



# Jednota

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NUMBER 5879

## Four Key Questions to Ask Before You Open (or Re-evaluate) an IRA

The deadline for the 2012 tax filing season is not that far away – April 15, 2013, to be exact. You still have time to take advantage of the tax-deferred or in some cases tax-exempt benefits of opening an Individual Retirement Account, or IRA – but what you open (and with whom) depends on getting some key information beforehand.

In its most basic terms, an IRA is an account into which you put savings for retirement. There's a pretty wide range of choices as to what investment accounts your savings go in – and most of us wisely turn to professional investment advisors. That said, asking just four key questions before opening an IRA – or even when evaluating an existing IRA account – will ensure that you create the right savings vehicle to secure your financial future.

### 1. What's the risk and can I afford it?

We all want the most bang for our buck. That's human nature. But IRA claims that promote extremely high rates of return on your investment dollars – particularly when they are coupled



Kenneth Arendt

*continued on page 6*



## Lenten Message from Our National Chaplain

Dear Friends,

The holy season of Lent is upon us and during these 40 days, we aim to carry out the traditional acts of penance, namely, fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

One of the traditional devotional prayers many of us offer during Lent is the Stations of the Cross. For this year's Lenten reflection, let us take a look at the Stations of the Cross with the same eye that Pope Benedict XVI did when he wrote *The Life of Christ, the Infancy Narratives*. If you recall, our Holy Father mentioned that the story of Jesus' birth in Matthew and Luke make no mention of animals being present. That image can be traced to St. Francis of Assisi, who is said to have come up with the idea nearly 800 years ago of a Christmas Creche or a manger scene. He started a beautiful tradition which helps to enhance our own personal image of what happened that day in Bethlehem.

An examination of the Stations of the Cross yields a similar discovery. All four gospels say Jesus was condemned to death, was

*continued on page 3*

What's Chewy Čuvač got to do with the FCSU National Picnic?

See page 11 for more.



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**ATTENTION ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS**



## Deadline for the First Catholic Slovak Union's 2013 Scholarship Program Has Been Extended to March 30th

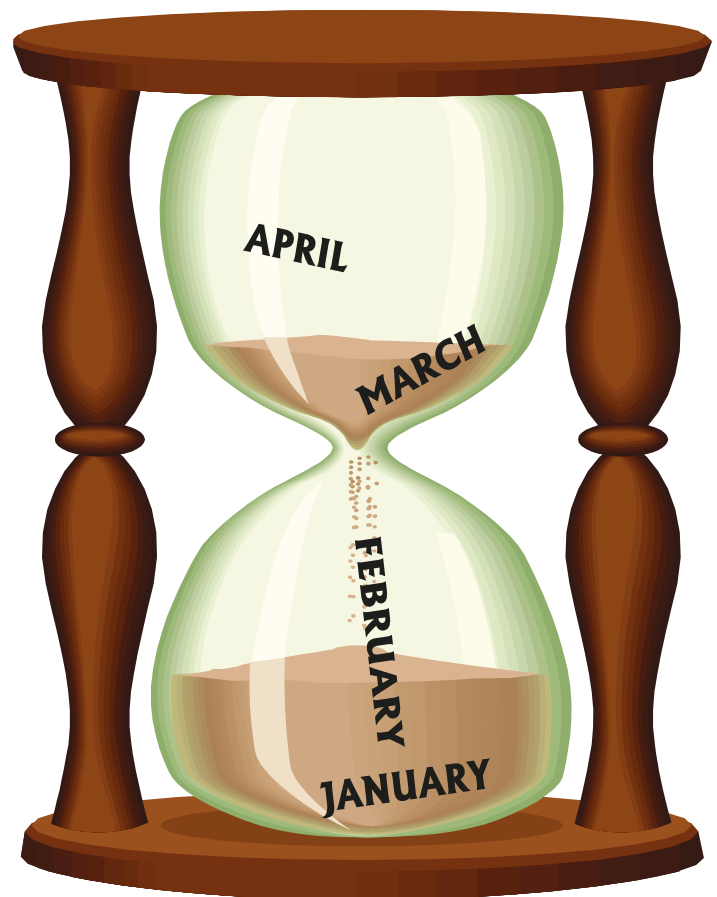
The First Catholic Slovak Union is still accepting applications for its 2013 Scholarship Program for those qualified members who are graduating from high school this year and entering an accredited college or university. **The deadline to apply has been extended to the end of March. Applications must be postmarked by midnight, March 30, 2013.**

### Scholarships Awarded

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

*continued on page 9*

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# Insights and Viewpoints



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

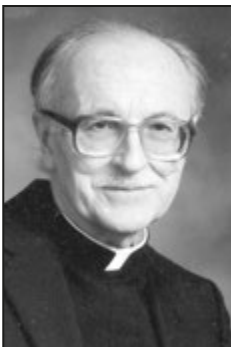
**March 3, 2013**

**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.



Campion P. Gavaler,  
O.S.B.

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).



**March 10, 2013**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

### Gospel Summary

When we read the parables of Jesus, we need to remind ourselves that they are not accounts of historical events. Rather, they are stories with a spiritual lesson for all times and places. In most cases, these stories are not new to the audience. They are really old, familiar stories, which are much appreciated when they are told well. Jesus tells the stories very well indeed but he also adds a "twist" to the narrative. By telling the story so well he captivates his audience and then, once they are drawn into the story, he surprises them with a spiritual application.

The story in today's gospel about a father and his two sons is an old story, going back at least as far as Esau and Jacob. In this story, the elder son is very dutiful but also rather dull. The younger son, by contrast, is wild and unpredictable but also interesting and attractive. In the classic story, the younger son sows his wild oats but then repents and is welcomed home with joy. The older son resents his father's celebration of his brother's salvation and is rejected. The audience is convinced that justice has been done.

In Luke's parable, however, the focus of attention is on the father and especially on his reaction to the elder son's anger. The twist that Jesus adds to the story is the refusal of the father to reject his elder son who in fact is treated by his father with surprising gentleness. When the audience asked why the story had been changed, as we can assume they did, the reply would be that the father is in reality God, who loves his dull and dutiful children just as much as those who are wild and perhaps a bit more interesting.

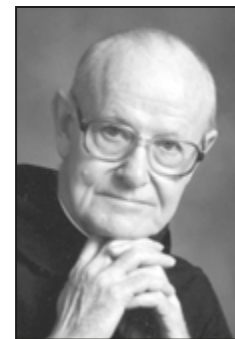
### Life implications

The wisdom expressed in this parable teaches us that human sin can take the form of wild and rebellious behavior or, perhaps more commonly, of sullen, angry and judgmental attitudes. The civil law is concerned almost exclusively with rebellious behavior but, in the parable, it is clear that the sinfulness of the elder son is much more dangerous.

Those of us who lead quiet and "responsible" lives may very well fall into the trap of sullen, resentful and angry attitudes toward others who seem to be "getting away with murder." What we need to ask ourselves is whether we have the kind of love that can understand why others, often less privileged than ourselves, may need both correction and forgiveness.

When the elder son in the parable says to his father, "your son," (and, by implication, no brother of mine) has done wrong and should be punished, the father gently corrects him with the words, "Your brother" (and not just my son) "was dead and has come to life again." This wayward son has indeed sinned but he has also repented and has paid a price for his sin. Now it is time to rejoice.

The clear point is that we dare not ever disown our brothers and sisters, who are all children of God. On the contrary, we must love them and rejoice to see them have a chance to repent and be brought back to life again. And this is true of all sorts of people, including both the village prankster and the person on death row. We may feel that some people do not deserve a second chance but the danger of such a judgment is underscored in the challenging words of Jesus that "the measure you give is the measure you will get" (Matt 7:2).



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

## 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, MARCH 13	MONDAY, MARCH 4
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27	MONDAY, MARCH 18
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24	MONDAY, APRIL 15

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.

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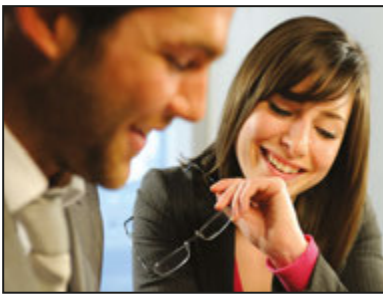
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**Lenten Message from Our  
National Chaplain**

*continued from page 1*

stripped of his garments, was crucified, died, was removed from the cross, and was buried. Matthew, Mark and Luke tell of Simon of Cyrene being coerced to bear the crossbeam for Jesus. John alone wrote that Jesus bore the cross to Calvary. It is only in Luke that we are told Jesus meets the women from Jerusalem

None of the four evangelists tell us that Jesus met his mother on his way to Calvary. Neither do they make any mention of Veronica, nor of Jesus falling once, let alone three times.

It helps us to recall that the centuries ago, Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land desired to retrace the steps Jesus took on his journey to Calvary. As they walked the path, they would pause at certain points and reflect upon events that are found in Scripture (Simon of Cyrene, Women from Jerusalem) or on things that could very well have happened (Jesus falling, Mary, Veronica). Their pilgrimages and spiritual reflections developed into what we call today the Stations of the Cross.

The inclusion of non-scriptural events in the Stations of the Cross serve the same purpose as the animals in the Christmas creche. We find ourselves being able to enter more deeply into the mystery of Our Lord's Passion by walking with him on the road to Calvary.

Although most parish communities designate the Friday evenings of Lent for praying the Stations of the Cross, the Stations can be prayed any day of the week and at anytime. They can be prayed with others or by oneself. No matter when or how frequently we pray the Stations this Lent, they aid us to hold fast in our minds and hearts the total, selfless, sacrificial love of Christ for us and the whole world.

Sincerely,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta National Chaplain

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

**Year of Faith: the Consecrated Life**

Dear Friends,

Chapter Six of the Constitution on the Church deals with men and women who dedicate themselves to God by taking vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. These vows are called evangelical counsels because they are based upon the words and example of Jesus. As divine gifts, the Church has the duty, under the Holy Spirit, of interpreting these evangelical counsels, regulating their practice, and build stable forms of living on them.

From the point of view of the hierarchical structure of the Church, the religious state of life is a particular gift to the life of the Church. It is not an intermediate state between the clerical and lay states.

The profession of the evangelical counsels, though it does entail the renunciation of certain values which are undoubtedly esteemed, does not detract from a genuine development of the human persons, but rather is most beneficial to that development. Those who voluntarily profess these counsels strive to unite themselves to the heart of Christ.

The Council encourages and praises Religious Brothers and Sisters, who in monasteries, or in schools and hospitals, or in the missions, adorn the Bride of Christ by their unswerving and humble faithfulness in their chosen consecration and render generous service to all kinds to mankind

The next chapter focuses attention on the eschatological nature of the Church. Since we know not the day nor the hour, all are to strive to please God in all things and must be constantly vigilant. Every person will be made manifest before the tribunal of Christ before reigning with Him in glory. It is in the heavenly realm that the Church, the people of God, will attain its full perfection.

The Church from its origins has cultivated with great piety the memory of the dead. She has always believed that the apostles and martyrs are closely joined with us in Christ and has always venerated them with special devotion, together with Mary and the angels. Soon afterwards, those who imitated Christ's virginity and poverty were added, followed by others who lived outstanding lives of the Christian virtues. Those in heaven establish the whole Church more firmly in holiness, for they have been received into the heavenly home and are present to the Lord. All the saints never cease to intercede to the Father for us. At the celebration of Mass the Church on earth is most closely united to the Church in heaven in communion with and veneration of Mary and all the angels and saints.

The final chapter is on Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Redeemer. The Council's purpose here is to describe with diligence Mary's role in the mystery of the Incarnate Word and the Church. It did not have the intention of giving a complete doctrinal teaching.

As much as people have looked to Mary as a unique and special intercessor before God, the Council reminds us of the Church teaching that Jesus is the one Mediator. No creature could be counted as equal with the Incarnate Word and Redeemer. All saving influence of Mary upon humanity originates from and flows forth from the superabundant merits of her Son, rests on his mediation, depends entirely on it and draws all power from it. The Church does not hesitate to profess this subordinate role of Mary.

The Council affirmed that the cult, especially the liturgical cult, of Mary be generously fostered and that the practices and exercises of piety recommended by the magisterium of the Church toward her in the course of centuries and those decrees be religiously observed. It also exhorts theologians and preachers to rightly illustrate the duties and privilege of the Blessed Virgin which always looks to Christ, and to keep away from whatever could lead non-Catholics or any other person into error regarding the true doctrine of the Church.

The next issue of the Jednota will contain a summary of the Council's Decree on Ecumenism.

Sincerely,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain

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Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary**



(L – R) Slovak Ambassador Peter Kmec with Albina and Joe Senko.

## FCSU's Joe Senko Awarded Presidential Medal

At a recent reception at the Slovak Embassy in Washington, DC, Joseph Senko of Pittsburgh, PA, was awarded the Medal of the President of the Slovak Republic for extraordinary merit in the development of friendly relations with the Slovak Republic, as well as promoting Slovakia throughout the world. This is the highest award that the Slovak government awards to foreigners.

Joe Senko has been the Slovak Honorary Consul for Pennsylvania since 1997. In this capacity, he receives and responds to approximately 100 inquiries each year. Shortly after becoming Honorary Consul, he formed the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association, a non-profit organization that presents approximately ten Slovak cultural programs each year.

A member of the First Catholic Slovak Union (Branch 254), he also is a charter member of the executive committee of the Washington DC-based non-profit organization, Friends of Slovakia. This organization was formed in 2001 to seek friendship and understanding between Slovakia and the United States. Joe is the Chairman and Treasurer. This organization has sponsored over 125 events since it was formed, including scholarships for Slovak students, annual freedom lectures, receptions for dignitaries from Slovakia, and artistic and cultural events.

Some of the more notable programs which Joe has accomplished were:

- The collection, repair and shipment of 250 computers to Slovakia, which were distributed to 45 schools;
- Shipment of 60,000 copies of an American children's magazine, which were distributed to 830 schools to assist in learning English;
- Shipment of medical supplies to hospitals in Svidnik, Bardejov, and Bratislava.

Joe, with this wife Albina, is presently arranging his tenth tour to Slovakia. Over 250 people from the United States have participated in his previous tours. (Editor's note: see page 9 of this issue for details).



## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for The Christophers

## A Hero of Baseball and World War II

You've heard about the heroes of baseball who put the game aside to join America's armed forces during World War II: Bob Feller, Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio and the rest. Some enlisted, others were drafted; some saw combat, others were spared. All of them, though, gave up one priceless commodity that their country had no way of replacing: the years that the war took from their playing careers. No one knows what further baseball heights they might have reached; their country needed them and that was that. That's why they're part of the Greatest Generation, and always will be.

But let me ask you this: have you ever heard about Lou Brissie? Yep, Lou Brissie. You really should, because in a way it's the best story about baseball and World War II that I've come across in a long time--a story in the finest Christopher tradition, one of grit and determination and the will to succeed. I heard it from a report in The New York Times by Benjamin Hoffman, and now, with the Hot Stove League going full force and pitchers and catchers due to report to their clubs, seems a perfect time to tell it again.

Lou Brissie was that most typical of prospects, the high-school phenom. A pitcher, he dazzled opposing batters in the years before the war, and had a signed, sealed and delivered agreement to join the Philadelphia Athletics. But then came Pearl Harbor and Brissie, along with countless other young Americans, enlisted in the Army.

He wound up with the 88th Infantry Division in Italy, and in December, 1944, an artillery shell all but ended Brissie's baseball hopes. It exploded at his feet, as Hoffman tells the story, "shattering his left shin bones into 30 pieces." He dragged himself to safety for a while, but eventually fellow GI's had to rescue him. At a military hospital things looked grim. The doctors wanted to amputate the leg, but Brissie would have none of it. "I pled my case every place I stopped," he said.

Eventually 23 surgical procedures would be performed on the leg, but Brissie's persistence paid off. The leg appeared to be saved, and so was his baseball career. The Athletics had stayed in touch throughout his ordeal, assuring him that he'd have a chance. And just when he had returned to civilian life and signed a contract, in 1946, came a major setback. The leg became infected and sent Brissie to a hospital for three months. Only hope kept him going, and sure enough, before the season was out, he compiled a winning record for an Athletics' farm team. He was ready for the majors.

His career was quite impressive, including an All-Star appearance in 1949. But leg problems finally cost him, a bone marrow infection ending his baseball work after six seasons. Major League Baseball finally recognized him last year with a World Series ceremony--which Brissie, 88, was not able to attend because of health reasons. But he has no regrets.

"I have never thought of what might have been," he said at the time. "I got out with my life. I had great surgeons who did magnificent work who got me to the point where I could play. I got the opportunity to play, and I was lucky enough to be there a little while and to do it against the best the world had to offer. I did it. Maybe not greatly, but I did it."

He sure did.

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, YOUR CAREER COUNTS, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org

## Branch 24 President Robert Kopco Wins FCSU National Sales Award



Branch 24 President Robert Kopco (center) holds his award from the First Catholic Slovak Union for Top Annuity Sales in 2011, flanked by First Catholic Slovak Union executives (L – R) Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary; George F. Matta, National Treasurer; Andrew M. Rajec, National President; and Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President.



Members of Branch 40 presented the principal of St. Michael with a check for \$1,000 toward the grade school's Gift Fund Appeal. Pictured (L – R): William Liptak, Branch 40 President; Ashley Davis, St. Michael Principal; and Maria Harcar, Branch 40 Financial Secretary/Treasurer.

## Branch 40 Donates to St. Michael Grade School in Streator, IL

At their annual meeting in 2012, the officers and members of the St. Clement Society, Branch 40, in Streator, IL, voted to donate \$5,000 in increments of \$1,000 a year to the "Friends of St. Michael Grade School Gift Fund Appeal."



## ALL-NEW! SLOVAKIA & THE WORLD on FCSU Website

### SLOVAKIA & The WORLD



### Named 2013 European Capital of Culture

Mesto, kde sa život žije a vychutnáva  
The city where life is lived and enjoyed



At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we are constantly updating our website to make it more useful, more informative – fresher. We have just added an entirely new category to our list of informational tabs called SLOVAKIA & THE WORLD. Here you can find information on news and views related to our shared heritage – such as this latest video from Košice in reference to its recent designation by the European Union as a 2013 Culture Capital of Europe.

# Slovakia's First Declaration of Independence (part two)

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

Slovakia today is an independent country, and has been now for over 20 years. The Velvet Revolution and the end of communism made Slovak independence a possibility. But this was not the first taste of self-rule for the state, for Slovakia had first declared independence on March 14, 1939, at a time when Europe verged at the edge of a Second World War. It was not an auspicious time to build a new state, but many Slovaks did want autonomy in a common state with the Czechs, which they had achieved in October 1938.

However, outside interference from Nazi Germany proved crucial in compelling Slovakia to divorce itself from the Czechs in Czecho-Slovakia. The Czecho-Slovak central government, led by President Emil Hácha, played into Hitler's hands by suppressing the autonomous Slovak government. Slovak leaders would then declare independence under German pressure. Born in such trying times, and tainted by affiliation with Hitler's Germany, the first Slovak state did not survive World War II. But the idea that Slovaks should have self-rule did survive and the example of the first experience of statehood, without a doubt, impacted what happened after the 1989 Revolution.

This is the second installment of a translation of parts of a book written in Slovak by Professor Milan S. Ďurica, *A History of Slovakia and the Slovaks: A Chronology of Two Millennia*. The book documents much of Slovakia's history in a chronological format, including the momentous events of March 1939.

The first part of this article appeared in *Jednota* last year ("Slovakia's First Declaration of Independence (part one)," *Jednota*, March 28, 2012: p.7). It outlined the events from March 1-March 7, 1939. Part two will continue the story, as Germany exerted pressure to split Czecho-Slovakia so that Hitler could annex Bohemia and Moravia. The Czecho-Slovak central government played into Hitler's scheme when it would dissolve the autonomous Slovak government and institute a state of martial law. Slovakia would ultimately be left with the choice to declare independence or risk becoming part of a reconstituted Hungary, whose regime hungered to recover lands lost after World War I, which included Slovakia, the Subcarpathian Rus, Transylvania, and parts of Yugoslavia.

## PART 2

March 9 - The Prime Minister of the Czecho-Slovak government, Beran, called a joint meeting of all Slovak ministers. The vice-premier of the government, Karol Sidor, had come to Prague on March 8, when he found out about the mood in Prague against the Slovaks. He warned Slovak Prime Minister Dr. Tiso that it would be better if he stayed in Bratislava. For this reason, Tiso excused himself and did not go to Prague.

- At the session of the Czecho-Slovak government, which was called in secret, Prime Minister Beran sharply attacked the Slovak ministers, accusing them of anti-state separatism. During the proceedings, Karol Sidor was invited to take a telephone call, but when he went from the meeting room, Czech secret police detained him. After his loud protest, they led him to the [Czecho-Slovak] President Hácha, who announced to him that he had removed from office Prime Minister Tiso and three other ministers. That meant the full dissolution of the legitimate autonomous government of Slovakia, ... All power then formally remained in the hands of Minister Pavel Teplanský, who was the confidential agent of the Prague government. Sidor protested against such interference with Slovak autonomy and resigned his office in the Prague government. Later, at the insistence of President Hácha a Premier Beran, he arranged his formal resignation after his return to Bratislava, where he wished to consult with the Slovak political leadership....

- While these events played out in Prague, in Slovakia, Czech generals had already taken power and proclaimed martial law. They confined and dragged away to the Czech land more than 250 leading Slovak political activists, including delegates - in spite of their parliamentary immunity. Minister F. Ďurčanský managed to leave Bratislava just in time and went to Vienna. There he was given the opportunity to inform Slovak inhabitants through [radio] broadcasts about the developing situation and to awaken the Slovaks, so they might oppose the illegal interference of the Prague government against the autonomy of Slovakia.

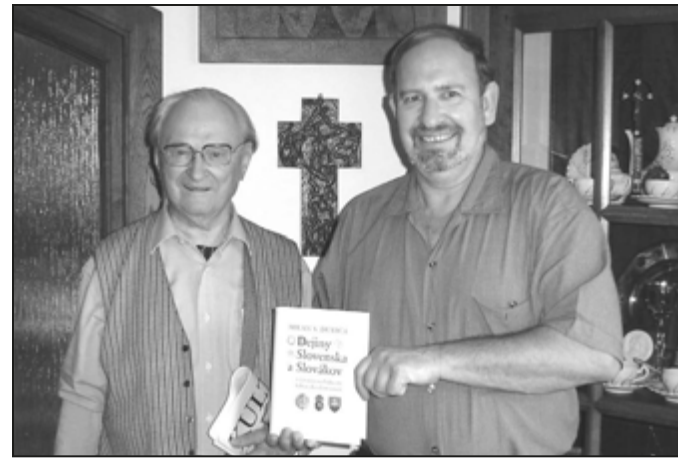
March 10 Early in the morning, Foreign Minister Chvalkovský informed the German diplomatic representative about the military intervention in Slovakia. Similarly, he also informed the Italian envoy, because he closely awaited the reaction from Berlin. He wished to be certain, that he absolutely did not wish to undertake anything against German political plans.

- After the return of K. Sidor to Bratislava, the Central Committee of the Presidency of Hlinka's Slovak People's Party - the Party of Slovak National Unity (HSCS-SSNJ) convened, headed by Jozef Tiso, in order to discuss the situation. Sidor reported what he experienced in Prague, and learned what had happened in Slovakia. The counsel regarded the interference of President Hácha as illegal, because he did not recognize the two-man government of Jozef Sivák [whom Hácha had appointed]. The situation required a quick solution, for the chair of the Slovak parliament suggested to the president a new government in the content of statutes of constitutional law. Jozef Tiso was suggested as premier of the government...."

- Towards evening, Hitler received the Hungarian envoy and the next morning at 5 am,



Prof Milan Ďurica at Matica Slovenska



Professor Ďurica with the author, Michael Kopanic.

sent him in a private plane to Budapest with a message for Horthy and the Hungarian government, so that he would give it to them personally, [asking] if they would like to occupy Carpathian Ukraine (This is the way Berlin designated Subcarpathian Rus). If the Czechs would defend it, Hitler would immediately crush Bohemia. The Hungarians could count 100% on his assistance. They would have to limit themselves only to the territory of Subcarpathian Rus and not invade Slovakia, because they might reunite the Slovaks with the Czechs. They would tackle the issue of Slovakia perhaps later.

- At the 18th Congress of the Communist Party of the USSR, Joseph V. Stalin took a hard line against England and France, while intimating his willingness to negotiate with Hitler's Germany. Berlin took it to mean that the USSR would not politically interfere in their politicking against Czecho-Slovakia.

March 11 - Students of the Czechoslovak state Šafařík gymnázium in Prešov spontaneously organized a peaceful protest at 8 a.m., marching up Main Street toward the city hall, where they sang Slovak national songs and demanded the release of their professors who were confined during the night and dragged off to Moravia. A group of soldiers confronted the students behind the main church. After a first salvo shot into the air, they repeatedly shot directly into a group of boys aged 13-17. Of these about 15 of the wounded remained lying in the street. A second squad of soldiers attacked the end of the march and beat the fleeing students with clubs.

- President Hácha named a new Slovak government headed by Karol Sidor. Other members included: Jozef Sivák (Education and National Culture), Július Stano (Transport and Public Works), Peter Zaťko (Industry, Business, Trade, and Agriculture), Alexander Hrnčár (Finance), and Dr. Gejza Fritz (Justice).

- Dr. Tiso handed over the office of premier of the government to Karol Sidor and retired to his parish in Bánovce nad Bebravou [in northwest Slovakia, not far from Trenčín].

- According the German documents, the new premier Karol Sidor was preoccupied with the point of view of being in harmony with the Prague government. When they reported the protests of students in Prešov, he answered: "A who commanded that they go protest?"

Thus the seeds were laid for Germany's prodding Slovakia into declaring full independence from the Czechs. Over the next three days, Hitler would pressure Slovakia to decide whether to declare its sovereignty or else be left to the fate of history, which meant being gobbled back into a Hungarian state bent on expansion.

To be continued

## Source:

Milan S. Ďurica, *Dejiny Slovenska a Slovákov v časovej následnosti faktov dvoch tisícročí*, Štvrté vydanie. (A History of Slovakia and the Slovaks: A Chronology of Two Millennia, Fourth edition). Bratislava: Lúč, 2007. Words in bold print are done just as Ďurica emphasized them in his book. Words in bracket are additions of Michael Kopanic.

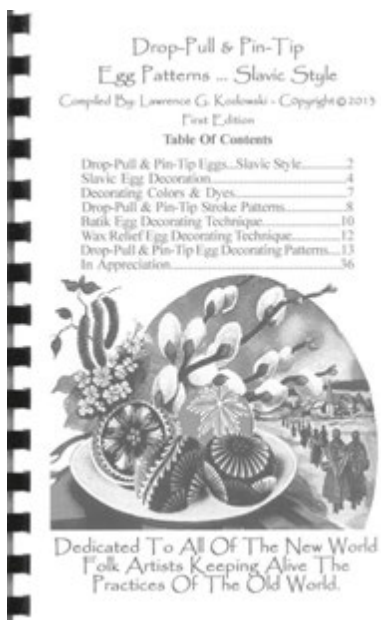
Pavel Teplanský was an Agrarian member of the Slovak parliament and served as the Minister of Finance, Business, and Agriculture in the autonomous Slovak government. Centralist in orientation, he supported the maintenance of a united Czecho-Slovak state. After the declaration of Slovak independence in 1939, he retired to his home in Košolná, in western Slovakia near Trnava.



Czecho-Slovakia in 1939, after the partition



## New Folkart Workbook on Egg Patterns Available for Easter



The table of contents of Lawrence Kozlowski's latest book "Drop-Pull & Pin Tip Egg Patterns ... Slavic Style."

Mr. Kozlowski is a past recipient of the "Oskar Kolberg Folklore Award" from the Polish Ministry of Culture. He also teaches folkart in the Slovak community and has written two books including Slovak Easter and Christmas books filled with traditional Slovak recipes, customs and crafts. He continues to perpetuate the rich folklore and folk arts of "the old country" with workshops, seminars, exhibits, demonstrations, and classes at folk festivals, fairs, schools and museums.

"Drop-Pull & Pin Tip Egg Patterns ... Slavic Style" is available at the cost of \$13.75 (postage and handling included) per book. Quantity orders are available for churches, fraternal clubs, gift shops, ethnic fairs, festivals, and fundraising. Please make check or money order payable to: Lawrence G. Kozlowski, 808 Phineas Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 1512. Additional information can be obtained through the mailing address or by email at lgk505@aol.com.

In his newly published full color folkart workbook "Drop-Pull & Pin Tip Egg Patterns ... Slavic Style," Lawrence G. Kozlowski has gathered over 300 "Drop-Pull" and "Pin Tip" strokes, egg patterns and instructions for batik and wax relief Easter eggs.

In many a Slovak home, the poignant smell of beeswax melting over the kitchen stove and the rhythmic sounds of the pin-tipped stylus as a series of dots and dashes ornamented an ordinary chicken egg. After these eggs were covered with traditional patterns, each egg was dyed and a beautiful work of folk art was created. These eggs were then proudly displayed, and were the envy of anyone looking into your Easter basket at the "Easter Food blessing" in church.

For those familiar with these traditions, "Drop-Pull & Pin Tip Egg Patterns ... Slavic Style" gives the patterns and instructions to make memories live again as you decorate your own eggs this Easter.

For the folk artist or craftsman, this 36-page, spiral bound workbook offers you an encyclopedia of egg strokes and complete full-color eggs as decorated by the Slavic people for centuries. Complete instructions for batik and relief methods are included – along with folkloric information and full color egg patterns.



FCSU Region 7 Director Rudy Bernath (far left) administered the oath of office to the officers of Branch 313, all of whom were re-elected for another year: (L – R). Margaret Dickinson Auditor; Curtis Johnson, Recording Secretary and Treasurer; Darlene Johnson, Auditor; Victoria Bugel, Auditor. Seated is Joseph Bugel, President Absent: Kenneth Jurinak, Vice-President of FCSU Branch 313, who was out of town at the time of the meeting.



(L – R) George Michuda, grand daughter of Marge Dickinson, Joe Bugel, Marge Dickinson, and Curtis Johnson.

## Four Key Questions to Ask Before You Open (or Re-evaluate) an IRA

*continued from page 1*

with low risk, "can't miss" promises – should be evaluated with a critical eye, or avoided outright. Getting a good rate of return with a portfolio of solid investments is a better option. The First Catholic Slovak Union's net investment rate of return is one of the highest among the fraternal societies in the United States; it is also among the safest (see details below).

In general, it pays to determine your own risk tolerance level under the advice of an unbiased professional such as a financial advisor before investing your hard earned savings in any retirement account.

### 2. How do I know my investments are safe?

You need to know where the funds in your portfolio are invested. Bonds constitute 90.5% of the First Catholic Slovak Union's assets, bonds that enjoy an excellent quality ranking, with 95.8% in the two highest NAIC rating classes. Moreover, the First Catholic Slovak Union has a healthy surplus fund that has increased 45% from 2005 to 2012. This fund is available in case of market downturn or other unforeseen emergencies.

### 3. Are there any fees?

There doesn't need to be; the First Catholic Slovak Union charges absolutely none. To ensure that you are not caught off guard by any "hidden fees," however, you should ask about any front-end or back-end loading fees that may be applied, as well as what other sales or administrative charges may be attached.

### 4. Who is offering the IRA? What do you know about the organization?

Be sure to ask about the organization behind the IRA offering as well. Are the funds to be held by entities other than the promoter? If not, that could signal trouble. Also, if the IRA offer has come to you unsolicited, and the source is unknown, make it a point to find out more about the background of the promoter. The First Catholic Slovak Union has been incorporated since 1890, in continuing successful operation for over 122 years. A member in good standing of the American Fraternal Alliance (AFA), the First Catholic Slovak Union meets all the business principles and ethics prescribed by this recognized leader of the Fraternal Benefit System. We are in excellent standing with the Ohio Department of Insurance, as well.

Finally, the organization or individuals offering the IRA should be licensed in the state that they doing business. You can check their background through state insurance regulators. Headquartered in Independence, Ohio, our Society is regulated by the insurance department in the state of Ohio, as well as with every insurance department in the states in which we are licensed (go to [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) to see the full list of states in which we do business). Our financial statements are filed and reviewed by these states, and are subject to regular internal and external audits.



Branch 313 members enjoyed a fraternal luncheon following their January meeting: (L – R) Curtis Johnson, Liz Bernath, and Rudy Bernath.

## January Meeting & Luncheon of Branch 313

On January 12, 2013, the St. John the Baptist Society held a meeting at the Missionary Benedictine Sisters Priory in Oak Forest, IL. Election of officers was on the agenda, along with a discussion of new membership. After the meeting, Branch 313 members and guests enjoyed a fraternal luncheon at a nearby south-side restaurant.

## Reminder...

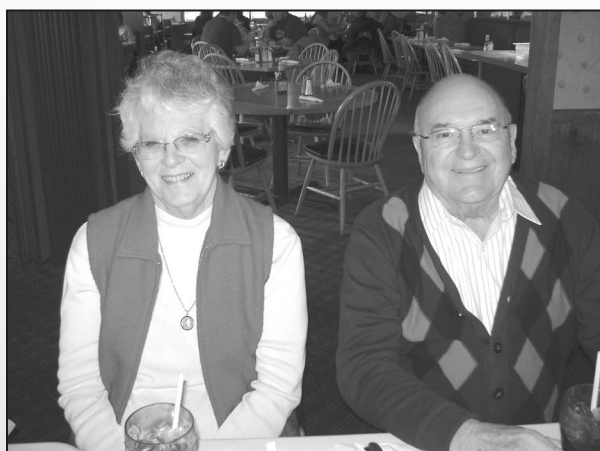
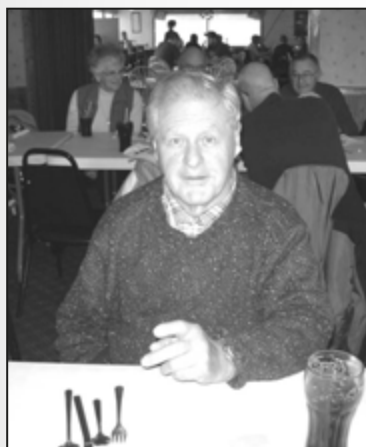
All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The email address for articles is [fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com). Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by

phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

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, a cancellation or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Home Office, 6611 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JEDNOTA; fax at 216/642-4310 E-mail: [FCSU@aol.com](mailto:FCSU@aol.com)

# Scenes from January Meeting of Branch 40 in Streator, IL

The St. Clement Society, Branch 40, in Streator, IL, held its annual meeting on Sunday January 20, 2013, at 2:00 P.M. at Chipper's Grill in Streator. A buffet luncheon followed the meeting, which included elections of officers. Pictured immediately on the right (L – R) are the 2013 Branch 40 Officers: (Front) Margie Pavlick, Auditor; Michael Pavlick, Auditor; Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary/Treasurer; Veronica Manzella, Vice President; Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President. (Back) Timothy Graves, Recording Secretary; Richard Tutoky, Auditor; William Liptak, President. Not shown: Msgr. Thomas Badovsky, Chaplain.



# Hey Kids.....

The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II of the First Catholic Slovak Union is sponsoring an "EASTER COLORING CONTEST" for all boys and girls ages 4 thru 12, that are members of District II for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. Color the picture and you could win. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, for age groups from 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. All entries will receive a "Certificate" for participating.

Send in your coloring page and on the back side of the picture please print your name, age, address, Branch Number and include a picture of yourself and return by **April 15, 2013**. You may make a copy of the picture from the newspaper to color, and if there are other children in family entering the coloring contest.

Pictures of the winners will be printed in the "Jednota" newspaper after Easter. Our lodge members will judge the entries at our District II Meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2013.

Mail your entry to:  
 Mrs. Barbara Fayta  
 1544 Rokosz Lane  
 Dyer IN 46311

GOOD LUCK TO ALL  
 Barbara Fayta, Chairperson  
 Easter Coloring Contest



RaisingOurKids.com



**Saturday, April 20, 2013**  
**7:30pm**  
 Monsters vs. Grand Rapids Griffins  
 Quicken Loans Arena-Cleveland, OH



**Special Offer Includes:**

- Discounted End Zone Tickets!! (\$19 game day value)
- Fan Appreciation Night!

**To get your branch discount and order tickets, please contact the representative in your branch:**

- Branch 24: Tom Ivanec, 216-668-7797
- Branch 450: George Carny, 440-885-5702
- Branch 553: Greg Petrusek, 330-398-1888
- Branch 855: Linda Kolesar, 440-886-0206

**Special FCSU member rates, courtesy of your FCSU branch**  
**Deadline to order: Monday, March 25, 2012**



Upper Endzone	Total
# OF TICKETS <small>(\$19 game day value lower level end zone and corner seats)</small>	\$

**CONTACT INFORMATION (Please fill out completely)**  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DAY PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

CHECK/MONEY ORDER (MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO YOUR LOCAL BRANCH)

**METHOD OF DELIVERY:**  
 From your branch officer or pick up at will call (near box office)

All orders are subject to availability. No ticket required for children under the age of two. Video cameras are not allowed in Quicken Loans Arena. Orders must be placed online, by mail, fax, or phone. Offer and discounts not available at arena box office. No refunds or exchanges.

We are pleased to invite you to the

**FCSU National**

# Picnic

86 acres of beautiful grounds, with plenty to do for everyone: swimming, waterslides, tennis, softball, beach volleyball, basketball, bocce, soccer, hockey, miniature golf, golf driving range, and more. Food is served all day.

Frogbridge  
 7 Yellow Meeting House Rd.  
 Millstone Township, NJ 08510

**Sunday, August 11, 2013**

Watch the Jednota paper for more details!

# Save the Date!

Your first look at Frogbridge on page 11 of this issue!

# Deadline for the First Catholic Slovak Union's 2013 Scholarship Program

*continued from page 1*

Scholarship" in the amount of \$1,000.00 each will be awarded to the highest ranking male and female applicants respectively.

Three additional ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS of \$750.00 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.

## Scholarship Rules & Requirements

The rules and requirements are as follows:

1. Applicants must have a minimum of \$5,000.00 reserve insurance (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 \$10,000.00 or more of JEP 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, 2009 to be eligible under the rules of this period.**

2. Applicants must apply for grants in the Spring of their senior year of high school, between the ages of 17 and 19.

3. Applicants must have applied for the Fall term of 2013 at a qualifying institution. Proof of college admission must be sent to the Home Office with the application.

4. 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 [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).

5. **Applicants must submit a completed application to: Scholarship Program, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131 not later than March 30, 2013.**

6. 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.**

7. 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.

8. Final award checks will be made payable to the winners upon submitting a **proof of college enrollment not later than the fall term of the following year** (fall semester of 2014).

Send in your application today; don't delay. All applications without the above stipulated postmark of **midnight, March 30, 2013** will be considered invalid.



An overnight stay at the famous Trenčianske Teplice spa is among the many fine destinations on the 10th Consular Tour to Slovakia, which runs August 24 – September 3, 2013.

## 10th Consular Tour of Slovakia August 24 – September 3, 2013

*Escorted by Joseph and Albina Senko*

Indian Summer, or "Babie Leto" in Slovakia, is a wonderful time to visit the country of your ancestors. The frantic days of summer, full of tourists and visitors, are over and the tranquil beauty of Slovakia is yours to see and experience at your leisure.

We will visit the three largest cities in Slovakia: Bratislava, the capital city; Košice, the 2013 Cultural City in the European Union; and Prešov, the sister city of Pittsburgh. In each city, we will have special programs and activities. We will also visit the historical manor houses and castles, as well as the famous churches and shrines. This year, we will overnight at a famous spa, Trenčianske Teplice, where we can relax with some of the health treatments.

We are offering several wine tastings, one in the Pezinok Modra region, which is famous for their white wine, and then on into Eastern Slovakia where we will sample the Tokaj wines.

We will stay in first-class hotels and travel in air conditioned buses with bathroom facilities and an experienced English-speaking guide.

Think of this as the year you will finally meet the people and see the places you have only heard about for so many years. We will have English-speaking drivers available to take you to villages where you may learn more about the places and reasons your family immigrated to America.

If you are interested, and want more information, please contact Joe Senko at 412-531-2990 during office hours or 412-956-6000 after office hours or by email at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com).

**- Submitted by Joseph T. Senko, Honorary Consul – Pennsylvania  
Konzulat Slovenskej Republiky  
Consulate of the Slovak Republic**

## Slovak Mass and Easter Customs

### Breakfast to be Celebrated in Pittsburgh

The annual celebration of a Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast will take place at Prince of Peace Parish (South Side, Pittsburgh) on Saturday, March 16, 2013. It's the perfect opportunity to learn more about the rich spiritual culture and traditional Easter customs of Slovakia.

This mini cultural festival is scheduled one week earlier than past years. The Holy Rosary, recited in Slovak, will begin at 9:45 a.m. at St. Adalbert Church, 160 South 15th Street. The Holy Liturgy follows at 10:00 a.m. Father Peter Haladej will celebrate the liturgy in Slovak and offer his homily in English. Father Haladej, originally of Slovakia, is currently assigned to St. Aloysius Church in East Liverpool, Ohio. The Prince of Peace Choir, under the direction of Gerri Walters, will lead the congregation in prayers, hymns and responses sung in the beautiful Slovak language.

After Mass, the community is invited to gather at Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) to sample a traditional Slovak Easter breakfast of sunka (ham), paska (sweet bread), siretz (a "cheese" made of eggs), kolbasy (sausage) and pysanky (died hard boiled eggs). Donations to help defray breakfast expenses are gratefully accepted.

Also featured at the Slovak Easter Customs Breakfast are cultural displays depicting the folk culture and village life of our Slovak ancestors. Master folk artist, Larry Kozlowski, will demonstrate traditional Slovak-style and braiding of palms and have a large variety of hand-decorated pysanky, basket covers and other traditional items available for your own Easter celebration. Selected imported gifts and religious items will also be available for sale.

A bake sale will offer plenty of favorite goodies to satisfy any sweet tooth. Choose from homemade nut and poppy seed rolls, apricot cakes, paska, ceregy and assorted cookies.

*continued on page 15*



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# Power, Protection & Beauty: Slovak Embroidery Motifs

By Helene Baine Cincebeaux

Glance into the window of a cottage in a small Slovak village. It's the early 1900s and a poor widow and her three young daughters are still working late after a hard day in the fields. They embroidered by the flickering light of a petroleum lamp, sometimes until the wee hours of the morning.

The painstaking and elaborate embroidery in this region near Piestany is so intricately done that every bit of the background material eventually disappears and only the lacey embroidery work remains. I was touched by her description of the little lace caps they wore while embroidering. I imagined the bowed heads and busy hands as they gathered together around the flickering light to create enduringly beautiful embroideries that bloom like the sun and evoke awe today.

We live in an age of symbols; signs and ads bombard us. Think back to a simpler time when an agricultural people took the time to embellish motifs on the things they made and used in everyday life.

Motifs adorned everything from tools and clay pots to lace making implements and folk jewelry. Motifs decorated homes indoors and out. They were embroidered and woven onto villagers' clothing and ritual cloths and incised and painted on house beams and dower chests. Why?

Life was so precious then. From Neolithic times until the beginning of the 20th century, half the children of Europe perished. Our ancestors lived surrounded by physical beauty and by great peril. So they relied on ancient motifs to protect them – whether from spirits or the evil eye.

Motifs were a language of protection, many of the meanings have been lost but the symbols they used live on, even appearing today on clothing and advertising; but they are stylized, robbed of their meaning; now just "decoration".

When I began collecting folk dress over 40 years ago, I was intrigued with the variety of dress from village to village and even the great variety within a village. Folk clothing told if you were young or old, rich or poor, married or single, if you were a young matron, a nursing mother, a young widow or a young man on his way to service.

Protection motifs include the Goddess which may have arisen from a religious cult or was entwined with the "Venus" figures – goddesses carved from stone or mastodon tusk which appeared in our area; some were created 25,000 years ago. The ancient carved figures attest to a love of design and strong beliefs.

For thousands of years ancient motifs have appeared in stylized form on Slovak folk dress and ritual cloths, and also carved on wooden chests, painted on hearths and incised onto

weaving and spinning implements.

From a 5,000 year old embroidered linen cloth found near Nove Zamky to embroideries by village women in the 1900s,

designs not really knowing exactly why explaining, "We have always done it that way."

What are symbols but reflections of ancient time, Celtic motifs, influences from invaders and religious symbols. But it seems the most important motifs provided protection and insured fertility so life would go on.

The goddess motif often looks like a vase with three flowers. Study it and a pattern emerges to reveal a horned goddess – we learned that all these are symbols of fertility – the Goddess with arms upraised for fertility. She might be flanked by giant roosters or exotic birds or reindeer.

In Slovakia, birds are said to symbolize the soul and they appear in Slovak embroideries. Star decorations indicate another world. Carefully embroidered tiny "teeth" appear around the necks and sleeve openings – these were "wolves' teeth" that protected you from evil entering in your clothing. We still see it today as rick rak!

The beloved tulip and pomegranate designs came in with the Turks. The religious symbols of the Pascal Lamb and IHS melded. There are instances of embroideresses creating unusual motifs such as ducks or fish or dancing rabbits.

The flowers that grew in the meadows and around the cottages where they lived were kept alive in their embroidery which brightened long winter days and brought the feeling of summer.

And, last but not least, hearts in all sizes, shapes and forms.

Colors were protective too, especially red. We cannot imagine the richness of belief, customs and traditions in which our ancestors lived. And we can only marvel how they survived and also took the time to create an enduring beauty.

Slovak embroidery techniques varied from satin and cross stitch to hardanger and tambour work. Renaissance and baroque motifs were adopted through the ages. Metallic and beaded caps worn throughout the country were created by village women echoing styles worn centuries ago by the nobility.

Religion was the all encompassing tie that bound and enhanced Slovak village life. People's lives truly revolved around their church. The most important events in a villager's life took place in his parish church – it was the center of their lives.

Embroidery was important too as women wove in things from their everyday lives that appeal to us all those long years later.

Hearts were always popular and often used in wedding wear. Vivid flowers brought summer into homes. More exotic vegetation like the pomegranate thrived. Sometimes women embroidered dancing bunnies. It points to a very artistic people with beauty in their hearts and souls.



Paired hearts decorate the waist band of an apron



Double birds adorn the back of a woman's headdress



Another bird motif – this time, a peacock

both feature similar "S" motifs and goddesses. The form varies from village to village but the symbols used are ones denoting fertility and protection.

Sometimes the motifs are hidden in an embroidery and it takes a bit of study to "see" them. Village women created these



Birds decorate a sleeve cuff



A stunning geometric design with satin stitch oak leaves.



A sample of the batik aprons worn in the Horehronie Valley well over 100 years ago, and featuring charming little symbols of fir trees and people.

# The 2013 National Picnic: a FREE Day of Fun for FCSU Members

The resort at Frogbridge – site of the 2013 First Catholic Slovak Union National Picnic on Sunday, August 11, 2013 – is an 86-acre all-inclusive natural wonderland centrally located in New Jersey about an hour away from Philadelphia and New York City, and easily accessible from all major roadways including the NJ Turnpike. Jam packed with the latest recreational amenities, you can expect an outstanding experience from the moment you enter the gated entrance with its custom fountains and lush landscaping. This year's national picnic promises to be a fraternal event you'll remember for years to come – filled with fun activities to choose from such as swimming, kayaking, baseball, bocce ball, tennis, soccer, golf, – plus, a delicious all-you-can-eat picnic served under a picturesque covered pavilion.

The 2013 National Picnic is FREE to all FCSU members. PLUS, the first 200 members to register will be entered in a drawing to win a Chewy Čuvač stuffed animal, complete with "official" certification and dog tag.

Look for details on how to register and the Chewy drawing in the next, March 13th, issue of this newspaper.



**Chewy says:** See you all at the bee-u-ti-ful Frogbridge Resort in August. The first 200 FCSU members to register will be entered in a drawing to win ... ME!



Due to overwhelming response,  
Special offer extended through  
March 30, 2013

## 1st Year Premium Waived on Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP)



All applications must be  
received in the Home Office  
**postmarked on or  
before March 30, 2013.**

- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance \*
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- College scholarships available
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*FCSU LIFE*  
6611 Rockside Rd  
Independence, OH 44131  
800-533-6682  
[fcsu@aol.com](mailto:fcsu@aol.com)  
[www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)

*\*Higher amounts available - please contact  
your Branch Officer or the Home Office*

# News From Slovakia

## More than 20,000 Companies Set Up in Slovakia Last Year, Up 4 percent

Bratislava, February 18 (TASR) - The number of newly-founded companies in Slovakia reached 20,044 last year, which represents an increase of more than 4 percent and the highest figure in the past six years, according to calculations made by consulting company Bisnode Slovensko published on this date.

The overall registered capital of all companies reached €441 million, the Bisnode databases further revealed.

According to analyst Petra Stepanova from the consultancy, interest in setting up joint-stock companies has dropped considerably, with the lowest increase since 2007. Stepanova ascribes this to a ban on anonymously-owned stakes in this kind of company.

A total of 204,667 Slovak companies were recorded in Bisnode's database on December 31, 2012, of which 96.3 percent were limited liability companies and 3.7 percent joint-stock companies.

The overall number of companies with share capital registered in Slovakia had gone up by 15,249 since the end of 2011, an increase of 8.1 percent.

## Russian Investments Could Create 500 New Jobs in Slovakia

Bratislava, February 15 (TASR) - The Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency (SARIO) is holding talks with investors from Russia that could yield 500 new jobs for Slovakia, according to SARIO head Robert Simoncic.

"I would prefer not to go into detail for now, but essentially it concerns the engineering and processing industries," said Simoncic at Hospodarske Noviny daily's HN club on Friday. He specified, however, that the investments should head especially to eastern Slovakia.

Overall, economic ties between Slovakia and Russia have great potential and need to be built on, said Simoncic. Back in 1986, 38 percent of Slovakia's exports were destined for Russia, while nowadays it's merely 4 percent.

"I'm not saying that the figure should go back to where it was, but the scope is simply there," he said. A stronger focus on Russia would also help Slovakia cut its dependence on exports to EU-member countries, he said.

That Russia is interested in placing investments in Slovakia was also confirmed by Sergey Gorkov, vice-chairman of the management board of Russia's largest bank Sberbank. The bank ought to create between 50-60 new jobs thanks to its plans to open two new branches in Slovakia in the months ahead, he said.

Alexander Randin of the Russian Trade and Industrial Chamber in Slovakia noted that there's demand for shipbuilding in Slovakia. "Komarno's Shipyards (Nitra region) are in a rather woeful condition. That said, 60 percent of the boats on Russian rivers were built there [in Komarno]. So, there's mutual interest in, for example, reconstructing and repairing ships," said Randin.

## Peter Stastny Considers Running in Presidential Elections

Bratislava, February 14 (TASR) - SDKU-DS MEP and former ice-hockey star Peter Stastny confirmed today that he's considering running in the 2014 presidential elections.

Stastny was asked whether he'll announce his candidacy this year. "I'm not ruling out this possibility," he said, refusing to provide any more comments on the matter, however.

The media and political analysts began speculating about Stastny's candidacy recently. A fan page has already appeared on Facebook in support of it.

"Peter Stastny represents all the attributes necessary for a Slovak president, so that we wouldn't be ashamed of him, both at home and abroad," states the fan page. Stastny himself hadn't commented on his possible candidacy until he confirmed his considerations to TASR on this date, however.

Former prime minister Jan Carnogursky and founder of the Good Angel charity Andrej Kiska have already announced their interest in running in 2014. Meanwhile, the Bratislava regional council of the Christian Democratic Movement(KDH) believes that MP Radoslav Prochazka would be a good candidate. Prochazka has moved away from the political mainstream of KDH, however. The party is considering instead the candidacy of former two-times parliamentary speaker Pavol Hrusovsky. He still hasn't confirmed whether he'll run in the presidential elections, however.

## 2022 Winter Olympic Ice-Hockey Could Be In Slovakia

Bratislava, February 7 (TASR) - Poland wants Slovakia to organize the entire ice-hockey tournament for men and women alike at 2022 Winter Olympic Games, including semi-finals and finals, Interior Minister Robert Kalinak (Smer-SD) said during the Question Period in Parliament on Thursday.

Kalinak, who was filling in for absent Prime Minister Robert Fico, was asked by Smer-SD MP Marian Kery about his opinion on the joint Polish-Slovak bid to organize the 2022 Olympics and under what conditions is this candidacy feasible.

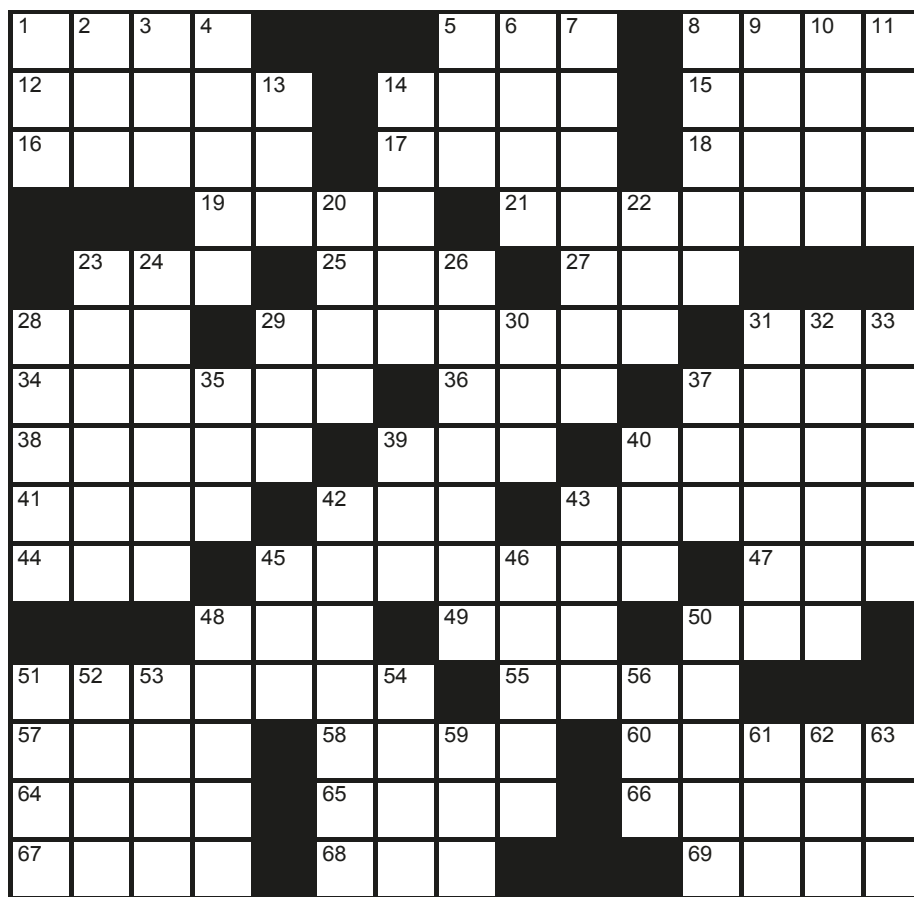
According to Kalinak, the ice-hockey tournament is likely to be hosted in Poprad and Liptovsky Mikulas (Presov and Zilina regions, respectively). "However, it'll be necessary to launch major reconstructions of the local stadiums or build new ones," he said.

Kalinak views the candidacy in a positive light. With the Games officially to be held in Krakow, the ratio of Slovak-Polish costs would be 2:8 or 3:7. Aside from the ice-hockey, Slovakia could host also alpine and acrobatic skiing and build a portion of Olympic village for 1,700-1,800 athletes.

Overall costs are estimated to be in the neighbourhood of €2 billion. "If our (joint) bid meets with success, it would be a great benefit to Slovakia," claimed Kalinak.

[The 2014 Winter Games will be in Sochi, Russia, and the 2018 Games in PyeongChang, South Korea - ed. note]

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 1 Dalai \_\_\_\_
- 5 A pint, maybe
- 8 Competent
- 12 Cognizant
- 14 Blueprint
- 15 Gloomy
- 16 Danger
- 17 Sound off
- 18 Building additions
- 19 Weaponry
- 21 Quit
- 23 \_\_\_\_ de deux
- 25 Gardner of *Mogambo*
- 27 Time zone
- 28 Fourposter, e.g.
- 29 Manipulated
- 31 Decline
- 34 Gunned the motor
- 36 Fleur-de-\_\_\_\_
- 37 Gilbert of *Roseanne*
- 38 Homeric epic
- 39 Give a silent okay
- 40 Gumbo vegetables
- 41 Top-quality
- 42 Order's partner
- 43 Express
- 44 Dutch city
- 45 Purplish red
- 47 Moray, e.g.
- 48 Lamb
- 49 Newsmen Rather
- 50 Infomercials, e.g.
- 51 Trade stoppage
- 55 Valley
- 57 Swerve
- 58 Basilica part

- 60 Banded stone
- 64 Persia, now
- 65 Casting need
- 66 Eating place
- 67 Monocle part
- 68 Genetic stuff
- 69 Warbled

### Down

- 1 Race unit
- 2 Astonish
- 3 Damage
- 4 Met highlights
- 5 Carte start
- 6 Touch down
- 7 Main courses
- 8 Highly skilled
- 9 Western tie
- 10 Corker
- 11 While lead-in
- 13 Shade tree
- 14 Put to the test
- 20 Domestic
- 22 Eccentric
- 23 Pared
- 24 Recommend
- 26 Permitted
- 28 Grease one's palm
- 29 Tie the knot
- 30 Behaved
- 31 Deserved
- 32 Orthodontic tools
- 33 Swiss city
- 35 Tank
- 37 Schuss, e.g.
- 39 Henpeck
- 40 Eggs
- 42 Slowpoke
- 43 Sicilian volcano
- 45 French sea
- 46 Belly button
- 48 Mountain lakes
- 50 Auspices
- 51 Diabolical
- 52 Insignificant
- 53 Lima, for one
- 54 Receptive
- 56 Young fellow
- 59 Main
- 61 Literary collection
- 62 Half a score
- 63 Unit of energy

See Solution on Page 15

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BRANCH 1 CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society- Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

**Marie A. Golias, Secretary**

### BRANCH 3 - MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Minneapolis Branch 3 will hold its annual breakfast meeting on Sunday, March 24, 2013. Mass will be offered for our living and deceased members at 9:00AM at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Second Street and 13th Ave., NE.

After Mass, a full breakfast will be served by the St. Cyril Slovak Mens Club in Father Dargay Hall.

The breakfast is free for all members of Branch 3, and the former St. Joseph Branch 226. Please - no parking in the school lot!

Fraternally yours,

**James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will hold its Breakfast Meeting on Sunday, March 10, 2013. A Mass in honor of our patron St. Joseph will be offered for our members by Msgr. Joseph Pekar at 8:30AM in Sts Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church St., Bridgeport, CT.

Following the Mass, members are invited to return to the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall in the lower level of the church for our regular meeting and breakfast.

The Margaret Evancho Award will be given to the following members who have reached their 16th birthday in 2012:

- Lauren Brainard
- Elizabeth Bruchansky
- Nicole Chichowski
- Wesley Kocurek
- Joseph Koller
- Lindsey Leska
- Robert Lorys, Jr.
- Edward Luchansky
- Salma Malik
- David O'Brien
- Stephen Panella
- Mark Philipp
- Brendan Prince
- Alyssa Pudill

This award recognizes the dedication and many years of service that Margaret Evancho gave to Branch 19, especially its young members.

We cordially invite our members to attend this meeting and our April 14, 2013, and June 9, 2013, meetings.

**Henry Zack, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, March 17, 2013, at 9:00AM at K2 Engineering Conference Room, 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch activities will be discussed and officers' reports will be given. All members of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting. For directions (if needed) or for any address changes or questions, please call Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

### BRANCH 260 - CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 1:30 PM at the Bedford Trails Golf Course. Main topic of discussion on the agenda will be new memberships; also, summer activities in conjunction with the Fr. Kostik Dist. The (2) Jednota Golf Leagues and the Jednota International Golf Tournament will be discussed.

**Charles M. Terek, President**

### BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist, Branch 276, will hold

their next regular meeting on Sunday, March 17, 2013, at Woody's restaurant in Versailles at 1:00 PM. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,

**Nancy Gerdich, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 367 - FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Branch 367, Fairchance, PA will hold its next regular meeting at the Olive Garden, 517 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401 at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 18, 2013. Any member that would like to attend please call Audrey Balazik, President 724-438-3887 or Kathryn Baranek, Secretary 724-569-1006.

**Kathryn Baranek, Secretary**

### BRANCH 369 - DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 369K Donora, PA and Branch 670K Donora, PA.

All members of Branch 369K will now hold membership in Branch 670K.

This merger has taken place as of February 07, 2013.

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.

Sincerely,

**Kenneth A. Arendt,  
National Secretary**

### BRANCH 382 - SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382K, Scranton, PA, will hold its Annual March Meeting at noon on Sunday, March 3, 2013, in the VFW Post 3474, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, PA.

Auditing of the books will take place before the meeting begins.

The agenda will include spring and summer plans, donations, District 17 news, and up-dates from the Home Office. Copies of the 2012 Annual Report to the Home Office will be available.

Light refreshments will be provided. All members are invited to attend.

Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr. is president. Other officers are Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, vice president; Michael Czankner, secretary; Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., treasurer; and John J. Slovenkai, Sr., financial secretary.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President**

### BRANCH 410 UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. at Bob Evans of Uniontown, Route 40 W, Uniontown, PA.

**Geri Buchheit, Recording/Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 567 - ALLEN TOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567 KJ, will hold their regular meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 at 1:00pm at 419 East Hamilton St., Allentown, Pa. 18109. Fundraising plans for 2013 will be discussed at this meeting.

Officers for the year 2013 are: President, Bernadine Gerhard; Financial Secretary/Treasurer, William Micek; Recording Secretary/Auditor, Loretta Dashner.

**Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 580 - WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Sacred Heart of Jesus Branch 580 will hold a meeting on Sunday April 7, 2013 after the 9:30 Mass in the Holy Trinity Social Hall, 529 Grant Ave Ext. West Mifflin, PA. All members are welcome.

**Virginia Jasek, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Officers for 2013 of Branch 731 elected at the annual branch meeting are Grace Kavulic, President; Irene Makovec, Vice-President; Jacquelyn Bobby, Financial Secretary, Edward Walko & John Kavulic, Auditors and Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary. On April 28, 2013 Mass will be celebrated to honor Saint Joseph our Branch Patron Saint. Liturgy at Noon will be at Saint Matthias Church, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. Please try to attend.

**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 10, 2013, with a Slovak Mass for all living and deceased members at 11:30 am at St. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

Refreshments including coffee and Slovak baked goods will be served in the Social Hall following the liturgy.

All members and their families are invited to attend this annual celebration of St. Joseph's Day and to enjoy fellowship with other members.

A Branch meeting will take place at 1:00 pm in the Slovak Heritage Room.

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**

**Fraternally yours,  
Milan Konkol, Secretary**

## FIRST SLOVAK CITIZENS CLUB OF CARTERET

### NOTICE TO MEMBERS

ATTENTION former Members of the FIRST SLOVAK CITIZENS CLUB OF CARTERET, NEW JERSEY.

If you were a Member or are the surviving spouse of a Member of the FIRST SLOVAK CITIZENS CLUB OF CARTERET, NEW JERSEY as of July 9, 1992, you may be eligible to share in the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of the Clubhouse.

Please contact the attorney representing the Club at:

William J. Hamilton, Jr., Esq.  
94 Bayard Street  
P.O. Box 1149  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903  
Telephone: 732-249-3660  
Fax: 732-545-2220  
hamiltonwll@aol.com

Forms of certification to assert a claim for a share in the proceeds of the sale are available from William J. Hamilton, Jr.'s Law Office or on [www.carteretslovakclub.com](http://www.carteretslovakclub.com). All certification forms should be signed and returned to William J. Hamilton, Jr. by July 10, 2013.

Please note that there is a presently scheduled meeting for April 10, 2013 for the membership to review and approve certifications and calculate approximate amount of distribution to members. The meeting will be held at:

Knights of Columbus Hall  
164 High Street  
Carteret, New Jersey 07008  
at  
6:30 p.m.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

## Reminder For All Branches

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

#### 14.01 General Rules

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

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

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

# DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISTRICT 2 – THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2013. The meeting will take place at the Missionary Benedictine Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, IL. Attendees will gather at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship, with the meeting starting at 2:00 pm. A delicious, catered dinner will be served. All branches are encouraged to send delegates. If you plan to attend, please notify District 2 Spiritual Adviser Dorothy Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810, so enough food and drinks can be ordered. Individual members of District 2 branches who wish to become active in district activities are also encouraged to attend.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary**

## DISTRICT 3 – GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 20, 2013 following the 5:00P.M. Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, PA. The meeting will take place in the Formation Room of the Convent. We look forward to a great attendance from all of our branches. Refreshments will be served.

**Linda L. Gonta, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District Spring Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 14, at 1PM at Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin. Branch 35 will host. Please RSVP by April 7 to Janet Sullivan at 412-824-4185 with the number of members attending.

The meeting agenda will include officers' reports and discussion of national and district business items. We will also discuss upcoming national and district events for 2013. Please email the district secretary at manasta@verizon.net if you have an item for the agenda or an upcoming Slovak cultural event that you would like to advertise. The Annual Meeting in the Fall is still in the planning phase. There is, as yet, no host branch. Please consider hosting and contact the district president in April.

Plan to attend the District Fathers' Day Brunch on Sunday, June 16. Branch 60 will host and district vice-president Karianne Barnes of Branch 628 will do the ad booklet. Further details will be provided later.

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

\*\* WPCSA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library: March 4: Slovakia Today vs the Slovakia or our Ancestors, Rev Johannes Oravec; April 1: Life of a Tammy, Katka Gallagher; May 6: Folk Customs of Eastern Slovakia, John Righetti; June 3: Overview of Slovak Folklore and Crafts, Larry Kosloski.

\*\* Slovak Language Classes will be held Tuesdays in the spring. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

\*\* Saturday programs at the National Slovak Society Heritage Museum in McMurray: March 23: Easter egg designs & Easter customs; April 27: Straw ornaments & nut cookies; September 21: Christmas in September. Guided tours are available by appointment. Call 1-800-488-1890.

\*\* Slovak Day at Kennywood Park is Thursday, July 18.

\*\* The Pittsburgh Area Folk Ensemble will be performing at Slovak Day and at the McKeesport International Village on August 13, 14, & 15. Look for their booth at the craft pavilion.

\*\* Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See [www.slavic.pitt.edu](http://www.slavic.pitt.edu)

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

Fraternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 10, 2013, at 1pm in the meeting room of Denny's Restaurant, 653 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

On the agenda will be election of officers for 2013 and district business.

Reservations are to be made by contacting President Marmol at (724) 937-0892 or Secretary Holly at (724) 438-0697 by Thursday, March 7, 2013.

Everyone is asked to contribute five dollars to the district to help cover the cost of their meal.

**Barbara A. Holly, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 13 – JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT

The Jozef Cardinal Tomko District, District 13, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 10, 2013, following a complimentary luncheon. The time is 2:00PM at Cozy Corners in Osceola Mills, PA, 16666 (Route 53 South from Philipsburg, PA).

Members from District 13 Branches are requested to attend; 2013 dues are requested from each branch.

Please call Rosemary Deliman at 814-342-5592 or email her at rmdeliman@comcast.net if you will attend.

**Rosemary Deliman, Secretary**

## DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting Tuesday March 19, 2013, at St. Matthias Church Rectory, starting at 6:00pm. On the agenda will be summer activities, the casino bus trip, and open discussions of Jednota business.

**Carla Peshek, President**

## DISTRICT 15 - PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Prince Pribina District will hold its next meeting on Palm Sunday, March 24, 2013. The celebration begins at 11:00 AM with a Slovak Holy Mass at the St. John Bosco Chapel in St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Boulevard, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. The meeting will follow in the cafeteria.

On the meeting agenda will be: our Year of Faith renewal, and preparations for September 8, 2013, when the Bishop from Bratislava, Msgr. Jozef Halko, will come to celebrate with us here in California in honor of the 1150th anniversary of the evangelization of the Slovak people by St. Cyril and Methodius. Promotion and schedule of District fraternal activities and First Catholic Slovak Union Insurance program information will be on the agenda as well.

After the meeting, we will enjoy a period of fraternal fellowship, and a Slovak gourmet lunch, dessert and refreshments will be served. Children will have the opportunity to participate in a traditional Easter Egg hunt.

All members are invited and all branches in our area are encouraged to send delegates to this district event.

Sincerely,

**Paul Skuben, President**

## DISTRICT 17 – SS CYRIL & METHDIUS DISTRICT – LUZERNE AND LACKAWANNA COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA; AND BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

The District's semi-annual meeting will be held on Sunday, April 21, 2013, at 1:00PM at St. Ann's Basilica Hall, St. Ann's Street, Scranton, PA, with parking available in the lot to the left of the church. Books will be audited prior to the meeting.

On the agenda are reports from Officers and the Regional Director of updates from the Home Office, and upcoming summer activities.

Call District President Michael Slovenkai at (570) 342-7562 to notify him of the members who will be attending from your branch. Light refreshments will be served.

COME ... join in FRATERNALISM.

Fraternally,

**Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary**



# Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast to be Celebrated in Pittsburgh

*continued from page 9*

A basket brimming with traditional Easter foods, crowned with an embroidered basket cover will be raffled.

The Annual Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast Program is sponsored by the Slovak Customs Group/Cultural Diversity Committee of Prince of Peace Parish. Its goal is twofold: to recall the various Lenten and Easter traditions and customs of families in Slovakia, and to raise funds which will benefit two organizations in Slovakia: the School Sisters of St. Francis in Ruzemberok, which until last year, operated a much needed orphanage, and the OZ Barlicka Institute in Presov, which provides life-skills training for young adults with disabilities, training for new mothers and rehabilitative care for the elderly of the community.

The Prince of Peace Annual Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast is wonderful opportunity to rekindle treasured memories of your childhood, as well as helping to educate our children and grandchildren about some of the lovely and interesting cultural treasures of their ancestral homeland. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast on Saturday, March 16, 2013. For more information, to make a donation, or to learn how you can participate with a display or craft demonstration of your own, please call the Paul or Connie Zatek at 412-488-8238.

Please join the friends and families of Prince of Peace Parish on Saturday, March 16, 2013. We encourage you to begin your day praying the Holy Rosary and Liturgy in Slovak, and then relax with a traditional Easter breakfast, and finally browse the interesting table displays or treat yourself to a lovely handmade craft or gift. The Parish Hall will open for breakfast immediately following Mass. (approximately 11:15 a.m.).



# Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

L	A	M	A			A	L	E		A	B	L	E	
A	W	A	R	E		P	L	A	N		D	O	U	R
P	E	R	I	L		R	A	N	T		E	L	L	S
			A	M	M	O		D	R	O	P	O	U	T
		P	A	S		A	V	A		E	D	T		
B	E	D		W	I	E	L	D	E	D		E	B	B
R	E	V	V	E	D		L	I	S		S	A	R	A
I	L	I	A	D		N	O	D		O	K	R	A	S
B	E	S	T		L	A	W		E	V	I	N	C	E
E	D	E		M	A	G	E	N	T	A		E	E	L
			T	E	G		D	A	N		A	D	S	
E	M	B	A	R	G	O		V	A	L	E			
V	E	E	R		A	P	S	E		A	G	A	T	E
I	R	A	N		R	E	E	L		D	I	N	E	R
L	E	N	S		D	N	A			S	A	N	G	

# The Men's and Women's 2nd Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

This event is being sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, the National Slovak Society, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, for the purpose of promoting fraternalism and good sportsmanship, and to generate nationwide interest in the Slovak fraternal organizations. The National Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, and the National Slovak Society, wish to extend to all members a cordial invitation to the Host City, Buffalo, NY, in this rapidly growing tournament.

The 2nd Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Handicap Tenpin Bowling Tournament will be held at AMF Airport Lanes-Buffalo, 3754 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, NY 14225. The tournament will be held the weekend of May 3-5, 2013. Opening Ceremonies will be held on Friday, May 3, at 5:45 PM.

**ENTRIES WILL CLOSE MIDNIGHT MARCH 15, 2013. PLEASE NOTE: ALL FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY. PRIZE FEES, AS STATED ON THE FRONT OF THIS ENTRY BLANK, MUST ACCOMPANY THIS ENTRY. ALL INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN FOR RESUBMISSION.**

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.

USBC Bowling Rules shall govern in all matters concerning the actual play on the lanes in this Tournament.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This Tournament is open to all First Catholic Slovak Union, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, the National Slovak Society, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, male and female bonafide MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. All winners will be checked before any prize money is awarded. Only members with USBC Membership Cards will be eligible for the USBC special awards in this USBC Certified Tournament. Bowlers without USBC Membership Cards may purchase some from the Tournament Committee at current local fees prior to actual participation in this Tournament.

**CONSENT RULES:** 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 USBC 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 Committee 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. USBC Rule No. 13

**AVERAGES:** All entrants will use their highest average of any USBC league of at least 21 games from the 2011-2012 season. Bowlers with no such average from the 2011-2012 season and with at least 21 games in the 2012-2013 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 Committee at the Tournament. Non-certified bowlers, with no certified league average, that have bowled in previous FCSU, LPSCU, NSS, or FCSLA tournaments will have their averages calculated from their three most recent tournaments. All male bowlers with no established USBC average will bowl a 175 scratch. All female bowlers with no established USBC will bowl a 150 scratch. Summer league averages will be accepted.

Any contestant whose current average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2013, 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.

**AVERAGE CHANGES:** 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 Committee. 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. 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.

**TEAMS:** Mixed teams comprising of 2 men and 2 women are allowed. Mixed teams will be grouped with men's teams

for prize distribution (see PRIZES), unless at least 21 mixed teams participate. If 21 or more mixed teams enter, a separate mixed prize fund will be established and one prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries.

**DOUBLES:** Mixed doubles are allowed. Mixed doubles will be grouped with men's teams for prize distribution (see PRIZES), unless at least 21 mixed doubles participate. If 21 or more mixed doubles enter, a separate mixed prize fund will be established and one prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries.

**HANDICAPS: MEN** – The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 210 and the submitted average. **WOMEN** – The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 180 and the submitted average. Women participating in mixed teams or doubles will have a handicap of 90% of the difference between 210 and the submitted average. The maximum handicap awarded to any bowler will be 45 pins. Under no circumstances will handicap be increased after participant has bowled.

**PRIZES: MEN and WOMEN** – 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. All prizes will be subject to the approval of the Tournament Committee. 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.

**LINE-UP CHANGES:** All participants must bowl according to where they are listed on the submitted entry form. Any replacement of participants originally scheduled to bowl on team or doubles will take same position on team and doubles event.

**ABSENTEES:** To alleviate absentee problems, the Tournament Committee will provide a replacement bowler when notified of the absentee.

**TARDY BOWLERS:** Tardy Bowler will receive zero for each frame missed. USBC Rule 322

**SCORING:** Errors in scoring or calculations must be presented to the Tournament Committee 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.

Requests - Please circle choice times			
Event	Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
TEAM	5/3		
DOUBLES & SINGLES	5/4		

**2013** May 3 - 4, 2013  
 Entries Close  
 March 15, 2013

## BOWLING ENTRY BLANK

Please Read Carefully

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Men's and Women's Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

Hosted by First Catholic Slovak Union, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, National Slovak Society and First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association  
 A/k/a the United Slovak Fraternal's

**AMF Airport Lanes-Buffalo**  
**3754 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, NY 14225**

*Entry Fees*  
 Prize Fee.....\$7.00  
 Bowling Fee (3games).....\$6.75  
 Tournament Fee.....\$3.25  
**Total Each Event .....\$17.00**

*Optional Events*  
 All Events .....\$3.00  
 Senior Singles Event (60+).....\$5.00

*Banquet Fees*  
 Member ..... \$25.00  
 Total Included ..... \$\_\_\_\_\_

Mail Entry Fee Payable to:  
 FCSU Activities  
 Mail to:  
 Susan Ondrejco  
 234 Ilion St.  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 League: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

All Events (X)	Attend Banq (X)	CORRECT TEAM LINEUP (Print or Type)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	USBC NO.	ADDRESS	CERT./POLICY NO. <b>MUST BE FILLED IN</b>	BRANCH/ ASSM NO.
		1.					
		2.					
		3.					
		4.					
Singles (X)	Attend Banq (X)	TWO-MAN EVENT (Print or Type Full Names)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	Seniors (X)			
		1.					
		2.					
		1.					
		2.					

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Registration** 5:00 PM  
**Bowlers:** 6:00 PM  
 8:30 PM  
 1<sup>st</sup> Team Events  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Events

**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Bowlers:**  
 Events 8:30 AM  
 12:30 PM  
 1<sup>st</sup> Doubles/Singles  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Doubles/Singles

*ALL BOWLING AND, ENTRY FEES MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM*  
**FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION**  
*INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND MUST BE RESUBMITTED*

Substitutes **must** bowl in the position vacated by the original entrant as per USBC.

# Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

## Novohrad

(Pokračovanie)

Tento región nachádzajúci sa už na strednom Slovensku, v Lučeneckej kotline, patrí medzi najmenšie.

Jeho centrom je Lučenec s maďarským a slovenským obyvateľstvom, ktorý vznikol zo staršej slovanskej osady v 15. st. na rieke Kriváň. Návštevníka historických pamiatok v meste zaujme katolícky kostol Navštívenia Panny Márie z roku 1783.

Študovali tam viacerí literárni pracovníci, napr. Ján Čajak ml., Janko Alexy, Ján Rob Poničan... V cintoríne je pochovaná aj Božena Slančíková - Timrava, ktorá vo svojich prácach vykreslila realistický obraz rázovitého novohradského ľudu. Z jej bohatej tvorby uvádzam aspoň niektoré: *Bál, Pozde, Na jednom dvore, Tak je darmo, Šťastie...*

V 16. a 17. st. mesto niekoľkokrát ovládli Turci. Z jeho historickej minulosti nemožno opomenúť bitku pri Lučenci, v ktorej vojská Jána Jiskru porazili oveľa početnejšie vojská Jána Huňadiho. Toto bojové stretnutie bolo inšpiráciou Aloisa Jiráka pre napísanie románu *Bitka pri Lučenci* a Ľudovíta Kubániho pre román *Valgata*.

Z okolitých obcí je zaujímavé Kalinovo s magnezitovými baňami. Chodil tam do školy aj Matej Bel, jeden z najväčších vzdelancov Európy v 18. storočí.

Na rozhraní Javoria a Slovenského rudohoria sa nachádza Divín, so zručaninami gotického hradu z 13. st. a renesančným kaštieľom z r. 1670, ktorého sa načas zmocnili Turci a robili odtiaľ bojové výpravy do okolia. Počas SNP sa v ňom liečili francúzski partizáni.

V Haliči môžeme obdivovať štvorvežový zámok, ktorý dal postaviť po víťaznej vojne v r. 1451 Ján Jiskra. Od r. 1767 boli tam až do r. 1950 manufaktúry na majoliku a súkno. Ruiny hradov nájdeme aj v Hajnačke a Hodejove.

V regióne je niekoľko sklární: Poltár, Katarínska Huta, Zelené, Utekáč, kde sa ešte nedávno vyrábali brúsené a rubínové predmety: poháre, vázy, misky... ktoré toho času v dôsledku nepriaznivej ekonomickej situácie nepracujú. Vyhľadávané boli poháre a kališteky „Zlatá Zuzana“

V Poltári došlo v r. 1355 k tragickej udalosti. Vyvrážili tam celú rodinu Záchovú až do 3. kolena, pretože Zách sa pokúsil o atentát na kráľa Róberta pre zneuctenie svojej dcéry.

Po bitke pri Lučenci sa skupinkám Jiskrových vojsk tak zapáčilo prostredie i pekná príroda, že sa rozhodli nevrátiť sa do Čiech. Usadili sa tam a založili si aj obce: *České Brezovo, Praha a Opava*.

Andrej Štelmák, Sliac



Kostol Navštívenia Panny Márie v Lučenci.



Haličský zámok.



Haličská keramika.



Zlatá Zuzana – Sklárne Poltár.

# Prvá Slovenská republika v moderných dejinách

*Nemôžeme zabúdať na obdobia, keď mali Slováci svoj štát*

Historik Peter Sliacky

Štrnásteho marca 1939 bol v Bratislave počas zasadnutia Slovenského snemu vyhlásený prvý Slovenský štát. Snem najskôr prijal demisiu autonómnej vlády Karola Sidora a neskôr Jozef Tiso oboznámil poslancov s rokovacími v Berlíne. Po jeho prednese sa 57 prítomných poslancov jednohlasne vyjadrilo za vznik Slovenského štátu postavením sa zo svojho miesta.

To bolo tzv. aklačné hlasovanie o otázke: „Kto súhlasí s tým, aby bol vyhlásený samostatný Slovenský štát?“ Poslanci Slovenského snemu kladným verdiktom začali nové dejiny Slovenska a Slovákov v období, keď sa rozhodovalo o našom bytí medzi európskymi národmi.

Dátum 14. marec 1939 je spojený so vznikom prvého Slovenského štátu, ktorý 21. júla 1939 po schválení prvej slovenskej ústavy niesol názov Slovenská republika. Tento prvý Slovenský štát, resp. republika, je častovaná takými prívlastkami ako: vojnový, klérofašistický a podobne. Jeho vznik treba chápať v omnoho širšom rámci, a to vzhľadom na geopolitické postavenie Slovenska v danom období, ako aj na stupňujúcu sa národnú emancipáciu Slovákov a ich potrebu po vlastnom štáte. Taktiež treba chápať aj to, že do roku 1989 sa historici nemohli venovať objektívnemu výskumu prvej Slovenskej republiky – napriek tomu sa obdobie jej existencie vníma čierno-bielo. Prečo je to tak? Azda, že národ si vybudoval vlastný štát, ale za pomoci a garancie hraníc s nacistickým Nemeckom? Vari preto by sme nemali prijímať jednohlasne Slovenským snemom ustanovený Slovenský štát a neskoršie ústavou zakotvenú Slovenskú republiku? Sú toto dôvody, pre ktoré si nemáme pripomínať vznik prvej Slovenskej republiky alebo je hlavným dôvodom to, čo sa stalo so židovskou komunitou na Slovensku?

Samozrejme, že nikto z nás nie je obhajcom toho, čo sa dialo so slovenskými Židmi, ale v dejinách nenájdeme štát bez viny. Tak ako nikto z nás nemôže nesúhlasiť so slovami Ježiša Krista: „Kto je bez viny, nech hodí do mňa kameňom,“ preto si treba uvedomovať, čo pre Slovensko a Slovákov znamenal vznik prvej Slovenskej republiky.

## Trnista cesta

Slovensko a jeho pospolitosť sa po dlhom jarme v Uhorsku alebo v tzv. žalári národov, ktoré najviac začalo naberať na sile po rakúsko-maďarskom vyrovaní v roku 1867, tešilo 28. októbra 1918 zo vzniku spoločného štátu Čechov a Slovákov. Predstavitelia slovenskej samobytnosti si mysleli, že prvá Česko-Slovenská republika (1. ČSR) bude stáť na pilieroch Pittsburskej dohody. Tá deklarovala vytvorenie autonómie pre Slovákov. Lenže po vzniku 1. ČSR sa táto dohoda vôbec neakceptovala, ba samotný prezident republiky T. G. Masaryk, ktorý sa pod ňu podpísal, ju označil za falzum. To boli prvé náznaky toho, že českí politickí pohlavári to so Slovenskom nemysleli úprimne. Slovenská ľudová strana – SLS (neskoršie HSLS), preto začala presadzovať politiku autonómie. Jej hlavným predstaviteľom sa stal Andrej Hlinka. Už 9. novembra 1920 na straníckom sneme vyhlásil: „My Slováci – máme právo na autonómiu. My Slováci stojíme na základe Pittsburskej dohody, stojíme na základe tejto historickej Magny charty a od tej za žiadnu cenu nikomu a nikdy neustúpime. Táto zmluva nerobí krivku českému národu. Nechce dávať nadprávie slovenskému národu. Chce len to, aby brat bol šťastný pod jedným krovom... My máme právo tu byť a tu žiť. My Slováci sme národ a máme právo na našu existenciu, ktorú nám Pittsburská dohoda zabezpečuje a ktorú budeme neustále brániť a hájiť.“

## Podpora národa

A. Hlinka vedel, že národ ide za ním napriek všetkým úsiliam jeho nepriateľov. Jeho priama politika mu získala dôveru národa, ktorá sa ukázala už v župných voľbách v septembri 1923. Ľudová strana sa predstavila ako najsilnejšia politická strana na Slovensku. Získala 34 percent hlasov, kým sociálni demokrati, ktorí vyhrali voľby v roku 1920, nezískali ani 10 percent podpory. Volebné výsledky naznačovali, že Ľudová strana už nie je iba stranou, ktorú podporujú výlučne sedliaci na Liptove a na Záhori, ale že má podporu medzi všetkými vrstvami Slovenska. Vo vedomí tejto podpory politik Hlinka zvyšoval svoje úsilie. Pri každej príležitosti hlásal, že Slováci budú môcť pokladať ČSR za svoj štát iba po tom, keď im ten štát dá, čo im podľa prirodzeného práva patrí, a k čomu sa prezident Masaryk svojim podpisom na Pittsburskej dohode zaviazal.

Rezolúcia, ktorú A. Hlinka na Pribinových oslavách v Nitre v auguste 1933 prečítal, bola výkrikom hrdého národa s bohatou históriou a dlhou kresťanskou tradíciou. Hovorilo sa v nej: „Vyhlasujeme, že v štáte tomto chceme vidieť svoju budúcnosť nielen ako národ svojprávny a nielen ako národ samobytný, ktorý sám chce spravovať svoje veci a chce sám riadiť svoj osud... Vyhlasujeme, že svojich národných práv v Pittsburskej dohode zabezpečených sa nikdy nezriekneme a že za lepšie blaho národa slovenského bojovať budeme mužne a vytrvale, ako nám to káže povinnosť k slovenskému národu a posvätná pamiatka Pribinova. Slováci! Dnešné veľkolepé jedenásť storočné jubileum je živým dôkazom, že sme boli samobytným národom a takým chceme i ostať!“

## Emancipačný vrchol

Tieto udalosti a výroky poukazujú na to, že emancipácia Slovákov bola na vrchole, ktorého vyústením nemohlo byť nič iné ako utvorenie vlastného štátu. Lenže vzhľadom na politickú situáciu sa emancipácia nemohla vyvíjať v „evolučnom postupe k samostatnosti“, ako spomenul Karol Sidor 12. marca 1939 pri návšteve vyslancov Hitlera na čele s Dr. Wilhelmom Keppelrom, keď jeho ponuku rázne odmietol. Ďalší deň na to bol pozvaný do Berlína Dr. Jozef Tiso, ktorý po odobrení predsedníctvom strany, snemu a vlády dostal jasné inštrukcie: „Vypočuť, nič nerozhodnúť.“ Tak aj urobil, a to napriek tomu, čo v tom čase znamenal Adolf Hitler a ako sa mu iné politické osobnosti poklonkovali. Dr. Jozef Tiso napriek naliehaniu Hitlera odmietol vyhlásenie Slovenského štátu z Berlína a odpovedal mu, že ľutuje, ale nie je vstave urobiť nijaké rozhodnutie v tejto veci, „lebo to patrí výlučne do kompetencie Slovenského snemu“. Žiadal, aby sa mohol telefonicky spojiť s predsedom slovenskej vlády K. Sidorom a s prezidentom č.-s. federácie Háchom, ktorým oznámil nevyhnutnosť zvolania Slovenského snemu. Prezident Hácha zvolal snem na nasledujúci deň – a 14. marec bol vyvrcholením marcových udalostí.

Snem jednohlasne vyhlásil Slovenský štát. V dobe, v ktorej bola nepriaznivá politická situácia v celej Európe. V dobe, keď politiku diktovalo Nemecko. V dobe, v ktorej sa svetoví predstavitelia európskych veľmocí klaňali nemeckému kancelárovi. V dobe, keď garantmi česko-slovenskej samobytnosti boli práve už spomenuté európske veľmoci, ako Francúzsko a Veľká Británia, ktorých predstavitelia nás v rámci politiky appeasementu (politiky uzmiarovania) v roku 1938 na tzv. Mníchovskej konferencii nechali napospas nemeckým politickým zámerom.

Slovenské národné noviny

(Pokračovanie v budúcom čísle Jednoty)

## Oznamy a spoločenské podujatia

### Schôdza Okresu Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Okres Princa Pribinu IKSJ pripravuje schôdzu, ktorá sa bude konať na Kvetnú nedeľu 24. marca 2013. Oslava začne slovenskou svätou omšou o 11:00 hodine ráno v kaplnke sv. Jána Boscu pri St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Boulevard, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706.

Po svätej omši sa bude podávať chutný slovenský obed so zákuskom a občerstvením. Deti sa budú zabávať tradičným hľadaním veľkonočných vajčiek. Po obede bude schôdza pokračovať v jedálni.

Na programe je Rok Viery ohlásený pápežom Benediktom XVI. Príprava osláv 1150 výročia príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na Slovensko a evanjelizácie Slovákov. Ďalšie aktivity a informácie o poist'ovacom programe Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Na toto posedenie pozývame všetkých našich členov ako aj delegátov jednotlivých spolkov nášho Okresu Princa Pribinu.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

### Spomienková oslava slovenskej štátnosti

Zbor Slovenskej ligy v New Yorku si Vás dovoľuje pozvať na Spomienkovú oslavu slovenskej štátnosti, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 10. marca 2013 o 1.00 hodine odpoľudnia v spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66th Street, New York City. Podujatie sa koná v spolupráci Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Spolku sv. Štefana a Spolku sv. Matúša Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Slovenského katolíckeho sokola a ostatných fraternalistických spolkov.

V minulosti dosiahlo Slovensko samostatnosť dvakrát: 14. marca 1939 a po dlhom čase boja za slobodu opäť dňa 1. januára 1993. Bolo to historické dianie slovenského národa na jeho ceste k sebaurčeniu a štátnej samostatnosti.

Presný program bude k dispozícii pred oslavou. Počas programu bude možnosť zakúpenia slovenského jedla a rôznych nápojov v otvorenom bare. O bližšie informácie volajte: Milan a Henrieta Dait (201) 641-8922; Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084. Vstup je voľný.

## Nová publikácia: Slovenský rok v ľudových zvykoch, obradoch a sviatkoch

Dovoľte, aby sme Vám touto cestou dali do pozornosti výnimočnú veľkú rodinnú knihu o ľudovom zvykosloví na Slovensku, publikáciu SLOVENSKÝ ROK v ľudových zvykoch, obradoch a sviatkoch. Autorka Katarína Nádaská je etnologička, najmä z rozhlasu a televízie známa sprostredkovateľka poznatkov o slovenských ľudových tradíciách.

Publikácia je výnimočná nielen svojím obsahom, ale spracovaním. Ponúka pútavé a zábavné čítanie, texty oživujú ukážky ľudovej slovesnosti a úryvky z literárnych diel slovenských klasikov. Osobitý pôvab knižke pridávajú hravé ilustrácie známeho slovenského ilustrátora Martina Kellenbergera. Na Slovensku zaznamenala veľký ohlas a vyvolala veľký záujem čitateľov, o čom svedčí množstvo pozitívnych hodnotení. Kniha vyšla v slovenčine v novembri 2012, má 328 strán a člení sa na štyri kapitoly podľa ročných období. Publikácia bola realizovaná s finančnou podporou Ministerstva kultúry SR.

Veríme, že Vás osloví práve táto publikácia, jedinečná na slovenskom knižnom trhu, vďaka ktorej sa môžete obohatiť spoznávaním tajomno-krásneho života našich predkov.

V prípade Vášho záujmu o zakúpenie publikácie, respektíve ďalších informácií, kontaktujte prosím Lucia Vagová, email: vagova@fortuna.sk FORTUNA LIBRI, s r. o., Zadunajská cesta 8, 851 01 Bratislava, SLOVENSKÁ REPUBLIKA, Tel.: +421 2 6820 4715, Fax: +421 2 6820 4740, www.fortunalibri.sk



## Múzeum komunizmu oficiálne otvoria v marci v Bratislave

Múzeum zločinov a obetí komunizmu sa pre návštevníkov oficiálne otvorí 25. marca, teda v deň, keď si verejnosť pripomína 25. výročie Sviečkovej manifestácie. Od novembra minulého roka funguje v skúšobnej prevádzke.

František Neupauer z OZ Nenápadní hrdinovia, ktoré múzeum zriaďuje, tvrdí, že stále hľadajú podporovateľov, aby múzeum mohlo mať aspoň jedného stáleho zamestnanca. V súčasnosti je otvorené každý štvrtok od 9.00 do 15.00 h. Múzeum sídli na Námestí slobody pri novej budove Úradu vlády.

“Naše múzeum bude ponúkať priestor na stretnutie mladých ľudí s bývalými politickými väzňami. Chceme zároveň zaznamenávať pohľad tých, ktorí žili v čase neslobody,” povedal Neupauer. Nemenej dôležité budú podľa neho aj konkrétne predmety súvisiace s totalitným režimom, pričom najväčšiu pozornosť budú venovať jeho obetiam. “Naším cieľom je postupne predstavovať tieto príbehy, a to nielen pohľadom historikov, ale aj mladých ľudí. Cez projekt Nenápadní hrdinovia máme očami 200 mladých ľudí zaznamenaných už skoro 80 príbehov ‘nenápadných hrdinov’,” dodal predseda OZ.

Dodáva, že múzeum nie je naviazané na miesto. Mladých ľudí, ktorí múzeum navštívia, chce zaviesť k budove “U dvoch levov”, alebo k budove “februárky”. “V týchto budovách boli ľudia perzekvovaní, a preto tam chceme predstaviť príbehy tých, ktorí nám svojimi postojmi prinavrátili slobodu,” objasnil Neupauer.

Múzeum už počas skúšobnej prevádzky navštívili ľudia zo susedného Maďarska, ale aj z Nikaraguy či Papua Novej Guiney. Prezrel si ho disident a bývalý člen KDĽ František Mikloško, líder kresťanských demokratov Ján Figeľ, predseda Konfederácie politických väzňov Anton Srholec či biskup Róbert Bezák.

TASR

### PRIHLÁŠKA

NA SVETOVÉ STRETNUTIE SLOVÁKOV –  
MATIČNÝ SVETOVÝ FESTIVAL SLOVENSKEJ MLÁDEŽE  
KOŠICE, SLOVENSKO

Pozývame Vás na Svetové stretnutie Slovákov – Matičný svetový festival slovenskej mládeže, ktorý sa bude konať v dňoch 4. - 8. júla 2013 na území Slovenska – v Košiciach a ďalších slovenských mestách východného Slovenska

Pre účastníkov festivalu pripravujeme atraktívne kultúrne, športové, turistické, spoločenské, poznávacie podujatia. O programe Vás budeme informovať, informácie budú priebežne zverejnené aj na stránke [www.matica.sk](http://www.matica.sk).

### PRIHLÁŠKA – NÁVRATKA

Termín pobytu: od ..... do .....

Meno: ..... Priezvisko : ..... dátum narodenia : .....

Adresa: ..... Krajina: .....

Telefón: ..... Fax: ..... e-mail: .....

Na festival prihlasujem spoluúčastníkov v počte ..... osôb (priložiť zoznam).

UBYTOVANIE : z 4.7. na 5.7., z 5.7. na 6.7., zo 6.7. na 7.7., zo 7.7. na 8.7. 2013 \*

STRAVOVANIE: 1. nežiadam stravu \*  
2. objednávam (R – raňajky, V – večera) \*

	raňajky	večera
5.7.2013		
6.7.2013		
7.7.2013		
8.7.2013		

Cena za internátne ubytovanie je 7,- Eur /osoba/ noc, cena za raňajky 1,- €, cena za večeru: 3,- €

\* Svoje požiadavky označte podľa záujmu o ubytovanie a stravu.

Organizátor zabezpečí pre účastníkov festivalu stravu a ubytovanie len na základe prijatej prihlášky a po úhrade príslušného poplatku za objednané služby v termíne najneskôr do 15.6.2013 na účet vedený v ČSOB, a.s., pobočka Martin, IBAN: SK28 7500 0000 0040 0786 8337, BIC: CEKOSKBX, variabilný symbol 2013, správa pre prijímateľa - prosíme uviesť meno.

Prihlášky zasielajte na adresu Krajanské múzeum Maticy slovenskej, Mudroňova 1, 036 01 Martin - SR (tel.: +421/43/41330 67, +421905 313 277) alebo e-mailom na adresu [krajanskemuzeum@matica.sk](mailto:krajanskemuzeum@matica.sk), [domhronskeho@matica.sk](mailto:domhronskeho@matica.sk) alebo faxom na číslo +421/43/4133188.

## Europoslanec Peter Šťastný na post prezidenta SR

*Legendárny hokejista-útočník, reprezentant ČSSR a Slovenska, člen siene slávy NHL a IIHF a od roku 2004 poslanec Európskeho parlamentu za SDKÚ-DS*

Europoslanec SDKÚ Peter Šťastný uvažuje o kandidatúre na post prezidenta Slovenskej republiky. Na otázku, či vylučuje, že v priebehu roka oficiálne ohlásí kandidatúru na post prezidenta SR Šťastný stručne odpovedal: “Takúto možnosť nevylučujem.” Zároveň potvrdil, že možnosť kandidovať do najvyššej štátnej funkcie aktuálne zvažuje. Širšie však túto tému zatiaľ rozoberať nechcel.

Médiá aj sociológovia v poslednom čase uvažujú o možnosti, že by sa Šťastný uchádzal o post hlavy štátu, prípadne hodnotia, aké by mal šance. Na facebooku sa už objavila aj fan stránka, ktorá podporuje myšlienku jeho kandidatúry. „Peter Šťastný predstavuje všetky atribúty, ktoré nový slovenský prezident potrebuje tak, aby sme sa za neho nemuseli hanbiť – či už doma alebo v zahraničí,“ uvádzajú fanúšikovia na stránke. Samotný Šťastný sa však k možnosti svojej kandidatúry vyjadril až vo štvrtok.

Hokejová legenda Peter Šťastný dlhé roky podporoval politiku SDKÚ, neskôr sa rozhodol prijať ponuku tejto strany kandidovať do Európskeho parlamentu (EP).

Prvými poslancami EP za SDKÚ v rokoch 2004–2009 boli Peter Šťastný, Milan Gaľa a Zita Pleštinová. Vo voľbách do EP 6. júna 2009 získala strana 16.98 percenta hlasov a dva mandáty. Europoslancami sa stali Eduard Kukan a Peter Šťastný.



FOTO: TASR/ Martin Baumann

Peter Šťastný

Zámer kandidovať na funkciu prezidenta zatiaľ oznámil expremiér Ján Čarnogurský a zakladateľ Dobrého Anjela Andrej Kiska. Podľa bratislavskej krajskej Rady KDĽ by bol dobrým kandidátom aj poslanec Radoslav Procházka. V súvislosti s kandidatúrou sa spomínali aj mená ministra zahraničných vecí Miroslava Lajčáka a expremiérky Ivety Radičovej, obaja však túto možnosť odmietli. V KDĽ sa uvažuje aj o predsedovi poslaneckého klubu tejto strany Pavlovi Hrušovskom, ktorý sa zatiaľ definitívne k tejto možnosti nevyjadril.

TASR

## Krátko správy zo Slovenska

• **Ministerstvo školstva**, ktoré má na starosti aj oblasť športu, spúšťa nový program na podporu mladých športovcov. Tí by mohli Slovensko reprezentovať na blížiacich sa zimných olympijských hrách v ruskom meste Soči v roku 2014, na letnej olympiáde v roku 2016 v Rio de Janeiro a ďalších medzinárodných súťažiach. V rámci programu získajú podporu najmä 96 športovcov do 23 rokov, ktorí vo svojich športoch patria medzi 16 najlepších na svete. Prípravu mladých športovcov bude podporovať tím zložený z diagnostikov, športového fyziológa, dietológa či psychológa. Program slovenský šport 2020 ministerstvo rozbieha v rámci novej koncepcie rozvoja športu. Na oblasť športu ide z ministerstva školstva asi 33 miliónov eur.

• **Slovenská poslankyňa Európskeho parlamentu (EP) Edit Bauer** vo svojom nedávnom vystúpení na plenárnom zasadnutí EP v Štrasburgu upozornila na nekalé praktiky niektorých výrobcov a poskytovateľov služieb, ktorí rovnaké výrobky predávajú v nových členských krajinách EÚ v nižšej kvalite za rovnaké, často aj vyššie ceny, ako v starých členských štátoch. V prípade mäsových výrobkov je to nižší obsah mäsa, v prípade pracích práškov a čistiacich prostriedkov nižšia kvalita, v prípade služieb niektorých mobilných operátorov alebo bánk menší rozsah služieb za vyššie ceny. Poslankyňa spresnila, že sa to deje "v krajinách s podstatne nižšími príjmami obyvateľstva". Vo svojom vystúpení pritom poukázala na skutočnosť, že by ochrana spotrebiteľa nemala tolerovať takúto výraznú diskrimináciu spotrebiteľa.

• **Závod spoločnosti Hella Slovakia Front-Lighting** pri Trenčíne plánuje prijať desiatky pracovníkov. Plánujú zvýšiť kapacity o 53 ľudí, najmä do oblasti výroby, prezradila ekonomická riaditeľka firmy Helena Králiková s tým, že ďalších 32 miest je voľných pre inžinierov a špecialistov. Dvom z troch závodov, ktoré Hella má na Slovensku, totiž narastie predaj o 20 percent. Dôvodom sú vyššie objednávky od Porsche či Volkswagenu, no podľa informácií najmä od Daimleru. Pod neho patrí značka Mercedes, ktorá si na Slovensku dáva vyrábať predné svetlá. Tejto automobilke sa napriek kríze darí.

• **Skupina špeciálnych operácií** bude do operácie NATO v Afganistane vyslaná na plnenie úloh podpory, mentoringu a poradenstva afganských bezpečnostných zložiek so zameraním na plnenie úloh špeciálnych operácií v plnom rozsahu. Tento príspevok má slúžiť na preklopenie kritického obdobia spojeného s ukončením operácie ISAF, ktoré je naplánované na rok 2014. Zároveň je v súlade so závermi summitu NATO v Chicagu a podľa ministerstva zodpovedá aj ekonomickým možnostiam Slovenska. Slovensko už má skúsenosti s vyslaním síl špeciálneho určenia do Afganistanu. V septembri 2012 do misie ISAF vyslalo už tretiu rotáciu 20 vojakov 5. pluku špeciálneho určenia v Žiline. V súčasnosti má Slovensko v krajine 253 vojakov.

• **Tlačová agentúra Slovenskej republiky (TASR)** koncom januára rozšírila spoluprácu s agentúrou Associated Press (AP) o Financial News Service. Verejnoprávne médium týmto krokom posilnilo svoje vedúce postavenie na agentúrnom trhu s ekonomickými informáciami. TASR v súčasnosti spolupracuje s 27 zahraničnými agentúrami. Ekonomické informácie čerpá nielen z Associated Press, ale tiež z Reuters, nemeckej DPA, rakúskej APA, čínskej Xinhua a mnohých ďalších renomovaných zdrojov.

• **Matej Valuch**, zadržaný v Iráne pre údajnú špionáž bol prepustený z Iránskeho väzenia a úspešne sa vrátil na Slovensko. Informoval šéf rezortu diplomacie Miroslav Lajčák (nominant Smeru-SD) spoločne so samotným Valuchom. "Je to veľmi príjemný pocit počuť zase slovenčinu a vidieť Bratislavský hrad," povedal Valuch, ktorý zdôraznil, že nie je v žiadnom prípade špión. Iránske úrady zatkli Slováka v januári pre podozrenie zo špionáže. Tamojšia tlačová agentúra Mehr pritom ešte 17. januára informovala o odhalení skupiny údajných špiónov pracujúcich pre americkú CIA. Valucha označili za spojku americkej tajnej služby a vykonávateľa tajného plánu CIA. Podľa tlačovej agentúry ho zadržali iránski bezpečnostní agenti spolu s "ďalšími členmi protiiránskej skupiny".

• **Pondelok 11. februára** bol v poradí už štvrtým pondelkom, kedy zamestnanci výrobného závodu Samsung vo Voderadoch nenastúpili do práce. Spoločnosť Samsung Display Slovakia, s. r. o. krátením pracovného týždňa a znížením produkcie reaguje na aktuálnu požiadavku trhu. Elektrotechnický priemysel podlieha sezónnosti a po zvýšenom objeme produkcie na vianočné trhy pravidelne nasleduje obdobie nižšej produkcie začiatkom roka. V zmysle uvedeného je i obdobie nízkej produkcie závodu očakávané a teda ničím zvláštne. Spoločnosť Samsung Display Slovakia s. r. o. začala s výrobou LCD modulov v priemyselnom parku v obci Voderady neďaleko Trnavy v roku 2008. Je to jediný závod spoločnosti Samsung v Európe na výrobu LCD modulov.

• **Kontrolný audit**, ktorý vykonal Európsky zväz kúpeľov (ESPA) začiatkom februára v Slovenských liečebných kúpeľoch Piešťany, a. s. potvrdil udržanie a konštatoval zároveň zlepšenie kvality služieb. Podľa vedúceho audítora Kurta von Storchu sú piešťanské kúpele na dobrej ceste stať sa lídrami v oblasti kvality kúpeľníctva v Európe. ESPA zastupuje záujmy viac ako 1,200 kúpeľných miest v Európe. Jeho európska značka kvality je dôležitá najmä z dôvodu lepšej orientácie zahraničných klientov, pretože v každej krajine platia iné požiadavky na hygienu, bezpečnosť a infraštruktúru. Jednotné hodnotiace kritériá pre získanie certifikátu EuropeSpa Med sú od roku 2006 uplatňované na celom európskom kontinente. Audit absolvovali kúpele v Piešťanoch v roku 2011, pričom experti ESPA preskúmali viac ako 1,000 bodov z oblasti gastronómie, ubytovania, liečebných procedúr, bazénov, ľudských zdrojov a manažmentu.

• **Slováci** v roku 2011 podstúpili v nemocniciach 274,008 operácií. Najvyšší počet pacientov operovaných v chirurgických postelových oddeleniach Národné centrum zdravotníckych informácií (NCZI) zaznamenalo v Bratislavskom (45,041) a Košickom (42,688) kraji. Vysoko nad ostatnými prevažovali operácie pohybovej sústavy ako amputácie končatín, operácie kĺbov, kostí, svalov, šliach, nádorové choroby. Nasledovali operácie tráviaceho systému (viac ako 44,000) a operácie ženských pohlavných orgánov (takmer 40,000). Pacientov, ktorých operovali v rámci jednoduchovej chirurgie, bolo v roku 2011 takmer 130,000. Najviac jednoduchých operačných výkonov centrum eviduje v špecializačných odboroch chirurgia, ortopédia, úrazová chirurgia a plastická chirurgia, gynekológia a pôrodnictvo a oftalmológia.

• **Slovensko** vyhralo dve nové investície z Nemecka. Jeden z najväčších slovenských zamestnávateľov, nemecká skupina Schaeffler sa rozhodla na Slovensku postaviť Výskumno-vývojové stredisko a tiež vytvoriť Finančné centrum zdieľaných služieb pre celú Európu. Skupina dnes zamestnáva na Slovensku 8,100 ľudí. Po dokončení investície pribudne na Slovensku dvesto nových pracovných miest. Nemcov vyjde investícia na 10 až 12 miliónov eur.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

## Letná univerzita slovenského jazyka 8. júla – 26. júla 2013

Centrum vzdelávania Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave i v tomto roku pozýva priaznivcov slovenského jazyka na Letnú univerzitu slovenského jazyka, v rámci ktorej zúčastnení majú jedinečnú príležitosť zdokonaľiť sa v slovenčine a spoznať základy Slovenska, zoznámiť sa so slovenskými tradíciami, zvykmi a kultúrou. Letná univerzita slovenského jazyka sa bude konať od 8. júla do 26. júla 2013 sa na Univerzite Komenského v Bratislave.

Blížšie informácie nájdete na webovej stránke: [www.cdvuk.sk/ujop](http://www.cdvuk.sk/ujop)

Letná univerzita slovenského jazyka 2012 privítala v roku 2012 krajanov zo Srbska, Ukrajiny, Maďarska a Rumunska, z ďalších krajín vymenili dovolenku za kurz slovenčiny účastníci z Ruska, Švédska, Fínska, Holandska, Francúzska, Nemecka, Rakúska či Veľkej Británie. Cestu na Slovensko merali účastníci aj spoza Atlantického oceánu - z USA - a zastúpené boli i Thajsko, Vietnam, Japonsko a Egypt. Intenzívne kurzy zamerané na získanie základov, prípadne precvičenie a zdokonalenie rečových zručností v modernej slovenčine v prirodzenom jazykovom prostredí a na spoznávanie kultúry a reálií Slovenska pripravujú a realizujú lektori Ústavu jazykovej a odbornej prípravy zahraničných študentov Centra ďalšieho vzdelávania UK. 89 milovníkov slovenčiny z celého sveta sa na tri týždne zišlo v Študijnom a kongresovom stredisku ČDV UK Modra-Harmónia, ktoré sa nachádza v malebnom kraji v okolí mesta Modry, nádhernom prostredí malokarpatského regiónu symbolicky spojenom a historicky previazanom s osobnosťou kodifikátora spisovnej slovenčiny Ľudovítom Štúrom.

Krajanovia podnikli tiež trojdňovú exkurziu po Slovensku a pre všetkých účastníkov boli ďalej pripravené jednodňové výlety do Trnavy, Piešťan, na Devín a do Bratislavy či výlety na Smolenický zámok a hrad Červený kameň. Fyzicky zdatnejší absolvovali aj turistické výlety v okolí Modry alebo do jaskyne Driny. Frekventanti navštívili výrobné závody automobilového priemyslu a v kraji dobrého vína, samozrejme, aj vinársky závod ELESKO. Neobišli ani krásnu modranskú keramiku, s výrobou ktorej sa mohli priamo zoznámiť a vyskúšať si jej tvorbu na hrnciarskom kruhu v dielňach, ktoré sídlia v uliciach mesta Modry. Účastníci si mohli zatancovať večer na diskotéke, alebo si každý deň pozrieť jeden zaujímavý slovenský film.

Pohnútky a impulzy, ktoré privádzajú študentov na Slovensko, aby sa zúčastnili na tomto podujatí, sú rôznorodé. U krajanov je to predovšetkým hľadanie koreňov, rodinných predkov a súčasníkov, ale aj cibrenie správnych foriem slovenčiny, s ktorou sú naši krajanovia nútení hľadať neustále priamy kontakt.



## BBC láka na východ Slovenska

*Košice prekvapia každého*

Väčšina cudzincov o nich nepočula a mnoho Slovákov by sa neťahalo cez krajinu, aby ich navštívili. Ale Košice sú prapravené všetkých prekvapiť, píše BBC o metropole východu.

Do Košíc ako Európskeho hlavného mesta kultúry láka turistov aj portál britskej BBC venovaný cestovaniu. Zverejnil článok autora Luka Waterona, ktorý je známy tým, že svojim textom pre Lonely Planet zaradil Slovensko do 10 najlepších destinácií roka 2013. "Veľkolepý Dóm svätej Alžbety je najväčšia katedrála na Slovensku. Väčšina cudzincov však o nej nikdy nepočula," uvádza sa v článku.

Autor Košice charakterizuje slovami "renesančno-barokový architektonický skvost" s množstvom historických budov. "Predstavuje čitateľom tri najdôležitejšie projekty kultúrnych Košíc," doplnila manažérka pre komunikáciu a PR aktivity Slovenskej agentúry pre cestovný ruch (SACR) Zuzana Nemcová.

Prvým je Kulturpark, kde by mala vzniknúť oáza tvorivosti, workshopov a výstav. Ďalším je Kunsthallo. Otvoria ju výstavou diel výtvarníka Guyula Kosice, ktorý žil a tvoril v Latinskej Amerike. A tretím projektom je prestavba amfiteátra, čo vytvorí pôdu na hostovanie festivalu Cassovia a ďalších open-air podujatí.

Autor odporúča hosťom v Košiciach navštíviť májový festival USE THE CITY, augustovú PopArt party v štýle Andy Warhola a septembrový festival vína. Za výlet podľa neho stoja aj zaujímavé turistické ciele v okolí Košíc, ako sú jaskyne Slovenského krasu, Tokajská vinohradnícka oblasť či Slovenský raj.

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Pohľad na Hlavnú ulicu v Košiciach.

SME/Korzár



## Benedikt XVI. sa rozhodol slobodne vzdať svojho úradu



FOTO: TASR/AP Photo/L'Osservatore Romano

Pápež Benedikt XVI. (v pozadí tretí sprava) počas stretnutia kardinálov vo Vatikáne, 11. februára 2013. Hlava katolíckej cirkvi pápež Benedikt XVI. v pondelok oznámil, že sa 28. februára 2013 dobrovoľne vzdá svojho pontifikátu. Svoje rozhodnutie zdôvodnil tvrdením, že v dôsledku pokročilého veku už nemá dostatok síl na ďalšie vykonávanie svojho úradu. Nového pápeža by malo zvoliť zhromaždenie kardinálov do konca marca. Podľa agentúry AP sa Benedikt XVI. stane prvým pápežom po takmer 600 rokoch, ktorý sa vzdá úradu. Posledným pápežom, ktorý sa dobrovoľne vzdal úradu, bol v roku 1415 Gregor XII. v snahe vyriešiť spor medzi dvoma uchádzačmi o pápežstvo.

*In this photo provided by the Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano, Pope Benedict XVI, sitting on the throne at left, attends a meeting of Vatican cardinals, at the Vatican, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013. Benedict XVI announced Monday that he would resign Feb. 28 - the first pontiff to do so in nearly 600 years. The decision sets the stage for a conclave to elect a new pope before the end of March.*

## Zasnežená obec Zlatá Idka



FOTO TASR - František Iván

Zasnežená obec Zlatá Idka v okrese Košice okolie 8. februára 2013.

*The village of Zlata Idka near Kosice was a winter wonderland on February 8, 2013.*

## Jubileum sv. Cyrila a Metoda pripomenú svetové osobnosti v Ríme

Oslavy 1150. výročia príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na územie Slovenska pripomenú viaceré uznávané osobnosti na medzinárodnej konferencii "Svätí Cyril a Metod medzi slovanskými národmi: 1150 rokov od začiatku misie" v Ríme. Uskutoční sa v dňoch 25. a 26. februára 2013 na Pápežskom východnom inštitúte a Pápežskej Gregorovej univerzite pod záštitou slovenského kardinála Jozefa Tomka, emeritného prefekta Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov, a arcibiskupa Cyrila Vasiľa, sekretára Kongregácie pre východné Cirkvi, ktorí sú zároveň jeho hlavnými organizátormi.

„Príchod sv. Cyrila a Metoda k našim predkom a použitie ich jazyka v liturgii pri hlásaní evanjelia mimoriadne pomohli pri šírení viery a budovaní kultúry medzi slovanskými národmi,“ hovorí o význame misie dvoch solúnskych bratov kardinál Tomko. Kongres na dvoch medzinárodných univerzitných fórach, kde študuje mládež z rôznych svetadielov, môže podľa jeho slov pomôcť rozšíriť v celej Cirkvi lepšie poznanie ich diela.

Organizátori pozvali na konferenciu viaceré známe tváre. Okrem viacerých slovenských biskupov a zástupcov akademickej obce by na nej mali napríklad vystúpiť predseda Pápežskej rady pre kultúru kardinál Gianfranco Ravasi, kardináli Stanislaw Dziwisz a Dominik Duka, apoštolský exarcha Atén Dimitrios Salachas, prof. Samir Khalil Samir SJ, PIO a ďalšie mená. Vystúpiť i samotní garanti konferencie kardinál Jozef Tomko a arcibiskup Cyril Vasiľ, sekretár Kongregácie pre východné Cirkvi, ako aj viacerí slovenskí odborníci vrátane niektorých biskupov.

TK KBS

## Vyhlásenie Apoštolskej nunciatúry v SR k rozhodnutiu Svätého Otca

Po rozhodnutí Svätého Otca vzdať sa úradu vydala vyhlásenie aj Apoštolská nunciatura na Slovensku. "Odstúpiť neznamená vzdať sa: niekedy práve odstúpenie je znakom pokorného a zodpovedného poznania vlastných limitov, najmä keď sa jedná o dobro Cirkvi," píše sa vo vyhlásení, ktoré prinášame v plnom znení:

### Vyhlásenie Apoštolskej nunciatúry

Svätý Otec Benedikt XVI. včera, 11. februára 2013, v prítomnosti kardinálov zidených na zasadaní riadneho konzistória, oznámil svoje odstúpenie z pastoračného riadenia Cirkvi. Jeho demisia vojde do platnosti 28. februára 2013 o 20:00 h a Petrov apoštolský stolec bude uprázdnený až do zvolenia nového Najvyššieho Pastiera Cirkvi, ktoré sa predpokladá už na budúci mesiac, v marci 2013.

Táto správa vyvolala v celom katolíckom i nekatolíckom svete veľké prekvapenie, hoci Svätý Otec toto svoje rozhodnutie už dlhšie zvažoval.

Svätý Otec tento svoj krok vopred zodpovedne zvážil pred Bohom i vo svojom svedomí, pre postupujúci vek. Nebolo učinené pod vplyvom žiadnej jeho prípadnej vážnejšej choroby. Svätý Otec vo svojom vyhlásení jasne a so všetkou čťou hovorí, že v posledných mesiacoch mu ubudlo telesných i duševných síl a v dôsledku toho už nie sú postačujúce na vykonávanie poslania zvereného mu samotným Kristom. Vo svojom komunikáte to potvrdzuje slovami: k náležitému výkonu Petrovej služby sú potrebné aj telesné i duševné sily, ktorých mi v posledných mesiacoch ubudlo natoľko, že som došiel k istote, že sú na to už nedostačujúce.

Toto je gesto veľkej odvahy, hlbokoj ľudskosti, pokory a zodpovednosti zo strany Svätého Otca. Odstúpiť neznamená vzdať sa: niekedy práve odstúpenie je znakom pokorného a zodpovedného poznania vlastných limitov, najmä ak ide o dobro Cirkvi. V tomto okamihu sme všetci pozvaní k tomu, aby sme sa zomkli okolo osoby Svätého Otca Benedikta XVI. a ďakovali Bohu za veľký dar, ktorý dal svojej Cirkvi a celému svetu v jeho osobe, v jeho posolstvách a v jeho čírom učení.

V Bratislave, dňa 12. februára 2013

TK KBS