



Jednota

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NUMBER 5866

FCSU Welcomes Mayor of Bratislava & US Ambassador to Slovakia to Cleveland during June Visit

On Thursday, June 14, 2012, the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) welcomed U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick and Milan Ftáčnik, the mayor of Bratislava the Cleveland area with a light lunch and informal reception at the Home Office the Cleveland Council.

Later that same evening, World Affairs (CCWA) and Cleveland Bratislava Sister Cities (CBSC) co-sponsored an evening program, which featured a reception, a presentation by the mayor and a question and answer session, began at 6:00PM and ended around 8:00PM. It was held at the Union Club of Cleveland in the city's downtown district. FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec and Andrew P. Rajec, Branch 89 Member, and Member of the FCSU Home Office, were among the many who attended the event.

The main goal of both dignitaries traveling from Slovakia was to bolster relations between Slovak-Americans in the Greater Cleveland area and Slovaks in that country's capital city of Bratislava. Additional programs were scheduled around the Union Club presentation to afford Mayor Ftáčnik as much exposure to the local Slovak-American community as possible, as well as to highlight the strong historical ties between Cleveland and Slovakia.

On Saturday June 16, at 10am, CBSC arranged for Ambassador Sedgwick and Mayor Ftáčnik to lay a wreath at the statue of General Milan Rastislav Štefánik at Wade Oval, with members of the Slovak-American community in attendance including FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec and his wife Mrs.



Welcoming the Slovak dignitaries to Cleveland at the FCSU Home Office: (L-R) Milan Kobulsky, Cleveland Slovak Radio Producer; and the Home Office staff: Joseph Mitrik, Karen Davis, RosAnn Krockner, Andrew P. Rajec, Marge Szczepaniak, US Ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick, Bratislava Mayor Milan Ftacnik, Piroška Merai, Bob Kopco, Barbara Sutilla, Teresa Ivanec, Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt, and National President Andrew M. Rajec. Not pictured: Beatta Begeniova-Fedorouk, Julie Cherryholmes, Amber Germ, and Adriana Scally.

Idka Rajec. A renowned politician and diplomat credited with contributing decisively to the cause of Czechoslovak sovereignty that came about in 1918, General Štefánik died the next

year in an airplane crash near Bratislava. Cleveland Slovaks commemorated the tragedy with a monument from Slovak sculptor M. Frico Motoska in 1922. The sculpture of

General Štefánik stands at a prominent intersection of Cleveland's Wade Park, the same general area that houses the Slovak Cultural Garden. Later that same morning, the group toured the Slovak Garden, part of a three-acre parkway of 24 nationality gardens that itself features a bronze bust of Father Štefan Furedek, a gift of the First Catholic Slovak Union to honor its founder.

After the garden tour, the entire party traveled to the Western Reserve Historical Society of Cleveland to view records of the history of Slovak immigration to and settlement in the Cleveland area.

Before any of these events took place, however, the dignitaries had the opportunity to visit the Home Office Museum and meet the staff. Mayor Ftáčnik and Ambassador Sedgwick also graciously consented to spend time with Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec, and share special insights with our readers.

Q. Mayor Ftáčnik, you took office in 2010. Can you share a little about your job?

A. I have had the opportunity to become familiar with both local and national policies, and I have come to consider the municipality as a

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INSIDE: LOOK WHO'S HERE AT THE FCSU. IT'S CHEWY ČUVAČ!
His story is on p 3.

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First Catholic Slovak Union Announces



2012 Scholarship Winners

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce the winners of its 2012 Scholarship Program. The 75 students pictured in this issue of Jednota (see pp 4 - 6) were chosen as scholarship recipients by our Scholarship Committee – which is composed of active and retired educators – as a result of their SAT scores, cumulative grade point average and class rank. Each applicant was judged on the basis of his/her involvement in extra-curricular and volunteer activities, as well. Emphasis was placed upon pride of being Catholic and Slovak as evidenced throughout the required essays on the application. Finally, financial need and the cost of their chosen colleges were evaluated.

The Scholarship Committee selected 70 winners and each will receive a one-time grant of \$750.00.

In addition, a "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" was awarded to the top male and top female applicant respectively. John William Yost is the 2012 top male winner and Jessica Alexander is the 2012 top female winner. These special awards are one-time grants and are in the amount of \$1,000.00 each.

There also were three special awards given by 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. A one-time grant of \$750.00 was given to the 2011 Nursing Scholarship winners – Brandon Frei, Michele LaViola, and Hannah Minkoff.

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Insights and Viewpoints



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

July 22, 2012

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 6:30-34

Gospel Summary

We can almost picture the disciples telling Jesus excitedly about how busy and successful they have been. They are tired now but also elated. In a contemporary setting, we might well expect Jesus to say, "Well done. Keep up the good work.

In fact, you might want to pick up the pace just a little." But he says instead, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."

These words of Jesus suggest something much more profound than simply, "Let's take a break." They are reminiscent of the passage in Deuteronomy where God asks Israel to keep his presence always in mind: "Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise" (6:6-7). The words referred to contain the revelation about the reality of God's existence and of his passionate love for us.

As it turns out, Jesus and his disciples don't succeed in finding a respite from the crowd. But just planning to do so is already therapeutic and sets a boundary between our work in life and the equally important "remembering" of the Lord's gracious presence in our lives.

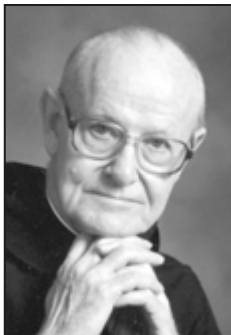
When Jesus notes that the people are like "sheep without a shepherd," he is saying, in effect, that they also need to be reminded of the primacy of God's love in their lives and of the need to feel affirmed by that love. Ultimately, it is not success at work that gives direction and meaning to life but rather it is the growing awareness of a powerful and loving One who asks us to come aside and bask in a Presence that truly makes life worthwhile.

Life Implications

The gospel story seems at first to suggest that we should separate ourselves from our work at times in order to find some peace and quiet. That is surely part of it, but something much more profound is at issue here. We must in fact find the quiet place in our hearts to which we can withdraw at any time, whether at work or at play.

It is in this quiet place that we first heard the baptismal words, "You are my beloved child," for these words of God, our loving Father, are spoken to all of us, just as they were to Jesus. They are spoken softly but very insistently. When we take time to hear them in that quiet place in our hearts, there is nowhere else that we would rather be, for they affirm us and liberate us to be all that we are meant to be. And when this happens, we are no longer like "sheep without a shepherd," no longer confused about the meaning of life or about our ability to live in peace and joy.

One may object that, if this happens, we will soon be "out of touch" or distracted or living in fantasy. But that is exactly what does not happen. For when we are thus in touch with God, we become far more attuned to what is real in life than do the so-called "practical people." The worst of all illusions is to think that it is normal to be a creature who has lost all contact with the Creator. The ideal situation is to be slightly distracted by the awareness of God's love and thus to be calmly focused on the task at hand. This "benign" distraction is really a way to be in prayerful contact with God...and with reality.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

July 29, 2012

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 6:1-15

Gospel Summary

Because of the signs Jesus was performing on the sick, a large crowd followed him as he went up on a mountain with his disciples. When Jesus saw the crowd, he said, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" Philip answered, in effect, that he did not know. Another disciple said to Jesus, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what good are these for so many?" Jesus had all the people recline. Then he took the bread, gave thanks, and gave it to the people, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. After the banquet, the disciples gathered twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that were left over. Since the people wanted to carry him off and make him king, Jesus withdrew to be alone on the mountain.

Life Implications

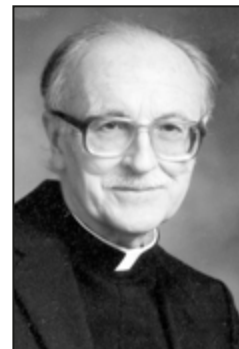
We can readily identify with the disciples' feeling of helplessness in the situation. The gospel is not about a reasonable response of compassion extended to a few people in need. Rather, it is about having no resources to match the needs of a huge crowd of people we do not even know. There is no difficulty in recognizing this situation in our own world. About every four seconds someone dies of hunger...75% are children. The shocking statistic suggests the image of an avalanche, impossible to stop and imperative to flee.

There are in fact many ways to distance ourselves from the countless people who are hungry and from the implications of this gospel. We can hurry on to the rest of this chapter in John's gospel, and devote ourselves to reflection about Jesus as the bread of life that satisfies our deepest spiritual hunger for eternal life. As spectators, we can reduce the mass of hungry people to the status of virtual reality on a screen. We can succumb to a kind of idolatry when we believe that absolute laws of the economy make it impossible for all people to have work, basic health care, and enough food to live.

The life implication of this gospel is simple: Jesus wants to work the miracle of feeding a huge number of people who are hungry; but the miracle will not happen without someone to provide five barley loaves and two fish. Jesus must have loved the boy who was willing to share what was really his to eat. The miracle of the gospel is as much about the boy as it is about Jesus. And today the boy is each of us who has something to offer the Lord. Jesus does not spiritualize the hunger of the poor, or postpone his love for them to the next world.

Dom Helder Camara, a Brazilian bishop, once said, "When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why they are poor, they call me a communist." Today the Lord asks all sorts of people who have influence in shaping public policy to make their contribution by keeping Helder Camara's question in the forefront of debate about political, social, and economic policies. The contribution of those who seek solutions to the very difficult question of Helder Camara is as essential as the contribution of those who are daily engaged in the immediate relief of starving people. And regardless of the effort, there will always be the feeling: but what good is this among so many?

If God gave us the natural resources, the brains and the will to achieve what we have in our country through science and technology, it is likely that with Christ we can also bring about the miracle of every child of God having enough to eat. Jesus feels so deeply about this that he said if someone is hungry, it is he himself who is hungry (Mt 25:31-46). As we celebrate our Eucharist today, let us recall the truth that Jesus is present in the total reality of his Body. The Body of Christ includes a large number of poor people. All are dear to him. Can we celebrate the Eucharist authentically and be indifferent to their plight?



Campion P. Gavaler,
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, AUGUST 8	MONDAY, JULY 30
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22	MONDAY, AUGUST 13
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5	MONDAY, AUGUST 27

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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The Story of Chewy Čuvač: How He Came to the FCSU

Hi, Kids.



Chewy relaxes after a long trip in the FCSU lounge area

It's me, Chewy. I'm writing to you from my new home at the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) in the United States of America.

It has been quite an adventure, let me tell you.

Where I Was

Do you remember reading about me and my family who live high in the mountains of Slovakia? We are a breed of large dog with a shaggy white coat called a čuvač (pronounced chew-vatch in English). For centuries, we have helped our friends, the Slovak Alpine farmers, herd their sheep and cattle. We like our jobs and our human friends, and we make great companions for our master's children.

Samozrejme (Slovak for, of course, and pronounced SAHM ohz ray may in English) I love my mom and dad, brothers and sisters, and all the people in our household. I love our beautiful homestead surrounded by thick, lush forests filled with bears, wolves and lynx that my dad would protect against long into the dark nights. In the daytime, when we weren't doing our chores, my brothers and sisters and I loved exploring beyond our farm, sometimes to the edge of an awesome canyon or at the foot of a spectacular waterfall, giggling at the roar of the water and feeling the spray on our noses and paws. Once we even found a cave that had ice in it!



Chewy gazes on the bust of Fr. Furdek in the FCSU Board Room

Yea, life was sweet in the Slovak mountains. But I had an itch that couldn't be scratched by staying at home. I wanted to travel and meet new friends and do new things.

Remembering our family lore about a kindly priest who visited our farm centuries ago in the late 1800s, I was determined to follow in the footsteps of Father Stephen Furdek and come to America.

And here I am.

How I Got Here

Finding traveling companions was pretty easy. My brother told me of a puppy playmate of his who would often lope up our mountain to visit us from his owner's small plot down in the valley. Seems his playmate's owners were going to visit their cousins in Cleveland, OH. They were happy to take me along, in exchange for my family looking after their dog while they were away.

Eureka! My plan began to form. I could go with them. First, by train to Vienna, Austria, and from there by plane to some neat-sounding place called O'Hare (do you think they have rabbits? What fun it is to chase those!), and then another shorter flight to Cleveland.

My big worry was all the grownup rules along the way. Grownup humans have a lot of rules, I've noticed. Would the United States of America let me in? Did I need special papers? How would I travel? Would they stick me in the plane's belly with all the luggage like my big sister said they would? Eight plus hours is a long time to be in a gi-normous black hole by yourself with no biscuit or cool bowl of water, or even a friendly hand to pat you on the head.

I'm here to tell you, worry is a big waste of time. I learned there is no quarantine for bringing a dog from Slovakia to America, so I didn't need any special papers. My doggy "passport" was an official certificate from the vet, showing all my shots were up to date.

Better still, I got to travel "in cabin" like everyone else. The nice lady and gentleman



Chewy says the Home Office Museum is awesome!

who traveled with me had a pet carrier that fit right under the lady's seat. Cool beans. They called it a pet limo, but I could smell it was same old crate they use to carry their cat back and forth to the vet back home. Still, they put in a real nice blanket on the bottom and attached a bowl for water on the side. I was grateful. Good thing, too, I'm still a pup and not up to my full size. My dad is just under a hundred pounds and if I were that big, it would have been the plane belly for me for sure.

Once we landed, it got a little scary waiting all by myself in cargo while my humans got all the papers in order and collected their luggage, but before you could say prosím, (Slovak for please, and pronounced PROH-seem in English) we were out of the airport and on the road to the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Where I am

My nice humans escorted me all the way up to the third floor offices of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Being Slovak, they were interested in the museum of Slovak costumes and historical artifacts right in the offices. They were very impressed. Me, too.

Man, this place is great.

The staff is so nice and helpful. I even went face-to-face with Father Furdek. Well, a bust of him, anyway.

I learned that this all started on September 4, 1890 in Cleveland, OH, when twelve men, led by Father Furdek, formed the First Catholic Slovak Union. Union in Slovak is Jednota (pronounced YED-nota in English), so Father also found the newspaper you are reading today and named it Jednota. It is one of the oldest continually published Slovak biweekly newspapers in the country.

Today, the First Catholic Slovak Union is also a "union" of hundreds of branches throughout the United States and Canada. They have about \$380 million of insurance in force and over \$285 million in assets. Wow. I can't even count that high, but I know it's good and I know it means the FCSU has helped a lot of Slovak and Slovak-Americans protect their families.

Awesome, huh?

I've learned so much since I've been here and had so many good times. I've been thinking how much more there is to see and do in North America. So maybe I can come up with a plan for me to come to you some time in the future? I'm going to work on it, and I'll get back to you real soon.

Until then, keep your ears up and your tail wagging!

Your friend,
Chewy



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2012 Jednota Scholarship Winners

continued from page 1

Additionally, upon proof of college graduation sent to the Home Office, each of the 75 scholarship winners will be issued a \$3,000.00 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

All applicants who did not receive a scholarship will be given a one-time \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bond in appreciation of their efforts.

Congratulations to all, and best wishes in your academic careers. We ask all our Scholarship winners to be active in their local Branch and District.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



ABRAHAM, SHANE FREDERICK

Parents: Michelle and Frederick Abraham, Branch: 388, Latrobe, PA, College: Mylan School of Pharmacy at Duquesne University, Major: Pharmacist



BALL, DAVID ANDREW

Parents: Janet and John Ball, Branch: 320, Belle Vernon, PA, College: Robert Morris University, Major: Business Management



BELECHAK, JULIA CATHERINE

Parents: Michelle and Joseph Belechak, Branch: 213, Renfrew, PA, College: Ohio University, Major: Broadcast Journalism

Top Male
Philip Hrobak Scholarship



YOST, JOHN WILLIAM

Parents: Lisa & John Yost, Branch: 038KJ, White Oak, PA, College: St. Vincent College, Major: Criminal Attorney

Top Female
Stephanie Husek Scholarship



ALEXANDER, JESSICA

Parents: Jean & William Alexander, Branch: 731KJ, Youngstown, OH, College: Ohio Northern University, Major: Pharmacist



BISCHAK, MELISSA

Parents: Bernadette and Frank Bischak, Branch: 2, Pittsburgh, PA, College: Westminster College, Major: Molecular Biology & Music



BITNER, BENJAMIN CLYDE

Parents: Mary and Paul Bitner, Branch: 181, United, PA, College: Westmoreland County Community College, Major: Nursing



BLASKO, ELIZABETH ANN

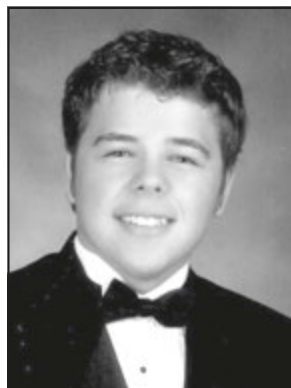
Parents: Joan & John Blasko, Branch: 581, Chesterton, IN, College: Western Michigan University, Major: Theatre - Stage Management

John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund Nursing Awards - 3



LAVIOLA, MICHELE

Parents: Margaret & John Laviola, Branch: 166K, Binghamton, NY, College: University of Iowa, Major: Nursing



FREI, BRANDON

Parents: Donna & Steven Frei, Branch: 055K, Philadelphia, NJ, College: Gwynedd-Mercy College, Major: Nursing



BONAR, CHRISTIAN JAMES

Parents: Theresa and James Bonar, Branch: 181, United, PA, College: Pennsylvania State - Altoona, Major: Engineering



BREKOSKY, SAMANTHA JANE

Parents: Amanda and Regis Brekosky, Jr., Branch: 738, Munnhall, PA, College: Salisbury University, Major: Art/Graphic Design



BURY, MORGAN KIMBERLY

Parents: Kimberly and Robert Bury, Branch: 320, Belle Vernon, PA, College: Westmoreland County Community College, Major: Biology



MINKOFF, HANNAH

Parents: Norma & Eric Minkoff, Branch: 085KJ, College: University of Vermont, Major: Nursing



CAPAROSA, MARY BERNADETTE

Parents: Mary Jo and David Caparosa, Branch: 213, Valentia, PA, College: Drexel University, Major: Photography



CERRO, LAURA ANN

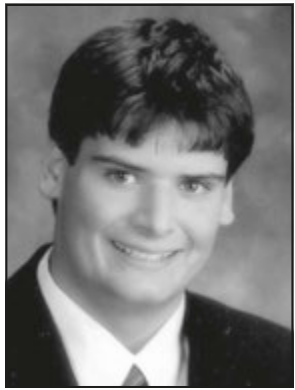
Parents: Louise and Daniel Cerro, Branch: 857, Levittown, PA, College: New Jersey Institute of Technology, Major: Chemical Engineering



CHAMRA, CHELSEA

Parents: Marie and Michael Chamra, Branch: 324, Carteret, NJ, College: Marywood University, Major: Interior Architecture

2012 Jednota Scholarship Winners



CHERRYHOLMES, COLTON M.

Parent: Julie Cherryholmes, Branch: 855, Parma, OH, College: University of Akron, Major: Engineering



COOPER, JAMES PATRICK

Parents: Marian and Chris Cooper, Branch: 166, Binghamton, NY, College: University of Delaware, Major: Business



DEMARIA, ANTHONY MICHAEL

Parents: Ann Marie and George DeMaria, Branch: 41, Yonkers, NY, College: Drexel University, Major: Chemistry and/or Business



DEMARIA, JENNIFER ANN

Parents: Ann Marie and George DeMaria, Branch: 41, Yonkers, NY, College: Scranton University, Major: Environmental Science and/or Business



DISHAW, PATRICK HOWARD

Parents: Sally and Richard Dishaw, Branch: 595, Muskegon, MI, College: Grand Valley State University, Major: Graphic Design



FARNUM, CATHERINE LYNNE

Parents: Laura and Philip Farnum, Branch: 831, Tarentum, PA, College: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Engineering



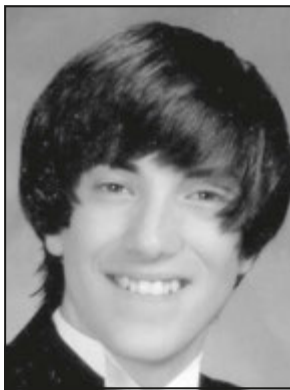
FEDOR, EMILY

Parents: Patricia and Matthew Fedor, Branch: 238, Moscow, PA, College: Ithica College, Major: Journalism/Communications



FORD, ALLISON

Parents: Kristine and Paul Ford, Branch: 166, Binghamton, NY, College: St. John Fisher, Major: Pharmacy



FRAZEE, SEAN ALAN

Parents: Barbara and Alan Frazee, Branch: 112, Pottsville, PA, College: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Engineering



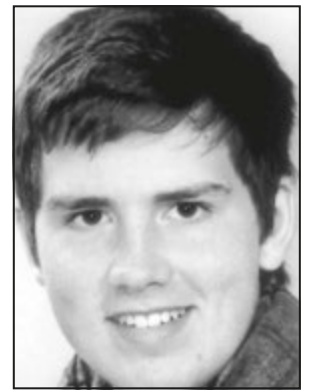
FRONCEK, CYRILLE MICHELE

Parent: Kathleen Froncek, Branch: 401, N. Apollo, PA, College: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Biology



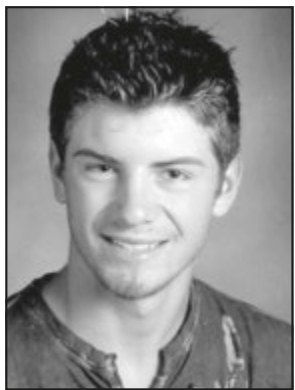
GALLAGHER, KARA

Parents: Mary Jane and Joseph Gallagher, Branch: 10, Olyphant, PA, College: Philadelphia University, Major: Physician Assistant Program



GEORGIC, QUINN FOREST

Parents: Jennifer and Greg Georgic, Branch: 831, Tarantum, PA, College: University of Chicago, Major: International Studies



GLOGOVSKY, ADAM RICHARD

Parents: Robyn Scott and Richard Glogovsky, Branch: 686, Huntley, IL, College: Illinois Wesleyan University, Major: Business



GREGORICKA, TERRY STEPHEN

Parents: Georgia and Terry Gregoricka, Branch: 756, Owosso, MI, College: Michigan Technology University, Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering



GROMICKO, BREANNA NICOLE

Parents: Lorraine and Frederick Gromicko, Branch: 401, N. Apollo, PA, College: Shenandoah University, Major: Music Education



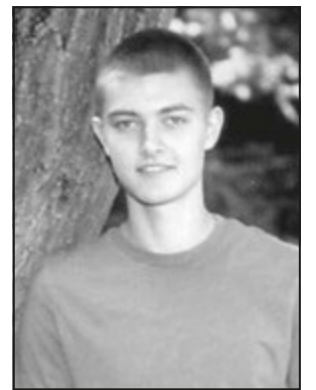
GRYZLO, ALISON BROOKE

Parents: Marian and Joseph Gryzlo, Branch: 41, Yonkers, NY, College: Binghamton University, Major: Political Science



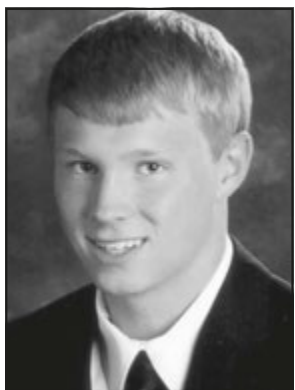
HAGEN, ASHLEY

Parents: Teresa Jarabek and Thomas Hagen, Branch: 810, Montreal, Quebec, College: Dawson College, Major: Psychology



HANLON, CORY JAMES

Parents: Frances and Richard Hanlon, Branch: 4, Pittsburgh, PA, College: Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Major: Nursing



HARPER, THOMAS BRANSON

Parents: Cheryl and Rick Harper, Branch: 484, Coral, PA, College: Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Major: Mechanical Engineering



HLAS, BREANNA MARIE

Parents: Brenda and Joseph Hlas, Branch: 425, Barberton, OH, College: The University of Akron, Major: Biomedical Engineering



HOLMES, JILLIAN NICOLE

Parents: Vanessa and William Holmes, Jr., Branch: 484, Coral, PA, College: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Finance



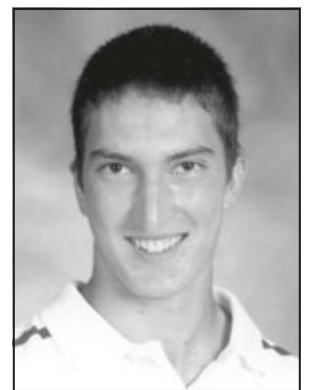
HORCHAR, MATTHEW J.

Parents: Denise and Stephen Horchar, Branch: 484, Coral, PA, College: Allegheny College, Major: Neuroscience



JABLONSKI, JOSEPH EVAN

Parents: Terry Lunday and Walter Jablonski, Branch: 796, Whitehall, PA, College: University of South Florida, Major: Computer Engineering



JOHNSON, EVAN DOMINIC

Parents: Elizabeth and Van Johnson, Branch: 260, Campbell, OH, College: Butler University, Major: Marketing or Biology

2012 Jednota Scholarship Winners



KAPITAN, KIMBERLY

Parents: Mary and Gary Kapitan, Branch: 746, Linden, NJ, College: Montclair University, Major: Health and Physical Education



KESTER, AMY THERESE

Parents: Julia and Thomas Kester, Branch: 240P, Pittston, PA, College: DeSales University, Major: Medical Studies/Physician Assistant Program



KLEIN, KELSEY LEE

Parents: Paula and Paul Klein, Branch: 670, Donora, PA, College: Mt. St. Mary's University, Major: Elementary/Secondary Education



KUNC, DANIEL DENNIS

Parents: Rose and Dennis Kunc, Branch: 855, Parma, OH, College: University of Toledo, Major: Computer Science and Engineering



LALKA, KELSEY

Parents: Carol and Stephen Lalka, Branch: 716, New York, NY, College: University of Notre Dame, Major: Mechanical Engineering



LALKA, NICOLE

Parents: Carol and Stephen Lalka, Branch: 716, NY, College: University of Michigan, Major: International Business



MAHURIN, HEATHER

Parents: Nora and Roderick Mahurin, Branch: 855, Parma, OH, College: Western Washington University, Major: Biology/Kinesiology



MARCINKO, GRANT ANTHONY

Parents: Gwen and Tom McWilliams; Sharon and Tim Marcinko, Branch: 512, Greensburg, PA, College: Austin, Major: Business



MATTA, AARON M.

Parents: Pam and David Matta; Branch: 276, McKeesport, PA; College: Pennsylvania State University, Erie; Major: Engineering



MATTA, DEVIN STEIN

Parents: Rona and Gary Matta, Branch: 38, White Oak, PA, College: Duquesne University, Major: Business



MATTIS, AMBER RAEANN

Parents: Brenda and Terry Mattis, Branch: 484, Coral, PA, College: Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Major: Safety Sciences



MEEKER, SARAH

Parents: Patricia and Kevin Meeker, Branch: 166, Binghamton, NY, College: University of South Alabama, Major: Spanish



MICEK, MELISSA ANN

Parents: Joanne Deiter and John Micek, Branch: 567, Allentown, PA, College: Lynchburg College, Major: Psychology and Pre-law



MOTUZA NICOLE MARIE

Parents: Linda and Rick Motuza, Branch: 855, Parma, OH, College: University of Findlay, Major: Occupational Therapy



PALMER, BRITTANY

Parent: Anne Hutzler, Branch: 75, Shamokin, PA, College: University of Texas at Austin, Major: Speech/Language Pathology



PANKOVGIN, MELANIE ROSE

Parents: Jane and Robert Pankovcin, Branch: 715, New York, NY, College: Alfred State College, Major: Nursing



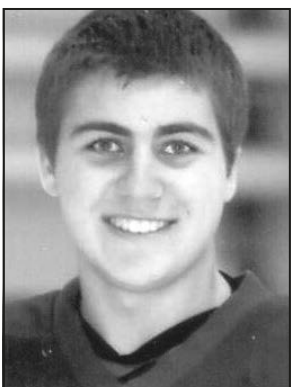
PAVLEKOVSKY, CRIMSON JAYDE

Parents: Sonia and Thomas Pavlekovsky, Branch: 200, Ford City, PA, College: Robert Morris University, Major: Graphic Design



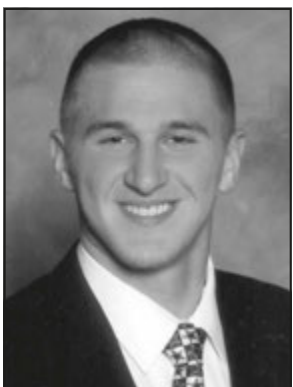
PEPPE, STEPHANIE ANNE

Parents: Joanne and Richard Peppe, Branch: 290, Raritan, NJ, College: Loyola University, Major: Psychology/Criminal Justice



PIPAK, MICHAEL J., JR.

Parents: Gina and Michael Pipak, Branch 199, Norvelt, PA, College: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Engineering



PIPON, JOSEPH, JR.

Parents: Susan and Joseph Pipon, Branch: 292, Windber, PA, College: Slippery Rock University, Major: Accounting



RUBINO, ADAM JOSEPH BERNARD

Parent: Regina Rubino, Branch: 5P, Pittston, PA, College: Misericordia University, Major: Journalism



SCIORTINO, JOSEPH ANTHONY

Parents: Patricia and Frank Sciortino, Branch: 41, Yonkers, NY, College: St. Joseph's College, Major: Accounting



SCHWARTZ, CARLIE J.

Parents: Donna and Charles Schwartz, Branch: 652, Trenton, NJ, College: The College of New Jersey, Major: Business



SLOVENKAI, ANYA

Parents: Paula and Mark Slovenkai, Branch: 382, Scranton, PA, College: Boston University, Major: Journalism and Psychology

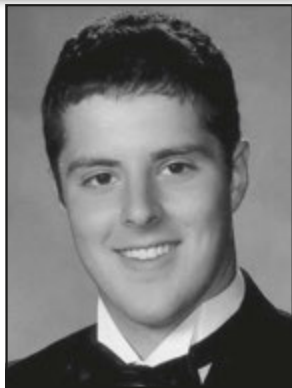
2012 Jednota Scholarship Winners



STAS, JOCELYN TAYLOR
Parents: Sandra and Kenneth Stas, Branch: 199, Norvelt, PA, College: Saint Vincent College, Major: Marketing



STEPHENS, SARAH CATHERINE
Parents: Carol and Richard Stephens, Branch: 218, Latrobe, PA, College: North Carolina State, Major: Science



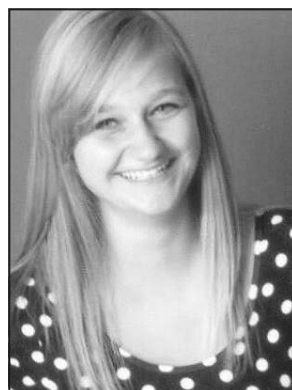
STORZ, COLIN ANDREW
Parents: Jill and Joseph Storz, Branch: 278, Elizabethtown, PA, College: Shippensburg University, Major: Biology



SULLIVAN, PATRICK AARON
Parents: Janet and Peter Sullivan, Branch: 35, Braddock, PA, College: Pennsylvania State Greater Allegheny, Major: Accounting



TODOROWSKI, HANNAH MARGARET
Parents: Diane and Michael Todorowski, Branch: 2, Pittsburgh, PA, College: John Carroll University, Major: Pre-medicine (Biology), Forensic Science



TOTH, STEPHANIE LYNN
Parents: Mary and John Toth, Branch: 260, Campbell, OH, College: Eastern Mennonite University, Major: Digital Media/Peace Building & Development



VEHEC, STEPHANIE ROSE
Parents: Diane and Joseph Vehec, Branch: 628, Homestead, PA, College: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Biology



WALD, RACHEL ANNE
Parents: Ruth and Barry Wald, Branch: 670, Donora, PA, College: University of Rochester, Major: Government/International Relations/Political Science



WEBB, JOHN ANDREW
Parents: Cindy and John Webb, Branch: 777, Bedford, OH, College: Muskingum University, Major: Music/Theater Performance and History



WOLFE ASHLEY
Parents: Cheryl and Douglas Wolfe, Branch: 278, Elizabethtown, PA, College: Roanoke College, Major: Primary Education



From the Office of the Vice-President

Women and Insurance



Andrew Harcar
National Vice President

Historically, companies have sold life insurance as a “man’s” product. In the traditional family, the husband worked while the wife stayed home and took care of the children. The breadwinner bought the life insurance. Folklore had it that women didn’t need insurance since they had no income to replace. If women carried any insurance at all, it was usually only a small amount.

Women’s Contributions Are Considerable

Today women often make as much – if not more of – a financial contribution to the family as do their male counterparts. In many cases, the responsibility for providing the family income is divided between both husband and wife. In those families where the wife works and the money she earns helps meet the family’s bills and liv-

ing expenses, the wife should be insured according to the same principles as that of her husband, and to the extent that her income is depended upon by the family.



Then there are those women whose contributions to the family are not defined by “outside” wages. Let’s analyze the spouse who earns little or no outside income, but maintains the household. The death of such a non-wage earner could result in major increases in family expenses. If the surviving

spouse and children cannot or will not perform the necessary household functions formerly performed by the deceased spouse, the family may be forced to secure household services such as cooking and cleaning to shopping, shuttling children around and a range of other domestic duties and/or to rely increasingly on service businesses – such as restaurants, dry cleaners, baby-sitters etc. These contributions are often severely underestimated until the husband discovers how costly it is to pay someone for these services. I went online in May 2012 and according to a salary survey on moms from salary.com, the national median salary for a stay-at-home mom brings \$112,962 in services to the family each year. I then typed in the zip code for the Home Office location of Independence, Ohio and it gave me a more local range. The local low salary equivalent for stay-at-home moms is \$97,262 – local median salary is \$114,069 and the local high salary was \$138,498.

The Importance of Being Insured

In most situations, life insurance is intended to substitute for the individual – either totally or partially – as an income producer for the family. Life insurance is the most effective and efficient means of planning for the adverse financial consequences of death for the average family. It can cover many or all of the post mortem expenses on the surviving spouse, which can be significant. These often include medical, hospital, burial and attorney fees.

Yet, according to a survey by “Limra” (Life Insurance Marketing and Research Association), only 57% of women have some sort of life insurance coverage. That means 43% of women have no life insurance coverage at all.

This need not – and should not – be the case. The First Catholic Slovak Union offers a number of quality insurance products geared for women as well as men. Indeed, for most women in need of additional financial resources at death, life insurance often is the only feasible alternative. It can be more cost effective, too. The longer general life expectancy of females versus males can translate into lower premiums for your grandmother, mother, sister, daughter, granddaughter or niece.

Talk over your insurance needs with your family, then call or visit your local lodge officers and have them explain our different insurance products or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

Sign up your loved one today.
Until Next Time,
Good Luck and God Bless,

Andrew R. Harcar, SR.
National Vice-President

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.**

FCSU Welcomes Mayor of Bratislava & US Ambassador

continued from page 1

kind of “first partner” for the average citizen. When I walk to my office (Ed note: The Mayor’s office is located at Primate’s Square inside Primate’s Palace in downtown Bratislava), people often come up to me and say they need help. I tell them to make an appointment and come see me, to see what we can do. I really like that aspect of my job, that people know me and feel they can approach me with a problem. On a broader scale, I do meet with other mayors of capital cities from around the other regions of Slovakia on a regular basis, as we certainly share concerns and challenges on a national level.

Q. Mayor, what do you consider the biggest challenges facing Bratislava today?

A. I would have to say traffic. For years, Bratislava has relied heavily on cars, but we need to reinvest in public transportation and infrastructure to help ease congestion. If you can believe it, we have more drivers than Vienna. Bratislava has 513 cars per 1,000 inhabitants to Vienna’s 458.

Q. How did you get involved in politics?

A. My background is education and I still teach at the Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics at Bratislava’s Comenius University in the Department of Applied Informatics. I more or less “fell” into politics. I served in the National Parliament from 1998 to 2002. I was elected mayor in 2010.

Q. What was the motivation for visiting Cleveland?

A. There are so many similarities between the city of Cleveland and Bratislava. Relative size, economic challenges and challenges with structural redevelopment – not to mention the strong ties among our people. So many people in this area have Slovak roots, and we have a longstanding association with our sister cities program with Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities. I had mentioned to the Ambassador that I was planning a visit to relatives in Mississauga, Ontario, he suggested combining it with this trip to Cleveland, which is not so far away from that area of Canada. On the 20th anniversary of establishing our country, I thought it an excellent time to reestablish our ties on all levels.

Q. Ambassador Sedgwick, what was your impetus for suggesting this trip?

A. Well, as I have said since taking the appointment in 2010, a main goal of mine as Ambassador to Slovakia from the United States, is to help foster and strengthen the business and cultural relations that already exist between our countries. Cleveland is a natural partner. I am from this area, so I have been well aware of the strong Slovak roots here and the cultural exchanges that have taken place, of course, the cooperation engendered by sister cities organizations like Cleveland Bratislava.

Q. Can you share some of your reflections on Slovakia?

A. What an extraordinary treasure Slovakia is. When I was first appointed and still stateside, I envisioned traveling to nearby Vienna to enjoy the finest opera, chamber music, and the like. Once I got to Bratislava, I discovered there was absolutely no need to travel even the 40 kilometers or so to enjoy the finest cultural attractions at a very high level. Slovak wine is coming into its own as well; and, of course, it’s difficult not to enjoy a Slovak beer. Zlatý Bažant is excellent.



The US Ambassador to Slovakia and the Bratislava Mayor (C) are welcomed to Cleveland at the First Catholic Slovak Union.

US Ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick introduces the mayor of Bratislava at an evening program co-hosted by Cleveland Council on World Affairs and Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities.



(L - R) FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec and Bratislava Mayor Milan Ftacnik explore historical records of Slovaks in Cleveland at area’s the Western Reserve Historical Society.



Members of the FCSU, CBSC, and the Cleveland area Slovak-American community near the bust of Fr. Furdek in the Slovak Gardens, Cleveland, OH.



The group at the monument to General Stefanik at Wade Oval Park in Cleveland, OH



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- * The “Park 2 Annuity” can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- * The “Park 2 Annuity” is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
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- * Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
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Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications or visit our web site at FCSU.com

The Slovak League of America's 55th Congress in Bridgeport, Connecticut

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

The Slovak League of America held its 55th Congress in Bridgeport, CT on June 8-9, 2012. Delegates from across the USA attended the event, which convenes about every five years.

What is the Slovak League of America? Headquartered in Passaic, New Jersey, the Slovak League of America is an umbrella non-governmental organization (NGO) which furthers the interests of the Slovaks in America, strives to protect Slovaks in their homeland of Slovakia, and promotes awareness of the unique identity of the Slovaks. First founded in Cleveland, Ohio in 1907, the Slovak League of America represents all Slovaks regardless of religious and political affiliation. It is a civic and cultural organization which unites various Slovaks throughout the United States, and includes both individual and fraternal society membership.

Thus our First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) is one of many Slovak fraternal benefit societies belonging to the Slovak League of America (SLA). Other societies which assist in sponsoring the Slovak League of America include the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the National Slovak Society (NSS), the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, and the Slovak Garden of Winter Park, Florida. All these groups sent representatives to the SLA Congress in Bridgeport.

History

Originally established under the leadership of FCSU founder, Rev. Stephen Furdek, and former NSS President Peter V. Rovnianek, the SLA played a critical role in exposing the policies of ruthless Magyarization which the Hungarian government adopted before World War I. Hungary was using the schools to force all nationalities to use the Magyar language and abandon their native tongues.

During the First World War, the SLA presented a Memorandum to President Woodrow Wilson and the US Senate, which elaborated on the conditions of Slovaks in their homeland and called on the country to help protect the self-identity of the Slovaks. The SLA convened a meeting in Pittsburgh that led to the signing of the Pittsburgh Agreement, which guaranteed the autonomy of Slovakia. When after the war, the central government in Prague under President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk did not honor the agreement which he had signed, the Slovak League of America continued to press for the fulfillment of those promises. When Slovakia finally achieved independence on the eve of World War II, the SLA supported Slovak sovereignty and urged American recognition. At the same time, the SLA backed Allied efforts to defeat Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan.

After World War II, again Slovakia lost its freedom to a communist dictatorship. The Slovak League exposed the bankruptcy of communism which denied the right of Slovaks to choose their own form of government. It founded the periodical Slovakia, to which scholars contributed articles on the culture and history of Slovakia and the Slovaks. The SLA also began to offer scholarships for students writing essays on topics related to Slovak culture.

When finally liberated from the communism in 1989, the SLA assisted Slovakia as it became independent and eventually could join the community of states belonging to NATO and the European Union. Today, the Slovak League of America continues to promote Slovak culture among Americans and stands as a watchdog to ensure the continuation of the ongoing evolution of democracy in Slovakia.

The 2012 SLA Congress

Fair weather welcomed the delegates to the 55th SLA Congress, which took place at the downtown Holiday Inn. Attorney John Duch presided over the ceremonies, though he arrived late in the evening due to a traffic jam coming out of New York City.

At the opening of the congress, members sang the Star Spangled Banner and the Slovak anthem, Nad Tatrou sa blýzka (Lightning over the Tatras). Then President Daniel Tanzone, FCSU Branch 41 member, delivered his report on the activities of the SLA since its last congress, and stressed the importance of the organization as "a unifying force" for Slovak Americans, "as much needed today as we have ever been." After thanking Eileen Wilson for preparing the local arrangements, Tanzone gave well-deserved credit to the supporting member-fraternals and cultural institutions such as the Jankola Library, the Slovak Institute in Cleveland, and the Slovak Garden in Winter Park, Florida, Tanzone reviewed the SLA's participation in Slovak cultural events participation in Slovak cultural events and meetings with various Slovak officials since the last congress.

Following Tanzone's presentation, this author, Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., delivered the keynote address. In the speech, I recalled the historical contributions of the Slovak League of America and appealed for continued unity among Slovaks through the organization. I

then presented some historical background about the Slovak community in Connecticut, which in Bridgeport alone had numbered as many as 22,000 per-



Vincent Obsitnik, retired US ambassador to Slovakia, at the banquet of the Slovak League of America Bridgeport, June 9, 2012



(L) FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec with Former US Ambassador to Slovakia Vincent Vincent Obsitnik, and Mrs. Idka Rajec (C, in white) with FCSU members from the New York area.

sons at one time. Bridgeport became the home of a number of early Slovak self-help benefit societies, and several Slovak churches, including the now closed St. John Nepomucene, the oldest Slovak parish in New England, and SS. Cyril and Methodius parish, which continues its mission, and a variety of other Catholic, Byzantine, and Lutheran churches. Many other Slovaks also lived in Fairfield County – in nearby Stratford, Stamford, Ansonia, Torrington, New Britain, and other industrial towns. A future article on the Slovaks in Connecticut will provide our Jednota readers with a more detailed overview of their history in the state.

After a few words about the future direction of the Slovak League and the need to continue to attract younger members, I concluded the talk with the slogan "V jednote je sila" (In unity there is strength). Following this speech, FCSU President Andrew Rajec reiterated the need for Slovak organizations to work together closely in building a strong Slovak-American community. Traveling from Slovakia to attend the SLA Congress, Dr. Marián Tkáč, president of the Matica Slovenska, delivered a warm welcome in which he spoke to the delegates as brothers and sisters of a worldwide Slovak community that needs to work together to promote Slovak culture.

During the two day event, members approved minutes from the 54th Congress, Nina Holý's Secretary-Treasurer's report, and passed several resolutions. Elections also took place for officers, and Daniel Tanzone was re-elected as SLA president. Some discussion ensued about what individual assemblies were doing and ideas for future activities. Saturday afternoon concluded with a pointed talk by 92 year-old Ivan Králik of Chicago, whose father had participated in the first SLA Congress in Cleveland. Králik's speech stressed the contribution of Anton Bernolák and argued that the official Slovak literary language was not approved in 1843, but really four years later.

The SLA Banquet

The Slovak League Congress ended with a grand banquet. Following an appropriate prayer by Father Robert V. Birochak of the Bridgeport Diocese and the national anthems, Toastmaster Daniel Tanzone introduced the main speaker at the event, the Honorable Vincent Obsitnik, the retired United States Ambassador to Slovakia, who also serves on the SLA Executive Board. The ambassador shared some of his personal insights and thoughts about Slovakia and the substantial progress he witnessed during the years he served our country in Bratislava. Though admitting that problems remained to be resolved, including the high unemployment in the Eastern part of the country, he left us assured that democracy was alive and well in the homeland of our ancestors.

After the speech, Radoslav Lesay entertained guests with his marvelous operatic voice, accompanied by FCSU Branch 45 President and Supreme Court Member Jozef Jurasi.

continued on page 10



Banquet Slovak League of America Bridgeport

Slovak League of America's 55th Congress

continued from page 9

Without doubt, Lesay's rendition of Slovak folk songs engaged the audience, which gave him a rousing ovation.

Several more speeches followed, including an address by Marián Tkác of the Matica Slovenska, and short tributes by FCSU Branch 19 member and the local SLA organizer Eileen Wilson, our own FCSU National President Andrew Rajec, and Justine Wesnak of the National Slovak Society. The most spirited locution belonged to the newly elected president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Cynthia M. Maleski. She left all feeling that Slovak Americans could work together to build a stronger community in the United States and continue the ongoing mission of the Slovak League of America.

The SLA Congress officially ended with the heartwarming singing of Hej Slováci, and God Bless America. The 55th Slovak League of America Congress concluded in a spirit of cooperation and good spirit.



FCSU members at Slovak League of America Bridgeport.



Ivan Kralik of Chicago 92 yrs old addressed Slovak League of America Bridgeport

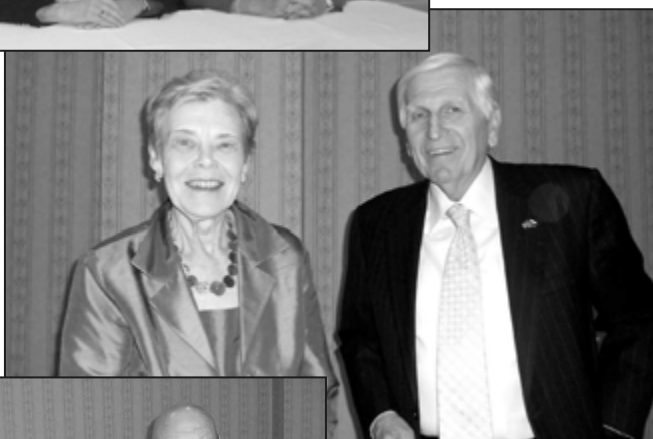


Opera singer Radislav Lesay accompanied by Jozef Jurasi at Banquet Slovak League of America Bridgeport



Slovak League of America Bridgeport

Eileen Wilson of Conn with former US Ambassador to Slovakia Vincent Obsitnik Banquet Slovak League of America Bridgeport



Slovak League President Dan Tanzone with Nina Holy, Secretary-Treasurer, and Marián Tkác, president of Matica Slovenska.



Slovak League of America President's Message to the 55th Congress

On the occasion of the assembly of the 55th Congress of the Slovak League of America, I extend a warm welcome to our members and friends to the city of Bridgeport, Conn. Over the past 105 years, our organization has labored to help preserve the Slovak heritage and identity in the United States. From our founding in 1907 in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, local interest and input from the various Slovak colonies scattered throughout our great country contributed to the promotion of the Slovak cause. As a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, we have worked effectively with our great Slovak fraternal along with other local cultural, civic and educational groups.

Of prime concern to our founders, especially the Rev. Stephen Furdek and Peter V. Rovnianek, was the promotion of our Slovak identity in America and the liberation of the Slovaks from foreign domination. In its earliest years, our organization rallied the support of all the Slovak forces in the United States - fraternal, educational and religious. To this end, in May 1917, we presented a Memorandum to President Woodrow Wilson in which we clearly stated our position and claims on behalf of the Slovaks in Europe. In February 1918, a similar document was submitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Following the entry of the United States in World War I, we developed into a strong, well-knit and effective body which was equipped to assist in the war effort. We supported the proposed Slovak partnership with the Czechs in establishing the first Czecho-Slovak Republic. However, to insure Slovak rights within the newly proposed state, our organization called a meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa. of Slovak and Czech leaders for May 30, 1918. In the presence of Thomas G. Masaryk, who would become the first president of Czecho-Slovakia, the signing of the Pittsburgh Agreement took place guaranteeing autonomy for Slovakia. Unfortunately, the provisions of this important document were completely ignored by Masaryk who instead promoted a strong centralist regime for the new country.

It is interesting to note that during World War I, President Woodrow Wilson gave General Milan R. Stefanik permission to recruit willing Slovaks and Czechs in the U.S., who were not subject to the Selective Service Laws, to fight on the allied side. Several training camps of these Czecho-Slovak Legionaries were established in the United States. One of these camps was located in Stamford, Connecticut. The training camp was established on the grounds of the estate of the noted sculptor, Gutzon Borglum, who was the sculptor of Mount Rushmore.

Over the years, our organization was always there to assist our brethren in our ancestral homeland. At times to alert the international community to the unjust activities carried out in Czecho-Slovakia, namely the cause of the defense of autonomy. In 1939, when Slovakia declared its independence, we accepted this as the will of its people. In October 1940, we hosted a gathering of Slovak American leaders in Washington, D.C. to seek American recognition for Slovakia. Such recognition never was realized. Following World War II, the Slovaks were again incorporated into Czecho-Slovakia. Then beginning in 1948, the great pall of Communism overtook the country and it would take more than forty years before any hope of democracy for the Slovaks would be realized.

Finally in 1989, Communism fell not only in Czecho-Slovakia but across all of Eastern Europe. A new opportunity presented itself for the Slovaks to determine their political fate. Exactly twenty years ago this summer, it was agreed that Czecho-Slovakia would split and the Slovaks and Czechs would go their separate ways. Then to the delight of all freedom-loving nations, Slovakia declared its independence on January 1, 1993.

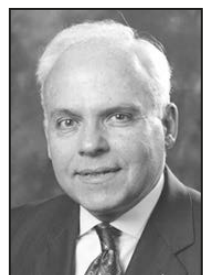
Over the past nineteen years, with great joy our organization has observed the steady growth and maturity taking place in this fledgling democracy. Slovakia has become a member of the United Nations and was for a time a member of the Security Council. It has become a part of a number important international bodies, including NATO. Today, for the first time we rejoice in the fact that the United States and Slovakia are allies. In addition our two countries promote many educational, cultural and religious exchange programs. We are pleased with Slovakia's success. We only regret that so many of the pioneer leaders of our organization, never lived to see the just aspirations for freedom and independence achieved by our ancestral homeland.

Thus, much has transpired over the past 105 years in the life of the Slovak League of America. We can be justifiably proud of our efforts. However, much is still to be accomplished, especially in the area of the promotion of the Slovak identity within the cultural fabric of American life. Our scholarship fund continues to enjoy great success and the publication of our scholarly annual Slovakia continues to share our great cultural and historic legacy within the English-speaking world.

In a final note, I want to salute the Slovak community of the greater Bridgeport, Connecticut area for their efforts in promoting our great fraternal, cultural and educational legacy. I thank them for welcoming us here for this 55th Congress. I would be remiss if I didn't especially thank Eileen Salamon Wilson, chairperson and the members of the local Congress committee for their efforts and hard work in making our gathering a success. May the 55th Congress add yet another glorious chapter to the rich history and legacy of the Slovak League of America. With sentiments of gratitude and esteem, may I remain

Yours sincerely,

**Daniel F. Tanzone
President**

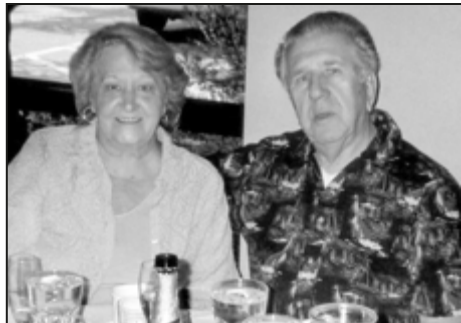


Theater Outing in May for Spitkovsky District 2

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 had its annual Brunch/Theater Outing on Sunday, May 20, 2012. Thirty-eight members attended the event at the Theatre at the Center in Munster, IN. After a delicious buffet lunch, attendees took their seats in the theater to watch the bittersweet play "Making God Laugh."

Thanks go out to District 2 Fraternal Activities Director George Kelchak, for arranging another successful fraternal event.

Robert Tapak Magruder



Jednota Crossword Puzzle

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Across

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- 4 Ledger entries (Abbr.)
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- 12 Tablet
- 14 Swamp grass
- 16 Cease, nautically
- 17 Bird enclosure
- 18 Capital of Norway
- 19 Speeds
- 20 Hammed it up
- 22 Deer relative
- 23 Football's Bradshaw
- 24 Burbot
- 26 Some
- 29 Leavening agent
- 32 Shorttail weasel
- 35 Pouch
- 38 Sibling
- 39 Sp. monetary unit
- 40 Scrawniest
- 43 Colonist
- 44 Get there
- 45 Container
- 46 Arid
- 47 Season
- 48 More peculiar
- 51 Ocean
- 52 Plaything
- 54 Exudes an odor
- 58 Jacuzzi
- 61 Like some government documents
- 64 Elevate
- 66 Font style (Abbr.)
- 67 _____ Domini
- 68 Succulents

Down

- 69 Wheys
- 70 Light shade of red
- 71 Fixes
- 72 Pigpen
- 73 Hurricane part
- 41 Insect egg
- 42 Dusk
- 43 Doleful
- 45 Rabbit hunters
- 49 Before (Poet.)
- 50 Summary
- 53 Elevator man
- 55 Singer Ford
- 56 Loggins or Rogers
- 57 Stir up, as a fire
- 59 Employed
- 60 Truman's bride
- 62 Separate
- 63 Execute
- 64 Aries
- 65 Beer relative
- 1 Cravat
- 2 Work very hard
- 3 Beeper
- 4 Dangerous reptile, for short
- 5 Catch one's breath
- 6 Chooses
- 7 Scarce
- 8 Egg-shaped
- 9 Football formation
- 10 Compass pt.
- 11 Holy folks (Abbr.)
- 13 Edible fruit
- 15 Extinct bird
- 21 Yes vote
- 25 _____ on (trust)
- 27 Embark
- 28 Tired
- 30 Affirm
- 31 Pose
- 33 Soak flax
- 34 Time zone
- 35 Salads
- 36 Bird's nest
- 37 Buttonhole filler

See Solution on Page 19

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society- Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 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

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish in Minneapolis, MN, will hold their annual festival on Sunday, August 19, 2012, on the parish grounds.

The festival will begin with a polka Mass at 10:30AM and conclude at 5:00PM with the cash raffle drawing.

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

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

This activity replaces our annual family picnic.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephens Society Branch 06K will hold its annual activities event and semi-annual meeting on Sunday, July 22, 2012, at 1:00PM at the Rose Garden Restaurant, 201 E. 12th St, Streator, IL. The agenda will include ongoing business of the branch and the plans for the remainder of the year. All members are urged to attend and we will answer any questions concerning insurance and annuities at the meeting. Members planning to attend should call (815) 822-8851.

Fraternally,

Paul Chismar, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 26, 2012, at the Beachwood Hilton, 3663 Park East Drive, Beachwood, OH, 44122. The meeting will begin at 1:00PM in Porter's Restaurant, the Elton John Room, after which a light lunch will be served. Please call Susan Lang at 216-896-0957 before August 24, 2012, to make a reservation.

David Lang, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

We encourage you to attend an upcoming summer event. The American Slovak Zemplin Club's picnic will be on Sunday, July 15th. It will be at St. Sava's Picnic Grove, 2151 Wallings Road., Broadview Hts, OH, from 12 to 8PM.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 27P – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 027P Pittston, PA and Branch 382K Scranton, PA.

All members of Branch 027P will now hold membership in Branch 382K. This merger has taken place as of June 28, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: John J. Slovenkai, Sr., 318 14th Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18504-2512 (507) 347-3579.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 35, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, July 14, 2012, at 1:00PM at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 15 Sumner Avenue, Forest Hills, PA. All members are invited to attend.

Janet M. Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 40 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch 40, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday July 29th at 2:00 P.M. at Chipper's Grill, 1733 North Bloomington St. Streator, Illinois. All members of Branch #40 are urged to attend the meeting. Lunch will follow. Please make reservations by calling Maria Harcar at (815) 672-6682 before July 26, 2012.

Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 47K – STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

There has been a merger between Branch 047K Stamford, CT and Branch 019K Trumbull, CT. All members of Branch 047K will now hold membership in Branch 019K.

This merger has taken place as of July 02, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Jacqueline Ann Zack, 15 Brookhedge Rd, Trumbull, CT, 06611-3212 (203) 268-4727.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 55 – BROOMHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-annual Meeting of Branch 55KJ is scheduled to be held on Sunday, July 22, 2012, at 2:00PM at the home of President Helena T. Gaydos, 137 Cypress Drive, Philadelphia, PA. A short business meeting will be conducted to review the highlights of the past year and discuss plans for the balance of the year, and any other business that will come up. Refreshments will be served. All members are cordially invited to attend. Please call the President at (610) 356-7956 for directions.

Fraternally yours,

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 75 – SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 75KJ will hold a meeting on July 15, 2012, from 10:00AM - 11:00AM, at the residence of the Financial Secretary, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA, 17872. On the agenda: a discussion of mid-year business activities. All members are encouraged to attend.

Ronald A. Anderson, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAOY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112 will host a meeting and picnic on Tuesday, July 31 at Knoebels Grove in Elysburg, PA.

The meeting will begin at noon and the area will be announced the week before.

Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 if you are interested in attending.

Thank you.

Karen Sterling, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 173 – GREATER WILKES-BARRE/WYOMING VALLEY AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre – Wyoming Valley Area, PA, will hold its semi-annual meeting on July 15, 2012 at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA, at 1:00 pm.

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

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

Fraternally,

Dorothy A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAOY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112 will host a meeting and picnic on Tuesday, July 31 at Knoebels Grove in Elysburg, PA.

The meeting will begin at noon and the area will be announced the week before.

Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 if you are interested in attending.

Karen Sterling, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Congratulations to the members of Branch 153 who have received their 50 year pins. They are:

James R. Banach
Maria Capiak
Janice Cartina
Audrey Cermak
John Derer
Robert Hudziak
Florian Isztok
Ronald Johnson
John Paniak
Florian Paulov
Dennis Schley

God bless each and every one of you.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 196P – COALDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 196P Coal-

dale, PA and Branch 293K Lansford, PA. All members of Branch 196P will now hold membership in Branch 293K.

This merger has taken place as of June 26, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Robert John Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232-2210 (570) 645-4872.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wenceslaus Society will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 15, 2012, at noon at Pane-
ra's restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria mall located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031.

Albina Senko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 293, in Lansford, PA, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, August 13, 2012, at the home of the Financial Secretary, 527 E. Bertsch St. Lansford, PA, 18232, at 6PM.

Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 393 – HARRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Branch 393 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 26, 2012, at 1:00PM at Hoss's Steak & Sea House, Rt 119, Greensburg, PA 15601. All members are welcome. For reservations, please call Mary Ann Nalevanko at (724) 834-4386.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, IL, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting and Summer Luncheon on Saturday, August 11, 2012.

Location: Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 639 N. Blackhawk Drive, Westmont, IL 60559.

We will begin with a fraternal social period with refreshments at 1:30 pm, with the Meeting starting at 2:00 pm; Family-style dinner follows.

If you plan to attend, please call the Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956 by July 30th. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magruder

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting on Sunday, July 22, 2012 at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311 at 2 pm. We invite all members to come to the meeting and take an active part in your lodge. We will be discussing the parking lot situation and other activities of the lodge. If you plan on attending, please notify Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Financial/Recording Secretary

BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 587 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2011 at 2PM at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA. On the agenda will be a discussion of all policies and annuities. All members are welcome to attend.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 659K – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 659K Lansford, PA and Branch 293K Lansford, PA. All members of Branch 659K will now hold membership in Branch 293K.

This merger has taken place as of June 26, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Robert John Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232-2210 (570) 645-4872.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 735 – PORTLAND, OREGON

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 735, in Portland, OR, will hold its annual picnic on Sunday, July 29, 2012, at the Oak Park Amusement Park in the Sellwood area of Portland, Picnic Area #11, from noon until dusk.

We invite members, guests, and visitors who are of Slovak descent to meet for good food and fellowship. Bring your favorite picnic basket and friends for an enjoyable afternoon. Food and beverages are available at nominal cost. Amusement ride tickets and bracelets, at discount prices, can be purchased from President Herb Hirst at the picnic site.

Branch meetings are held in April, before Easter, and in December, before Christmas, at St. Patrick's Church Hall, N.W. 19th and Savior Streets, Portland, OR, starting at 12:30PM.

Fraternally,

John Kovach, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764 held their monthly meeting on May 30, 2012 at Bella Women's Center. We discussed the upcoming breakfasts scheduled at St. Mary & St. Joseph Church in Newton Falls on September 16, 2012 following the 9:30am Mass and also the breakfast at St. Cyril & Methodius in Warren on October 28, 2012. We scheduled a Mass at St. Cyril & Methodius on November 4, 2012 at 9:30am for the living and deceased members of the Branch. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 29, 2012 at 12:00 noon at Bella Women's Center, 1192 North Park Road, NE, Warren, OH. Hope to see you there!

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 769 – ENDICOTT, NEW YORK

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 769, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, at the residence of Henry J. Pochily, 2809 Smith Dr., Endwell, NY. All members are encouraged to attend.

The meeting will include a discussion of the value of membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union. The meeting also will provide information on annuities as investments in the current financial climate.

Henry J. Pochily, President

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold a meeting of all members at the McDonalds Restaurant on McKean Avenue, in Charleroi, Pennsylvania on Sunday July 15, 2012 at 11:00am. Please join us after Mass for lunch and the branch meeting. Lunches will be paid for branch members.

Please leave a message with branch president Monica Rodacy-Boone at 412-341-1577 if you are planning on attending. All members are urged to attend.

Monica Rodacy-Boone, President

Branch 855 To Host AARP Driver Safety Program Class

President Michael Kolesar of Branch 855 is happy to announce that the branch will host an AARP Driver Safety Class on Thursday, October 11, 2012 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM at the Activities Center of St. Charles Borromeo Church, located at 5901 Ridge Road; Parma, Ohio 44129.

Individuals who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion, which enables the individual to be eligible for a reduction of his/her automobile insurance premium. The specific percentage discount varies from insurer to insurer. Check with your agent for specifics.

The course carries a fee of \$12.00 per attendee; however, Branch 855 is offering to subsidize the fee for the first 25 Jednota members who register for the course.

Individuals may register by calling Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer of the Branch, at 440-886-0206.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 9 - FRANK T. HOLLY JR DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2012, at 1PM, which will be at K2 Engineering Building, 234 Pittsburgh Road. Members are invited to attend.

Fraternally,

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary



Novena in Honor of Ss Cyril & Methodius

In looking forward to the 1150th anniversary of Ss. Cyril & Methodius to our ancestors in Slovakia, I became aware of this – we celebrate their lives and works but seldom ask their help now. Not finding a novena in their honor, I composed one and with the IMPRIMATUR of our bishop, I had it printed.

I offer it free of charge to anyone who would seek their intercession. A donation to cover handling and postage would be appreciated. The supply is limited. Respectfully,

Rev. George M. Franko

Mailing Address:
Rev. George M. Franko
1418 Douglas Ave
Youngstown, OH 44502



Invitation to Branch 746 Picnic in July

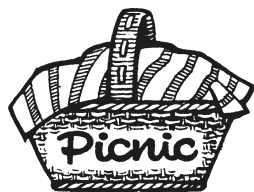
The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, cordially invites you to a picnic.

Sunday, July 22, 2012 -- 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM

Linden Memorial Park, South Wood Avenue, Tremley Point

There will be a \$10.00 charge for non-members.

To RSVP and for more information, please contact Mary Karch @732-572-2331



Mary Kapitan, Secretary

Sts Cyril & Methodius Slovak Church

and

Jednota, Monsignor Shuba District

cordially invite you to their annual

SLOVAK FAMILY DAY



On Sunday, August 12, 2012

Mass at the grounds starting at 12 noon

Lunch to be served after the Mass

Schnitzel \$8.00

Gulash \$6.00

Hot Dogs \$1.00

BBQ at 4pm

At Creditvale Park

On Barbertown Rd, Mississauga

Vychodna Jr Dancers

Admission \$7.00 for adults

Children under 12 are Free

Sister M. Augustine Kollar Celebrates 70th Jubilee in August

Sister M. Augustine Kollar will celebrate her 70 Year Jubilee on August 15, 2012. She entered the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi in Lacon, IL, on July 16, 1939. Her reception of the habit was August 15, 1940, and she pronounced her First Vows in 1942.

Currently retired, Sister continues to pray and offer her abilities as she is able.

When asked what attracted her to consecrated life, Sister Augustine answered, "I finished my second year of college, living a regular ... (when) I was invited to a retreat at the convent where my sister lived. During that time, I was thinking about the convent, and after a few days I experienced a feeling that I couldn't return home! God called me in such a strong way with a deep sense of His love for me that no words can adequately describe it ... The feeling of closeness to our Lord is what I remember the most. I stayed in the convent."

She comes from a large family of 12 children, one of her sister's was a member of this order and a brother was a Salesian priest.

Sister Augustine professed her final vows August 15th 1946 in Prievoz, Slovakia and within two months she was missioned to the United States to help establish the American Province. Throughout the decades that followed Sister Augustine learned English at St. Bede College, Peru, IL., graduated from St. Francis Hospital, Peoria, IL, with her RN and furthered her education to practice as a registered nurse anesthetist through St. John's Hospital, Springfield, IL. Sister then studied for her Rehabilitation certificate in Nursing. With all these skills, she helped open up our first mission at St. Francis Hospital, Mountain View, MO. She worked at Villa Sancta Ann in Cleveland Ohio and St. Joseph's nursing Home in Lacon, IL. Throughout her nursing career and until this very day she describes the spirituality of the patient as the utmost important and most satisfying aspect of ministry for her.

She played the organ for many years at Mass.

Sister has experienced the hundredfold and the most valuable blessing she receives is the closeness and intimacy with our Lord that religious are privileged to encounter. Her advice for the difficulties: "they need to be handled as they come; you never know what good can come from them. What would she recommend for a person discerning a religious vocation? Attend a spiritual retreat; pray and read. When you are praying, you are close to the Lord.

Sister Augustine is planning to celebrate her 70th jubilee of vows and to this day the chapel is where Sister Augustine spends most of her day, "I try to pray with or without consolations, you cannot depend on feelings, but faith."



Honoring the Sacred Heart and Precious Blood of Jesus

By Sister Maria Theresa Hronek,
SSCM, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA

June is the month preeminently dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. How fitting that Christ's symbol of eternal love and mercy crowns the midpoint of our liturgical celebrations. Even the warmth of summer can remind us of the burning intensity of the love of Jesus.

We continue to honor the memorial of Christ's sacrifice as we venerate the gift of His Precious Blood in July. With total commitment, He offered His own life to rescue us from our weaknesses and faults. As we sing and believe in his living presence in the Eucharist, He asks us simply for a return of our grateful love and trust.

In this favorite hymn, we recall the gracious, generous, and merciful love with which Jesus blesses each of us daily. St. John sums this up by quoting Jesus, "I've loved you the way my Father has love me. Make yourselves at home in my love (Jn 15:9)." "I've told you these things for a purpose; that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I love you (Jn 15:11)." And again, "No one has ever seen God. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us, and His love becomes complete in us – perfect love (1Jn 4:12)!"



Pompeo Batoni:
Sacro cuore di Gesù, ca. 1740.

Jesus, Beloved of My Heart
Jesus, beloved of my heart,
You love me more than I can tell.
For you obeyed and left your Father,
You came to earth, with me to dwell.

Refrain:

Jesus, you know I do love you too,
And daily offer my heart to you.

Jesus, by faith I do accept
Your presence in the bread and wine;
I offer my profound adoration,
To your heart filled with love divine.

My Lord, My God and Hope eternal,
I place my trust in you alone;
Your comfort, peace – with joy o'erflowing,
Strengthens me 'til my life is done.

Would that my heart so weak and fragile,
Sought no one else as Confidant;
Accept the fervent prayers I offer,
Jesus, my Love, you're all I want.
2012©

Ježišu Láska Srdca Môjho
Ježišu láska srdca môjho,
Ktorýs' ma toľko miloval,
Že si zanechal Otca Svojho,
Aby si so mnou prebýval.

Sbor:
Ježišu, Teba milujem,
Srdce Ti svoje darujem.

Ježišu, pevne včul vyznávam,
Že vo Sviatosti živý si;
Tebe poklonu svoju vzdávam,
V nej Boh môj opravdivý si.

Pán môj a Boh môj, nádej moja!
Dúfam len v Tebe jedine;
Život, útecha, láska moja!
Bez Teba duša má hynie.

Bár by srdce moje neodné
Iného nič nepoznalo,
Len aby Teba, v noci, vo dne,
Ježišu, môj, milovalo!



The Corpus Christi tradition, celebrated by this large crowd of parishioners including members of Branch 721, dates back to 1246 by a divinely inspired Belgian nun named St. Juliana of Mount Carvillion.

St. Cyril Methodius Church in Michigan Celebrates Feast of Corpus Christi

History was made June 10, 2012, at St. Cyril Methodius Church in Bannister, MI. A Mass and an outdoor Procession were held celebrating the Feast of Corpus Christi. This was the first time this kind of procession was held in the parish.

After Mass, the priests place Our Lord in the Monstrance. To commemorate the taking of Christ to the four corners of the earth, the priests then carried Our Lord in the Monstrance, shielded by a historic four-poster canopy, held by the Knights of Columbus. The priests, sisters, members of the Knights of Columbus, Color Guard, First Communicants, and children were followed by a large crowd, including members of Branch 721, singing songs of praise.

The procession stopped at four different altars, decorated with candles, religious items and flowers, represented the four corners of the earth. At each altar, the priests had readings, prayers, and Benediction. The crowd then proceeded back to the Church to have Benediction and place the Holy Eucharist back in the tabernacle. Afterward, people gathered in the parish hall for a pot luck dinner.

- Submitted by Margaret Remenar, Branch 721, Bannister, MI



St. Cyril
Methodius
Church in
Bannister, MI
celebrates
the Feast of
Corpus Christi
with a Mass
and Outdoor
Procession



FCSU's Steven Krajnik was among the faithful participating in the procession that followed the 2:00PM benediction and litany of the Precious Blood at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Slovak Church, Whiting, IN, on June 10, lead by Reverend John Kalicky.

Editor's Note: For further reflections on this procession and our fraternalism, see "On Life and Leadership" by Branch 581's Ed Bach, p 18

Special Offer Extended thru 2012

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



Offered extended due to
popular demand.

All applications must be
received in the Home Office
postmarked
before December 31, 2012.

- 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
- Free newspaper subscription
- Youth activities



FCSU LIFE
6611 Rockside Rd
Independence, OH 44131
800-533-6682
fcsu@aol.com
www.fcsu.com

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



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



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

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	Thomas E Gura	110K	Irene Elizabeth Meterko	353K	Bernard Kissell	670K	Thomas E Radic
002K	Sandra L Lesh	156K	Hilda R Bucko	356P	Joseph B Vodzak	706K	Anna M Kozak
003P	Thomas J Rebarchak	173K	Edward J Jacien	380K	Michael R Patrick	716K	Richard C Buran
016P	Daniel E Bozinko	181K	Josephine M Huhn	401K	Rose A Froncek	717K	Judith A Kurinec
024K	Dr Andrew M Hlusak	181K	Hermine J Lucas	454K	Gerald W Demchak	746K	Janet Piatnochka
040K	Richard R Gayon	228K	Mary L Simulcik	484K	Mary P Moritz	754K	Frank J Zag
040K	Joseph B Modoski	240P	Anna M Kester	493K	Elsie Mary Krozel	769K	Andrew V Anthony
040K	Albert G Poldek	254K	Josephine S O'connor	553K	Stephen John Rutkowski	831K	Gertrude K Stauffer
041K	Michael A Simko	260K	Sr Mary Ann Louise Mojzisk	581K	Robert Mazalan	831K	Mary Ann Yandura
060K	Catherine M Chester	260K	Michael Thomas	581K	Stephen P Mazalan	857K	Walter S Anielewski Sr
085K	Stephen P Hudock	293K	Josephine M Arieta	584K	August J Rokicak		
086K	Joseph S Leshko Sr	294K	Michael L Bodnar	587K	John P Mihok		

* Processed in the month of June, 2012

OBITUARIES

LEONARD A. SKOVIRA BRANCH 85 – BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

Leonard A. Skovira, who established three area dry-cleaning establishments and was also an inventor, died May 13 of cancer at his Parkville home.



He was 94.

Mr. Skovira was born and raised in Jessup, Pa., where he graduated in 1936 from Jessup High School.

In 1942, he married Catherine Kostick, and after the war, he and his wife purchased a confectionery store on Fait Avenue. While his wife ran the store, he worked on the assembly line at the old Chevrolet plant on Broening Highway. He later opened three dry cleaning establishments before his retirement in 1980.

Mr. Skovira was the author of "The Flex Number System," which was about his invention of a teaching method that taught children how to count. At his death, family members said, he was working on designing a new conveyor system.

His wife died in 1996.

Mr. Skovira was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, and served as President of Branch 85 in Blakely, PA. He was a communicant of St. Ursula Roman Catholic Church, Parkville, where a Mass of Christian burial was offered at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, May 17, 2012.

In addition to his son, Mr. Skovira is survived by four other sons, Mark Skovira of Bel Air, Brian Skovira of Westminster, Leonard Skovira of Parker, Colo., and Christopher Skovira of Hot Springs, Ark.; three brothers, Richard Skovira of Parkville, and Bernard Skovira and Michael Skovira, both of Jessup, Pa.; two sisters, Loretta Krieger of Massapequa, N.Y., and Florence Pilch of Ashburn, Va.; and 14 grandchildren.

Submitted by Stella Skovira, Branch 85 Secretary

ROSE A. FRONCEK BRANCH 401 – NORTH APOLLO, PENNSYLVANIA

Rose (Kuchta) Froncek, 86, passed away Thursday, January 31, 2012, in Pittsburgh, PA. Daughter of the late Michael and Mary (Cickan) Kuchta, she was born August 28, 1925, in North Vandergrift.



Rose ran Whitey's Inn in North Apollo, PA, with her late husband, August Froncek, for 38 years, where countless people enjoyed her honest advice and good ethnic cooking. She served as President of District 2 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, and was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the N. Apollo VFD. Her devotion to her Slovak heritage, hard work, and steady self-assurance remain a legacy to her family and friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, Rose is preceded in death by her brothers:

Frank, Nicholas, John, and Stephen Kuchta; and sisters: Amelia and Margaret Kuchta, Mary Kaminski and Helen Badac. Her memory is treasured by her four children: Timothy (Carin-Ingeborg Noack), Patrick (Terry), Kathleen, and Sharon (Joseph) Ciocca; by seven grandchildren: James, Elizabeth, Mariah, Cyrille, Sophia, Sylvia, and Issac;

by three great-grandchildren: Sydney, McKenna, and Kaydence; by her brothers: August (Joan), Michael (Mila), Joseph (Julia); sister: Ann (Robert) Race; by numerous loving nieces, nephews, and their families; and by many devoted friends.

- Submitted by Patrick Froncek, Branch 401 President



Attention Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10 Members: Food, Fun, Fireworks – And Minor League Baseball – At Canal Park in Akron, OH on August 11, 2012



On Saturday, August 11, 2012, join other FCSU members in District 10, the Rev. Stephen Furdek District, for a fun evening of minor league ball, all-you-can-eat picnic style buffet, "Starwars" fireworks, and jersey pillow giveaway (first 1,000 attendees).

Faith & Family Night & the FCSU

The theme of the evening is "Faith & Family Night" – a perfect venue for the FCSU's District 10 to initiate a membership night. All branches in District 10 are eligible to participate: **1, 24, 228, 319, 425, 450, 553, 714, 754, 777, 852, 855, 862, and 900**. Normally a \$22 value, **discounted tickets are available for District 10 members** through participating branches. Non-members are welcome at the \$22 price.

The location is the state-of-the-art minor league baseball facility called Canal Park in downtown Akron, OH. It is situated at South Main Street between State and West Exchange Streets. Designed by the same company that developed other baseball gems, including Jacobs Field in Cleveland and Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore, Canal Park also features a beautiful picnic area.

Come early, stay late

In addition to watching the Akron Aeros take on New Hampshire at **7:05PM**, District 10 members will enjoy a 90 minute picnic **buffet** that begins when the gates open at **6:00PM**. The evening ends with spectacular Starwars-style fireworks.

The all-you-can-eat buffet, served picnic style, includes:

- Hamburgers
- Hot Dogs
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Coleslaw
- Potato Chips
- Cookies
- Iced Tea/Lemonade

How to Reserve Seats

Reservations must be made by **Friday, July 27, 2012**. To reserve your tickets and for more information, please contact your local branch office or District President Greg Petrasek at (330) 398-1888.

August 11th Highlights:

- **Date: Saturday, August 11, 2012**
- **Place: Canal Park, Akron, OH**
- **Gates open at 6:00PM with Jersey pillow giveaway to first 1,000 attendees**
- **All-you-can-eat, 90 minute buffet starting at 6:00PM**
- **Minor league ballgame, Akron v New Hampshire, starting at 7:05PM**
- **Starwars fireworks directly after the game**
- **Discounts on \$22 tickets through participating branches in District 10**

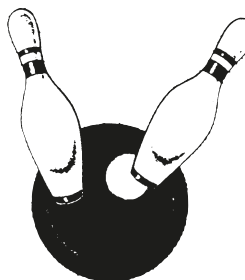
Terry Eller Wins Jednota All-Events Sweepstakes

Terry Eller – member of Branch 553, Akron, OH – captured top honors in the Jednota All-Events Bowling Sweepstakes at this year's Slovak Bowling Congress of America Tournament. The 70th Tournament was held recently at Midway Lanes in Akron, OH.

Terry's winning score was 1905. His actual series was 1464 plus 441 "handicap pins" over the nine game total.

Congratulations to Brother Eller. A sincere Jednota "THANK YOU" to all participants. Hope to see you in the Spring of 2013 at Wedgewood Lanes in Youngstown, OH.

- Submitted by Joe M. Harkulich,
Slovak Bowling Congress Secretary



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

THINK ABOUT IT!



FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec and his wife Mrs. Idka Rajec attended the June 10, 2012 meeting of The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, of Linden, NJ. The branch held their latest meeting at 10:30 AM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden. Among the items discussed: final details for the summer picnic and the fall bus trip.

Calumet College of St. Joseph Honors Monsignor Semanick at Commencement

Monsignor Joseph F. Semanick was honored recently when Calumet College of St. Joseph held commencement services on Saturday, May 12, 2012 in Hammond, IN. Commencement was preceded by a Baccalaureate Mass at 10:00 a.m. at St. Margaret Mary Church in Hammond. An honorary degree was bestowed on the Monsignor during the commencement which began at noon at Bishop Noll Institute Field House.

Monsignor Semanick served as the Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Gary for 35 years and recently completed over 50 years of devoted service as the pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in East Chicago. He has also played seminal leadership roles in the Hospice of the Calumet Area, the Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana and St. Catherine Hospital. Monsignor Semanick is also a long-standing member of the Board of Trustees of the College. In recognition of his many accomplishments, Calumet College honored him with conferral of the degree of Doctor of Humanities, HonorisCausa.

Monsignor Semanick is a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU), Branch 581, and is the son of the late Frank J. Semanick, longtime Chairman of the Board of Auditors of the FCSU.



Monsignor Joseph F. Semanick receiving conferral of Doctor of Humanities, HonorisCausa, at Calumet College in Hammond, IN.



Dear Father Portasik:

Congratulations on reaching a personal historic milestone, the 60th anniversary of your ordination.

The Slovak Franciscan Fathers have been an integral part of the Catholic Slovak community for over 100 years. Both the "Brown Franciscans" of which you are a part and the "Black Franciscans," which have served my home parish of St. Stephen Martyr in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, have deep roots in the Slovak community.

While the number of priests has declined dramatically, the positive work you and these other men do and have done will never be forgotten and their service to generations of parishioners will live on in eternity.

Again, thank you for your many years as a priest, a prolific writer in both Slovak and English and a model for generations of faithful Catholics.

God Bless you and we wish you many more years of good health and activity.

Nech Vás Pán Boh žehná!

Andrew M. Rajec
National President, First Catholic Slovak Union



Photo by Fr. Jeffrey Scheeler, OFM
Fr. Richard Portasik, OFM, preaching at his 60th Jubilee Mass and celebration at Holy Family Friary in Pittsburgh.

FCSU Spitkovsky District 2

AFTERNOON AT THE BALLPARK



Gary SouthShore RailCats vs. Fargo RedHawks

Sunday, July 29th at the modern USS Steelyard in Gary, Indiana

Game Time - 2:00pm

FCSU Members, families and friends are welcome (kids and grandchildren included)

- ❖ Reserved seats with a great view
- ❖ Free parking with fenced lots
- ❖ Enjoy minor league baseball at it's best
- ❖ Cost is only \$8.00 per person for FCSU members (include \$1 off district rebate)
- ❖ Members children and grandchildren attend for FREE
- ❖ Cost is only \$9.00 per person for non members (group rate)

If you wish to attend, please complete the form below and return by July 20, 2012 with appropriate payment to:

George Kelchak, 953 Portage Ave., Porter, IN 46304

Any questions? Call George Kelchak, Director of Fraternal Activities, at 219-926-2410

(Cut Here)

FCSU Member Name: _____	Number of Tickets _____
FCSU Member Children & Grand Children _____	Number of Free Tickets _____
Non-members Name: _____	Number of Tickets _____
Payment Enclosed: \$ _____	

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. 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.

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Insights and Viewpoints

On Life and Leadership

By Ed Bach, FIC, Branch 581

"Show the life you believe; then challenge the world to a greater level of love."

These are the words of Reverend Leon Flaherty, C.P.P.S., spoken during his sermon presented on the Feast of The Body and Blood Of Christ, Sunday, June 10, 2012, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Slovak Church, in Whiting, Indiana. Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) who have attended Masses celebrated at St. John the Baptist Catholic Slovak Church on October 16, 2011, or May 6, 2012, have had the opportunity to listen to Father Lee, an educated and skilled speaker.

Following the June Mass I asked Father Lee, "Is this verbatim"? Father responded, "Close enough".

I asked Father Lee for permission to use these words, with discretion. Without any hesitation, Father Lee said, "Yes, with discretion. Now lead that life".

Leadership shows itself in many ways. That is one of the many features of being an FCSU member; the options and opportunities to participate, engage, voice an opinion, and ultimately make a difference.

I had the good fortune to meet with First Captain Charlie Phelps a few months earlier at a military academy reunion. He was recently graduated from West Point Academy. I asked Charlie to describe elementary steps of developing leadership skills. It was not easy for Charlie to answer on the spot, but his advice boiled down to this: Recognize how you spend your time, then how you allocate that time. Though not for everyone, these are the first steps in developing leadership skills. Then, further down the line, don't get passed over. When a situation develops that requires leadership, extend yourself.

I see members of our Society showing just this type of leadership. John Munoz, Branch 493, extended himself that hot afternoon in June, by assisting seniors with different tasks, more than just by his mere presence. Lifelong FCSU Member Steven Krajnik, Branch 581, continues to be a huge force at Immaculate Conception. Like John, he extended himself to be the adult server during the June Mass. Fellow fraternalist Mr. Benedict Saliga, was discussing leadership skills with me during refreshment time. As a "serious" senior, Ben told me, "sometimes just doing the little things correctly and consistently, has a greater overall impact; though not necessarily the recognition."



Branch 493
Members:
(L-R) Socorro
Munoz, Rita
Krilich, and
John Munoz

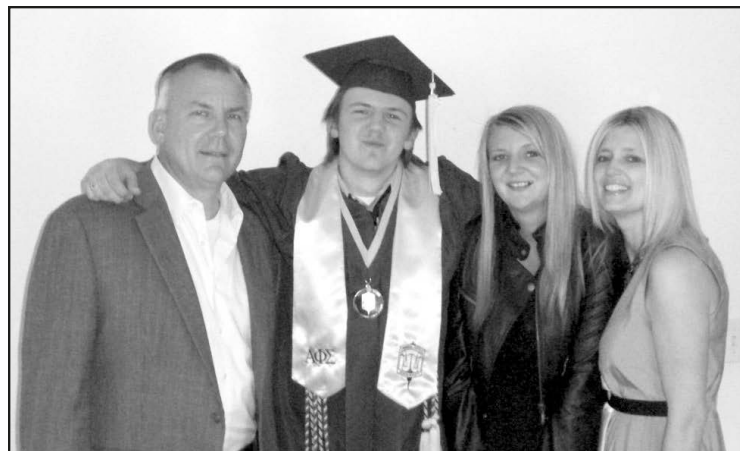
YSC Hosts Slovak Economic Advisor

Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities, Inc. and the American Slovak Cultural Association, Youngstown, OH, hosted Miriama Svetkovska, Spisska Nova Ves, Slovakia, at a picnic reception at the home of Susan and Ron Garchar, Canfield, OH, on May 2, 2012. Miriama recently was selected to be the Economic Advisor for Slovakia to the United States and will be based at the United States Embassy, Bratislava, Slovakia. Miriama has maintained a close friendship with Youngstown Sister Cities Board members Kay and Jim Bench and Susan and Ron Garchar, while attending Georgetown University in the United States. She has stayed at their homes while visiting this country and has attended Slovak events such as the annual Slovak Fest at Saint Matthias Slovak Parish held every August in Youngstown, OH. Miriama was accompanied by her fiancé, Marian Letovanec.

Submitted by Berne Demechko, Secretary, Youngstown Sister Cities



(L - R) Seated: Director, Jim Bench; Secretary, Bernie Demechko; Director, Loretta Ekoniak; Slovak Economic Advisor, Miriama Svetkovska; Guest, Kay Bench. Standing: Guest, Marian Letovanec; Director, Brian Petruska; President, Robert Petruska; Director, Gigi Bacon; and Treasurer, Ron Garchar.



(L - R) Mark Fayta with his son Alexander, daughter Chelsea and wife Judy.

Branch 706 Alexander Fayta Graduates with Honors

Alexander Fayta graduated in May 2012 from Western Illinois University with a Bachelors Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. Alex had a GPA of 3.93 and graduated Phi Kappa National Honor Society and Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society. Alex is currently interning with the Lake County Sheriffs Department in Illinois, and would like to become a Chicago Police Officer.

Mark Fayta, Alexander's father, is the Chairman of the Republic of Slovakia Christmas Tree at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, IL, and a member of the Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II and Branch 706. His family has been decorating the Republic of Slovakia Christmas Tree for the past 16 years. Proud grandparents, Art and Barbara Fayta, congratulate Alexander on his accomplishments.

- Submitted by Barbara Fayta, Vice-President Branch 706, Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II



Branch 19 Victoria Danielczuk Graduates, Joins Medical Technology Staff With Honors



On May 24, 2012, commencement exercises took place at the Medical Technology School of Allied Health at Danbury Hospital in Danbury, CT. Victoria M. Danielczuk, a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 19, Bridgeport, CT, completed a 12-month internship program in Clinical Laboratory Sciences and received her Medical Technologist certificate. Prior to Danbury Hospital, Victoria earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, graduating Magna Cum Laude from Waynesburg University in Waynesburg, PA, in May 2011.

In June 2012, Victoria will join the medical technology staff at new Britain

General Hospital in New Britain, CT.

Victoria would like to thank her parents for their support and encouragement and her instructors and friends for their guidance and enthusiasm. In addition, Victoria would like to thank the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Branch 19 for their financial support and encouragement over the years.

Victoria was the recipient of the John A. Zabor Scholarship, 2006; the Andrew J. Imbro Grant, 2009; and an FCSU Scholarship in 2007.

Victoria and her brother Christopher are members of Branch 19, Bridgeport, CT. Her father, Air Force National Guard Lt. Col. (ret.) Stanley Danielczuk; his sister, Mrs. Christine Grzybala and her son, John Grzybala; brothers Benedict and George Danielczuk; and Victoria's grandmother, Dorothy Danielczuk of Bridgeport, CT, are members the same branch.

- Submitted by St. Col. (ret.) ANG Stanley Danielczuk, Branch 19

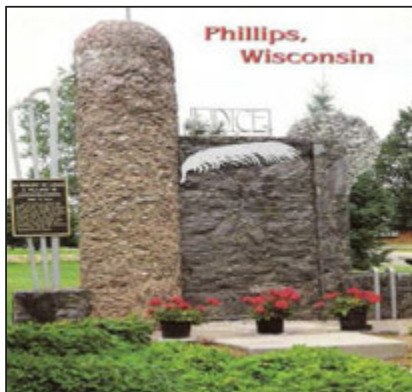
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Book Corner

Special Summer Offer on Slovak Books



THE LIDICE MEMORIAL

The Phillips Festival in Wisconsin, held the third week of June every year, is very special because it grew out of the rededication in 1984 of a local monument erected years earlier by Slavic settlers, many of whom had connections to the European town of Lidice, which was destroyed on June 18, 1942, by the Nazi Gestapo. The village of Lidice was ordered destroyed because Hitler believed that Czechs, with the help of British planes, had murdered deputy Reich protector, SS Obergruppenführer and general of the police Heydrich. It

was ordered that all persons involved and their immediate circle of accomplices be "rendered harmless." This meant destroying the village of Lidice, killing all 173 male inhabitants, and the deportation of all females and children. In Hitler's words, "When train derailments or assassination attempts take place, when enemy parachutists and agents, for example, Heydrich's assassins, are harbored, and so on, then the mayor has to be shot, the men have to be led away, or in serious cases, they also have to be shot and their wives transferred to concentration camps." (Volume IV. Hitler Speeches and Proclamations 1932-1945, p.2647.)

Thus, the Phillips Festival starts with a memorial service to Lidice so this horrible atrocity will not be forgotten. The Lidice Memorial, which honors the sacrifice of the Czechoslovakian people during WWII, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places thus recognizing its place in America's cultural and architectural past.

The Slovak-American International Cultural Foundation, Inc. would like to honor Phillips for their dedication to the Lidice Memorial by having a special sale of books important to Czechoslovakian culture. Buy any one of these books now, and the proceeds of these sales will be donated to Phillips in the form of these 4 books and 2 CDs sponsored by SAICF.

Slovak Tales, Images Gone with Time, and Night of the Barbarians- on sale for \$8 each
2CDs True Love, God, True Love and Resonantia Tatrae Selected Songs- on sale for \$15 each

Lastly, Illustrated Slovak History. PB- on sale for \$20 (offers expire July 31, 2012)

As always, the shipping is \$7 for the first book and \$1 for each book thereafter. Shipping for Canada varies.

See all books sponsored by SAICF at our website, slovakculture.org

If you wish to volunteer for SAICF by sponsoring an exhibit for our books at your local meeting, please contact Lou Bolchazy at Lou@bolchazy.com or DonnaSchmitz@slovakculture.org

Annual July Pierogi Fest in Whiting IN



THE WHITING PIEROGI FEST is a three-day "street festival" in Whiting, Indiana, located about 20 minutes from Chicago, IL. It is presented by the Whiting Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce and draws almost 200,000 visitors each year. The Pierogi Fest is held the last full weekend in July, which means this year it runs July 27-29, 2012, from 11AM to 10PM on Friday and Saturday and from 11AM to 5PM on Sunday.

Jam packed with street vendors selling food, drinks and fun novelty items like t-shirts, the fest also features events like the Polka Dance Off, judged by Mr. Pierogi and Ms. Paczki. Friday night is the annual International Polka Parade, with its special Precision Lawn-mower Drill team, the Twirling Babushka Brigade, the Marching MBA's, the World's Original Lazy Boy float, high school band, the Pierogi Queen and her court, and the "Beer-o-gies." The parade salutes Eastern European heritage with a little tongue in cheek. It's like no other parade you'll ever see!

At Pierogi Fest 2012 not only can you tap your toes to the live and pulsating music of polka bands each day, but you can sit and watch the beautifully costumed young men and women from four different Slovak dance troupes - Lučinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble from Cleveland, OH; Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble from Detroit, MI; Veselica Slovak Folk Ensemble from Chicago, IL; and the Vychodna Slovak Dancers from Mississauga, Ontario - many of whom are FCSU members. Šarišan is directed by Milan Straka, Branch 743 while Lučinka's honorary director Tom Ivanec is a member of Branch 24 and its director Michele Mager is a member of Branch 228. Vychodna's Executive Vice President of Cultural Events Dušan Dorich is a member of Branch 785.

The dancers perform from 2 - 4PM on Saturday and noon - 2PM on Sunday.

For more information, visit the official Pierogi Fest

website: www.pierogifest.net or call toll free 1-800-659-0292

The 89th Annual Slovak Day Kennywood Park

The 89th Annual Slovak Day will take place Thursday July 19, 2012 at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA. It is a day for Slovaks to celebrate their heritage with each other while enjoying colorful displays, authentic costumes, a Slovak liturgy, a spectacular Slovak Folk Dance performances, scrumptious Slovak food, special children's activities as well as foot-tapping music for dancing. These combine to build a treasure chest of memories—many to be remembered and still more waiting to be created.

A highlight of Slovak Day is the con-celebration of the Slovak Liturgy in the Main Pavilion directly behind "Garfield's Revenge" at 4:00 pm. The Main Celebrant of the Liturgy will be Reverend Edward Litavec, along with several Catholic priests from the Pittsburgh and Greensburg Dioceses. Immediately following will be the vibrant repertoire of Slovak music, songs and dances presented by the Pittsburgh Slovaks and the "Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble" (PAS).

Tantalize your taste buds at the Slovak Kitchen where you will be able to enjoy holubky (stuffed cabbage), haluski (sweet cabbage and noodles), and kolbasy. Your sweet tooth can be satisfied with the homemade favorite - ceregi. Enjoy this delicious dinner or ala carte foods and relax amid the echoes of Slovakia, as the strolling musicians play all of the "Slovak favorites". Food will be served in Pavilion #4 behind the ride "Garfield's Revenge" from 1:00 p.m. until the food is sold out.

In Pavilion # 3 you will be able to see an exhibit on "Popoluska" the Slovak Cinderella, prepared by the "PAS" Jr. and Maly Ensembles. The exhibit is a Slovak heirlooms of folk treasures that show the incredible skill and artistry of the Slovak village.

A special youth area will feature activities just for children. The children's program will include games and treats beginning at 12:30 pm by the Main Pavilion. Every child participating in these activities will receive a free treat.

To conclude the 89th Annual Slovak Day activities one can sit back and enjoy the music or kick up your heels dancing, grab a partner and twirl to traditional Slovak music of the George Batyi Ensemble in front the Main Pavilion directly after the main program.

For a day to remember, join all Slovaks on Thursday July 19, 2012, Kennywood Park. The cost of tickets are \$23 General Admission, \$13 for those 55 years of age and over and a coupon will be available for those 70 years and over to be paid at the gate for \$9.00 + tax. Tickets and coupons are available by contacting Dolores Sakal at (412) 243-0438 or Rev. Joseph Grosko at (412) 466-6545.

FCSU at Kennywood Park



Slovak Day was established in 1923 to celebrate and preserve the Slovak heritage of Western Pennsylvania.

Executive members of the First Catholic Slovak Union will be at Slovak Day 2012 to meet and greet attendees. Stop by the FCSU booth on July 19, 2012, at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA, and learn more about our Society and our portfolio of insurance and annuity products.

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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News From Slovakia

Finland Increasingly Interested in Co-operation with Slovakia

Bratislava, June 23 (TASR) - The latest development in the EU, financial crisis and possibilities of further co-operation were the key topics of the meeting between President Ivan Gasparovic and Finland's parliamentary chair Eero Heinaluoma, the president's spokesman Marek Trubac told TASR on this date.

"I am glad that in the current financial crisis we share the same views on the preservation of the EU as such, also because Finland is the only Nordic country whose currency is the same as ours - the euro," said Gasparovic.

Both Gasparovic and Heinaluoma agreed that the eurozone should expand, however the President thinks that the economy, rather than the political situation of membership candidates should be the main accession criteria in the future.

Turning to co-operation possibilities, Heinaluoma said that Finland has been increasingly interested in cooperation with Slovakia in the fields of trade, as well as tourism. According to Gasparovic, mutual co-operation between the countries could concern trade as well as education, science and culture.

Slovakia Welcomes Initiation of EU Accession Talks with Montenegro

Bratislava, June 26 (TASR) - The Foreign Affairs Ministry welcomed the decision made by the Council of Europe to initiate accession talks with Montenegro this month.

"The opening of difficult negotiations on entry into the EU represents a well-deserved achievement for Montenegro, accomplished by virtue of its government's work, the reforms it has carried out, the determination and trust of Montenegrin citizens in the policies surrounding EU enlargement. The success of Montenegro - towards which Slovakia also contributed with its diplomatic activities and help provided during the transformation of the country and the preparation for its negotiations with EU - will present a clear message also to other countries of the West Balkans that their European prospects are realistic and that the transformation and integration process bears results," reads the statement released by the ministry.

The decision reached on this date is set to be confirmed by European leaders during the session of the European Council set for Thursday (June 28) in Brussels. Slovakia promises Montenegro all its support in the next phase of its integration efforts.

June Poll: Smer Remains Clearly on Top, SNS Back in Parliament

Bratislava, June 21 (TASR) - The governing Smer-SD party remains by far the most popular party in Slovakia, with a recent poll revealing that it would have gained 42.3 percent of the vote if a general election had been held in the first half of June, Martin Slosiarik of Focus agency.

The June 5-11 poll, carried out by Focus on a sample of 1,026 respondents, also revealed that the Christian Democrats (KDH) came second with public backing amounting to 10.8 percent.

Meanwhile, Ordinary People and Independent Personalities (OLaNO) were on 8.5 percent, followed by Most-Hid on 7.4 percent, and Freedom and Solidarity (SaS) on 7.1 percent. The 5-percent threshold needed to win representation in the House would also have been cleared by SDKU-DS (6.5 percent) and the Slovak National Party (SNS) on 5 percent.

In comparison to a poll in May, Smer posted a 4-percent drop in voter-support, followed by SDKU-DS with a fall of 0.4 percent. Conversely, OLaNO saw the number of its voters increase by 2.5 percent, with Most-Hid next on an extra 1.1 percent.

A total of 65.8 percent of those asked would have gone to the polls, while 21.2 percent were determined not to vote for any party. Thirteen percent of the respondents were undecided or preferred not to disclose preference for any party.

Unemployment Rate in May Up 0.35 p.p. Y-o-Y, Down 0.21 p.p. M-o-M

Bratislava, June 20 (TASR) - The unemployment rate in Slovakia rose by 0.35 percentage points year-on-year in May to 13.19 percent, the Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Centre (UPSVaR) announced on Wednesday.

The unemployment rate fell by 0.21 percentage points month-on-month.

More than 356,000 people immediately ready to start work were registered at labor offices. The total number of people signing on at labor offices reached almost 400,000, however.

The highest unemployment rate was registered in Presov - 19.27 percent, while two other regions also exceeded the country's average: Banska Bystrica region - 19.12 percent, and Kosice region - 18.34 percent.

"All regions recorded month-on-month reductions in their unemployment rates. The most significant m-o-m reduction was registered in Banska Bystrica region - 0.37 p.p.," added UPSVaR.

Fico: High Earners to Pay 25% Tax, Corporate Income Tax to Rise to 23%

Bratislava, June 21 (TASR) - The Government is set to preserve the flat-rate income tax of 19 percent only for monthly salaries of up to €3,246, while those who earn more will pay 25 percent, TASR learnt on Thursday.

"This concerns only one percent of people," said Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD) after a session of the Solidarity and Development Council.

The higher rate will also apply to state officials excluding judges and prosecutors even if their incomes don't reach the aforementioned threshold.

The premier also announced a blanket increase in corporate income tax from 19 to 23 percent. "This decision marks the definitive end of the flat-tax," said Fico, who went on to call the flat rate damaging, adding that only time will tell whether or not its effect on the Slovak economy has been favorable.

The Government is also set to continue to impose a levy on dividends that was introduced by former labor minister Jozef Mihal, with the levy now set to be increased to 14 percent.

In addition, the maximum assessment base for calculating contributions will be increased, with those earning over €1,200 per month to pay extra money to the state.

Fico: Closer EU Integration Necessary, But Devil Lies in Details

Bratislava, June 26 (TASR) - The Government of Robert Fico is in favor of deeper EU integration from the fiscal as well as the banking perspective, and that is the stance the Prime Minister will present at this week's EU Summit in Brussels.

European leaders will gather at the Summit to discuss a strategic document on further EU integration, drafted by President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy, European Central Bank President Mario Draghi and President of the Euro Group Jean-Claude Juncker.

Fico expects that the process of drafting and carrying out specific measures designed to create tighter economic and currency union can be expected to take place within the scope of the next decade. This next step within EU integration, according to Fico, should be based on four pillars, the first of which represents an integrated financial framework.

"We should focus on the issue of unified European banking supervision, joint deposit protection and crisis situation measures for banks," the Prime Minister said at the parliamentary European Affairs Committee session on Tuesday, where he received a mandate to represent Slovakia in Brussels.

The second item is to be an integrated budgetary framework, conceived with an eye towards laying the groundwork for fiscal union with such measures as, for instance, the issuing of joint bonds.

Fico views as the third item the integration of economic policies. "It turns out that it's difficult to maintain a common European currency with different budgetary and economic policies. It seems that we won't be able to steer clear of this kind of integration, after all," said Fico. Finally, the fourth pillar represents the bolstering of democratic legitimacy and responsibility within the EU.

The Prime Minister believes that this strategic document will win support of European leaders at the upcoming summit, as all of them realize the need for deeper economic and currency integration. "I will admit a certain degree of nervousness prevailing among the leaders. The devil always lies in details ... so we'll wait to see what kind of proposals will appear," he added.

One-quarter of Slovaks Strictly Reject Physical Punishment for Kids

Bratislava, June 20 (TASR) - One-quarter of the people in Slovakia completely reject the use of physical punishment on children, while 10 percent approve of such disciplinary measures, according to a poll carried out by NMS Market Research agency and published on Wednesday.

According to Maria Harvanikova from NMS Market Research, 66 percent of the respondents said that they are against physical punishment, but wouldn't rule it out in exceptional cases.

Meanwhile, those who completely reject physical punishment are mainly women (27 percent), the unmarried (28 percent) and young people aged between 18-25 (33 percent).

The survey was carried out on a representative sample of 1,100 respondents.

Corgon Declared Best Slovak Pale Lager

Bratislava, June 26 (TASR) - Slovak beer Corgon was assessed to be the best Slovak beer in the category of 10% and 12% pale lagers at the expert beer tasting 'Slovak Beer Crown 2012' on Tuesday.

Zlaty Bazant's dark beer was declared the best beer in its category.

"Beer is a Slovak national drink. It is also a sector which represents the tiniest of problem areas when it comes to food safety and quality. This competition proved that we can, without hesitation, but in moderation, drink Slovak beer," said State Veterinary and Food Directorate head Jozef Bires when announcing the winners.

Altogether five large and medium-size breweries took part in the competition, accompanied by seven microbreweries operated by restaurants.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2012

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec. called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked Treasurer George F. Matta to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
George F. Matta, Treasurer
Carl Ungvarsky, Regional Director
(Via teleconference by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE APRIL MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the April 2012 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Matta to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT:

The Treasurer presented a written report and answered all the Executive Committee's questions.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., gave his monthly presentation by Teleconference. He briefed the Executive Committee on our Investment Portfolio. After the report, Mr. Larry White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES:

The President stated Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, is working with the National Slovak Society on the joint Golf Tournament which will be held on July 14-15, 2012 in Sharon, Pennsylvania.

The President stated the Fraternal Activities Director is looking for a location to hold

a National Picnic in 2013. As information becomes available, the Executive Committee will be informed.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President reviewed our sales production report for the different regions and the report of our independent agents and answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Vice President stated we are continuing to add new agents.

The Vice President reviewed the Special Program directed towards our youth, stating all qualified applicants will receive a special fraternal benefit of \$14.00 towards the premium of a \$10,000 Juvenile Term to Age 25 policy for the first year. This program has been very successful and continues through July 1, 2012.

The Vice President stated he is still scheduling 2012 seminars. The Vice President is asking the Regional Directors for their assistance in setting up the seminars.

Vice President Harcar and Executive Secretary Arendt are finalizing the arrangements for the Membership Meet for 2012. Once the arrangements are completed, information will be sent and the Home Office will announce the location.

ADVERTISING:

The Executive Secretary stated we will continue advertising our products and annuity rates in our Jednota newspaper, mailings, and on our website.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK**

Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt submitted a written report to the Executive Committee which gave a complete update of the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB).

PORTFOLIO CUSTODIAN

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank, and found everything in order and answered the Committee's questions.

MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of April for the Committee's review and answered their questions.

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

The Executive Secretary reported that the following disbursements were incurred and paid during the month of April:

Disbursements for the month of April 2012:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 265,210.76
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 37,455.79
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report. The Executive Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated he and Regional Director James Marmol are continuing to review and revise the plans and estimated costs for the Jednota Monument on the Estates.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

The request for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The President asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to close the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

FCSU LIFE

Single Premium Insurance Spring Special!

Newborn Male \$5000 for \$290 \$10000 for \$580	Newborn Female \$5000 for \$250 \$10000 for \$500
Male - age 5 \$5000 for \$340 \$10000 for \$680	Female - age 5 \$5000 for \$290 \$10000 for \$580
Male - age 10 \$5000 for \$400 \$10000 for \$800	Female - age 10 \$5000 for \$340 \$10000 for \$680
Male - age 15 \$5000 for \$480 \$10000 for \$960	Female - age 15 \$5000 for \$405 \$10000 for \$810
Male - age 20 \$5000 for \$545.00 \$10000 for \$1090.00	Female - age 20 \$5000 for \$470.00 \$10000 for \$940.00

Purchase Single
Premium Whole Life
Insurance coverage
for your children or
grandchildren and
receive a
**FREE \$10.00
GIFT CARD**
to present with the
certificate!

Features:

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
- Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more) subject to current FCSU LIFE non-medical limits
- Excellent gift for children or grandchildren



Address Changes?

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

Statement as of March 31, 2012 **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA**
ASSETS

	Current Statement Date			4 December 31 Prior Year Net Admitted Assets
	1 Assets	2 Nonadmitted Assets	3 Net Admitted Assets (Cols. 1 - 2)	
1. Bonds.....	255,920,549		255,920,549	255,081,164
2. Stocks:				
2.1 Preferred stocks.....	2,927,429		2,927,429	2,927,429
2.2 Common stocks.....	2,886,029		2,886,029	2,757,043
3. Mortgage loans on real estate:				
3.1 First liens.....	1,697,699		1,697,699	1,737,103
3.2 Other than first liens.....			0	
4. Real estate:				
4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	1,060,919		1,060,919	1,074,301
4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	833,832		833,832	843,809
4.3 Properties held for sale (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	562,675		562,675	562,675
5. Cash (\$.....8,091,029), cash equivalents (\$.....0) and short-term investments (\$.....0).....	8,091,029		8,091,029	5,245,505
6. Contract loans (including \$.....0 premium notes).....	989,893		989,893	992,342
7. Derivatives.....			0	
8. Other invested assets.....	10,749,120		10,749,120	10,600,462
9. Receivables for securities.....			0	
10. Securities lending reinvested collateral assets.....			0	
11. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets.....	0	0	0	0
12. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 11).....	285,719,173	0	285,719,173	281,821,834
13. Title plants less \$.....0 charged off (for Title insurers only).....			0	
14. Investment income due and accrued.....	3,341,826		3,341,826	3,252,818
15. Premiums and considerations:				
15.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in the course of collection.....	19,379		19,379	31,155
15.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but deferred and not yet due (including \$.....0 earned but unbilled premiums).....			0	
15.3 Accrued retrospective premiums.....			0	
16. Reinsurance:				
16.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers.....			0	
16.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies.....			0	
16.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts.....			0	
17. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans.....			0	
18.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon.....			0	
18.2 Net deferred tax asset.....			0	
19. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit.....			0	
20. Electronic data processing equipment and software.....			0	
21. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets (\$.....0).....	17,617	17,617	0	
22. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....			0	
23. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....			0	
24. Health care (\$.....0) and other amounts receivable.....			0	
25. Aggregate write-ins for other than invested assets.....	19,287	19,287	0	0
26. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 12 through 25).....	289,117,282	36,904	289,080,378	285,105,807
27. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts.....			0	
28. Total (Lines 26 and 27).....	289,117,282	36,904	289,080,378	285,105,807

Statement as of March 31, 2012 **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS

	1 Current Statement Date	2 December 31 Prior Year
1. Aggregate reserve for life contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	229,494,000	227,605,000
2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....		
3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	25,998,489	26,045,653
4. Contract claims:		
4.1 Life.....	300,000	300,000
4.2 Accident and health.....		
5. Refunds due and unpaid.....		
6. Provisions for refunds payable in following calendar year - estimated amounts:		
6.1 Apportioned for payment.....	400,000	400,000
6.2 Not yet apportioned.....		
7. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less \$.....0 discount; including \$.....0 accident and health premiums.....	334,945	313,734
8. Certificate and contract liabilities not included elsewhere:		
8.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts.....		
8.2 Other amounts payable on reinsurance including \$.....0 assumed and \$.....0 ceded.....		
8.3 Interest maintenance reserve (IMR).....	1,049,753	1,332,565
9. Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued - life and annuity contracts \$.....0, accident and health \$.....0 and deposit-type contract funds \$.....0.....	15,376	25,692
10. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed.....		
11. General expenses due or accrued.....	448,905	364,187
12. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including \$.....0 accrued for expense allowances recognized in reserves).....		
13. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued.....	24,066	24,066
14. Unearned investment income.....		
15. Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee.....	7,093,762	7,140,958
16. Amounts held for fieldworkers' account, including \$.....0 fieldworkers' credit balances.....		
17. Remittances and items not allocated.....		
18. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....	9,511	10,000
19. Liability for benefits for employees and fieldworkers if not included above.....		
20. Borrowed money \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
21. Miscellaneous liabilities:		
21.1 Asset valuation reserve.....	2,133,517	2,145,008
21.2 Reinsurance in unauthorized companies.....		
21.3 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized reinsurers.....		
21.4 Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates.....		
21.5 Drafts outstanding.....		
21.6 Funds held under coinsurance.....		
21.7 Derivatives.....		
21.8 Payable for securities.....	1,736,524	
21.9 Payable for securities lending.....		
22. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities.....	414,927	414,927
23. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 22).....	269,453,775	266,121,790
24. From Separate Accounts Statement.....		
25. Total liabilities (Lines 23 to 24).....	269,453,775	266,121,790
26. Aggregate write-ins for other than liabilities and surplus funds.....	0	0
27. Surplus notes.....		
28. Aggregate write-ins for surplus funds.....	0	0
29. Unassigned funds.....	19,626,603	18,984,017
30. Total (Lines 26 through 29) (including \$.....0 in Separate Accounts Statement).....	19,626,603	18,984,017
31. Totals (Lines 25 + 30) (Page 2, Line 28, Col. 3).....	289,080,378	285,105,807

Statement as of March 31, 2012 **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	1 Current Year To Date	2 Prior Year To Date	3 Prior Year Ended December 31
1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts.....	3,499,903	4,406,989	15,472,990
2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
3. Net investment income.....	3,796,746	3,499,634	13,294,944
4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR).....	75,000	58,000	293,139
5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains and losses.....			
6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded.....			
7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded.....			
8. Miscellaneous income:			
8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts.....			
8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts.....			
8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income.....	1,680	6,534	54,655
9. Totals (Lines 1 to 8.3).....	7,373,329	7,971,157	29,115,728
10. Death benefits.....	574,807	756,549	3,043,177
11. Matured endowments (excluding guaranteed annual pure endowments).....			1,085
12. Annuity benefits.....	2,888,824	5,901,206	20,015,984
13. Disability benefits and benefits under accident and health contracts including premiums waived \$.....0.....			
14. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts.....	165,178	117,661	545,361
15. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contract funds.....	71,047	71,323	284,035
16. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....	46,673		
17. Increase in aggregate reserve for life and accident and health contracts.....	1,889,000	(250,000)	799,000
18. Totals (Lines 10 to 17).....	5,635,529	6,596,739	24,688,642
19. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only).....	52,295	41,673	220,845
20. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed.....			
21. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses.....	903,097	662,163	2,421,858
22. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees.....	58,866	42,438	80,954
23. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums.....			
24. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance.....			
25. Aggregate write-ins for deductions.....	0	42,069	182,186
26. Totals (Lines 18 to 25).....	6,649,787	7,385,082	27,594,485
27. Net gain from operations before refunds to members (Line 9 minus Line 26).....	723,542	586,075	1,521,243
28. Refunds to members.....	63,025	61,605	393,805
29. Net gain from operations after refunds to members and before realized capital gains (losses) (Line 27 minus Line 28).....	660,517	524,470	1,127,438
30. Net realized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of0 (excluding \$.....0 transferred to the IMR).....		(657,406)	(1,269,681)
31. Net income (Lines 29 + 30).....	660,517	(132,936)	(142,243)
SURPLUS ACCOUNT			
32. Surplus, December 31, prior year.....	18,984,017	17,519,864	17,519,864
33. Net income from operations (Line 31).....	660,517	(132,936)	(142,243)
34. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0.....	(28,280)	661,382	964,771
35. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss).....			
36. Change in nonadmitted assets.....	(2,456)	2,352	20,162
37. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized companies.....			
38. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis (increase) or decrease.....			
39. Change in asset valuation reserve.....	11,491	32,478	621,146
40. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period.....			
41. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts Statement.....			
42. Change in surplus notes.....			
43. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.....			
44. Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance.....			
45. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus.....	1,314	(33,070)	317
46. Net change in surplus for the year (Lines 33 through 45).....	642,586	530,206	1,464,153
47. Surplus as of statement date (Lines 32 + 46).....	19,626,603	18,050,070	18,984,017

Autá Made in SlovaKIA

Kolískou automobilizmu sú nepochybne USA. Zatiaľ, čo na Slovensku v medzivojnovom období boli na vidieku autá takmer raritou, v Amerike automobilky chrlili už vtedy milióny áut cenovo dostupných pre všetky spoločenské vrstvy. Ešte aj povojnová slovenská emigrácia prichádzala do USA bez vodičského preukazu, až tu si kúpili svoje prvé autá, lebo bez nich bol život nemožný.

Za ostatných dvadsať rokov sa veľa zmenilo i na Slovensku. Ťažký priemysel, orientovaný z veľkej časti na tzv. špeciálnu výrobu, čo znamená na zbrojársku výrobu, skrachoval. Zahraniční investori rýchlo pochopili, že je tu kvalifikovaná pracovná sila, že štát im vychádza v ústrety a vzhľadom na centrálnu polohu Slovenska v Európe stojí za to vybudovať automobilové závody, ktoré budú zásobovať európsky trh. Slovensko sa za krátky čas stalo automobilovou „veľmocou“, lebo sa tu ročne vyrobí najviac áut na jedného obyvateľa. Čo však s tými 780-tisíc autami, ktoré sa na Slovensku pravdepodobne vyrobia v tomto roku? Akú majú kvalitu, kto si ich kupuje?

Ako prvú sme navštívili kórejskú automobilku Kia Motors Slovakia (KMA) v Tepličke nad Váhom pri Žiline. Chceli sme na vlastné oči vidieť moderný závod, ktorý vyrástol za dva roky, zamestnáva viac než 3,900 ľudí a 15-tisícim ďalších dáva prácu u svojich dodávateľov. Na ceste do KMS ma sprevádzal priateľ Ing. Peter Skala, ktorý ako dlhoročný majiteľ vychýrených Mercedesov porovnáva všetky autá z pohľadu svojej obľúbenej značky. Nuž, ako to dnes chodí na trhu s autami, povieme si na príklade závodu Kia Motors Slovakia, ktorý má výrobnú kapacitu až 1,300 áut denne v trojzmennej prevádzke. Vlni sa ich tu vyrobilo viac než 252 tisíc a musím hneď dodať, že takmer všetky boli ešte predtým, ako ich vyrobili, predané. Na automobilovom trhu je to už dnes i na Slovensku jednoduché tak, že najskôr si u predajcu auto objednáte, vyberiete si farbu, výbavu počínajúc typom motora a prevodovky, strešným panoramatickým sklom, navigačným systémom až po čalúnenie sedadiel. Vašu objednávku odošlú na spracovanie do centrálneho v nemeckom Frankfurtu, kde sa zbierajú objednávky z celej Európy. Z nich sa v závode Kia následne pripravujú denné výrobné plány, podľa ktorých vyrobia autá presne podľa požiadaviek zákazníkov. Je až neuveriteľné ako sa na dopravnom páse stretnú informácie o všetkých detailoch zákazky. Na páse nevidíte napríklad autá iba jednej farby, dokonca ani autá len jedného modelu! Vyrábajú už päť typov a na páse sme ich videli v rôznych farbách, dokonca aj s volantom na pravej strane, určených pre zákazníkov vo Veľkej Británii.

Pri našej návšteve automobilky KMS sme videli najskôr iba obrovské kotúče plechov, od viacerých európskych dodávateľov vrátane slovenských. Z nich v lisovni nastrihajú jednotlivé diely karosérie a tie, vytrvalé, mlčiacie a pracovité roboty posúvajú ďalším automatom, ktoré z nich zvaria základ karosérie. Tá sa posúva, samozrejme, že pod prísny dozor kontrolórov na ďalšie spracovanie do lakovne, tam ju namočia do základnej farby, vymelia a ešte tri razy prestriekajú. Odtiaľ už ide na páse do rúk kvalifikovaných operátorov výroby. Tí, na rozdiel od robotov, majú ľudské tempo, majú čas bezpečne a dôkladne vykonať svoj podiel práce s možnosťou pauzy na oddych i prestávku. Každá etapa výroby prechádza prísnu kontrolou a tak sme boli zvedaví ako sa zamestnanci vyrovnali s disciplínou a náročnosťou výroby. Na prehliadke sme mali výbornú sprievodkyňu Evu Kľačanovú a na pracovnom obede sme sa mali príležitosť pohovárať s hovorcem spoločnosti Dušanom Dvořákom. Zdá sa, že spokojnosť je na oboch stranách. V celom závode je približne 50 Kórejcov väčšinou na manažérskych a riadiacich pozíciách. I samotného prezidenta spoločnosti, pána Eek-Hee Lee sme stretli v sprievode ďalších šéfov v pracovnom odevu, ako sledujú výrobu. V závode majú aj odborovú organizáciu, ktorá takmer nemá čo riešiť.



Táto operácia sa volá „podvozkový sobáš“. Predná náprava s motorom je primontovaná k podvozku karosérie.

Výroba, ako som už naznačil, je riadená náročnou logistikou. Aj ľudia sú „naprogramovaní“ podobne ako stroje. Na páse musia vykonať operácie v presnom poradí a časovom limite. A je tu kontrola na kontrolu, ktorá nájde každú chybičku. Samozrejme, že majú premyslený systém hodnotenia pracovníkov i systém odmeňovania. Priemerná hrubá mesačná mzda robotníkov v pásovej výrobe je približne 1060,- € (1300,- dolárov) mesačne, čo je oveľa viac ako priemer mesačnej mzdy na Slovensku. Tí majú aj iné výhody. Do práce až 85% zamestnancov vozia na vlastných autobusoch z okresov, kde je veľmi ťažké nájsť zamest-



(Foto autor a archív KMS)

Kia Motors Slovakia začali stavať r. 2004. Celý objekt sa rozkladá na 166 ha. Doteraz investovali do jeho výstavby 1.2 miliardy eur. Po dvoch rokoch spustili výrobu a doteraz vyrobili už viac než 1.1 mil. áut.

nanie. Väčšina pracovníkov závodu je teda z Kysúc, Oravy, Považia, Turca i Liptova a okolia Rajeckej. Svoju prácu si vážia. V samotnom závode je neuveriteľne čisto. Dalo by sa to takmer porovnať s nemocnicou. Prostredie v okolí závodu pripomína park, alebo botanickú záhradu.

Najskôr sme vyskúšali najnovší model Kia cee'd a potom obľúbený SUV Kia Sportage s automatickou prevodovkou. Ja i môj odborný poradca sme prešli s každým vozidlom skúšobný okruh v prítomnosti kontrolóra kvality. Peter, porovnávajúci skúšané vozidlá so svojimi mercedesmi musel uznať, že obe vozidlá sú vo svojej triede bezchybné a ich vysoké hodnotenie odbornej verejnosti je zaslúžené.

Tridsaťšesť testovacích jazdcov sa dvadsaťštyri hodín denne strieda, aby prešli s každým novým výrobkom po trati simulujúcej všetky druhy ciest, vyskúšali jazdné vlastnosti auta a funkcie prístrojov. Až potom auto definitívne vyčistia, nastriekajú ochrannou emulziou a odstavajú na parkovisko, kde sa pripravuje na nakládku a odvoz. Samozrejme, že tu musia byť autá zoradené na nakládku tak, aby „trafili“ k svojmu majiteľovi. Asi 70 % aut ide do cieľovej stanice kamióňmi, ostatné nakladajú na špeciálne vlakové súpravy. Viac než 20 % áut smeruje do Ruska, 10 % do Veľkej Británie, 9 % do Nemecka, 8 % do Španielska, 5 % do Francúzska, iba 1 % zostáva na Slovensku a ostatné končia v ďalších 44 krajinách. Obavy, že kamióň zahltia okolité cesty a diaľnice sa nenaplnili, aj keď treba povedať, že bez diaľnic by takáto fabrika bola deň čo deň v ohrození. Veď len pneumatik musia denne doviezť 6500 ks. Dnes sa pri podobných závodoch nestavajú obrovské skladové haly ako kedysi, kde mesiace, či roky ležali náhradné diely. Život automobilky je odkázaný na dochvilné zásobovanie. Vďaka dokonalkej logistike pracujú päť dní v týždni a počas dvoch zvyšných dní vykonávajú údržbu, aby mohli spoľahlivo pokračovať ďalej. V tomto roku sú pripravení vyrobiť 285 tisíc áut a kapacitu majú pripravenú na 450-tisíc motorov aj pre iné autá concernu Hyundai. Automobilky značky Kia nie sú v USA neznáme. Pravda, nedovážajú sa zo Slovenska, lebo Kia má v Georgii svoju vlastnú fabriku, o niečo väčšiu ako je tá slovenská. Porovnával som ceny a tie sú vyrovnané. Kedysi Američanom nezáležalo na spotrebe pohonných hmôt, ale dnes je to tiež jedno z dôležitých kritérií pri rozhodovaní sa aké auto kúpiť. Zo skúsenosti mojich známych, ktorí majú Kia viem, že údaje uvádzané výrobcom sú reálne. Kia patrí medzi veľmi úsporné autá, čo ju spolu so sedemročnou zárukou, ktorú poskytuje, radí medzi vyhľadávané.

Dúfam, že týmto materiálom a ďalšími, ktoré pripravujeme, pomôžeme presvedčiť Slovákov, ktorí v USA pracujú a vracajú sa domov na Slovensko, že ak si chcú kúpiť okrem iného aj nové auto, malo by to byť auto vyrobené na Slovensku.

Ivan Reguli



Na konci pásu. Ešte testovacia jazda, výstupná kontrola a zostáva iba Kia pripraviť na cestu k novému majiteľovi.

Warhol stúpa na cene, prestíž múzea rastie

Ceny, za aké nedávno kúpili zberatelia umenia diela Andyho Warhola, prekonal rekordy. Aukcia umenia v Londýne potvrdila, že ich hodnota závratne stúpa. Do popredia záujmu to môže dostať aj Múzeum moderného umenia Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach. Jedna z galérií v New Yorku mu chce darovať diela Steva Kaufmana. Impulz prišiel po vernisáži výstavy Písmo ako obraz, Písmo v obraze.

Múzeum Moderného umenia Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach je jediným v Európe a po múzeu v Pittsburghu druhým svojho druhu na svete. Hodnotu muzeálnych zbierok ovplyvňuje aj aktuálne dianie vo svetových aukčných sieňach.

Martin Cubjak, viceprezident Spoločnosti Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach informoval, že aukčná spoločnosť Sothebys v Londýne nedávno zaznamenala historické rekordy cien Warholových diel. „Ceny jeho diel neustále stúpajú. Ako ukázala aukcia, stúpajú aj o stovky percent iba v priebehu jedného aukčného večera,“ povedal Cubjak. „To dvíha aj hodnotu vystavovaných obrazov v múzeu v Medzilaborciach,“ dodal. Expozície múzea v Medzilaborciach tvoria vo väčšine Warholove diela, ktoré múzeu požíčali súkromní zberatelia.

Do nákupu diel investoval aj zriaďovateľ múzea Prešovský samosprávny kraj (PSK). Riaditeľka múzea Valika Maďarová potvrdila, že naposledy kraj vlni investoval do nákupu diel necelých 200-tisíc eur. Cubjak upriamil pozornosť aj na ďalší fenomén. Keď o aktuálnej výstave Písmo ako obraz, Písmo v obraze vydali tlačovú správu, vďaka internetu za krátku chvíľu doslova obletela celý svet. Za jeden deň si o nej na internete prečítalo skoro 48-tisíc, po niekoľkých dňoch skoro 80-tisíc ľudí. Skoro polovica z nich v Spojených štátoch amerických. Na základe tejto medializácie Spoločnosť Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach skontaktovala majiteľka American pop art, Inc. Gallery vystavujúca diela pop artu v New Yorku. Medzi nimi dominujú diela dlhoročného Warholovho asistenta Steva Kaufmana, predstaviteľa post pop artu. „Oznámila nám, že na Slovensko by chcela prísť začiatkom júla a darovať múzeu niekoľko Kaufmanových malieb,“ povedal Cubjak.

TASR

Memorandum o spolupráci s medzinárodnou firmou

Rektor Univerzity Komenského (UK) v Bratislave Karol Mičieta nedávno podpísal memorandum o spolupráci s výrobcom a dodávateľom zdravotníckeho materiálu a liekov, spoločnosťou Johnson & Johnson.

Spolupráca bude spočívať v odbornom vzdelávaní zameranom na medicínske technológie v ďalšom vzdelávaní odborných zdravotníckych pracovníkov pôsobiacich v praxi. „Naša univerzita si uvedomuje potrebu vytvárať a rozvíjať nové medzinárodné partnerstvá s komerčným sektorom,“ uviedol Mičieta, ktorý od spolupráce očakáva podporu praktického vzdelávania nielen študentov medicíny, ale aj vedcov univerzity. Firmu pri podpise zmluvy zastupoval výkonný riaditeľ Massimiliano Colella. Univerzita bude so spoločnosťou spolupracovať predovšetkým pri zavádzaní programov vzdelávania a prípravy pre študentov a vedcov a organizovaní podujatí zameraných na nové medicínske technológie so širokospektrálnym využitím v oblasti medicíny.

TASR

Kardinál Korec je už v domácom liečení

Kardinála Jána Chryzostoma Korca prepustili dňa 26. júna z nitrianskej fakultnej nemocnice do domáceho liečenia. Lekárom tento krok umožnil jeho podstatne zlepšený zdravotný stav. Informovali o tom z Tlačovej kancelárie Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (TK KBS).

„Pán kardinál osobne prejavuje vďačnosť celému Slovensku, najmä tým, ktorí na neho pamätali a modlili sa za neho. Vo svojich modlitbách myslí na nich a žehná ich,“ uvádza TK KBS.

Kardinála hospitalizovali 13. júna. Do nemocnice ho priviezli v kritickom stave v ťažkom septickom šoku. Vyšetrenia potvrdili perforáciu slepého čreva a ťažký zápal pobrušnice. Lekári prebudili pacienta z umelého spánku začiatkom minulého týždňa.

TASR

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

Slovenská katolícka púť v Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, NY

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Slovenskú katolícku púť, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu 12. augusta 2012 v Marian Shrine, saleziánov Don Boska, vo West Haverstraw, New York, 10993. Pred svätou omšou budú mať pútnici možnosť sa vyspovedať.

Svätá omša začne o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia. Obed sa začne o 12:30 hodine odopoludnia a Ružencová procesia bude o 2:30 hodine odopoludnia. Kto by mal záujem na túto púť cestovať autobusom, nech sa prihlási u brata Jozefa Bilika. Ak bude dostatočný počet záujemcov, autobus bude pristavený pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku.

Bližšie informácie o púti vám podajú: Jozef Bilik: (718) 463- 2084; Henrieta Daitová: (201) 641-8922.

Slovenský festival v NJ bude 23. septembra

Výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v NJ už niekoľko týždňov pripravuje program na 35. festival v Holmdell, N.J. V programe vystúpi folklórna skupina PAS z Pittsburghu a dve mládežnícke skupiny z NJ a New Yorku. Na festivale sa zúčastnia aj prominentní hostia zo Slovenska. Slovenský festival v NJ je už mnoho rokov najväčším slovenským podujatím v Amerike.

Záujemci o predávanie potravín a nápojov sa môžu prihlásiť u Milana Daita, tel. 201-641-8922. Záujemci o vystavovanie alebo predávanie rôznych folklórnych výrobkov, kníh, atď., sa majú hlásiť u Zuzky Krčmár, tel. 973-357-1209.



Slovenskí lekári v zahraničí

V prvom polroku tohto roka vyšla v nakladateľstve Slovak Academic Press Bratislava pozoruhodná kniha pod názvom Slovenskí lekári v zahraničí. Jej autormi sú Prof. MUDr. Jozef Rovenský, DrSc, FRCP, riaditeľ Národného ústavu reumatologických chorôb v Piešťanoch a PhDr. Jozef Vítek, riaditeľ pobočky štátneho archívu v Liptovskom Mikuláši.

Kniha prehľadným spôsobom popisuje od 16. po 20. storočie život a dielo takmer 250 osobností medicíny, ktorí sa narodili na Slovensku, ale pod vplyvom rôznych okolností študovali a pracovali v blízkom, ale aj veľmi vzdialenom zahraničí. Čitateľ tejto vzácnej publikácie v nej nájde veľmi zaujímavé životné príbehy takých lekárov ako boli Juraj Henisch, nar. 24.4.1549 v Bardejove a pôsobiaci v nemeckom Augsburgu, Pavol Adámi, nar. 9.7.1739 v Beluši a pôsobiaci v rakúskej Viedni, Matej Bencúr (ako spisovateľ známy pod menom Martin Kukučín), nar. 17.5.1860 v Jasenovej a pôsobiaci na chorvátskom ostrove Brač a neskôr v čilskom meste Punta Arenas. Je tu prezentovaný celý rad ďalších lekárov slovenského pôvodu, ktorí sa zlatými písmenami zapísali do dejín svetovej medicíny.

Najrozsiahlejšia časť publikácie je venovaná slovenským lekárom, ktorí boli nútení odísť zo Slovenska do emigrácie po nástupe komunistického diktatúry v roku 1948. Jedným z veľkého množstva takýchto lekárov-emigrantov bol aj František Šubík, nar. 19.11.1903 v Kuklove pri Senici, ktorý ako básnik slovenskej katolíckej moderny bol známy pod menom Andrej Žarnov. Ako prednosta Ústavu patologickej anatómie Lekárskej fakulty Slovenskej univerzity v Bratislave bol jedným z tých, ktorí sa v roku 1943 zúčastnili na medzinárodnom vyšetrení masových hrobov v Katynskom lese pri ruskom meste Smolensk. Za svoju správu o týchto vojnových zločinoch bol neskôr komunistickou štátnou mocou v bývalom Československu prenasledovaný a bol nútený emigrovať cez Rakúsko do Nemecka, kde v rokoch 1952-1953 pôsobil v americkej vojenskej nemocnici vo Wiesbadene. Od roku 1953 pôsobil ako lekár v Cronswille State a v rokoch 1963 – 1974 v Harlem Valley State Hospital vo Wingale.

Pán Profesor Jozef Rovenský, usilovne pokračuje v zhromažďovaní informácií o ďalších slovenských lekároch pôsobiacich v zahraničí a pripravuje do tlače druhé vydanie tejto unikátnej monografie, o ktorú je už teraz veľký záujem v slovenských diaspórach po celom svete. Veľmi by privítal informácie aj o lekároch, ktorí sa už narodili v USA alebo v Kanade, avšak ich rodičia alebo prarodičia mali svoj pôvod a korene na Slovensku. Akékoľvek informácie môžu čitateľa JEDNOTY zasielať na poštovú adresu Národného ústavu reumatologických chorôb v Piešťanoch, Nábřeží Ivana Krasku 4, 921 12 Piešťany, Slovenská republika, alebo na e-mailovú adresu: jozef.rovensky@nurch.sk

Podľa Pána Profesora Jozefa Rovenského je vydanie knihy Slovenskí lekári v zahraničí dôstojnou spomienkou na všetky významné osobnosti v medicíne, ktoré pochádzali zo Slovenska a ktoré obohatili svojou prácou medicínske poznanie v prospech chorých na celom svete.

Juraj Pavlišin, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia



Na fotografii zo dňa 8. 6. 1947 je biskup Gojdič (uprostred medzi kňazmi) so študentmi a študentkami prešovského gymnázia. V druhom rade zľava odspodu prvý stojaci, v bledom obleku, je autor príspevku.

Moje stretnutie s biskupom Gojdičom

Gréckokatolícka cirkev na Slovensku si každoročne 17. júla pripomína deň narodenia a súčasne aj úmrtia biskupa Pavola Gojdiča. Pri tejto príležitosti je vhodný čas si pripomenúť niečo aj z jeho života, o čo sa autor pokúša v nasledujúcom príspevku.

Moje spomienky siahajú do čias z pred 65 rokov. Vtedy som bol študentom v Prešovskom gymnáziu. Účasť na bohoslužbách bola vtedy pre študentov bežná prax. A nie len z povinnosti ale aj preto, že to bola studnica duchovných poznatkov a poučení. Bohoslužby celebrovali veľmi oduševnení a charizmatickí duchovní. Medzi takých patrila aj biskup Gojdič.

A ja som mal tú česť osobne sa stretnúť s blahoslaveným biskupom Pavlom Gojdičom. Bolo zvykom, že po kázni duchovní zotrvali v srdečnom rozhovore s veriacimi. Na jednej takejto bohoslužbe sa zúčastnili aj študenti nášho gymnázia. Po jej ukončení a osobných stretnutiach a rozhovoroch sme sa spoločne zvečnili na filmový fotografický pás. A som rád, pretože hoci tie časy sú už vzdialené ale stále mi ich oživujú a pripomínajú fotografie.

Keď sa v rodine Štefana Gojdiča, gréckokatolíckeho kňaza, v malej dedinke Ruské Pekľany, neďaleko Prešova (Šariš), v údolí potôčika Svinka, narodil v poradí tretí chlapec, dali mu meno Peter (gréckeho pôvodu znamenajúce pevný ako skala), ktoré bolo v tom prostredí obľúbené a časté. Bolo to v lete 17. 7.1887.

Čoskoro na to jeho otca, Štefana Gojdiča, preložili do neďalekej Cigeľky (známej vynikajúcou prírodnou liečivou vodou Cigeľkou, ktorá sa plní do fľaš a predáva v obchodnej sieti), kde spolu s bratmi Kornelom, Štefanom a sestrou Elenou prežival svoje detstvo. Tam navštevoval aj ľudovú školu. Žil skromne. Rodičia im vštepovali lásku k Bohu, kostolu, modlitbám a náboženským obradom, v čom im boli príkladom. Najmladší chlapec bol v kostole ako doma a všimol si priebeh cirkevných obradov s prelínajúcimi sa spevmi.

Po ukončení ľudovej školy rodičia vidiac jeho schopnosti: usilovnosť, bystrosť, dôslednosť v práci, záujem o knihy..., sa rozhodli, tak ako aj jeho starších bratov, ktorí sa po vzore otca rozhodli tiež pre štúdium teológie, dať aj najmladšieho na štúdiá do Prešova. Keď končil gymnázium, uvažovali o jeho ďalších štúdiách. Boli by radi, keby si zvolil niektoré zo svetských povolání, napr. učiteľ, lekár..., no on už bol dávno rozhodnutý kráčať, kam ho srdce tiahlo, po vzore bratov a otca. Nedal sa odhovoriť a začal študovať na Gréckokatolíckom kňazskom seminári v Prešove a neskôr v Budapešti. Tam sa ešte viac upevňoval vo viere k Bohu. Po ukončení štúdiá a vysvätení za kňaza (1911), začal pôsobiť v celibáte ako kaplán pri otcovi na fare v Cigeľke a neskôr v Prešove. Vo voľnom čase sa venoval štúdiu cudzích jazykov.

Po niekoľkých rokoch pastorácie vstupuje 20. 7. 1922 do rehole Otcov baziliánov v Černečej Hore pri Mukačeve (dnešná Ukrajina) a prijíma rehoľné meno Pavol (latinského pôvodu znamenajúceho malý, skromný). Po päťročnom pôsobení, bol 25. 3. 1927 v Ríme vysvätený za biskupa. Tešilo ho pastoračné povolanie. Mal rád ľudí, deti, mládež, študentov. A oni mali radi jeho. Nazývali ho „mužom zlatého srdca“. Často navštevoval seminár, v ktorom pred rokmi študoval. To ale ešte netušil, aký osud ho stihne.

Po rozpade I. CSR a pripojení Podkarpatskej Rusi k Maďarsku, museli slovenskí baziliáni opustiť kláštor a Pavol Gojdič sa 4. 6. 1939 vrátil do Prešova.

Keď sa po februári 1948 začala u nás podľa vzoru Sovietskeho zväzu socializácia a neskôr aj likvidácia rehoľných a mníšskych rádov ako aj gréckokatolíckej cirkvi a jej včlenenie sa do pravoslávnej, (s čím nesúhlasil a proti tomu sa rázne postavil), bol obžalovaný za vlastizradu a podporu fašizmu, 28. 4. 1950 zatknutý a po politicky vykonštruovaných procesoch (1951) odsúdený na doživotie.

Po väznení v Prahe - Ružyni, Valdicích, Bratislave, Ilave a Leopoldove (122 dní bol v samotke), s podlomeným zdravím, pri psychickom nátlaku počas vyšetrovaniach a krutom zaobchádzaní s ním, podľahol chorobe a 17. 7. 1960 (v deň svojich narodenín), vo veku 72 rokov, zomrel vo väzenskej nemocnici v Leopoldove.

V období obrodného procesu (29. 10. 1968) bol exhumovaný a telesné ostatky boli prevezené do Prešova. Sú uložené v sarkofágu katedrály sv. Jána Krstiteľa. Po páde komunistického režimu bol 4. 11. 1990 rehabilitovaný. 3.1.2000 mu prezident Slovenskej republiky, Ivan Gašparovič, udelil Pribinov kríž I. triedy. 4. novembra 2001 bol Svätým Otcom Jánom Pavlom II. na Svätopeterskom námestí v Ríme vyhlásený za blahoslaveného. V roku 2008 mu bolo udelené aj najvyššie štátne izraelské vyznamenanie a titul Spravodlivý medzi národmi za nezištnú záchranu židov počas holokaustu.

Vďačný ľud nezabudne naň. Budú mu ho pripomínať aj niektoré ustanovizne, ktoré nesú jeho meno. Taký bol biskup, mučeník a svätec, Pavol Gojdič, pevný vo viere a neobľomný v práci, verný svojmu krédu: „Chcem byť otcom sirôt, pomocníkom chudobných a tešiteľom zarmútených.“

Andrej Štelmák, Sliač, Slovakia

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Slovensko** má ďalšieho človeka na vysokom poste v hierarchii Európskej komisie (EK). Kolégium komisárov schválilo do funkcie zástupcu riaditeľa Generálneho riaditeľstva - Spoločného výskumného centra slovenského profesora Vladimíra Šuchu. Ide o Generálne riaditeľstvo, ktoré zastrešuje všetky významné výskumné aktivity v rámci Európskej únie. Zahŕňa viacero inštitútov, ktoré sú roztrúsené po celej Európe. Spoločné výskumné centrum (JRC - Joint Research Center) funguje ako dôležitý poradný orgán pre tvorbu politiky na generálnych riaditeľstvách EK pre podnikanie, životné prostredie, zdravie a spotrebiteľov. Okrem toho JRC slúži ako hlavné nervové centrum výskumu na najvyššej úrovni v rámci EÚ. Hlavným riadiacim centrom JRC je Ispra v Lombardsku na severe Talianska a pod JRC spadá celkovo sedem inštitútov.

• **S** talianskym mestom Perugia spolupracuje hlavné mesto SR už polstoročie, od roku 1962. Ide o najdlhšie trvajúce zahraničné partnerstvo Bratislavy. Vyplýva to zo správy, ktorá hodnotí medzinárodnú spoluprácu Bratislavy za minulý rok. Pri príležitosti 50. výročia nadviazania týchto vzťahov sa v júni v rámci "Dní Perugia v Bratislave" uskutočnil rad podujatí, ktoré prezentovali toto umbrijské mesto. Podľa hodnotiacej správy sa do života Bratislavy dostal v minulom roku nový prvok. Mesto totiž komunikuje so zastupiteľskými úradmi, diplomatmi krajín, ktoré majú v Bratislave svoje veľvyslanectvá. Vznikli tak rôzne kultúrne a vzdelávacie projekty, ako napríklad Dobytie Bastíly, Japonský víkend, Taliansky jún, České dni či Vianočný bazár. "Spolupráca mesta s veľvyslanectvami sa premietla aj do obchodných a ekonomických kontaktov," uviedol hovorca primátora Ľubomír Adrassy. Bratislava považuje za strategických partnerov najmä mestá susedných krajín, teda rakúsku Viedeň, českú Prahu a Brno či maďarskú Budapešť. V minulom roku nadviazala aj na doterajšie vzťahy s Moskvou a v budúcnosti plánuje zlepšiť spoluprácu s Berlínom, Parížom, Rímom a Londýnom, uvádza sa v správe.

• **Turistov** by počas letnej sezóny mali lákať do Tatier predovšetkým cenovo výhodné pobytové balíky, ktorých súčasťou je aj doprava na električke a zubačke. Tešiť sa však môžu aj na športové a kultúrne podujatia, hudobné festivaly, animačný program v akvaparku, výlety lanovkami za krásami slovenských veľhôr či poznávanie historických pamiatok UNESCO. Vysoké Tatry patria k najnavštevovanejším destináciám v rámci Slovenska, počas leta sa ich rozhodne navštíviť viac ako milión ľudí. Projekt TATRY Card, ktorého spustili 15. júna, je spôsob, ako ukázať návštevníkom to naj vo Vysokých Tatrách a zároveň ich presvedčiť, aby ostali dlhšie ako len pár dní. Vďaka tejto karte, ktorú získajú hostia bezplatne na recepcii ubytovacieho zariadenia, je dovolenka cenovo výhodnejšia, hostia môžu získať zľavy až do výšky 50 percent v akvaparkoch, na lanovkách, v reštauráciách, na rôznych atrakciách, vo wellness centrách a pod.

• **Približne** štvrtina Slovákov by sa cítila skutočne bohatá, ak by mala k dispozícii minimálne 1 milión eur. Iba 2,7 % sa už v súčasnosti považuje za bohatých. Vyplýva to z prieskumu, ktorý pre Prima banku na reprezentatívnej vzorke 600 opýtaných realizovala agentúra 2Muse v apríli a máji tohto roka. Viac ako polovica Slovákov potrebuje na pocit bohatstva aspoň 100,000 eur, sumu do 1,000 eur by za bohatstvo považovalo 4,5 % opýtaných. Približne polovica populácie Slovenska by chcela mať na nepredvídané výdavky odloženú sumu do 3,000 eur. To by považovali za prijateľnú železnú rezervu. Len necelé jedno percento opýtaných nepotrebuje žiadnu železnú rezervu. Vyššiu železnú rezervu očakávajú predovšetkým muži, ľudia vo vekových kategóriách nad 36 rokov, s vysokoškolským vzdelaním a skupiny obyvateľstva s vyšším príjmom. Očakávaná výška železnej rezervy rastie s vekom, čo súvisí aj s tým, že starší ľudia majú vyššie úspory. Na druhej strane, mladí ľudia sú viac ochotní riskovať, takže ľahšie znášajú žitie od výplaty k výplate bez železnej rezervy.

• **Počet** nezamestnaných na Slovensku, ktorí doteraz nikde nepracovali, sa v 1. kvartáli 2012 medziročne zvýšil. Podľa údajov Štatistického úradu (ŠÚ) SR ich bolo v 1. štvrťroku tohto roka 90,400. V rovnakom období vlni však ich počet dosahoval 78,300. Pri vysokej miere nezamestnanosti nie sú ani mzdové nároky nezamestnaných vysoké, čím absolventi strácajú svoju výhodu v tom, že sú lacnejší. Firmy preto siahajú radšej po nezamestnaných, ktorí majú prax. Najúčinnnejším opatrením, ktoré by mohlo tento problém vyriešiť, je ekonomický rast. Všetky ostatné opatrenia sú jednorazové, krátkodobé. Riešením je tak podpora ekonomického rastu a podnikateľského sektora.

• **Ústav** rusínskeho jazyka a kultúry Prešovskej univerzity (ÚRJAK PU) otvára 3. ročník letnej školy rusínskeho jazyka STUDIUM CARPATO-RUTHENORUM 2012. Trojtýždňový vzdelávací projekt oficiálne odštartoval 11. júna. Letná škola je zameraná na výučbu rusínskeho jazyka, histórie, literatúry, kultúry a etnografie karpatských Rusínov. Prednášky zabezpečovali paralelne v rusínskom a anglickom jazyku domáci a zahraniční vysokoškolskí učelia. Súčasťou projektu bolo množstvo sprievodných kultúrnych podujatí a poznávacie exkurzie po regiónoch severovýchodného Slovenska.

• **Pred** Biskupským palácom na nádvorí Nitrianskeho hradu stojí socha Jána Pavla II. v nadživotnej veľkosti. Sochu dalo zhotoviť Nitrianske biskupstvo a osadili ju v polovici júna. Jej požehnanie bolo naplánované na 5. júla, na Sviatok sv. Cyrila a Metoda. Bronzová socha pápeža Jána Pavla II., vysoká takmer štyri metre, váži približne 1,5 tony. Osadená je na žulovom podstavci. Autorom diela je Juraj Bišák, ktorého biskupstvo vybralo v súťaži spomedzi dvanástich sochárov. Náklady na výrobu a osadenie sochy dosiahli 45,000 eur. Socha stojí na bývalom Hradnom námestí, ktoré je od roku 2008 premenované na Námestie Jána Pavla II. Námestie nedávno prešlo kompletnou rekonštrukciou. Pápež Ján Pavol II. navštívil Nitriansky hrad v rámci svojej návštevy Nitry 30. júna 1995.

• **Nezamestnanosť** mladých ľudí je na Slovensku tretia najvyššia v rámci celej Európskej únie (EÚ). Podľa ministra zahraničných vecí SR Miroslava Lajčáka sa tak SR umiestnila v rebríčku na veľmi nelichotivom mieste. "U nás je bez práce každý tretí mladý človek," povedal nedávno v Bratislave na konferencii Zväzu automobilového priemyslu (ZAP) SR Lajčák. Témou konferencie bola transformácia odborného vzdelávania a prípravy na Slovensku.

• **Predseda** vlády SR Robert Fico sa zúčastnil v Prahe na jednodňovom summite premiérov krajín V4. V českej metropole bolo symbolicky odovzdané predsedníctvo vo V4. Po Českej republike ho na rok prevezme Poľsko. Témami rokovania predsedov vlád bola energetika a príprava na zasadnutie Európskej rady v Bruseli.

• **Poslanci** Národnej rady (NR) SR 22. júna 2012 na pokračujúcej 3. schôdzi podľa očakávaní veľkou väčšinou schválili medzinárodnú zmluvu o vytvorení Európskeho mechanizmu pre stabilitu (EMS). Za vznik tzv. trvalého eurovalu sa vyslovilo 118 zo 144 prítomných zákonodarcov. Zmluvu ešte musí podpísať prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Levočská púť v jubilejnom roku sv. Cyrila a Metoda

Pokračovanie zo str. 28

mnohých životov pred vpádom Tatárov, ktorí pustošili územie Slovenska a konkrétne i Levoču. Tradičná Levočská púť sa v zmysle dekrétu Apoštolskej stolice koná vždy v sobotu a nedeľu po 2. júli.

Na programe Levočskej púte toho roku boli svätá omša, Slávnosť Navštívenia Preblahoslavennej Panny Márie; Počuj, Matka, naše vrúcne prosby... (mariánske vyznania v piesni a slove), sv. liturgia východného obradu, vysluhovanie sviatosti zmierenia, hudobno-slovné pásmo, modlitby sv. ruženca a pobožnosť križovej cesty.

TK KBS

Slovensko sa pripravuje na jubilejný rok príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda



FOTO: TK KBS/ Peter Zimen

Slovensko je v plnej príprave na oslavy 1150. výročia príchodu vierozvestcov sv. Cyrila a Metoda na územie Slovenska. Sláviť sa bude až v roku 2013, významnej udalosti ale predchádza príprava, ktorú bude koordinovať komisia zložená zo zástupcov štátu, viacerých orgánov i predstaviteľov cirkvi. Nad hlavnými podujatiami preberie záštitu prezident SR, vyplýva z porady (na snímke), ktorá sa uskutočnila 4. júna 2012 v Prezidentskom paláci. Preparations for the 1150 anniversary of the arrival of SS. Cyril and Methodius to Slovakia have now begun. A commission consisting of representatives of the state and church has been formed to plan for the celebration in 2013.

Slováci v Ríme si pripomenuli sviatok svätého Cyrila a Metoda

Slováci v Ríme si 28. júna pripomenuli sviatok svätého Cyrila a Metoda. Oslavu slovenského štátneho sviatku, ktorého liturgická slávnosť pripadá na 5. júla, zorganizovalo Veľvyslanectvo SR pri Svätej stolici. V Bazilike sv. Klimenta v Ríme sa pri tejto príležitosti konala svätá omša, ktorú veľvyslanectvo pripravilo spolu s Pápežským slovenským ústavom sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme. Bohoslužbe, na ktorej sa zúčastnilo viacero veľvyslancov z krajín pri Svätej stolici a množstvo veriacich, predsedal predseda Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (KBS) Mons. Stanislav Zvolenský.

Arcibiskup Zvolenský v homílii, ktorú predniesol v taliančine, vyzdvihol význam sv. Cyrila a Metoda pre Slovákov a Slovanov, vytvorenie vtedy štvrtého liturgického jazyka bolo významným nástrojom na šírenie kresťanstva v Európe. Zo životopisu solúnskych bratov vyzdvihol ich schopnosť priblížiť sa k ľuďom, ktorým prišli hlásať kresťanstvo. Svätú omšu koncebrovali sekretár Kongregácie pre východné cirkvi Mons. Cyril Vasil' SJ, rektor Pápežského slovenského kolégia sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme Mons. Jozef Stahovec a viacerí kňazi.

Po svätej omši zišli veriaci s bratislavským arcibiskupom metropolitom Mons. Stanislavom Zvolenským do katakomb Baziliky k hrobu sv. Cyrila, kde si pripomenuli aj 60. výročie obnovy oltára nad hrobom sv. Cyrila, ktorú v roku 1952 financovali americkí Slováci. Oslavy pokračovali recepciou, na ktorej sa zúčastnilo viac ako 150 pozvaných hostí vrátane diplomatického zboru. Medzi najvýznamnejších patrili arcibiskup Cyril Vasil', Mons. M. Šmejkal, referent zodpovedný za vzťahy medzi Svätou stolicou a SR, a zástupcovia Zvrchovaného rádu maltézskeho rytierov.

Oslavy slovenského štátneho sviatku sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme, ktoré zorganizovalo Veľvyslanectvo SR pri Svätej stolici spolu s ďalšími partnermi, sa každoročne konajú v júni, pretože v júli a v auguste sú vo Vatikáne prázdninové mesiace.

TK KBS/RV



FOTO TASR - Adriána Antoškova

Prezidentské páry Slovenska, Česka a Poľska prispeli v máji k vybudovaniu ekologického parku pre deti vo Vysokých Tatrách. Pri jazere Štrbské Pleso totiž v rámci summitu prezidentov Vyšehradskej štvorky (V4) vysadili niekoľko kusov ihličnatých stromov borovice - limby. Na snímke zľava český prezident Václav Klaus, manželka Livia Klausová, slovenský prezident Ivan Gašparovič, manželka Silvia Gašparovičová, Anna Komorowska a poľský prezident Bronislaw Komorowski pred výsadbou stromčekov.

Presidents and their wives from the Vysehrad (V4) took time during their summit meeting to plant trees in the Ecological Park for Children in the High Tatras.



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota

O. Štefan Furdek
Naš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 121

STREDA, 11. JÚLA 2012

Číslo 5866

Prezident SR Gašparovič na návšteve Japonska

Prezentácia Slovenska ako krajiny vhodnej pre priame japonské investície, na rozvoj ekonomickej, vedecko-technickej, kultúrnej a univerzitnej spolupráce boli hlavným cieľom návštevy hlavy štátu Ivana Gašparoviča s manželkou Silviou od 26. až 30. júna v krajine vychádzajúcej slnka. Išlo o prvú oficiálnu návštevu slovenského najvyššieho ústavného činiteľa.

Prezidentský pár prijali cisár Akihito a cisárovná Mičiko. Po prilete si pozreli najprv oblasť zasiahnutú minuloročným cunami a zemetrasením. Po prírodnej katastrofe poskytlo Slovensko Japonsku finančný dar 100,000 eur a humanitárny materiál prostredníctvom krízového mechanizmu EÚ v hodnote 144,720 eur. Gašparovič si počas svojho pobytu prevzal čestný doktorát Tokijskej medzinárodnej univerzity. Počas návštevy prezidenta Gašparoviča slovenské veľvyslanectvo v Tokiu organizovalo tri podnikateľské semináre, a to v Tokiu, Osake a v Sendai.

Slovensko sa sústreďuje na získavanie priamych investícií, oblasť výskumu a vývoja, podporu vývozu do krajiny a zvýšenie počtu japonských turistov. Momentálne ich prichádza okolo 10,000 ročne. Na Slovensku pôsobí 42 japonských spoločností, z toho 16 výrobných, ktoré zamestnávajú okolo 9,000 pracovníkov. Ide o investície spojené najmä s automobilovým a elektronickým priemyslom. Slovenský vývoz do Japonska po prepade v rokoch 2008 a 2009 opäť stúpa. K tomu významne prispeli dodávky osobných automobilov Volkswagen. Ten je od roku 2000 najpredávanejšou dovážanou značkou na japonskom trhu.

TASR



Slovak President Ivan Gašparovic, second from right, and his wife Silvia pose with Slovak Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak, second from left, and Economy Minister Tomas Malatinsky in Tokyo, on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. (AP Photo/Franck Robichon, Pool)

FOTO: TASR/AP

Slovenský prezident Ivan Gašparovič (vpravo) s manželkou Silviou, minister zahraničia Miroslav Lajčák (2. zľava) a minister hospodárstva Tomáš Malatinský navštívili najvyššiu televíznu vežu na svete Skytree v Tokiu 27. júna 2012 v rámci oficiálnej návštevy prezidenta Gašparoviča v Japonsku.



Levočská púť v jubilejnom roku sv. Cyrila a Metoda

V rámci jubilejného roka sv. Cyrila a Metoda, Levočská hora, najstaršie pútnické miesto východného Slovenska, privítalo pútnikov toho roku od 1. do 8. júla. Korene mariánskeho kultu na tomto mieste siahajú do XIII. storočia. Z tých čias pochádzajú prvé zmienky o tomto pútnickom mieste a zhromažďovaní mariánskych ctiteľov. Roku 1247 bola postavená prvá kaplnka (kostolík) na Olivetskej hore. Najpravdepodobnejšie bola postavená ako prejav vďaky Božej Matke za záchranu

Pokračovanie na str. 27



Kostol Navštívenia Panny Márie v Levoči

Svätý Otec rozhodol o zmenách v Trnavskej arcidiecéze

Na základe apoštolskej vizitácie, ktorá sa uskutočnila v dňoch 22. januára až 1. februára 2012, Svätý Otec odvolal J. E. Mons. Róberta Bezáka, CSsR 1. júla 2012 z pastoračného riadenia Trnavskej arcidiecézy.

Rozhodnutie Svätého Otca prijímame v duchu viery a synovskej poslušnosti a prosíme Pána o požehnanie pre Cirkev na Slovensku.

Až do vymenovania nového pastiera pre Trnavskú arcidiecézu bude jej pastoračným riadením poverený pomocný biskup J. E. Mons. Ján Orosch ako apoštolský administrátor „sede vacante“.

Arcibiskup
Róbert Bezák

Konferencia biskupov Slovenska



Ikona Panny Márie Czestochowskej zavíta na Slovensko

“Od oceánu k oceánu“ je názov celosvetového projektu na obranu civilizácie lásky, v rámci ktorého putuje tento rok ikona Panny Márie Czestochowskej po krajinách Ázie a Európy, aby sa na jar budúceho roka presunula na americký kontinent. Trasa ázijského a európskeho putovania, dlhá takmer 18 000 km, pokrýva 23 krajín a vedie od východných hraníc Ruska až po Portugalsko. Aktuálne sa ikona Matky Božej nachádza v sibírskom Krasnojarsku, v Rusku.

V Českej republike bude putovať 26. – 31. augusta; odtiaľ zavíta na Slovensko, kde si ju veriaci budú môcť uctiť do 7. septembra; nasledovať budú Maďarsko a Rumunsko (7. – 16. septembra). Poslednou destináciou v rámci Európy by mala byť portugalská Fatima v období pred Vianocami. Súčasťou púte ikony Matky Božej je aj špeciálna modlitba za ochranu života, ktorej imprimatur pre Slovensko udelil Mons. Stanislav Zvolenský, predseda Konferencie biskupov Slovenska, 29. mája 2012. Slovenskú časť putovania ikony organizačne zastrešuje Fórum života. O putovaní bude priebežne informovať na stránke www.forumzivota.sk, informovať bude aj médiá.

Už teraz pozývame všetkých, aby sa zapojili do tejto celosvetovej púte a vytvorili tak spoločne silné posolstvo úcty k životu v spojení s Matkou všetkých nenarodených,“ uvádza predsedníčka Fóra života Marcela Dobešová.

TK KBS

Americká a slovenská zástava



Na deň 4. júla, sviatok Slobody, Spojených štátov amerických, skoro na všetkých budovách, majestátne visia americké zástavy. K nim hrdo sa hlási, aj naša slovenská.



Ako dve dobré sestry, vedľa seba vejú, naše slovenské srdcia k nim, láskou hrejú. Aj jedna, aj druhá, nám slobodu zaručujú! Ich 4-tý júl, je preto aj našim sviatkom. My modlíme sa, by nikdy nebol, „Veľkým piatkom“.

Jozef Smák