



Jednota

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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

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NUMBER 5848

Message From Our Chaplain

Dear Friends,

Just prior to the beginning of the third millennium, Pope John Paul II decided that the church reexamine the translations of her liturgical texts to bring them as true to the original Latin texts as possible. The implementation of the English translation of the third typical edition of the Roman Missal on the First Sunday of Advent is the end result of the efforts of hundreds of individuals who worked to carry out all this work.

A number of things will be different from what we have been used to hearing and praying, and the following are a few samples:

The first noticeable change is the response we give to the celebrant when he says, "The Lord be with you (Dominus vobiscum). Rather than "And also with you," we will say "And with your spirit," which is a more accurate translation of Et cum spiritu tuo. This change brings the English speaking world into conformity with the great many languages in

the world, including Slovak, that already translates et cum spiritu tuo with "and with your spirit."

A second change we will notice is with the Nicene Creed. The creed begins in Latin, Credo in unum Deum, "I believe in one God." We have been saying for 40 years in English "We believe in one God." Again, it is another case where we return to a more accurate translation.

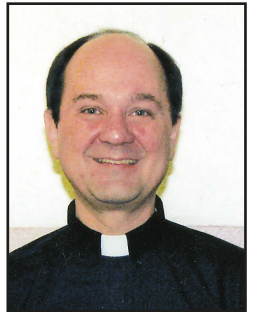
A third change concerns the words of Consecration over the wine. The words in Latin, pro multis, were originally translated into English "for all men" and later "for all." Pro multis is being translated "for the many." Some are disagreeing with this, believing it is contrary to the belief that Jesus died on the cross for all humanity. But the words of Consecration over the wine are taken from the Gospel of Matthew and pro multis there has been traditionally translated as "for the many" and so, therefore, that is the translation to be used.

The shortest of the Memorial Acclamations is being dropped from the third typical edition. No longer will we say

(or sing), "Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again." The remaining three acclamations are slightly changed.

The words and sentence structure of the newly translated English of the Roman Missal may at first sound different, or awkward, or uncomfortable. But eventually we will become used to it. Not only that, but by being more faithful to the original Latin text and the prayers taken from Scripture more faithfully accurate to them, the church hopes and prays we all enter an experience of worship that will inspire us to "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord" (one of the new forms of dismissal).

Sincerely,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain



Can You Tell Fact from Fiction When It Comes To Life Insurance? Your Family's Well being May Well Depend on It

By **Kenneth A. Arendt, FCSU**
National Executive Secretary

Life insurance can – and does – provide many wonderful benefits for your family – often at the very time they are most needed. Over the years in my position as Executive Secretary with the First Catholic Slovak Union, I've seen the right policy offer surviv-

ing loved ones time to grieve, a means to pay off debt, the wherewithal to stay in their homes, the ability to keep family businesses in the family, and the funds to send a child to college. Life insurance can do all of these wonderful things, provided you do a couple of things. First, you need to get life insurance. Second, just as importantly, you have purchase the right insurance for you and your family's needs.

These may seem obvious things to do, but



Kenneth Arendt

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

**HOME OFFICE
6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD,
SUITE 300
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO
44131
PHONE: 216-642-9406
* FAX 216-642-4310**



**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2011**

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 16-17, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio.

The monthly Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2011.

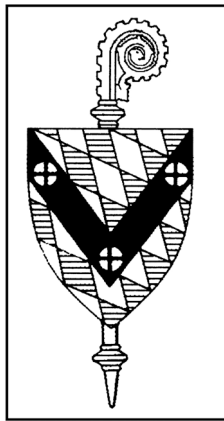
All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office prior to September 9, 2011.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Insights and Viewpoints



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

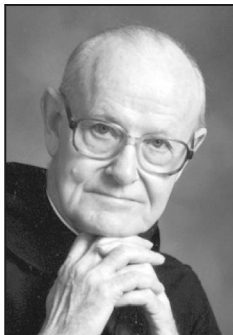
September 25, 2011

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 21: 28-32

Gospel Summary

In today's gospel, Matthew shows his concern for the crisis that was caused by the message of Jesus and the consequences that result from reaction to that crisis. At a time of crisis, one must make crucial decisions, which lead in turn to fate-



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

ful consequences. In today's gospel parable, the vineyard stands for God's people and the two sons represent those who are called to care for them.

The first son represents the established religion, which was in place when Jesus came. As often happens in such cases, the religious leaders of that time paid lip-service to the God of mystery but, when Jesus came in a way they had not expected, they were unable to accept the mysterious ways of God,

The second son stands for the "outsiders," including Gentiles, who had been accustomed to saying "No" to God but, having been chastened by their experience of sinfulness, responded positively to the challenge of Jesus. They were joined by the "tax collectors and prostitutes" who, though despised by the religious types of that time, were more humble and therefore more open to the message of Jesus. The point is that pride and smugness are far greater obstacles to true conversion than a sinful past ripe for repentance.

Life Implications

Most mainstream religions have developed elaborate rituals and clear moral guidelines to help their members to establish and maintain a good and fruitful relationship with God. This is surely a responsible and praiseworthy provision since it is so easy to lose one's balance in matters of religion.

All this becomes problematic, however, when one's relationship with God is reduced primarily to observing rituals and keeping rules. Such behavior is readily sanctioned by society and it is, of course, much preferred to unruly and destructive actions. But such religious behavior can remain very superficial, focusing only on external observance and appearances rather than on deep and personal conversion. The Scribes and Pharisees of

Jesus' day certainly appeared more religious than the tax collectors and prostitutes. However, their strict observance hid a deep and fatal flaw, which was self-righteousness, expressed most often in rash judgment.

It should be obvious that Jesus is not suggesting that we ought to despise ritual and disregard moral codes. But it is just as obvious that he not only wants us to say the right things (like the first son), but also to act in a way that benefits others (like the second son). This will happen only when we are truly converted from selfish ways and become exemplary in tolerance, compassion and forgiveness.

Sometimes people are repelled by a religious observance that has no depth and is in fact accompanied by questionable behavior. However, if they look a bit more closely, they will see that there are also observant believers whose behavior is perfectly in harmony with their faith.

It is easy to be scandalized if that is what one wants. Scandal can be taken as well as given! And one may easily look for such scandal simply in order to have an excuse for not being a truly moral person. The ideal remains a faithful observance of rituals and rules accompanied the kind of motivation that is presupposed by such observance.



October 2, 2011

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 21:33-43

Gospel Summary

The parable of the wicked tenants also appears with some variations in Mk 12: 1-12 and Lk 20: 9-18. In Matthew's gospel it is the second in a trilogy of judgment parables, preceded by the parable of the Two Sons and followed by the parable of the Marriage Feast.

Jesus addresses the parable to the chief priests and elders of the people. Using the vineyard image of Isaiah 5:1-7, he tells the story of a landowner who leases his vineyard to tenants, and goes on a journey. At harvest time, when he sends servants to obtain his produce, the tenants maltreat and even kill his servants. The landowner finally sends his son. The evil tenants kill the son, hoping thereby to acquire his inheritance.

After finishing the story, Jesus asks his hearers what they think the owner of the vineyard will do. They answer that the evil tenants will be put to death, and the vineyard will be leased to other tenants who will give him the produce at harvest time. Jesus then turns their own judgment against themselves: in the same way, the kingdom of God will be taken from them and given to a people who will produce good fruit.

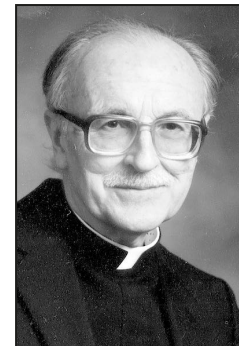
Life Implications

As Brevard S. Childs points out in his book *Biblical Theology of the Old and New Testaments*, the key to recognizing the life implications of the parable lies in its link to the Old Testament. It is a "juridical parable" in which a prophet tells a story with the intention of drawing its hearers into bringing their judgment back upon themselves. The classic example is the story Nathan told King David about the rich man who took a poor man's only ewe lamb to make a meal for a visitor. Nathan, like Jesus, waits for the hearer of the parable to make a judgment. David, of course, declares that the man who did the evil deed merits death. The prophet Nathan, alluding to David's sinful taking of Uriah's wife, says to the king: "You are the man" (2 Sam 12: 1-12).

This Sunday's homily will work if we are drawn into the extended meaning of the parable which Matthew develops. The tenants entrusted with God's vineyard, no longer in parable, but in reality, have killed many of his prophets and finally have killed his son, Jesus. What judgment will God make against these tenants? Our common sense readily makes the judgment that divine justice demands punishment for these evil deeds.

The crucial point of the homily is that Jesus, the now-vindicated Risen Lord, addresses each of us as tenants of God's vineyard today. He turns our judgment upon those who rejected him and the prophets before him back upon ourselves. Have we in fact produced the good fruit of justice and love? Do we at times forget that we are only tenants, and imagining ourselves as owners, we do as we please? Do we amass more of its fruit than we could possibly use while others die of starvation? Do we also act with violence against our fellow human beings, sons and daughters of God?

The prayer of our liturgy today is that we will receive the grace to open our hearts to the prophetic voice of Jesus and become a people who produce abundant good fruit in accord with God's will.



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, SEPTEMBER 28	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12	MONDAY, OCTOBER 3
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26	MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

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

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

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Life Insurance

continued from page 1

consider this fact: the industry research group, LIMRA, has noted that 40 percent of US households have no life insurance at all, while 11 million fewer American households are covered by life insurance today than just six short years ago. These startling statistics are just one reason that the Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE) target September as Life Insurance Awareness Month. □

The First Catholic Slovak Union joins LIFE, along with the nation's leading insurance companies and industry groups, to increase awareness of life insurance and help our members separate fact from fiction when it comes to this important topic.

Below are some of the most commonly held beliefs regarding life insurance. Which are fact and which are fiction? Rate your knowledge with this short quiz.

I get a life insurance policy where I work, so I don't need any more.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fiction: No doubt that having a life insurance policy through work is a great benefit, but it's temporary. Today's employees move from job to job, career to career, more than ever. And unlike a retirement savings account, life insurance is not a benefit that you can roll over and take with you. When you leave a company, the coverage provided by that company ends with your employment there. Having a life insurance policy that stays with you no matter where you work can pay benefits many times over – in peace of mind and in real terms like having your medical and funeral costs covered so your family doesn't have to worry as well as providing basic financial support for them when you are gone.

How much is enough? The First Catholic Slovak Union offers a good place to start calculating how much you need on its website. Go to www.fcsu.com and click on "Get A Quote." Then contact your local branch representative or call the FCSU home office to help you work through your many choices.

We're young and life insurance seems so expensive; we're better off waiting until our family and finances grow to get a policy.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fiction: Although recent studies like that conducted by LIFE's research and consulting firm LIMRA, reveal that 85% of the study respondents thought coverage was too expensive, the reality is far different.

In fact, a healthy 40-something nonsmoker can buy \$100,000 dollars of life insurance coverage, with a premium guaranteed not to change for 20 years, for less than \$20 a month from the FCSU. That comes down to less than a dollar a day, money that otherwise would go toward a small cup of coffee. As to being "too young," the truth is that you never know what life has in store down the road. Life insurance, like any other form of insurance, is best purchased pre-need. The best time to buy it is before you need it – i.e., when you are young and healthy.

If my health is less than adequate, there's no way I can get life insurance.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fiction: It's true that the very best time to buy a life insurance policy is when you are in prime health. But it's also true that there are policies that exist to handle some of the most common medical problems. The coverage will probably be more costly than it would be for someone in perfect health, but it pays to ask. Our experts at the FCSU home office, our network of independent insurance agents and of course our branch officers will always work with you in order to accommodate as many of your needs as possible.

I get confused with all the policy choices out there. It's easier to just go with term life insurance, which is going to be the best choice anyway.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fiction: Term policies, by definition, last for a defined period of time, so if you die after that period and don't renew your policy, it is not there anymore. Also, term life insurance products often are designed to become more costly as time goes on, and if policy holders don't die within the terms they are paying for, then it's the insurance companies that reap the benefits.

Depending on your situation, you might want to consider policies with a guaranteed payoff and a steady premium payment, like our 20 paid life policy. The point is, you don't want to just buy a policy because it's one you've heard of – like term life insurance. Term is great in some situations, such as for policyholders who need coverage for less than 10 years and with limited cash to dedicate to the policy. For other needs, though, like estate planning, products in the permanent life insurance portfolio may yield better outcomes for your survivors where they can take advantage of the tax-deferred status of the accumulated policy values and reap other benefits. You really need to spend the time understanding all the options. Our branch representatives and those at the home office are only a phone call away.

I'm single and I don't have children so I really don't need to worry about having life insurance.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fiction: Even if you're not married and don't have children, you should still consider whether you need life insurance. Baby boomers are often the primary caregivers for their aging parents. Or you may have others in your life depending on you. The right life insurance policy can cover expenses such as funeral arrangements and potential debts.

I am not the breadwinner in the family, but I think I still should look into life insurance.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fact: There's more to consider than a salary when it comes to determining how much life insurance each spouse needs. Think how much the tasks performed on a daily basis by the spouse who isn't the breadwinner – from housekeeping to cooking to car pooling to extra-curricular activities. Now think about how much these tasks would cost your family if you died and they had to contract for the same services.

Just as important, surviving spouses often take time off work to be with their children after a death, which could negatively their ability to provide income. There definitely can be a financial cost associated with losing a spouse who is not necessarily the primary income provider but who contributes many valuable services to the family. Insurance can help ameliorate these costs, as well.

My life insurance policy can yield benefits to my family even before I die.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fact: Permanent life insurance policies offer a number of "living benefits," including the ability to access the policy's cash value through withdrawals or tax-free loans for other needs, such as funding a child's education, a hard earned retirement or other lifelong savings need.

The nice thing about a life insurance policy is that once you purchase it, you can stop thinking about it.

- Fact
- Fiction

Fiction: Some pundit once said the only thing constant is change. It's true of life and it's true of life insurance. The policy you purchased as a young family may not reflect the needs of you and your spouse as you age with grown children, even grandchildren. Consider also, that positive changes in your health can sometimes lower your premiums, and policies with loans and withdrawals should be monitored so that no undue penalties occur.

Overall, it pays to review your policy at key points in your life and the life of your family – births, inheritances, promotions, changes to your beneficiaries – to ensure the coverage you purchased still fits your needs.

For more information about the FCSU portfolio of life insurance products, visit www.fcsu.com; call the FCSU Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA or contact your local branch representative.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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

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

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

Email: fcsu@aol.com

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary



LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello, The Christophers

The Football Prowess of Nuns?

From time immemorial, it seems, the most reliable standard in football has been--are you ready for this?--the Little Sisters of the Poor.

If that sounds preposterous, consider the evidence: "This team is so bad they couldn't beat the Little Sisters of the Poor!" "Who's next on your schedule? The Little Sisters of the Poor?" "They couldn't trade that guy to the Little Sisters of the Poor!"

For years now the Little Sisters have stood as a point of comparison to measure gridiron efficiency, and the comparison isn't good. You'd think they'd be getting tired of it by now, but as usual they're taking it in stride. In fact, some have responded in recent years with uncharacteristic feistiness. One of them is Sister Mary Vincent, lsp, who as Mother Superior of SS. Peter and Paul Home in Pittsburgh told a caller who asked about the bad rap on the sisters:

"We've all heard the phrase. I always say two things in response. One, they've never played us, and two, they can't beat us anyway--and that's the truth. They play football, and we tend to the poor and the elderly. They could never do that!"

Even though it seems to have gone on forever, the question about the sisters' football prowess apparently traces back to the Fifties, when a coach whose team was about to face a gridiron powerhouse playfully told a reporter, "Maybe we should schedule the Little Sisters of the Poor instead!" The issue took on national prominence last season when the president of Ohio State University, unhappy with the choice of Texas Christian and Boise State as contenders for the national championship, defended his own team's schedule. "We do not play the Little Sisters of the Poor," he said.

Poor choice of words. Very poor. Ohio State lost the Big Ten title to Wisconsin, and then Wisconsin was beaten in the Rose Bowl by--you guessed it--Texas Christian. TCU fans rubbed it in with billboards in the Columbus area, near the Ohio State main campus, on behalf of--tongue firmly in cheek--the Little Sisters.

So what did the sisters do with the whole business? They turned it into a win-win situation, as this posting on their web site about the Ohio State-TC brouhaha suggests:

"Such levels of loyalty and zeal for sports teams are a bit lost on us Little Sisters, but we do know a thing or two about teamwork. It takes lots of it to manage 30 Homes for the elderly across the United States in today's healthcare climate. We have plenty of 'most valuable players' on our team. They are the dedicated staff, volunteers, lay associates and benefactors who selflessly share in our mission of hospitality to the needy every day.

"The real stars of our team, however, are the elderly themselves. They are members of what has become known as the Greatest Generation--those who fought through the challenges of the Depression and World War II--and the Silent Generation, which saw the birth of the atomic age... And now they have come to the Little Sisters of the Poor seeking security, love and respectful care in their old age because they can't quite make it on their own anymore."

And after that, does anyone want to challenge the Little Sisters, on the football field or off it? I didn't think so. Theirs is a winning combination, and they're sticking to it.

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



District 17 Picnic to Take Place Sunday Sept 18th

The Saints Cyril and Methodius District 17 of Broome County, New York, and Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties, Pennsylvania, will hold its Annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, September 18, 2011, at Pavilion 2 of McDade Park, Scranton, Pennsylvania, from 10:30 A.M. to dusk.

The event will begin with a continental breakfast sponsored by Branch 382 of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and Branch 166 of Binghamton, New York. A catered lunch featuring Slovak foods will be served at 12:45 P.M. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be grilled to order in the afternoon. Snacks and beverages will be available throughout the afternoon.

Adult reservation is \$12; child under 10 years of age is \$6. Reservations are required and must be made by contacting District 17 Fraternal Activities Director Elizabeth M. Slovenkai at 570-344-3854 before Monday, September 12, 2011.

McDade Park offers a playground area, various courts for sports, and walking trails. The Coal Mine Tour and the Anthracite Heritage Museum are within walking distance. Entrance fees are charged.

Members and friends of FCSU are cordially invited.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, District Fraternal Activities Director



Come To 24th Annual S.S. Cyril & Methodius Parish Reunion in Chicago

The 24th Annual Reunion of S.S. Cyril and Methodius Parish (at Kildare Ave and Walton St) in Chicago, IL, will be held on Sunday, October 2, 2011. It will be in the Hanging Gardens Banquet Hall, 8301 W. Belmont Ave (at the corner of Belmont and Cumberland Ave), River Grove, IL. The cash bar opens at 12:00 noon followed by dinner at 1:00 pm. The cost is \$28.00 per person. Reservations are required. To reserve your seating, please make your check payable to: S.S. Cyril & Methodius Alumni and send to Joe Ripka, 908 N. Greenwood, Park Ridge IL, 60068-2002. Reserved seating money orders must be received by Sept 21, 2011. For more information, contact: Rose Ann (Kremen) Lazarz by phone at 773-792-0448 or via email at srlaz56@sbcglobal.net; or Joseph Sedivy by phone at 773-622-0663 or via email at jnjsed717@aol.com.

Fraternally,

Joseph Sedivy, Branch 703



ATTENTION

THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2011 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

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

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

For applications, please contact:

Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131

Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310

E-mail: fcsu@aol.com - Website: www.fcsu.com

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

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



Branch 581 Invites All to Oct 16 Mass and Meeting

Branch 581 welcomes and encourages all FCSU members to attend the 11:00 AM Sunday Mass on October 16, 2011, at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Slovak Church; 1849 Lincoln Avenue Whiting, Indiana 46394. Branch 581 will have the privilege of presenting the Spiritual Gifts during Mass.

Branch 40 has supported this event by sponsoring the altar wine, a donation that has already been presented to St. John's pastor, the Reverend John Kalicky.

Prior to Mass, the members will have the opportunity to meet in the school facility directly across from the church at 1844 Lincoln Avenue. Coffee will be provided through the generous support of multiple branches of the FCSU.

Before leaving the church, members are encouraged to stop by the stained glass window, one sign of the substantial support the FCSU has provided over the years - not only to St. John the Baptist Slovak Parish, but also to the community at large.

Directly after Mass, there will be a brief, to-the-point business meeting held in the school facility. The meeting will be called to order at 12:30 PM by Region 7 Director, Rudy Bernath, and is expected to be concluded by 1:00 PM. A primary focus of the agenda will be new business and how to work for the good of the society. There will be a light lunch provided after the meeting.

We look forward to seeing our members and do encourage all to attend. For advanced registration or for more information, please contact: Ed Bach, FIC, by email at edbach@aol.com or by phone at 219 678 0689.

Fraternally,

Ed Bach, FIC Branch 581

REFLECTIONS ON POPE BENEDICT XVI'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS September 2011

General Intention - Teachers

That all teachers may know how to communicate the love of truth and instill authentic moral and spiritual values



Some years ago a professor at the University of Nebraska studied great teachers to find out what made them great. Was it their mastery of their subject matter? Their ability to keep their students' interest? Their organizational or disciplinary skills? No. The great teachers he studied all had one thing in common - they experienced pleasure in seeing the growth of their students.

Pope Benedict asks us to join him this month in praying for teachers around the world. We're praying that they may know how to communicate those things that will help their students become the persons God created them to be - people who love the truth and are committed to moral and spiritual values.

Good education is more than acquiring skills that will help one land a good job. Good education involves the formation of the whole person - physical, intellectual, emotional, moral, and spiritual. Without spiritual values, students may learn a lot of facts but know nothing about how to integrate those facts into what is most important.

Over ten years ago there was a high school student in California who achieved perfect scores on two difficult college entrance exams. A reporter asked her: "What's the meaning of life?" Her response: "I have no idea. I'd like to know myself."

Last February, the Holy Father said: "Educating is an act of love, an exercise of 'intellectual charity' which calls for responsibility, dedication, and a consistent life."

As teachers and students begin a new academic year, we join Pope Benedict in praying that educators around the world may help their students find true answers to the most important questions.



cause every person bears within him- or herself the image of God. Through its schools, orphanages, hospitals, and other ministries which are open to all, the Church reveals the beauty of the Gospel. As Pope Benedict put it in an address to Indian bishops this year, we do this "for no other motive than the love of Christ which impels us" (May 30, 2011; cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14).

Perhaps the best example of this love for the people of Asia can be found in Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. She loved to explain why joy is essential for the proclamation of the Gospel: "Why has the work in the slums been blessed by God? Certainly not because of given personal qualities, but because of the joy that the sisters spread as they pass by. The people of the world lack our joy. Those who live in the slums have less of it. Our joy is the best means to preach Christianity."



Reflection:

How does your faith give you joy? How are you able to communicate that joy to others?

Reading:

John 15:11-17 Jesus said: "I have told you this so that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you."

Prayer of the Month



Heavenly Father, you promised that those who instruct others in the ways of wisdom will shine like the stars for all eternity. Fill the hearts and minds of teachers with true knowledge and give them the ability to share the truth with their students. May the Holy Spirit open the minds of all people so that they may more readily recognize the truth and hold fast to it in the midst of a world that denies the very existence of true and lasting values. Amen.



Useful Websites

- www.skonline.sk
- www.travelguide.sk
- kosice.region.sk
- www.slovakia.org
- www.vtaty.sk
- www.tatry.net
- www.hotel-net.sk
- www.skonline.sk
- www.kultura.sk
- www.snm.sk
- www.savba.sk
- www.government.gov.sk
- www.snd.sk
- www.stv.sk
- www.nbs.sk

- Slovakia Travel Guide
- Hotel and Spa Guide
- Kosice-City Travel Guide
- Bratislava-Information about the City
- Useful Information about the High Tatras
- Complete Information on Tatra Region
- Tourist Accommodation
- Slovakia On-Line (general information)
- Slovak cultural calendar
- Slovak National Museum
- Slovak Academy of Sciences
- Government of the Slovak Republic
- Slovak National Theater
- Slovak Television
- National Bank of Slovakia

Church in Asia

That the Christian communities of Asia may proclaim the Gospel with fervor, witnessing to its beauty with the joy of faith.



We're praying once more for the Church in the least Christian yet most populous continent in the world - Asia. There the Church faces several challenges. Christianity is a minority religion that exists in the midst of two older religions - Hinduism and Buddhism - and a more recent but vigorous religion - Islam. In Asia, the forces of nationalism, atheistic communism, and religious intolerance have often led to persecution.

Yet the small flock within the Asian Church has enormous power - the power of the Holy Spirit that is at work within the hearts of all believers. It is the power that enables Christians to love everyone be-

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, July 22, 2011

HOME OFFICE

INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN:

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and asked Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. 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

ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the Minutes of the June 2011 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar, Sr. to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President reviewed our sales production report in different Regions and answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Vice President also reviewed the sales production report of our independent agents, noting that we are continuing to add agents. Vice President Harcar reviewed the upcoming seminars for 2011 and encourages District and Branch officers to contact him if their District or Branch is interested in conducting a seminar.

Vice President Harcar updated the Executive Committee on the upcoming Membership Meet which will be a four day Eastern Caribbean Cruise held November 14-18, 2011. He stated all the information concerning cost, dates, and destinations has been mailed out to the recommenders. The information is also available on our website and has gone out in the branch mailing and to the newspaper.

The Vice President stated there will be a direct marketing mailing campaign featuring the JEP policy and Single Premium Policy. This mailing will be done at the end of August.

The President led a discussion on our current annuity interest rates. A teleconference will be held with the Executive Committee for further review of the interest rates.

Vice President Harcar stated he looked into the possibility of a co-op payment with our agents on radio and newspaper ads.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented his monthly presentation by WebEx. After his report Mr. White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The President asked Larry White for his opinion concerning the current annuity interest rates and to review our common and preferred stock portfolio and outline some suggestions for the future.

TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT:

Treasurer presented a written report and answered all the Executive Committee questions. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES:

A discussion was led by the President concerning the FCSU National Picnic which will be held August 14, 2011 at Wiegand's Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio. Information on the picnic will be posted on our website and sent to the branches as well as published in our newspaper. The President stated arrangements are in place, the local Slovak dance groups are ready to perform and a Slovak band from New Jersey will provide entertainment for the picnic. The soccer workshop led by the American Youth Soccer Organization is set up along with children games. We are still taking reservations and we should have a nice crowd.

The President led a discussion reviewing our FCSU Golf Tournament held July 16-17, 2011 at the Tam O'Shanter and Oak Tree Golf Courses in Sharon, Pennsylvania.

The President has given instructions to the Fraternal Activity Director to explore the possibility of having joint activities with other Fraternal in the near future.

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 June 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 June.

Disbursements for the month of June 2011:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 232,563.70
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 58,559.15
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 updated the Executive Committee on our property and the Printery building in Middletown, Pennsylvania. The President discussed a proposal received about building a monument on the Middletown property and then to move the existing doughboy statue to the same site. As more information is received he will inform the Executive Committee.

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

**PROTECT
YOUR CHILDREN
FOR ONLY
\$14.00
YEARLY!**

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



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

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?
The many benefits of insuring your children with JEP include:

- \$10,000 in term life insurance coverage to age 25, for children ages 0-21 — for only \$14.00 a year. (Contact the home office for larger amounts)
- Protection for your kids' future insurability by offering conversion at age 16 or older to a regular permanent policy — regardless of health (if policy has been in force for at least two years).
- Enrollees become eligible to apply for the Societies fraternal benefits at no additional cost.
- Annual premiums are eligible for scholarships

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



**DON'T DELAY, CALL TODAY!
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OFFICER
OR THE HOME OFFICE AT 1-800-533-6682**

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
of the United States and Canada
6611 Rockside Road
Independence, OH 44131-2398

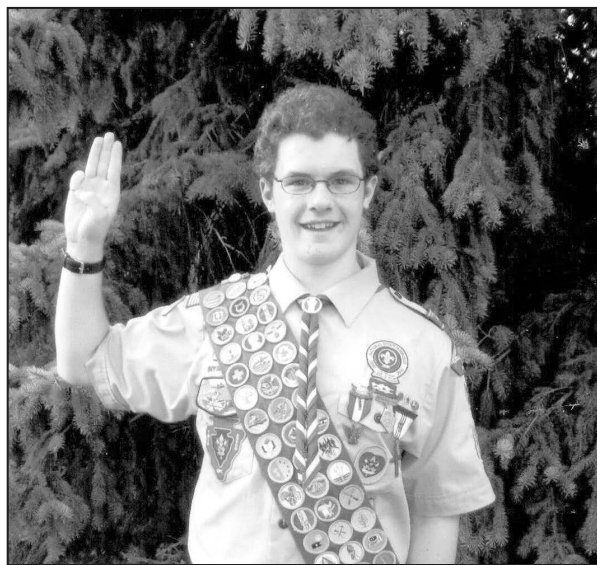


Focus on Fraternalism

Editor's Note: This issue, Jednota is pleased to feature one of our younger members, John Edward Barczynski, in our continuing Focus on Fraternalism column. As you'll see in this submission from his understandably proud parents, John Edward exemplifies a young life focused on the founding values of our Society – faith and fraternalism.

Branch 567 Member John Edward Barczynski Achieves Latest Honor, the Eagle Scout Award

John Edward Barczynski, son of Dr. and Mrs. John L. Barczynski, recently earned the Eagle Scout Award, the highest rank designation in Boy Scouting. John Edward also recently completed his year term as Senior Patrol Leader for Troop 81 in Wexford, and became a Brotherhood Member of the Order of the Arrow for Honor Campers. During his scouting career, he earned many honors, including the Boy Scout and Cub Scout International Religious Awards. Among his achievements, he earned the Fifty Miller Award, the World Conservation Award, the International Activity Award



Patch, three State Conservation Awards, and the Arrow of Light Award, in addition to 71 Merit Badges. John participated in 2010 National Jamboree, attended the Northern Tier High Adventure Base in Minnesota, achieved the Heritage Iron Man two times, and is registered to attend the Florida Sea Base National High Adventure Camp. For his Eagle Scout project, John provided a Wetlands Restoration, which included the removal of invasive species, the building of a jack dam, and the creation of a bench area for visitors, and the construction and placement of birdhouses on the wetlands property. In all, including the planning and fund-raising necessary to earn the money needed for the conservation project materials, John provided 224.5 personal hours, plus led 24 others in their provision of 329 hours, bringing the project grand total to 553.5 hours.

Out of scouting, John just completed the ninth grade at North Allegheny Intermediate, and has been a member of the National Fourth Place Science Bowl Team, the National Eighth Place Academic League Team, and the National Second Place Knowledge Mater Open Team. He is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, the Junior Classical League, placing first in the Latin History Competition at the State Convention, the Technology Student Association, the Mock Trial Team, GOAL, the School Chorus, and was picked for the District Chorus last year. At St. Alphonsus Church he has participated in the Passion Play for four years, has been in the choir for six years, and is an altar server. John also has been on the Baiertl Family YMCA Swim Team for eight years, earned a black belt in Taekwondo, is a member of the United States and the PA Chess Federations, and has participated in 46 chess tournaments.

John Edward and his sisters, Heather Lynn and Kristen Marie, are triplet fourth-generation members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 567, in Allentown, PA.

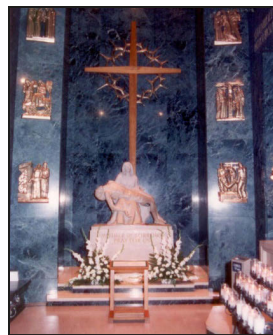
Slovak Self-Taught

Editor's Note: September is Insurance Awareness Month. In honor of that, Jednota appropriately reintroduces our popular series Slovak Self-Taught with a session on Insurance. Thanks to our many readers who have requested this item. Look for more Slovak Self-Taught in issues to come.

About Insurance

Insured against accident	Poistený proti nehode	(poistYenee protiYi nYehod Ye)
Insured against fire	Poistený proti ohňu	(poistYenee protYi ohnYu)
I have my life insured	Som poistený na život	(som poistYenee na zYivot)
The premium on this insurance policy is ...	Prémia (poplatok) na túto poisťujúcu policu (posjistku) je ...	(prEmYa (poplatok) na tooto positYu-Yootsu politu – (PoYistku) Ye

Come Celebrate Mass Sept 18 with FCSU At National Shrine



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

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

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

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

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

Submitted by Stephen Matula, Branch 856 President



18th Annual Sorrowful Mother Pilgrimage at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine in Sept

The 18th Annual Pilgrimage in honor of our Sorrowful Mother will be Sunday, September 18, 2011 at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine, N. Lipkey Road, North Jackson, OH.

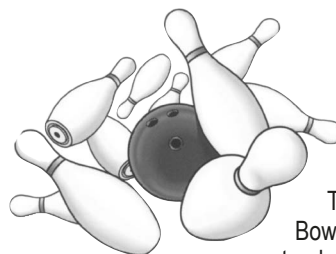
Devotions begin at 3:00PM with Anointing of the Sick followed by Confessions and mass in Slovak at 4:00PM. Attending clergy will concelebrate with Rev. George M. Franko, principal celebrant, and Rev. Nicholas Mancini, homilist.

Dinner will be served following Mass. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. Tickets may be purchased from Slovak Catholic Federation members or by calling 330-782-9126. Tickets will not be available at the door.

Everyone is invited to the Pilgrimage. Dinner is optional.



Slovak Bowling Congress Announces Branch 228 Rusty Groner "Winner" in America's Foremost Slovak Sports Event



The Slovak Bowling Congress (SBC) has just announced that Rusty Groner of Elyria, Ohio, is the Jednota winner in its all-events sweepstakes. A member of the F.C.S.U, active member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch 228, member of the SBC National Tournament Committee, promoter of the Slovak Home Singles Bowling Tournament, and long-time Slovak activist – Randy captured top honors in the Jednota All-Events Bowling Sweepstakes at the 69th

annual Slovak Bowling Congress of America. The tournament was held this Spring at Echo Lanes in Warren, OH.

More than 120 team participated this year. The Jednota-sponsored Sweepstakes attracted bowlers from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. Congratulations to Rusty Groner! And thank you to the First Catholic Slovak Union – the Jednota – for their sponsorship of this special Sweepstakes.

We hope to see more Jednota bowlers in the Spring of 2012 at Midway Lanes in Akron, OH, for the 70th annual Slovak Bowling Congress of America National Tournament. For more information on the Slovak Bowling Congress, please contact John M. Golias @ 440 526 3657.

Thank you,

John M. Golias, SBC National Tournament Committee

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.

Scenes from District 10, Rev. Furdek District, Sales Seminar



National President Andrew Rajec takes questions at the Rev. Furdek District 10 meeting

On Sunday, August 21, 2011, the Rev. Furdek District held a meeting during which district activities and insurance programs were discussed. A key feature of that meeting was an insurance and annuity presentation by National Vice President Andrew Harcar and National Secretary Kenneth Arendt. National President Andrew M. Rajec also was in attendance. Overall, some 20 people participated.

The event started at 2:00 pm at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH. After the meeting, hearty hors d'oeuvres were served, along with beverages, as attendees enjoyed time to socialize.



Branch 228 President Len Zilko and Theresa Arendt, Branch 228 Member and wife of National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt



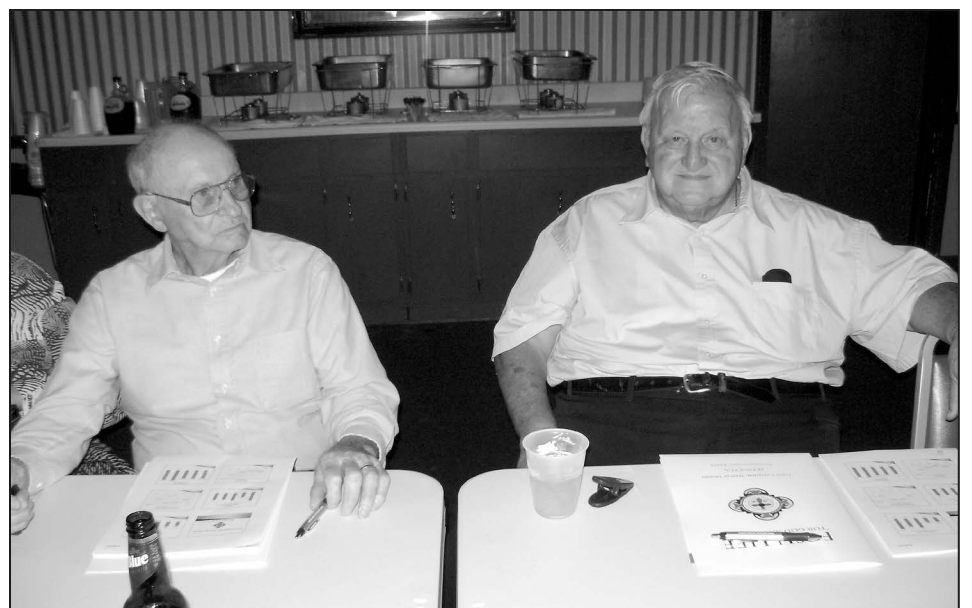
National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt gives an overview of the FCSU's portfolio of annuity products



Branch 553 Treasurer George Kacsanek and Branch 553 Financial Secretary Linda Hanko



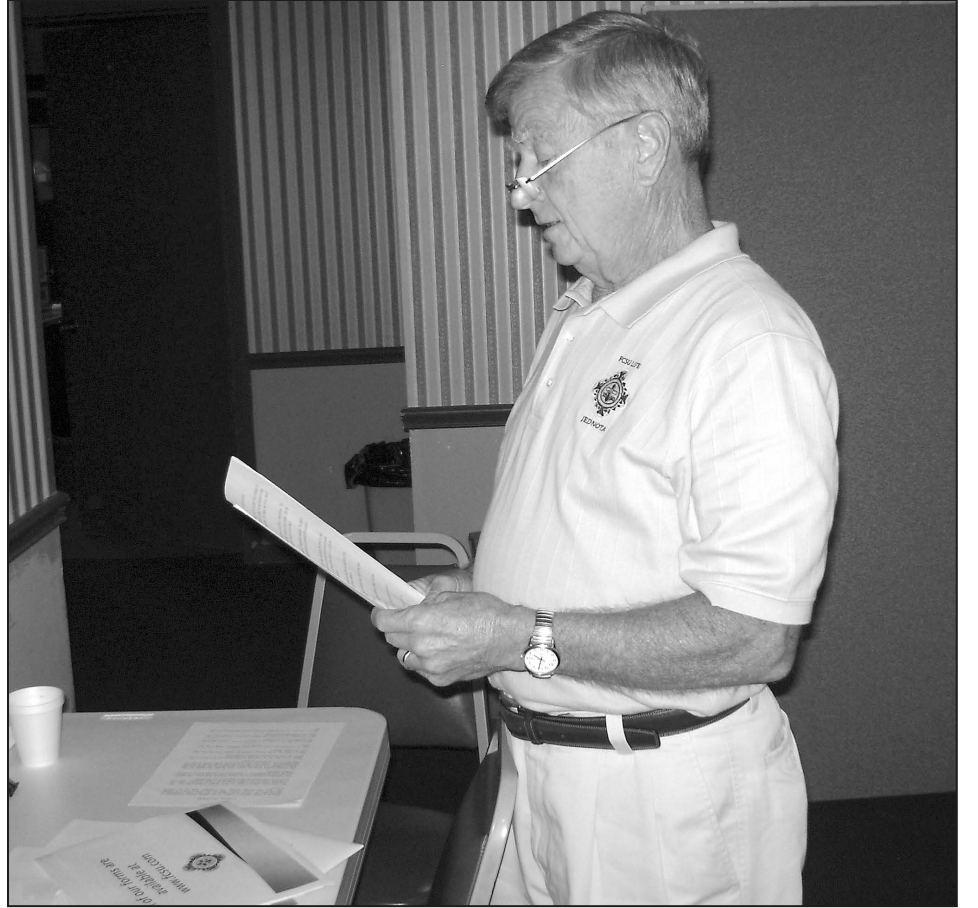
President Andrew M. Rajec and Branch 553 Member Irene Arnold



Branch 553 Member Charles Arnold and Branch 553 President Joseph Petrasek



Branch 24 Auditor Tom Ivanec and Branch 24 Member and Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec



National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., offers members highlights of the Society's insurance products



(L-R) Branch 553 Member Cecilia Petrasek, Branch 553 Member Mary Ann Minrovic, and Branch 855 Financial Secretary Michael Kolesar



Branch 553 Member George Smith



Branch 855 Secretary/Treasurer Linda Kolesar



Branch 553 Members Sean Patterson and Sandy Leipold



(L - R) Branch 553 Members Norma and Joseph Lesho, and Branch 855 President Mary Kolesar

FCSU Attends Annual 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 ran July 29-31, 2011, from 11am to 10pm on Friday and Saturday and from 11am to 5pm on Sunday.

A number of FCSU members attended Pierogi Fest 2011. Some – including members of the Assumption of the BVM Society, Branch 493, in Chicago and Branch 581 in Porter, IN – were among the many visitors enjoying the many vendors and entertainment programs throughout the weekend. Other FCSU members were a part of the entertainment, such as members of the Slovak dance troupes who performed on both Saturday and Sunday – Lúčinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble from Cleveland, OH; Sarišan 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. Sarišan is directed by Milan Straka, Branch 743 while Lucinka's honorary director Tom Ivanec is a member of Branch 24, its Treasurer Michele Mager is a member of Branch 228 and its Secretary Mary Ann Dzurec is a member of Branch 754. Vychodna's Executive Vice President of Cultural Events Dusan Dorich is a member of Branch 785.



1 Branch 581 Member Ed Bach salutes the Slovak Club with a glass of lemonade during Pierogi Fest



Branch 493 Officers Val Vesely and Pete Turner



Branch 493 Member John Munoz wore his Ninja Warrior costume for the International Polka Parade



(L - R) Sarah Peters and Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder from Branch 493



The young ladies of Lucinka, including Branch 24 Member Alexandra Glova (front center), perform the gypsy dance as part of the International entertainment program



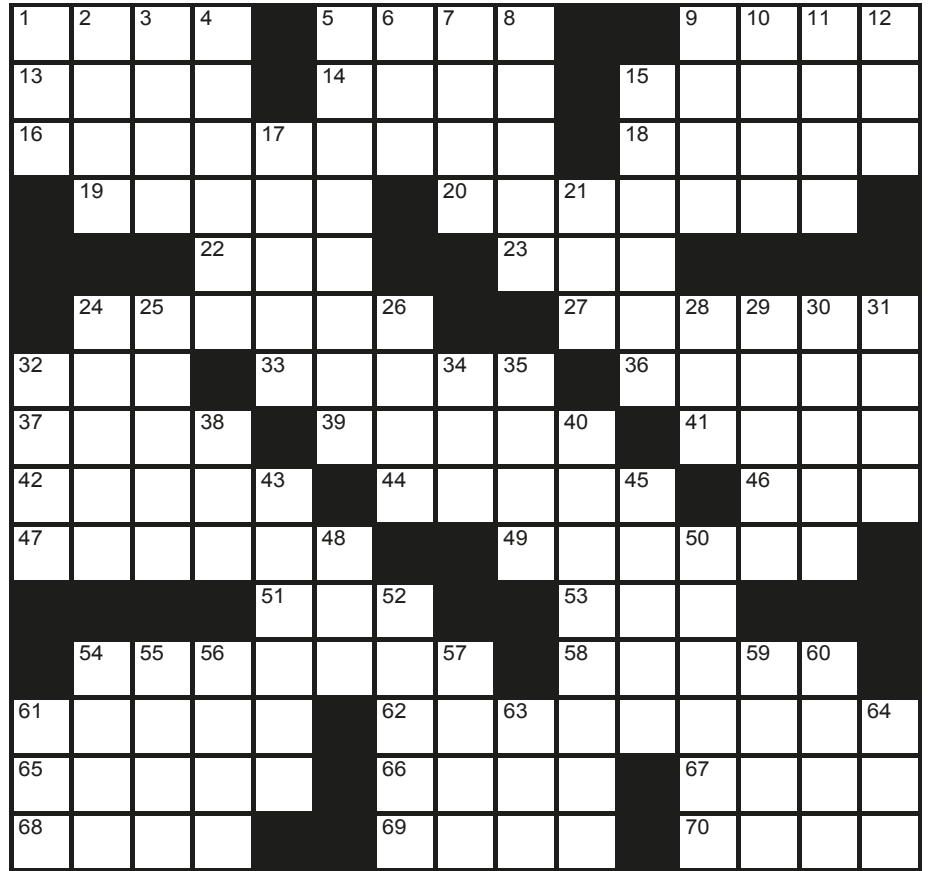
The young men of Luckina, including (L -R) Branch 754 Members and brothers John and Kazimir Dzurec wow the crowds at Pierogi Fest during the gypsy dance



After the Branch 706 meeting held at the home of Ed & Shirley Uram on May 1, 2011, members and guests enjoyed a fraternal luncheon at a local steak house (L- R): Ed Uram; Shirley Uram, President Br. 706; branch guests; Joe Bugel, President Br.313; Art and Barbara Fayta; Liz and Rudy Bernath, Director Region 7.



Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Morse code signal
- 5 Dutch export
- 9 Failure
- 13 S shaped molding
- 14 Cloak for Caesar
- 15 Riyadh native
- 16 Theatrical role
- 18 Inert gas
- 19 Solitary
- 20 Speak haltingly
- 22 Insect egg
- 23 Small drink
- 24 Gangways
- 27 Camel and alpaca relatives
- 32 European sea eagle
- 33 Burst
- 36 Run off
- 37 Tear
- 39 Regions
- 41 Comedian Johnson
- 42 Express contempt
- 44 Alters paperwork
- 46 Antiquated
- 47 Garnered
- 49 Prayer
- 51 Double-decker
- 53 Devotee
- 54 Crush
- 58 Search
- 61 Culpability
- 62 Accord
- 65 Peruvian peaks
- 66 Mortgage company offering
- 67 Waterless
- 68 Football play
- 69 Egyptian cobras
- 70 Allows

Down

- 1 MD, briefly
- 2 Turkish title
- 3 Secure
- 4 Wading birds
- 5 And so forth
- 6 Period
- 7 Develops
- 8 Retail stores
- 9 Grange
- 10 Olympics downhill racer
- 11 Smell
- 12 Peg
- 15 Try out
- 17 See 46 Across
- 21 Suffer
- 24 Playing field
- 25 Central
- 26 Certain
- 28 ___ mode
- 29 Imbecile
- 30 Competently
- 31 Lawn starter
- 32 Gaelic
- 34 Foot (Prefix)
- 35 Caudal appendage
- 38 Lair
- 40 Tightens up

- 43 Contradicts
- 45 Gaze
- 48 Bug for payme
- 50 Brute
- 52 Opera's La ___
- 54 Bluefin
- 55 Frees
- 56 Bullfight cheer:
- 57 Selves
- 59 Withered
- 60 Stitch
- 61 Breach
- 63 Knock
- 64 Football scores (Abbr.)

JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH - APRIL - MAY - JUNE - JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER



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DEPOSIT NOW!
EARN INTEREST NOW!
Traditional and roth ira's
available.
Six year and eight year
terms
Competitive interest
rates!**

FCSU LIFE, 6611 ROCKSIDE RD,



Feedback from FCSU Members on the August 14th National Picnic



"A big thanks to Susan, the office staff, and officers for what I think was a successful picnic. The food was good and the people were friendly. Enjoyed meeting with some people you don't get to see very often. There was a lot of work put into this picnic so people would enjoy themselves – too bad for the weather. On the bright side, next year's picnic will have a LOT less precipitation. THANKS TO ALL!"

Andy M.



"We enjoyed the picnic very much. That was a lot of rain, but fortunately it was clear before and after the downpour. Our grandson was glad to participate in the soccer clinic – at least they got some time in before the rain started. How neat to have the coaches from AYO (hope I got that right) there. And, the backpack with the water bottle was a nice touch. Looks as though you thought of everything!"



Hope that you don't let one weather delay keep you from having future outings. Wiegand's is a great place."

Bill and Jo Fedor

"I would like to say how much my family enjoyed the picnic on Sunday, August 14, at Wiegand Lake. The weather did not take away from the event and the staff at Wiegand was great and the facility was clean and beautiful. The Jednota staff was also great and the event was well planned and ran smoothly. My boys really enjoyed the music and dancers. Thank you for this rare opportunity for my family to really get in touch with our Slovak heritage."

J. Walsh



"Thanks for the picnic ... I thought it was a good start for the day ... unfortunately, we can't control the weather and hit one of the worst of the summer."

But I enjoyed the few hours we had and it would have been a perfect picnic spot on a nice hot sunny summer day ... you did very well. Thanks!"

Fr. John Olsavsky



"Thank you to the home office for all of your hard work in making the picnic a success. The location was fabulous, food was great, and everyone really enjoyed themselves."

J. Janosik





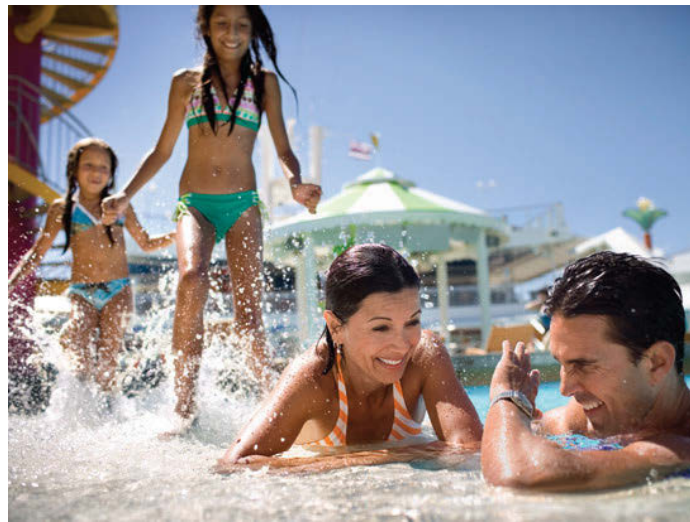


Bahamas & Florida

Something fun for everyone under the sun.

First Catholic Slovak Union FCSU Life Norwegian Sky Cruise November 14 - 18, 2011

Starting from...



\$449*

Inside Staterooms from... \$449

Ocean-view Staterooms from... \$479

Balcony Staterooms from... \$669

Round-trip from Miami on Norwegian Sky
Cruise to Nassau, Grand Bahama Island, and Great Stirrup Cay

Price includes: cruise, meals, airport transfers, prepaid gratuities, cocktail party & many FCSU extras!! Space is limited! Deposit of \$100 per person due upon booking.

By popular demand, additional staterooms have been made available – for a limited time. Call Paul today at Adventure Intl, 800-542-2487 or email him at Paul@aits.webmail.com

Terms & Conditions Fares shown in U.S. dollars. Offers apply to select sailing(s). Fares are cruise only, per person, based on double occupancy. Government taxes, fees and fuel supplement (where applicable) are additional. On-board service charges are additional and will be automatically added to your on-board account. IMPORTANT NOTICE: NCL reserves the right to charge a fuel supplement without prior notice should the closing price of West Texas Intermediate Fuel increase above \$65 per barrel on the NYMEX (New York Mercantile Exchange Index). In the event a fuel supplement is charged, NCL will have sole discretion to apply the supplementary charge to both existing and new bookings, regardless of whether such bookings have been paid in full. Such supplementary charges are not included in the cruise fare. The fuel supplement charge will not exceed \$10.00 per passenger per day. Call 1.800.327.7030 or go to www.ncl.com for further information. Offers are based on availability, are capacity controlled, and combinability with other offers is subject to change or cancellation at any time per NCL discretion. Other restrictions apply. NCL is not responsible for typographical errors or omissions. ©2011 NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE LTD. SHIPS' REGISTRY: BAHAMAS AND UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. 15502 Travel Agency disclaimer: Adventure Intl.Travel, P. O. Box 770410, Lakewood, OH 44107.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2 - THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will take place on Sunday, October 23, 2011 at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Priory, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, Illinois. We will enjoy a short period of fraternal fellowship and refreshments starting at 1:30 pm.

The Annual Meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm.

Attendees will enjoy a delicious catered meal. All branches are asked to send delegates; individual FCSU members who wish to learn more about becoming active in District 2 are also welcome to attend. If you plan to attend, please call District President John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810, so enough food and beverages can be ordered for the meeting.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 3 - GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT - WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 1, 2011 following the 5 PM Mass in the Formation Room at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, PA. We are looking forward to a good attendance from all branches as we have much to discuss: election of officers for 2012; branch news; and plans for our popular Stedry Vecer. Refreshments will be served

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 - MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT - NEW JERSEY

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 16 East Somerset Street in Raritan, NJ. Branch secretaries are asked to call Joe Minarovich @ 732-469-5256 by October 21st to RSVP with the number of members that will be attending. After a brief business meeting, Mr. Andrew Harcar will be conducting a sales seminar for all attendees.

Please join us for this informational session. Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 - MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2011, at St. Patrick's Rayan Church Hall in Merrill, MI. The church hall is located at 4708 South Meridan Road (M30). A traditional Thanksgiving dinner will be served starting at 11:30AM. All members are encouraged to stay for the business meeting at 1:00PM. Branch 774 will be hosting; please notify Katherine Stevens at (989) 835-9895 by October 17th with the number of delegates that will be attending your branch.

Since this is our annual meeting, election of officers will be on the agenda, along with discussion of District business. We encourage all branches to be represented. Hoping to see many new faces.

Ann Magusin, District Secretary

DISTRICT 7 - REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT - BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMEREST, AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday October 30, 2011, at 2:00 PM, in Church of the Resurrection Hall, Chestnut Street and 4th Avenue, Cambria City, Johnstown, PA.

The St. Joseph' Society Branch 23 will be the host for the meeting. Holy Mass will be offered earlier in the day for the living and deceased members of the district. Member branches are reminded to have a delegate at one district meeting per year and dues current to receive the branch stipend.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 8 - REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT- EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 16, 2011 at St. Michael the Archangel Parish School, 130 Levittown Parkway, Levittown, Pa. 19054. The meeting will start at 9:45AM. Mass will be at 12 noon with dinner to follow. Donation for the dinner is \$10.00 per person. Please make checks payable to Branch 857. All checks and credentials must be returned by Saturday, October 8, 2011. PLEASE be prompt!!

Any questions, please call Loretta Dashner at 610.432.8350. Thank You!

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 9 - FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting at 1PM on Sunday, October 9, 2011, at the K2 Engineering Inc. Conference Room at 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA/ District activities and insurance programs will be discussed.

Fraternally,

Barbara A. Holly

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

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

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

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

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

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

Grace M. Charney, Secretary

DISTRICT 13 - JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Jozef Cardinal Tomko District 13 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2011, following a complimentary luncheon. Time: 1:00PM at CozyCorners in Osceola Mills, PA (Route 53 South from Philipsburg, PA).

Members from District 13 branches are asked to attend. Please call or fax Rosemary Deliman by phone at 814-342-5592 or by email at rmdeliman@comcast.net if you are able to be present.

Rosemary Deliman, Secretary

DISTRICT 16 - MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT - NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16 will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2011, at 1:00PM in the rectory of the Most Holy Trinity Church, Yonkers, NY. The meeting will begin after the 11:30AM Slovak Mass which will be celebrated for our members by a Slovak priest at Most Holy Trinity.

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

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

Refreshments will be served by Branch 41, Yonkers, NY, after the meeting.

Fraternally,

Henrietta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

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

The Saints Cyril and Methodius District 17 will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, September 25, 2011.

Members will attend the 12:15 P.M. Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church, William and Church Streets, Pittston, PA.

Following the Mass, members will meet in the Church Hall. On the agenda will be officer reports, Regional Director's report, and fraternal activities. Election of officers for 2012 will take place.

A catered luncheon will be provided. All branches are urged to send delegates to the meeting.

Please contact District President Michael J. Slovenkai at 570.342.7562 to confirm your Branch's representatives.

Michael J. Slovenkai, President

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

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

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 3 -

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2011, in Minneapolis, MN.

The meeting will begin at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, 13th Ave NE and 2nd Street.

The agenda will include officers' reports, a schedule of activities for 2012, and the election of officers.

A lunch will be available after the meeting.

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 3P -

HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:30AM on Sunday September 18, 2011, in St. Joseph's Church cafeteria at 604 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. All members are urged to attend and to get involved in branch activities. Members of Branch 266 will join us for the meeting, and will also join us for a breakfast buffet immediately following the meeting. Please spread the word to fellow members. If you have any questions or concerns, please call M. Koval at 704-454-0004.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 24 -

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will have a Branch meeting/luncheon at 1:00PM, Sunday October 9th (Browns bye week) at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. -- Rt. 21 in Independence. Parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square.

The agenda will include the election of officers for 2012 and discussion about Branch/District activities.

Please phone activities director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 evenings after 6:00PM if you plan to attend.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 28 -

BONNE TERRE, MISSOURI

There has been a merger between Branch 028K Bonne Terre, MO and Branch 900K Independence, OH.

All members of Branch 028K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 23, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 -

BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

Because of health issues, the branch trips planned for September 18, 2011, to the Basilica in Washington D.C. for the Annual Re-Dedication of Our Mother of Sorrows Shrine; and on September 25, 2011, to the Slovak Festival in Holmdel, NJ. are cancelled. We apologize for having to cancel these two important trips; however, all members are encouraged to form a groups of four or five and travel on their own.

Fraternally yours,

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 100 -

ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

There has been a merger between Branch 100K Rock Springs, WY and Branch 900K Independence, OH.

All members of Branch 100K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 23, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 109 -

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

There has been a merger between Branch 109K St Louis, MO and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 109K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 22, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their

continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly Meeting on Sunday, September 18, 2011 at 9:00PM at K2Engineering Conference Room, 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch activities will be discussed, and officers' reports will be given. All members of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting. Call for directions if necessary. Any inquiries and updating information should be directed to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 166 – WINDSOR, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 30, 2011, at 1:15 P.M. at the Old Country Buffet, Town Square Mall, Vestal Parkway, Vestal, New York. On the agenda will be a discussion of the District Picnic, District Meeting, and Branch business. Voting for officers of the Branch will also be held. Members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8043 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by October 27 to reserve a place at the dinner. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 200, holds regular meetings on the first Thursday of the month for the benefit of its members. All meeting start at 7:00PM and are located in the upstairs hall of the CU Club, 914 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA.

Regularly scheduled meeting dates through the rest of 2011 are as follows:

October 6, 2011 and November 3, 2011, with a final annual meeting on Dec 1, 2011, during which time election of officers also will be held.

We encourage all members to come to our meetings. Let us hear your ideas and help us make our branch more productive.

Fraternally,

**Vicki L. Schaub,
Financial Secretary/Treasurer**

BRANCH 266 – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 268 – WEIRTON, WEST VIRGINIA

There has been a merger between Branch 268K Weirton, WV and Branch 900K Independence, OH.

All members of Branch 268K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 26, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 296 – GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

There has been a merger between Branch 296K Great Falls, MT and Branch 900K Independence, OH.

All members of Branch 296K will now hold membership in Branch 900K.

This merger has taken place as of August 23, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Nicholas Branch 312 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2011, at 1:00PM at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck at 1121 Monastery Drive, Latrobe, PA.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Micki Smolleck, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 380 – CANONBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2011, at 2:00PM at Kings Restaurant, Canonsburg, PA. Agenda: election of officers. Members are urged and welcome to attend.

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 407 – THAYER, ILLINOIS

There has been a merger between Branch 407K Thayer, IL and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 407K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 23, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 408 – MADISON, WISCONSIN

There has been a merger between Branch 408K Madison, IL and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 408K will now hold membership in Branch 900K.

This merger has taken place as of August 25, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 500 – HIBBING, MINNESOTA

There has been a merger between Branch 500K Hibbing, MN and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 500K will now hold membership in Branch 900K.

This merger has taken place as of August 25, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John's the Baptist, Branch 553, will be holding lodge meetings in 2011 on the following dates at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

Save these dates:

- Sunday, October 9, 2011 at 1:00 pm
- Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 1:00 pm – election of officers for 2012

Mark your calendars now so that you can hold the dates and attend your lodge meeting. Your participation is what makes our society a success.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

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

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

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

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

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

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

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

Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall, St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, NYC.

On the agenda will be a financial report, election of officers for the 2012 and discussion of plans for the next season.

All members are urged to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Jednota Branch 721 in Bannister, MI, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 2, 2011, at 2:00PM. It will be held at St. Cyril's Meeting Room, Bannister, MI. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Respectfully,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 741 – WEIRTON, WEST VIRGINIA

There has been a merger between Branch

741K Weirton, WV and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 741K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 26, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 764 – WARREN, OHIO

Sts Cyril & Methodius, Branch 764, will hold its meeting on Sept 18, 2011 at 12:00PM at Bella Women's Center, 1192 North Road NE, Warren, OH 44483. A light lunch will be provided by the Center in appreciation of the donation of the bottle-less water dispenser for their new waiting room. After lunch the group will be given a tour of the new facility. On the agenda will be the discussion of future events and the planning of a brunch and Mass for the living and deceased members of the Branch at Sts. Cyril & Methodius later this year. Please contact Joy Brunetti at 330-979-6494 no later than Sept 11, 2011, if you plan to attend.

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 774 – MERRILL, MICHIGAN

There will be a general meeting of Branch 774 to discuss activities on Sunday, October 9, 2011 at 1:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of Branch President Frank Rados, 4084 Kane Road, Merrill, MI, 48637. All members are encouraged to attend.

Fraternally,

Frank Medosa, President

BRANCH 775 – BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

There has been a merger between Branch 775K Birmingham, AL and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 775K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of August 26, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855 will hold an officer's meeting on Sunday, October 2, 2011 at 2:00PM and at the home of Branch President Mary Kolesar. On the agenda will be a discussion of the upcoming annual branch meeting. Details to follow in an issue of Jednota.

Fraternally,

Linda Kolesar, Secretary/Treasurer

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.**



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	Anne M Kubancik	153K	Irene Kubik	313K	Mary E Wodziak	670K	Anna M Pazej
001K	Anna C Podsedly	162K	Janet Kremposky Muha	315K	Regis C Novak	670K	Jordan Robert Sosnak
002K	Andrew Nicholas Butchko	163K	Raymond David Vargocko	324K	Stephen Sulek	701K	Wendal Sibik
002K	Eleanor H Dvorsky	166K	Richard J Barina	326K	Mary Karen Frew	706K	Raymond Kuratnik
004K	Margaret Kolodziej	166K	Mary V Rusnak	368K	Helen F Parker	721K	Amelia E Tejkl
006K	Joseph S Palus	181K	Mary Monica Smith	410K	Theresa L Cantini	729K	Ann Marie Watral
023K	Bernice J Chovanec Young	200K	Patricia Conner	450K	Edward A Mayernick Jr	731K	Raymond M Balas Sr
038K	Mary M Bury	200K	John P Portasik	456K	Hermena M Belko	731K	Milton H Hood
040K	Joan N Kimes	200K	Paul J Szalankiewicz	505K	Irene Theresa Estoch	731K	Edward Necko
040K	Curtis Kramer	238K	Joanne K Moran	553K	James M Barnes	746K	Thomas J Dickson
040K	Richard M Manzella	254K	Kathy A Ciganek	553K	Thomas S Cirjak Jr	746K	Gilbert J Mika
041K	Stefan Kurylo	260K	Stephen M Globeck Sr	567K	Edward S Kubinsky	754K	Christopher A Kuhns
089K	Michael T Kebis Sr	260K	John Jaros	567K	John Mazza	831K	Elizabeth S Mariott
090K	Frank J Squirlock	260K	John J Sharshan	581K	Edward R Levenda	855K	Margaret J Pipak
112K	Theresa R Bronk	278K	Marie T Buggy	600K	Clement Putirka	857K	George E Danka
122K	Caroline Mary Mahoy	290K	Joseph J Drozd	615K	Robert L Likavec	857K	Marianne G Manion
136K	Rita Garrett	312K	George T Raddish Jr	652K	Gordon M Bowers	888K	John J Veslovsky
152K	Bernadine Orman	313K	Frank A Hulina	667K	Albert S Hirchak		

* Processed in the month of August 2011

Branch 200 Members: We Need Your Help!

I am currently updating our beneficial membership list. I need information for any member that has a change of address, name, and/or phone number. I also would like to obtain email addresses and cell phone numbers. There may be policy holders that are deceased and the beneficiaries are entitled to life insurance proceeds. You may want to make beneficiary changes to existing policies or purchase additional insurance.

You can contact me by mail, email or phone. My mailing address is: Vicki L. Schaub, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA, 16226. My email is vschaub@gmail.com. The phone is 724-763-9229 (Monday-Friday, between noon and 5PM).

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Branch Financial Secretary/Treasurer

34th Annual Slovak Heritage Festival Sept 25, 2011

The 34th annual Slovak Heritage Festival will be held Sunday, September 25, 2011 at The PNC Bank Arts Center, Exit 116, of the Garden State Parkway in Holmdel, New Jersey.

The festival will begin at 10: a.m. with a full program of events. Bishop Peter Rusnak of Bratislava will celebrate the Byzantine Mass in Slovak at 11:00A.M.

The cultural program begins at 2:00P.M. with a Parade of Fashions. The featured dance group is PAS from Pittsburgh along with three children's groups.

Other special programs include: Slovak Cooking Sessions by Luboš Brieda. (for a preview, visit his website www.Slovakcooking.com.)

Tom Peters will be there, as well, helping people concerning their Slovak Genealogy.

There will be a soccer tournament held throughout the day.

Vendors will be selling Slovak Crystal, ceramics etc. and there will be a lot of delicious Slovak Food and baked goods.

Entrance and parking are free with plenty of room for buses.

For contact information please call Steve Zluky 908-534-2710

- Submitted by Steve Zluky, Branch 173 Member

FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Summer 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



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

Contact the Home Office for details: 1-800-JEDNOTA or fcsu@aol.com.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Scenes From the Great Slovak Festival

The Great Slovak Festival was held, once again, on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend at St. Anthony of Padua, 6750 State Road, Parma, OH, from 12:00 noon and ran until 8:00PM. This year, the 40th Slovak Festival was held on September 4, 2011. Outstanding Slovak food, bakery, and beverages were available throughout the day. Music for dancing and listening pleasure was provided in the upstairs hall by the Johnny Pastirik Band and the Frank Moravick Band. Downstairs a new Slovak Band, FAKT, made their debut at the festival.

The Slovak Festival also featured performances by the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS) with songs, music, and dances of Slovakia under the direction of Angela Lipchick, with musical direction by John Lipchick. The day also featured performances by the Lúčinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland under the direction of Christine Hearn with choreography by Nadia Oros.

The First Catholic Slovak Union was among the tables and booths in the downstairs hall, manned by National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. National President Andrew M. Rajec was in attendance as well. FCSU Member Helene Cincebeaux was present with key pieces and information from her renowned Baine/Cincebeaux Collection of Slovak Folk Art and Folk Dress. The festival drew large crowds, with approximately 800 people in attendance.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic (L - R) FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.; National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt; Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr., Jednota contributor and History Professor from the University of Maryland University College; Milenka Feighner, PAS performer and Dr. Kopanic's daughter.



Photo courtesy of Jim Stracensky, Picture Yourself/Stargazer Photography & Video (L - R) Lucinka Children's Folk Ensemble help Slovak Radio Club Members Joseph Oros (holding American flag), Henry Horvath (behind him) and Frank Anderko (holding Slovak flag) start the Slovak Festival entertainment program.



Photo courtesy of Jim Stracensky, Picture Yourself/Stargazer Photography & Video (L - R) Band leader John Pastirik, Nadia Oros, Luckina Choreographer, Branch 24 Auditor Tom Ivanec, and Branch 450 Vice President George Čarný lead the crowd in singing the Slovak National Anthem.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic (L - R) Dr. Michael Kopanic, Milan Kobulsky, Slovak Radio Program Director; Henry Horvath, Slovak Radio Club President; Dr. L. Fedorko.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic The Great Slovak Festival featured the debut of FAKT, a new Slovak band in the Cleveland area



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic The Pittsburgh Area Slovaks (PAS) entertained the crowds with dances, songs and music of Slovakia.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic Dzedo Michael Kopanic, Sr. dances with granddaughter a PAS performer Milenka Feighner.

News From Slovakia

Tillemann: Slovakia May Help in Democratisation of Tunisia

Bratislava, August 24 (TASR) - Tomica Tillemann, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Civil Society and Emerging Democracies at the U.S. State Department, talked about the significance of Slovakia's experience from transition to democracy for emerging democracies in Northern Africa.

At a meeting with journalists in Bratislava during his visit to Slovakia on this date, Tillemann pointed to the significance of civil society in the transition to democracy, the pressure that non-governmental organizations can bring to bear, and the co-operation of such organizations at the international level. He also mentioned their value in the profiling of leaders.

Tillemann conceded that there are certain differences between the situation in Slovakia 20 years ago and the emerging democracies in Northern Africa. No fewer than six countries in the region have seen regime change during this year's Arab Spring, and Tunisia was the first to have been impacted.

While there are differences, democratic values are universal and North African countries may certainly use some of Slovakia's experience from its transition to democracy.

As of July, Slovakia and the Netherlands have assumed patronage roles in Tunisia's transitional processes.

Tillemann, when asked by TASR how long Tunisia's transition may take, answered that it is a matter of generations - today's children and their children.

S&P Raises Slovakia's Rating, Radicova Says Responsible Policy Key

Bratislava, August 24 (TASR) - The raising of Slovakia's rating outlook from stable to positive by Standard & Poor's is confirmation that responsible policies bear fruit, Slovak Prime Minister Iveta Radicova said on this date.

At the same time, S&P affirmed Slovakia's long-term rating at A+, the fifth-best grade.

"Measures introduced by the Government aimed at stabilizing public finances and the economy are the only way of protecting and gradually boosting the living standards of Slovakia's people," said Radicova.

"We'll continue in behaving responsibly in approving budgets for the years ahead, and we're also ready to discuss a constitutional law on budgetary responsibility," said Radicova.

According to the premier, Slovakia is an open economy that is dependent on the success of its partners in the EU - and the outcome of the crisis in the eurozone.

"Nevertheless, the most important part of the solution is that every individual country does its homework, behaves responsibly, makes savings and introduces the necessary reforms," said Radicova.

IFP: Economic Growth Will Be Lower than Expected in 2011 and 2012

Bratislava, August 26 (TASR) - Slovakia's economy will grow at a slower rate than originally expected by the Finance Ministry, the ministry's Institute of Finance Policy (IFP) said on this date.

IFP predicts that growth will be 0.3 percentage points lower than originally thought, at 3.3 percent, in 2011. It should be 1 percentage point less in 2012, at 3.4 percent.

"IFP drew up a new macro-economic prognosis due to the tense situation on financial markets and probable cooling down of the economies of our trading partners," said IFP director Jan Toth.

The slowdown in Slovakia's economy should cause a loss of income in the state budget reaching €202 million in 2012. Meanwhile, expenditures shouldn't change, as in bad times interest tends to fall, which should compensate for increased spending on unemployment benefits. In total, this negative development is expected to put pressure on public finances to the tune of €240 million.

"IFP, therefore, recommends creating additional reserves of €146 million beyond the existing reserves of €95 million in the state budget draft," said Toth.

Almost One Year Since Shooting Rampage in Devinska Nova Ves

Bratislava, August 29 (TASR) - The Slovak public, and especially people living in the Bratislava borough of Devinska Nova Ves, will commemorate the first anniversary of the shooting rampage by Lubomir Harman, who killed eight people and wounded 15 others on August 30, 2010.

Harman, 48, unemployed and a sport-shooting enthusiast, began the shooting spree with an automatic Vz. 58 rifle at the apartment of one of his neighbors in the morning, killing four women and one 12-year old boy. He killed another man at the entrance to the apartment building, before beginning to shoot at bystanders. He also shot dead a woman who just hap-

pened to be on the balcony of her apartment.

One member of the SWAT team that arrived on the scene wounded Harman with a gunshot and shortly afterwards Harman committed suicide.

According to the police investigation, Harman was at the time under the influence of alcohol and the inhalant acetone, which he obviously sniffed before the spree.

Meanwhile, suggestions have emerged that Harman lost his mind, as the authorities failed to deal with the problems he had with the harassment he experienced at the hands of his neighbors.

Policies vis-a-vis Slovaks Living Abroad to Undergo Changes in 2012

Bratislava, August 24 (TASR) - Slovakia's state policy vis-a-vis Slovaks living abroad is to undergo changes, as Government Office and the Office for Slovaks Living Abroad (USZZ) suggest that the respective concept be revised next year so that it highlights expertise and Slovakia's long-term interests, TASR learnt on Wednesday.

Issues such as migration, the establishment of migration centers and electronic voting will be addressed. USZZ itself is to undergo structural changes, as the number of their management is to be slashed while the personnel's qualification and expertise should be raised.

The Act on Slovaks Living Abroad is to be amended as well in 2012, with the fundamental notion of 'a Slovak living abroad' to be revamped. Provisions governing the allocation of subsidies will be modified as well.

Based on a report regarding the state policies vis-a-vis Slovaks living abroad, okayed by the Cabinet on Wednesday, the system of issuing certificates for Slovaks abroad fails to comply with expectations and will be altered. Only 15,000 such certificates have been issued even though the number of Slovaks living abroad is estimated to stand at around 2.2 million.

Defense Ministry to Lay off 1,400 Employees, Including 500 Soldiers

Bratislava, August 25 (TASR) - The Defense Ministry is preparing the first phase of redundancies, during which around 1,400 people will be let go - 900 civil servants and the rest represented by soldiers, said Defense Minister Lubomir Galko (Freedom and Solidarity/SaS) at a press conference on this date.

According to Galko, more civil servants should be made redundant later on. This intention is stipulated in the Strategic Defense Evaluation acknowledged by the Government.

"We'll close down the current three big military headquarters - land forces, air forces and training and support forces - and we'll create one united headquarters. The savings that we're expecting to gain from these command posts, and we're especially speaking about higher-ranking officers - cuts on a level of some 15 percent. In numbers, this is 300 soldiers among higher-ranking officers," said Galko. The number of affected employees won't be as dramatically high as was expected at the beginning of the year.

The cuts should concern army technology as well, including 30 tanks, 82 vehicles BMP (Boyevaya Mashina Pekhoty), a few helicopters and other pieces of equipment. Purchases of new army technologies should afterwards be carried out via major projects, for which the ministry would like to garner €3.3 billion gradually by 2014.

One of the aims of the new strategy of the ministry for the upcoming next years is an overall modernization of various departments of the Slovak Armed Forces and re-organizing of its internal structure.

Uhliarik Hopeful Doctors Won't Leave Patients in Lurch for Money

Kosice, August 26 (TASR) - "I'm doubtful that doctors will abandon their patients for the sake of higher salaries," Health Minister Ivan Uhliarik (KDH) said in Kosice on this date in response to an initiative of up to 4,000 doctors who have vowed to hand in their notice unless their demands for better conditions in the Slovak health-care system are met.

"I believe that doctors are intelligent people and can see our efforts, and I don't believe that they will abandon their patients for [higher] salaries," said the minister.

According to Uhliarik, the ministry is striving to bring order to hospitals so that they stop piling up debts. "There would then be extra money for patient care and for higher salaries for nurses and doctors," he added. The plans to turn hospitals into state-owned joint ventures are designed to improve their management.



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For tickets, contact: Tom Ivanec at 440/668-7797

Or Mary Ann & Dan Dzurec at 440/930-2197

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Scholarship Funds Available at University of Ottawa

The Chair in Slovak History & Culture at the University of Ottawa, Canada, will once again offer scholarships to students and/or scholars who wish to study or do research in Slovak History at the university.

Scholarship funds at a variety of levels are available to support Slovak studies or research, including four funds specifically for research bursaries.

Individuals who wish to learn more and apply for a scholarship should visit the University of Ottawa Info Website at www.uottawa.ca. Interested applicants also may call (613) 562-5734 for more information, or, if feasible, go to the University of Ottawa Financial Aid and Awards Services at the University Centre, 85, University, Ottawa, Canada K1N 6N5. Interested individuals may also email the Chairholder M. Mark Stolarik directly at stolarik@uottawa.ca to learn more.

It should be noted that scholars who wish to apply for a research bursary must be prepared to include a curriculum vitae and detailed research proposal outlining the anticipated benefit of access to the University of Ottawa Slovak Archives, and the financial request to complete their research.



Nov Slovak Heritage Festival Supports Slovak Studies Program in Pittsburgh

The University of Pittsburgh Slovak Studies Program will present its 21st Annual Slovak Heritage Festival on Sunday, November 6, 2011. The Festival will be held from 1:00PM – 5:00PM at the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room in Oakland, PA.

As in past years, the Festival will feature our great ethnic food including kielbasa, halusky, holupki, pirohi, and a variety of pastries. There also will be Slovak musical performances throughout the afternoon, as well as a parade and cultural displays and lectures.

Festival attendees are encouraged to come dressed in Slovak folk costume and join in the fun!

For more information, call Chris Metil at (412) 624-5906.

About the Slovak Studies Program

The University of Pittsburgh is the only university in the United States where students can take Slovak language and culture classes and opt to receive a Minor in Slovak Studies. People from other colleges in the region cross-register each year, the Slovak Studies Program has welcomed students, professors, and employees from CMU, Duquesne U., Chatham U., Carlow U., and La Roche College. Students sometimes come from universities around the country for a semester or two on a FLAS scholarship. People who meet the OLLI criteria are welcome to audit (almost all have chosen to participate fully) all our classes and do so every year. Chaired by Martin Votruba, the Slovak Studies Program is one of the programs funded in part by the First Catholic Slovak Union in our commitment to support efforts to the continuation of our shared Slovak heritage and customs. For more information on the Slovak Studies Program, go to <http://www.pitt.edu/~votruba/skprogram/skprogram.html>.



Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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18th Annual Sorrowful Mother Pilgrimage at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine in Sept

The 18th Annual Pilgrimage in honor of our Sorrowful Mother will be Sunday, September 18, 2011 at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine, N. Lipkey Road, North Jackson, OH.

Devotions begin at 3:00PM with Anointing of the Sick followed by Confessions and mass in Slovak at 4:00PM. Attending clergy will concelebrate with Rev. George M. Franko, principal celebrant, and Rev. Nicholas Mancini, homilist.

Dinner will be served following Mass. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. Tickets may be purchased from Slovak Catholic Federation members or by calling 330-782-9126. Tickets will not be available at the door.

Everyone is invited to the Pilgrimage. Dinner is optional.

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Two United Slovak Society Events Scheduled in Lorain, OH

There are two exciting Slovak events scheduled at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH. 44055, in September and October. Both are sponsored by the United Slovak Societies, which consists of members of our own Branch 228, along with members of other local branches in the SCS 111&77, FCSLA 114, NSS 160 and LPSCU.

Annual Slovak Day Celebration in September



Eastern European Band Harmonia will perform at American Slovak Club

First, on Sunday September 18, 2011, Annual Slovak Day will be celebrated at the American Slovak Club from 1:00-4:00p.m. The event will feature a Chicken Paprikas Dinner with Eastern European Music Delights by Harmonia.

Advanced ticket sales only, \$12.00.
Contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236

October Clambake

Then, on Saturday, October 8, 2011, from 6:00-7:00p.m., there will be a Clambake by Pogie at the American Slovak Club. DJ/Karaoke by Tunes

Unlimited will be featured for the evening's entertainment.

Advanced ticket sales only, \$22.00.
Contact John Akosi at 440/984-2212.

- Submitted by Michele Mager, FCSU Branch 228.

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES & CANADA 6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300 INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

1-800-JEDNOTA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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Protecting the privacy of your personal financial and medical information has always been and will continue to be a matter of top priority for us. When used in this notice, the following terms have the meaning shown.

Public Information means information that is lawfully available to the general public from: Federal State or local government records; widely distributed media; or, disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by Federal, State or local law.

Non-Public Information means personally identifiable financial and medical information. It also means any list, description or other grouping of individuals, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived from any personally identifiable information that is not publicly available.

Consumer Reporting Agency means an entity, which regularly provides reports (Consumer Reports) including information regarding an individual's: general reputation, character, personal characteristics or mode of living and financial status. The information may be obtained through interviews with the individual or third parties such as the individual's: business associates, family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or financial sources.

We obtain information about you from the following sources:

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- information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.), or others; and
- information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

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We restrict access to your personal, insurance and medical information to those of our employees who need to know that information in order to provide insurance or service to you. We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal, financial, and medical information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to comply with Federal and State regulations regarding the safeguarding of Non-Public Information.

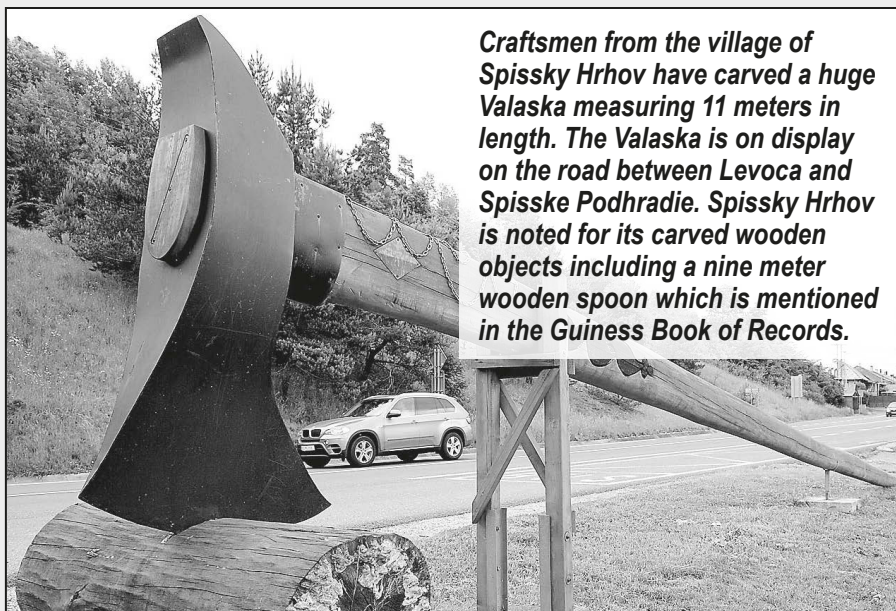
It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.

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.

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

V Spišskom Hrhove rezbári vyrobili obrovskú valašku



Craftsmen from the village of Spišsky Hrhov have carved a huge Valaska measuring 11 meters in length. The Valaska is on display on the road between Levoca and Spišske Podhradie. Spišsky Hrhov is noted for its carved wooden objects including a nine meter wooden spoon which is mentioned in the Guinness Book of Records.

FOTO TASR – František Iván

V dedinke na Spiši v Spišskom Hrhove vyrobili domáci rezbári obrovskú valašku dlhú cez 11 metrov. Táto dedina je plná ľudových drevených sôch a plastík, napríklad deväťmetrová drevená lyžica je zapísaná aj v Guinnessovej knihe rekordov. Na snímke obrovská valaška pri hlavnej ceste medzi Spišským Podhradím a Levočou.

Bratislavský biskup Peter Rusnak príde na slovenský festival v NJ

Výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v NY oznámil, že na tohoročnom festivale, ktorý sa bude konať v nedeľu 25. septembra, gréckokatolícku liturgiu o 11. hod. bude celebrowať biskup Peter Rusnak, eparch Bratislavskej eparchie. Spolucelebrantom bude biskup Passaickej gréckokatolíckej diecézy William Skurla.

S biskupom Rusnakom príde na festival aj 13-členný spevokol bohoslovcov z Gréckokatolíckeho seminára v Prešove. Bude spievať pri bohoslužbách a tiež vystúpi v kultúrnom programe, ktorý začne o 2. hodine popoludní. V programe vystúpia aj tri detské súbory a známa folklórna skupina PAS z Pittsburghu.

Ďalšími atrakciami na festivale bude prehliadka krojov, futbalový turnaj, zábavné hry pre deti a tanečná hudba pre dospelých. Festival sa začne o 10. hod. ráno. Vstup na festival je bezplatný.



Vláda SR obnovila Štefánikove štipendia pre štúdium na prestížnych univerzitách

Bratislava (TASR) - Vláda SR schválila 15. júna obnovenie štipendia M. R. Štefánika, ktoré fungovalo v rokoch 2006 až 2008. Štipendistom umožňovalo študovať na prestížnych univerzitách ako London School of Economics vo Veľkej Británii, Sciences Po vo Francúzsku, Harvard a Stanford Law School alebo Columbia University v USA. Jeho absolventi sa uplatnili vo verejnej správe na pozíciách vedúcich oddelení, šéfov odborov či poradcov ministra. Okrem rezortu financií ostatné ministerstvá nezabezpečili štipendistom pracovné pozície a preto bolo štipendium zrušené. Vláda schválila obnovenie programu s tým, že absolventi budú umiestňovaní do centrálného útvaru na Úrade vlády (ÚV) SR, vďaka čomu sa zabezpečí jeho stabilita a umožní sa efektívnejšie smerovať ich potenciál na prioritné problémy štátnej správy.

Štipendijný program z verejných zdrojov umožní každý rok na základe konkurzu približne piatim študentom prijatým na postgraduálne štúdium v oblasti verejnej správy, ekonómie, sociológie, práva a manažmentu absolvovať štúdium na niektorej z najlepších svetových univerzít v daných odboroch. Za predpokladu podpory uvedeného počtu študentov s ročným rozpočtom asi 50,000 eur a ročnom alebo dvojročnom štúdiu bude potrebných na pokrytie nákladov na štúdium v roku 2011 najviac 125,000 eur. V ďalších rokoch následne bude potrebná suma od 400,000 do 500,000 eur ročne.

Na zabezpečenie chodu analytického útvaru na ÚV SR sa počítá s jedným až tromi riadiacimi pracovníkmi v stájej štátnej službe, jedným asistentom alebo asistentkou vo verejnej službe a približne 15 absolventmi v dočasnej štátnej službe. Štipendium bude financované prostredníctvom rozpočtovej kapitoly Ministerstva školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu SR.

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

Výročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v NYC

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 30. októbra 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční Výročná členská schôdza vo farskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East, 66th Street v New York City.

Na schôdzi budú: podaná finančná správa, voľby úradníkov na rok 2012 a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdze zúčastnili. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Výročná členská schôdza Štefana Krasulú Spolok č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že Výročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasulú Spolok č. 16 sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 23. októbra 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia na fare Slovenského kostola Najsvätejšej Trojice v Yonkers, NY. Výročnej členskej schôdzi bude predchádzať slovenská svätá omša, pri príležitosti našej Okresnej výročnej schôdzi, ktorú odslúži slovenský kňaz o 11:30 hodine dopoludnia.

Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Na programe sú: podanie finančnej správy, prevedenie voľby úradníkov na rok 2012 a príprava plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripraví členovia spolku 41 Yonkers.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Národný výstup na Kriváň sprevádzala nepriazeň počasia

Starý Smokovec (TASR) – Asi 1500 ľudí si 13. augusta na vrchole Kriváňa v nadmorskej výške 2494 metrov pripomenulo 170. výročie vychádzky Ľudovíta Štúra a jeho družiny na tento tatranský štít. Tradičný národný výstup na Kriváň bol zároveň súčasťou osláv venovaných 90. výročiu založenia turistického časopisu Krásy Slovenska.

„Počasie nám veľmi neprialo, aj keď okolo 9.00 h bolo nádherné slnečno a z vrcholu Kriváňa bol nádherný výhľad. Potom sa však zatiahlo, spadla hmla, pršalo a dokonca padali ľadové krúpy,“ uviedol jeden z organizátorov podujatia Ján Kamien. Dodal však, že program národného výstupu bol dodržaný. „Zaspievali sme našu štátnu hymnu a na záver aj hymnickú pieseň Kto za pravdu horí. Odznala báseň od Jána Bubelíniho, aj slávnostné príhovory predsedu Klubu slovenských turistov Petra Perholu a primátora mesta Vysoké Tatry Jána Mokoša,“ doplnil Kamien.

Program podujatia ukončila táborová vatra v Račkovej doline. Výstupu na Kriváň sa zúčastnili aj turisti z Čiech, Poľska a Maďarska a hlavnými organizátormi okrem mesta Vysoké Tatry boli aj mesto Liptovský Mikuláš, obec Pribylina, Matica slovenská a Klub slovenských turistov,“ dodal Kamien. Národný výstup na Kriváň sa v tomto roku konal pod záštitou predsedníčky vlády SR Ivety Radičovej.

Právo na voľnú nedeľu žiadajú kresťania aj odbory v Európe

Ochrana voľnej nedele by sa mala stať súčasťou európskeho štandardu v oblasti pracovného práva. Zhodli sa na tom predstavitelia odborov, občianskych združení, kresťanských spoločenstiev a cirkví, ktorí v Bruseli založili Európsku Alianciu za nedeľu.

“V najbližších mesiacoch sa bude v Bruseli rozhodovať o revízii smernice o pracovnom čase. Voľná nedeľa je dôležitá nielen z pohľadu dôstojných pracovných podmienok, ale zároveň vytvára priestor pre budovanie rodinných vzťahov, predovšetkým medzi rodičmi a deťmi. Členmi Európskej Aliancie za nedeľu sú stovky organizácií z celej Európy. Takéto veľké spoločenstvo nie je možné prehliadať pri tvorbe zákonov,“ uviedla europoslankyňa Anna Záborská, ktorá patrí medzi zakladajúcich členov aliancie.

Za Slovensko sa oficiálneho založenia aliancie zúčastnili aj Stanislav Trnovec, predseda Klubu mnohodetných rodín, a Peter Novoveský, predseda občianskeho združenia Aliancia za nedeľu - Slovensko. Vzniku aliancie predchádzala Prvá európska konferencia na ochranu nedele bez práce, na ktorej sa v marci 2010 v Európskom parlamente v Bruseli stretlo viac než 550 účastníkov.

Podrobnejšie informácie o Európskej aliancii za nedeľu nájdete na internetovej stránke: www.europeansundayalliance.eu

Jubileum Šarišana v USA

V jeseni tohto roku uplynie 40 rokov od vzniku amerického folklórneho súboru Šarišan (Šarišan – Slovak folk ensemble), ktorý v roku 1971 založil v meste Detroit, Michigan bývalý občan Veľkého Šariša Milan Straka.

Milan Straka pred svojim odchodom do USA, do roku 1968 účinkoval ako spevák a tanečník v rovnomennom súbore pri vtedajšej Osvetovej besede vo Veľkom Šariši, ktorého zakladateľom bol Štefan Kucko. Poznáme, že súbor neskôr zmenil svoje sídlo a od roku 1970 ho má v Prešove.

Milan Straka hneď po príchode do USA začal medzi krajanmi organizovať založenie folklórneho súboru. Sústredil okolo seba nadšencov a obdivovateľov slovenského folklóru a ich spoločné úsilie skoro prinieslo svoje ovocie. Postupom času sa súbor vyprofiloval na teleso, ktoré svojimi hudobnými, speváckymi a tanečnými prejavmi dodnes úspešne propaguje slovenskú ľudovú kultúru, a to prostredníctvom piesní a tancov nielen zo Šariša, ale aj ostatných regiónov Slovenska.

Súbor má sídlo v Detroit. Počas svojej štyridsať ročnej existencie vystupoval na rôznych benefičných, charitatívnych a kultúrnych podujatiach i festivaloch v mnohých mestách v USA, Kanade, Anglicku, Taliansku a ostatnom svete. Pravidelne sa prezentuje medzi krajanmi, najmä na Festivale slovenského kultúrneho dedičstva v New Jersey a na Slovenských dňoch na Floride. Medzi jeho pamätné vystúpenia patrí účasť na medzinárodných folklórnych festivaloch na Univerzite Oakland a v meste Dearborn v štáte Michigan. Počas svojho pôsobenia súbor niekoľkokrát navštívil aj Slovensko, kde účinkoval na festivaloch, najmä na Podpolianskych folklórnych slávnostiach v Detve. Vo Veľkom Šariši sme súbor naposledy privítali 12. 7. 2006.

Súbor svoje programy nacvičuje v spoločenských priestoroch farnosti sv. Cyrila a sv. Metoda v Sterling Heights, Michigan, pod vedením jeho dlhoročného riaditeľa a choreografa Milana Straku. 40. výročie amerického súboru Šarišan je vlastne jubilejným výročím jeho zakladateľa Milana Straku. Jeho zásluhou sa súbor vyprofiloval na ľudovo-umelecké teleso, ktoré má vysoký kredit, rešpekt a uznanie medzi americkou verejnosťou a krajanmi. Preto do ďalších rokov želáme jemu a jeho súboru mnoho tvorivých síl a veľa umeleckých úspechov pri prezentovaní kultúrneho dedičstva Slovákov v USA a ostatnom svete.

JUDr. Stanislav Šárošy
splnomocnenec 34. zboru kráľa Svätopluka
Slovenskej ligy v Amerike na Slovensku



Letná škola slovenského jazyka a kultúry Studia Academica Slovaca (SAS) 2011

Bratislava (TASR) - Po slovensky chcú vedieť najmä Poliaci, Francúzi, Nemci, Maďari, Taliani a Ukrajinci. Z týchto krajín prejavilo záujem o letnú školu slovenského jazyka a kultúry Studia Academica Slovaca (SAS) 2011 najviac študentov.

Spolu sa do neho prihlásilo 160 študentov z 38 krajín sveta rôznych vekových kategórií. Najviac - 15 ich je z Poľska. Nasleduje Francúzsko s 13 študentmi a Nemecko s 12 frekventantmi. Po slovensky sa chcú učiť aj Maďari, ktorí sú s 11 účastníkmi na štvrtom mieste rebríčka záujmu o slovenčinu. Za nimi sú Taliani a Ukrajinci, ktorí na Slovensko vyslali po desať študentov. Do kurzu sa zapoja aj študenti z Cypru, Moldavska, Číny, Čile, Egypta, Gruzínska, Japonska, Peru, Taiwanu či z USA. Niektorí účastníci letnej školy so slovenčinou ešte len začínajú, iní sa v nej prišli do Bratislavy zdokonaľiť. Záujem o tento jazyk majú európski aj mimoeurópski študenti vysokých škôl, vedeckí a pedagogickí pracovníci, umelci, úradníci, manažéri a tiež tlmočníci Európskeho parlamentu. Najstarší študent má 57 rokov, najmladší 18.

Letnú školu, ktorej 47. ročník sa konal od 31. júla do 20. augusta, organizuje Filozofická fakulta Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave. Tento ročník sa podľa slov tajomníčky SAS Adely Gabrikovej realizuje na pozadí osláv 90. výročia vzniku tejto fakulty. "Súčasne v tomto roku vychádza jubilejný 40. zväzok zborníka prednášok letnej školy SAS," poznamenala. Kurz sa koná v Inštitúte pre verejnú správu v bratislavskej Dúbravke. "Organizátori pripravili atraktívny vzdelávací program doplnený bohatou ponukou kultúrnych podujatí a vlastivednou exkurziou po regiónoch Slovenska," informovala Gabriková.



Generálny konzul Slovenskej republiky J. Bytčan odovzdáva riaditeľovi súboru Šarišan, Milanovi Strakovi Ďakovný list slovenského veľvyslanca v USA za jeho dlhoročnú kultúrnu činnosť medzi krajanmi na americkom kontinente a súbor Šarišan z Detroitu Cenu ministra kultúry Slovenskej republiky za úspešné propagovanie slovenskej kultúry v zahraničí.



Spevácka a tanečná časť amerického súboru Šarišan.

Informácia pre krajanov

Vážení krajanovia, predstavitelia spolkov, organizácií, inštitúcií, médií a misií, dovoľujeme si upriamiť Vašu pozornosť na internetovú stránku Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí www.uszz.sk s viacerými aktualizacími informáciami.

Odporúčame Vám podrobne si naštudovať nové dotačné zmluvy, rovnako sú k dispozícii v sekcii Úrad aj nové kontakty na pracovníkov úradu.

S úctou

Mgr. Alena Pastorková, ved. odd. teritoriálnych informácií, Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, Radlinskeho 13, 817 80 Bratislava; Tel.: 00421 2 57 2005 26; Fax.: 00421 2 57 2005 55; e-mail: alena.pastorkova@uszz.gov.sk; <http://www.uszz.sk>

Na palube vesmírneho observatória pracuje slovenský prístroj

Košice (TASR) - Na palube vesmírneho observatória pracuje prístroj, ktorý skonštruovali vedci zo Slovenskej republiky. V rámci postupného oživovania palubných systémov vesmírneho observatória Spectrum-RadioAstron, ktoré 18. júla vypustili z kozmodrómu Bajkonur, bol 30. júla zapnutý aj spektrometer kozmických energetických častíc MEP-2 z košického Ústavu experimentálnej fyziky SAV. Podľa odborníkov prístroj spoľahlivo prijal prvé povel z riadiaceho centra a poslal na Zem prvé dáta.

„Prvé testy potvrdili bezchybnú funkčnosť elektronických obvodov, len jeden zo štyroch polovodičových senzorov energetických častíc vykazuje určité anomálie, pravdepodobne súvisiace s momentálnou orientáciou satelitu voči Slnku, ktorá nie je optimálna pre náš prístroj,“ informoval konštruktér spektrometra Ján Baláž.

Na palube observatória je košický spektrometer súčasťou vedeckého komplexu Plazma-F, ktorého úlohou je analýza slnečného vetra, kozmických energetických častíc a magnetického poľa na eliptickej orbite siahajúcej až 350.000 kilometrov od Zeme. „Zatiaľ čo rádioteleskop observatória sa zameria na vzdialené astronomické objekty až po hranice pozorovateľného vesmíru, vedecký komplex Plazma-F monitoruje fyzikálne podmienky v Slnečnej sústave, ktoré sa vzhľadom na ich výraznú variabilitu stále častejšie označujú termínom kozmické počasie,“ dodal Baláž.

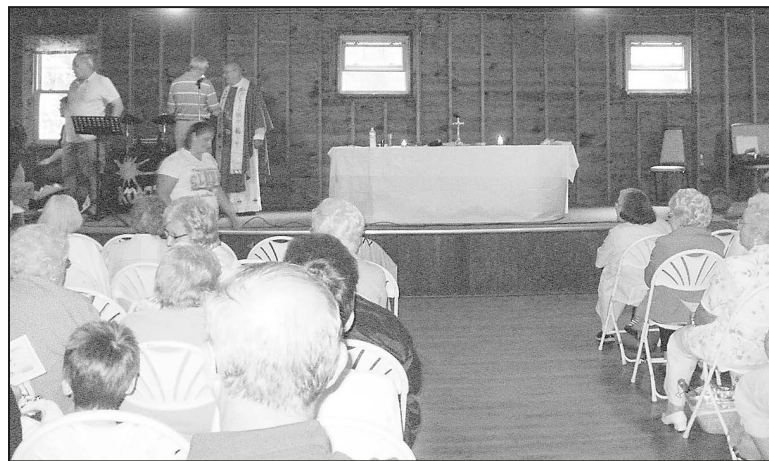
Analýzou prvých dát sa už zaoberá medzinárodný tím odborníkov zo Slovenska, Ruska a Grécka, ktorý vedie profesor Karel Kudela z Ústavu experimentálnej fyziky SAV.

„Prvé dáta z nášho spektrometra vyzerajú veľmi sľubne, snažíme sa ich analyzovať v širších súvislostiach aj s dostupnými dátami z iných satelitov na orbite. Prístroj je ďalším článkom dlhého reťazca automatických vedeckých aparátov, ktoré naše pracovisko vysiela do vesmíru už 34 rokov. Tieto vesmírne projekty sú už svojou podstatou vždy medzinárodné, v tomto prípade úzko spolupracujeme s Ústavom kozmických výskumov Ruskej akadémie vied a Demokritovou univerzitou v gréckom Xanthi,“ doplnil profesor Kudela, vedecký koordinátor projektu spektrometra MEP-2.



Jednotársky piknik 2011 vo Wiegand's Lake Park, Novelty Ohio

Pokračovanie zo str. 24



Na snímke posledné prípravy pred začatím svätej omše, ktorej hlavným celebrantom bol otec Alfred Marflak, z Opátstva sv. Andreja a Svorada v Clevelande, OH.

Na snímke sestry zo Slovenskej provincie Kongregácie Sestier Božského Vykupiteľa, toho času pôsobiace v americkej provincii - Sisters of the Divine Redeemer v Elizabeth, PA, sr. Michaela Ďungelová (v prostriedku) a sr. Patrika Doľacká (sprava) v spoločnosti členov IKSJ z Pensylvánie.



Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Univerzity** na Slovensku dostanú šancu budovať moderné vedecké a technologické parky. Peniaze na ne budú môcť získavať z fondov Európskej únie (EÚ). Počas zasadnutia Slovenskej rektorskej konferencie, ktorá sa konala v Nitre, o tom informoval Minister školstva SR Eugen Jurzyca.

• **Na Slovensku** bude unikátne miesto pre bohatých rodákov. Kým v Amerike lákajú dôchodcov na Floridu, na Slovensku má medzi seniormi zabodovať podtatranský Vážec. Práve tam sa rozhodla developerská spoločnosť Arent Development postaviť prvé seniorské mesto nielen na Slovensku, ale aj v strednej Európe. "Naším cieľom je osloviť aj početnú komunitu Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, ktorí by sa v dôchodkovom veku chceli vrátiť na Slovensko", uviedol projektový manažér spoločnosti Peter Horák. Projekt ráta do dvoch rokov s prvou výstavbou - celkovo by malo ísť o 500 rôznych bytov, domov, či apartmánov. Lákať má kompletným servisom a doplnkovými službami.

• **Už viac než 420** dvojmiestnych ultraľahkých lietadiel typu Dynamic WT9 vyrobili od roku 2001 v veľkej firme Aerospol spol. s r. o. v Prievidzi. Okrem toho ďalších 50 si ich doma poskladali technicky zdatní zákazníci z komponentov, ktoré v Prievidzi vyrobili. Výrazne tak prispievajú k rozvoju individuálnej leteckej dopravy. Dynamic patrí vo svojej triede medzi svetovú špičku, a to pre svoje výborné letové vlastnosti a spoľahlivosť. Najviac ich lieta v Nemecku a vo Francúzsku, uviedol hlavný konštruktér lietadla a spoločník vo firme Tadeáš Wala. Lietajú však na nich aj v ďalších krajinách Európy, v Austrálii, Novom Zélande, Iráne i v USA. Na Slovensku je ich približne 20, konštatoval Wala.

• **Do konca roku 2014** chce rezort dopravy uviesť do užívania 130.4 km diaľnic a rýchlostných ciest a ďalších 286.8 km chce začať do tohto obdobia stavať. Vyplýva to z Programu pokračovania prípravy výstavby diaľnic a rýchlostných ciest na roky 2011 - 2014, ktorý schválil vládny kabinet. Prioritou je diaľnica D1, cestné napojenie na Poľsko a Česko cez diaľnicu D3 a rýchlostnú cestu R5, nultý obchvat Bratislavy a s tým súvisiaca komunikácia R7, tiež cesty R2, R3 a R4. Financovanie výstavby chce ministerstvo zabezpečiť z viacerých zdrojov. V prvom rade pôjde o eurofondy, potom štátny rozpočet či využitie možnosti čerpať úvery od Európskej investičnej banky. Zdrojom majú byť aj diaľničné dlhopisy, o ktoré prejavili záujem dôchodkové správovské spoločnosti. Tradičným, dôležitým a stále rastúcim vplyvom budú mýtné príjmy, respektíve poplatky za diaľničné nálepky.

• **V rámci Programu cezhraničnej spolupráce** medzi Maďarskou a Slovenskou republikou pre obdobie 2007 - 2013 realizuje obec Kechnec v okrese Košice - okolie projekt Výstavba pohraničného mostu cez rieku Hornád medzi obcami Abaújvár a Kechnec. Cieľom tohto prepojenia je, aby sa región severného Maďarska a Kechneca mohol v oblasti hospodárskej a sociálnej integrácie zlepšovať. Spoločné slovensko-maďarské partnerstvo má priniesť obyvateľom oboch obcí lepšie podmienky na prechod cez hranice a tým aj skvalitnenie života a zníženie nezamestnanosti obyvateľov maďarských obcí. Projekt úvodných štúdií je financovaný z Európskeho fondu regionálneho rozvoja, štátneho rozpočtu SR a rozpočtu obcí.

• **Pripravované** zdraženie cestovného spôsobí tisíckam rodín odkázaných na železnicu najväčšie ekonomické problémy. Rodičia, ktorí každý deň s dvoma deťmi dochádzajú vlakom 34 kilometrov, si na konci leta na vlak zrejme priplatia až 35 eur za mesiac a po novom ich vyjde cestovanie železnicou takmer 160 eur mesačne. Vlaky by mali zdražieť od augusta či septembra. "Bohužiaľ, zvýšenie cien muselo prísť. Ani po zvýšení nedosiahnu trhovú úroveň, železničná doprava bude stratová", zhodnotil Peter Goliaš z Inštitútu pre sociálne a ekonomické reformy INEKO.

• **Každý štvrtý** Maďar žijúci na Slovensku uzatvára manželstvo so slovenským životným partnerom. Miera zmiešaných manželstiev sa počas uplynulých desiatich rokov výraznejšie nezmenila, vyplýva z výsledkov prieskumu štatistického úradu. Počas minulého roka podľa neho uzavreli na Slovensku dovedna 25,415 sobášov. Počet uzatvorených manželstiev v uplynulých rokoch kolísal, vlni bol najnižší od roku 2012. Postupne stúpa priemerný vek partnerov uzatvárajúcich svoje prvé manželstvo - u mužov je to 29.9 a u žien 27.3 roka. Dvadsaťpäť občanov SR maďarskej národnosti, ktorí uzavreli manželstvo v roku 2010, sa zosobášilo so slovenským partnerom. Počas uplynulého desaťročia sa teda počet zmiešaných manželstiev výraznejšie nezmenil. Zvlášť vysoký počet takýchto manželstiev je v bratislavskom okrese.

• **V priestoroch bývalej Strednej priemyselnej školy** chemickej v Bratislave na Račianskej ulici vznikne nová nemecko-slovenská škola. O v súčasnosti nevyužívanú bývalú priemyslovku, ktorá je v majetku Bratislavského samosprávneho kraja (BSK), prejavilo záujem veľvyslanectvo Spolkovej republiky Nemecko. Do päťpodlažnej budovy by chcelo umiestniť Spoločnú nemecko-slovenskú školu s organizačnými zložkami materská škola, základná škola a stredná škola s vyučovacím jazykom nemeckým, s kapacitou 600 detí. Táto požiadavka súvisí s rozširujúcou sa pracujúcou nemeckou komunitou na území Slovenska, pre potreby rodín manažérov spoločnosti Volkswagen Slovakia, ako aj Slovensko - nemeckej obchodnej a priemyselnej komory pôsobiacej na území SR. Možnosť vzdelávania na takomto type školy by bola otvorená aj pre deti a žiakov zo Slovenska.

• **Od polovice júla** môžu vodiči na Slovensku sledovať informácie o cestnej premávke pomocou funkcie Doprava na Mapách Google. Spoločnosť túto funkciu predstavila v roku 2008 a najnovšie je k dispozícii aj v 12 európskych krajinách, vrátane Slovenska. Vodiči tak môžu rýchlo zistiť aktuálne informácie o dopravnej situácii na diaľniciach, hlavných ťahoch, ako aj na ďalších vybraných cestách veľkých miest. Informácie o doprave sú aktualizované každých 5 - 10 minút. Nová verzia Máp Google 5.7 pre Android okrem iného umožňuje vyhľadať trasu s využitím mestskej hromadnej dopravy. Cestovatelia tak majú možnosť na svojom smartphone sledovať, kde sa v danej chvíli na trase nachádzajú a na ktorej zastávke majú vystúpiť. Funkcia Verejnej dopravy na Mapách Google je dostupná vo viac ako 400 mestách sveta.

• **Po Montreale, Chile** či Prahe zavítali najväčšie IQ kapacity do 21 rokov v rámci prestížnej medzinárodnej súťaže Expo Sciences International (ESI) 2011 aj do Bratislavy. Reprezentantov z 50 krajín Afriky, Ázie, Európy, Latinskej a Severnej Ameriky privítali na slávnostnom ceremonálii 13. ročníka v priestoroch Incheby. Zastúpenie medzi 629 účastníkmi má aj Slovenská republika, a to v podobe 19 projektov 29 mladých vedcov. Patrí medzi nich aj Slovák Marek Buchman s projektom na znižovanie diód v moderných televízoroch. Buchman, ktorý od októbra začína študovať na Univerzite v Oxforde už s projektom uspel na súťažiach v Spojených štátoch amerických či v Turecku.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Martikán slávnostne otvoril kondičnú dráhu na Štrbskom Plese

Štrbské Pleso (TASR) - Slovenský reprezentant vo vodnom slalome Michal Martikán začiatkom augusta na Štrbskom Plese slávnostne otvoril unikátnu kondičnú dráhu, ktorá sa nachádza v nadmorskej výške 1350 metrov. Počas prezentácie novej kyslíkovej dráhy s dĺžkou 2.2 kilometra si sám odskúšal šesť športových stanovišť, ktoré sú vyrobené z dreva.

Dráha je určená pre všetkých ľudí, nielen pre vrcholových športovcov. Okrem toho, že je najvyššie položenou dráhou na Slovensku, jej špecifikum spočíva i v tom, že popri nej sa nachádzajú ihličnany. Tie vypúšťajú éterické oleje, ktoré pozitívne pôsobia na človeka.

Martikán v Tatrách absolvoval krátky regeneračný pobyt, počas ktorého si vyskúšal i pádlovanie priamo na plese. "Každý deň som mal možnosť spolu s hotelovými hosťami pádlovať si po Štrbskom Plese. Denne to bolo dve a pol hodiny, čo je super k celkovej regenerácii a k oddychu od divokej vody. Je to samozrejme iné ako kľačať v mojom kanoe, ale je to veľký zážitok. Teší ma i to, že som zažil pekné počasie, perfektný výhľad a to je naozaj ako splnenie sna," zamyslel sa prvý olympijský víťaz v novodobej histórii Slovenska.

Rodák z Liptovského Mikuláša sa pripravuje na vrchol sezóny, ktorým sú MS v Čunove. V domácom prostredí chce zajazdiť čo najrýchlejšie a zabezpečiť si miestenku na OH v Londýne 2012. "Samozrejme, že vrcholom sezóny budú MS v Čunove. Budú to najdôležitejšie preteky, najkrajšie podujatie v slovenskom športe v tomto roku. Veľmi rád by som zajazdil čo najrýchlejšie a urobil tak veľmi dôležitý krok smerom k OH v Londýne," zaželal si dvojnásobný olympijský víťaz z Atlanty (1996) a Pekingu (2008).

Celkovo štvornásobný olympijský medailista a štvornásobný majster sveta však už má skúsenosti s londýnskou divokou vodou. Koncom júla totiž triumfoval v dejisku budúcoročných olympijských pretekov v Lee Valley White Water Centre. "Je skvelé, že sa mi podarilo práve na olympijskej trati zvíťaziť, ale aby som sa dostal na OH, tak musím zajazdiť čo najlepšie na domácich MS. Londýnska voda je veľmi náročná, je to obrovský rozdiel medzi Čunovom," uzavrel Martikán.



Medzinárodný kultúrny festival Dni Majstra Pavla v Levoči

Levoča (TASR) - V rámci Medzinárodného kultúrneho festivalu Dni Majstra Pavla sa uskutočnil v Levoči veľký počet kultúrno-spoločenských podujatí. Vedúci oddelenia cestového ruchu a rozvoja mesta v Levoči Ivan Dunčo informoval, že 11. ročník festivalu sa niesol v duchu zachovania kultúrno-historických tradícií a umeleckého odkazu Majstra Pavla z Levoče ako integrálnej súčasť zachovania vlastnej identity a kultúry.

Tiež bol pripravený Plenár Majstra Pavla, v rámci ktorého bola prezentácia mladých maliarov, rezbárov a fotografov z krajín V4. Slávnostná vernisáž bola v kaviarni Mestského divadla v piatok 12. augusta. V evanjelickom kostole v Levoči bola pripravená výstava obrazov Mikuláša Klimčáka. Ďalšia výstava - fotografická bola inštalovaná v exteriéroch parku na Námestí Majstra Pavla.

Na programe boli aj podujatia Tajomná Levoča (11. až 13. augusta), v rámci ktorého mesto odprezentovalo kultúrne telesá na Námestí Majstra Pavla, v Mestskom divadle i v jednotlivých kostoloch. Na víkend (12. a 13. augusta) bol pripravený aj Karpatský remeselný trh, na ktorom sa predstavili remeselníci a majstri tradičných ľudovomeleckých výrobkov z Poľska, Slovenska i Česka.

Levoča organizovala už 11. ročník tohto tradičného festivalu, ktorý sa počas svojej existencie stal značkou kvality a v značnej miere prispieva k zviditeľneniu mesta doma i vo svete. Mesto Levoča je vďaka svojim kultúrnym a historickým pamiatkam zapísané do Zoznamu svetového kultúrneho dedičstva UNESCO.

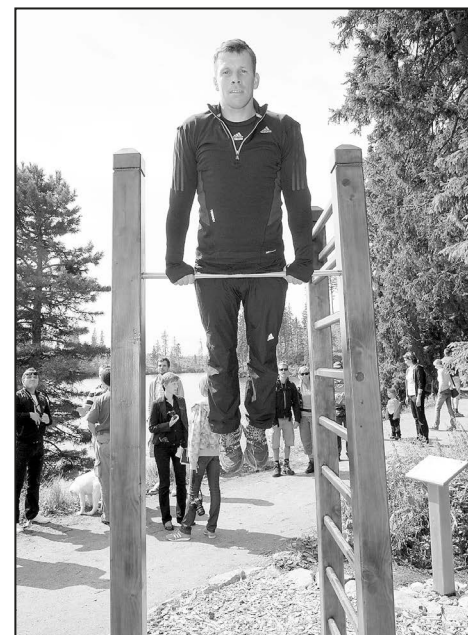


FOTO TASR - Milan Kapusta

Na snímke vodný slalomár Michal Martikán cvičí na jednom zo stanovišť kyslíkovej kondičnej dráhy.

Four-time Olympic medalist Michael Martikan trains in the new fitness center opened August 4, 2011, in the High Tatra resort of Strbske Pleso.





Na Svetové dni mládeže v Madride 2,500 Slovákov



FOTO TASR/AP

Na snímke pútnici na námestí Cibeles v Madride 16. augusta 2011, pred návštevou pápeža Benedikta XVI. V španielskej metropole Madrid sa konali 26. Svetové dni mládeže (SDM) na tému „Zakorenení a postavení na Ježišovi Kristovi, upevnení vo viere“ (porov. Kol 2,7).

AP Photo/Arturo Rodriguez

Pilgrims are seen in Cibeles Square, Madrid, Tuesday Aug. 16, 2011, before a mass ahead of the visit of Pope Benedict XVI from Aug. 18 to Aug. 21.

Bratislava (TASR) – Tradičné najväčšie katolícke stretnutie mladých ľudí - Svetové dni mládeže (SDM) sa uskutočnili v tomto roku v španielskom Madride od 16. do 21. augusta. Očakávala sa na nich účasť asi dvoch miliónov mladých ľudí z vyše 170 krajín.

“Z celého Slovenska sa prihlásilo asi 2,500 účastníkov. Šli s nimi aj dvaja biskupi Tomáš Galis a Peter Rusnák, ktorí viedli katechézy počas prvých troch dní,” povedal na tlačovej konferencii vedúci 15-členného organizačného tímu Andrej Darmo. Podľa neho je to najvýznamnejšie podujatie veriacich, na ktoré pápež raz za dva až tri roky zvoláva mládež, vždy do inej metropoly a na iný kontinent. Cieľom stretnutia je dialóg o budúcnosti, hľadani zmyslu života a hodnôt, multikultúrna výmena, priateľstvo a rúcanie bariér. Účasti na SDM predbiehala príprava mladých v domácich diecézach.

Slovenskí pútnici pred SDM strávili niekoľko dní v 40 španielskych diecézach so samostatným programom. Po presune do Madridu bolo vytvorené slovenské centrum, každý dostal účastnícky balíček. V ňom okrem slovenského trička a čiapky boli rôzne užitočné informácie aj pútnický pas na bezplatné cestovanie MHD či vstup do múzeí a na rôzne podujatia. V informačnom bulletine boli aj základné španielske frázy, číslovky aj s výslovnosťou tejto krajiny i dôležité telefónne čísla.

Podujatia SDM prebiehali v rôznych častiach Madridu s množstvom aktivít, ktoré umožnili mladým ľuďom z rôznych krajín, aby sa podelili o svoje umelecké, náboženské a duchovné skúsenosti viery a života. Program festivalu sa oficiálne začal otváracou svätou omšou 16. augusta vo večerných hodinách na námestí Plaza de Cibeles. Úvodné tzv. trojdnie (16.-18.8.) bolo pripravou k vigílii a svätej omši s pápežom. V popoludňajších a večerných hodinách sa uskutočnil Festival mládeže. Jeho kultúrny program zahŕňal koncerty, výstavy, prehliadky múzeí, návštevu divadiel a iných podujatí. Vyvrcholením SDM bola na letisku vigília so Svätým otcom v sobotu večer (20.8.) a pápežská svätá omša v nasledujúcu nedeľu ráno.



TK KBS/ Peter Zimen

Pútnici zo Slovenska vo Valencii.



Relikviár bl. Jána Pavla II. na Svetových dňoch mládeže v Madride, 2011.

Prezident SR I. Gašparovič jedným zo zakladajúcich členov MS

Bratislava (TASR) - Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič sa zrejme stane jedným zo zakladajúcich členov Matice slovenskej (MS). Po rokovaní s hlavou štátu to nedávno povedal predseda MS Marián Tkáč. “Prezident ako starý člen MS (od roku 1959) mal pocit, že o neho doteraz Matica nemala záujem. To sa zrejme zmení. Prijmeme nové stanovky a chceme zaviesť typ zakladajúceho člena, ktorým zrejme bude aj pán Gašparovič, no aj ďalší, ktorí o to prejavujú záujem,” avizoval Tkáč.

Hlavu štátu, s ktorou sa Tkáč stretol od svojho nástupu do funkcie oficiálne po prvý raz, priznal, že Maticu prevzal v dosť zlom stave. “Stratili sme meno, členov, majetok,” vyhlásil. Cesta obnovy mena inštitúcie má podľa Tkáča viesť aj cez médiá. “Chceme, aby Slovenské národné noviny boli týždenníkom mienkotvornej orientácie, lebo taký týždenník dnes na Slovensku chýba. Chceme aj pracovať s internetom, pripravil som tiež zmluvu o spolupráci s verejnoprávnu RTVS, zatiaľ ešte bez odozvy,” informoval Tkáč. MS má v pláne aj organizovanie súťaže pre budúcich pedagógov, prípravu športových turnajov o cenu predsedu Matice slovenskej, ako aj obnovu Maticného pohára. “Chceme odovzdávať cenu najlepšiemu mladému brankárovi v hokeji a vo futbale. Vyvrcholením celoročných aktivít MS by mal byť v Komárne Matica Fest,” dodal Tkáč.

Gašparovič cez svojho hovorcu Mareka Trubača označil MS z historického pohľadu za veľmi významný subjekt pre Slovákov a slovenský národ. Podľa neho novodobú činnosť Matice za posledných 20 rokov sprevádzali aj problémy s presadzovaním jej ideí. “MS síce deklarovala svoju činnosť, no viac to ostalo vo verbálnej rovine ako pri konkrétnej činnosti,” upozornila hlava štátu. Prezident SR považuje za potrebné pracovať najmä s mladými ľuďmi, aby súčasná mládež pochopila význam zdravého národného ctenia a vlastenectva a vedela ho odlišiť od iných prejavov intolerancie a nacionalizmu. Gašparovič si tiež vie predstaviť viac podpory zo strany MS krajanom žijúcim v zahraničí, ktorí veľakrát nepotrebujú len materiálnu, ale aj ľudskú podporu na ich podujatiach.

Jednotársky piknik 2011 vo Wiegand's Lake Park, Novelty Ohio

Ani nepriaznivé upršané počasie neodradilo vyše 400 členov IKSJ a návštevníkov zo Slovenska, aby sa zišli z rôznych kútov Spojených štátov na Jednotárskom pikniku v nedeľu, 14. augusta 2011 vo Wiegand's Lake Park, Novelty, Ohio, ktoré už ako tradične usporiadala Prvá Katolícka Slovenská Jednota, Independence, Ohio. Organizátori pripravili pre návštevníkov širokú možnosť zábavy, počnúc vystúpením folklórnych súborov a hudobných skupín, ktoré hrali do tanca i spevu, ako aj prípravou rôznych aktivít pre deti a dospelých. V krásnej prírode parku, keď to počasie dovolilo, mali možnosť prechádzky a člňokovania. Nechýbalo ani dobre pripravené jedlo a občerstvenie, ktoré bolo k dispozícii pre účastníkov počas celého dňa. Tohtoročný Jednotársky piknik sa jednoznačne niesol v príjemnej nálade k spokojnosti každého účastníka.



V príjemnom rozhovore so sestrami Slovenskej provincie Kongregácie Sestier Božského Vykupiteľa zľava: zamestnankyňa hlavného úradu Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Adriana Scally; jej otec František Anderko; matka Milka so sestrou Máriou Cvicela, ktoré sú členkyne speváckeho súboru Slovenské Mamičky v Cleveland, OH.