

Jednota

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Number 5762

Spitkovsky District Participates at Wisconsin Slovak-American Day



FCSU National President Andrew Rajec, Regional Director Rudy Glogovsky, and Branch 89 member Bob Budjac.

The Federated Slovak Societies of Wisconsin held their annual picnic on Sunday, July 22, 2007, at Croatian Park in Franklin, Wisconsin. The park opened at 11:00 a.m. Hot food, baked goods and refreshments were available for purchase.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in Slovak at 12:00 noon by Rev. Louis Luljak. At 2:00 p.m. Master of Ceremonies Louis Dodulik introduced the Slovak Catholic Sokol Drill Team, which entertained the audience. The Tatra Slovak Dance Troup of Milwaukee followed the Sokols. The Gadzove Slovak American Band provided music for the rest of the afternoon.

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District sponsored a table at the festival, which

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Joseph J. Krajsa, Was FCSU Regional Director and Estates Manager

Joseph J. Krajsa, 59, of Lower Swatara Township, passed away at home Thursday evening, August 23, surrounded by his loving family after a courageous battle against cancer.

He was born September 8, 1947, in Allentown, PA, son of Romanza Fairman Krajsa and the late Joseph C. Krajsa.

In 2001, he retired as general manager of the former Jednota Press in Lower Swatara

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Joseph J. Krajsa

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From the Office of the Vice President

LOOK

What the Membership and Marketing is Doing for All their 2007 Seminars!

For every three (3) new JEP Contracts... or one (1) Ten Year Term Policy... or... any new Whole Life Policy with a face value of at least \$10,000 you bring to the seminar in your area, you will receive a Modra Dish made in Slovakia. There is no limit on the number of dishes you can receive. The following seminars are being finalized:

- October 7, 2007 Brookfield, Wisconsin
- October 14, 2007 Carteret, New Jersey
- October 28, 2007 Youngstown, Ohio

Additional information will be forthcoming and more seminars are being scheduled.

As I have said repeatedly... the committee would like to see a larger turnout from members interested in learning more about our insurance and annuity products. In order to actively promote our portfolio, we must educate ourselves by attending seminars. The more we know about our products, the more confident and the more effective we'll become as proposers.

Please form a car pool and attend the seminars that will be scheduled in your area.

Until next time,
Good Luck and God Bless!

Andrew R. Harcar Sr., National Vice President and Chairman, Membership and Marketing Committee

Message from the President:

I took the time to look at some of the old issues of the Jednota from 1964 – 1965.

The format was different at that time and the print somewhat hard to read. The main difference was the amount of articles in Slovak on the front page and throughout the paper. The activity of the Branches was greater. Father Andrew Pier was a featured columnist and the overall tone was more Slovak nationalistic.

However, even then most of the articles and pictures were of middle-age and older men. There was not a lot of interest for our younger members. We will try to make a few changes to reach more of our members, especially our younger members.

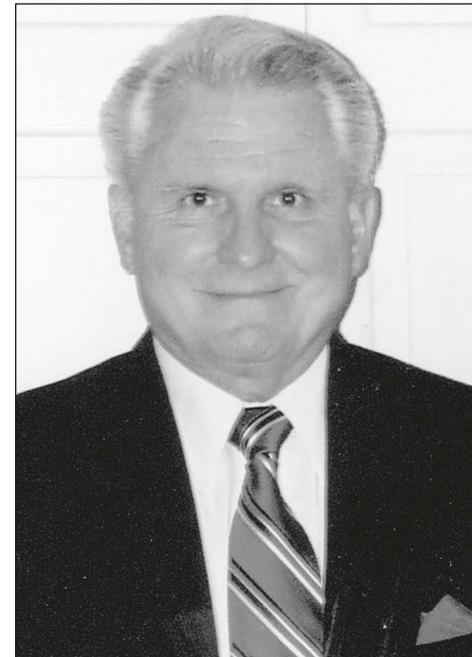
In the July 21, 1965 Jednota issue the following article appeared, written by the then Editor Joseph C. Krajsa. 42 years later this message still applies.

July 21, 1965

All – Out campaign

“Inevitable is the gradual disintegration of nationalistic unities among the various ethnic groups, especially in language usage, that have held them together so far in their adopted country, America.

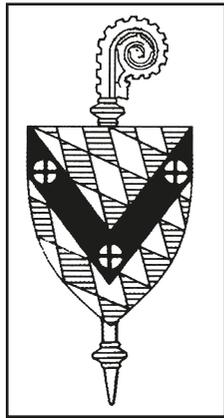
This process is hastened by the intermarriage with different nationalities, moving to different neighborhoods, and perhaps most of all, by indifference on the part of the new generations to the family relationships and historic traditions of their elders.



Andrew M. Rajec

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Insights and Viewpoints



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

September 30, 2007
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 16:19-31

Gospel Summary

Today's gospel passage contains Jesus' story about a rich man who dined sumptuously each day and Lazarus, a poor man, who would gladly have eaten the scraps from the rich man's table. When the poor man died, angels carried him to the bosom of Abraham.

When the rich man died, he found himself in the netherworld of torment. He was, however, able to see Abraham with Lazarus in a place of honor at his side. The rich man asked Abraham to send Lazarus so that he might give him a drop of water to relieve his suffering. Abraham replied that this was no longer a possibility.

The rich man then asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his five brothers so that he might warn them, lest they suffer the same torment that had befallen him. Abraham replied; "They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them." The rich man said that his brothers would repent if someone from the dead warned them. Abraham responded that if they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, they would not be persuaded even if someone should rise from the dead.

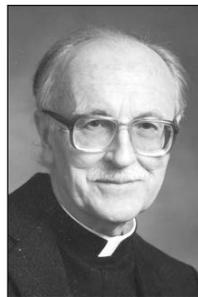
Life Implications

One of the striking things about parables is that they often overturn conventional ways of thinking. If we are able to hear them with grace, they can shock us out of the illusions that we are accustomed to live by, and enable us to see things with God's eyes. In regard to the scene of today's gospel, our way of looking at things is not much different from the way people of Jesus' culture looked at things. If we see a rich man and a poor man, our envy would be in the direction of the rich man. Further, we would have the feeling, perhaps unspoken, that the poor man's miserable condition was probably a consequence of his own laziness or irresponsible action. Yet, in this story the rich man is surely not the one to be envied. What's going on here?

At the end of the story, we feel bad that Lazarus is not able to warn the rich man's five brothers. But the parable tricks us. We, all of us, are the five brothers or the five sisters. And it is the rich man, himself, who is able to warn us. It isn't difficult to imagine the sort of things he wants to say.

This will be the rich man speaking. There is finality to life and to life's choices. Don't be in the illusion of imagining the end of your life to be something like the end of the cosmos--far in the distant future. God may say to you: "You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you." The choices you are making now have everlasting consequences. You, as I once did, have the power to establish a chasm between yourself and the Lazarus lying at your door. After you die, that chasm is forever fixed; and you will no longer be able to cross it.

I want to warn you especially about riches, riches of all kinds--of money, intelligence, health, power, social or religious status. Though all good in themselves, these riches can lead you to forget about God and everyone else except yourself. That's what happened to me. And most people, including myself, thought I was a big success in life. Remember that God identifies with every Lazarus of the world--the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the unborn, even criminals in prison. One of them is lying at your door. If you establish a chasm between



*Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.*

Lazarus and yourself, you are establishing a chasm between yourself and God.

That ends the rich man's warning to us. But after all, the rich man is only a fictional character in a story Jesus made up for simple folk of a pre-scientific age. Does it any longer have meaning for us? To decide that question will be the most important decision we will ever make. Do I trust that Jesus is alive and present among us to tell me how God sees things, or do I listen to other, much louder voices that promise me more money, more knowledge, more health, more power, higher social or religious status? This homily, like most others, must end with a prayer: Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief. You have the words of everlasting life.



October 7, 2007 (Year C)

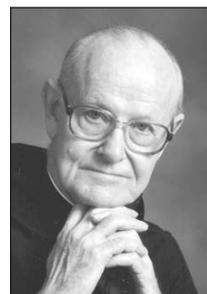
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 17:5-10

Gospel Summary

Luke is still leading us toward Jerusalem, the place where we finally turn everything over to God. In the verses that precede today's gospel passage, Jesus has challenged his disciples to forgive offenders as many as seven times each day. This seems almost impossible and so the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith, i.e. to give them the courage and the strength needed to live according to such high ideals.

Jesus agrees that their faith must grow and, when he says that real faith could cause a mulberry tree to be transplanted into the sea, he is using a metaphor to tell them how radically their lives would change if they would only allow him to fill them with his own vision of life.



*Demetrius R. Dumm,
O.S.B.*

Moving a mulberry tree is nothing compared to the radical transformation of the landscape of their lives that would come from living faith.

The story that follows about a servant who should not expect special recognition just because he has done his duty illustrates in a very graphic manner some consequences that flow from this radically new faith vision that should be characteristic of our daily lives.

Life Implications

It is a little disconcerting to hear Jesus telling the servants who have done their duty that they are to consider themselves "unprofitable." Most translations falter here. The Greek original suggests simply that these servants should not expect anything further, i.e. that they should not be looking for special attention or approval. In context, this means that their faith is deficient. If they had real faith, they would be so confident and joyful that they would not need to be looking constantly for approval and reassurance of their worth. Their confidence would come from the love of God that they experience to the extent that they no longer need to be stroked or coddled as if job-approval was all that mattered in life.

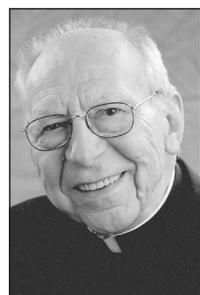
This does not mean that one should be careless about the quality of one's work, but it does mean that the only ultimately satisfying approval comes from the sure experience of God's loving presence.

There is a lesson here also for those who are especially needy, such as the sick or disabled. They certainly deserve our personal, loving attention and care, but they too, like the "unprofitable servants," can sometimes be more demanding and ungrateful than their condition warrants.

St. Benedict, who was a wise observer of human foibles, offers sound advice in this regard: "Let the sick... bear in mind that they are served out of honor for God, and let them not by their excessive demands distress their brothers who serve them." The key is to be in touch with God and then it will not be necessary to play the victim, whether one is an "unappreciated" servant or an unhappy patient.

Caregivers are often required to have almost heroic patience in their generous service to others. It may help to realize that unhappy patients are probably more angry with God than with them. These patients are still struggling to accept what has happened to them and we probably should not take their unhappiness too personally. After all, it takes time to realize that God's love is sometimes expressed in ways we do not understand.

Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

"I Don't Want to Live Anymore"

During a pastoral visit in a nursing home, the patient, an elderly widow, said to me, "I don't want to live anymore."

Given the circumstances of her personal life, I could understand what she said. She had only one son who lived in another state; she had lost her mobility for the most part and her range of motion was limited. She could no longer live independently in her own home. Many of her friends had already gone to eternal life and she was lonely.

My thoughts immediately went to the passage in the Bible where Our lord Jesus Christ said from the cross: "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?", that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

Mark also quotes this passage in 15:34. Both Matthew and Mark write that Jesus said this in a loud tone/voice. Mark writes that Jesus was crucified "about nine in the morning," (15:25) and Matthew writes, "From noon onward, there was darkness over the whole land until mid-afternoon." (27:45) This places Jesus nailed to the cross for six hours.

Jesus here is quoting the first verse of Psalm 22 and these words reflect his feelings of dereliction, of abandonment, but not of despair and this is an important distinction. Abandonment means that one is alone, without support, without a friend to give comfort. Despair is to be without hope, without expectation, without faith.

Reading further into Psalm 22, hope, expectation and faith remain. Verse 12: "Be not far from me, for I am in distress; be near, for I have no one to help me." Verse 23: "I will

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As I See It Rudolph L. Gregus



Rudolph L. Gregus

Hitting it Big

It seems to be commonly accepted nowadays that everyone wants to win the lottery, hit the slots big at the casino, or be a millionaire. This attitude is akin to what the first hearers of the parable of the successful farmer would have thought: Why, of course he'd want to find a way to preserve his good fortune for the future, to secure for himself a life of leisure, eating, drinking, and merriment. It's exactly the kind of life that the right ticket, hand of cards, or quiz show answer might bring us today. Being surrounded by this "common wisdom" makes the words of Paul and Jesus all that much harder to hear today. Perhaps good fortune will be ours, perhaps it will not be. But if we make that fortune or the quest

for it the heart, the very center of our lives, then we will live to regret it. We will not achieve the future security we pursue, and we will lose the present moment in the chase.

Humility

Have you ever been in a group of people on a tour, at a social gathering or at church and discovered that you have just been talking with a well-known author, corporate CEO, great scholar, or politician? Your first thought is the hope that you did not say anything to embarrass yourself, but your second thought is how much they seemed like such "regular" folks. What is it that makes people seem so "regular"? The importance of humility is a clue. It is so hard for us not to tell the first person who will listen how busy we are, how hard we work, how much money we donate and how important our job titles are. We think these accolades make a difference to people, and if we do not tell them, how will they know? But if our actions demonstrate our values, people will recognize our worth on their own. The words of Jesus show us how much better it is to let someone else recognize our worth than to be embarrassed because someone did not.

Nation Divided

Bishop's Labor Day Statement Focused on Immigration
Here are some extracts from the discussion

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, chairman of the bishops' domestic committee said this on the "failed immigration debate" in Congress to change U.S. immigration policy: "This vital national immigration discussion polarized our people. We are a society more divided, a people more confused and a nation unable to move forward on one of the most serious and complicated issues we face as a nation."

"This debate brought out some of the worst in us. Now we need to draw on the best in us if we are ever going to move forward as a whole, healthy society and nation," the bishop said, calling for "reality, civility, morality and consistency" as starting points for a new discussion on immigration.

And he added: "The immigration status quo is unacceptable and unsustainable. The system is broken. We need far-reaching and comprehensive reform. There is no fence long enough or high enough that can wall out the human and economic forces that drive immigration. Immigration reform cannot start or stop at our borders. U.S. policy must help overcome the pervasive poverty and deprivation, the violence and oppression that push people to leave their lands. Policies on debt and development, foreign aid and global trade are essential elements of any effective immigration reform."

From the Office of the Vice President

The Membership and Marketing Committee of "FCSU Life" is offering agent contracts to anyone in the following states who has a "state department of insurance producer's license" (state license) and wishes to sell our insurance and annuity products.

Colorado
Connecticut
Florida
Illinois
Indiana

Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
New Jersey

New York
Ohio
Pennsylvania
West Virginia
Wisconsin

Please send your resume and copy of your state license to:

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National Vice President
First Catholic Slovak Union
6611 Rockside Road
Independence, OH 44131

Reflections on Our Christianity

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proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you." Verses 25-27: "For he has not spurned nor disdained the wretched man in his misery, nor did he turn his face away from him, but when he cried out to him, he heard him. So by your gift will I utter praise in the vast assembly; I will fulfill my vows before those who fear him. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the Lord shall praise him." And this last line of verse 27: "May your hearts be ever merry!" What a contrast from verse 2 of Psalm 22!

"May your hearts be ever merry!" Don't ever quit living while you are still alive!

Recall these words from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians: "No test has been sent you that does not come to all men. Besides, God keeps his promise. He will not let you be tested beyond your strength. Along with the test he will give you a way out of it so that you may be able to endure it." (10:13)

Remember this passage from Matthew 21:21-22: "Jesus said: Believe me, if you trust and do not falter, not only will you do what I did to the fig tree, but if you say to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea' even that will happen. You will receive all that you pray for, provided you have faith." "Believe me," says Jesus!

Be careful not to implode, burst inward, isolating yourself from everyone and everything around you. This will eventually lead you to believe that you are not only abandoned but without hope and that is despair. Paul writes in his Second Letter to the Corinthians, "We are afflicted in every way possible, but we are not crushed; full of doubts, we never despair. We are persecuted but never abandoned; we are struck down but never destroyed." (4:8-9)

"May your hearts be ever merry!" Always be on the alert to bring a smile to those whom you meet as care-givers, whom you pass in the doorway, who wait your table in the restaurant. Be appreciative of all kindnesses you have received, no matter how small. In these ways, you will give evidence of your faith in Jesus Christ Our Lord and bring joy to the hearts of those around you, who, you'll never know, just needed to be appreciated at the very moment you appeared in their lives.

No matter the weight of your cross, be mindful that you are not the only person who is burdened. Your courage may very well inspire someone else to shift the burden of their cross and go on with fortitude after your example.

You carry not any cross in vain. You do this for your love of Jesus Christ and in imitation of him. "If a man wishes to come after me," Jesus says, 'he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and begin to follow in my footsteps.' (Matthew 16:24) Why? "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it so much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love him." (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Zamagurie Region DNA Project

Karen Melis of Butler, Pennsylvania, has launched a unique genealogical project for the Zamagurie region of Eastern Slovakia and villages along the Polish border. She has begun a geographic DNA project to connect individuals who believe that their ancestors came from this specific region. It is limited to those who can demonstrate an ancestral link to these villages.

By providing a 2-4 generation pedigree chart, a project member's information will be cross checked against the private database of documented surnames and pedigrees. This can be very useful to confirm or add to one's genealogy research with the potential of linking to others researching common surnames. DNA samples will be collected for surnames specifically linked to the Zamagurie Region with the goal of identifying potential matches for project members. Establishing a DNA database to correlate with the data will enable a family historian to learn more about ancestral roots and family connections using the newest scientific techniques.

Several types of tests are offered. In general, individuals wishing to study their direct paternal line (father's father, etc) will order a Y-DNA test kit. To study one's direct maternal line (mother's mother, etc.) an individual will order another kit. Either test is performed by rubbing two cotton samples on the inside of the cheek for one minute and returning to a lab for analysis. No blood sample is required.

Family Tree DNA was selected for the commercial testing and analysis. They are the largest commercial site for genealogy DNA testing. The simplest test can run from \$99 to \$129 per test.

For more details, contact Karen Melis. 7007 Forrest Trail Road, Butler, PA 16002.. Information about the background, goals, news and results may be found on the project's website: www.familytreedna.com/public/ZamagurieRegionalDNAProject..

St. Agnes-St. John Nepomucene Church Plans Centennial Celebration

St. Agnes-St. John Nepomucene Slovak Catholic Church invites all to participate in the celebration of its centennial on Sunday, November 4, 2007 at the church, 319 Brown Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. by His Eminence Justin Cardinal Rigali. A reception will follow at the Sheet Metal Workers Hall on Columbus Boulevard. For further information and to inquire regarding tickets, please call the Rectory at 215/627-0340.

Spitkovsky District Participates at Wisconsin Slovak-American Day

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featured homemade Slovak rozek (kolach) for sale. Members distributed complimentary copies of the Jednota newspaper and displayed information on FCSU Life insurance and annuity products.

Robert Tapak Magruder



Angeline Pence



Father Jeffrey Small and Msgr. Peter Bolerasky, retired pastor of St. Stephen Slovak parish in Streator, IL.



L-R Pete Turner, Slovak activist George J.E. Michuda, Wayne Duncan, Don Cummings, and Val Vesely.



L-R: National President Andrew Rajec, Joe Baranek, Robert Tapak Magruder, and Regional Director Rudy Glogovsky.



District 2 Sergeant At Arms Mark Davis places rolls into a plastic bag for a customer.



The District 2 volunteers.

Slovak Broadcasts on the Internet

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

When at my computer, I always listen to Slovak radio. Yes, one can listen to Slovak radio programs via the internet.

Whether one knows Slovak or not, it is an interesting experience, and here I will list some of the main websites which provide access to radio in Slovakia. One needs either Window Media or Realplayer to use these sites.

First, if one knows only English, there is Slovak Radio International. One may listen to a summary broadcast of news and cultural events from Slovakia, and there are text documents that one may read too. Besides English, one can also listen in Slovak or in several other major languages. Here is the website for SRI: <http://www.slovakradio.sk/inetportal/rsi/core.php/lang=2>

Another site with several radio channels is Slovenský rozhlas, which best translates as the "Slovak Broadcasting Network." Slovenský rozhlas hosts a number of radio channels, including its main one in Bratislava. Here are the links.

The main home website for Slovenský rozhlas has printed resources in Slovak, and one needs to click on "Živý vysielanie" (Live broadcast) in order to listen. <http://www.rozhlas.sk/inetportal/2007/index.php/lang=1&stationID=0&page=livestream>

If one wishes to listen to an archive of recorded broadcasts of news, culture and other subjects, one clicks on Zvukový archív (Sound Archive). <http://www.rozhlas.sk/inetportal/2007/index.php/lang=1&stationID=0&page=archiv&act=listPType&view=archiv&type=station&stationID=>

One will also notice that there are regional radio channels as well as the main link for Slovenský rozhlas. For instance, Radio Regina has stations in Bratislava, Košice and Banská Bystrica. I myself prefer Radio Regina in Banská Bystrica, for it has a folk radio program every weekday at 11 am (EST), and at 10:30 pm (EST).

For those with a classical bent, there is Radio Devín.

If one prefers Slovak religious programming, including daily Holy Mass at 12 noon (EST), one can try Radio Lumen (Radio Light – from Latin). Again, in order to listen, one needs to click on "Živý vysielanie" (Live broadcast), and then click on Windows Media player or MP3.

If one wishes to listen to any archived broadcasts, including Mass from previous days, one merely clicks on Archív relácií. One can download these too, and listen at one's convenience to Masses from months ago. I usually download Christmas and Easter Masses, since I love the Slovak hymns.

There is also daily rosary in Slovak around 1:30 in the afternoon (EDT).

For those interested in Slovak folk music, the archive of Radio Lumen has Fajarocka moja (My Fajara), which is broadcast every Sunday and usually put on the archive the next day. Here I also get information on Slovak customs for some of my columns in Jednota.

Finally, there is one sight which includes a broad array of many Slovak radio channels, and that is Mike's Radio World. The site's name does not sound Slovak, but it lists sites from around the world. Here is the link for Slovak radio channels. <http://www.listenlive.eu/slovakia.html>

For those wishing to hear modern popular Slovak music, I would recommend Radio Hej (Yes Radio), which broadcasts only Slovak and occasionally some Czech songs. The station's motto is "music you can understand," meaning for Slovak speaking listeners.

There are a host of other channels on the site, but many of them play many English language songs, so I tend to shy away from those. But there is something for everyone.

For those wishing to watch TV from Slovakia, Markiza has a website for broadcasts and an archive of news and other programs.

<http://www.markiza.sk/>

And most recently, I found that one can watch Slovak flicks and Slovak videos with music at YouTube. For instance, I like the music of Zuzana Smatanova, and here is a link to one of her popular songs, "Pocestny" (The Wayfarer).

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxD3SDQ1EV8&mode=related&search=>

If while listening to radio from Slovakia or YouTube, one wishes to look a word in Slovak that one is not familiar with, there is a free Slovak-English and English-Slovak dictionary which Comenius University in Bratislava hosts online: <http://ii.fmph.uniba.sk/ui/dict.html>

Occasionally, the website does not work, but it usually is quite reliable and has many Slovak words, although I still use my hard copy dictionary for some complicated and rarely used words, or words in dialect.

And let us not forget that our own Jednota newspaper now is online and is archived four issues back. One may read the most recent issue before it comes by mail too. It is available to read at: www.fcsu.com

Hopefully, this article will expose more of our readers to the rich array of broadcasts from Slovakia on the internet, available at no cost. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail me at: mjkopanic@yahoo.com

Joseph J. Krajsa

continued from page 1

Township, where he worked for 31 years. He also served as manager of Jednota Estates, the largest landholding in the township and owned by the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota), a fraternal benefit society of which Joe was a lifelong member. He served on the Board of Directors of the FCSU for many years, as well as on the board of its holding company, Jednota, Inc. Joe had gone on to a second career as sales and marketing manager at Triangle Press in Harrisburg, PA. He was also FCSU Regional Director Emeritus.

Joe was an Eagle Scout. He attended Central Catholic High School in Allentown and graduated from the Perkiomen School in Pennsville, PA. He earned his bachelor's degree from Bethany College, Bethany, WV, and received a life insurance marketing degree from Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. Joe also earned the designation of Fraternal Insurance Counsellor (FIC) for his expertise in fraternal benefit insurance.

Joe is well known in the Middletown area for his community service and generous spirit. He is a former member of the Middletown Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce, and spent 16 years on the Middletown Area School District Board. He was particularly proud to have had a part in securing a Department of Community Affairs grant that enabled the sports complex at the high school to get underway during his tenure. More recently, he was one of the co-founders of MusicFest, an annual venue to showcase the performing arts in the area and to raise scholarship money for Middletown area students pursuing careers in the arts. Joe was also instrumental in getting the soccer fields used by the Olmsted Regional Soccer Association on the Jednota Estates property in 1980. The fields are still in use today by hundreds of ORSA players and their families each fall.

Joe was a member of the Elks, Moose, Rotary, and other service organizations. He was proud of his Slovak heritage and was a member of a number of Slovak organizations

including the Jednota, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, National Slovak Society, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, and Slovak Catholic Federation.

Joe spent numerous years coaching his sons and other youngsters in baseball and soccer. He was a member of Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Middletown, and enjoyed singing in the parish choir as well as with the choir of Christ the Savior Orthodox Church in Harrisburg.

All who know him will remember his love of breakfast at Kuppy's, crossword puzzles, and fly fishing, but most especially of his family and friends (whom he always made feel like family).

In addition to his mother, he leaves his devoted fiancée, Carolyn Sullivan; son Brad and daughter-in-law Jill of Denver, PA; son Matthew and daughter-in-law Staci of Middletown; three grandchildren, Makenna, Micah, and Jack Krajsa; brother Michael of Coopersburg, PA; brother George and sister-in-law Susan of Davie, FL; nieces, nephews, and cousins. He also leaves behind many, many people who are grateful to have shared his friendship, loyalty, and love throughout his life.

In addition to his father, Joe was predeceased by a son, Scott Michael, and his sister, Maryagnes Krajsa.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Matincheck and Daughter Funeral Home, 260 East Main Street, Middletown. A viewing was held at the funeral home on Monday, August 27, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. An additional viewing was held on Tuesday, August 28, in the Narthex of Seven Sorrows B.V.M. Church, Race Street, Middletown, from 9:30-11:00 a.m., followed by a funeral mass at 11:00 a.m. Interment was in the Middletown Cemetery. A reception followed the services at the Spring Garden Center, 901 Spring Garden Drive, Middletown.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Joe's name to the Ryan A. Pacella Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1769 Mountain View Road, Middletown, PA 17057.

the Book Corner

Slovak Songs in Latin, Slovak, and English A Source of Pride for Slovaks

A joyous celebration was held in Bratislava recently at Society of Jesus at St. Ignaca to announce the completion of the CD *Resonantia Tatrae*, which contains 47 songs sung by Schola Cantorum Joannis Pauli II-Vajnor. The songs on the CD represent an excellent selection from the book, *Slovak Songs in Latin, Slovak, and English*, also called *Cantus Populi Slavaci*.

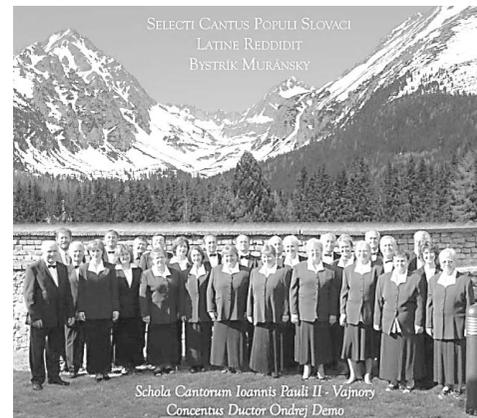
The forthcoming book, *Slovak Songs in Latin, Slovak, and English*, contains 170 Slovak hymns and folk songs--in Latin, Slovak, and English--with 170 music scores. The folk songs have been newly edited in Slovak. The whole collection is a unique package of new melodies, ethnography, and music information.

The Slovak-American International Cultural Foundation (SAICF), a not-for-profit educational foundation that takes the initiative to create, produce, publish, and promote books about significant aspects of Slovak culture, history, and ethnography and to showcase Slovak art, is proud to have sponsored this important CD and book. The Foundation is pleased to present another gift of Slovakia's culture and tradition that will enrich the world and be treasured forever.

To order these Slovak treasures, please send a check made out to SAICF at:

1000 Brown St.
Wauconda, IL 60084
Slovak Songs in Latin, Slovak, English
Paperback ISBN 978-0-86516-0 \$33
Audio CD ISBN -29218-00006 \$29
Shipping & handling \$7 for 1st item, \$1 for each additional item

Resonantia Tatrae



Message from the President

continued from page 1

Nevertheless, there remains the desire of all ethnic groups to maintain their identity and no individual can cast aside the shadow of their identity. We know of some fathers who are ashamed of their identity – ashamed that they are Slovak – yet their sons want to know their identity and spend years in research studying their background and substantiating their heritage.

This and other healthy signs of a strong desire on the part of our Slovak youth to belong to a specific part of Society is encouraging. Many desire to belong to the organization in which their parents are life long members. Frequently it requires extra effort to sign them up as new members of a fraternal organization, but a friendly, persuading approach to these potential members is highly rewarding.

A rebuff here and there is a challenge to the strong-hearted to re-double his efforts elsewhere.

This year of 1965 is the Diamond Jubilee of the FCSU and this should stimulate all of us members to make an all-out campaign for new membership. We should be worthy of the true character of the Jednota that continues to thrive to be the leader in every true facet of Catholic fraternalism and Christian charity. Sign a new member!"

Joseph C. Krajsa-Editor

Times have changed to some extent, but the underlying reason for the founding of the FCSU still exists – to help provide for the financial security of its members and their families, and the promotion of fraternalism with a Catholic and Slovak foundation.

The dream still lives; lets promote it.

Note:

When going through Jednota newspapers of the early 1960's I saw several pictures of kids at the summer Jednota camps.

If you attended any of these camps please write a short note suitable for publication telling of your experience and memories and send them to the Editor, Mr. Sutherland. If you have any pictures they are welcome.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Coming Events

SEPTEMBER

23 – The SS. Cyril and Methodius District's Annual Meeting at Holy Family Church Hall, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Mass at 12:00 noon followed by the dinner and meeting.

OCTOBER

14 – The Rev. John E. Rura District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Hall, Carteret, New Jersey.

21 – The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District's Annual Meeting and Election of Officers at 1:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Priory, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, Illinois.

21 – The George Onda District's Annual Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at St. Florian Church School Hall, United Pennsylvania.

28 – The Rev. John Martvon District's Annual Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, Windber, Pennsylvania.

NOVEMBER

4 – The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District's Annual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Yonkers, New York.

4 – A meeting of the Frank T. Holly Jr. District at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

18 – A meeting of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania.

SEPTEMBER IS LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH

*Do you have financial protection for you and your loved ones?
If not...call your local branch officers or the
Home Office at 1-800-533-6682*



Raritan Branch 290 Gives Annual Student Awards

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 290 in Raritan, New Jersey, has announced this year's recipients of the annual awards given by the branch to deserving local students. This year, two students were selected from St. Ann's School in Raritan. The recipients are Katerina Woltorest and Nicholas Ackerman. The Sisters and teachers of the school chose these students for their outstanding cooperation and scholastic accomplishments. Both have attended St. Ann's School since age 4 and 5. The award consists of a \$10,000 Paid Up JEP Policy and a monetary award of \$50 to each recipient.



Katerina Woltorest



Nicholas Ackerman

Branch 290 wishes Katerina Woltorest and Nicholas Ackerman continued success in their studies and future endeavors. The branch will continue this tradition of awarding students in the future.

Joseph Minarovich, President, Br. 290



PITT IN SLOVAKIA IN SUMMER 2008 4-WEEK SLOVAK PROGRAM TO BE HELD IN MODRA

An agreement between the University of Pittsburgh and Comenius University will be signed this Fall for a new four-week intensive beginning or intermediate-level Slovak language program in Slovakia beginning in the summer of 2008. The new program, to be held in Modra from July 21-August 15, will include three weeks of intensive language study followed by one week of guided travel within Slovakia.

The program in Slovakia is a sequel to the six-week, six credit intensive Slovak Summer Institute, held at the University of Pittsburgh from June 9 through July 18, 2008. Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Intensive Slovak will be offered in Pittsburgh. These courses are open to students of any age, including juniors and seniors in high school, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as to persons of any age not currently enrolled in a college or university. Partial and full scholarship aid is available. The Pittsburgh classes meet Monday through Friday from 9:00-3:00 for six weeks. Ten college credits are awarded for completion of both the Pittsburgh and Slovakia components.

The Slovakia 6+4 program includes a three day trip to Trencin, Zilina, Martin, the High Tatras (Srbske Pleso), Vlkolinec (skanzon), Demanova (cave), Banska Bystrica and Banska Stiavnica. Day trips to the Male Carpaty, Modra Harmonia – Cerveny Kamen castle and museum, and to Bratislava are also included.

The Slovak Summer Institute and Slovakia 6+4 program is part of the University of Pittsburgh's East European Summer Language Institute. Other languages offered include Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Serbian and Ukrainian. Study abroad programs in Russia, Bulgaria and Poland are also offered.

For further information and applications for the 2008 Slovak Summer Institute, contact Christine Metil, Slavic Department Summer Programs, University of Pittsburgh, 1417 CL, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, call (412) 624-5906, or visit the website at <http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu/>



Cleveland Slovak Classes to Begin October 6

The Cleveland Slovak School for Children 2007-08 classes will begin on October 6, 2007 through December 1, 2007 at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church, 8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, Ohio. The instructor is Mrs. Miriam Visnovsky, a religion and ethics teacher educated in Slovakia. Prior to Mrs. Visnovsky's move to the greater Cleveland area, she was employed as an elementary teacher in Kosice, Slovakia.

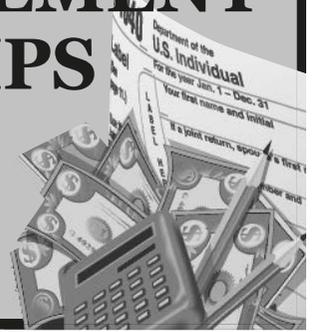
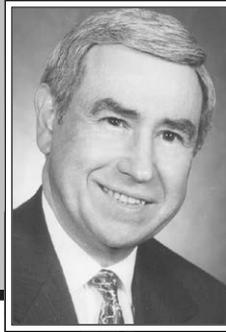
Group I sessions for ages 3 to 7 years begin at 9:00 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. The cost is \$100 for the first student in a family and \$50 for each additional student in the family. Group II sessions for children age 8 and older begin at 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The cost is \$125 for the first student in a family and \$60 for each additional student in the family. All fees include classroom materials. For applications or for further information, please call Mary Ann Dzurec at 440-930-2197 or visit the Slovak School web site at www.slovakschool.com. Slovak books and CDs for children are also available for purchase from the web site. All proceeds benefit the Slovak School.

MONEY MANAGEMENT

& TAX TIPS

By Joseph T. Senko

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



Back to School Basics: How to Qualify For the Hope and Lifetime Learning Credits

If you have a student heading off to college, you'll want to do some homework to see if you qualify for the Hope credit or the Lifetime Learning credit.

These two education tax credits can help offset education expenses for you and your family. A tax credit is subtracted dollar-for-dollar from the taxes owed, so it's more favorable than a tax deduction, which simply reduces the total income on which your tax is based. For example, if your tax bill is \$2,000 and you qualify for \$1,000 education credit, you can cut your tax bill in half.

The Hope Credit Increases

For 2007, the maximum Hope credit is \$1,650. To calculate the credit, you claim 100 percent of the first \$1,100 in college tuition and fees for each eligible student, plus 50 percent of the next \$1,100, for maximum tax credit of \$1,650 per eligible student. The Hope credit can only be claimed for the first two years of pursuing a degree at a college or other post-secondary institution at least half-time during the year.

You can claim the Hope credit for qualified education expenses for yourself, your spouse, or a dependent for whom you claim an exemption on your tax return. Expenses that qualify include tuition and fees required for enrollment or attendance. Generally, books, room and board, student activities, athletics, insurance, equipment, transportation, or other similar personal living expenses do not qualify for the purpose of calculating the Hope credit.

The Lifetime Learning Credit

While the Hope credit is available for only the first two years of college, the Lifetime Learning credit applies to any person taking undergraduate or graduate classes. It provides a tax credit of up to \$2,000 on the first \$10,000 of college tuition and fees for yourself, your spouse, or your dependent child.

The qualifying expenses and eligible institutions are the same as for the Hope credit. But unlike the Hope credit, you can take advantage of the Lifetime Learning Credit even if you're only taking one college course.

The Lifetime Learning credit, which may be claimed for an unlimited number of years, is calculated per family, not per student. The maximum credit (\$2,000) is the same, regardless of how many family members are in school.

Study the Fine Print

You cannot claim both the Hope credit and the Lifetime Learning credit for the same student in the same year. But if you pay qualified education expenses for more than one student during the same year, you can claim the Hope credit for one eligible student and the Lifetime Learning credit for another student.

Both the Hope and Lifetime Learning credits are phased out for higher-income taxpayers. To qualify for full credit in 2007, your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) must be below \$90,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly, and below \$47,000 if you're a single filer. A partial credit is available for joint filers with a MAGI between \$94,000 and \$114,000 and for single filers with a MAGI between \$47,000 and \$57,000. You cannot claim an education credit if your joint-filing MAGI is \$114,000 or \$57,000 for single filers.

To apply for the Hope or Lifetime Learning credits, you must complete IRS Form 8863, Education Credits, and submit it with your tax return. Educational institutions are required by law to send student Form 1098-T, which shows the amount of qualified tuition and related fees paid during the tax year.

FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY:

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY INTEREST RATE INCREASES THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

Effective April 1, 2007, the annual yield on existing First Catholic Slovak Union Flexible Premium Deferred Retirement Annuity and Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is 5.00% (4.879% APR).

The annual yield on the Park 2 Annuity 4.75% (4.641% APR).

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option will be 4.75% (4.641% APR).

Settlement Options will be based on an annual yield of 4.50% (4.402% APR).

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRAs, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA.

THESE RATES WILL REMAIN EFFECTIVE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2007.

Kenneth A. Arendt
National Secretary

The 2007 Membership Meet Aboard "Vision of the Seas"

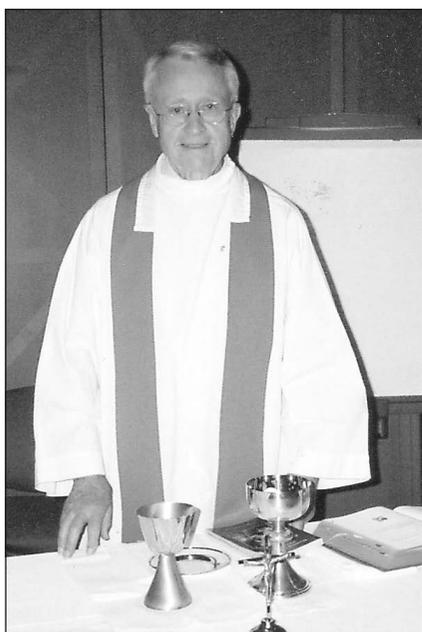
The Membership and Marketing Committee of the First Catholic Slovak Union sponsored its 2007 Membership Meet from July 27 to August 3 aboard Royal Caribbean's "Vision of the Seas." The itinerary included stops in Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm Fjord, Alaska, and Prince Rupert, British Columbia. This Alaskan cruise was a once in a lifetime experience for all who participated.



National Secretary Kenneth Arendt gives some information on future new programs.



National Treasurer George Matta reviews our Annuity Portfolio.



Msgr. Joseph F. Semancik, of Sacred Heart Parish in East Chicago, celebrated Mass for the FCSU members and their guests aboard the "Vision of the Seas."



National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar Sr. welcomes the guests.



Taking part in a tour of the ship's Bridge are L-R: National Secretary Kenneth Arendt, Theresa Arendt, Maria Harcar, Captain Anders, Msgr. Joseph Semancik, Florence Matta, National Treasurer George Matta, and National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar Sr.



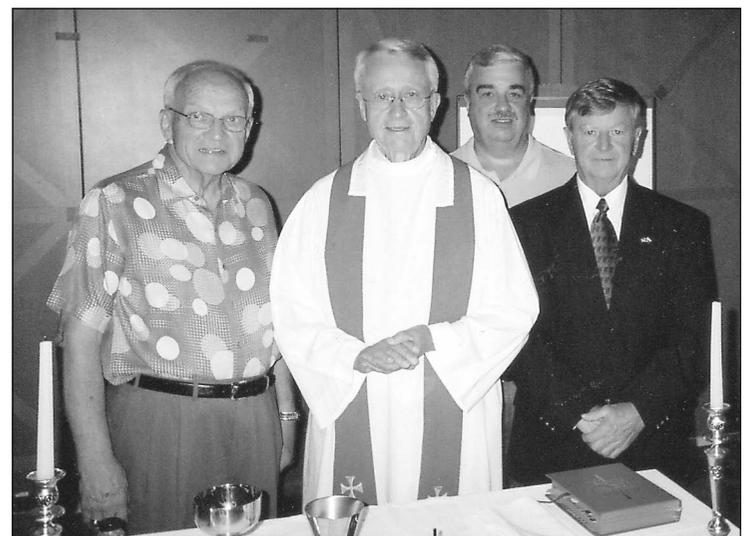
The Bridge on the "Vision of the Seas."



National Secretary Kenneth Arendt (right) presented National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar Sr. with an award for Annuity Procurement.



National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar Sr. presented an award to Florence Matta for Annuity Procurement.



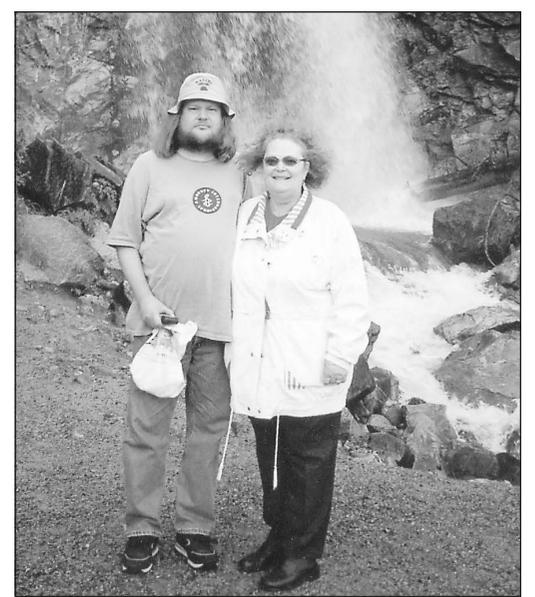
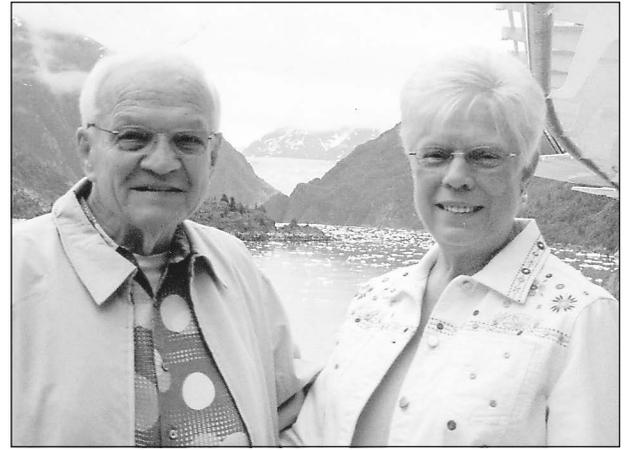
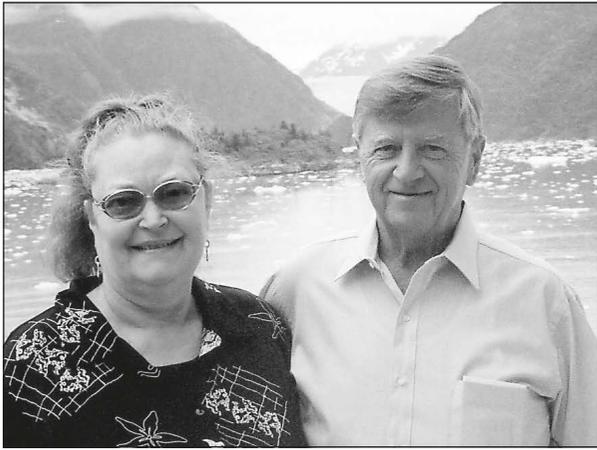
L-R National Treasurer George Matta, Msgr. Joseph Semancik, National Secretary Kenneth Arendt, and National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

More Cruise Photos On Page 8

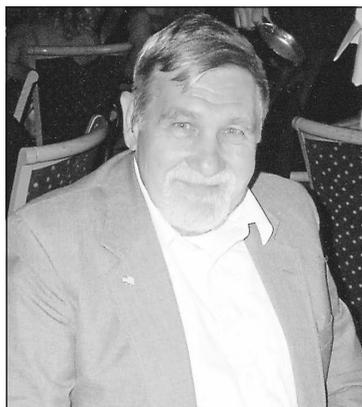
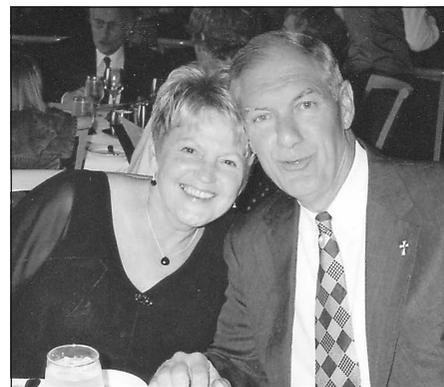
The 2007 Membership Meet Aboard "Vision of the Seas"

continued from page 7

Alaskan Excursion



Dinner aboard the "Vision of the Seas"



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2007

HOME OFFICE • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and led the prayer.

ROLL CALL

Members Attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
George F. Matta, Treasurer

ACCEPTANCE OF JUNE MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Secretary presented the Minutes of the June 2007 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George F. Matta to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT

Treasurer George Matta passed out a written report summarizing the investments for the month of June 2007 and answered the questions of the Executive Committee. (The report is attached to the Minutes).

The Treasurer led a discussion regarding more offers that we are receiving with better returns on our yields. He stated that we are in good position to take advantage of better offers that are coming in.

A motion was made Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

June 2007 Treasurer's Report**WACHOVIA SECURITIES**

A2/A	BELLSOUTH	6.375	06-01-28	98.375	6.518	300K
	TELECOM		Call When Make Whole			
Aa2/AA	MBIA	6.40	08-15-22	100.00	6.40	121K
			Callable 08-02-07 At Par			
Aa3/A+	MORGAN STANLEY	6.50	06-29-27	100.00	6.50	300K
			Callable 06-29-2012			

FERRIS BAKER WATTS

AAA/AAA	FED HOME LOAN	6.625	06-27-22	100.00	6.625	300K
			Callable 06-27-08			

MERRILL LYNCH

A2/A	CIT GROUP	6.50	06-15-22	100.00	6.50	300K
			Callable 06-15-10			
AAA/AAA	FED HOME LOAN	6.375	06-29-22	100.00	6.375	200K
	BANK		Callable 06-29-10			

UBS

AAA/AAA	FNMA	6.35	06-11-27	100.00	6.35	300K
			Callable 06-11-08			

WACHOVIA SECURITIES-CLEVELAND

Aa1/a+	LEHMAN	6.20	06-15-27	98.875	6.28	200K
	BROTHERS HLD		Callable 06-012-12 YTC 6.375			
Aaa/AAA	TOYOTA	6.00	06-08-22	99.50	6.051	400K
			Callable 06-08-09 YTC 6.28			

BPU

A1/A+	MERRILL LYNCH	6.22	09-15-26	100.75	6.15	300K
			Noncall			

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

Executive Secretary Arendt reported that the following disbursements were incurred and paid during the month of June:

DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2007

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$319,009.23
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 29,187.49
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	-0-
Trust Fund	-0-

The Executive Secretary presented the Membership and Annuity Report.

The Executive Committee reviewed the rest of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered their questions.

A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Secretary's reports as presented. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary informed the Executive Committee that he contacted companies who do on-site medical examination and has been receiving information from them for our review.

Bank Relationships, Assets

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on new options available that are offered thru Key Bank and their fees. Our Home Office staff uses the new options now.

Employees Pension Fund – Back Payments

The Secretary updated the Executive Committee about back payments of pensions due

to beneficiaries of former employees of the First Catholic Slovak Union. All payments have been made with compliance to the FCSU Pension Plan and everything is in order now.

Employees Pension Fund – Vesting – Investments

The President indicated that he would call the Pension Board for a meeting before the end of this year. He also stated that he received a letter from David Chan of Bruce & Bruce Company concerning the new 2006 Vesting Schedule for the Employee Pension Plan. This will be discussed at a later date. The President also stated that he asked Gary Matta, our General Counsel, to review the By Laws regarding Employee Pension Plan.

Asset Management – Update

The President led a discussion concerning our monthly report we received from Merrill Lynch concerning our Stock Portfolio.

ANNUITIES/GENERAL AGENTS

The President reviewed the letter from Ed DePersis concerning commission paid to our General Agents.

FOLLOW UPS ON JUNE 15, 2007 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The President led a discussion on follow-ups from the June 2007 meeting and the following agenda was reviewed:

a) **Building Update** - The maintenance and landscaping was kept up. There has been some interest in our vacant space on the first floor.

b) **In House Agent** - The President led a discussion about hiring an In House Agent. The hiring is on hold for now until we come up with a new job description for this position.

c) **Newspaper in every household** - The President stated that this project will be completed by the end of this year. He said that we would also establish a Newsletter to help us with marketing our products.

The Treasurer led a discussion on our Education Plan and how to educate our recommenders about selling this plan.

The Executive Secretary will contact the on-site medical labs that were recommended by our re-insurance companies and get the information concerning their services.

MIDDLETOWN

a) **Printery - Update** - The President updated the Executive Committee meeting on leasing of our Printery Building. He will continue to inform the Executive Committee as he receives more information.

b) **Development Plan - Update** - The President led a discussion concerning the Development Plan and updated the Executive Committee about his meeting with Kevin Fry from C.B. Richard Ellis Real Estate Company, who made a presentation to Jednota, Inc. & Jednota Properties on July 18, 2007 at their meeting. The President asked Kevin Fry to present more developmental options for discussion.

c) **Jednota, Inc. & Jednota Properties Meeting** - George Matta, President of Jednota, Inc. updated the Executive Committee about the Jednota, Inc. meeting held on July 18 in Middletown, PA. He stated that the Jednota Properties, Inc. also held a meeting on July 18 and was led by Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties, Inc.

Jednota Properties, Inc. voted to give \$210,000.00 dividends to Jednota, Inc. and Jednota, Inc. voted to give \$200,000.00 dividends to the FCSU.

The Jednota, Inc. President also answered the Executive Committee's questions. The President also discussed the bids Jednota, Inc. received on roof repairs. The President also updated the Executive Committee about lease contract that expires in August of this year. This will be reviewed for possible renewal.

CANADA BUSINESS

The President asked the General Counsel to review how our members in Canada can purchase insurance and annuity products. The General Counsel will respond as soon as he reviews the documents.

BRANCH MERGERS & INDIVIDUAL TRANSFERS

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee about all individual and Branch transfers that have been completed and answered their questions.

CRUISE & GOLFING TOURNAMENT**Alaskan Cruise**

The Vice President stated that he sent letters to the members attending the Membership Meet during the Alaskan cruise informing them with the daily program of the Membership Meet. He will give a report at the next meeting about the outcome of the Membership Meet.

Golfing Tournament

The Executive Secretary stated that everything is in order for the Annual FCSU Golfing Tournament. He informed the Executive Committee that the President and he would be attending.

RECESS OF SESSION

At this time the Executive Committee broke for lunch.

SECOND SESSION

Friday Afternoon, July 20, 2007 – Meeting back to order.

SALES

The Vice President updated the Executive Committee on the report on the renewal of JEP policies. The Executive Secretary stated that he would send a personal letter to those JEP policyholders who did not renew their policy, informing them that they still may do so.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Branch 1 — LAKEWOOD, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, held a meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. Plans for the Christmas Social were discussed. New members are always welcome to attend the meeting.

Mary C. Dubber, Secretary

Branch 3 — Minneapolis, Minnesota

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 14, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Joseph Matlon, 4016 Washington Street N.E., Columbia Heights, Minnesota. The election officers and a discussion of plans for the coming year will be on the agenda.

Joseph Matlon, Recording Secretary

Branch 3P — HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 3P, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, October 7, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. in St. Joseph Church Cafeteria, North Laurel Street, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. All members are urged to attend and become active in branch activities. Please spread the word to fellow members.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

Branch 95 — MCKEES ROCKS, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 95, McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, has merged with the St. Wenceslaus Society, Branch 254 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This merger took place on August 1, 2007. Members in Branch 95 will now hold membership in Branch 254. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Albina Senko, 230 Thornberry Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15234, or phone 412/343-5031.

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

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

Branch 153 — CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its Annual Meeting earlier than usual this year. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The election of officers and charitable donations will be on the agenda. All members are cordially invited to attend. There will be a fraternal luncheon after the meeting.

Please remember in your prayers the following members who have passed on to their eternal rest: Alex Zemancik, Igor Dubravec, Andrew Koril, Anthony Zibrida, Mary Zibrida, Stephen Zahora, Lucille Taylor, and Walter Varek.

Dorohty Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

Branch 162 — UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, held its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, September 16, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in the third floor meeting room of the Meridian Point Apartments, Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Branch activities were discussed and officers' reports were presented. All members were invited to attend.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

Branch 266 — HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, October 7, 2007, at 10:15 a.m. in St. Joseph Church Cafeteria, 604 North Laurel Street, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. All members are welcome.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

Branch 278 — MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Peter Society, Branch 278, will hold its next meeting on Monday, September 24, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at Seven Sorrows Church, Middletown, Pennsylvania. All members and officers are invited to attend.

Andrew Trojcek, President

Branch 311 — MONESSEN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 311, Monessen, Pennsylvania, has merged with the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320 in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. This merger took place on July 13, 2007. Members of Branch 311 will now hold membership in Branch 320. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact Mrs. Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA 15012 or phone 724/929-9788.

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

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

Branch 380 — CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380, will hold its Semiannual Meeting and Lunch on Sunday, October 28, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at 236 West Pike Street, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be the election officers.

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

Branch 401 — VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 401, will hold its next scheduled meeting on Sunday, October 14, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. at King's Family Restaurant, 315 Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, Pennsylvania. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 25, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. at the King's Family Restaurant. On the agenda will be the election officers. Annual activities and insurance topics will also be discussed. All members are invited to attend and especially those interested in becoming officers. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Any members celebrating wedding anniversaries of fifty years or more are requested to send names and information to Rose Froncek, 143 Iron Bridge Rd., Ford City, PA 16226. Any items of family interest that you would like to share with other members can also be sent to Rose Froncek for publication in the Jednota newspaper.

Rose Froncek, Secretary

Branch 425 — BARBERTON, OHIO

The St. Mark Society, Branch 425, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, September 23, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at the Slovak Society of Barberton Club, 887 West Tuscarawas Avenue, Barberton, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend.

Jeannette Willis, Secretary/Treasurer

Branch 493 — CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Members of the Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 493, are encouraged to attend this year's Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church, 1410 South Will-Cook Road, in Homer Glen, Illinois. The topic for this year's seminar will be "Painted Byzantine Catholic Icons in Annunciation Church." Father Thomas Loya will celebrate a Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy at 1:00 p.m. The liturgy will satisfy the Sunday Mass Obligation for Roman Catholic attendees. Admission is \$15.00 for pre-registrants (by September 5) and \$20.00 at the door. For information, call John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810 or Gerry Hletko at 708/387-7812.

**Robert Tapak Magruder,
Financial Secretary**

Branch 493 — CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 493, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Saturday, September 29, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 639 North Blackhawk Drive, Westmont, Illinois. After the meeting, attendees will enjoy a family style dinner. If you plan to attend, please contact Robert Tapak Magruder by September 21 at 773/505-0117. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

**Robert Tapak Magruder,
Financial Secretary**

Branch 510 — KENOSHA, WISCONSIN

The St. Anthony Society, Branch 510, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. at Bombay Louie's, Kenosha, Wisconsin. On the agenda will be the officers' reports and updates on the insurance and annuity programs. Future programs and plans for the year will also be discussed. The elections of officers will take place following the business session. Please plan your new slate of officers. A discussion of better treatment of the smaller branches is also on the agenda. Dinner will be available for those who attend. For reservations call President Joseph Scuglik at 262/654-7364.

Joseph Scuglik, President

Branch 580 — WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 580, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. after the Mass at the home of the Financial Secretary. All members are urged to attend.

Mary G. Perun, Financial Secretary

Branch 628 — MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 628, held a meeting recently at 821 Laura Avenue, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Sue Vehec. A motion to waive the reading of the previous meeting's minutes was made by Karianne Barnes, seconded by Mary Ann Frena.

The Home Office has completed the transfer of 24 new members in the merger of Branch 628 and Branch 311. Our financial secretary, Karianne Barnes, suggested that we put the extra money we receive in some type of annuity or Certificate of Deposit. Joe

Vehec, our treasurer, will research this matter and report back to the branch. We are still awaiting the check from Cleveland for the new members.

A discussion was held regarding the officers for the newly combined branch. Mary Ann Frena, our auditor, has expressed a desire to step down, but agreed to finish out the rest of the year until the election of new officers for 2008. It was suggested that Ken Vehec fill the vacant vice president position that was vacated when Sue Vehec assumed the presidency that was held by Anna Abaray until the time of her death in 2006.

A tentative date for the next meeting was set for Sunday, December 30, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. It will be held at the same location, 821 Laura Avenue, West Mifflin.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Karianne Barnes, seconded by Mary Ann Frena. A closing prayer was offered.

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

Branch 635 — BEAVER FALLS, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 635, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Vincent Ciganik, 1506-17th Avenue, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. All members are encouraged to attend.

Vincent Ciganik

Branch 670 — DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon in Donora, Pennsylvania. All members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

Branch 706 — SOUTH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Members of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 706, are invited to attend this year's Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church, 14610 South Will-Cook Road, Homer Glenn, Illinois. The Very Rev. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA, will celebrate a Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy at 1:00 p.m. followed by this year's topic, "Painted Byzantine Catholic Icons in the Annunciation Church." Pre-registration is necessary. Admission is \$15.00 and that includes a catered meal. Branch 706 will pay the \$15.00 for its members who attend. Members must notify Branch Treasurer Art Fayta at 219/864-8251 before September 18, if they plan to attend. This is very important. Arrangements must be made well in advance of the event.

Art Fayta, Treasurer

Branch 716 — NEW YORK CITY

The St. Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 25, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at St. John Nepomucene Church Hall, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be financial and officers' reports, the election of officers, and a discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are urged to attend this meeting.

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT — New Jersey

The Msgr. John E. Rura District will hold its next Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, October 14, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Hall, Carteret, New Jersey. Branch 324 will be the host. Branch secretaries are asked to call Joe Poll at 732/541-4701 by October 3 with the number of members who will be attending. Please join us. Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT — Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on Sunday, October 21, 2007, at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Priory, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, Illinois. A short period of fraternal fellowship will commence at 1:30 p.m. with the meeting starting promptly at 2:00 p.m.

Please note section 4.05 (g) of the current FCSU Bylaws (page 14) stipulates that branches which wish to receive the \$4.00 per member payment from the Home Office must send "a branch representative to at least one (1) district meeting per calendar year. Those in attendance at the district meeting may vote to provide a branch with an excused absence."

Attendees will enjoy a catered dinner. If you plan to attend, please notify district president John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary

SS. CYRIL AND METHIDIUS DISTRICT —

Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties, Pennsylvania and Broome County, New York

The SS. Cyril and Methodius District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 23, 2007, at 12:00 noon in Holy Family Church Hall, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Members are invited to attend the Mass at 10:30 a.m. Dinner will be served immediately after the Mass. Reservations should be made with President Slovenkai at 570/342-7562; Treasurer/Financial Secretary Dorothy Ungvarsky at 570/403-2067 or Vice President Arlo Meeker at 670/775-4896.

The election of officers will take place at this meeting. Your presence and participation is what makes your District and Branch special. Support your officers and get the latest information about Jednota's activities and insurance.

Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary

MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT — New York

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Yonkers, New York. On the agenda will be a financial report, a discussion of next year's program, and the election of officers for 2008. Other business will also be discussed.

We urge all District branches to send representatives to this meeting. All other members of the FCSU are also welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served by host Branch 41.

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT — Monongahela Valley, Pennsylvania

The Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon in Donora, Pennsylvania. Members of the various District branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Branch 721— BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 721, will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Julius Remenar, 8977 South Mason Road, Bannister, Michigan. The election of officers will take place. All members are urged to attend.

Julius Remenar, Financial Secretary

Branch 731 — YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 731, held a meeting on Sunday, September 16, 2007, at 12:30 p.m. at St. Matthias Church Rectory, Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. A review of our successful Scrappers baseball game was on the agenda.

The annual Mass for the deceased members will be held on Sunday, November 11, 2007. Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. at St. Matthias Church.

The election of officers for 2008 and the

Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 16, 2007.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

Branch 746— LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, October 21, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church, Linden, New Jersey. On the agenda will be a discussion and planning for a Christmas get-together, as well as finalizing plans for the Dinner Dance on November 17, 2007. Please bring your suggestions. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

We are sponsoring a bus trip to see "In the Beginning" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Join us for the show and dinner on Saturday, October 6. Please call Mary Karch at 732/572-2331 for information and reservations.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT— Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

The George Onda District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 21, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Florian Church School Hall, United, Pennsylvania. The election of officers for 2008 will be held and the annual "Stedry Vecer" dinner will be discussed.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT — Blair, Cambria, Indiana, Somerset and Bedford Counties, Pennsylvania

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 28, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, Windber, Pennsylvania. The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 292, will be the host. On the agenda will be the election of officers. New candidates for office are always welcome. Member branches are reminded of the requirements to receive the yearly compensation for each member. They must attend one District meeting each year and have their dues current.

Come and enjoy the fall weather and attend the meeting.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT — Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 4, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall. Preparations will be made for the annual meeting. There will also be a discussion regarding insurance sales.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

ATTENTION

THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2007 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2007 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 Post Secondary 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 copy of applicant's college transcript, which indicates applicant's grades and all standardized, test scores achieved, including all ACT and SAT scores.
 - § 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 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 application, please contact:

**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**

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 12, 2007**

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



YOUTH ROUND-UP



The Klepac children show off their new soccer shirts of their favorite MLS players in the square in Venice, Italy last summer. From left to right are Charles, Alexandria, Anthony, Jermey and Capria. They are all children of Juraj and Joanna Lucas-Klepac. They had a short one-week holiday to the beach in Pag, Croatia, and stopped in Venice on their way back to Bratislava, where they visited with the father's family. Charles, a eighth grade student, recently made the varsity soccer team at Farmington High School in Farmington, New Mexico, which is also Anthony's team. All the boys have been on championship tournament soccer teams during the past five years. All have a great love of soccer. Both Jermey and Alexandria also play soccer, while Capria will switch to basketball this year. Juraj, their father, is the high school junior varsity soccer coach and had played recreational soccer growing up in Slovakia. They are all the grandchildren of the late Anne T. Lucas of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. All are members of Branch 512.



On May 20, 2007, Danielle and Derek MacMath received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Most Rev. Paul Bootkoski, Bishop of Metuchen, conferred the sacrament.

Following their confirmation, Danielle and Derek graduated from grammar school. A total of 750 students graduated. At the ceremony Derek and Danielle received the Presidential Education Excellence Award.

Derek and Danielle are fraternal twins. They are the children of Michele (Minarovich) and Thomas MacMath, and the grandchildren of Regional Director Joseph and Lillian Minarovich.

The family is 100 percent Jednota since birth. All are members of Branch 290 in Raritan. We wish Derek and Danielle the best in their high school years and pray for their success.



Danielle and Derek on their Confirmation Day.



Jonathan Michael Peppe

On a bright Saturday morning June 2007, Jonathan Michael Peppe received the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time. Jonathan is the son of Jo Anne (Minarovich) and Richard Peppe, and the grandson of Regional Director Joseph and Lillian Minarovich. A private Mass was celebrated at St. Ann's Chapel by Father Dan. The entire family was present. Jonathan is a special child. We pray that the Lord Jesus will show His mercy and help Jonathan. Jonathan is a member of Branch 290 in Raritan, New Jersey.

St. Andrew Abbey Annual Benefit on November 4

St. Andrew Abbey will hold its Annual Benefit on Sunday, November 4, 2007, from 12:15 to 4:00 p.m. at Assumption Church Parish Hall, 9183 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 p.m. followed by cocktails, appetizers, dinner and program. The dinner will be catered by Tom's Country Place. Individual tickets are \$60 and "Honor a Monk" are \$100. Sponsorships begin at \$250. For additional information about sponsorships, please contact Dave Smith at 216/297-1425. For ticket information call Bill Andrews at 721/5300 ext 0. If you have any additional questions or need information regarding this event, please contact Marie Golias at 216/228-8179.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

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SEMINARS

The Vice President stated that he is planning to have more seminar presentations this fall, namely in Youngstown, Ohio; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Linden, New Jersey. He will update the Executive Committee once the dates are finalized.

Further, the Vice President gave a report on sales production of general agents and recommenders and answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President also led a discussion regarding the Senior Promotion Program which was very successful in 1999. Once he receives more information from Ed DePersis, he will discuss this program further.

The President also led a discussion regarding a letter from Ed DePersis about possibility of offering post mortem dividends on Life Insurance Policies. As we receive more information, this will be discussed at a later date.

Also discussed was the offering of a 10-year Withdrawal Annuity Program. The Vice President will discuss this issue when more information becomes available.

The President led a discussion regarding two Slovak Festivals: The Annual Slovak Festival sponsored by the Slovak Radio Club on September 2, 2007 in Parma, Ohio and the 30th Annual Slovak Heritage Festival on September 23, 2007 in Holmdel, New Jersey. He stated that we will have a booth and we will have representatives of the FCSU attending both events.

The Vice President stated he will get a banner for the booth at these festivals and will have brochures on our products to be passed out.

MISCELLANEOUS

The President reminded us that the Semi-Annual Board of Directors Meeting will be on September 14 & 15, 2007 at the Home Office. The President stated that Kenneth Arendt and he would be representing the FCSU at the upcoming Slovak Catholic Sokol Convention.

Further he informed the Executive Committee that Joseph Minarovich will represent the FCSU at the New Jersey Fraternal Congress and Andrew Harcar will represent us at the Indiana Fraternal Congress.

REQUEST FOR ADS AND DONATIONS

Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

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

The President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

VISIT THE FCSU'S WEBSITE

Home page at: <http://www.fcsu.com>

Send e-mail to the FCSU at the following address:

fcsu@aol.com

Luba Mason Receives Excellent Review for Performance in West Coast Cabaret Shows

Recently Luba Mason Gregus, a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union in New York City, organized cabaret shows in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Here is a review from one of her shows by Steve Murray:

Luba Mason

Exit Theatre, San Francisco, June 21

So it was with great excitement that I caught Luba Mason's cabaret show "Collage" at the Exit Theatre, brought to San Francisco by producer Kristopher McDowell, a singer of some renown himself who knows a set of pipes when he hears one. The audience, which included local cabaret luminaries Terese Genecco, Shawn Ryan and Donna Sachet, watched a true Broadway star share an intimate moment of herself, which in many ways can be much more satisfying than the grand spectacle of big, big theatre.

Luba sang three of her big numbers, "All That Jazz" from her recent turn in Chicago, "Love From a Heart of Gold" from her days as Miss Hedy L. Rue in *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying* and a sensational, heart-rendering "Someone Like You" from *Jekyll and Hyde*. These numbers show off Luba's powerful voice and expressive emotional range. She rounded off the set with material chosen from her "favorites"; Van Morrison's "Moondance", Cole Porter's "Gett Outta Town" and a Spanish version of "Look of Love" (with some lovely piano accompaniment by Jason Martineau), that positively reeked of sensuality. She included a delicate Slovakian folk song (Luba is first



Luba Mason

generation American of Slovak descent) and a powerful "The Calm Before the Storm", Lou Reed and Ruben Blade's anti-war statement that Luba first heard on 9/11.

There was a delightful arrangement done by Luba herself of Johnny Nash's "I Can See Clearly Now." She reinvented the song and made it uniquely her own. Her acceptable rendition of "Skylark" was sexy and fun and new.

Luba Mason has it all going for her - an amazing voice, impressive Broadway credentials, and stunning looks. She can now add cabaret artist and recording star. And the topper to this complete package, she's really, really nice.

~ My Point of View ~ On Being Slovak

Stanislav J. Kirschbaum

Recently, certain declarations by Slovak Prime Minister Róbert Fico refer to the need to focus more on the teaching of Slovak national history in Slovakia so as to counter what he notices is a "cancer of indifference," which, he points out, is only a step away from "national unconsciousness." These comments are made at a time when many observers of the Slovak social and political scene are noticing that the reporting in the Slovak media has had a tendency for quite some time to ignore, if not attack, what might be termed "a national approach," favouring instead the approach from another, usually international perspective. In other words, an emphasis on anything Slovak, anything that represents Slovak values or that emphasizes Slovak needs, ends up almost "illegitimate." An extreme approach in this tendency is to intimate that the Slovak Republic must not be, above all, "Slovak" and if you need to find something "Slovak," well, go and see the recent film *Hostel II*. Such a presentation of Slovakia is unfortunately not new: a few years ago, a more benign, although at times quite comical but nonetheless negative, depiction of Slovakia was found in the film *Krajinka*, which was shown at the Toronto International Film Festival.

What is going on? Is Slovakia undergoing an identity crisis? If one looks at other indicators than these to answer this question, it is clear that they give an unequivocally negative answer. Whether they are in Slovakia or abroad, Slovaks do not hesitate to show the flag (at sporting events, for example), to identify themselves as Slovak, and, of course, to speak Slovak. Those of us who have lived in the West have often experienced the need to emphasize strongly our Slovak background, especially before 1993. But we did this because others would not recognize us our identity and/or our language. These examples are not indications of an identity crisis, rather the contrary. Why then the warning of indifference by the prime minister? Is it because of recent films and the reporting in the media? Is there a legitimate concern?

The answer lies to some degree in the history of Slovakia, which points to a political dichotomy that goes a long way to explain the validity of Prime Minister Fico's remarks. A tradition and an experience that Slovak elites, especially the political and academic ones, did not have until 1993 (an exception is the period 1939-1945) is to define the nation's interests in terms other than those of a compromise to fulfil broader objectives. Such objectives were usually defined elsewhere (Budapest or Prague) and placed the Slovaks in one of two camps: accept the decisions taken or fight them. At best, they could achieve a compromise. But neither option really gave an opportunity for a clear formulation of the nation's interests. The political battles between these two groups were often bitter and extended to other areas of life, in particular to the writing of Slovak history and its popular presentation. There was little thought or effort given to define Slovak national interests and little opportunity to debate them.

It would seem that currently some Slovak media, but also certain academics, are determined to sustain this dichotomy in Slovak political life and, thereby, force the Slovak political process in certain, albeit unclear, directions. Are these the last gasps of pre-1993 conditions or is this situation fuelled by new factors? It looks like a mixture of both. There are still people in Slovakia and abroad who have not digested or accepted the independence of Slovakia and who long for the "good old Czechoslovak days." They have influence in the media, but in the long run it should be diminishing, especially as it is clear that the second Slovak Republic is proving to be a success. In addition, there is a new generation of young academics in Slovak universities who are determined to understand and present Slovakia and its inhabitants on their own terms, not to let external influences determine their scholarship. Their students will soon be active in Slovak life.

The imperatives of international politics are seen, on the other hand, to exert influence on the Slovak media. This is nothing new; in most countries, especially small ones like Slovakia, the media often take a broader context into consideration in their reports and editorials on government policies and domestic issues. We have such debates in Canada, especially with regards to our southern neighbour and its policies. However, there is a dangerous temptation in taking such an approach and it lies in doing so to seek favour with certain groups or countries; this may be one of the factors explaining the perception of an anti-Slovak approach in the Slovak media. Another explanation for the acceptance of a foreign approach may lie in a poor knowledge of Slovak history, the result of almost half a century of anything but objective teaching of that subject in schools. The test of impartiality and integrity in journalism and in scholarship, as well as success in politics, lies in the balance between national interest and international conditions. This balance is normally achieved through an awareness of the country's history as well as through an understanding of its strategic, social, political, and economic needs.

Prime Minister Fico may have stated his case a bit strongly. Still, given the legacy of the not-too-distant past and especially what is in the press and the films that have been made in and about Slovakia, he does have a point. If the situation is as bad as he says, then it does need to be remedied. And he is right: the remedy lies in an understanding of Slovak history. In fact, to know Slovak history is to realize that it is quite interesting and that there is in fact a great deal to be proud of in being Slovak, in having a Slovak background.

❖❖❖ Fall Dance Party in New York on October 20

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 45, is holding a Fall Dance Party on Saturday, October 20, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church Hall, 411 East 66th Street, New York City. Admission is \$25.00 per person, and that includes, dinner, coffee, and Slovak style cookies. A raffle will also be held. Entertainment will be provided by Jozef Jurasi and his well known Slovak band Kontaky. Parking on the streets in New York City is free after 7:00 p.m. We hope to see all of you there.

Jozef Jurasi

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 Deadline
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17	MONDAY, OCTOBER 8
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31	MONDAY, OCTOBER 22

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

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
Anthony Sutherland, Editor
"JEDNOTA"
1011 Rosedale Avenue, Middletown, PA 17057-4835
FAX: (717) 944-3107

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER TODAY!

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Supreme Chaplin of Canada of the First Catholic Slovak Union – Jednota – 1982- 1988

In 1982 Father John Moravsky S.J. was elected by his peers to be the Supreme Chaplin of Canada of the Jednota. He fulfilled his duty until 1988.



Father John Moravsky S.J.

Father John Moravsky S.J. passed away on Monday September 3, 2007 at the age of 86 years old in Windsor Ontario. He had retired from pastoral life in 2001.

He was born on May 20, 1921 in the town of Puste Cemerne, Slovakia and leaves behind a brother Joseph Moravsky and his wife Irene, late Michael Moravsky and survived by his wife Zuzana, late Bartolomej Morvasky and wife Maria. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews in Slovakia.

Father John Moravsky S.J. studied to be a Jesuit Priest in Enghiene, Belgium and was ordained on July 26, 1953. He left Europe in 1954 and with his fellow Slovak Jesuit brothers and came to Canada where a new Slovak Jesuit Mother House was located. His missionary duties included the Northern Frontier, Western and Eastern Provinces of Canada where Slovak Catholic Communities were located.

He was installed as Pastor of Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish located at that time in Toronto (now Mississauga) from 1970 until 1976. He achieved many goals at that time, such as having the parish participate in the yearly "Toronto Caravan Festival" and he was also a driving force in establishing and nurturing a "Slovak Choir", of which still exists today.

He then was reassigned, to be the new Pastor at Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church in Windsor Ontario until 1983. At that time he was then asked to become the director of the Slovak Jesuit Mother House in Cambridge until 1988.. Once his tenure was completed, Father John then returned to Sts Cyril and Methodius Church in Windsor until his retirement in 2001.

Funeral Services were held in both Slovak Churches in Windsor and Mississauga and Father John was then laid to rest, at the Jesuit cemetery in Guelph Ontario on Saturday September 8, 2007, with his fellow Slovak Jesuit brothers, Father Vincent Danco, Father Karol Cerney, Father John Zabka, Father Jozef Javorka, and more.

May He rest in Peace!

Lois J. Horansky Branch 199 Hostetter, Pennsylvania

Lois J. Horansky, 66, of Latrobe, Pennsylvania, died Saturday, August 18, 2007, in Excelsa Health Latrobe Hospital.

Born November 22, 1940, in Latrobe, she was a daughter of the late Frank S. and Amelia V. (Dziak) Horansky. Lois was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Latrobe. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from California University, Westmoreland-Latrobe School of Anesthesia and Latrobe Hospital School of Nursing. People who worked with her at Westmoreland and

Latrobe hospitals fondly recall her exceptional skills, professionalism, politeness and quiet, pleasant manner. She was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1985, but continued to remain interested in everything and everyone contacting her throughout the illness. Her devoted sister, Dolores, remained her companion, support and health advocate throughout her long illness. She enjoyed traveling to many parts of the world, cruises and her work, before being confined from the effects of multiple sclerosis.

Surviving are a brother, Edward F. Horansky and wife, Joanne, of Latrobe; two sisters, JoAnn A. Love and husband, George, of Latrobe, and Dolores M. Horansky of Latrobe; nieces and nephews, Amelia Farkas and husband, Todd, George Love III, Sheryl Loos and husband, Jared, and Jennifer Love-Dupilka and husband, Ray; and great-nieces and great-nephews, Alex Farkas, Raven Dupilka, Karinne Loos, Raymond Dupilka III, Benjamin Loos, and Cara Dupilka.

Friends were received at the John J. Lopatich Funeral Home, Latrobe. A Funeral mass was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church. Interment was in St. Vincent Cemetery.

Sophie Pipak

William J. Gilger Sr. Branch 75 Shamokin, Pennsylvania



William J. Gilger Sr., 79, of 230 North Vine Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania, died Wednesday, August 22, 2007, at Mount Carmel Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, where he was a resident since October 2006.

Born in Shamokin on March 29, 1928, he was a son of the late Charles and Edna (McClosley) Gilger. He was a lifelong Shamokin resident.

Mr. Gilger was a 1945 graduate of Coal Township High School, where he played football and basketball.

On May 28, 1955, he was married to the former Elizabeth P. Palko, in St. Stanislaus Church by the Rev. Charles Petrasek. She survives.

He was employed in the banking business for more than 42 years, having started as a clerk at National Dime Bank. He was also a teller with Shamokin Banking and Trust Company before starting a long career with Guarantee Trust and Safe Deposit Company in 1957. In 1966, he was promoted to assistant treasurer and became assistant vice president in 1973. After Guarantee Trust Company merged with Northern Central Bank in 1977 he was named assistant manager and retired as vice president of the Shamokin bank in January 1990.

He served his country in the U.S. Army, having entered active service on January 9, 1946. He attained the rank of sergeant and was honorably discharged. He was awarded the World War II Victory Medal.

He was a member of Mother Cabrini Church and was a very active member of the former St. Mary's Church, where he was a lector for many years in addition to serving in various other roles for Monsignor Petrasek and the Revs. James Murphy and Edward Friel. He was instrumental in planning the church's 75th and 100th anniversary celebrations. He was among the many Slovaks who operated the famous St. Mary's food stand at the Bloomsburg Fair. He was a long-time officer of the St. Mary's Beneficial Society,

Jednota Branch 75.

He served on the Greater Shamokin Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors from 1983 to 1989, and was one of the first lay persons to serve on the Board of Education at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School.

He also served as CYO basketball coach for the "A" team at Transfiguration Catholic School. Following his retirement from the banking business, he volunteered at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School in the library and guidance office.

During his retirement, he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and attending

their many sporting events.

In addition to his wife of 52 years, Elizabeth "Betty" Gilger of Shamokin, he is survived by his two sons and daughters-in-law, William J. Jr. and JoAnne Gilger and Mark C. Sr. and Paula Gilger, all of Shamokin; a daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Patrick Bradley of Harrisburg; seven grandchildren, Taryn and John Gilger, Mark Jr., Matthew and Michael Gilger, and Shannon and Joey Bradley; brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Fay Gilger of Lancaster; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by two brothers, John Lauer and David Gilger.

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- Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
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Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications.

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\$5,000 paid-up insurance.....	\$290	\$5,000 paid-up insurance.....	\$250
\$10,000 paid-up insurance.....	\$580	\$10,000 paid-up insurance	\$500
Example – Age 5 Male		Example – Age 5 Female	
\$5,000 paid-up insurance	\$340	\$5,000 paid-up insurance	\$290
\$10,000 paid-up insurance	\$680	\$10,000 paid-up insurance	\$580
Example – Age 10 Male		Example – Age 10 Female	
\$5,000 paid-up insurance	\$400	\$5,000 paid-up insurance	\$340
\$10,000 paid-up insurance	\$800	\$10,000 paid-up insurance.....	\$680
Example – Age 15 Male		Example – Age 15 Female	
\$5,000 paid-up insurance	\$480	\$5,000 paid-up insurance.....	\$405
\$10,000 paid-up insurance.....	\$960	\$10,000 paid-up insurance	\$810

Contact your branch office or to learn more call the FCSU today at 1-800-533-6682

*Children 8 and under receive a stuffed Jednota Bear. Children 9-18 receive a gift card!

CAPTIVE NATIONS 49th OBSERVANCE

By John Karch

Five weeks after the exuberance of the June 12 dedication of the Victims of Communism Memorial (see the previous issue of JEDNOTA), the 49th observance of the annual Captive Nations Week by officials, the public, and institutions throughout the country seemed noticeably low-key and ignored by the mainstream media. However, the violence, crimes, and oppression by communist dictatorships and other regimes are still perpetrated around the globe. We can expect a continuing conflict with communist governments and their propaganda agencies.

In accordance with the July 17, 1959 Joint Congressional Resolution, authorizing and requesting the President to issue a Proclamation designating the third week of July each year as Captive Nations Week, the President issued his Proclamation on July 10, 2007. Also, some Governors and Mayors issued proclamations and resolutions.

President Bush

President George W. Bush included the following remarks in his Proclamation: "Liberty is the path to lasting peace and the unalienable right of every man, woman, and child. During Captive Nations Week, we underscore our commitment to protecting human rights, advancing democracy and freedom, and eroding tyranny across the globe.

Expanding freedom is a normal imperative, and today more people are free than ever before. Freedom is reaching around the world, and America is working side-by-side with new democracies in Liberia, Mauritania, Ukraine, Georgia, and Kyrgyzstan... We continue to stand firmly behind the citizens of Lebanon, Afghanistan, and Iraq as they defend their democratic gains against extremist enemies. Many are making great sacrifices for liberty, and they deserve our steadfast support...

My Administration recently created the



Participants of the Captive Nations 49th observance at the Wreath-Laying at the Victims of Communism Memorial July 18, 2007 in Washington, D.C. The group includes Dr. Lee Edwards and members of the Central and East European Coalition.

Human Rights Defenders Fund to provide grants for the legal defense and medical expenses of democratic dissidents arrested or beaten by repressive governments. In addition, we have nearly doubled funding for democracy projects throughout the world...."

In the Nation's Capital

Not ignored but changed was a Washington, D.C. event sponsored by The National Captive Nations Committee, Inc. (NCCM), The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCOA) and The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.

On July 18, the participants attended a Laying of Wreath at the Victims of Communism Memorial, then a National Forum Luncheon at the Heritage Foundation com-

memorating the 49th observance of Captive Nations Week. As usual, Dr. Lee Edwards, NCNC's Director of Public Relations, Chaired the largely informal program. Executive Secretary Michael Sawkiw, Jr., President of the UCCOA read the President's Proclamation

Honoree Donald Miller

Donald Lane Miller, Executive Director of the NCNC, was honored in absentia. This World War II veteran was a Founding Member of the NCNC in the early 1960s and an activist. From the beginning of the VOCMF Mr. Miller has been a supporter of the Memorial.

Dr. Lee Edwards

As Chairman of the VOCMF, and in his August 2 letter, Dr. Edwards summarized at the National Forum Luncheon the recent developments leading to, and during, the June 12 "Day of Dedication"—citing from President Bush's "eloquent" speech "at this sacred place Communism's unknown victims will be consecrated to history and remembered forever"; from the keynote address by congressman Tom Lantos the crucial role of the U.S. during the Cold War; and remarks by Congressman Dana Rohrabacher who sponsored the resolution authorizing the Memorial, and is former speechwriter for President Reagan, who recalled that some in Reagan's Administration opposed his historic challenge in Berlin: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall"

The mass media coverage of the dedication was "very favorable," Dr. Edwards noted, including the C-SPAN, Voice of America, and foreign wire services. The Chinese Foreign Ministry denounced the dedication ceremony as "Cold War thinking" and "an attempt to defame China," while the Russian CP leader attacked references to "alleged crimes." Dr. Edwards also cited remarks by foreign dignitaries at the June 12 luncheon, one participant saying "We cannot allow the atrocities of Lenin, Stalin, Mao, and Castro to fade into the background of history." The subsequent panel discussion on "The Victims and Crimes of Communism," was led by former political prisoners and dissidents from China, Vietnam and Cuba.

At the evening Gala dinner, the Truman-Reagan Medals of Freedom were awarded to William F. Buckley, Jr. and the late Senator Henry M. Jackson. "The heartfelt introductions by Jack Kemp and Senator Joseph Lieberman about these two giants of American life and politics had us close to tears," Dr. Edwards said, as did the keynote address by Elena Bonner, widow of the late Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov. "It was a day that exceeded our greatest hopes and expectation," he said.

Dr. Edwards concluded by explaining the future project "in our continuing campaign to educate this generation and future generations about communism--the creation on the internet of a GLOBAL VIRTUAL MUSEUM ON COMMUNISM."

The Luncheon Discussion

Usually, there were two or three country reports by an American expert(s) and former prisoners/dissidents from Communist countries sharing their experiences and presenting a realistic appraisal of their countries. On this occasion, however, the participants conducted a discussion on China, Vietnam, Laos, and Cuba.

Recently the 27 Cuban boat refugees, landing on a Florida island beach July 14, became a human interest story, written by Rebecca Hagelin, Heritage Foundation Vice President and a WorldNetDaily.Com Columnist. Ms. Hagelin, who was vacationing there and spoke to the Cubans, said "They found freedom" and she was a "witness to liberty." According to Ms. Hagelin, the group consisted of men, four children, and four or five women--"one of them pregnant with a female toddler in tow. One was a doctor, one a dentist, one a hairstylist—and all were ecstatic. They said they came to escape the dire political environment that kept them prisoner."

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At the retirement age you choose, the funds accumulated in the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity may be withdrawn using any of the FCSU's lump sum or periodic income settlement options.

Features of the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:

- The FCSU guarantees your deposits will accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
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- Death Benefit-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- Also available in a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (subject to IRA Guidelines)

From the desk of the Executive Secretary – Visit our web site! www.fcsu.com

Exciting News – The Jednota Newspaper (English and Slovak sections) is now on our web page and for your convenience 4 back issues and the current issue are maintained on the web page at all times. If you missed an article or looking for a recipe you need only to go to the web site

Branch and District Officers announcements are now on the web page and listings of all activities for the various regions.

If you are looking for forms or applications you may find those also on the web site.

We encourage our branch and district officers to use this means of keeping in touch with their branch members and announcing events. The email address is fcsu@aol.com if you wish to send your information to the home office.

We will continue to update the web page, please check for announcements such as our special 2% bonus now being offered through our annuity program, special offers on our insurance products, trips to Slovakia, and our Alaskan Cruise Membership Meet.

WEB SITE – www.fcsu.com



Friends

Events



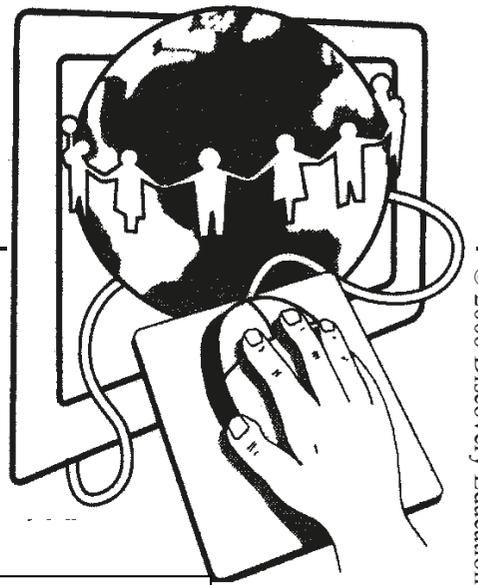
Sports

Culture

Trivia

Activities

UR_space.jrs



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Events Space

September 2007



Happy 117th Birthday, Jednota!

On September 4, 1890, answering the call of Reverend Stephen Furdek to meet in Cleveland, Ohio, for the purpose of forming a national Slovak Catholic fraternal benefit society, representatives of twelve mutual benefit societies met and formed the First Catholic Slovak Union - Jednota. The society was formed to preserve the Catholic faith, to support fellow members, widows, and orphans in need, and to preserve and extend the Slovak nationality and language in America.

The organization began to grow rapidly and on May 12, 1891, it established its own weekly newspaper, *Jednota*, which proved to be the most important Slovak newspaper in America. Today, the *Jednota* is published bi-weekly.

The Slovaks developed a viable and dynamic organized activity - primarily in fraternalism, religion, journalism, education, government, and finance - 117 years ago.

Congratulations on turning 117, but even more, congratulations for touching the world in special ways and giving support and encouragement to so many people.



Trivia Space

The song "Happy Birthday to You" was born on June 27, 1859, when sisters and schoolteachers Mildred Hill and Dr. Patty Smith Hill of Louisville, Kentucky, wrote the song for their students. Mildred composed the music, which was first published with Patty's lyrics as a classroom greeting song called "Good Morning to All."

The tradition of birthday parties started in Europe a long time ago, but the parties weren't celebrations. People feared that evil spirits were especially attracted to them at a time of a change in their lives, such as a birthday. To protect the birthday person from harm, friends and family visited and surrounded him or her with laughter, joy, and best wishes, to keep away the evil spirits.

Challenge Space

Were you born lucky?

You were born with a lucky number...but what is it? Grab a pencil and some paper.

1. Write down the month, day, and year you were born, using all numbers.
2. Add up all the numbers.
3. You will end up with a two-digit number. Add the first digit to the second digit. Repeat until you get a number from 1 to 9.
4. Check to see what your lucky number reveals about you.

For example, if you were born on November 10, 1988, you would calculate your lucky number like this:



$$1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 9 + 8 + 8 = 29$$

$$2 + 9 = 11$$

$$1 + 1 = 2$$



- Lucky Number 1. People look up to you because you've got great ideas. But don't always insist on getting your own way.
- Lucky Number 2. You are fair and helpful. Make sure you also stand up for yourself.
- Lucky Number 3. Life is a roller coaster, and you love the ride. Don't forget to take along a little common sense.
- Lucky Number 4. You're good at organizing stuff. Remember to let loose sometimes and have a little fun.
- Lucky Number 5. You're an explorer and curious about the world. But don't get distracted - do what you say you're going to do.
- Lucky Number 6. You're a loyal friend, but sometimes you're too modest. Believe in yourself and take some risks.
- Lucky Number 7. You're smart and thoughtful. Remember that there's more to life than thinking. Take time to play.
- Lucky Number 8. You're reliable and steady and plan to make a lot of money. Don't forget to have some fun along the way.
- Lucky Number 9. You're charming and funny. You have lots of friends. But not everything in life will be so easy. Effort is its own reward.



Send your ideas, letters etc. to: UR_Space.jrs
234 Ilion St.
Pgh., PA 15207
sueo99@yahoo.com

Answers to last month's Challenge Space:



Answers to July's Trivia Space:

1. July 4, 1976; 2. Thomas Jefferson; 3. "Paul Revere's Ride," by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; 4. The tax was supposed to raise money for the British army.; 5. John Paul Jones (who forced the British to surrender as his own damaged ship sank)



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota

O. Štefan Furek
Náš zakladateľ

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

Volume 116

STREDA, 19. SEPTEMBER 2007

Číslo 5762



FOTO TASR - Martin Baumann

Na snímke vpravo premiér SR Robert Fico počas príhovoru na pôde Veľvyslanectva USA v Bratislave pri príležitosti šiesteho výročia teroristických útokov 11. septembra 2001 na New York a Washington. Na spomienkovej akcii sa zúčastnili desiatky hostí, medzi nimi veľvyslanec USA v SR Rodolphe Vallee (v prostriedku na snímke), minister zahraničných vecí Ján Kubiš a bratislavský primátor Andrej Ďurkovský. 11. september 2007.

Bush chce navrhnuť Obsitníka za veľvyslanca v SR

Washington /Bratislava (TASR) – Prezident George W. Bush 7. septembra oznámil, že má v úmysle navrhnuť Vincenta Obsitníka, z Virginie, za veľvyslanca Spojených štátov amerických v Slovenskej republike. Na Slovensku je od augusta 2005 veľvyslancom Rodolphe Vallee. Podľa vyjadrenia ambasády zostane na jej čele, kým nebude V. Obsitník, ktorého menovanie ešte musí potvrdiť Senát, pripravený ujať sa funkcie.

Slovensko a USA spoločne čelia výzvam doma i v zahraničí, pri riešení regionálnych konfliktov, posilnení energetickej bezpečnosti, v boji proti terorizmu a klimatickým zmenám, ako aj pri pomoci tým vizionárom, ktorí pracujú na demokratizácii ich vlastných krajín. Americká ambasáda v SR ďalej uviedla, že sa teší na spoluprácu so Slovenskom v otázkach spoločného záujmu. Veľvyslanectvo v Bratislave aktívne spolupracuje s odborníkmi na Ministerstve vnútra a Ministerstve zahraničných vecí SR, aby pripravili Slovensko na využitie nových príležitostí pre zaradenie sa do bezvívazového programu.

Ponúkla tiež projekt partnerstva pre súkromné firmy a univerzity zo SR a

USA, ktorý by mal rozšíriť vzdelávacie výmeny. Vzhľadom na jedinečnú a cennú skúsenosť Slovenska s prechodom na prosperujúcu demokraciu, ambasáda USA v Bratislave bude podľa vlastného vyjadrenia naďalej partnerom slovenských mimovládnych organizácií. Bude im pomáhať odovzdať túto skúsenosť národom, ktoré sa ešte len dostávajú spod útlaku svojich režimov k slobodným systémom vlády.

Americká ambasáda v Bratislave spolupracuje so slovenskými organizáciami, aby podporila diverzifikáciu energetických zdrojov. V slovenskej rómskej populácii vidí veľký potenciál a bude naďalej vyzdvihovať jej úspechy ako inšpiráciu pre novú generáciu a väčšiu populáciu. Americká ambasáda v závere svojho komuniké pripomenula, že bude pokračovať v úzkej a plodnej spolupráci so slovenským národom.

Slovenský denník Dnevnik už 8. septembra informoval o úmysle Busha vymenovať Obsitníka za veľvyslanca USA v SR namiesto pôvodne zamýšľaného Slovinska. Podľa Dnevnik Obsitník, ktorý má slovenský pôvod, už ponuku prezidenta Busha prijal. Vincent Obsitník nie je kariérny diplomat.

Minister obrany SR František Kašický na pracovnej ceste v USA

Bratislava (TASR) – Návšteva Veliteľstva NATO pre transformáciu a rokovania v Pentagone s námestníkom obrany USA Gordonom Englandom boli cieľom štvordňovej pracovnej cesty ministra obrany SR Františka Kašického v USA, ktorú ukončil vo štvrtok 6. septembra.

Pokračovanie na str. 19

Ústava SR vo svojej 15-ročnej histórii obstála

Bratislava (TASR) – Ústava Slovenskej republiky vo svojej 15-ročnej histórii obstála a vysoko ju podľa prezidenta Ivana Gašparoviča hodnotili aj pri vstupe Slovenska do Rady Európy. Ako povedal 31. augusta vo svojom vyhlásení k 15. výročiu jej prijatia, ide o moderný a živý dokument, konštituujúci univerzálne uznávané princípy samourčenia, zvrchovanosti a identity slovenského národa a jeho neodňateľného práva na svoj samostatný štát. "Som presvedčený, že Slovensko vstúpilo na cestu samostatnosti s modernou ústavou, ktorá zakotvuje všetky základné ľudské práva a slobody a zároveň garantuje a určuje ďalší rozvoj štátu," zdôraznil prezident. Poznamenal, že občania sa o tento dokument môžu oprieť s vierou v garanciu, že štát sa musí postarať o ich zdravie, vzdelanie, bezpečnosť, ako aj ochranu životného prostredia. Gašparovič pripomenul, že jednotlivé články ústavy zakotvujú princíp solidarity, ktoré je ale potrebné prehĺbiť a rozvinúť tak funkcie sociálneho štátu, ktorý musí slúžiť občanom. "Ústava nestačí sama o sebe len ako dokument, malo by ísť v istom zmysle o občiansku živú Bibliu," konštatoval. Dodal, že ako prezident a občan SR je hrdý na tento základný zákon štátu.



Prezident Ivan Gašparovič

Demokraciu, ale reálnu

"Nemôže nám byť ľahostajné to, čo Ministerstvo zdravotníctva SR zamýšľa..."

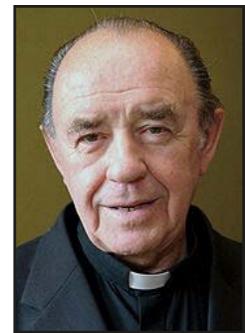
Všetci sme boli presvedčení, že po páde totality budeme žiť v skutočnej demokracii, ktorá bude zárukou občianskych slobôd. Medzi nimi, a na prvom mieste, by mala byť možnosť slobodne sa rozhodovať a konať v závažných veciach, ktoré zasahujú svedomie, náboženské i sekulárne. Otázka ľudského života je na poprednom mieste hodnôt, ktoré zasahujú aj svedomie. Nie je to a priori vec len náboženská, ako sa to zvyklo u nás kategorizovať, hoci to nie je náboženstvu na hanbu, ľudský život si váži každý čo len trochu rozmyšľajúci človek. Chráni ho aj ústava aj zákon.

A treba povedať, že ľudský život je podmienkou pre všetky ostatné pozemské dobré. To znamená, že ho musíme uprednostniť pred ostatnými dobrami. Nemožno ho obetovať kvôli získaniu iných dober. Týka sa to každého nevinného ľudského života. Dnes už každý biológ aj na základe vedeckých poznatkov vie, že nový ľudský život začína počatím. Opačný názor môže byť len filozofický, alebo, čo je ešte horšie, politický. Nezodpovedá experimentálnym poznatkom. Aj v spoločenskom ponímaní sa dnes už hovorí o plode a nie o zhľuku buniek.

V dôsledku toho sa v poslednom čase objavilo viacej nemocníc, ktoré odmietajú robiť potraty. Je zarážajúce, že práve teraz Ministerstvo zdravotníctva SR prichádza s nariadením pre každú nemocnicu s gynekologickým oddelením povinne vykonávať potraty. Z akého dôvodu? V mene vedy alebo pokroku? Alebo demokracia, ktorú sme s takým nadšením prijali? Alebo je to prejav už dávneho etatizmu, ktorý v minulom storočí prerástol vo fašizmus a komunizmus, kde štátna moc si osobuje právo na človeka i na jeho slobodu a svedomie. Treba povedať, že sloboda svedomia je vždy meradlom aj ostatných občianskych slobôd.

Nie je to také jednoduché ako sa to prezentuje, že každá nemocnica s gynekologickým oddelením má mať aspoň jedného gynekológa, ktorý v otázke potratu nemá zábrany. Potrat je tímový zákrok, ku ktorému sú potrebné aj ďalšie osoby, anesteziológ a sestry. Nevie si predstaviť, žeby prakticky tam nikto nebol nútený konať proti svojmu presvedčeniu alebo svedomiu. Preto nám kresťanom a kresťanským zdravotníkom nemôže byť ľahostajné to, čo Ministerstvo zdravotníctva SR zamýšľa a musíme pozdvihnúť svoj hlas proti takému nariadeniu. Veríme, že naša demokracia a jej reprezentanti budú rešpektovať občiansku slobodu aj v tejto záležitosti.

Mons. František Tondra, predseda KBS



Mons. František Tondra

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Kaštiele v obciach Hrachovo a Konradovce v okrese Rimavská Sobota, ktoré roky slúžili ako detské domovy, sú na predaj. Objekty v správe štátu ocenil znalec na 10,3 milióna korún. K renesančnému kaštielu v Hrachove patrí ešte osem príľahlých budov a veľký park s celkovou rozlohou 3 hektáre. Kaštiele ponúkli už predtým podľa zákona štátnym organizáciám. Nikto však neprejavil záujem.

Stredné odborné učilište hutnícke v Šaci prichýlilo v druhej polovici augusta pedagógov a študentov dizajnu z Veľkej Británie, Maďarska, Českej republiky a Slovenska, ktorí sa stretli na 6. ročníku medzinárodného workshopu Metal Inspirations 2007. Tohtoročné témy súvisia s aktuálnym dňom v Košiciach i neďalekých oceliariach. Téma Dávame svet do pohybu súvisí s otvorením linky 3 spoločnosti U.S. Steel na výrobu plechov. Slávnostné otvorenie linky bude v septembri. Druhá téma je zameraná na snahu Košíc o získanie titulu Európske hlavné mesto kultúry. Medzinárodný workshop Metal inspirations pre študentov a pedagógov dizajnu z krajín Európskej únie od roku 2002 organizuje Technická univerzita v Košiciach v spolupráci s U.S. Steel Košice a Stredným odborným učilišťom hutníckym v Košiciach-Šaci.

Slovensko je od 1. septembra napojené na Schengenský informačný systém (SIS) Európskej únie (EÚ), ktorý tvorí chrbticu celého schengenského priestoru. Všetky policajné systémy sú postupne napájané na tento systém, ktorý bude od januára plne fungovať pri výmene informácií o hľadaných osobách, ukradnutých vozidlách, všetkých tých dôležitých informáciách, ktoré si doteraz medzi sebou vymieňali len štáty starého schengenu. Dnes už aj všetky nové štáty sú v tomto systéme.

Rok bakalárskeho externého štúdia môže stať zdravotnú sestru dve tretiny jej celoročného hrubého platu. Ministerstvo zdravotníctva (MZ) SR bude aj preto žiadať o zníženie poplatkov za externé vysokoškolské štúdium zdravotníckych povolání. Komora aj ministerstvo zdravotníctva sa zhodujú na tom, že zavedenie takýchto poplatkov štúdia len zvýrazní nedostatok sestier na Slovensku. A podľa prezidentky Slovenskej komory sestier a pôrodných asistentiek Márie Lévyovej sestry nemôžu očakávať od zamestnávateľa podporu v rozširovaní si vzdelania. "Vekový priemer sestry je 45 rokov. Ak uvážime, že o desať rokov tu máme totálnu krízu, podľa toho by mala vyzeráť aj stratégia krajiny pre nábor na toto povolanie, ako ich majú iné krajiny - štípendiá, vzdelávacie programy a podobne. Na Slovensku sa nič nedeje," dodala Lévyová.

Za účasti prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča a predsedu Národnej rady SR Pavla Pašku sa 6. a 7. septembra 2007 v Košiciach konala vedecká konferencia 15 rokov Ústavy Slovenskej republiky (SR). Organizoval ju Ústavný súd SR v spolupráci s Právnickou fakultou Pavla Jozefa Šafárika v Košiciach a Košickým samosprávnym krajom. Cieľom konferencie si bolo pripomenúť súvislosti medzi Dňom Ústavy SR a procesom prípravy schvaľovania Ústavy v roku 1992, ďalší vývoj ústavného systému Slovenskej republiky, ako aj perspektívy jeho ďalšieho rozvoja. Na zasadnutí sa zúčastnili aj niektorí z právnikov, respektíve politikov, ktorí sa podieľali na spracovaní textu Ústavy SR a jej doterajších novelizácií. Vedecká konferencia sa konala v priestoroch Východoslovenskej galérie.

Novým, v poradí už dvanástym partnerským mestom Trnavy sa stalo Novo Mesto v Slovinsku. Poslanci trnavského zastupiteľstva zmluvu o partnerskej spolupráci, ktorú ešte v júni podpísali primátori oboch miest, odsúhlasili na svojom septembrovom zasadnutí. Dohoda bude napomáhať rozvoju priateľstva a vzájomného porozumenia, spolupráce v oblasti kultúry, vzdelávania, športu, cestovného ruchu, obchodu a iných sfér spoločenského a ekonomického života. Prioritným záujmom je spolupráca v oblasti automobilového priemyslu. Trnava začala uzatvárať oficiálne partnerské vzťahy so zahraničnými mestami už v 70. rokoch, 20. storočia. K prvým patrila česká Břeclav a nemecký Sangerhausen. S maďarským mestom Szombathely má Trnava kontakty od roku 1991, poľským Zabrze od roku 1993. V roku 1995 podpísala partnerstvo s Portsmouth vo Veľkej Británii, o tri roky neskôr s Casale Mefferrato v Taliansku. V roku 1998 pribudol do zoznamu aj čínsky Fuding a Scranton v USA.

V sobotu 8. septembra oslávila Skalica 305. výročie prinesenia sochy Panny Márie Loretskej do Skalice. Zaslúžili sa o to karmelitáni, ktorí prišli do Skalice na konci 17. storočia a postavili vo svojom kláštore skutočnú napodobeninu nazaretského domčeka, kde žil Ježiš s Máriou a Jozefom. Pri tejto príležitosti prišiel do Skalice Jeho Eminencia, kardinál Jozef Tomko, bývalý prefekt Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov.

Napomôcť zachovať tradičné ľudové remeslá bolo poslaním 2. ročníka podujatia, ľudové umenie, ktoré sa konalo nedávno v rekreačnom komplexe dreveníc Jánošíkov dvor v Zázrivej pri Dolnom Kubíne. Zúčastnilo sa ho päť umelcov z rôznych kútov Slovenska. "Poslaním akcie je zatriktívniť pobyt hostí v regióne Malej Fatry, skvalitniť produkt cestovného ruchu na Slovensku" povedala organizátorka Soňa Heidlerová.

Víťazom 2. ročníka majstrovstiev Európy v kosení mokradových lúk v poľskom Biebrzanskom národnom parku sa aj v tomto roku stalo dvojčlenné družstvo Štátnych lesov Tatranského národného parku (TANAP). Po vlaňajšom úspechu si prvenstvo medzi ôsmimi družstvami z krajín Európy vybojovali bratia Michal a Bohumír Gazda. Majstrovstvá Európy boli súčasťou 6. ročníka Biebrzanských senokosov.

Od 1. októbra budú môcť občania vybaviť všetko potrebné na obvodných úradoch v mieste bydliska, ktoré tak nahradia zrušené krajské úrady. V Košiciach prepustia k 1. októbru 106 úradníkov. Na odstupné, odmeny a preplatenie nevyčerpaných dovolení bude musieť KÚ vynaložiť deväť miliónov korún, ktoré by boli určené na mzdy pracovníkov. Usporené peniaze skončia v štátnom rozpočte.

Podtatranskí poľnohospodári z okresu Poprad a Kežmarok môžu byť spokojní s úrodou obilnín v tomto roku. Tvrdí to predseda Regionálnej poľnohospodárskej a potravinárskej komory v Poprade Július Daniš. "Priemer hustosiatych obilnín bude okolo 3,8 tony, čo je viac ako celoslovenský priemer na úrovni 3,6 tony na hektára". Zmeny klímy významne zasahujú aj poľnohospodárov. Podľa Daniša nie je vylúčené, že o niekoľko rokov bude možné pod Tatrami pestovať hrozno. Otepľovanie má pravdepodobne na svedomí aj skorší začiatok zberu zemiakov pod Tatrami. Prvé zemiaky zbierali pod Tatrami už 20. augusta, čo je približne o dva týždne skôr ako v minulosti.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Brat kráľa pop-artu J. Warhola zavítal do Medzilaboriec

Medzilaborce (TASR) – Medzilaborce známe predovšetkým Múzeom moderného umenia Andyho Warhola navštívil 8. septembra jeho zakladateľ a brat kráľa pop-artu John Warhola. Po dopoludňajšej svätej omši 9. septembra v gréckokatolíckom chráme zavítal John Warhola spolu so svojím synom Jeffreyem, a manželkou medzi príbuzných. Pracovná návšteva viceprezidenta The Andy Warhol Foundation for The Visual Arts v New Yorku a čestného prezidenta The Andy Warhol Society (AWS) vyvrcholila 10. septembra, kde

sa najprv stretol s primátorom mesta a neskôr s vedením múzea.

"John Warhola počas pobytu v Medzilaborciach zmonitoroval činnosť múzea, oboznámil sa s plánmi na nasledujúce obdobie, s pripravovanými projektmi a zaujímal sa aj o efektívne využitie finančných prostriedkov, ktoré múzeum dostáva od americkej nadácie," uviedol prezident AWS Michal Bycko. Dodal, že múzeum získava od nadácie na činnosť ročne od 12 do 25 tisíc dolárov.



FOTO TASR - Milan Kapusta

Zmonitorovať činnosť múzea a zhodnotiť využívanie finančných prostriedkov pridelených americkou nadáciou Múzea moderného umenia Andyho Warhola (MMUAW) bolo cieľom pracovnej návštevy brata kráľa pop-artu Johna Warhola v Medzilaborciach. Na snímke John Warhola z USA, brat Andy Warhola 10. septembra 2007 v MMUAW v Medzilaborciach. Na snímke v pozadí socha Andyho Warhola a pravoslávny chrám.

Minister obrany SR František Kašický na pracovnej ceste v USA

Pokračovanie zo str. 20

Na tlačovej konferencii Kašický informoval, že témami rokovaní v oboch prípadoch boli otázky operácií medzinárodného krízového manažmentu, transformácia Severoatlantickej aliancie, ako aj Ozbrojených síl SR, zmena v systéme plánovania rozpočtovania, ktoré sa vykonalo v rámci Ministerstva obrany SR. Ďalšími témami bol aj boj proti terorizmu, na Veliteľstve NATO pre transformáciu sa rokovalo aj o protiraketovej obrane a v Pentagone o bilaterálnej spolupráci.

Kostol v Nových Zámkoch bol aj moslimskou Mešitou

Dnešné Nové Zámky vznikli, ako bývalá vojenská pevnosť proti Tureckým nájazdom do údolia Váhu a Nitry. Túto obrannú pevnosť stavali ohrození obyvatelia okolitých obcí, plných 8 rokov od r. 1581 do 1588 podľa plánov talianskeho architekta Ottávia Baldigaru.

Až po páde Ostrihomu, sa Turkom podarilo túto pevnosť, po takmer storočnom obliehaní, dňa 25. septembra 1663 dobyť. A tak sa z Novozámockého opevneného mesta, stalo riadiace centrum odkiaľ potom Turci podnikali 22 rokov lúpežné výpady na Považie a Pohronie. Medzi tým si Nové Zámky Turci úplne privlastnili, udomácnili sa, a upravili si tamajšie historické budovy, kasárne, hotely, kaviarne. Pritom hlavný dôraz kládli na Mešitu, ktorú získali z tamajšieho rím.kat. farského Kostola, svojskými stavebnými úpravami a zmenou pôvodnej veže, čo bolo pre tamajších veriacich občanov, najväčším sklamaním.

Bolo to však v dobe, keď Turci dosiahli najväčšie rozšírenie svojej moci v strednej Európe. Zo svojich mocenských lúpežných výpadov na Považie i úrodné oblasti Ponitria, sa však dlho netešili. Spojenecké vojská Svätej ligy (Rakúsko, Poľsko, Benátky a rímsky pápež), ktorým velil knieža Karol Lotrinský a generál Caprava, po mesačnom obliehaní dňa 19. augusta 1685 novozámckú protitureckú pevnosť oslobodili. Národy, ale aj ich občania, si po dlhom obliehaní a útrapách vydýchli.

Eugen Kalman



Rím. kat. kostol v Nových Zámkoch bol 22 rokov moslimskou Mešitou.

Arcibiskup Sokol daruje Trnavčanom koncertnú sálu

Trnava (TASR) – Zrekonštruovaná koncertná sála Marianum je zamýšľaným darom arcibiskupa Jána Sokola obyvateľom mesta Trnava pri príležitosti tohtoročných okrúhlych výročí Bratislavsko-trnavskej arcidiecézy.

K trom desaťročiam od vyhlásenia arcidiecézy a sedemdesiatim rokom od vyhlásenia samostatnej cirkevnej provincie sa arcibiskup rozhodol venovať mestu a všetkým Trnavčanom koncertný priestor, ktorý sa svojou akustickou kvalitou zaraďuje medzi najlepšie v Trnave. Po niekoľko mesiacov trvajúcej rekonštrukcii otvorila sálu pravdepodobne na konci októbra.

Marianum je nateraz súčasťou Arcibiskupského paláca, ktorý postavili v 17. storočí v komplexe budov bývalej Trnavskej univerzity ako seminár pre šľachtických študentov. Mariánsky seminár bol pôvodne samostatným objektom, svoju poslednú podobu dostal pri prestavbe pred sto rokmi. Teraz bude podľa slov člena Ekonomickej rady arcidiecézy Petra Kučeru mnohostranné kultúrne a spoločenské využitie. Okrem koncertných vystúpení sa vo veľkej sále Marianumu môžu konať konferencie či pracovné zasadnutia. Arcibiskupský úrad počíta aj s úzkou spoluprácou s Trnavskou univerzitou, ktorá by mala Marianum používať na svoje reprezentačné podujatia. Univerzita vo veľkej sále s kapacitou pre 200 ľudí oslávila 15. výročie svojho založenia.

Budova terajšieho Arcibiskupského paláca spolu s Marianumom slúžila za socializmu potrebám vojska, bola v nej miestna posádka. V dvojpodlažnej, pôvodne divadelnej sále Marianumu mali vojaci zriadenú telocvičňu, do barokovej výzdoby napríklad osadili basketbalové koše, vysekali množstvo otvorov a po stenách viedli desiatky metrov rôznych káblov. "Bolo treba urobiť komplexnú rekonštrukciu," konštatoval Kučera s tým, že teraz sú v sále natiiahnuté aj počítačové siete, čo rozširuje jej ďalšie využitie. Zaujímavosťou je, že stavební robotníci našli v strope ešte pôvodné kladky na vyťahovanie ťažkých lustrov na osvetlenie sály. "Sú vo výbornom stave, stačí svietidlá zavesiť," dodal Kučera.

V prízemí počíta Arcibiskupský úrad s kaviarňou, ktorá bude mať stálu prevádzku, a malou výstavnou sieňou. "Ako prvá tu bude výstava k dejinám arcidiecézy," povedal Kučera. Dodal, že arcibiskup Ján Sokol má pri príležitosti výročia arcibiskupstva a samostatnej slovenskej cirkevnej provincie pripravený dar aj pre Bratislavu, ako druhé sídlo Bratislavsko-trnavskej arcidiecézy. Má ním byť nový organ pre Dóm sv. Martina.

Košice chcú spolu s americkým Blue Bird vyrábať autobusy

Košice (TASR) – Vstup do spoločného podniku na montáž amerických plne klimatizovaných autobusov na naftový a plynový pohon spoločnosti Blue Bird zvažuje mesto Košice a Dopravný podnik mesta Košice (DPMK), a.s.

Po vyše ročných rokovaniach je už na svete prvý návrh memoranda o spolupráci, ktorý prerokovalo 30. augusta košické Mestské zastupiteľstvo. Uložilo Magistrátu mesta Košice prepracovať memorandum podľa našich právnych predpisov a znovu predložiť na schválenie poslancom.

Podľa návrhu memoranda partnermi spoločného podniku s predbežným obchodným menom Blue Bird bus, Montážny závod Slovensko, spol. s r.o., by mali byť mestu Košice partnermi za americkú stranu spoločnosti Blue Bird, Structured Finance International (S.F.I.), zabezpečujúca financovanie a Tradex International Corporation ako sprostredkovateľ.

Ako uviedol zástupca Tradexu Lou Babjak, americký investor chce postupne v etapách investovať v Košiciach približne 50 miliónov USD. Zahŕňa to výstavbu nových výrobných a údržbárskych hál pre DPMK, zaškolenie zamestnancov a dodávku výrobných zariadení. Na začiatku by to bola ročná produkcia 100 autobusov, pričom cieľom spoločného podniku bude pokryť

na slovenskom trhu 30 až 35% z nutnej modernizácie dopravného parku autobusových spoločností.

Podľa predsedu predstavenstva DPMK Ladislava Bruňáka by sa v projekte využil ľudský potenciál podniku, pričom už v prvej etape by boli autobusy montované z amerických súčiastok o 0.5 milióna Sk lacnejšie, ako ponúka víťaz tendra na Slovensku. Autobusy by putovali aj na ďalšie trhy strednej a východnej Európy.

Poslanci košického MZ sú v názoroch na podnikateľský projekt zatiaľ nejednotní. Časť z nich poukazuje na to, že úlohou mesta nie je podnikáť, ale vytvárať podmienky na podnikanie, a vyjadrili tiež obavy, či bude výrobok konkurencieschopný a vyhovovať normám EÚ. Druhá skupina tvrdí, že je to jedinečná šanca zviditeľniť mesto, znížiť náklady na MHD, využiť lepšie miestne kapacity a zvýšiť zamestnanosť. Podľa Babjaka sa spoločnosť Tradex už pokúšala o podobný projekt vo Zvolene. Avšak pre bližšie nešpecifikované príčiny, údajne nejasné privatizačné okolnosti, sa napokon nerealizoval.

Blue Bird Corporation je najstarší výrobca autobusov v USA. Vyrába ich od roku 1927 vo svojom sídle vo Fort Valley v štáte Georgia.

Nové IT firmy v Košiciach pomáhajú minimalizovať odchod odborníkov do zahraničia

Košice (TASR) – Stabilizovať domácich odborníkov na informačné a komunikačné technológie (IT) a minimalizovať ich odchod za prácou do zahraničia pomáhajú slovenské i zahraničné pobočky IT-firiem, ktoré vznikajú v Košiciach. Vyše 500 pracovných miest vytvorila doteraz košická spoločnosť T-Systems Slovakia, ktorá má ambíciu byť na čele rozvoja IT priemyslu v košickom regióne. Ako uviedol jej generálny riaditeľ Jozef Ondas, pôsobenie v Košiciach mienia podstatným spôsobom ďalej rozširovať. Jedinou prekážkou môže byť nedostatok kvalifikovaných, ambiciózných a motivovaných ľudí s IT odbornosťou.

T-System už uzavrel s rozvojovou spoločnosťou zmluvu o výstavbe bizniscentra na území bývalého košického pivovaru, kde nájde prácu 1,200 zamestnancov. T-System je dcérskou spoločnosťou T-Systems Enterprise Service GmbH, ktorá je ako člen skupiny Deutsche Telekom popredným svetovým poskytovateľom informačných a komu-

nikálnych technológií. Spoločnosť T-System Slovakia nie je jedinou, ktorá pomáha na východnom Slovensku udržiavať mladých IT odborníkov. Vyše 100 týchto špecialistov, z ktorých podstatnú časť tvoria absolventi košickej Technickej univerzity (TU), zamestnáva napríklad košické Ness Development Center. Je prvým európskym softwarovým vývojovým centrom americkej spoločnosti Ness Technologies a zároveň prvým nájomníkom novovybudovaného košického Centra informačných technológií. T-Systems a Ness Slovakia sa spolu so spoločnosťami Siemens OSE, VSE IT služby, Cisco Systems Slovakia, Microsoft Slovakia, Slovak Telecom, košickou TU, Univerzitou P.J. Šafárika a Košickým samosprávnym krajom stali začiatkom tohto roka zakladajúcimi členmi združenia IT Vylley, ktorého perspektívnym cieľom je vytvoriť z východného Slovenska centrum informačných a komunikačných technológií.

U.S. Steel prevezme kanadskú oceliareň Stelco

New York (TASR) – Americká oceliarska skupina U.S. Steel Corp získa zhruba za 1.1 miliardy USD, v prepočte 27.3 miliardy SKK, kanadskú oceliareň Stelco, čo ďalej posilní jej pozíciu na severoamerickom trhu. Stelco je posledná veľká oceliareň v kanadskom vlastníctve. Spoločnosť vypísala aukciu po tom, ako sa v tomto roku zdvihla vlna prevzatí v kanadskom oceliarskom priemysle. U.S. Steel bude mať po prevzatí kanadskej firmy ročnú kapacitu surovej ocele zhruba 33 miliónov ton netto. Stelco vlastní dve firmy na výrobu ocelových platov v kanadskom Ontariu a niekoľko spoločných podnikov v USA a Kanade.

Pripomeňme a uctíme si Matku Terezu, sväticu 20. storočia

"Nečakajte na vodcov; začnite robiť sami, od človeka k človeku."

Matka Tereza

Francúzsky investor by prebudoval zámok v Hlohovci

Hlohovec (TASR) – Deväť investorov má záujem o kúpu a rekonštrukciu v zámku v Hlohovci. Samospráva mesta, ktorá je majiteľom objektu, sa rozhodla pamiatku predať z dôvodu nedostatku financií na jej rekonštrukciu a prevádzku.

Hodnotu vzácnej barokovej stavby s príslušným zámockým parkom a európskym unikátom – empírovým divadlom stanovil odhadca na 67 miliónov Sk. Radnica ale počíta s tým, že zámok predá za vyššiu cenu. Ale iba v prípade, ak ho neodkúpi ministerstvo kultúry, ktoré má v zmysle zákona prednostné kúpne právo. Rokovali o tom poslanci mestského zastupiteľstva na svojom zasadnutí začiatkom septembra.

Cieľom samosprávy je, ako sa vyjadril primátor Hlohovca Ján Dlhopolček, aby zámok slúžil aj verejnosti. Preto si stanovila podmienku, aby v prízemných priestoroch zámku bolo múzeum a reprezentačné priestory radnice. Medzi ponukami o kúpu je aj francúzsky investor, ktorý mal záujem prebudovať zámok so záhradou na štýl Versailles.

Hlohovecká radnica je vlastníkom zámku od začiatku nového tisícročia na základe rozhodnutia súdu. Mesto sa oň sporilo s Krajským úradom v Trnave ako zriaďovateľom Reedukačného domova pre mládež. Mladistvých delikventov zámok prichýlil už koncom

päťdesiatich rokov, po ich odchode do iných priestorov sa objekt veľmi rýchlo stal cieľom vandalov a chátral. K ujme prišla i obnovená kaplnka, kde bol vďaka finančnému príspevku hlohovského rodáka inštalovaná kópia oltára s motívom Nanebovstúpenia Panny Márie. Záchrana pre Hlohovecký zámok sa začala črtať pred niekoľkými rokmi, keď oň prejavilo záujem Aristokratické združenie Slovenska (AZS). Pripravilo projekt, ktorý chcel zámok zrekonštruovať a urobiť z neho sídlo slovenskej šľachty, zriadiť reprezentačné sály, obradnú sieň i vzdelávacie centrum. Zmluva s mestom na prenájom znela do roku 2055 s možnosťou odkúpenia, po nezhodách so súčasnými predstaviteľmi mesta bola v roku 2003 zrušená.

Monumentálny kaštieľ, obklopený rozsiahlym parkom s francúzskymi terasami a vzácnymi drevinami, je najvýznamnejšou stavebno-historickou pamiatkou Hlohovca. Na jeho mieste stál voľakedy Hlohovecký hrad vybudovaný v 10. storočí na starom slovenskom hradisku. V roku 1720 ho Erdődyovci prebudovali do súčasnej podoby. Predpokladá sa, že v minulosti bol zámok prepojený s leopoldovskou pevnosťou hlbokým labyrintom podzemných chodieb, vedúcim popod rieku Váh.



Kto z večešnu na večešňu
chodil v lete pyšne,
teraz keď sa jeseň blíži,
nemá groše zvyšné.

Aspoň stovku potrebuješ,
keď máš iba piatku -
na čokoľvek v dome kukneš,
na to treba sprátku.

Keď tak kráčaš po karpete,
až ťa srdce bolí -
na dlžobu si ho kúpil,
iba žene kvôli.

Keď si sadneš na stoličku,
až ťa kdesi bodne -
spomneš si, že na nárad,
máš dať ešte hodne.

Nuž a keď na matrac líhaš,
až ti boky páli,
dlažobou sú tak vypchaté
ako dáke skaly.

Lež aj čo sa v dome ozve,
to tiež splátku pýta -
keď to zrazu všetko čuješ,
porazilo by ťa.

V televízi neozve sa
spev a hudba sladká,
tá mašina iba vreští:
Splátka, splátka, splátka ...

Ak telefón v izbe cengá,
človek sa až ľaká,
od neho tiež masťný účet
na platenie čaká.

Podobne keď stroj na pranie
v bejsmente sa ruší,
nuž pesničkou o dlžobe
potrápi ti uši.

Keď to všetko potom človek
na papieri ráta,
nuž zapíše toľké lajstro
ako dáke vráta.

Rátaš teda, ale v tom ťa
celkom zájde spara -
veď v tom lajstri nie je ešte
zarátaná kára.

Ba aj mortgič na chalupu
pridať treba k tomu,
lebo ak tam splátku zmeškáš,
vyženú ťa z domu.

Nuž a dom sa neobíde
bez gásu a svetla
a ku tomu hrniec, miska,
obuv, šaty, metla.

Nuž ktože by stačil platiť
tieto veci všetky,
keď už nemáš na kus chleba
pre samučké pletky.

Ján Okál
VELKÝ KALENDÁR KOCÚRA

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

Výročná schôdza Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu, spolok č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že výročná členská schôdza Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu, spolok č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu 4. novembra 2007 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola Najsvätejšej Trojice v Yonkers, N.Y.

Prosíme všetkých predsedov spolkov, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov a privítame medzi sebou aj nedelegátov. Program schôdze bude zameraný na prípravu činnosti na budúce obdobie, na voľbu nových úradníkov a taktiež oboznámenie prítomných s finančnou správou. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia Spolku č. 41 Yonkers, N.Y.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka/ pokladníčka

Členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 25. novembra 2007 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční výročná členská schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v N.Y.C.

Na programe je finančná správa, príprava programu a voľba nových úradníkov na budúce obdobie. Vyzývame všetkých členov aby sa tejto výročnej schôdze zúčastnili.

Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta Daitová, tajomníčka

Jesenná tanečná zábava v New York City

Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New York City vás pozýva na Jesennú tanečnú zábavu, ktorá sa uskutoční v sobotu dňa 20. októbra 2007 o 7:00 hod. večer v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66th Street, New York City. Vstupné je \$25.00. V cene vstupenky je započítaná večera, káva a koláč. V priebehu podujatia bude losovaná tombola. Zabávať vás bude skupina Jozefa Jurášiho - Kontakty. Parkovanie v NYC je po 7:00 hod. večer bezplatné. Tešíme sa na vašu účasť.

Jozef Juráši, predseda

Zomrel bývalý apoštolský nuncius v SR Mons. Luigi Dossena

V nedeľu 9. septembra 2007 v dopoludňajších hodinách zomrel vo veku 82 rokov v rodnom Campagnola Cremasca bývalý apoštolský nuncius v Slovenskej republike, arcibiskup Mons. Luigi Dossena. Svätého Otca a Svätú Stolicu zastupoval na Slovensku v rokoch 1994-2001. Mal aktívnu účasť na príprave návštevy pápeža Jána Pavla II. na Slovensku v roku 1995, na vybudovaní apoštolskej nunciatury v Bratislave a na príprave a podpísaní Základnej zmluvy medzi SR a Svätou Stolicou.

Mons. Dossena sa narodil v Severnom Taliansku v Campagnola Cremasca 28.5.1925. Po filozofických a teologických štúdiách bol 25.3.1951 vysvätený na kňaza. V rokoch 1953-1955 študoval na Pápežskej cirkevnej akadémii, kde sa habilitoval pre diplomatickú službu Svätej Stolice. Pápež Pavol VI. ho 26.2.1973 vymenoval za titulárneho biskupa v Carpi a pronuncia v

Kórejskej republike. Počas svojej diplomatickej služby v Nikaragve, Hondurase, Washingtone, v Kórejskej republike, Senegale, Mali, Zelený roh, Mauritánii, Guinea Bissau a Peru. Svoju diplomatickú kariéru a službu Cirkvi zavŕšil v Slovenskej republike. V rokoch 1965-1973 bol spolupracovníkom Rady pre verejné záležitosti Cirkvi vo Vatikáne, kde mal na starosti anglicky hovoriace krajiny.

Mons. Dossena mal veľmi srdečný a hlboký vzťah k Slovensku a k jeho obyvateľom bez ohľadu na vierovyznanie. Svoju diplomatickú aktivitu sa usiloval o zmierňovanie politických napätí pre dobro celej krajiny. Pre svoju dušpastiersku priamosť sa tešil obľube koalíčných a opozičných politikov a najmä veriaceho ľudu, ktorého reč, ako zdôrazňoval, "treba rozumieť viac srdcom, ako jazykom".

TK KBS

Na Ekonomickej univerzite nová Fakulta aplikovaných jazykov

Bratislava (TASR) – Zámer pripravovať odborníkov pre inštitúcie Európskej únie na novej fakulte má Ekonomická univerzita v Bratislave. Jej pracovný názov je Fakulta aplikovaných jazykov. V školskom roku 2009/2010 by sme chceli prijať 100 až 150 študentov do prvého ročníka, povedal rektor Ekonomickej univerzity Rudolf Sivák. Predpokladom pre začatie výučby je doriešenie akreditácie fakulty. Personálne obsadenie je na 50 až 60 percent jasné, uviedol Sivák. Zdôraznil, že univerzita si dala za úlohu vychovať odborne a jazykovo zdatných ľudí pre inštitúcie a organizácie Európskej únie (EÚ). Jedným z podnetov pre vznik fakulty je nedostatok takýchto odborníkov.

Študenti sa budú pripravovať v anglickom, francúzskom a nemeckom jazyku a získajú vedomosti z oblasti ekonómie a ekonomiky. Podľa rektora by fakulta mala byť zaujímavá nielen pre študentov z krajín EÚ, ale aj zo štátov, ktoré chcú vstúpiť do únie.