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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

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NUMBER 5815

Slovak Hockey Team Set for 2010 Winter Olympics



By Richard D. Kocur, Jr.

Beginning on Friday, February 12, 2010 the eyes of the sporting world have turned to Vancouver for the 2010 winter Olympics. In Slovakia, the focus for this year's games is on one of the most popular of the country's winter sports...ice hockey.

Olympic hockey is the sport at its finest with talent laden teams driven by the unique competitive combination of skill and national pride.

The 2010 Slovak men's ice hockey team is looking to improve on its disappointing sixth place finish at the 2006 winter games in Turin, Italy and regain the form which made it a force in international hockey competition.

The Slovaks come to Vancouver with a veteran roster that General Manager and former NHL player Peter Bondra is hoping can lead to a run at a medal. In total, 13 NHL players will be representing Slovakia including four-time All-Star winger Marian Hossa of the Chicago Blackhawks, New York Ranger forward and top goal scorer Marian Gaborik, and Slovak NHL veterans Ziggy Pallfy, Richard Zednik, and Miro Satan. The defensive corps is anchored by current Norris Trophy winner Zdeno Chara of the Boston Bruins and defensive standouts Lubomir Visnovsky (Edmonton Oilers) and Andrej Meszaros (Tampa Bay Lightning). Goal tending duties for the games are likely to be split between net-minders Petr Budaj (Colorado Avalanche) and Jaroslav Halek (Montreal Canadiens), with Budaj the front runner to start.

Despite these NHL stars and several players from the Slovak Super League, the Slovak Olympic team, much like the fans of Vancouver's alpine skiing events, face an uphill climb.

For the Olympic hockey tournament, the Slovaks find themselves in Group B, pitted against Latvia, tournament favorite Russia and neighboring Czech Republic. In fact, Slovakia faces a tough test in their opening game against their perennial rival the Czechs on February 17.

The first several games will be played as a preliminary round and the standings after this round will determine seeding for the tournament's quarterfinals and onward. In order to

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The luxury Renaissance Cleveland Hotel reflects the city's unique style and rich history.

49th Convention Preview: The Renaissance Cleveland Hotel

Plush, spacious rooms with well-appointed and upscale amenities await delegates of the 49th International Convention at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel. A city landmark, the historic building was constructed in 1918, and its architecture reflects Cleveland's unique style and rich history. The general interior features vaulted ceilings, high arched windows, a beautiful marble fountain, as well as a magnificent Grand Ballroom. The

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ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL
24 PUBLIC SQUARE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113
SATURDAY, MARCH 20 & SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2010

The ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on *Saturday, March 20, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. & Sunday, March 21, 2010, 9:30 A.M. - till completed.*

All Officers are requested to consult Section 6.03(b) and Section 6.03(c) of our Bylaws for further information concerning officer participation and the conduct of this meeting.

Officers who are required to give reports at the Annual Meeting should send them to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office on or before Wednesday, March 10, 2010.

All correspondence relative to the Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth Arendt, and should be mailed for receipt at the Home Office prior to March 10, 2010.

For any additional information contact the Home Office at (216) 642-9406 or (800) JEDNOTA.

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

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Insights and Viewpoints



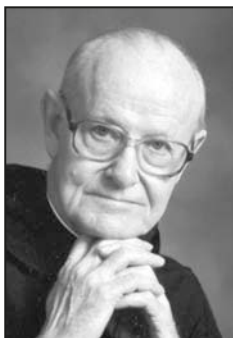
St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Campion P. Gavaler; Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.D.B.

February 28, 2010

Second Sunday of Lent
Luke 9:28b-36

Gospel Summary

Luke's version of the transfiguration of Jesus is more personal than the accounts of Mark and Matthew. Thus, for example, Luke alone tells us that Jesus was at prayer when this occurred. And he alone informs us concerning the subject of Jesus' conversation with Moses and Elijah,



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

that they "spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem" (v.31).

Moses and Elijah represent the Old Testament (the Law and the Prophets) which is centered in the exodus of God's people from the bondage of Egypt. Correspondingly, the exodus of Jesus in Jerusalem, which is his death and resurrection, will be a new exodus initiating a new covenant between God and all the people of the world. This new exodus must happen on the anniversary of the exodus from Egypt and will be the fulfillment of that pivotal event.

The liberation of the Hebrew slaves from the bondage of the Pharaoh was the effect of a divine initiative revealing God's true nature as one who loves and who wishes that all in bondage should be free. This same revelation is at the center of the definitive exodus, which is the death and resurrection of Jesus. Moreover, just as the Passover meal in Israel kept alive the power of the original exodus, so also does the Eucharist of Christians make present among us the love of God as one who offers true and lasting freedom

Life Implications

The luminous aura that surrounded Jesus on that mountaintop was an external manifestation of his ecstatic recognition that God's plan of salvation—God's ultimate exodus—will be brought about by his own loving sacrifice. His loving vulnerability thus becomes the surprising vehicle for God's power to save the world. In effect, loving concern for others is revealed as the only power with beneficent and lasting results

This kind of loving vulnerability does not mean that we are called to be passive or compliant. In fact, this kind of loving is persistent and relentless at the same time that it is gracious and sensitive. For it results from a passionate commitment to the ideal of love received and then offered to others. The only true source of freedom is unselfish love, and the only valid purpose of such freedom is to enable one to love others so that they also may be free.

This equation is clearly implied in the command of God to Israel in Deuteronomy 24:17, where the now liberated Israelites are told to care for the vulnerable ones, for example, the widow, the orphan and the wayfarer. They must do so simply because they were once themselves desperately weak and vulnerable and God loved them into freedom and self-confidence

The transfigured Jesus represents the full awareness of this incredible wisdom of God.

And when the voice from heaven commands us to "listen to him" (v.35), we are challenged to be transfigured by our own recognition of this wisdom as we become more and more ready to use our freedom so that others also may be free—free from fear and guilt and poverty and pain.



March 7, 2010

Third Sunday of Lent
Luke 13:1-9

Gospel Summary

The gospel passage refers to two recent tragedies that were on people's minds. Pilate had ordered the massacre of some Galileans who had come to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices in the temple. And eighteen people had been killed when a tower at Siloam fell on them. Jesus comments that the victims of these tragedies were no greater sinners than other people were. He then says: "But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did." Then he tells them the parable about the person who had planted a fig tree that did not bear any fruit. When the owner ordered it to be cut down, the gardener asked for another year of cultivation to see if the fig tree would finally bear fruit before it was cut down

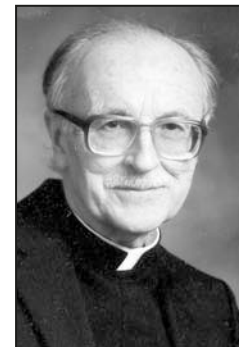
Life implications

Jesus uses the experiences of the worst possible human tragedies in order to reveal the possibility of even a greater spiritual tragedy. We are all in a state not only of physical death, but of spiritual death as well. Unless we turn to God to be saved from our condition of spiritual death, Jesus warns us, all of us will remain in it and perish. Saint Paul particularly in his Letter to the Romans clearly spells out the reality of the death-culture to which Jesus alludes: "all, both Jews and Gentiles, are under sin" (3:9). And this condition of Sin (alienation from God, the source of life) Paul equates with Death.

The human condition of Sin/Death, initiated by the first humans, pre-exists the sins of individuals and is not their responsibility, even though they have added to it by their own personal sins. Without God's liberating grace, human beings would remain helplessly mired in a state of enslavement to Sin/Death. Jesus says: Realize the truth of the state you are in. Accept the liberated life of God's kingdom that I now offer you, or you will all perish. It is easy to see why Jesus is distressed by the illusion of self-righteousness that makes repentance and liberation from Sin/Death impossible. I can think of no better illustrations of this most fundamental teaching of Jesus than the fiction of Flannery O'Connor. Her short stories have the power to awaken us to the truth that we are all inextricably involved in evil, and are all in dire need of God's liberating, saving grace.

After the warning about perishing in our sinful state unless we repent, Luke adds Jesus' parable about the fig tree. We may be liberated from our fallen state of Sin/Death and stand in freedom like a fig tree. However, if we choose evil and do not bear the fruit of good work, we will be cut down like a useless fig tree. In the second reading of today's Mass (1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12), Paul forcefully emphasizes the warning of Jesus' parable. Paul writes that his ancestors were liberated for new life with God from their condition of death-slavery in Egypt. However, under pressure of their trials they succumbed to evil desires and thus reverted to a state of enslavement. "God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert."

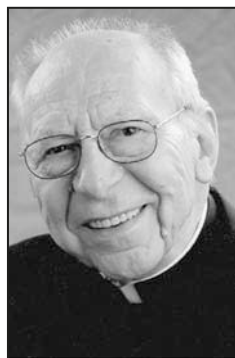
The experience of the liberated slaves in the desert, Paul tells us, is meant to serve as an example for us so that we will not desire evil things. If we do, we would revert to our original enslavement to Sin/Death as idolaters, seeking life where it cannot be found. Paul's warning is an apt comment on the teaching of Jesus' parable: "Whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall." At the same time, in the Spirit of Jesus, he offers us a word of comfort: "God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Cor 10:13).



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

James writes as though he was sitting across the table from his listeners and is up front.



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

"Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers; you should realize that those of us who do so will be called to the stricter account. All of us fall short in many respects. If a person is without fault in speech he is a man in the fullest sense, because he can control his entire body. When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide the rest of their bodies. It is the same with ships; however large they are, and despite the fact that they are driven by fierce winds; they are directed by very small rudders on whatever course the steersman's impulse may select. The tongue is something like that. It is a small member, yet it makes great pretensions.

"See how tiny the spark is that sets a huge forest ablaze. The tongue is such a flame. It exists among our members as a whole universe of malice. The tongue defiles the entire body. Its flames encircle our course from birth, and its fire is kindled by hell ... We use it to say, 'Praise be the Lord and Father'; then we use it to curse men, though they are made in the likeness of God. Blessing and curse come out of the same mouth. This ought not to be, my brothers!" (James 3:5-6 and 9-10)

"Where do the conflicts and disputes among you originate? It is not your inner cravings that make war within your members? What you desire you do not obtain, and so you resort to murder. You envy and you cannot acquire, so you quarrel and fight. You do not obtain because you do not ask. You ask and you do not receive because you ask wrongly, with a

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2010 Winter Olympics

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have a shot at competing in the medal round during the Vancouver games, the Slovaks must start fast and hope for a few lucky breaks to go their way.

While a talented group, the Slovaks are not a match for tournament favorites Canada and Russia. Depth of talent beyond the Slovak's top two lines will likely be a limiting factor as will the strength of their goaltending. Finally, many of the team's stars are now in their 30s. The Olympic tournament is a physical grind, with games nearly every other day.

Team Slovakia should improve on their previous Olympic finish but is a long-shot for winning a medal.



Reflections on Our Christianity

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view to squandering what you receive on your pleasures." (James 4:1-3)

"Do not, my brothers, speak ill of one another. The one who speaks ill of his brother, or judges his brother is speaking against the law. It is the law he judges. If, however, you judge the law you are no observer of the law, you are its judge. There is but one Lawgiver and Judge, one who can save and destroy. Who then are you to judge your neighbor?" (James 4:11-12)

Note that this passage emphasizes against speaking ill of another and your neighbor. This is a person-to-person matter.

Reflect upon this passage from the Book of Sirach 19:5- 1.

"He who gloats over evil will meet with evil, and he who repeats an evil report has no sense. Never repeat gossip, and you will not be reviled. Tell nothing to friend or foe; if you have a fault, reveal it not, for he who hears it will hold it against you, and in time become your enemy. Let anything you hear die within you; be assured it will not make you burst. When a fool hears something, he is in labor, like woman giving birth to a child. Like an arrow lodged in a man's thigh is gossip in the breast of a fool."

Sirach again, 28:12-18.

"If you blow upon a spark, it quickens into flame, if you spit on it, it dies out; yet both you do with your mouth! Cursed be gossips and the double-tongued, for they destroy the peace of many. A meddling tongue subverts many, and makes them refugees among the peoples; it destroys walled cities, and over throws powerful dynasties. A meddling tongue can drive virtuous women from their homes and rob them of the fruit of their toll; whoever heeds it has no rest, nor can he dwell in peace. A blow from a whip raises a welt, but a blow from a tongue smashes bone; many have fallen by the edge of the sword, but not as many as by the tongue."

Timothy has this to say about young widows. 1 Timothy 5:11-14.

"Refuse to enroll the younger widows, for when their passions estrange them from Christ they will want to marry. This will bring them condemnation for breaking their first pledge. Besides, they learn to be ladies of leisure, who go about from house to house – becoming not only time-wasters but gossips and busybodies as well, talking about things they ought not. That is why I would like to see younger ones marry, have children, keep house, and in general give our enemies no occasion to speak ill of us."

The Renaissance Cleveland Hotel

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Renaissance Cleveland Hotel is located on Public Square and is connected to exceptional restaurants and exclusive boutiques. It also is within walking distance of many of the city's best entertainment and sports venues, such as Progressive Field, Quicken Loans Arena and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Look for details about the 49th International Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada Convention in future issues of the Jednota.



A beautiful lobby with vaulted ceilings and a marble fountain are just some of the features of this historic city landmark.



The Renaissance's well-appointed and upscale amenities await the 49th Convention Delegates in Cleveland.

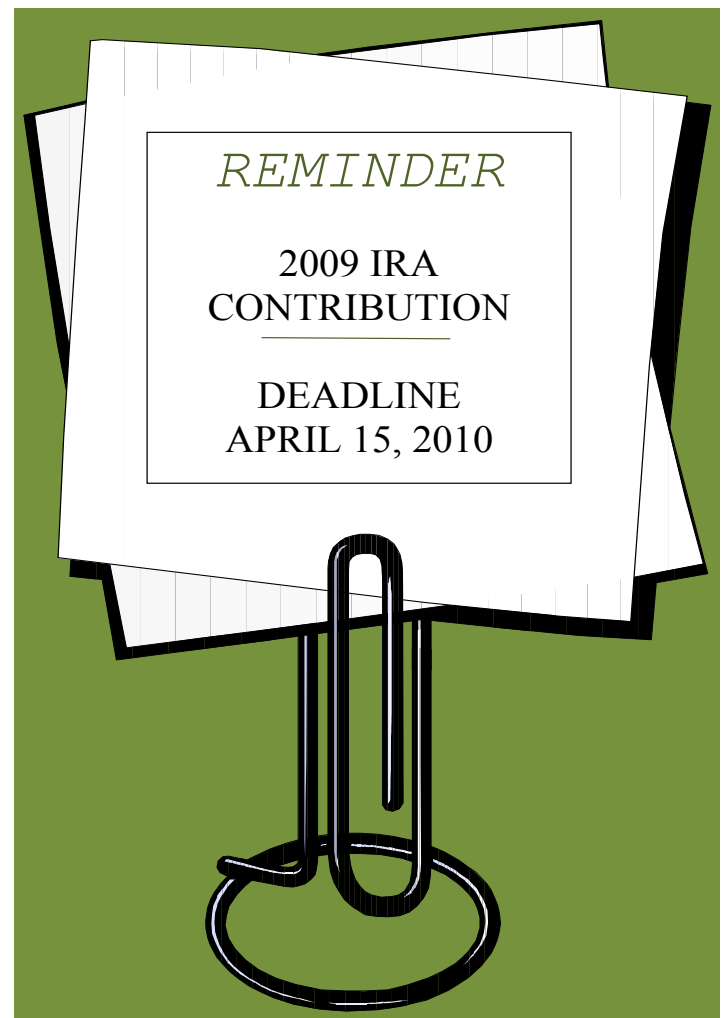
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we could double our Society immediately**
THINK ABOUT IT!

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Insights and Viewpoints

Silent Voices: Identifying the Historical Significance of Slovak Immigrant Women

By Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A., Ithaca, New York

Nearly two million Americans claim Slovak ancestry. I am one of them. This vast number is not surprising, given that some 650,000 Slovaks came to North America between 1875 and 1914. The Slovaks have been counted among the category of new immigrants called "Slavs," emigrating from Central and Eastern Europe and speaking a Slavic language. The terms "Slav" and "Slavic" are generic terms used to refer to the peoples of various different nationalities, which include, in addition to Slovaks, Poles, Croats, Czechs, Slovenians, and Ukrainians. The languages and cultures of these people have tended to be lumped together in America, but there are actually marked differences between them. The Slavs were the third largest group to immigrate to the United States during this period from 1875 to 1914, ranking behind only Italian and Jewish immigrants. The Slovaks are the second largest of the Slavic-speaking groups in the United States, outnumbered only by the Poles.

Some Slovaks emigrated for economic reasons, others to escape political repression. The majority of the immigrants to the United States arrived before World War I. Many returned home after earning enough money to buy land back in Slovakia, but eventually some 500,000 Slovaks settled permanently in the New World. Many of their stories are compelling and engaging, yet only a few have been told.

In a 1985 essay, dealing with the Slovak immigrant's view of work, Patricia Ondek Laurence asserted that "Prejudice, stereotypes, and 'silence' about Slovaks persist even today because no writer of Slovak-American heritage has achieved significant stature in American literature to carry the voice and images of Slovaks into the mainstream." In fact, according to this writer, only a small body of Slovak immigrant literature (about 15 works) focusing on the turn-of-the-century immigrant experience is available in English. Among such written works are Father Andrew Pier's autobiography, *The Woodlands Above, the Mines Below* (1975), which describes his family's life among the mines in the small town of Blandburg, Pennsylvania; Thames Williamson's *Hunky* (1929), about a Slovak worker in a bakery; and finally, Thomas Bell's *Out of This Furnace* (1941), a classic novel which chronicles the lives of three generations of Slovak men working in the steel mills of Braddock, Pennsylvania.

In reviewing each of these poignant sagas, I noticed that a strong emphasis is placed on the Slovak immigrant male, whose daily existence was a mere backdrop to the work he did in those places most familiar to him—the mills and the mines. For it was there, in the depths of the black pits or near the chasms of the hot blast furnaces, that the Slovak male performed the backbreaking tasks of digging the coal that provided fuel or producing the metal and steel which were the signature materials of industrial growth.

In early literature, only Bell's book mentions, in any detail, the Slovak woman. In one section of his book, entitled "Mary," he devotes 50 pages to the thoughts, struggles and daily activities of Mary Dobrechak, who was a first generation American Slovak. The focus on the woman, however, is still secondary to the overall story of the three men in the story. We see Mary as a widow who is left to deal with life after her husband is killed in the mill.

She is shown taking up where her husband left off in trying to support herself and her children and is enthusiastically encouraged to marry again rather than try to make it on her own. In Part 3, "Mary," Bell writes: "She was at this time a few months past thirty. She had four children, the oldest eleven, and the youngest not yet two. She had something over a thousand dollars in the bank, knowledge of housework and dressmaking, and her two hands. Thus equipped she took up where Mike had left off." *Out of This Furnace*, p. 210.

With Mary, Bell gives us a only glimpse—albeit a moving and accurate one—into the lives of Slovak women who served not only as the money handlers by controlling the family's finances, but who also became the backbone of the family with responsibility for rearing their children. These women performed work that was not only tedious and endless, but also essential. After reading Bell's book several years ago, I yearned to know more about all of the other "Mary's" that life and literature had left by the wayside.

Except for general history books dealing with immigrants, and the occasional collection of biographies in which she is counted among women from various other ethnic groups, I have come across only a few modern and contemporary works concentrating on women: *Icon of Spring* by Sonya Jason (1993), an autobiographic account of a young Slovak girl's coming of age as a first generation American and her discovery that she is really a "Rusyn" and not a Slovak; and the fictional *Sorrows of Marienka*, written by a man, Vasil Koban (1979), which follows a young girl from her wedding in Slovakia through her subsequent immigration to America. Koban writes: "It wouldn't be easy to raise five sons without his help. But already her mind turned to plans of how she would manage by keeping boarders... So she did what she had to do." *The Sorrows of Marienka*, p. 201.

I can only speculate on the reasons why such a comparatively small number of texts have been written about Slovak immigrant women. Perhaps these females thought their lives unimportant or unworthy of mentioning, or perhaps the mere struggle for day-to-day survival left them with little time to concern themselves with writing their memoirs. They often lacked the time or enough education to create written literature; some were literate neither in English nor in their native language. Thus, if these were obstacles to writing for immigrants in general, then they were certainly much more profound for those women who stayed at home and had little exposure to the English language or to formal education. A third possibility is that others did not view Slovak women as significant contributors to this country's history. As women, they were already looked upon as a minority, but they had an additional strike against them because they were also foreigners.

Whatever the reasons for the lack of written accounts documenting the lives of Slovak immigrant women in the past, I believe it is both illuminating and important for some stories to finally be told. This does not mean that men should be completely forgotten, because they indeed played pivotal roles in shaping such women's lives. Rather, these early Slovak women immigrants need to be shown as human beings with their own feelings, hopes, dreams and desires. Their stories are personal and at the same time universal—a genuinely human representation of 20th century American history. For this reason, if none other, Slovak immigrant women must somehow find their place in historical literature

Researching the Immigrant Woman

In general, women are difficult to research. Most historical records have been created for and/or about men. Also, few women left diaries or letters. Because of the scant information available on women in general, the Slovak immigrant woman may also be difficult to write about, but, as I have shown with *Three Slovak Women*, it can be done.

First of all, we take an inventory of all home and family sources, such as family documents (birth, death, marriage records, deeds, and tax records) and any family photographs, bibles, diaries, letters, and other important papers, and possessions, such as clothing and jewelry. Secondly, if possible, we interview family members, friends and/or neighbors or anyone who may have known the woman whose life you are interested in researching. Next, we peruse public documents (birth, marriage and death records) and are sure to check church records in cases where civil records are not accessible or available. Also we look at U.S. Federal Census records (and/or state census records), immigration and naturalization records and other civil records (probate, property, tax). We always check everything under the woman's husband's name as well, because many times the woman is listed only under her husband's records. Finally, we review other printed sources such as newspapers, library/historical society collections, books and Web sites about Slovaks and/or Slovak women, oral history accounts, and fraternal society publications.

What Can We Do Now to Break the Silence?

There are a number of ways to make the lives of Slovak women more visible. First, we can encourage more women (or their descendants) to research their histories and write them down. We can join Slovak organizations and attend conferences to publicize our goals. We all need to explore our family histories, and then document our findings for future generations in order to give voice to the stories of the silent women from our past. As I wrote about my grandmother in the *Three Slovak Women*: "I want to be the one to finally tell her story, perhaps not in the way she would have told it had she been given the opportunity, and maybe not as eloquently as she deserves. But I hope that my account has captured her experiences as accurately as possible to show, above all else, that she mattered." Vines Little, CG, Barbara. "Teasing the Silent Woman," NGS 2003 Conference in the States, May 2003.

About the Author:

Lisa A. Alzo grew up in Duquesne, PA and currently resides in Ithaca, NY. She is the author of nine books, including *Three Slovak Women* and *Finding Your Slovak Ancestors*, and numerous magazine articles. Lisa serves on the Board of Directors for the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, and is a member of Branch 38. She can be contacted via her website www.lisaalzo.com.

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, MAR 3	MONDAY, FEB 22
WEDNESDAY, MAR 17	MONDAY, MAR 8
WEDNESDAY, MAR 31	MONDAY, MAR 22

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

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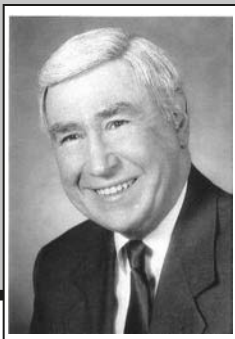
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FAX: 216-642-4310

MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS

By Joseph T. Senko

Certified Public Accountant
Certified Financial Planner
Personal Financial Specialist
(AICPA)



Smart Tips for Holding On to Your Job in a Recession

The news has been filled with reports of layoffs and job cuts. If you're concerned about the safety of your own position, there are some smart steps you can take to recession-proof your situation.

BE A STANDOUT

A recession is a good time to increase your visibility with your employer. Aim for excellence in everything you do, and develop your reputation for reliability, cooperation, timeliness, and any other positive attribute you believe your boss values. In short, even if you were doing a great job before, work even harder to prove just how indispensable you are.

GO BEYOND THE BASICS

If you've been keeping strict 9 – 5 hours, it may be time to consider a change in habits. Getting in early and staying late can impress your boss and demonstrate your commitment. If your boss asks for volunteers for a new project, make sure your name is on the list. Try to maintain a realistically cheerful attitude that has a positive influence on your co-workers. Whenever possible, go the extra mile so that your boss sees you as someone who can be counted on at all times.

HIGHLIGHT YOUR HIGH POINTS

Don't be shy about your accomplishments. In fact, create a list of your achievements, with specific details about the contribution you've made. For example, if you're directly involved in sales or budgeting, add up the money you believe you've brought into the company or helped save. If you're in an administrative job, perhaps your ideas for changing work flow in your department have cut down on the time needed to complete projects. No matter what your situation, be aware of all the good work you have done, and be ready to talk about it. When these subjects come up, don't hesitate to remind your boss of the contributions you've made. If you believe your company is on the verge of layoffs, consider meeting with your boss to describe in detail all the positive benefits you've brought and what you believe you can add in the future.

CONSIDER A PAY CUT

Many companies are offering employees pay cuts or unpaid furloughs as a way to avoid outright layoffs. Taking home less money for the same job doesn't sound like a good deal, but it may be right now. Employment can be hard to find in a recession, and you will be losing your entire salary during the weeks – and perhaps months – that it may take you to find a new position. A pay cut or furlough, therefore, may be a good compromise for both you and your company. In fact, if you are subject to a layoff, try offering to work for a reduced pay instead. Companies are usually very reluctant to lay off good workers, but may feel they have no choice – unless you give them one.

IRS Circular Disclosure: In order to ensure compliance with IRS Circular 230, I must inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this transmission and attachments hereto is not intended or written to be used and may not be used by any person for the purpose of (1) avoiding any penalty that may be imposed by the Internal Revenue Code or (2) promoting, marketing, or recommending to any other party any tax-related matter(s) addressed herein.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the new editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The new E-Mail Address for the articles will be fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com. Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

A Slovak Lesson On Numbers

The following is reprinted from the free language courses by Lubos Brieda, geared toward an American traveler as he makes his way around the country, and available on www.slovakcooking.com under the Language tab.

Let's learn numbers in Slovak. On my website, you will find the full list (with audio) of Slovak numbers in the vocabulary section. But here are few of them:

jeden (1)
dva (2)
tri (3)
štyri (4)
päť (5)
päťnásť (15)
dvadsať (20)

Let's use these in some sentences from a dialogue, **koľko stojí káva?** (how much for coffee?):

You: **Koľko stojí káva?**

Cheap restaurant: Káva stojí **jedno** euro

Less cheap restaurant: Káva stojí **dve** eurá

Not a cheap restaurant: Káva stojí **tri** eurá

Definitely not a cheap restaurant: Káva stojí **štyri** eurá

Expensive restaurant: Káva stojí **päť** eur

Really really expensive restaurant: Káva stojí **dvadsať** eur

Alright, what's going on here?! I just told you that one and two are **jeden** and **dva**, respectively, but I used **jedno** and **dve** in the example. Typo? Nope, these two numbers change their form based on the gender of the noun they refer to. The forms for one are **jeden**, **jedna**, and **jedno** for masculine, feminine and neuter nouns, respectively. Since the word euro is neuter, we use **jedno**. For two you have **dvaja** for living masculine nouns and **dve** otherwise. Ok, what about **dva**? This form is used only as the numeral, when counting. In all practical sentences you will use one of the other two forms.

The word dollar, **dolár**, is masculine. On the other hand, **Libra**, the British pound, and **koruna** (crown), the currency in the Czech Republic and formerly also in Slovakia, are feminine. Here are few examples for you to practice numbers with:

Hranolky stoja dva doláre (French fries cost two dollars)

Hamburger stojí päť dolárov (Hamburger costs five dollars)

Polievka stojí štyri libry (Soup costs four dollars)

Coca-cola stojí pätnásť českých korun (Coke costs 15 Czech crowns)

Any questions? Want more information? Go to www.slovakcooking.com and click on the Language tab.

Publication Schedule for 2010

Issue Date	Deadline
January 6	December 28
January 20	January 11
February 3	January 25
February 17	February 8
March 3	February 22
March 17	March 8
March 31	March 22
April 28	April 19
May 12	May 3
May 26	May 17
June 9	May 28
July 7	June 28
August 4	July 26
September 1	August 23
September 15	September 3
September 29	September 20
October 13	October 4
October 27	October 18
November 10	November 1
November 24	November 15
December 8	November 29

Grandma's Shoes

Author Unknown

When I was very little
All the Grandmas that I knew
Wore the very same old kind
Of ugly grandma shoes.

You know the kind I mean.
Clunky-heeled, black, lace-up kind.
They just looked so awful
That it weighed upon my mind,

For I knew, when I grew old,
I'd have to wear those shoes.
I'd think of that, from time to time
It seemed like such bad news.

I never was a rebel,
I wore saddle shoes to school,
And next came ballerinas
Then the sandals, pretty cool.

And then came spikes with pointed toes
Then platforms, very tall,
As each new fashion came along
I wore them, one and all.

But always, in the distance,
Looming in my future, there,
Was that awful pair of ugly shoes,
The kind that Grandmas wear.

I eventually got married
And then became a Mom
Our kids grew up and left us,
And when their children came along,

I knew I was a Grandma
And the time was drawing near
When clunky, black, old lace-up shoes
Was what I'd have to wear.

How would I do my gardening
Or take my morning hike?
I couldn't even think about
How I would ride my bike!

But fashions kept evolving
And one day I realized
That the shape of things to come
Was changing, right before my eyes.

And now, when I go shopping
What I see, fills me with glee
For, in my jeans and Reeboks
I'm as comfy as can be.

And I look at all these little girls
And there, upon their feet
Are clunky, black, old Grandma shoes,
And I really think that's neat.

Congratulations John Jurcenko!

The Membership and Marketing Committee congratulates John for helping build membership in our First Catholic Slovak Union – Good luck and God Bless!



L to R, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. presented District President John Jurcenko at the annual meeting of the Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District with a trophy for being the Society's top recommender in insurance sales for 2008.



Branch 181 Member Matthew Bench folds clothing for shipment to Slovakia.

Successful Sister Cities Clothing Project

The Youngstown Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program has recently received word that its third and fourth shipment of new clothing has been received in Slovakia.

Father Martin Stefanec advised that 11 large boxes were received in good condition and will be distributed to deserving families in Nitra and surrounding villages. The other shipments of 12 boxes was sent to Prievidza. Mrs. Ludmila Husarova, a teacher in the local school system, has taken charge of the shipment, and has enlisted the assistance of several other teachers relative to distribution. Both shipments included an assortment of jeans, sweatshirts, blouses, shirts, skirts, winter jackets, and other items of practical clothing for infants, children, teens and adults.

The clothing was purchased at greatly reduced prices, which made the shipment feasible. Once again, the project was undertaken by Youngstown Sister Cities Vice President and Member of the FCSU Supreme Court James M. Bench, together with his wife Kay. They were assisted by their grandchildren: Matthew Bench, age 18, and Kayla Bench, age 20, who are members of Branch 181, in United, Pennsylvania.

The Youngstown Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program acknowledges and appreciates the financial support it receives from the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Any branch or individual wishing to donate to the Sister Cities Program may do so by contacting Youngstown Sister Cities, P.O. Box 14092 Poland, OH 44514 or by visiting www.youngtownsistercities.com.

News From Slovakia

New Slovak Guard Unit To Be Dispatched to Afghanistan

Bratislava, January 23 (TASR) - The Defence Ministry plans to dispatch a guard unit of up to 57 military men to ISAF operation in Afghanistan, says the proposal set to be submitted to the Government in the days ahead.

The unit should be tasked with guard duty in Kandahar province. The estimated operation costs for the unit are around €3.4 million in 2010.

Based on good experience with Slovak guard unit assigned to Kandahar Air Base, NATO has asked Slovakia to deploy a new guard unit to new entrance/exit point of military base ECP-5, reads the document.

Currently, a Slovak guard unit consisting of 61 servicemen operates at Kandahar Air Base, with their mandate allowing only assignment on internal perimeter guard duty. The proposal also aims to abolish this mandate restriction.

TASR

President Appoints 49 New Professors, Including Jahnatek

Bratislava, January 25 (TASR) - A group of 49 academics, including Economy Minister Lu-bomir Jahnatek, received their diplomas as new professors from President Ivan Gasparovic in Bratislava on Monday.

"By granting the professorial degree, our state expresses its respect for outstanding public life," said Gasparovic.

The newly-appointed professors in their speeches expressed their feelings of responsibility towards society and future generations. The new professors are active in various fields, and according to the Education Ministry, they have a good chance of "saving" certain universities that lack guarantors.

According to statistics, there are around 1,500 professors active at Slovak universities.

TASR

Parliament Approves Cutting Diesel Tax by 11.3 cents per Litre

Bratislava, January 20 (TASR) - A Finance Ministry proposal to cut excise-tax on diesel - by 11.3 cents per litre rather than the originally planned 9 cents - was approved by the Slovak Parliament on Thursday. As many as 128 out of 150 MPs voted for this move.

In effect, on refilling stations, prices of diesel should go down by 13 cents, including another nearly 2-cent cut - caused by the impacts on VAT.

The measure was fast-tracked in the House and will become effective as early as February 1 of this year.

"The main reason to produce the proposal was to eliminate high diesel prices for households and the business sector and thus sustain price levels of transported goods and services," wrote the ministry.

The ministry expects the legislation to bring down diesel purchases in neighbouring countries and boost the competitiveness of Slovakia's goods-transport sector. The price of diesel should therefore be lower than in Hungary and the Czech Republic.

The Finance Ministry projects that the measure will cut state-budget revenues by between €60-102 million this year, by €70-117 million in 2011, and by €85-132 million in 2012.

TASR

Kosice Airport Sees 40-percent Y-o-Y Drop in Passengers in 2009

Kosice, January 22 (TASR) - Kosice Airport handled a total of 352,460 passengers on regular and charter flights in 2009, representing a year-on-year drop of 40 percent, TASR learnt on Friday.

The last five years have been highly successful for the airport, but in 2009 it was hit hard by the crisis and the troubles that eventually grounded SkyEurope Airlines, according to the airport's executive director Michal Hoferer.

Despite worldwide negative developments in the area of air transport, the airport did manage to maintain its position and beef up the Kosice-Prague flights run by zech Airlines.

According to Hoferer, since SkyEurope went bust the number of passengers on the Kosice-Prague route has been rising considerably. As well, the airport has preserved the strategic character of its link to Vienna airport, and just as is the case with Prague, the airport in the Austrian capital is an important transfer link to all major world destinations.

In order to soften the impact of the crisis, the airport's management has held talks with current partners as well as new potential air carriers. As a result, a route to Milan was opened, added Hoferer.

TASR

Memorial Plaque to Holocaust Victims Unveiled in Komarno

Komarno, January 24 (TASR) - A memorial plaque was unveiled on the wall of the former synagogue in Komarno (Nitra region) on Sunday to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.

"Now, on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, we've made this memorial plaque with inscriptions in the Slovak, Hungarian, Hebrew and English languages," Tamas Paszternak from the Jewish Religious Community told TASR. The synagogue was built in 1863 and served its original purpose until 1944. It is now being used as a sports centre.

More than 3,000 Jewish people living in and around Komarno were deported to concentration camps during WWII. Most never came back. The Jewish community in Komarno is one of the last 12 of its kind in Slovakia, made up of 60 mostly elderly people.

In 2005, The United Nations declared January 27, the date on which the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp was liberated, Holocaust Memorial Day.

TASR

Slovak Paramedics Arrive in Earthquake-hit Haiti

Bratislava, January 24 (TASR) - A team of Slovak paramedics arrived in Haiti on Sunday to provide help to the earthquake-stricken country, TASR learned from the Central Emergency Service internet site on the same day.

"We'd like to send greetings to our families, we're okay," wrote the paramedics from Haiti.

The 16 paramedics will mainly carry out disinfection in order to prevent the outbreak of diseases as well as logistic support for staff from St. Elizabeth's University for Healthcare and Social Work. They will also be tasked with maintaining a field hospital, rescuing survivors from debris and dealing with dead bodies.

Slovak doctors from St. Elizabeth's University, headed by professor Vladimir Krcmery, began providing aid to people in Haiti on Wednesday (January 20). They have managed to set up a post-surgery unit at a former HIV centre, admitting some 1,000-1,200 patients with operations taking place on a daily basis.

TASR

AZZZ Lobbying for 25-percent Cut in Payroll Taxes

Bratislava, January 21 (TASR) - Slovakia's largest federation of employers AZZZ said on Thursday that the country's payroll tax is one of the highest in the European Union (EU) and it therefore proposes its gradual reduction from 35.2 percent to 25 percent by 2014.

Federation of Employers' Associations president Tomas Malatinsky told reporters that AZZZ plans to submit its proposal to the main political parties. The expectation is that they will include this measure among their election platforms, and in the Manifesto of the new Government.

To offset the payroll-tax shortfall, AZZZ looks to the various types of insurance held with the pension provider Socialna Poistovna (SP) - sickness, disability, accident and unemployment insurance - that show a positive balance.

Malatinsky specifically pointed out that the funds should not be extracted from the old-age pension scheme, which has a well-entrenched negative balance. He added that President Ivan Gasparovic promised his support for the AZZZ initiative.

The 25 percent payroll tax cut would cause an annual shortfall of €1.5 billion. However, "in the long run it will have a favourable impact on the economy in terms of the sustainability as well as attractiveness (of Slovakia) for foreign and domestic investors to do business in Slovakia," Malatinsky said.

TASR

Police Charge Man with Terrorism over Church Bombing Plans (Update)

Bratislava, January 21 (TASR) - Slovak Police on Thursday for the first time in history charged a person with terrorism, Slovak Police Corps President Jan Packa announced at a press conference in Bratislava on Thursday.

The alleged terrorist is described as a three-times prosecuted 30-year-old man from Spisske Vlachy (Kosice region) and named only as Stanislav C.

He is accused of manufacturing explosive components from readily available chemicals. Police say he was storing them in his garage in order to make bombs to use in churches.

Apart from terrorism, the man is also charged with carrying concealed weapon and possession of narcotics. It was during an investigation of the man's drug criminality that Police uncovered his plan to blow up churches.

According to Packa, he was planning to detonate the explosive remotely, having tested this procedure in the woods a couple of times already. The man is facing 20-25 years in prison.

TASR

50th Anniversary Celebrated -

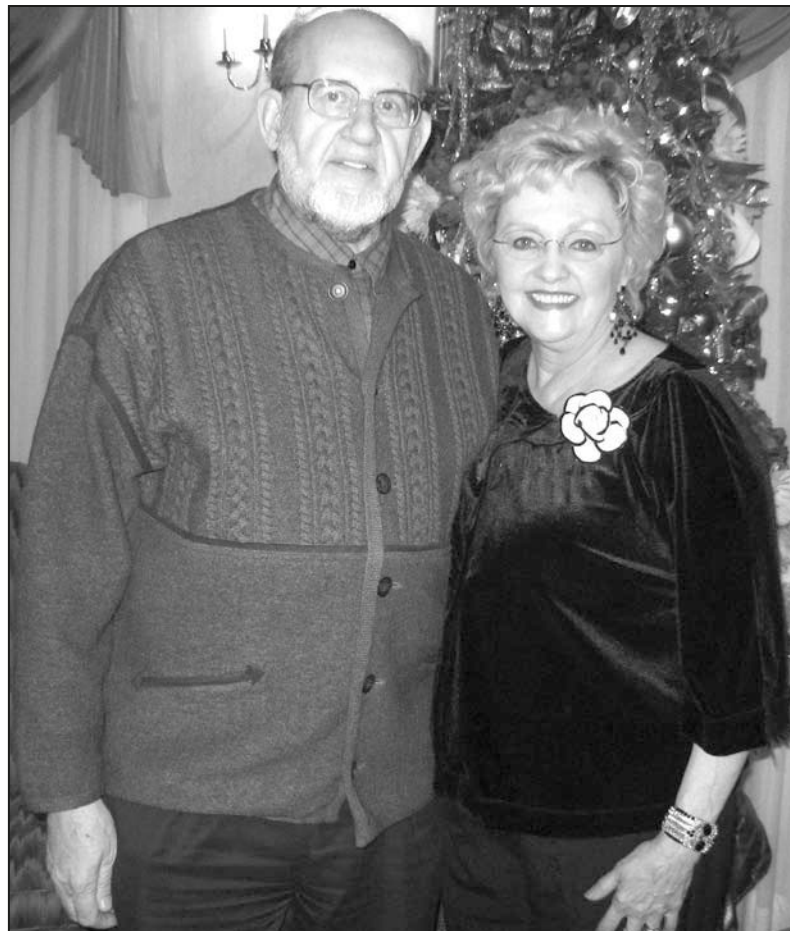
Dr. Edward and Mrs. Mary Jo Keshock

Dr. Edward and Mrs. Mary Jo (Mckulka) Keshock recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a special mass and ceremonies for their intention at St. Joseph's Byzantine Catholic Church in Brecksville, OH. Their life together was celebrated later with family-members and close friends at a Cleveland restaurant later that day. Dr. Keshock is a member of both the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 24, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. They are both members of the Greek Catholic Union, Lodge 302, as well.

Ed and Mary Jo were married at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Uniontown, PA, on November 21, 1959, shortly after Ed's graduation from the University of Detroit (1958), where he obtained his B.M.E. degree in mechanical engineering, and Mary Jo's graduation from the Penn State Hospital of Nursing in Uniontown, where she obtained her nursing degree.

They have three children, Kathleen, Michael, and Carolyn, and three lovely granddaughters, Jessica, Sophia, and Claudini. The Keshock's have resided in Broadview Heights, OH for the past twenty years.

Ed is currently a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Cleveland State University. He earned his M.S. and Ph. D. degrees from Oklahoma State University in 1966 and 1966, respectively, also in the field of Mechanical Engineering. They resided in the Cleveland area from 1959-1969, where he was first employed as a research engineer at NASA Glenn Research Center, and later for two years at Cleveland State University. Subsequently, Ed joined Old Dominion University (1969-77) as an Associate Professor, and later as a Professor in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department of the



University of Tennessee (1977- 1990).

The Keshocks began activities involving international travel and long-term living experiences in 1974, when, with their three children, they lived in Taiwan for a full academic year, while Ed was a Visiting Professor at one of Taiwan's prestigious engineering universities, Tsing Hua University. Subsequently, through visiting professorship positions and scholar exchange programs, they have spent periods in Slovakia, Saudi Arabia, China, and England. In 2003, Ed was selected as a Fulbright Research Scholar, during which time he participated in research activities and made research-related seminar presentations in Russian Academy of Sciences research institutes in Novosibirsk and Moscow, Russia.

Additionally, Mary Jo had the honor and privilege of serving as the country coordinator for the American International Health Alliance in Slovakia during the later nineties. During this period, while living in Bratislava over a three-year period, she facilitated and coordinated numerous large-scale cooperative health programs and partnerships between the U.S. and Slovakia. Positive and long-range benefits have been achieved by these programs within Slovakia even a decade and more later.

Locally, Ed and Mary Jo have been very active in the Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities organiza-

tion, which has promoted the Slovak culture and heritage over almost 20 years of its existence. They have been participants and facilitators in the presentation of numerous cultural programs in the Cleveland area by many outstanding artists, educators, musicians, and musical/dance ensembles during this period. Their promotion and presentation of such cultural programs was increased even further when Dr. Keshock was appointed to the position of Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic, State of Ohio, in May, 1999.

Their lifelong enthusiasm for not only seeing, but participating in local, national and world-wide activities, has made for an eventful, interesting, joyful and several unique and even adventurous experiences at times. They wish to thank all their friends within the Slovak-American community throughout the country for their expressions of congratulations

5th EGG EggSTRAVAGANZA and EASTER CRAFT/BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2010
12:00 NOON – 5:00pm

St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church Social Hall
201 E. Main Street Uniontown, PA

"Experience the traditions"

- Egg artists will demonstrate, display and sell eggs
- Market place with pysanky supplies, Easter items, Easter crafts, basket covers and other ethnic items
- Children's activities including storytelling, making Easter eggs, other projects
- Video showing of Pysanky and Pysanky making
- Display of Easter basket covers
- Pysanky jigsaw table
- Lenten Lunch Menu available for purchase
- Hands-on workshop for those interested in learning to make pysanky
- Free Admission

Co-sponsored by GCU Lodge # 81, Egg Artists, and St. John's Ethnic Craft Club
For More Information Contact: Bonnie Balas (724)438-8412



The Czech and Slovak Heritage Association

Sdružení Čechů a Slováků pro uchování národních odkazů

Združenie Čechov a Slovákov pre zachovanie národných odkazov

Post Office Box 20261 Baltimore, Maryland 21284-0261 www.czslha.org

Czech and Slovak Language Classes

The Czech and Slovak Language School is now accepting registrations for Czech and Slovak language courses that began on Saturday, January 23, at the Maryland School for the Blind, 3501 Taylor Avenue, in Parkville, MD. Call 410-243-1710 or 410-435-1317 for detailed information and an advance registration form, see www.czslha.org or email LHybl@verizon.net.

Language teachers are Dolores Zajickova Gentes, Natalie Karlinsky, Mary Lou Walker, and Iva Zichova.

The language school is sponsored by the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association. Margaret Supik (410-662-6094) is president, and Lois Hybl (410-243-1710) serves as language school coordinator.

The language school is open to anyone – elementary students to elders – interested in learning about Czech and Slovak languages, history, and culture. We do not discriminate based on race, color, religion, or national or ethnic origin.

Lois Hybl, Language School Coordinator

YOUTH ROUND-UP

Congratulations, Charles!

Charles Boone, age 10 is a Webelo scout of Pack 22 of Mt. Lebanon. He participated in the Pinewood Derby. Charles' car proudly finished in second place in every race.

Charles is an active member of Branch 853. He is a student at Trinity East elementary. He is in the fourth grade. Charles is the son of Monica Rodacy Boone, former National Auditor and Pension Board Trustee, and Ron Boone.

Charles likes being an active member of the FCSU and scouting.



**FCSU Branch
Member & Scout
Charles Boone With
His Derby Car**

Former Slovak Junior Golf Champion Helps Florida Team Win Big

Bradenton, Fla. —Slovakian Peter Valasek left his Eastern European roots to jumpstart his junior golf career and the long journey is beginning to pay off in big ways. One of the biggest dividends was his victory this January at the highly competitive Future Collegians World Tour Leadbetter Challenge.

Valasek, a former Slovak Amateur Junior Champion who joined the Gary Gilchrist Golf Academy last January, posted a solid 1-over 145 at IMG Academies Golf & Country Club to earn his first U.S. victory and lead the way for Gilchrist Academy to dominate the rival academy along with his GGGA teammates.

Scott Shaffer, who is GGGA's assistant director of instruction in Florida, said Valasek's victory was just a matter of time. "You could tell over the last two months Peter was growing and really starting to mature as a golfer," added Shaffer.

"He's been practicing hard these past two seasons and it was time for him to step forward. Now that's he's had a taste of success, I expect more of this out of him in the future."

Excerpted from the Gilchrist Academy Post Jan. 25, 2010. For more, go to www.ggga.com and click News.



*From the Desk of the Executive Secretary -
Kenneth A. Arendt*

ATTENTION ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2010 Scholarship Program.

Seventy (70) **ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS** in the amount of \$500.00 each will be awarded to the winners. In addition, a **ONE-TIME** "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" in the amount of \$750.00 each will be awarded to the highest ranking male and female applicants respectively.

Three additional **ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS** of \$500.00 each will be given from the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund" to applicants who have been accepted into either an approved three or four year hospital nursing program or a fully-accredited college of their choice.

In addition, **upon proof of college graduation** sent to the Home Office, each recipient will be issued a \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

The rules and requirements are as follows:

- Applicants must have a minimum of \$1,000 of reserve insurance (JEP Policy, Ordinary Whole Life, Twenty Pay Whole Life, or Single Premium Whole Life) with F.C.S.U. for at least **four years prior to April 1st** of the year of graduation from high school; or an applicant must have \$5,000 or more of term insurance with the F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school. **All scholarship winners must maintain this insurance in force during their college years. Applicants must be insured prior to April 1, 2006 to be eligible under the rules of this period.**
- Applicants must apply for grants in the Spring of their senior year of high school, between ages of 17 and 19.
- Applicants must have applied for the Fall term at a qualifying institution. Proof of college admission must be sent to the Home Office with the application.
- Applicants must submit an official Scholarship application that can be obtained from a Branch Officer, the scholarship department of the F.C.S.U. or download an application from our web site (www.fcsu.com).
- Applicants must submit a completed application to: **Scholarship Program, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131.**
- Applications will be accepted only on the proper forms. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS (THOSE WHICH ARE RECEIVED NOT FULLY COMPLETED OR DO NOT HAVE ALL ATTACHMENTS) WILL BE INVALID AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.**
- Winners will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee (an independent group of educators) according to their individual merit in categories of high school cumulative grade point averages, extracurricular activities, talents, achievements, initiative, communication skills, transcripts and S.A.T. and/or A.C.T. test scores.
- Final award checks will be made payable to the winners upon submitting a **proof of college enrollment.**

Application forms can be obtained from a Branch Officer, the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA, or can be downloaded from the website at www.fcsu.com.

Applications must be postmarked by Midnight, February 28, 2010.

All applications without the above stipulated postmark will be considered invalid.

FCSU LIFE

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR 2 or 3 YEAR PAYMENT PLAN ON A SINGLE PREMIUM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Enjoy all the advantages and convenience of Single Payment Life Insurance except the payments are made in installments. This enables you to purchase the larger face amount that you need and want, but avoids the necessity of paying the entire premium in one payment. The balance due premium will be a loan against the policy cash value.

Plan I - 2 payments, the initial premium is 60% of the single premium. *The balance must be repaid within one year from the issue date to avoid interest expense on the loan.* The balance of the premium can be paid in twelve equal monthly installments, or in one sum at the end of one year.

Plan II - 3 payments, the initial premium is 40% of the single premium. *The balance must be repaid within two years from the issue date to avoid interest expense on the loan.* The balance of the premium can be paid in twenty-four equal monthly installments; or in two additional payments, 30% at the end of one year and 30% at the end of two years from the issue date.



- **Interest free loan**
- **Affordable way to get life insurance**
- **Minimum face amount \$10,000 male age 50; female age 55; thereafter \$5000**

**Act now!
Don't delay!**

Contact your local branch officer or call the home office at 1-800-533-6682 for further details. Visit us on the web at www.fcsu.com or email us at fcsu@aol.com



2010 International Tournaments

Bowling
April 30– May 2
Eastway Lanes ~ Erie, Pennsylvania

Golf
July 24-25
Cedarbrook
Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania

The Men's and Women's Annual International Jednota Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament is solely sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, for the purpose of promoting fraternalism and good sportsmanship, and to generate nationwide interest in the Jednota. The Supreme Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union wish to extend to all Jednota members a cordial invitation to the Host City, Erie, Pennsylvania, in this rapidly growing tournament.

1. The 56th Annual Men's and the 47th Annual Women's Jednota International Handicap Tenpin Bowling Tournament will be held at Eastway Lanes, 4110 Buffalo Rd., Erie, Pennsylvania. The tournament will be held the weekend of April 30, May 1 and 2, 2010. ENTRIES WILL CLOSE MIDNIGHT MARCH 12, 2010.

OPENING CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30, AT 5:30 PM.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY. ALL INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN FOR RESUBMISSION.

2. This Tournament is open to all Jednota male and female bonafide MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. All winners will be checked before any prize money is AWARDED.

3. All matters pertaining to this Tournament must have the sanction of the Director of Fraternal Activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Tournament Officers will handle all matters pertaining to this Tournament.

4. U.S.B.C. Bowling Rules shall govern in all matters concerning the actual play on the lanes in this Tournament.

5. Only members with U.S.B.C. Membership Cards will be eligible for the U.S.B.C. special awards in this U.S.B.C. Certified Tournament. Bowlers without U.S.B.C. Membership Cards may purchase some from the Tournament Secretary at current local fees prior to actual participation in this Tournament.

5-A. CAPTAINS OF EACH TEAM ENTRY MUST ENTER HIS TEAMMATES' U.S.B.C. CERTIFICATION CARD NUMBERS AND VERIFY SAME AS LISTED IN PROPER AREA ON ENTRY FORM.

MEN AND WOMEN

6. MEN - The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 210 and the highest average of any U.S.B.C. League of at least 21 games from the 2008-2009 season. Bowlers with no such average from the 2008-2009 season and with at least 21 games in the 2009-2010 season will use their current league average. This must be designated as such on ENTRY FORM BY HIS NAME and a league year-to-date statistics sheet must be presented to the Tournament Secretary at the Tournament. Bowlers with no established U.S.B.C. average will BOWL A 210 SCRATCH. SUMMER LEAGUE AVERAGES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

WOMEN- The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 180 and the highest season average of any U.S.B.C. League of at least 21 games from the 2008-2009 season. Bowlers with no such average from the 2008-2009 season and with at least 21 games in the 2009-2010 season will use their current league average. This must be designated as such on ENTRY FORM BY HER NAME and a league year-to-date statistics sheet must be presented to the Tournament Secretary at the Tournament. Bowlers with no established U.S.B.C. will bowl 180 SCRATCH. SUMMER LEAGUE AVERAGES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

6-A. MEN AND WOMEN: Any contestants whose current average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2010, is TEN (10) PINS or more above his or her average from previous season, must use his or her current average and will indicate this on the ENTRY FORM AT TIME OF ENTRY.

6-B. Under no circumstances will handicap be increased after participant has bowled.

6-C. MEN AND WOMEN- Any unmarried grade or high school student who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) must have written consent of his/her parents or guardian in order to participate in U.S.B.C. Certified Tournament where cash or merchandise prizes are offered. Said written consent must be on a form approved by United States Bowling Congress and must be on file with Tournament Secretary at least one week before the bowler is eligible for tournament competition unless the student is accompanied by his/her parents, in which case the parental consent form may be filed up to the time the student starts to bowl. U.S.B.C. Rule NO. 13

7. In submitting this entry, THE CAPTAIN AND THE TEAM MEMBERS AGREE TO FORFEIT ALL RIGHTS TO PRIZE MONEY AS WELL AS THE TOTAL ENTRY FEES IN THE EVENT THAT ANY INFORMATION LISTED HEREIN SHOULD BE FOUND TO BE FALSE. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS IN AVERAGES MADE IN FILLING OUT THIS ENTRY FORM. NO REFUNDS OF TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE

8. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR TEAM, DOUBLES, SINGLES, AND ALL EVENTS.

9. MEN - One prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries in each event, with the exception of All Events, which will pay one prize for every fifteen (15) entries. No duplicate prizes will be awarded and prize fees will be returned 100 percent.

10. WOMEN - One prize will be paid for every five (5) entries in each event with the exception of All Events, which will pay one prize for every fifteen (15) entries. No duplicate prizes will be awarded and the prize fees will be returned 100 percent.

11. All prize winners will be checked with the Jednota Home Office for verification of membership in good standing

12. All prizes will be subject to the approval of the Director of Fraternal Activities and the Tournament Committee.

13. The original averages submitted on the Entry Blank cannot be changed prior to participation by anyone except the Team Captain, who must submit written proof thereof to the Tournament Secretary.

14. Any replacement of participants originally scheduled to bowl on team or doubles will take same position on team and doubles event.

15. All participants must report one half-hour before starting time and certification cards must be presented to the Tournament Secretary by same.

16. Multiple entries are allowed for the team event.

(a) Up to two team members are allowed to be from a previous team.

(b) Each team is eligible to win once.

(c) Mixed teams comprising of 2 men and 2 women are allowed. Mixed teams will be grouped with men's teams for prize distribution (see Rule 9).

17. No bowler will be permitted to compete more than once in doubles and singles events.

18. Prize fees, as stated on the front of this entry blank, must accompany this entry.

19. In the event that there should be a tie for first place, a Co-Champion will be declared and duplicate trophies will be awarded.

56TH ANNUAL MEN'S AND 47TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S
JEDNOTA INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
 AT THE EASTWAY LANES, ERIE, PA
 APRIL 30, MAY 1st and 2nd, 2010

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<input type="checkbox"/> PATRON		\$5.00	LARRY A. HEALEY
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DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AD MARCH 26, 2010
 TOURNAMENT AD BOOK: LARRY A. HEALEY
 PHONE: 724-483-4941

20. Errors in scoring or calculations must be presented to the Tournament Secretary within 48 hours after completion of play. Captains of Teams or Doubles Partners have the option to pick up duplicate score sheets upon completion of play.

21. MEN - A Bowler whose high league average is under 190 shall submit himself for rerating and shall be rerated before entering a classified or handicap tournament if one of the following applies:

(a) When his accumulated average is not less than 21 tournament games during the immediate preceding 12 month period exceeds his high league average by 10 or more pins, or

(b) When he has exceeded his high league average by 15 or more pins in each of five tournaments, i.e., 45 pins in a three game series, 60 pins in a four game series, etc. - based only on his high series in each of the five tournaments - during the immediately preceding 12 month period.

22. YOU ARE ONLY ALLOWED TWO (2) RE-RACKS PER GAME.

23. 319-a-3 It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his average in handicap or classified tournaments, whether originally submitted by the bowler, his team captain, or others.

Failure to use the proper average shall disqualify score of submitted average if lower than actual average, thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the actual average.

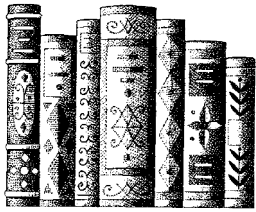
In case of teams of two or more bowlers, the average shall be combined to determine whether the correct total is higher or lower than the submitted total.

Corrections in averages can be made up to the completion of the first game of a series, or within 48 hours after completion of a series if the tournament manager prior to the completion of the first game of the series has given written consent to the bowler authorizing such extension of time to correct his average.

319-D - Any entrant who has qualified for a prize of \$300 or more in any event of a tournament in the 12-month period prior to entry, must report actual score, position, and amount won to tournament management at time of entry for possible rerating.

24. Refer to U.S.B.C. Rule 322 - Tardy Bowler will receive zero for each frame missed.

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT OFFICERS
 EX-OFFICIO TREASURER & FRATERNAL DIRECTOR.....
 SUSAN ONDREJCO
 TOURNAMENT SECRETARY .
 JOE BURKHART



Book Corner

Latest Carpathian Cookbook Available

The 13th edition of the Carpathian Cookery cookbook is now available for sale. The cookbook, which has sold nearly 12,000 copies, was requested by the Library of Congress to be in their ethnic cooking collection. The latest printing is 330 pages, and features a new look and a protective plastic cover. It includes sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes, traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, other ethnic dishes, and many other "tried and true" recipes of St. John parishioners.

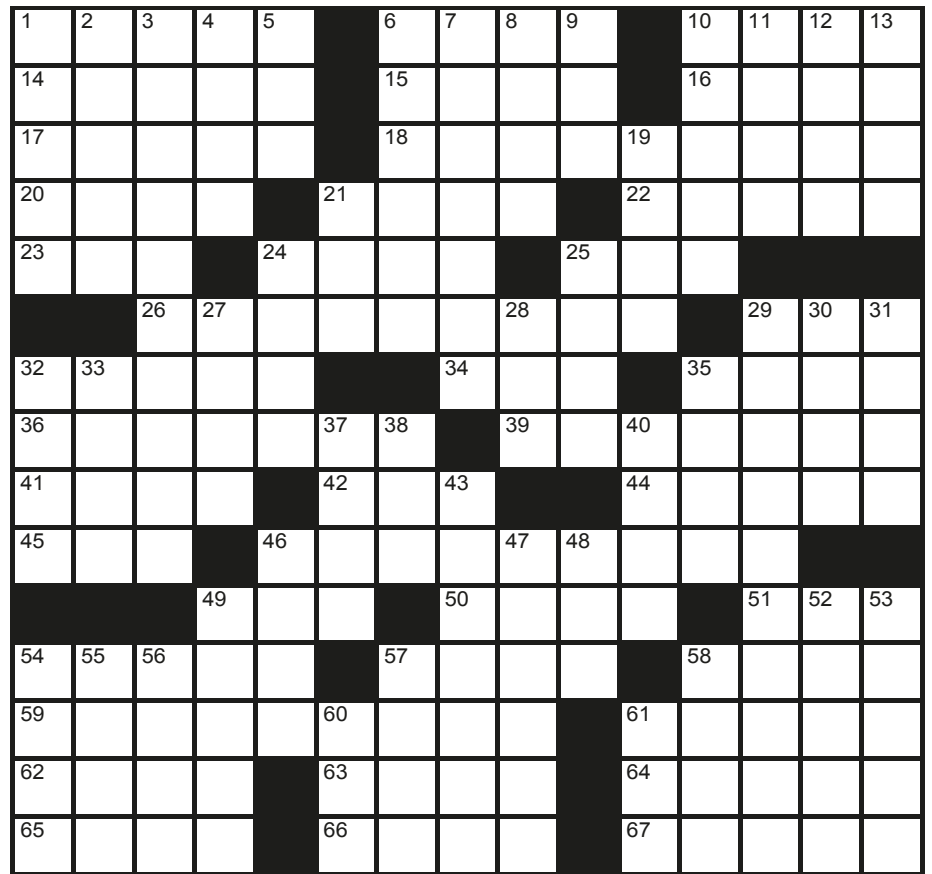
There is a variety of paska bread and kolachi (filled roll) recipes, as well as meatless dishes and Lenten recipes suitable for the Great Fast as well as the pre-Christmas Fast.

The cost of Carpathian Cookery in the US is \$14.00, plus \$3.00 postage and handling, for a total of \$17.00. If ordering from Canada, please send a \$20.00 US Postal money order payable in US dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage costs.

Please send your check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. For more information, call (724) 438-6027 or email www.carpathiancookery@gmail.com.



Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Boils
- 6 Betsy or Diana
- 10 Chose
- 14 Actress Darnell
- 15 In the know
- 16 Intense anger
- 17 Garret
- 18 Sleeping sickness carrier
- 20 Picture
- 21 Comic actress Madeline
- 22 Comforts
- 23 Evil spell
- 24 Vote
- 25 Jacob's offspring
- 26 Gypsy
- 29 Dutch commune
- 32 Printing types
- 34 Age
- 35 Terminated
- 36 Plains Indian
- 39 Engraving
- 41 Ivy
- 42 Craft
- 44 Dagger parts
- 45 Time zone
- 46 Pantry
- 49 Piece out
- 50 Swear
- 51 Fed. agency (Abbr.)
- 54 Puppeteer Lewis
- 57 Kitchen appliance
- 58 Piece of cake
- 59 Sailboat
- 61 Broadcast medium
- 62 Porters
- 63 Letters
- 64 Summit
- 65 Not any
- 66 Close friend

67 Assistants

Down

- 1 Cut back, like prices
- 2 Church offering
- 3 Alcohol, e.g.
- 4 Blue-pencil
- 5 Pouch
- 6 Turn
- 7 Off the boat
- 8 British machine gun
- 9 Rummy
- 10 Tire part
- 11 Klutzes
- 12 Leer
- 13 Auto starters
- 19 Bench
- 21 Range of visior
- 24 Passport endorsement
- 25 Pesky insect
- 27 Record
- 28 Action word
- 29 Type of person having bad thoughts
- 30 Blemish
- 31 Energy units
- 32 Cover a road
- 33 Fleur-de-lis
- 35 Buckeye State
- 37 Detest
- 38 Gold (Sp.)
- 40 Dog breed
- 43 Anguish
- 46 Remove cream
- 47 Equally
- 48 Director Howard
- 49 Delete
- 52 Elevate
- 53 Speckles
- 54 Glance over
- 55 Nimbus
- 56 Solar disk
- 57 Viva voce
- 58 Hindu frock
- 60 Med. org.
- 61 Music co. inits.



FCSU LIFE



PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN FOR ONLY \$14.00 YEARLY!

This is not a misprint. Read on to find out how.

YOUR FAMILY COMES FIRST.

Your family is the center of your life. You would do anything for them. We are offering you this economical opportunity to guard your children and help them on their way to financial responsibility.

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 - Protection for your kids' future insurability by offering conversion at age 16 or older to a regular permanent policy — regardless of health (if policy has been in force for at least two years).
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 - Annual premiums are eligible for scholarships

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Yes. We want you to receive our free, no obligation information on JEP! Simply call us at 1-800-533-6682, and we'll send you information and applications for the program. We're confident after reviewing our literature that you'll find this one of the best values to help your children for years to come.



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OR THE HOME OFFICE AT 1-800-533-6682

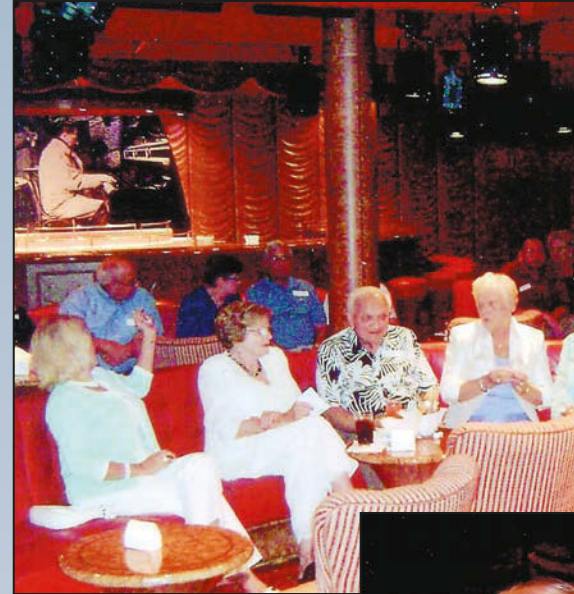
FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
of the United States and Canada
6611 Rockside Road

See Solution on Page 18

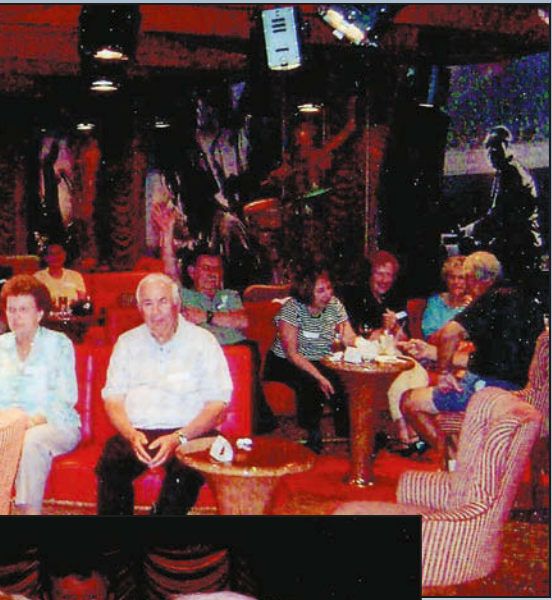
More Memories From The

The First Catholic Slovak Union held a very successful membership meet aboard Carnival's "Liberty" Ship. Here are snapshots of some of the members and guests who enjoyed a seven night Eastern Caribbean Cruise from November 14-21, 2009.

Once again, congratulations and a BIG thank you from the Membership and Marketing Committee for all the recommenders who brought in new members, additional insurance and Annuity/IRA/Park Money.



e 2009 Membership Meet



Obituaries

Elizabeth Agnes Jerga

Elizabeth Agnes Jerga, 83, passed away due to congestive heart failure in her home in Arlington, Virginia on January 24, 2010. She was preceded in death by her husband Ladislav Jerga, and son Ladislav Jerga Jr.

Ms. Jerga, born in Palarikovo, the Slovak Republic, on November 4, 1926, was a prominent journalist, writer, and broadcaster. She lived in the capital, Bratislava, most of her adult life. While in Slovakia, she was a journalist for the weekly Slovak news magazine Zivot and a writer, publishing three books. She defected to the United States after the invasion of her homeland by the Soviet Union in 1968. She lived with her family in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, where she continued to write for immigrant Slovak periodicals and the Detroit Free Press, as well as to work for Radio Free Europe as a free-lance reporter. In 1974 she became a Foreign Service officer with the US Department of State and joined the staff at Radio Voice of America as a reporter and broadcaster. At this time she also relocated to Arlington, Virginia. She worked for Radio Voice of America for 17 years, under the pen name Marina Havranova, before she retired in 1991. She continued to write; she is the author of eight books, including two children's books, a children's play, and biographies of the Slovak artist Koloman Sokol and of Mother Theresa. She belonged to PEN club, a global organization for writers. She was a devout Roman Catholic and attended Christ the King Cathedral in Arlington, Virginia.

She is survived by her sister Marta Jurikova, of Bratislava, Slovakia; her daughter Susan McMahon, son-in-law Douglas McMahon, and grandsons Kevin and Bryan McMahon, of Nashville, Tennessee.

Cremation was performed by Murphy Funeral Home in Arlington, Virginia. A private funeral will be held in the Slovak Republic.

Cecilia Ann (Stas) Kissel Branch 199 Hostetter, Pennsylvania

Cecilia Ann (Stas) Kissel, 27, of Latrobe passed away Saturday, January 2, 2010, in UPMC Shadyside, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Born July 14, 1982, in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of Stephen Stas, Jr., of Jeanette and Doris Ann Kovac of Pittsburgh. With her family as active members of Branch 199, and Ceciliar attended various FCSU functions with her

father, a past branch office. She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Anna C. (Hannak) Stas and Stephen J. Stas, Sr., who also served for many years as a branch 199 office. In addition to her parents, Cecilia is survived by her husband, Justin Kissel, and two daughters, Athanasia K. Kissel and Sahara R. Kissel, ages 3 and 5 years; grandmother Mrs. Doris Kovac of Latrobe; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins who will miss her dearly. Services and interment were private and handled by John J. Lopatich Funeral Home in Latrobe.

Edward J. Vresilovic Branch 484 Coral, Pennsylvania

Edward J. Vresilovic, 82, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, died December 6, 2009 at Lancaster General Hospital. Born in Homer City, Pennsylvania, he was the son of John and Sally (Zitt) Vresilovic. Edward was married to Mable Adami Vresilovic for 58 years.

His memberships included: St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, the Circle A Rod and Gun Club, and Branch 484, Coral Pennsylvania, of the First Catholic Slovak Union. He also was involved with Boy Scout Troop 18 through his church.

Surviving in addition to his wife Mabel are children: son Edward Jr. and wife Kelly (French); son Thomas J., and wife Suzanne (Sanduski); son Robert S., and wife Erica (Freedman); daughter Joan (Vresilovic), Greenslade and husband Gary; and daughter Andrea (Vresilovic) Broschious and husband Matthew. He also is survived by sixteen grandchildren and two sons-in-law: James R. Ruoss and Douglas J. Pfautz. He was preceded in death by two daughters: Paula L. Ruoss and Carol A. Pfautz.

Friends were received at the Charles F. Snyder Funeral Home in Lancaster on December 9, 2009. A prayer service was offered there as well. A Mass of Christian Burial followed a viewing the next day. Internment was at St. Anthony Catholic Cemetery.

Joseph E. Rura

AnnaMae Ondeck Branch 580 Duquesne, Pennsylvania

AnnaMae B. Ondeck, 75, of York, Pennsylvania went to be home with the Lord on Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at home with her family by her side. She was the wife of Robert S. Ondeck, her husband of 55 years. She was born May 20, 1934, the daughter of the late Michael and Helen (Koval) Cvejkus. AnnaMae was an active member of St. Joseph Church in York and

a former member of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in West Mifflin, it's Rosary Society and Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Guild.

In addition to her husband, AnnaMae was survived by one daughter, Cheryl A. Ondeck of Lititz; one son, Gary R. Ondeck and wife Tanya of York, three grandchildren, Shana Shaeffer and husband Robert, Steven McKinney, Sgt. USMC, and David Ondeck and fiancée Heather Shepp; two great-grandchildren, Zachary and Madison Lander and one brother, Michael J. Cvejkus of Duquesne. She was predeceased in death by one sister, Mary G. Perun.

Friends were received Friday, December 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the John W. Keffer Funeral Homes and Crematory, Inc. and 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, December 12 at St. Joseph Church, York followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. with Father Louis Petruha as celebrant. Burial followed in Holy Saviour Cemetery.

The members and officers of 580 have expressed their deepest sympathies to the Ondeck and Cvejkus families.

Michael J. Cvejkus

John Francis May Branch 857 Levittown, Pennsylvania

John Francis May, 88, of Sea Oaks, of Little Egg Harbor, died on Monday, January 4, 2010, with his loving wife and three daughters by his side. John was born on March 10, 1921 in Holland, Ohio, the 8th of

11 children. His parents were Peter May and Sophia Fron. John was a decorated WWII veteran who served under General George Patton's Third Army in the European Theater and was a decorated recipient of the Silver Star, the Purple Heart and the NJ Distinguished Service Medal. John was predeceased by his son, Thomas J. May, in 1988 and by all but one of his brothers and sisters. His surviving sibling is his twin brother, Leo May of Somerville. He is also survived by his wife of 60 years Rose (Minock) May; his daughter Kathleen Szul, her husband Michael Szul, and grandson Zachary Szul of Chalfont, PA; his daughter Joyce May and Joel Rosenman of New York, NY; his daughter Janet Young, her husband Greg Young, and granddaughters Kaylin Young and Elizabeth Young of Newark, DE; his daughter-in-law Karen Grammes, her husband Randy Grammes, and granddaughter Katies Grammes of Annadale; as well as by numerous sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews. The viewing was held on January 7, 2010 at the Maxwell Funeral Home in Little Egg Harbor, NJ and on January 8, 2010 at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Little Egg Harbor, followed by a Mass of Christian burial and interment at Princeton Memorial Park in Robbinsville, NJ.

"PARK FREE PLUS" ANNUITY

Effective March 1, 2010, the "Park Free Plus" Annuity is earning **3.50% (3.440% APR)** for the first year.

The new annuity plan that combines features from our most popular annuities...
The Park Annuity and the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.

The "Park Free Plus" offers a first year interest rate of **3.50% (3.440% APR)**. This initial interest rate is guaranteed for the entire first year of the Annuity policy. At the first anniversary date of the policy, the **Annuitant has 15 calendar days to elect this option:**

Withdraw the full value of the accumulated Annuity funds (principal plus interest) WITHOUT INCURRING A SURRENDER CHARGE!

*Note: If the funds are withdrawn prior to the first anniversary of the policy, a 6% surrender will be imposed on the funds withdrawn.**

2. If this option is not exercised, the Annuity will continue for an additional five years. The interest rate at that time will be based on the interest rate established by the Society on its Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity. This rate is published regularly in the official publication and on our website.

If the policy is continued, the Annuitant may withdraw up to 10% of the policies cash value at the beginning of each policy year, without incurring a surrender charge.*

If the Policy is continued, withdrawals that exceed 10% of the policy's cash value will incur a surrender charge of 5% in the second year and withdrawal charges will decrease by 1% each year until the end of the sixth year from the issue date*.

INITIAL DEPOSIT MAY BE AS LOW AS \$1,000!

Low Minimum Deposit. Initial deposit may be as low as \$1,000 for the "Park Free Plus" Annuity. Maximum deposit for this program is \$100,000.00. No additional deposits are permitted during the first year.

Flexible Deposits. Additional deposits of \$1,000 or more will be accepted at any time after the first year.

Maturity Options. At the end of the six year policy period; the Annuitant has these options:

- The policy can be continued. There will be no surrender charges on any withdrawals.* The interest rate will be based on FCSU Life's Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity interest rate.
- The policy can be converted to any Annuity product offered by FCSU Life at that time. The interest rate will be based on the then current declared interest rate on the selected policy.
- Taxes on all interest earned on the "Park Free Plus" Annuity and any subsequent policy selected, will be deferred until funds are withdrawn.

For additional information, contact your Branch officer or the Home Office.

* Early withdrawals may be subject to IRS penalties.

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence OH 44131-8013
1-800-JEDNOTA - Website: www.fcsu.com - E-mail: FCSU@aol.com

"Park 2 Annuity" 3.75%

(3.682% apr)

Rate Effective March 1, 2010

Under the "PARK 2 ANNUITY", you make a **ONE-TIME DEPOSIT OF AT LEAST \$1,000.00** into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a **GUARANTEED RATE FOR TWO YEARS**. Additional deposits are not allowed.

Features of the "Park 2 Annuity" include:

- The FCSU **GUARANTEES YOUR INITIAL INTEREST RATE FOR TWO YEARS**. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. **YOU MAY, HOWEVER, WITHDRAW UP TO 10% OF YOUR 'BEGINNING OF THE YEAR BALANCE'** with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications
Visit our web site at FCSU.com

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1- CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood OH. If you have any questions, please call 216.228.8179. All members are encouraged to attend.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Minneapolis Branch 3 will hold its annual breakfast on Sunday, March 28, 2010. Mass will be offered for our living and deceased members at 9:00AM at the Church of SS. Cyril & Methodius, Second Street and 13th Avenue, NE. After Mass, we will have a full breakfast at 10:30AM. All members of Branch 3 and the former St. Joseph Branch 226 are invited.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 82 – HAVERSTRAW, NY

There has been a merger between Branch 082K Haverstraw, NY and Branch 041K Yonkers, NY. All members of Branch 082K will now hold membership in Branch 041K. This merger has taken place as of January 7, 2010.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Albert J. Figura, 92 Wickes Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701, (914) 963-8229.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 96 – CAROLLTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 96, Carrolltown, PA, will hold a meeting on Sunday, February 21, 2010, at 2PM at the Stella Papsion Residence, 138 Sunset Road, Carrolltown, PA 15722. For information, phone (814) 344-8964.

Stella Papsion, President

BRANCH 168 - S. AMBOY, NJ

There has been a merger between Branch 168K S. Amboy, NJ and Branch 746K Linden, NJ.

All members of Branch 168K will now hold membership in Branch 746K. This merger has taken place as of January 14, 2010.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Mary J. Kapitan, 166 Echo Ave., Edison, NJ 08837-2631 (732) 225-2658

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 181 UNITED, PA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181 will meet on March 20, 2010, immediately following the 5PM. Mass at St. Florian Church. We will meet in the Formation Building on the church grounds; all members are urged to attend. Anyone wishing to join the Jednota is also invited. For more information about the Jednota contact Clarence Pfeifer at 724-423-2983.

Gerry Kovacina, secretary

BRANCH 260 CAMPBELL, OHIO

The St. Matthew Branch 260, will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 21, 2010, at 1:30PM at Msgr. Adamko Hall, St. Elizabeth Church, Campbell, Ohio. On the agenda will be discussions of the FCSU National Convention. All elected delegates and members are urged to attend.

Chafles M. erek, President

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Branch 276 will hold its meeting on Sunday, March 14, 2010, at 1:00PM in the school hall of St. Martin de Porres Church on Seventh Street in McKeesport, PA. All members are urged to attend.

Election of officers and delegates for the convention took place at the November meeting.

Nancy Gerdich

BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold a special meeting on Monday, April 5, 2010, for the purpose of electing delegates to the National Convention. The meeting will be held at 7PM at St. Katharine Drexel Church Social Hall, 124 East Abbott, Lansford, PA 18232. Anyone needing more insurance or information should contact the financial secretary at 1-570-645-4872

**Robert Lakata,
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 342 - WARREN, OHIO

There has been a merger between Branch 342P Warren, OH and Branch 764K Warren, OH. All members of Branch 342P will now hold membership in Branch 764K. This merger has taken place as of January 13, 2010.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: George J. Yuricek, 1190 Beechwood Street SW, Warren, OH 44485-4190, (330) 394-8249.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380, will hold a meeting on Sunday, February 28, 2010, at 2:00 PM at Kings Restaurant, Rte 19, Canonsburg, PA. Agenda: Convention, election of delegates.

Margaret Graytok

BRANCH 382- SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382, will hold a General Membership Meeting on Sunday, March 7, 2010, at 12:00 noon at Holy Family Church Hall, Scranton, Pennsylvania. The election of delegates to the 2010 Convention will be held. Also on the agenda will be a discussion of future activities and the Annual Branch Report to the Home Office. The auditing of the books will also take place. Light refreshments will be

served. All members are urged to attend.

Elizabeth Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 565K – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 565K Donora, PA and Branch 670K Donora, PA. All members of Branch 565K will now hold membership in Branch 670K. This merger has taken place as of January 21, 2010.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Dorothy J. Petrus, 545 Castner Ave, Donora, PA 15033-1814, (724) 379-5881

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Branch 567KJ will have a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 1:00PM in the church social hall, 924 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA. Plans for the bake sale of nut and poppyseed rolls on March 22, 2010 will be finalized. All members are cordially invited to attend.

Branch 567 wishes all a Happy Easter.

Rosalie Favere, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 571 JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

St Mary's Society, Branch 571 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 1PM at St. Michael Catholic Church Hall, 751 Locust Street, St. Michael, Pennsylvania. We will hold an election of officers. Other branch issues will also be discussed. Light refreshments will be served. Please call 814-269-4972, if you need additional information or have questions.

Theresa Arena, President

BRANCH 581 – GARY INDIANA

The St. Michael The Archangel, Branch 581, will hold a special meeting at my home at 953 Portage Ave., Porter, IN, on Sunday, February 21, 2010 at 1:00 PM. On the agenda is the election of a delegate and an alternate to the 49th Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, on August 14 – 18 2010, in Cleveland, OH. Any member interested in attending the convention, please contact me at 219-926-2410.

-George Kelchak, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

The election of officers was held on December 20, 2009, for Branch 595, Muskegon Heights, MI, and was officiated by Pat Kelley. The 2010 officers are
President: Frank McCarthy
Vice President: Rose Paparrarella
Recording Secretary: Donna Stone
Financial Secretary: Louis Kollar
Hall Manager: Sandy McCarthy
Sick Committee: Joyce Kelley
Trustees: Dave Cooper, George Korr, Fran Kolenic

Branch 595 will continue to have a monthly breakfast on the fourth Sunday of every month through May. Breakfast features 11

hot items, coffee, milk, juices and a sweets table to top off the meal. The cost is \$6.50 for adults and \$3.25 for children, and is offered from 8:30 a.m. until noon. It is "all you can eat," and the best breakfast in town!

The polka parties are held the first Sunday of each month (except Easter) through May. There is a free will offering at the door and food and beverages for purchase. Please join us for these events! We are located at the corner of Sixth St. and Sherman Blvd., in Muskegon Hts. For more information call: 231-733-7525.

Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – POLAND, OHIO

On March 21, 2010, Saint Joseph Branch 731 will celebrate its Patron Saint Feast Day with Mass and a luncheon to follow. The Liturgy will be at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngtown, Ohio at 11:30 AM. The luncheon will be at the Father Snock Center. Branch 731 Branch member Judge Diane Vettori will be our guest speaker. In addition, we will have numerous door prizes. All Saint Joseph Branch 731 members are invited to attend.

Please call either Irene Makovec at (330) 755-3607 or Millie Leskovyansky at (330)782-3219 for a reservation.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743- STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, will celebrate the feast day of St. Joseph on Sunday, March 14, 2010, with a Slovak Mass at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI. The Mass will be offered for all living and deceased members of Branch 743. Refreshments including coffee and Slovak baked goods will be served in the Social Hall following the liturgy. A Branch meeting will take place in The Slovak Heritage Room. All members and their families are invited to attend this annual celebration of St. Joseph Day and to enjoy fellowship with other members.

Any member who has recently moved or requires Branch services should contact the Branch secretary Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone 586/254-0225.

**Joseph C. Rimarcik,
President/Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 759 – NEWTON FALLS, OHIO

There has been a merger between Branch 759K Newton Falls, OH and Branch 764K Warren, OH. All members of Branch 759K will now hold membership in Branch 764K. This merger has taken place as of January 07, 2010.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: George J. Yuricek, 1190 Beechwood Street SW, Warren, OH, 44485-4190, (330) 394-8249.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

continued on page 16

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 15

BRANCH 796 - EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 796, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, February 28, 2010 at 1 PM in Holy Trinity

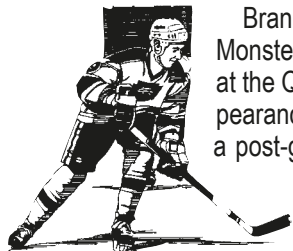
Church hall Egypt, Pennsylvania. All members are cordially invited to attend.

Discussion of promoting new members as well as selecting of delegates for the district meeting will take place.

Jerry Lloyd, Recording Secretary



Branch 24 – Cleveland, Ohio



Branch 24 is inviting its members to a Hockey Night as the Lake Erie Monsters take on the Abbotsford Heat, Saturday, March 20th, 7:30PM, at the Quicken Loans Arena in downtown Cleveland. An Autograph Appearance by Cleveland Cav's Forward Anderson Varejao as well as a post-game Country Music Concert are added attractions. Discount tickets for Branch 24 members are available by calling Tom Ivanec at 1-440-668-7797. Deadline to reserve your tickets: March 3, 2010.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 5 - MICHIGAN DISTRICT

District 5, The Michigan District, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 25, 2010. The place of the meeting will be at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church located at 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan.

Our day will begin with a Slovak Mass at 11:30 AM, followed by refreshments served in the Fr. Mikus Hall. Our meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. In the Heritage Room, a luncheon will be served after the meeting. Branch 743 will host this meeting. Please call Joseph Rimarcik at (586) 254-0225 by April 21, 2010 with the number of delegates attending from your branch.

On the agenda: important information about the convention (delegates should attend), and also district business. We hope many of you will join us for the day.

Anna Magusin, Secretary

REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT II – ILLINOIS, INDIANA, AND WISCONSIN

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 11, 2010, at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, Illinois. A period of refreshments and fraternal fellowship will begin at 1:30 p.m., with the meeting starting promptly at 2:00 p.m. All branches are requested to send delegates. Individual Jednota members who wish to learn more about becoming active in District 2 are also welcome to attend. Attendees will enjoy a delicious meal. If you plan to attend, please call District 2 Spiritual Adviser Dorothy Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810 to let her know, so adequate food and beverages will be available.

Robert Tapak Magruder, District II Recording Secretary

THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT – EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND, AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 14, 2010 (Please note DATE change). Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM in St. John the Baptist Church, 924 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA 18102. Dinner will be served at 12:30 PM in the Social Hall, and the meeting will start at 1:30 PM. Donation for the dinner is \$17.00. Please make checks payable to Branch 567. All checks and credentials must be returned by Friday, February 26, 2010. PLEASE be prompt!

We will be electing our District Delegate for the FCSU Convention which will be held in August, 2010, at this meeting. Any questions, please call Loretta Dashner at (610) 432-8350. Thank you!

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT – NEW JERSEY

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, March 21, 2010 at 1:00 PM. Branch 746 will host the meeting at Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church, 2806 Parkway Avenue, Linden, NJ. Convention Delegate will be elected at this meeting.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT-UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 14, 2010, at 1:00 P.M. in the meeting room of Denny's Restaurant at 653 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. On the agenda will be the election of officers for 2010 and a discussion of the upcoming convention and district business. All convention delegates are requested to attend this meeting. Reservations are to be made by contacting President Marmol at 724-437-0892 or Secretary Holly at 724-438-0697 by Thursday March 11, 2010. Everyone is asked to contribute five dollars to the district to help cover the cost of the meal.

Barbara Ann Holly, Secretary



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Scenes From Pittsburgh District Annual Meeting & Christmas Party

On November 29, 2009, members of the Pittsburgh District and their families attended the annual district business meeting and enjoyed a Christmas get-together held at the Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin, PA. Vice President Karianne Barnes welcomed everyone on behalf of host Branch 628. Members reminisced about traditional Slovak customs while enjoying the entertainment provided by Susan Ondrejco and the Pittsburgh Slovaks. The men, women, and children of the group were all dressed in bright Slovak costumes. Their program included dances and songs, and concluded by singing Silent Night with the audience.

The next meeting of District 6, Pittsburgh, will be held on April 18, 2010, hosted by Branch 580. The event will include entertainment for the children. Look for additional information in the next district announcement.

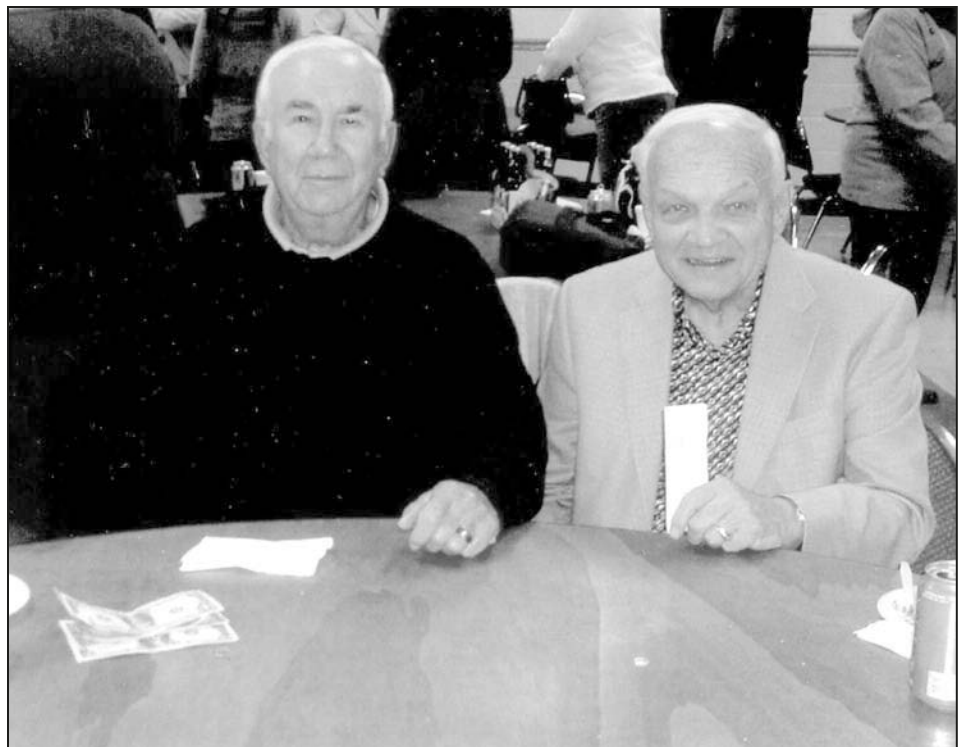
Margaret Nasta, Recording Secretary



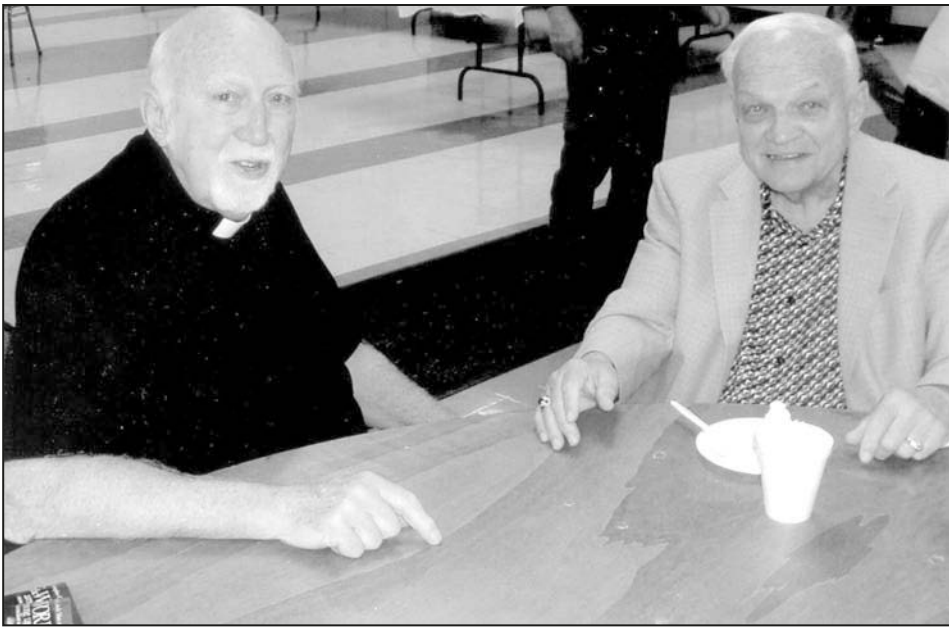
2010 Pittsburgh District Officers (L to R): Joseph Yuros, Anne Wargovich, Anne Berezna, George Matta II, Flo Matta, Anne Pavlan, Karianne Barnes, Fr. Joseph Grosko, Margaret Nasta



The Pittsburgh Slovaks provided a program of Slovak Christmas customs with traditional costumes, dances and songs.



Regis Brekosky, George Matta



Fr. Joseph Grosko, George Matta



Members of the Pittsburgh District enjoy the program.

41st PRESIDENT AWARDED STEFAN BANIC GOLD MEDAL

By John Karch

On January 18, 2010, the 41st U.S. President George H. W. Bush was awarded the Stefan Banic Parachute Foundation (SBPF) Gold Medal by Chairman Slavo Mulik, on behalf of the Board of Directors. Mr. Mulik led a group of SBPF fellow Board Members, representatives of the U.S. Parachute Association (USPA) and others to Houston, Texas for the ceremony. The former President-- skydiver himself--, graciously welcomed the group of ten to his office, making everyone feel comfortable

Following the brief introductions and friendly chat, Mr. Mulik informed the President about Stefan Banic's Slovak and American background, Banic's parachute patent, and the Foundation. Slavo then honored the President with the Foundation's Gold Medal, a beautiful Gold Cup, and a Certificate of Recognition, on behalf of the SBPF Board of Directors, USPA leaders, and his family. President Bush was selected to receive these honors for his worldwide promotion and contribution to the sport of skydiving. Present at this ceremony were SBPF Board members Pennsylvania Senator Bob Robbins, Admiral (Ret.) George Worthington, Jack Pyland, Carol Schlichtemeier, USPA President Jay Stokes and Executive Director Emeritus Chris Needels, as well as Admiral's friend, Veronica Braun, and Slavo's wife, Jane, and their son Steven.

Clearly witnessed, the President was honored and pleased to receive the recognition and awards given to him. In 1997 he was honored by the USPA as Honorary Chairman of its virtual National Skydiving Museum in Fredericksburg, VA and also awarded honorary D-license 20,000. In turn, Mr. Bush presented to each of the visitors a memorable keepsake containing the Seal of the Office of the President of the United States. Genuinely moved, Slavo Mulik has traveled the world and met many high ranking officials but "never dreamed I would one day stand before a President of the U.S.A," he said.

Requirements for gold

Satisfying requirements for the Gold Medal is not easily achieved: Skydiving thirty years with some activity (e.g. inventor, pilot, instructor, rigger, and drop zone operator) or a VIP contributing and promoting skydiving. One gold medal is awarded annually. Of the relatively few of its recipients was Jay Stokes, President of USPA, awarded last year.

Skydiver George H. W. Bush

The first parachute jump made by the future American President, was in 1944. Following Pearl Harbor, he joined the Navy, becoming the youngest naval pilot at age 18. On September 1, 1943, he was assigned to a Torpedo Squadron in the Pacific. The following year his Squadron was based on USS San Jacinto and engaged victoriously in the major battle "Philippine Sea." The next objective was Bonin Islands (quite familiar to this writer). In September 1944, piloting the TBM Avenger, Lieutenant Junior Grade Bush, with two crew members, attacked Chi Chi Jima September 2, 1944 and was hit by intense Japanese anti-aircraft fire. Although his engine was on fire, he completed his bombing mission. They bailed out but only Lt. Bush, who was picked up by a submarine, survived. Through 1944, he flew 58 combat missions, receiving the DFC (Distinguished Flying Cross) and three Air Medals. He was discharged in September 1945.



Slavo Mulik with President George H.W. Bush

The future President graduated from Yale, succeeded in business, but turned to politics, House of Representatives, Ambassador to the U.N., Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Chief of the Office of the Liaison Office to China

Director of CIA, Vice-President of the U.S., and the 41st President of the United States. (I met him in 1972 as State Department Liaison Officer with the Soviet Arts and Crafts Exhibit, at the last of six city openings, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York). He was then Ambassador to the UN.

Skydiving Revisited

When still in uniform, youthful Bush promised himself that some day he would jump from a plane for fun. In 1997, at age 72, he fulfilled his promise. His next jump was June 9, 1999, celebrating his 75th birthday. Five years later, on June 14, 2004, he tandem jumped over his library in Texas from 13,000 feet with Staff Sgt. Bryan Schell and others of the Golden Knights for his 80th birthday. The two-day festivities, with some 5,000 people, included former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the target of President Reagan's "Tear down this wall."

His jump at 83 was in November 2007 at College Station, Texas. Earlier, in January, he underwent hip replacement. Jumping, he was strapped to an expert from the Golden Knights.

The most recent skydiving by the 41st President, celebrating his 85th birthday, took place June 12, 2009 in his home state, Maine. Again, it was a tandem jump with the help of the Army's Golden Knights parachute team, but lower, from 10,500 feet. The landing zone was near a church in Kennebunkport close to his summer home. All his children witnessed the successful jump. He said he hopes to celebrate his 90th birthday with another skydive.

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.

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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4.40% (4.306% apr)

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- o Death Benefit-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- o Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- o Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
- o Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 1/2 may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- o Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- o Also available in a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (subject to IRA Guidelines)

CONTACT THE HOME OFFICE OR YOUR LOCAL BRANCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.
YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT FCSU.COM

PAS in Florida: A Magical Reason to Celebrate!

By Angela Lipchak

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak ("PAS") Folk Ensemble has been invited to perform at Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Disney Magic Music Days is celebrating its 25th Anniversary by providing an opportunity for special groups from around the world to entertain at a world famous attraction. Being chosen to be a part of the "Disney Show" represents a legacy of millions of performers who have graced the stages of the Walt Disney World Resort. After successfully auditioning, PAS 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 Friday March 5, 2010 at 4:30 p.m., the Pittsburgh Area Slovaks (PAS) Folk Ensemble will become a part of Disney World's tradition of Magic Music Days in Orlando, Florida. PAS will be performing a 25 minute program from Western and Central Slovakia. This program is the one they performed in Detva, Slovakia at the 44th Annual Folklorná Slavnost pod Pol'anou v Detve (Folklore Celebration below Pol'ana Mountain) in July 2009.

On Sunday March 7th, PAS will also be performing for the 58th Annual Slovak Day at the Slovak Winter Garden complex in Winter Park, Florida. Everyone is excited to attend this event to present a 40 minute presentation of songs and dances from many regions of Slovakia.

Anyone interested in obtaining tickets for Slovak Day March 7, 2010 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Slovak Winter Gardens should contact Jan and Dorena Juhas at 1-407-677-6894. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.

All are welcome to come to see the shows.



The Pittsburgh Area Slovak ("PAS") Folk Ensemble



PAS in Detva, Slovakia



PAS in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Attention All Golfers: Two Chances to Join Jednota Golf League

The Jednota Golf League will hold two organizational meetings in March.

An organizational meeting for the FRIDAY Jednota Golf League, Knoll Run Golf Course, will be held on Sunday March 7, 2:00 PM at Knoll Run Golf Course, 1421 Struthers Coitsville Rd, Lowellville, OH 44436-8729 (www.knollrun.com). All members and those wishing to join the league are urged to attend. Those wishing to join may call President Bill Gurski at 330-788-1133 or Secretary Paul Ritz at 330-744-2377.

An organizational meeting for the THURSDAY Jednota Golf League, Bedford Trails Golf Course, will be held on Sunday March 14, 2.00 PM at Bedford Trails Golf Course, 713 Bedford Road Coitsville, Ohio 44436 (www.bedfordtrails.com). All members and those wishing to join the league are urged to attend. Those wishing to join may call President Gene Hvizdak at 330-755-0736 or Secretary Paul Ritz at 330-744-2377.

Paul Ritz, Secretary



Calling All Slovak Cooks: Website Wants Contributors



The recently launched website, www.slovakcooking.com, offers many illustrated recipes for traditional Slovak dishes in English. Founder Lubos Brieda tells the Jednota that he also is looking for more contributors, especially folks who know how to bake our delicious sweets (kolace, torty, etc.). Go to the website, and look around. He welcomes hearing from you.



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From the Desk of the Executive Secretary:

ATTENTION:

ALL JEDNOTA MICHIGAN MEMBERS RESIDING IN MICHIGAN

The Michigan Fraternal Congress is accepting applications for its scholarship program.

If you meet the requirements listed below and wish to apply for a scholarship, please call the home office for an application. Our toll-free number is 1-800-533-6682. All applications must be submitted by April 1, 2010.



Michigan Fraternal Congress

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL FRATERNAL CONGRESS OF AMERICA

MICHIGAN FRATERNAL CONGRESS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Two (2) \$500.00 non-renewable College Scholarships shall be awarded each year. The Michigan Fraternal Congress Scholarship Committee will use their discretion in selecting the honorees that are chosen. The Scholarship recipients are subject to approval of the Executive Board.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Applications are open to young men and women who are residents of Michigan, insured members and active participants of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a current paid member of the Michigan Fraternal Congress.

1. Applications are open to young men and women who are residents of Michigan, insured members and active participants of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a current paid member of the Michigan Fraternal Congress.
2. Candidates shall be graduating high school seniors who are planning to enroll in the fall as a full-time student (minimum 12 credit hours) in an accredited two or four-year College, university or trade school.
3. A check in the amount of \$500.00 shall be issued in the name of the recipient following receipt of the **proof of enrollment which must be received by November 1st 2010**. The money is to be used for tuition and books only.
4. There is no limit to the number of applicants from any one fraternal group or society.
5. A certificate, provided by the Michigan Fraternal Congress, is to be presented at the High School Awards or commencement exercises, if possible or at the Annual MFC Meeting Banquet.

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Applicants must have a minimum Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) of 2.5 out of a 4.0. A transcript request form must be filled out and sent along with an official high school transcript (with affixed seal by the deadline).
2. An essay (maximum 100 words) will be submitted detailing volunteer activities that the individual has participated in, including dates, with their Fraternal Benefit Society and/or the Michigan Fraternal Congress.

Submit applications to **Barbara Toboy, Scholarship Chairperson, Michigan Fraternal Congress, 1093 Poplar Ct, Wyandotte MI 48192** and postmarked by April 1st. The winner will be notified by May 1st.

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Bičoval sa, aby bol bližšie k Bohu, tvrdí kniha o Jánovi Pavlovi II.

Ku Kristovi ho približoval remeň a nahota. Švihal sa koženým opaskom a spával vyzlečený na holej zemi, tvrdí o pápežovi Jánovi Pavlovi II. poľský kňaz, ktorého Vatikán poveril úlohou pripraviť jeho blahorečenie. Päťdesiatročný Slawomir Oder, ktorý vyše desať rokov patril k blízkym druhom poľského pápeža, o ňom napísal knihu odhaľujúcu i aj ďalšie tajomstvá. Ján Pavol II. ponechal kardinálom svoj abdikačný list pre prípad, že nebude schopný ďalej slúžiť, tí ho však - ako je známe - pred jeho smrťou v apríli 2005 nepoužili. Oder tiež naznačuje, že pápež zasiahnutý výstrelmi tureckého atentátnika pôvodne predpokladal, že sa stal terčom talianskych ľavicových extrémistov, lebo tajné služby ho varovali, že sa ho Červené brigády chystajú uniesť.

„Nie je to dokumentárna ani historická knižka,“ citovala agentúra PAP Odera. Dielo Prečo je svätý, ktoré napísal spolu s talianskym novinárom Saveriom Gaetom, predstavil v Ríme v stredu. „Je to skôr osobná výpoveď opierajúca sa o moje svedectvá i materiály, ktoré som mal možnosť preštudovať,“ dodal. Oder sa v knihe odvoláva aj na výpovede 114 svedkov, ktorých v procese prípravy blahorečenia vatikánska komisia vypočula, aj na doteraz nezverejnené archívne dokumenty.

„Členovia jeho blízkeho okruhu v Poľsku i vo Vatikáne mohli na vlastné uši počuť, ako bičuje seba samého. V jeho šatníku popri rúchach na háčiku visel opasok od nohavíc, ktorý používal ako bič,“ cituje z knihy magazín Time. Pápež praktizoval sebičovanie aj vo svojom letnom sídle v Castel Gandolfo, dosvedčila vlni na jeseň pred komisiou pre blahorečenie rádomá sestra Tobiana Sobodková, ktorá z vedľajšej miestnosti viackrát počula, ako remeň plieska o kožu. „Keď to práve nebola choroba, ktorá by mu umožnila precítiť bolesť, bol to on sám, kto si spôsoboval nepohodlie a pokorenie... Patril to k jeho hlbokému vzťahu k Bohu,“ píše Oder, ktorý spomína aj ďalšie prejavy askézy. Ján Pavol II. veľmi prísne dodržiaval pôst a často spával na dlážke nahý. Ráno potom rozostlal lôžko, aby si rádomé sestry nevšimli, že na ňom nespál. Kniha obsahuje aj text rukou písaného abdikačného listu z februára 1989. Predsedovi zboru kardinálov ho odovzdal šesťnásť rokov pred smrťou, v časoch, keď bol ešte plný síl. V dokumente vyjadril pripravenosť odstúpiť, ak by mu dlhodobá choroba znemožnila vykonávať poslanie. Neskôr, keď už bol chorý a len s najväčším sebazaprením zotrval na svätopeterskom stolci, sa však rozhodol, že tento kríž poniesie na svojich pleciah až do konca.

Neznáme skutočnosti poľský kňaz odhaľuje aj v súvislosti s atentátom na pápeža v máji 1981. „Krátko pred útokom talianske tajné služby varovali, že teroristi Červených brigád plánujú únos Jána Pavla,“ píše Oder. Aj preto pápež, keď sa so strelnými ranami zrútil do náručia svojho pobočníka, niekoľkokrát šeptom zopakoval: „Tak, ako Bacheleta.“ Vittorio Bachelet bol popredný právnik a kresťanskodemokratický politik, ktorého v roku 1980 komando Červených brigád zastrelilo na pôde Rímskej univerzity.

PRAVDA, TK KBS

Slovenská televízia rozširuje o reláciu Hlas Európy

Bratislava (TASR) - Slovenská televízia rozširuje záber vlastnej tvorby o novú reláciu s názvom Hlas Európy. Programová novinka upriamuje pozornosť na aktuálne dianie v Európskom parlamente a zároveň prináša informácie aj o tom, ako sa na Slovensku uplatňujú rozhodnutia na európskej úrovni.

Autorom námetu a dramaturgom 30-minútového bloku je Peter Jankú, moderátormi budú Martin Thuma a Natália Žembová, formát relácie Hlas Európy tvoria tri časti. Prvá poskytuje priestor na prezentáciu tém a činnosti poslancov Európskeho parlamentu, a to formou reportáže a diskusie, ktorá je natáčaná priamo v Európskom parlamente. Dôraz sa kladie na prezentáciu činnosti slovenských poslancov EP, ale aj z ostatných krajín, ak sa téma či oblasť, ktorú prezentujú, dotýka záujmov SR. Druhá časť sa venuje európskym témam, ktoré sú aktuálne na území Slovenskej republiky. Na kľúčovú tému v štúdiu následne diskutujú predstavitelia Národnej rady SR alebo exekutívy SR so zástupcom cieľovej skupiny, ktorej sa téma dotýka. Tretia časť relácie je reportážnym spracovaním projektov alebo činností, ktoré úspešne komunikujú európske témy buď vo svojom regióne alebo v zahraničí.

Publicistická relácia vznikla s finančnou podporou Generálneho riaditeľstva Európskeho parlamentu pre komunikáciu, vysielat' sa bude v dvojtýždňovom intervale. Do apríla 2011 odvysielala STV 25 častí tejto relácie, jej náklady na výrobu predstavujú 309,460 eur, z toho 185,680 eurami prispieva Európsky parlament, čo predstavuje 60 percent nákladov.



Volby do Národnej rady SR by mali stáť vyše 9.7 milióna eur

Bratislava (TASR) - Náklady na prípravu a vykonanie tohtoročných volieb do Národnej rady SR by mali vyjsť na 9,723,447 eur. Z tejto sumy pôjde vyše 7.95 milióna eur z rozpočtu ministerstva vnútra a viac ako 1.76 milióna eur zo Štatistického úradu. Návrh ich organizačno-technického zabezpečenia predložil rezort vnútra do pripomienkového konania.

Volby vyhlásil šéf parlamentu Pavol Paška na sobotu 12. júna. Politické strany musia zaregistrovať kandidátne listiny zapisovateľovi Ústrednej volebnej komisii (UVK) do 14. marca, teda 90 dní pred dňom ich konania. Subjekty sú zároveň povinné zložiť kauciu 16,596 eur.

Strany môžu utvoriť koalíciu a podať spoločnú kandidátnu listinu, pričom tá strana, ktorá je súčasťou koalície, nemôže podať kandidátnu listinu samostatne. Nachádzať sa na nej má najviac 150 kandidátov, teda toľko, koľko je členov zákonodarného zboru. Za poslancu môže byť zvolený občan SR, ktorý najneskôr v deň volieb dovŕšil 21 rokov, má trvalý pobyt na území Slovenska a nie je vo výkone trestu odňatia slobody, ani pozbavený spôsobilosti na právne úkony. Listiny, ktoré sú v súlade so zákonom, zaregistruje UVK najneskôr 70 dní pred dňom volieb.

Odpoveď kamarátovi

Vďaka Ti za pozdrav a milú spomienku,
uschoval som ju medzi ostatné,
do môjho, malého, ošúchaného kufríku.
Tam, uložené sú všetky, od začiatku,
mojej emigrantskej cesty v cudzine,
tam, kde ma osud odstrčí, alebo privinie.

Za každý deň však ďakujem, Tomu tam hore,
že vidím slniečko a zapadajúce, červené zore.
Chýba mi však, moja milená, rodná dedinka,
po ktorej ostala mi tá, najkrajšia spomienka.

Nie, tu nerastú pri potoku, staré, pokrivené vrby,
neškriabu sa na ne chlapi, čo ich dobrodružstvo
svrbí,
keď haluz sa pod nimi zlomí, padnú do vody,
a celí sú mokří. Vtedy sa doma blýska a hrmí.

Ale, čo je potom. Na dobrodružstvo sa zabudne.
Veď aj otcovi, ba aj starému dedovi, sa tak stalo.
Nech si len každý, do svojich spomienok nakukne.
Krásny, je ten slovenský kút. Na ten, sa tak ľahko
nezabudne!!!

Jozef Smák

K päťdesiatke Jána Košiaru

Na Hromnice, 2. februára 2010 sa v Dóme sv. Martina zšli na svätej omši príbuzní a priatelia dp. Jána Košiaru, aby spolu s ním oslávili jeho životné jubileum - 50 rokov. Spolu s ním koncebrovali Mons. Ján Sokol, emeritný arcibiskup Trnavskej arcidiecézy, Mons. Dominik Kalata, SJ, emeritný svätiaci biskup z Freiburgu, Prof. Mons. Štefan Vragaš, dp. Imrich Tóth, slovenský misionár z Paríža, P. Ján Ďurica, SJ a P. Šebastián Labo, ktorý aj kázal. Jubilanta do Dómu sv. Martina pozval dp. pán farár ThDr. Marián Červený. Po svätej omši sa konalo agapé, na ktorom jubilanta pozdravil Prof. Milan S. Ďurica, SDB týmito slovami: (r.)



Priznám sa vám, vážení prítomní, že keď som dostal pozvánku na túto oslavu, moja prvá spontánna reakcia bola: To si niekto robí žart zo mňa alebo z neho. Lebo Janka som poznal koncom osemdesiatych rokov v Ríme, potom sme sa stretávali u Šebka Labu v Koblenzi aj u mňa v Padove, a po zmene politickej situácie v roku 1990 tu v Bratislave. Vždy na mňa pôsobil ako dynamický celkom mladý kňaz plný aktivity na rozličných poliach a pri tom aj veľkých plánov. Až keď som začel do spomalujúcej sa pamäti, musel som si priznať, že tá päťdesiatka je reálna.

Veď Janko uzrel svetlo sveta pod posvätným vrchom Levočskej Panny Márie 1. februára 1960 ak dar jeho rodičom práve na tento jej krásny sviatok. Tam aj maturoval a potom študoval na Elektrotechnickej fakulte tu v Bratislave. V roku 1983 sa dostal do Ríma, lebo cítil, že ho Pán Boh volá do kňazského stavu. Ako alumnus Pápežského kolégia Nepomucenum si doplnil vzdelanie na dvoch fakultách pápežských univerzít filozofickým aj teologickým štúdiom a v roku 1987 ho sám pápež Ján Pavol II. vysvätil za kňaza. Už počas týchto štúdií a ich pokračovaní už ako kňaz, aby získal licenciát v teológii, začal spolupracovať s biskupom Mons. Pavlom Hnilicom. Bol to prvý slovenský tajný biskup, vysvätený začiatkom roka 1950, ktorý však musel ešte koncom toho istého roka opustiť Slovensko, ale predtým stihol vysvätiť za biskupa nášho terajšieho kardinála Jána Chryzostoma Korca, aby zaistil prenasledovanej Cirkvi kontinuitu apoštolskej služby v spojení s Rímom.

Biskupa Hnilicu uznali, cítili si a milovali pápeži Pavol VI., veľký priateľ Slovákov, ktorý ho vybavil mimoriadnymi privilégiami, potom podobne aj Ján Pavol II. Iba keď sa po roku 1990 vrátil na Slovensko, „prišiel do svojho vlastného, a vlastni ho neprijali“ (Ján 1, 11). S podlomným zdravím zomrel potom v cudzine v roku 2006.

Kňaz Ján Košiar patril spolu s biskupovým bratom Jánom Hnilicom, Šebastiánom Labom a Františkom Vnukom po celý čas k najbližším spolupracovníkom monsignora Hnilicu. A práve v súvislostiach s touto spolupracou mal možnosť vyskúšať a zdokonaľiť svoje publicistické a redaktorské schopnosti aj v takých školách, ako Vatikánske rádio a londýnske BBC. Preto keď sa vrátil v roku 1991 na Slovensko, nastúpil v januári 1992 ako zástupca šéfredaktora Katolíckych novín, ktorým bol Jozef Zavarský a potom Dr. Juraj Chovan-Rehák. V roku 1993 prijal aj funkciu výkonného tajomníka Ústavu dejín kresťanstva na Slovensku, ktorú podnes zastáva. Následne pôsobil ako redaktor náboženských programov v Slovenskej televízii, kde o. i. založil aj tradíciu vysielania priameho prenosu Krížovej cesty Svätého Otca na Veľký piatok z rímskeho Kolosea. Prispel tiež k obnoveniu tradície arcibiskupského požehnanie novej hlavy štátu so slávnostným Te Deum v Dóme sv. Martina. Popri tom neprestával spolupracovať aj s Vatikánskym rádiom, kde ho v roku 1999 povolali pracovať slovenskí jezuiti na dlhší čas (do roku 2005). V tom čase (2003) bol v Ríme poverený vymenovaním za Rytiara pápežského Rádu Svätého Hrobu v Jeruzaleme a v roku 2005 nastúpil do diplomatických služieb Suverénneho vojenského rádu z Malty, v ktorom sa po dvoch rokoch stal rytierom a magisterským kaplánom. Dnes vykonáva funkciu tajomníka veľvyslanectva Rádu v bieloruskom Minsku. Je to dôležité a slubné poslanie najmä v rámci intenzívnych snáh pápeža Benedikta XVI. o čím skoré úprinné zjednotenie všetkých kresťanov, ale najmä s najdôležitejšou východnou cirkvou v Rusku.

Popri tom všetkom Janko Košiar našiel si čas aj na historicko-vedecké práce, uverejnené tak v slovenskom, ako aj v talianskom jazyku, či už samostatne, alebo v spolupráci s autormi ako Šebastián Labo, Štefan Vragaš a František Sočufka.

Nuž - pretože v súčasnosti sa klasický termín „polovice života“ aj štatisticky presunul z tridsiatich piatich na päťdesiatku rokov, - ostáva mi iba srdečne zablahoželať a ďakovať nášmu Jankovi za to, čo doposiaľ vykonal pre dobro Kristovej cirkvi a slovenského národa, a súčasne vysloviť želanie, aby ho Pán Boh zachoval pri dobrom zdraví a mladistvom eláne, a aby ešte hojnejšie žehnal jeho šľachetné podujatia aj v celej dnes začínajúcej druhej päťdesiatke.

Milan S. Ďurica

Spomienková oslava Slovenskej štátnosti v N.Y.C

Zbor Slovenskej ligy v New Yorku za spolupráce Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Spolku sv. Štefana a Spolku sv. Matúša Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Slovenského Katolíckeho Sokola a ostatných fraternalistických spolkov si Vás dovoľuje pozvať na Spomienkovú oslavu Slovenskej štátnosti, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 14. marca 2010 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 411 East, 66th Street, v New York City.

V minulom storočí Slovensko dosiahlo samostatnosť dvakrát 14. marca 1939 a po dlhšom čase boja dňa 1. januára 1993. Bolo to historické dianie slovenského národa na jeho ceste k sebaurčeniu a nezávislosti. Na oslave si pripomenieme aj významné dni v slovenskej histórii a v tejto súvislosti vzdáme úctu bojovníkom za samostatnosť slovenského národa.

Program Osláv slovenskej štátnosti:

Modlitba: Rev Martin Svitan, farár Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, NYC.

Americká a Slovenská štátna hymna

Báseň: Henrieta H. Daitová

Otvorenie a predstavenie hostí: Milan R. Dait, predseda I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v Amerike

Slávnostný rečník

Hudobná vložka: Rado Lesay

Pozdravy oficiálnych hostí

Báseň: Henrieta H. Daitová

Hudobná vložka: Rado Lesay

Záver: Nina Holá, tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike

Na koniec programu : God Bless America a Hej Slováci

Presný program bude pripravený pre všetkých účastníkov osláv.

Po programe bude možnosť zakúpenia slovenského jedla a občerstvenia v otvorenom bare.

Blížšie informácie: Milan Dait (201) 641- 8922; Jozef Bilik: (718) 463 – 2084.

Vstup bude voľný.

Žiadosti o dotácie na rok 2010 do 1. februára 2010

Oznamujeme krajanom, krajaným spolkom a organizáciám, že v termíne do 1. februára 2010 je možné zasielať na adresu úradu v rámci programu Projekty na pomoc Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí – rok 2010 žiadosti o dotácie na krytie aktivít Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí z rozpočtu Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Žiadosti o dotácie treba zaslať na predpísanom tlačive úradu, ktoré nájdete v rubrike Dotácie/Žiadosti. Poštová adresa: Úrad pre Slovákov v zahraničí, Radlinského 13, 817 80 Bratislava, Slovak Republic.

Komisiu pre schvaľovanie projektov na pomoc krajaným spolkom a organizáciám v zahraničí budú predložené len podpísané kompletne žiadosti vrátane povinných príloh, zaslané poštou (nie e-mailom) a v stanovenom termíne.

Zároveň Vás žiadame, aby ste v prípade zmeny sídla krajaného spolku, zmeny štatutára, zmeny čísla účtu... zaslali v rámci predkladaných žiadostí aj tieto doklady, potvrdzujúce uvedené skutočnosti.

Predpokladáme, že objem finančných prostriedkov určených na vyššie uvedený program na rok 2010 bude rozdelený v rámci jedného grantového kola.

Potrebné dokumenty na stiahnutie nájdete na webovej stránke Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí www.uszz.sk.



Slovensko pokročilo v turizme, ale stále má ešte rezervy

Bratislava (TASR) - Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič si prišiel pozrieť ponuku vystavovateľov a zistiť tak, čo nové a zaujímavé na tento rok pripravili pre hostí subjekty cestovného ruchu na Slovensku a v zahraničí. Povedal to prezident vo svojom príspevku v rámci nedávneho veľtrhu ITF Slovakiatour 2010.

“Som veľmi rád, že za posledné roky turizmus na Slovensku pokročil, ale stále ešte nie až tak, ako by sme si želali,” podotkol s tým, že destinácia Slovensko má ešte nevyužitý potenciál, napríklad v oblasti využívania minerálnych a termálnych prameňov. “Môj predrečník - štátny tajomník ministerstva ekonomiky, energetiky a turizmu Bulharska Ivo Marinov,” povedal Gašparovič, “v príspevku upozornil, že slovenskí občania, ktorí v Bulharsku navštevujú najmä pláže Čierneho mora, nespoznali napríklad mnohé kultúrne pamiatky a minerálne pramene.” Ale to platí aj pre Slovensko, “nakolko voda je a bude významná v budúcnosti pre Bulharsko aj Slovensko”. V tejto súvislosti Gašparovič upozornil, že “Slovensko má veľa minerálnych a termálnych prameňov, odkrytých, aj neodkrytých, a mali by nám všetkým slúžiť”.

Napriek tomu, že svetová hospodárska kríza teraz ešte pretrváva a počet vystavovateľov na veľtrhu ITF je medziročne o niečo nižší, prezident SR “vyjadril presvedčenie, že ročník 2011 tohto podujatia bude početnejší, ale napriek kríze tohtoročný veľtrh prinesie dobré výsledky, a nie iba verbálne”.

V sumare na tieto podujatia prišlo 768 vystavovateľov z 31 krajín, ako aj 20 národných centrálnych cestovného ruchu (CR). Partnerským regiónom ITF Slovakiatour 2010 je Košický samosprávny kraj. “Je menej cestovných kancelárií, ale asi majú menej čo zákazníkom ponúknuť. Neprítomné cestovky argumentujú, že celú ponuku majú v katalógoch a zverejnenú na internete, ale tieto veľtrhy sú najmä o osobných kontaktoch,” podčiarkol Rozin.

Púť hnutí a združení do Ríma k hrobu sv. Cyrila

Rada pre laické apoštolské hnutia a Fórum kresťanských inštitúcií organizujú v spolupráci so Slovenským ústavom sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme autobusovú púť hnutí a združení k hrobu sv. Cyrila v dňoch 13.2. - 18.2.2010. Cieľom je navrátiť sa k tradícii putovania k hrobu sv. Cyrila pri príležitosti 1150. výročia misie sv. Konštantína – Cyrila a Metoda na území súčasného Slovenska.

Príchod týchto dvoch veľkých mužov, ktorých si po stáročia ctí náš národ a sú zároveň spolupatrónmi Európy, predstavoval vždy v našich dejinách pojem, na ktorom bolo možné stavať duchovne, ale aj spoločensky. Cirkev na Slovensku chce – v stálej vernosti Kristovi – zveľaďovať toto dedičstvo našich vierozvestov sv. Cyrila a Metoda, a preto sa pýta, čo jej Pán hovorí v tomto čase.

Pre pútnikov je pripravený veľmi zaujímavý program v rámci ktorého bude napr. stretnutie a sv. omša s otcom kardinálom Jozefom Tomkom v bazilike Santa Maria Maggiore, stretnutie s Mons. Jozefom Clemensom, generálnym sekretárom Pápežskej rady pre laikov.

TK KBS



Foto: TK KBS - Peter Zimen

Predseda vlády SR Robert Fico sa stretol s predstaviteľmi cirkvi a náboženských spoločností pôsobiacich v Slovenskej republike.

Prime Minister Robert Fico met with representatives of the Church and religious societies.

Katolícka cirkev nemieni vstupovať do predvolebného boja

Bratislava (TASR) - Katolícka cirkev nemieni vstupovať do predvolebného boja a jej stanovisko bude vždy o hodnotách. Uviedol to bratislavský arcibiskup Stanislav Zvolenský po stretnutí 25. januára s predsedom vlády SR Robertom Ficom (Smer-SD), ktorý pozval predstaviteľov cirkvi a náboženských obcí registrovaných v SR na slávnostný obed.

Reagoval tak na výrok premiéra, ktorý verí, že cirkevní predstavitelia, tak ako doteraz, pred parlamentnými voľbami verejne zaujmú múdre, slobodné, pokojné, rozvážne a spravodlivé postoje pre ďalšiu spoluprácu s novou vládou a najmä pre dobro našich občanov. “Zdôraznili sme, že katolícka cirkev je prítomná v politike cez rôznych politikov. Sme presvedčení, že oni budú zastávať katolícke hodnoty. Je neprimerané, aby sme zasahovali my,” uistil Zvolenský.

Na otázku, či Konferencia biskupov Slovenska, ktorej je predsedom, vydá v predvolebnom čase nejaké odporúčanie, odvetil, že to ešte bude predmetom diskusie, no ak sa tak stane, tak to bude “vždy len o hodnotách”. Domnienku, či Ficov výrok nemal aktivizovať k predvolebným odporúčaniam, považuje Zvolenský za hypotetickú.

Za aktuálny problém, o ktorom aj s premiérom hovorili, označil financovanie cirkevných škôl či sociálnych zariadení. “Vyslovili sme túžbu, aby vláda zväzila ich podporu v takom rozsahu, ktorý je blízky podpore štátnych zariadení,” vysvetlil. Či sa tak stane ešte pred voľbami, nevie. “Ťažko povedať. To je na rozhodnutí toho, kto to má v moci,” dodal.

Biskup Cirkvi československej husitskej na Slovensku Jan Hradil v súvislosti s Ficovými výrokmi zdôraznil, že tieto slová bolo počuť od každého premiéra. “Ja som tu 21 rokov a počul som to vždy rovnako. Nemyslím si teda, že ide o ovplyvňovanie. Každý si praje zvíťaziť, no možno drobný podtón tam bol,” pripustil.

Podobne aj prešovský gréckokatolícky arcibiskup Ján Babjak zdôraznil, že cirkev nemôže podporovať jednotlivé strany. “Spoliehame sa na to, že máme kresťanský orientovaných ľudí, ktorí sú v politike ako poslanci a oni tam prezentujú cirkev,” povedal.

Na margo premiérových slov, že je aj v budúcom období pripravený pomôcť financiami zo svojej rezervy na rôzne projekty najmä pre mládež, Babjak podotkol, že každý predseda vlády, ak má tieto peniaze k dispozícii, ich použije tam, kde je to potrebné. “Ja som to tak nevnímal a ani doteraz som tak nerozmýšľal, že by to mali byť nejaké ťahy,” konštatoval.

Neangažovanosť cirkvi v predvolebnom čase potvrdil aj biskup Evanjelickej cirkvi augsburského vyznania Miloš Klátik. “My sme viackrát deklarovali, že cirkvi nebudú zaujímať politické stanoviská. U nás existujú tzv. pastierske listy, nevyučujem, že to bude takto, no vždy vo forme, aby veriaci zväzili programy strán a aby vnímali to čo sa deje,” vysvetlil.

Krátké správy zo Slovenska

• **Americký** oceľiarsky gigant U. S. Steel zaznamenal v 4. štvrtroku 2009 opäť kvartálnu stratu, už štvrtú po sebe. Koncern očakáva, že ani v prvých troch mesiacoch tohto roka sa ešte nedostane z červených čísiel. Čistá strata U. S. Steel za obdobie október - december 2009 dosiahla 267 miliónov USD (189.56 milióna eur) alebo 1.86 USD na akciu, čo je viac, ako odhadovali analytici, ktorí koncernu predpovedali stratu 1.43 USD na akciu. Na porovnanie: v posledných troch mesiacoch 2008 mal koncern ešte zisk 290 miliónov USA alebo 2.50 USD na akciu. Tržby spoločnosti, ktorá musela minulý rok v dôsledku krízy a zníženia dopytu po svojich produktoch obmedziť výrobu, v 4. kvartáli 2009 klesli na 3.4 miliardy USD zo 4.5 miliardy USD v rovnakom období predchádzajúceho roka 2008. Koncern v októbri 2009 skonštatoval, že je optimistický, čo sa týka prognózy dopytu, zvlášť po valcovanej oceli v Spojených štátoch, a to potom, ako sa skončilo šrotovné, teda štátna podpora na kúpu nového auta výmenou za staré.

• **Na Letisko M. R. Štefánika** - Airport Bratislava (BTS) prichádza nový prepravca. LOT Polish Airlines začne od 17. mája tohto roku prevádzkovať novú linku z Bratislavy do Varšavy. Cestujúci budú môcť využiť linku denne okrem soboty. Do Varšavy sa bude lietať o 11.45 dopoludnia a späť o 13.50 h. Eudia tak podľa Polish Airlines získajú predovšetkým možnosť výhodných pokračujúcich spojení do Kanady či Spojených štátov Amerických. Minulý rok bol pre BTS zložitý, letisko prišlo o dvoch prepravcov. Na jeseň skrachovala SkyEurope Airlines, ktorá bola do toho obdobia druhým najväčším prepravcom. Následne z letiska odišiel Seagle Air. Najvýznamnejšiu spoločnosť si letisko udržalo, a to írsku nízkonákladovku Ryanair. Tento prepravca uvažuje aj o vytvorení svojej základne a rozšírení počtu letov z Bratislavy. Rokovania Ryanairu s letiskom prebiehajú od zimy minulého roka.

• **Za posledných desať rokov** došlo na Slovensku k výraznému nárastu počtov vykonaných transplantácií. "Rozbehol sa program transplantácie pečene s veľmi dobrými výsledkami. Trend je teda jednoznačne pozitívny," konštatuje sa v správe o plnení Národného transplantáčného programu. Vlani sa v SR zrealizovalo 168 transplantácií obličiek, 24 transplantácií pečene a 23 transplantácií srdca. Okrem toho sa tiež transplantovali tkanivá a bunky. Pokračovaním v plnení úloh Národného transplantáčného programu a jeho realizáciou v praxi sa zlepšuje kvalitatívna a kvantitatívna úroveň poskytovania zdravotnej starostlivosti na Slovensku. Ten vláda prijala v marci 2008 a jeho cieľom je zvýšenie odberových a transplantáčnych aktivít uskutočnených na území Slovenska, ako aj prehĺbenie spolupráce medzi ČR a SR pri výmene orgánov na recipročnej úrovni.

• **Po doriešení niekoľkých ekonomických a technických prekážok** v priebehu najbližších mesiacov by mohla začať fungovať letecká linka medzi Bratislavou a Hanojom, hlavným mestom Vietnamu. Existuje v tomto smere politická vôľa spustiť takéto letecké spojenie a nebránia v tom ani žiadne právne prekážky vzhľadom na uzatvorené medzinárodné dohody o leteckej doprave, či už na úrovni Európskej únie (EÚ) alebo priamo so Slovenskom. Je treba doriešiť ešte ekonomické a technické problémy zavedenia takejto linky. Ale obidve strany vítajú takéto spojenie a pevne sa verí, že po ich doriešení v približne 3-4 mesačnom horizonte bude zavedené aj takéto dopravné spojenie.

• **Systém** elektronického výberu mýta nedávno za 28 dní ostrej prevádzky vybral pre štát viac ako 6.2 milióna eur. Vozidlá, ktoré podliehajú povinnosti platiť mýto, vygenerovali za tento čas spolu 19,084,750 mýtnych transakcií.

• **J&T** chce do Tatier odsťahovať tisíc rodín. Prilákať ich chcú do Smokovca či Tatranskej Lomnice s vidinou dobre zaplatenej práce. Majú oživiť turizmus a vytvoriť "teplú rodinnú atmosféru", ktorú obdivujeme v Alpách. Finanční žraloci majú podporu tatranského primátora Jána Mokoša, ktorý len v Lomnici postaví štyri bytovky. Aby to však investori so svojimi plánmi neprehnali, Tatransci do mesiaca schvália územný plán, ktorý dovoľí stavať maximálne štvorposchodové budovy. Problémom však zostáva chýbajúca legislatíva, ktorá by Tatry rozdelila na prísne chránené lokality a na také, kde sa môže stavať. Ministerstvo životného prostredia má zákon vypracovať ešte v tomto štvrtroku. O plánoch finančnej skupiny informoval spolujateľ J&T Patrik Tkáč.

• **Vláda** v roku 2007 sľubovala, že vybuduje 151 kilometrov diaľnic do roku 2010. Zaplatiť za ne plánovala počas 30 rokov 150 až 225 miliárd korún (5 až 7.5 miliardy eur). Za rovnaký počet kilometrov, ktoré ešte nie sú dokončené, chce zaplatiť okolo 20 miliárd eur, teda trojnásobok. Dôvodom prudkej zmeny ceny majú byť vyššie úroky, za ktoré banky požičiavajú firmám, čo budú pre štát diaľnice stavať a 30 rokov opravovať a prevádzkovať. Oproti roku 2007 mala stúpnúť aj cena stavebných prác. "Tieto zmeny nemôžu vysvetliť až takú veľkú zmenu ceny," povedal hlavný analytik Volksbank Vladimír Vaňo. Ministerstvo dopravy však trvá na tom, že model PPP projektov je pre Slovensko výhodnejší, hoci za samotnú výstavbu štát zaplatí viac, ako by to bolo pri výstavbe zo štátneho rozpočtu alebo z eurofondov.

• **Predstavitelia** cirkví na Slovensku zorganizovali petičnú akciu v záujme financovania cirkevných škôl. Podľa vedenia týchto škôl totiž Slovensko nedodržiava svoje minulé záväzky a diskriminuje cirkevné školy. Rada cirkevných škôl na Slovensku by chcela dosiahnuť, aby tieto školy dostali rovnakú podporu od štátu, akú dostávajú štátne. Toto sa okrem iného uvádza aj v zmluve medzi registrovanými cirkvami na Slovensku, ako aj v dohode medzi SR a Vatikánom. Predstavitelia cirkví tvrdia, že nedodržiavanie týchto záväzkov zo strany štátu je diskriminačné aj preto, lebo rodičia detí, ktoré chodia do cirkevných škôl, sú takisto platiteľmi daní. V tomto školskom roku chodí do základnej cirkevnej školy iba päť percent detí, kým v prípade stredných škôl je to 16 percent.

• **Tisíce eur**, ktoré platia študenti Trenčianskej univerzity na školnom, miznú na pochybnom univerzitnom pracovisku v Kežmarku. Univerzita si tam prenajíma priestory za pár drobných, platí však takmer desaťnásobne viac. Medzi vyučujúcimi je uvedená aj dcéra dekana Daniela Bánociho, ktorá získala expresne titul a odmieta ho vrátiť. Pre školu nevýhodnú zmluvu podpísal odchádzajúci rektor Miroslav Mečár krátko predtým, ako podal demisiu. V Strednej odbornej škole na Garbiarskej ulici v Kežmarku prenajímal tri učebne a zborovňu, každú za takmer 100 eur za hodinu. Stredná škola si však účtuje najviac 11 eur. Zvyšné peniaze končia v Inštitúte manažmentu kežmarského regiónu. Jeho jedinou úlohou je sprostredkovať prenájom.

• **Už o niekoľko mesiacov** začnú na Slovensku pôsobiť tri nové banky. Raiffeisen Bank, Axa a Akcenta. Potvrdilo to aj Národná banka. Príchod nových hráčov na trh poteší najmä tých klientov, ktorí obľubujú internetové bankovníctvo. Všetky tri totiž rátajú s internetom ako hlavným komunikačným kanálom. Konkurovať tak môžu napríklad poľskej mBank, ktorá ponúka základné služby bez poplatkov a výhodnejšie úroky. Na malom slovenskom trhu bude tak pôsobiť už viac ako 30 bankových inštitúcií.

• **Nový veľvyslanec** Kórejskej republiky na Slovensku Seok - Soong Seo koncom januára v Bratislave informoval ministra hospodárstva SR Ľubomíra Jahnátka, že hlavní kórejskí investori Kia a Samsung budú pokračovať v rozširovaní svojich aktivít na Slovensku aj v ďalších rokoch. Kórejská strana si na najbližšie obdobie dáva za cieľ prehľbovať existujúcu spoluprácu a vstúpiť do nových oblastí kooperácie, akými sú napr. chemický priemysel, jadrová energetika, vývoj a výskum. Kórejské firmy na Slovensku už v súčasnosti zamestnávajú približne 20,000 pracovníkov. Minister Jahnátek kórejského veľvyslanca informoval, že sa intenzívne pracuje na dokončení diaľničného prepojenia Bratislava - Košice, čo výrazne zlepši

podmienky na vstup zahraničných investícií vo východnej časti Slovenska.

• **Do úradu biskupského vikára** pre po maďarsky hovoriacich veriacich v Nitrianskej diecéze vymenovali 1. februára Zoltána Ďurča, farára v Nových Zámkoch a dištriktuálneho dekana. Informovala o tom Tlačová kancelária Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (TK KBS) v Bratislave. Z celkového počtu katolíkov v Nitrianskej diecéze je približne 10 percent veriacich maďarskej národnosti. Z takmer 200 farností biskupstva je 52 takých, kde žijú aj po maďarsky hovoriaci veriaci. Nitriansky diecézny biskup Mons. Viliam Judák slávnostne uviedol Zoltána Ďurča do jeho novej služby v nedeľu 7. februára 2010 v Nových Zámkoch. Zoltán Ďurčo sa narodil 14. apríla 1953 vo Výčapoch - Opatovciach. Ordinovaný bol 6. júna 1976. Doteraz pôsobil v Kolárove, Komárne, v Hronovciach a od roku 1991 je farárom v Nových Zámkoch.

TASR a slovenské časopisy



Mesto Košice bude mať opäť pamätník Štefánika

Košice (TASR) – Mesto Košice plánuje tento rok umiestniť na Hlavnej ulici pamätník Milana Rastislava Štefánika. Do konca 50. rokov minulého storočia stála socha tohto spoluzakladateľa spoločného štátu Čechov a Slovákov a jednej z najvýznamnejších osobností v novodobých dejinách slovenského národa v priestoroch Dolnej brány. Do zámeru prinavrátiť do centra pamätník Štefánika už mesto na prelome rokov 2000-2001 investovalo viac ako 66,000 eur (v tom čase viac ako dva milióny korún). Zo súťaže vtedy vzišiel víťazne ako autor diela dnes už nežijúci sochár Peter Sceranka.

Pri príležitosti 130. výročia narodenia M. R. Štefánika, ktoré pripadá na 21. júla tohto roku, by podľa slov primátora mesta Františka Knapíka mohli predstaviť samotnú figurálnu kompozíciu, ktorú by inštalovali na provizórnom mieste. Úplné dokončenie pamätníka aj s podzemnou časťou bude reálne až v roku 2011. Ešte stále sa však hľadá vhodné umiestnenie pamätníka. Do úvahy prichádza viacero alternatív, teda nielen pôvodný priestor Dolnej brány. Primátor očakáva, že k tejto téme otvoria širšiu občiansku diskusiu. Mesto chce totiž pred definitívnou inštaláciou vziať do úvahy nielen odborné stanoviská, ale aj názory verejnosti.



Významný nález v Dóme sv. Martina

V sobotu dňa 23. januára 2010 sa v Katedrále sv. Martina uskutočnila slávnostná svätá omša ku cti svätého Jána Almužníka, ktorému je zasvätená jedna z kaplniek chrámu. Na záver slávnosti bratislavský arcibiskup metropolita Stanislav Zvolenský prítomných informoval, že skupine odborníkov sa podarilo vo svätyni chrámu identifikovať hrob a pozostatky jezuitu, kardinála a ostrihomského primasa Petra Pázmánya. Ide o významnú postavu cirkevných dejín, zakladateľa Trnavskej univerzity a autora knihy „Sprievodca k božej pravde“, ktorá zásadným spôsobom ovplyvnila duchovnú atmosféru Uhorska sedemnásteho storočia. O ďalších podrobnostiach bude verejnosť informovaná po úplnom vyhodnotení historického, archeologického a antropologického výskumu svätyně Dómu sv. Martina.



FOTO TASR – František Iván

Karpatská nadácia v spolupráci so spoločnosťou U. S. Steel Košice vyhlásila 2. februára 2010 výsledky 3. ročníka grantového programu Spoločne pre región, v rámci ktorého prerozdělila 26,900 eur desiatim projektom. Symbolické šeky zástupcom víťazných projektov odovzdal prezident U. S. Steel Košice George F. Babcoke, riaditeľka Karpatskej nadácie Laura Dittelová a podpredseda Košického samosprávneho kraja Ján Szöllös. Na snímke vľavo František Mika z Košíc preberá šek od prezidenta U. S. Steel Košice Georga F. Babcoka.

The U.S. Steel Kosice and the Carpathian Foundation are in their third year of granting financial help to winning projects in various regions in Slovakia. In the photo, President of U.S. Steel Kosice George F. Babcoke presents a check to Francis Mika for his winning project in Kosice.



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota

O. Stefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 119

STREDA, 17. FEBRUÁR, 2010

Číslo 5815

Posolstvo Svätého Otca k Zimným olympijským hrám



FOTO: TASR/AP

vnú i materiálnu pomoc návštevníkom, účastníkom, aj dobrovoľníkom na podujatí. "Modlím sa, aby všetci, ktorí sa venujú tejto službe, boli utvrdení vo svojej láske k Bohu a bližným," uzatvára Svätý Otec.

Vatikán (RV) – Svätá stolica 4. februára, zverejnila posolstvo pápeža Benedikta XVI. k XXI. zimným olympijským hrám a X. zimným paralympijským hrám, ktoré budú vo Vancouveri v dňoch 12. – 28. februára tento rok. Svätý Otec ho adresoval arcibiskupovi Vancouveru Mons. Michaelovi Millerovi a biskupovi diecézy Kamloops Mons. Davidovi Monroeovi. Ako uvádza, takáto dôležitá príležitosť pre športovcov aj divákov mu umožňuje pripomenúť, že šport "môže účinne prispieť k pokoju a porozumeniu medzi ľuďmi a k vytváraniu civilizácie lásky" (Ján Pavol II., Homília, 29. 10. 2000). "V tomto svetle," pokračuje Benedikt XVI., "nech bude šport oceňovaným stavebným kameňom pokoja a priateľstva medzi ľuďmi a národmi." Hlava Katolíckej cirkvi zároveň ocenila ekumenickú iniciatívu olympiády s názvom "Viac ako zlato", ktorej zámerom je poskytovať ducho-

Nominant ocenenia Európsky vynálezca roku 2009 Ing. Bartolomej Janek

30. 12 2009 prijal v reprezentačných priestoroch na Mestskom úrade vo Veľkom Šariši primátor mesta Ing. Róbert Oros úspešného nominanta na ocenenie Európsky vynálezca roku 2009 Ing. Bartolomeja Janeka a odovzdal mu Cenu primátora mesta za rok 2009. Primátor vo svojom prejave vysoko ocenil dosiahnuté výsledky laureáta v oblasti vedy a techniky, ktoré vo svete zviditeľnili nielen Slovensko, ale aj jeho rodiisko Veľký Šariš.

Pri odovzdávaní ocenenia bol prítomný aj zástupca Slovenskej ligy v Amerike Dr. Stanislav Šárosov, ktorý úspešnému vynálezci k dosiahnutému úspechu srdečne zablahoževal. Poukázal na jedinečnosť patentovaného technického riešenia reduktorov TwinSpin a prevodoviek, o ktoré je veľký záujem na celom svete a ktoré vyrába firma Spinea v Prešove. Slovenská liga sa vždy tešila z každého slovenského úspechu dosiahnutého nielen na území Slovenska, ale aj v krajinách, kde naši krajanovia žili a žijú. Či to boli v minulosti významní vynálezci ako reverend Jozef Murgaš alebo Štefan Banič v USA, či konštruktér a pedagóg Aurel Stodola vo Švajčiarsku, ale aj mnohí ďalší, ktorí šírili a šíria dobré meno Slovenska vo svete.

Dnes sa všetci tešíme z úspechov v oblasti technických vynálezov Ing. B. Janeka. Pri tejto príležitosti prítomným občanom mesta predstavil činnosť Slovenskej ligy v Amerike ako organizácie, ktorá zjednocuje a združuje krajské spolky a inštitúcie v USA a tiež ako nepolitický subjekt, ktorý sa vždy usiloval o štátnu slobodu slovenského národa a jeho všestranný rozvoj.

Dr. Stanislav Šárosov

V olympijskej dedine vztýčili slovenskú vlajku

Vancouver (TASR) - Deň pred oficiálnym otvorením XXI. zimných olympijských hier vztýčili v olympijskej dedine vo Vancouveri aj slovenskú vlajku. Výpravu vedenú Igorom Nemečkom v dedine privítala za upršaného počasia starostka dediny Tricia Smithová a v spoločnosti Pakistanu a Nového Zélandu sa Slováci oficiálne zaradili medzi obyvateľov dediny. Paralelne so slávnosťou vo Vancouveri v dedine vo Whistleri privítali Senegal a Maroko. "Prepáčte ten dážď, ale taký je už Vancouver. Napriek tomu vás srdečne vítam. Sme tu preto, aby ste sa na nás obrátili, kedykoľvek niečo budete potrebovať. Viem, že práve teraz sú to dáždniky," vyhlásila Smithová, ktorej Nemeček odovzdal krištalový suvenír štylizovaný v cifre 21 - podľa poradového čísla ZOH.

Teplé počasie Nemečkovu výpravu trochu pomýlilo a na ceremóniu sa vybrali iba vo svetloch, tesne pred začiatkom vztyčovania sa však výdatne rozpršalo. Slovenskú výpravu zastúpenú hokejistkami, hokejistami z európskeho kontinentu a jej vedenia najskôr však trochu zahrialo vystúpenie Novozélandčanov, ktorí hneď po hymne ponúkli tradičný maorský tanec haka. Netradične pre ceremoniál členov všetkých troch výprav následne pozvali na zastrešené pódium, kde sa najmä hokejistiky pridali spevom k slovenskej hymne a neskôr sa pridali aj ku tancujúcim zástupcom indiánskej komunity a oficiálnym maskotom hier.



Politických protivníkov spojil zákon o pôvode majetku

Bratislava (TASR) - Vládny návrh zákona o preukazovaní pôvodu majetku a s ním súvisiaca novela Ústavy SR spojili počas tretieho rokovacieho dňa 48. schôdze koalície a opozičných predstaviteľov. Najmä vďaka podpore Smeru-SD, SDKÚ-DS, SMK a KDH sa im podarilo túto iniciatívu posunúť do druhého čítania, a to aj napriek podmienke, ktorou bola potreba podpory aspoň 90 členov zákonodarného zboru. Ústavnú zmenu podporilo 109 zákonodarcov.

Potrebu prijatia takejto právnej úpravy odôvodnil predseda vlády Robert Fico (Smer-SD) tým, že existuje naliehavý verejný záujem, aby príslušné štátne orgány boli spôsobilé účinne zakročiť proti osobám preukázateľne žijúcim nad svoje pomery a je u nich podozrenie, že podstatná časť ich majetku pochádza z nepoctivých zdrojov. "Slovenskú spoločnosť totiž dlhodobo traumatizuje a demoralizuje skutočnosť, že príslušné štátne orgány nie sú spôsobilé účinne zakročiť proti takýmto osobám," argumentoval. Preto navrhol zmenu Ústavy SR, na základe ktorej by majetok nadobudnutý v rozpore s právnym poriadkom nepožíval právnu ochranu.



FOTO TASR Pavol Remiaš,

Výstavou Účesy, čepce, šatky - tradičné pokrývky hláv žien Pravňanskej doliny, ktorú sprístupnili verejnosti začiatkom februára v Nitrianskom Pravne, otvorili v okrese Prievidza tradičné folklórne podujatie, VII. Zimné slávnosti Hornonitria. Na výstave si návštevníci môžu pozrieť desiatky vyšívaných čepcov, ktoré nosili vydaté sedliacke alebo meštianske ženy v okolí Nitrianskeho Pravna, ktoré bolo začiatkom minulého storočia malým mestečkom. Sú tam však aj pokrývky hlavy slobodných dievčat, bohato zdobené šatky či tkané a pletené vlniaky. Všetky exponáty pochádzajú zo zbierok autora výstavy, folkloristu, keramikára a zberateľa Rastislava Haronika zo susednej obce Vyšehradné. Pre väčšiu názornosť pripravil z konopných nití aj modely účesov. Na snímke rôzne vyšívané čepce roľníckych žien.

An exhibition of women bonnets and shawls from the Nitrianske Pravno Valley in the Prievidza District. The artifacts came from the collection of folklorist Rastislav Haronik of Vyšehradné.