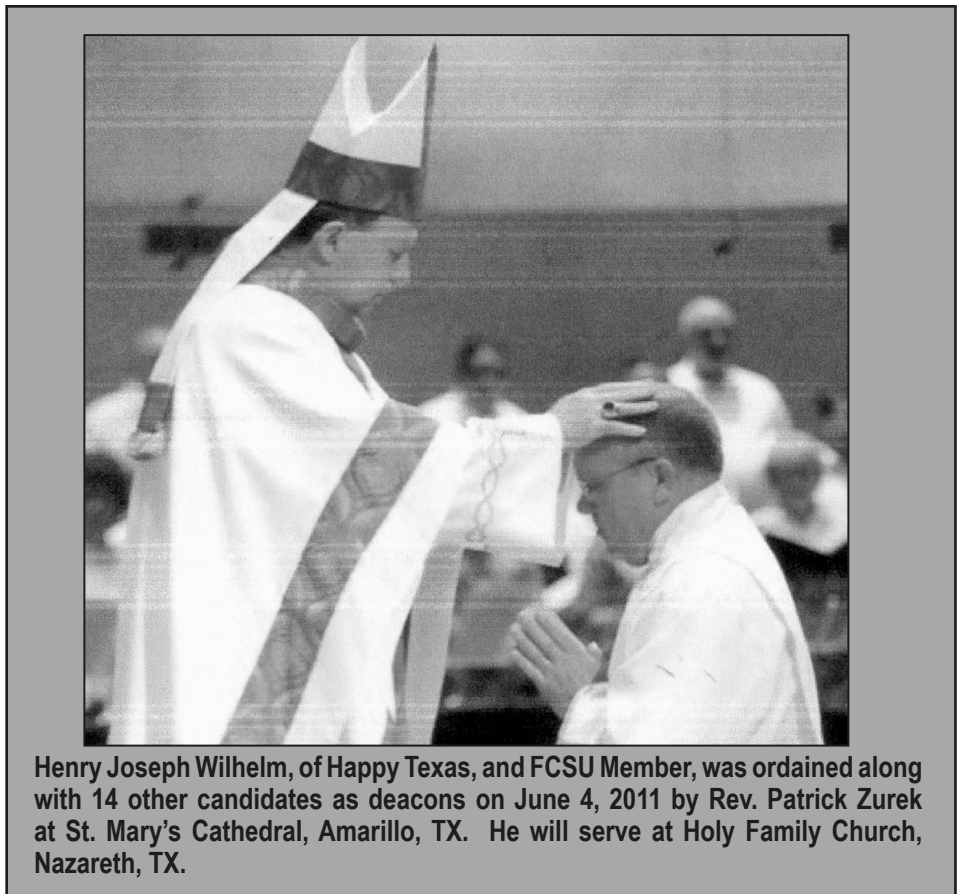
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Capuchin Friar John A. Pavlik Named CMSM Executive Director

On behalf of the National Board of Directors of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, CMSM President Thomas Cassidy, SCJ, announced the appointment of the Rev. John A. Pavlik, OFM Cap., as Executive Director of the Conference. Capuchin John Pavlik comes to CMSM after having served the Province of St. Augustine, which is headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA, for six years as Provincial, six years as Vicar Provincial, and an additional six years on the Provincial Council. The Province of St. Augustine encompasses the states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, portions of southern Indiana, and the District of Columbia. His Province also has responsibility for two "missions" or vice-provinces in Puerto Rico and in Papua New Guinea.



Born in New Kensington in western Pennsylvania, Father Pavlik has also lived in Ohio, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. He holds a Master of Arts in literature and a Master of Divinity. He will begin his first three-year term as CMSM Executive Director on August 15, 2011. He succeeds the Rev. Paul Lininger, OFM Conv., who is completing six years as Executive Director. Fr. John and his father and sister are members of Branch 831 Tarentum, PA.



Henry Joseph Wilhelm, of Happy Texas, and FCSU Member, was ordained along with 14 other candidates as deacons on June 4, 2011 by Rev. Patrick Zurek at St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo, TX. He will serve at Holy Family Church, Nazareth, TX.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FCSU LIFE ANNUITY & IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2011

Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.75% APY
Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA's	3.50% APY
with the "Cash Interest" Option	3.25% APY
New six-year fixed rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.25% APY
New "Park 2 Annuity"	2.50% APY
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st yr guarantee (new Park Free Plus maximum deposit \$25,000.00 PER PERSON)	2.15% APY
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.00% APY

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's,
Please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

Email: fcsu@aol.com Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary



Front Row (L – R) : Rudy Bernath and Liz Bernath
 Back Row: (L) Paul Chismar, Secretary Branch 6, directly behind Rudy Bernath is Stella Elias, Vice- President Branch 6, on her left is her husband Bob Elias, President of Branch 6. Several younger members are included as well.

Branch 6 Meeting & Luncheon

FCSU Branch 6 Meeting in Streator, IL on July 3, 2011. The members enjoyed a fraternal luncheon at the Four Corners Restaurant in Streator, IL. and after lunch the members conducted their meeting in the restaurant. Several ideas were presented to increase membership.

Rudy Bernath, Director Region 7

Slovak Catholic Federation Mid -Year- Annual Appeal Report

Since 1978 the Slovak Catholic Federation has been conducting the SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal which begins each year in the month of February during the closest weekend to the Feast of SS. Cyril & Methodius. To date I am happy to report that \$22,111.64 has been collected. In its 33rd year, this appeal has primarily been taken up in parishes in the United States and Canada of Slovak heritage. The appeal continues during the entire calendar year 2011. As we are all very much aware, the days of "ethnic parishes" are becoming a thing of the past. More and more Slovaks reside in different parts of the country and no longer claim to belong to a parish of Slovak heritage. For this reason may Slovaks may not have the opportunity to hear about, let alone participate in this Annual Appeal. If it were not for the Slovak Catholic Fraternal Societies and their publications, communication to American and Canadian Slovaks would not be possible. In recent years we have seen an increase in individual donations apart from the parish collections. Also most of the Slovak Fraternal Societies have also been making contributions to this collection from their National Board of Directors, along with a number of local branches, wreaths, assemblies, and lodges.

For as you know, this appeal assists the Church in Slovakia by supporting the training mission of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril & Methodius in Rome, Italy (formally known as the Slovak Institute or Ustav). In addition, funds are distributed to those Religious Communities of both men and women which share a counterpart which belongs to the Slovak Conference of Religious. These Communities being: Vincentian Sisters of Charity (Ruzomberok); Dominican Sisters (Dunajska Luzna); School Sisters of St. Francis (Zilina); Daughters of St. Francis Bratislava-Prievoz); Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great Secove and Presov); Franciscan Friars Minor (Bratislava); and House of St. Benedict (Bacurov).

As various groups will be holding summer picnics along with several Fraternal National Conventions, I ask that consideration be given to kindly taking up a collection in support of the Slovak Catholic Federation Appeal. All donations are tax deductible. In 2010 this Annual Appeal totaled \$58,229.89.

Individuals, Groups, picnics, etc are all welcome to make a donation to this appeal, make all checks payable to: Slovak Catholic Federation and send directly to Dolores Evanko, National Secretary-Treasurer, 173 Berner Ave., Hazleton, PA 18201.

I pray that Almighty God reward all of us who participate in the support of the Church in Slovakia through the Slovak Catholic Federation 33rd Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal

Submitted by Rev. Andrew Hvozdivic, Slovak Catholic Federation and FCSU Branch 173

Branch 109 Retires Old Glory on July 4th

When the United States flag (Old Glory) becomes worn, torn, faded or badly soiled, it is time to replace it with a new flag, and the old flag should be "retired" with all the dignity and respect befitting our nation's flag. Members of FCSU Branch 109, along with FCCLA Junior Branch J-011, assisted the St. Mary Magdalen BSA Troop 115 by collecting worn, tattered flags and otherwise unserviceable flags which will be respectfully destroyed during the Veterans' Weekend Ceremony on November 12, 2011. The flags will be placed on a ceremonial pyre and set ablaze.

The event was chaired by FCSU President Joseph G. Miklovic.

(L-R): Ann Miklovic, Branch Vice-President and Junior members Sam, Audrey & Frances Miklovic.



PÁS in Florida: A Magical Reason to Celebrate

By Angela Lipchick

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak (PÁS) Folk Ensemble performed at Disney World in Orlando, Florida and the 59th Annual Slovak Day at the Slovak Winter Garden complex in Winter Park, Florida.

On March 4, 2011 PÁS debuted its new 25-minute program from Zemplin (East) and Central Slovakia on the Waterside Stage in Downtown Disney. Disney Performing Arts is celebrating its 26th year by providing an opportunity for special groups from around the world to entertain at a world famous attraction.



Group selection for the "Disney Show" represents a legacy of millions of performers who have graced the stages of the Walt Disney World Resort. Disney Performing Arts are quality events with a great reputation. These delightful events are arranged so that performance groups have the opportunity to show their skills at a world famous attraction. Over the years, the Magic Music Days programs have grown in popularity so much that it requires performing groups to apply for acceptance into the program. After successfully auditioning, PÁS received the honor to perform in downtown Disney on the Waterside stage, which is the premier venue at Walt Disney World. Because of Disney's high standard of expectations, it is a tremendous honor for any group to be chosen to participate.

On March 6th the ensemble also performed for the 59th Annual Slovak Day at the Slovak Winter Garden complex in Winter Park, Florida. Everyone was excited to attend this event to present a 25-minute presentation of songs and dances from the many regions of Slovakia.

PÁS continues to have an exciting schedule throughout 2011. Don't miss out on a chance to see the group! Check the schedule below to see when PÁS is coming to your area.

2011 Summer & Fall Schedule of Events

International Village ... August 16, 17, 18th Renziehausen Park, McKeesport, PA

40th Annual Cleveland Slovak Heritage Festival ... September 4th
 St. Anthony of Padua Church, 6750 State Road, Parma, Ohio

21st Annual Slovak Heritage Festival ... 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. November 6th
 University of Pittsburgh, Cathedral of Learning, Commons Room, Pittsburgh, PA

The Fourth Annual Heritage Holidays Weekend at the Heinz History Center ...
 November 19, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. & November 20, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Senator John Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Saints Cyril & Methodius Roman Catholic Church Slovak Vigilia 6:00 PM, December 9th
 50 N. Morgantown Street, Fairchance, PA 15436

RSVP to: Jean Thompson, (724) 564-2641, blossom1961@atlanticbb.net.

For PAS photos, bookings, membership opportunities, and additional event information visit www.PASFolkensemble.com.

SLOVAK FESTIVAL

21st ANNUAL Ss. CYRIL & METHODIUS PARISH SLOVAK FESTIVAL



FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Aug. 26, 2011 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. Family Night	Aug. 27, 2011 2:00 – 11:00 p.m. St. Cyril Alumni Reunion Saturday Night	Aug. 28, 2011 12:00 – 8:00 p.m. (Slovak Mass – 11:30 a.m.) (Parish Raffle – 5:00 p.m.)

Ethnic Food – Bake Sale – Parish Raffle
Inflatables – Kids' Game Tent
Rock Climbing Wall – 50/50 Raffle
Beer – Wine – Pop – Live Music & More

\$3,000
Top Prize!

ENTERTAINMENT

Friday: * 6:00pm - Parish Talent Show
* 8:30 p.m. - Family Night "Karaoke"

Saturday: * 3:00 & 5:30pm - Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan (from Sterling Heights, MI)
* 7:00pm - Tri-City Plus Band

Sunday: * 1:00 & 4:30pm - Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan (from Sterling Heights, MI)
* 2:30-4:30pm & 6:00-8:00pm
Tri-City Plus Band

---- Public Dancing on Saturday and Sunday ----

(Program subject to change)

FOOD – Slovak & American

Slovak food on Sat. & Sun. ONLY

Holubky (Stuffed cabbage)
Slize s kapustou (Noodles & cabbage)
Pirohy (Pierogi)
Faširky (Slovak burgers)
Klobása s kapustou (Kielbasa with sauerkraut)
Parky (Hot Dogs)
Hranolky (French Fries)
Cyril Burgers (specialty pocket sandwiches)
Palacinky (Crepes)
Zmrzlina (Ice Cream)
Predaj Koláčov (Bake Sale)

BEVERAGES

Pivo (Beer) * Vno (Wine)
Malinovsky (Pop)
Káva (Coffee) & More

CHILDREN'S AREA

* Game Tent – Duck Pond, Balloon Darts, Ski Ball, Basketball, More Games & Prizes
* Inflatables * Rock Climbing Wall

Plus a **FREE AREA**
with Sand Boxes,
Face Painting,
Playdough & More!

All Proceeds to Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church Building Fund

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church

41233 Ryan Rd. * Sterling Heights, MI * 48314

www.saintcyrils.org * 586-726-6911

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY 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, AUGUST 31	MONDAY, AUGUST 22
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the readership.

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

News From Slovakia

Expo Sciences in Bratislava Hosts Young Geniuses from Around World

Bratislava, July 19 (TASR) - After previous events in Montreal, Chile and Prague, the prestigious international Expo Sciences International (ESI) 2011 competition, featuring the most IQ-gifted talents under 21, came to Bratislava on this date.

The event is being held at Bratislava's Incheba complex until July 21, with participants representing 50 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin and North America.

A total of 13 categories will be evaluated by a panel of 40 judges. Among the 629 participants, Slovakia will be represented by 29 young scientists who are set to compete with 19 projects, including Marek Buchman with a project aimed at reducing the number of diodes used in television sets. Buchman, who will begin studying at Oxford University as of October, has already succeeded with the project in similar competitions held in the U.S.A. and Turkey.

"It's an honor for Bratislava to host such an event," said mayor of Bratislava Milan Ftacnik.

Stats: 42 Job Seekers for Each Vacancy

Bratislava, July 15 (TASR) - There were 9,078 job vacancies in Slovakia as of the end of May, with Bratislava and Trenčin regions providing the largest number (1,529 and 1,528, respectively) from among Slovakia's eight regions, the Labour, Social Affairs and the Family Centre (UPSVar) announced on this date.

As there were more than 380,000 jobless people in the country, there were 42 job seekers for each vacancy. A total of 5,806 new vacancies were available in May, while another 5,604 were filled.

When it comes to the available jobs in each region, Trnava region was third (1,451), followed by Prešov region (1,211), Žilina region (1,132) and Nitra region (1,107).

The regions with the perennially highest unemployment rates came bottom in the number of vacancies - Banská Bystrica region (634) and Košice region (486).

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*Interest rate Guaranteed for 6 years

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- Minimum deposit \$5,000

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Call 1-800 Jednota or 1-216-642-9406

Počas Mediálnej púte v Šaštíne udelili Ceny Andreja Radlinského

Šaštín-Stráže (TASR) - Cenu Andreja Radlinského určenú novinárom a mediálnym pracovníkom 11. júna v Šaštíne udelila Rada pre spoločenské komunikačné prostriedky trom novinárom. Počas Mediálnej púte v Bazilike Sedembolestnej Panny Márie si ocenenie prevzal niekdajší hovorca Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (KBS) a šéfredaktor Katolíckych novín Marián Gavenda. Druhým oceneným bol kňaz Štefan Mordel, ktorý v čase totality ilegálne daboval filmy s náboženskou tematikou a tretie ocenenie si prevzal športový komentátor a atletický manažér Alfonz Juck.

„Ide o druhý ročník udeľovania Ceny Andreja Radlinského. Sú ňou odmeňovaní tí, ktorí prinášajú pravdu a úctu k pravde v médiách. Zámerom udeľovania tohto ocenenia je vyjadriť vďaka Katolíckej cirkvi na Slovensku ľuďom, ktorí sa význačným spôsobom zaslúžili o rozvoj kresťanských masmédií, alebo svojimi dielami, či svojou činnosťou pravdivo a v duchu kresťanskej viery pôsobili v oblasti masmédií,“ uviedol hovorca KBS Jozef Kováčik. Cieľom ocenenia je tiež povzbudiť novinárov do ďalšej tvorivej mediálnej práce a prehliť vzťahy medzi cirkvou a pracovníkmi v oblasti masmédií. Kandidátov na ocenenie navrhovala odborná i laická verejnosť.



Chlieb náš každodenný daj nám dnes ...

Na hornom konci malej dediny,
bolo počuť akýsi divný kľopot ...
To kosci kujú svoje kosy.

Teplý vánok ho zanáša až kdesi do doliny.

Koniec júla je tu, čas žatvy sa hlási.
Skoro ráno, než slniečko vypije rannú rosu,
kosec je hotový vyskúšať svoju kosu.
Prv však, zbožne kľakne na kolená,
a Všemohúceho o dobrú žatvu a zdravie prosí.

Ďakuje tiež za „Chlieb náš každodenný.“
Láskavo vysloví slová „Bud' od nás pozdravený“.
Daj Pane, by žatvu sme šťastne skončili
a posledný snop, slzami vďaka ovenčili.
Áno, všetci Ti ďakujeme, keď sa v Otčenáši modlíme,
„Chlieb náš každodenný, daj nám dnes.“

Jozef Smák

Košickí študenti na svetovej súťaži v New Yorku

Bratislava (TASR) – Projekt Mapz študentov Fakulty elektrotechniky a informatiky Technickej univerzity Košice Michala Pristáša, Tomáša Staníka, Mareka Šuščáka a Mareka Tomáša vyhral celoslovenské kolo Software Design súťaže Imagine Cup 2011. Mapz je integrovaný systém, ktorý rieši najväčší problém zrakovopostihnutých ľudí - orientáciu v priestore. Okrem aplikácií určených na dopĺňanie záujmových bodov do máp metódou crowdsourcingu je súčasťou systému aj súbor nástrojov pre nevidiacich používateľov. Pomocou technológie Blind View získajú presné priestorové informácie o záujmových bodoch vo svojom okolí.

„Na celosvetovom finále 8.–13. júla v New Yorku tento projekt reprezentoval Slovensko. Téma súťaže bola Predstavte si svet, v ktorom technológie pomáhajú vyriešiť tie najťažšie problémy. Každoročne sa súťaže zúčastňuje vyše 300,000 študentov z viac ako 100 krajín,“ uviedla Marina Smolková z Tatra banky. Nadácia tejto banky v rámci grantu E-Talent podporila projekt Mapz aj projekt študentov Slovenskej technickej univerzity v Bratislave iTransit (Sprievodca mestskou hromadnou dopravou), ktorý tiež zvíťazil v slovenskej súťaži. Aplikácia iTransit obsahuje cestovné poriadky pre MHD Bratislava, rýchle zobrazenie aktuálnych odchodov z najbližších zastávok, zobrazenie zastávok na mape, prehľadné zobrazenie cestovných poriadkov a trasy spoja či vyhľadávanie spojení.

Odborná porota hodnotila najlepšie mobilné aplikácie vytvorené na Slovensku v priebehu uplynulého roka. Hlavnými kritériami boli inovatívnosť aplikácie a jej exekúcia (technické, grafické prevedenie) i potenciál zaujať spotrebiteľa. Grantom E-Talent nadácia každoročne podporuje študentov, učiteľov a výskumných pracovníkov v odbore aplikovanej a priemyselnej informatiky. „Nadácia Tatra banky uzavrela v roku 2010 všetky štyri grantové programy E-Talent, Kvalita vzdelania, Vedieť viac a Študenti do sveta, ktoré zaznamenali nárast v počte i kvalite prihlásených projektov. Podporila spolu 70 projektov v celkovej výške 193,523 eur,“ dodala Smolková.



FOTO TASR - Martin Baumann

Na snímke kláštor Kongregácie Dcér sv. Františka Assiského v Bratislave – Prievoze.

Spomienka na násilné vyvezenie rehoľných sestier z kláštorov Slovenska

Bratislava (TASR) - Spomienkové stretnutie venované násilnému vyvezeniu rehoľných sestier z kláštorov do centralizačného kláštora v Bratislave-Prievoze pred 60 rokmi uskutočnilo sa 28. júna v terajšom kláštore Kongregácie dcér sv. Františka Assiského v Prievoze.

Stretnutie sa začalo svätou omšou v Kostole Božského srdca Ježišovho. Jej hlavným celebrantom bol vyše 91-ročný kňaz Mons. Ľudovít Baláži, ktorý v stredu 29. júna, vo sviatok sv. Petra a Pavla, oslávil 65. výročie svojho kňazstva. Anton Srholec zo Spoločnosti Dona Bosca, predstaviteľ Konfederácie politických väzňov Slovenska (KPVS), v kázni pripomenul, že v 50. rokoch minulého storočia stovky kňazov, rehoľných sestier a rehoľníkov pre ich vieru a službu Bohu prenasledovali a väznili. Mnohí z nich v dôsledku prežitého utrpenia ochoreli a zomreli, alebo ich utýrali. Zostali však verní Bohu a boli ochotní kvôli svojej viere aj trpieť. Ocenil aj statočnosť rehoľných sestier, ktoré násilne vystaňovali z kláštorov, premiestňovali na rôzne miesta a mnohé z nich sa ocitli v centralizačnom kláštore v Prievoze. Poďakoval im za statočnosť, s ktorou vzali na seba svoj kríž. „Nechceme však len spomínať, ale pretaviť naše spomienky do svedectiev pre dnešných ľudí, pre ďalšie generácie,“ zdôraznil páter Srholec.

Po omši stretnutie pokračovalo vystúpeniami sestier, ktoré predniesli svoje svedectvá z ťažkých časov prenasledovania cirkvi. Rehoľné sestry z Kongregácie dcér sv. Františka Assiského, z rehole sv. Cyrila a Metoda, ako aj ďalších reholí, priblížili účastníkom stretnutia ťažké chvíle, keď ich v noci vyvážali z kláštorov a transportovali na neznáme miesta. Museli žiť v preplnených priestoroch, v zlých hygienických podmienkach, v nevykúrených miestnostiach a ťažko pracovať v poľnohospodárstve, ale aj v nemocniciach, kde pomáhali ťažko chorým a starým ľuďom. Veľmi stiesnené a zložité podmienky zažili aj sestry, ktoré sa dostali do sústredovacieho kláštora v Prievoze. Spomínali i na to, ako ich nútli vzdať sa rehoľného života a zavražďovali, často prevážali na rôzne miesta, aj do Čiech. Pozitívom však bolo, že sestry sa v ťažkých časoch, ktoré trvali 11 rokov, navzájom povzbudzovali a dodávali si nádej a silu. Všetky sestry, ktoré vystúpili na stretnutí, ako aj spomínaný 91-ročný kňaz Ľudovít Baláži, ktorý prežil roky vo väzení, zhodne uviedli, že jedine viera v Boha im pomohla prežiť všetko utrpenie. Najstaršou účastníčkou stretnutia bola 94-ročná rehoľná sestra Elena Tancerová a niekoľko ďalších vyše 90-ročných sestier. Spomienkové stretnutie usporiadala Konfederácia politických väzňov Slovenska a Kongregácia dcér sv. Františka Assiského.



Prezident SR prijal delegáciu amerických kongresmanov

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

firmy. Medzi najväčšie sa radí US Steel Košice. Prezident SR pred poslancami Kongresu USA pripomenul aj ďalšie možnosti podnikania, ktoré ponúka naša krajina - „Slovensko má veľa minerálnych a termálnych prameňov, rozvinutú liečebnú turistiku a práve v tejto oblasti sa otvárajú nové investičné možnosti“, konštatoval.

Kongresman John Mica počas rozhovoru konštatoval, že pre americké podnikanie je veľmi dôležité dôveryhodné podnikateľské prostredie. „Určité obavy tu stále existujú, najmä v oblasti vymožitelnosti práva a stavu justície,“ zveril sa v rozhovore s prezidentom SR. Podľa Ivana Gašparoviča vymožitelnosť práva v SR skutočne nie je bezchybná, ako však dodal, problémom väčšinou nie sú zákony, ale prostredie, v ktorom sudcovia pôsobia. „Ja verím, že tento problém je odstrániteľný“, dodal prezident.

Republikánsky poslanec z Pensylvánie William Schuster na stretnutí ocenil podiel Slovenska v boji proti globálnemu terorizmu. „Keď pricestujem domov do USA, budem svojim voličom pripomínať, že taká malá krajina ako Slovensko vyslala do Afganistanu vyše 300 vojakov. Toto je veľká zásluha,“ uviedol pred hlavou štátu. Prezident Ivan Gašparovič zdôraznil, že pre nás je účasť v Afganistane kľúčovou medzinárodnou aktivitou slovenských ozbrojených síl. „Slovenská republika je zodpovedným a dôveryhodným členom Severoatlantickej aliancie, a plní si svoje členské záväzky,“ uviedol pred poslancami Kongresu USA.

Ako po stretnutí povedal pred novinármi prezident Ivan Gašparovič, je veľmi rád, že John Mica priviedol svojich kolegov, aby im predstavil Slovensko. „Som presvedčený, že táto návšteva, nie je posledná“, povedal prezident SR, podľa ktorého poslanci parlamentov by sa mohli častejšie navštevovať a vytvárať tak ovzdušie ozajstnej spolupráce na reálnych projektoch.

Cieľom pracovnej cesty americkej kongresovej delegácie v Európe boli rozhovory s predstaviteľmi vládnych inštitúcií tematicky zamerané na dopravu, európske bezpečnostné štandardy v rámci civilného letectva a masovej dopravy či možnosti rozšírenia ekonomickej spolupráce.



FOTO TASR/AP Photo/Charles Krupa

Kapitán Bostonu Bruins Zdeno Chára drží nad hlavou Stanleyho pohár počas osláv zisku Stanleyho pohára 18. júna 2011 v Bostone.

Boston Bruins captain Zdeno Chara carries the Stanley Cup off a duck boat for the fans to view during a rally in celebration of the team's NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoff victory in Boston, Saturday, June 18, 2011.

NHL-finále: Chára si prebratie pohára zapamätá do konca svojho života

Vancouver (TASR) - Keď treba hasiť problémy, rýchlo volajte Zdenovi Chárovi. Obrovitý kapitán, akého fyzické parametre ešte najlepšia hokejová liga na svete nepoznala, nevynikal v štatistických ukazovateľoch v tohtoročnom play off, no jeho kľúčový prínos tkvel v bezchybnej obrannej činnosti, burcovaní tímu a líderskými schopnosťami a ukázaním cesty za víťazstvom.

Chára vynikal počas celej sezóny v tom, čo vie najlepšie - je jedným z najlepších "shut down" obrancov v celej lige a počas rokov k tomuto rozmeru pridal aj kanadské body. Tréneri ho nasadzujú do presiloviek i oslabení, jeho hrací čas mal v sezóne pravidelne najvyššie hodnoty a vždy sa naňho dalo spoľahnúť. Dôležitým faktorom bolo aj to, že sa mu vyhýbali zranenia.

Po 13 rokoch brázdania klzísk sa tak Chára dočkal a ako prvý Slovák mohol dvíhať nad hlavu trofej ako hokejista s kapitánskym céčkom na drese. "Je to veľká česť a privilegium. Zapamätám si tento pocit i moment po celý zvyšok môjho života," cituje Cháru CBS Sports v reakcii na prevzatie trofeje.



SAKS v New Yorku pozýva verejnosť na piknik 7. augusta 2011

Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko v New Yorku pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na výročný piknik v nedeľu 7. augusta 2011. Piknik bude v Greenwich Point Park, CT. Je to príjemný park s morskou plazou. Vstupné je \$ 35.00, pre mládež od 6 do 18 rokov \$15.00 a do 6 rokov bezplatne. V cene je zahrnuté jedlo (catered) a nealkoholické nápoje.

Park poskytuje možnosť hier, plávanie a stretnutie s krajanmi z rôznych častí širšej newyorskej oblasti. O rezervácie a informácie volajte Zuzku Krčmarovú na tel. č. (973) 357-1209.

Z NY, NJ a CT: I-95 exit 5, pri východe vpravo a hneď zase vpravo na Sound Beach Ave., prejdite popri parku, obchodnej a rezidenčnej časti a potom vpravo na Shore Road do Greenwich Point Park.

Výbor SAKS-u



Kanada láka mladých Slovákov novým programom

Bratislava (TASR) - Cesta do Kanady bude po novom pre mladých Slovákov o čosi jednoduchšia. Kanadská veľvyslankyňa Valerie Raymondová nedávno v Bratislave predstavila nový program Zažite Kanadu. V rámci neho si mladí ľudia vo veku 18 až 35 rokov môžu zvoliť medzi stážou, odborným rozvojom a pracovnými prázdninami v druhej najväčšej krajine na svete po dobu jedného roka.

"Záujemcovia nemusia mať žiadne konkrétne zručnosti. Chceme len, aby mladí Slováci mali príležitosť spoznať Kanadu, Kanadčanov a myslím, že toto skutočne posilní medzilidské vzťahy medzi obyvateľmi našich dvoch krajín," uviedla Raymondová s tým, že prihlásení dokonca nemusia preukazovať svoje jazykové znalosti. V tomto roku túto príležitosť otvorí Kanada pre stovku Slovákov, kvóta pre budúci rok by mala byť stanovená už na jeseň. Podľa Raymondovej plánuje veľvyslanectvo prehodnocovať hornú hranicu niekoľkokrát do roka, v závislosti od záujmu.

Podľa veľvyslankyne najväčší záujem bude o tú časť programu, ktorá umožňuje ľuďom pricestovať do Kanady bez toho, aby mali zabezpečenú prácu. Tú si budú môcť následne nájsť na mieste, čo zvyšné dva programy neumožňujú. Raymondová zároveň pripustila, že záujem o podobný program je aj z opačnej strany. "Viem, že mladí Kanadania majú veľký záujem prísť na Slovensko. Niekedy však majú obavy kvôli ich nedostatočným znalostiam slovenčiny," konštatovala.

Slovenská katolícka púť v Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, NY

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Slovenskú katolícku púť, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu 14. augusta 2011 v Marian Shrine, saleziánov Don Boska, vo West Haverstraw, New York, 10993. Pred svätou omšou budú mať pútnici možnosť sa vyspovedať. Svätá omša začne o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia. Obed sa začne o 12:30 hodine odpoľudnia a Ružencová procesia začne o 2:30 hodine odpoľudnia.

Ak bude dostatočný počet záujemcov, autobus bude pristený pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku. Kto by mal záujem na túto púť cestovať autobusom, nech sa prihlási u brata Jozefa Bilika.

Blížšie informácie o púti vám podajú: Jozef Bilik: (718) 4632084; Henrieta Daitová (201)

Štipendium (Scholarship) pre študentov z Kalifornie

„Prečo chcem poznať a zachovať si svoje slovenské dedičstvo“

V záujme podporiť národné cítenie k Slovensku a osviežiť si národné tradície kultúrneho dedičstva našich otcov a matiek (to preserve our Cultural Heritage), Slovak American Center vyhlasuje Štipendium (Scholarship) pre študentov z Kalifornie, ktorí sú zapísaní v roku 2011/2012 do College of Under Graduate Studies. Víťaz dostane \$500.00, druhá cena je \$300.00 a tretia cena je \$200.00.

Ziadateľ o Štipendium doručí do 30. augusta 2011 na Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Suite A, Fullerton, CA 92831, essay a žiadosť s osobnými údajmi: Meno a priezvisko, vek a dátum narodenia, College of Under Graduate Studies, ktorú navštevuje, alebo bude navštevovať v roku 2011/2012, adresa bydliska.

Ziadateľ napíše literárnu kompozíciu (essay) na 2 strany min. – 4 strany max., „8.5 x 11.5“, regulárne medzery computerového výtlaku, na tému:

„Prečo chcem poznať a zachovať si svoje slovenské dedičstvo“. Essay môže byť napísaná slovensky, alebo anglicky.

Essay vyhodnotí Fr. Pavol Sochuľak a odovzdanie cien sa uskutoční na vianočnom stretnutí krajanov a priateľov Slovenska v City of Bellflower, CA.

Prajem vám veľa úspechov vo vašich štúdiách.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

Budúcoročný zápas hokejovej

NHL „Winter Classic“ vo Philadelphii

New York (TASR) - Piaty ročník zápasu hokejovej NHL pod holým nebom s názvom Winter Classic by sa mal odohrať 2. januára na štadióne amerického futbalu vo Philadelphii. Súperom "letcov", ktorých dres oblieka aj slovenský obranca Andrej Meszároš, budú s najväčšou pravdepodobnosťou New York Rangers s útočníkom Mariánom Gáborikom.

Ako napísal vo svojom vydaní 22. júna denník New York Times, vedenie profiligy ešte musí oficiálne potvrdiť dejisko i zúčastnené tímy zaradením duelu do oficiálneho kalendára pre novú sezónu. Podľa hovorca NHL sa tak stane čoskoro, údajne je však už všetko dohodnuté. Rangers si "zimnú klasiku" zahrajú vôbec prvýkrát. Všetky predošlé duely sa odohrali na Nový rok, no organizátorov prinútila k posunutiu termínu kolízia so zápasom play off NFL. Historicky prvý zápas Winter Classic odohrali mužstvá Buffala a Pittsburghu. Po prekvapujúco vysokom diváckom záujme a z toho plynúcom komerčnom úspechu sa stala zo zápasu tradícia. V ďalších dueloch na seba narazili Chicago s Detroitom, Boston s Philadelphiou a naposledy Pittsburgh s Washingtonom.



Národá púť na Slávnosť sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Nitre



FOTO: TK KBS/ Ján Macák

Cyrilo-metodskou národnou púťou a slávnostnou svätou omšou vyvrcholili 5. júla 2011 v Nitre tradičné slávnosti Nitra, milá Nitra. Na slávnostnej svätej omši pod holým nebom na Nitrianskom hrade, ktorej predsedal arcibiskup Cyril Vasil', kancelár Kongregácie pre východné cirkvi vo Vatikáne, sa stretlo niekoľko tisíc ľudí z celého Slovenska.

The national pilgrimage on the feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius culminated with the celebration of a Mass outside the Nitra Castle. Over a thousand people took part.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Takmer** šesť metrov vysokú repliku známeho súsošia solúnskych bratov Cyrila a Metoda začal stavať na nitrianskom Svätoplukovom námestí z piesku český umelec Radovan Živný. Na dielo spotrebuje okolo 150 ton morského piesku, tvorí ho podľa originálu kamennej sochy Ludmily Cvenegrošovej. Socha bude súčasťou na Slovensku vôbec prvého Golden Sand festivalu, ktorý pripravuje nitrianska Galéria Mlyny v termíne od 3. júla do 14. augusta. K Živnému sa v rámci neho pripoja aj umelci z Japonska, Belgicka, Holandska, Talianska, Slovenska a Írska. Podujatie sa koná pod záštitou primátora mesta Jozefa Dvonča a umeleckého riaditeľa Slovenského národného divadla Petra Dvorského.

• **Slovensko** si 150. výročie prijatia Memoranda národa slovenského pripomenulo v utorok 7. júna. Poprední predstavitelia Slovákov práve pred 150 rokmi predložili ucelený politický program, z ktorého presadili viacerých dôležitých výdobytkov v oblasti kultúry a školstva. K najvýznamnejším patrilo založenie Matice Slovenskej a troch slovenských gymnázií v Martine, Revúcej a v Kláštore pod Znievom. Výročie Memoranda je zároveň pamätným dňom Slovenskej republiky, na ktorom sa uzniesli poslanci Národnej rady (NR) v roku 1993.

• **Slovenská ekonomika** v prvom kvartáli tohto roka medziročne vzrástla o 3,5 %. Na základe spresnených údajov tak Štatistický úrad (ŠÚ) SR začiatkom júna to potvrdil svoj májový rýchly odhad 3,5%-o rastu hrubého domáceho produktu (HDP). Za celý minulý rok slovenská ekonomika vzrástla o 4 %. Tempo jej rastu však postupne spomaľovalo zo 4,7 % v prvom štvrtroku na 3,5 % v poslednom kvartáli 2010.

• **Spoločnosť IBM** 8. júna opätovne otvorila zmodernizované inovačné centrum, ktoré patrí medzi najväčšie v rámci strednej a východnej Európy. Náklady na jeho zriadenie bez samotného hardvérového vybavenia si vyžiadali 200,000 USD (136,500 eur). Ako povedal pri slávnostnom otvorení centra generálny riaditeľ IBM Slovensko Branislav Šebo, jeho úlohou je vytvoriť testovacie prostredie, ktoré zákazníkom navodí reálne prostredie, v ktorom si môžu vyskúšať nasadzovanie nových aplikácií a riešení.

• **V dňoch 6. – 7. júna 2011** sa v priestoroch Úradu vlády Slovenskej republiky uskutočnilo pracovné zasadnutie členov medzirezortnej dotačnej komisie, vytvorenej ako poradný orgán predsedu Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ďalej len „ÚSZZ“) Milana Vetráka, ktorá hodnotila žiadosti o udelenie dotácií na podporu aktivít Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí v roku 2011. Termín na podanie žiadostí bol 31. január 2011, teda ešte pred nástupom M. Vetráka do funkcie. Do spomínaného termínu ÚSZZ prijal 847 žiadostí na projekty od 273 žiadateľov v celkovej sume 3 981 148,45 eur, pričom na rok 2011 bolo na účely podpory rozvoja slovenských krajských komunít a jednotlivcov vo svete v rámci dotačného systému v pôsobnosti ÚSZZ z rozpočtu vlády SR vyčlenených len 1 159 426 eur.

• **Zemplínska širava** ukrýva tajomstvo, o ktorom nevedeli nielen rekreanti a turisti, ale aj mnohí obyvatelia obcí v okolí východoslovenského mora. Pod jej hladinou sa nachádza poľné vojenské letisko z obdobia 2. svetovej vojny. Vo svojom vojnovom ťažení využívala nemecká armáda aj územie Slovenského štátu. Okrem pozemných jednotiek sa na Slovensku na útok na Poľsko pripravovalo aj nemecké vojenské letectvo -Luftwaffe. Využívali aj dve poľné letiská – jedno v chotári Spišskej Novej Vsi (Zipser Neudorf) a druhé v katastri obce Vinné.

• **Novou** veľvyslankyňou Spojeného kráľovstva Veľkej Británie a Severného Írska na Slovensku bude Susannah Montgomery. Oficiálne do úradu nastúpi koncom augusta 2011. Veľvyslankyňa prichádza po veľvyslancovi Michaelovi Robertsovi, ktorý odišiel z diplomatickej služby. Montgomery nastúpila do diplomatickej služby v roku 1995. Pracovala na rôznych pozíciách. Okrem iného v Moskve, pri OSN v New Yorku, naposledy ako riaditeľka pre komunikáciu na britskom veľvyslanectve v Paríži. „Som potešená, že sa vraciam do krajiny, ku ktorej prechovávam nielen hlbokú náklonnosť, ale aj obdiv za to, čo dosiahla,“ povedala Montgomery pri svojom vymenovaní do funkcie.

• **Najvyššie** vyznamenanie Sudetonemeckého krajského spolku - Európsku cenu Karola IV. udelili 11. júna bývalému slovenskému prezidentovi Rudolfovi Schusterovi. Vyznamenanie sa od roku 1958 udeľuje osobnostiam politického, duchovného a hospodárskeho života, ktoré majú mimoriadne zásluhy na spolupráci a porozumení národov a krajín v strednej Európe. Schuster si ho prevzal v nemeckom Ausburgu, neďaleko Mníchova. V roku 1961 udelili vyznamenanie Karola IV. prezidentovi kongresu Slovenskej ligy v Amerike Philipovi A. Hrobakovi a v roku 1986 prvému predsedovi Svetového kongresu Slovákov Štefanovi Romanovi. Rudolf Schuster bol prezidentom Slovenskej republiky v rokoch 1999 až 2004, predtým zakladateľom a predsedom Strany občianskeho porozumenia. V rokoch 1964 až 1990 bol členom Komunistickej strany Slovenska.

• **Hokejové** hnutie na Slovensku povedie nasledujúce štyri roky Igor Nemeček. Skúseného hokejového funkcionára zvolili do pozície prezidenta Slovenského zväzu ľadového hokeja delegáti jeho júnového VII. kongresu v bratislavskom City Hoteli. Nemeček napokon vo voľbách nemal žiadneho protikandidáta, keďže ani počas kongresového dňa žiadny z delegátov nenavrhol ďalšieho uchádzača o prezidentský post v SZLH. Na čelo zväzu sa dostal dlhoročný blízky spolupracovník bývalého prezidenta Juraja Širokého, ktorý svoj post opúšťa po 13 rokoch. Nemeček je absolventom Fakulty telesnej výchovy a športu v Bratislave. Po skončení štúdií pracoval ako tréner na Slovensku i v zahraničí. V roku 1999 sa stal generálnym sekretárom SZLH a vo funkcii vydržal celé desaťročie. V roku 2009 sa rozhodol tohto postu vzdať a ako šéf organizačného výboru sa plne sústredil na usporiadanie tohtoročných MS v Bratislave a Košiciach.

• **Približne** 550,000 automobilov vyprodukovali za minulý rok automobilky na Slovensku a predbežné výsledky za tento rok ukazujú, že by automobilový priemysel mohol dosiahnuť rekord v produkcii až do počtu 630,000 vozidiel. Povedal to nedávno v Bratislave na tlačovej konferencii prezident Združenia automobilového priemyslu (ZAP) SR Jozef Uhrík. Automobilový priemysel ostáva aj naďalej rozhodujúcim odvetvím v národnom hospodárstve a jeho podiel na priemysle SR predstavoval vlani 37 %, pričom v tomto roku sa počíta s ďalším rastom podielu. Uvedené odvetvie patrí aj k najväčším zamestnávateľom. Vlani v ňom pracovalo takmer 70,000 pracovníkov, čo bolo v porovnaní s rokom 2009 viac o 1,800, avšak v porovnaní s rokom 2007, teda v predkrízovom období, to bolo menej približne o 7,000.

• **Vo** štvrtok 16. júna v Dubline slávnostne otvorili Slovenský dom v Dubline (Slovak In Ireland House), prvé krajské zariadenie podobného druhu v Írsku. Na otvorení Slovenského domu sa zúčastnil predseda Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Milan Vetrák, slovenský veľvyslanec v Írsku Roman Bužek, predstavitelia magistrátu hlavného mesta, redaktori slovenského krajského magazínu Slovak in Ireland, komunitných organizácií a miestnych médií. Hlavným poslaním Slovenského domu je vytvoriť priestor pre kultúrne, osvetové a vzdelávacie podujatia príslušníkov krajskej komunity v Írsku. Projekt realizovali slovenskí krajanovia z vlastných prostriedkov.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

SNM podporuje spoluprácu Rusínov na celom svete

Bratislava (TASR) – Slovenské národné múzeum (SNM), Múzeum rusínskej kultúry (MRK) v Prešove a organizácia CARPATHO-RUSYN SOCIETY z amerického Pittsburghu podpísali 16. júna v Bratislave zmluvu o vzájomnej spolupráci. Tento akt uskutočnil generálny riaditeľ SNM Rastislav Púdelka, riaditeľka MRK Oľga Glosíková a John Righetti, prezident CARPATHO-RUSYN SOCIETY, ktorej členskú základňu tvoria Rusíni žijúci v USA. Zmluvu podpísali v slovenskej a anglickej verzii.

„MRK je naše najmladšie menšinové múzeum a v Prešove je to perspektívne pracovisko. Dohoda dokumentuje, že Rusíni sú široká komunita vo svete,“ povedal Púdelka. Podľa Glosíkovej podpísanie dohody je mimoriadna udalosť pre všetkých Rusínov. Má aj historický význam – je prvou zmluvou na úrovni múzejnej a kultúrnej spolupráce, zaručuje jej kvalitatívne vyššiu úroveň, než praktizovali doteraz s rôznymi spolkami. Za morom už majú oficiálneho partnera a spolupráca bude realizovaná formou spoločných výstav, prednášok, odborných a vedeckých seminárov, konferencií, prezentácií vzájomných kultúrnych hodnôt na území SR a USA. Nová forma spolupráce tiež celkovo prispeje k zlepšeniu vzájomných vzťahov a poznania nielen dospeléj populácie, ale hlavne mladej generácie.

„Dohoda s platnosťou na päť rokov a možnosťou predĺženia obsahuje všetky aktivity v oblasti kultúrnej a múzejnej práce,“ povedala pre TASR jej iniciátorka z prešovského múzea. Zároveň dodala, že v rôznych vlnách sa do USA za prácou odsťahovalo približne 60,000 Rusínov a za tri generácie sa ich počet rozšíril asi na 250,000. Nedávno bolo otvorenie výstavy v Prešove pod názvom Za morom. Podujatie bolo pripravené v spolupráci s Rusínmi žijúcimi v rôznych mestách USA.

Životopisy svätcov na novej internetovej stránke

V uplynulých niekoľkých týždňoch bola uvedená do prevádzky internetová stránka www.zivotopisysvatych.sk. Ponúka zoznam svätých a blahoslavených v počte vyše 1,300, pričom priebežne sa tento zoznam rozširuje o nových svätcov. Životopisy boli pôvodne umiestnené na stránke www.knazi.sk. Od 19. júna 2011 sa nachádzajú na samostatnej doméne. Stránka funguje pod záštitou občianskeho združenia 4 K.

TK KBS



Púť na Mariánsku horu v Levoči, nedeľa 3. júla 2011

The annual pilgrimage to Marianska Hora in Levoca on July 3, 2011.

Okolo pol milióna veriacich sa zúčastnilo na Levočskej púti. Approximately a half million people participated in the pilgrimage in Levoca this year.



FOTO: TK KBS/Peter Zimen

Okolo pol milióna veriacich sa zúčastnilo na Levočskej púti

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Levoču, blahoslaveného Jána Pavla II.: „Svoj život, službu Cirkvi a ľudstvu zveril Panne Márii. Nasledoval ju v dôvernom kontakte s Božím slovom a v prinášaní Ježiša druhým“.

V závere slávnostnej svätej omše apoštolský nuncius Mons. Mario Giordana odovzdal zhromaždeným apoštolské požehnanie Svätého Otca Benedikta XVI. a zveril ich pod ochranu Panny Márie. Tohtoročná púť sa niesla v duchu blahorečenia Jána Pavla II. a dvoch jubileí biskupa Jána Vojaššáka. Veriaci si mali možnosť na púti uctiť aj vzácnu relikviu, kvapku krvi blahoslaveného Jána Pavla II., ktorá v sobotu počas polnočnej bohoslužby bola umiestnená v bazilike k verejnej úcte. Napriek chladnému a daždivému počasiu tisíce veriacich prichádzali na Mariánsku horu už od soboty rána. Stovky z nich, väčšinou mladí putovali do Levoče pešo. Podľa odhadov sa hlavnej svätej omše zúčastnilo okolo 500 tisíc pútnikov. Prítomní boli predstavitelia verejného a kultúrneho života.

Mariánska púť v Levoči sa koná pri príležitosti sviatku Navštívenia Panny Márie, ktorý je 2. júla. Korene mariánskeho kultu siahajú až do 13. storočia. Z tých čias pochádzajú prvé zmienky o tomto pútnickom mieste a zhromažďovaní mariánskych ctiteľov. Roku 1247 bola postavená prvá kaplnka na Olivetskej hore. Najpravdepodobnejšie bola postavená ako prejav vďaky Božej Matke za záchranu mnohých životov pred vpádom Tatárov, ktorí pustošili naše územie a konkrétne i Levoču.

TK KBS



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

ÚRADNÝ ORGÁN PRVEJ KATOLÍCKEJ SLOVENSKEJ JEDNOTY V SPOJENÝCH ŠTÁTOCH A V KANADE

Ročník 120

STREDA, 3. AUGUSTA 2011

Číslo 5846



FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškás

Na snímke prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič (tretí sprava), veľvyslanec USA na Slovensku, Theodore Sedgwick (druhý sprava) a republikánsky kongresman John Mica (štvrtý zľava).

On July 2, 2011, President Ivan Gasparovic accepted a delegation of American Congressmen in the Presidential Palace in Bratislava. In the photo with President Gasparovic are American Ambassador Theodore Sedgwick (second from right) and Congressmen John Mica (fourth from left).

Prezident SR prijal delegáciu amerických kongresmanov

Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič prijal 2. júla 2011 v Prezidentskom paláci členov Snemovne reprezentantov Kongresu USA na čele s predsedom Výboru pre dopravu a infraštruktúru Johnom Micom, republikánskym kongresmanom slovenského pôvodu. Členovia Kongresu USA boli na pracovnej ceste v Európe. Ivan Gašparovič na stretnutí ocenil že sa po šiestich rokoch môže opäť stretnúť s Johnom Micom. „Chcem využiť túto príležitosť, aby som sa vám poďakoval za všetko, čo ste pre slovensko-americké vzťahy urobili“, uviedol pred hosťami z USA prezident SR. Zdôraznil, že Slovenská republika sa aj vďaka pomoci Spojených štátov úspešne integrovala do euroatlantických štruktúr.

John Mica sa hlavne štátu poďakoval za vrelé privítanie na Slovensku. Aj on vyzdvihol úroveň slovensko – amerických vzťahov, ktoré sú podľa neho veľmi dobré a priateľské. Počas stretnutia hovorili o rozvoji investícií a podnikania v SR, kde sa úspešne etablovali aj mnohé americké

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SR dosiahla na medzinárodnej fyzikálnej olympiáde vynikajúci úspech

Bratislava/Bangkok (TASR) - Na 42. ročníku medzinárodnej fyzikálnej olympiády, ktorá v júli skončila v thajskom Bangkoku, dosiahla slovenská reprezentácia vynikajúci úspech. Päťčlenné družstvo získalo tri zlaté, po jednej striebornej a bronzovej medaile.

V súťaži riešili tri teoretické a dve experimentálne úlohy, ktoré svojou náročnosťou výrazne prekročujú náročnosť učiva na strednej škole. Z najvzácnejšieho kovu sa tešili Jakub Kocák z Gymnázia L. Svobodu v Humennom, Ján Pulmann z Gymnázia na Grösslingovej ul. v Bratislave a Jakub Šafin z Gymnázia P. Horova v Michalovciach. Striebornú medailu získal Matej Balog z bratislavského gymnázia na Grösslingovej ulici a bronzovú Peter Kosec z Gymnázia Ľ. Štúra v Trenčíne.

V neoficiálnom poradí krajín, v ktorom výrazne dominujú štáty východnej a juhovýchodnej Ázie, obsadilo slovenské družstvo 16. miesto. Na súťaži žiakov stredných škôl mimoriadne talentovaných vo fyzike sa zúčastnilo 393 študentov z 85 krajín. Väčšina krajín bola zastúpená päťčlenným družstvom a dvoma vedúcimi. Na podujatí bolo aj 79 pozorovateľov a 23 hostí.

Súťažné slovenské družstvo tvorili víťazi celoštátneho kola fyzikálnej olympiády. Pred odchodom do Thajska absolvovali študenti niekoľko náročných sústredení v Žiline, Košiciach a medzinárodné sústredenie v Hradci Králové. V ostatných rokoch sa slovenskej reprezentácii na medzinárodnej fyzikálnej olympiáde darí. Vedúci delegácie profesor Ivo Čáp (Elektrotechnická fakulta Žilinskej univerzity) to považuje za dôsledok tradične dobrého systému vyhľadávania talentovaných žiakov základných a stredných škôl a ich kvalitnej mimoškolskej prípravy najmä v rámci fyzikálnej olympiády.

Okolo pol milióna veriacich sa zúčastnilo na Levočskej púti

Slávnostnou svätou omšou vyvrcholila 3. júla odpustová slávnosť na Mariánskej hore v Levoči. Hlavným celebrantom bol košický arcibiskup metropolita Bernard Bober. Spolu s ním ju slávil apoštolský nuncius na Slovensku Mons. Mario Giordana, arcibiskup metropolita Mons. Ján Babjak, spišský diecézny biskup Mons. František Tondra, ako i ďalší biskupi a mnohí kňazi. Arcibiskup Bober v homílii poukázal na Máriu úprímnou oddanosťou Bohu a na jej kontempláciu Božieho slova. Prítomných pútnikov vyzval k čítaniu Svätého písma a zároveň ich poprosil, aby z Mariánskej hory doniesli do svojich prostredí, do práce, do rodín svedectvo o Bohu, o jeho добрote. „Kto tomuto svetu povie, kto je Boh a aký je Boh?“, spýtal sa arcibiskup Bober.

Dotkol sa aj slovenskej rodiny, ktorá prechádza krízou: „Mnohí podľahli náboženskej ľahostajnosti, zanechali náboženskú prax, akoby Pána Boha nebolo“. Aj v celosvetovom meradle sa podľa neho Cirkev už dlhšie zaoberá problémami rodiny a hľadá pre týchto ľudí primeranú pomoc. Súčasný pápež Benedikt XVI. na pomoc obnovy viery zriadil Pápežskú radu pre novú evanjelizáciu a tejto téme zvolal Biskupskú synodu, ktorá bude v októbri budúceho roku. Arcibiskup spomenul aj veľkého mariánskeho ctiteľa, ktorý pred 16 rokmi navštívil

Pokračovanie na str. 23



Výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva, sediaci zľava: Ján Holý, spolupredsedovia Nina Holá a John Duch, Henrieta Daitová. Stojaci: Jane Konzelmann, Štefan Zluky, Jozef a Mária Juráši, Milan Dait, Jozef a Anna Korčák, Susan a Stanislav Krčmár, Renáta Jurášiová, Ružena a Gabriel Kováč.

Festival slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, NJ 25. septembra

V nedeľu 25. septembra 2011 bude v PNC Bank Arts Center v Holmdel, NJ (exit 116 z Garden State Parkway) 34. Festival slovenského dedičstva. Začiatok bude o 10.00 hodine. O 11.00 hodine bude slovenská svätá omša. Bude ju slúžiť biskup Peter Rusnák, grécko-katolícky bratislavský eparcha. Spolucelebrantom bude biskup William Skurla, eparcha z Passaicu, NJ. Biskupa Rusnáka bude sprevádzať spevácky súbor z byzantsko-katolíckeho seminára v Prešove, ktorý bude spievať aj počas svätej omše.

Počas dňa budú otvorené výstavné a predajné stánky s ručnými prácami, výrobkami zo skla, dreva a keramiky, potravinami a pod., dovezenými zo Slovenska. V stánkoch s jedlom budú počas celého dňa na predaj tradičné slovenské jedlá.

O 2.00 hodine začne prehliadka slovenských krojov. V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia viaceré spevácke a tanečné súbory. Po kultúrnom programe bude do tanca a na počúvanie hrať skupina Kontakty.

Počas celého dňa bude prebiehať aj futbalový turnaj. Kluby, ktoré sa chcú na ňom zúčastniť, sa majú prihlásiť čo najskôr u Jozefa Korčáka, tel. č.: (845) 353-7792.

Vstupné a parkovanie je bezplatné.

Záujemcovia, ktorí majú záujem uviesť inzerát v pamätnici, ktorá bude pri príležitosti festivalu vytlačovaná, môžu šky vystavené na Slovak Heritage Festival, zaslať na adresu: Ján Holý, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055. Ceny za inzeráty sú nasledovné: \$150.00 celá strana, \$75.00, pol strany, \$40.00 štvrt' strany, sponzori \$15.00.

Bližšie informácie o pamätnici a festivale na telefónnom čísle: (973) 472-8993.