



Jednota

THE UNION

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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

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

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NUMBER 5780

FCSU 2008 Jednota Scholarship Winners

The students pictured in this issue were chosen scholarship recipients by our Scholarship Committee as a result of their SAT scores, cumulative grade point average and class rank. In addition, each applicant was judged on the basis of his/her involvement in extra-curricular and volunteer activities. Emphasis was placed upon pride of being Catholic and Slovak as evidenced throughout the required essays on the application. Finally, financial need and the cost of their chosen colleges were evaluated.

The Committee selected 73 winners and each will receive a one-time grant of \$500.00. Included in these 73 winners are Alyssa Cipriano, Lindsay Doise, and Rachael Stock who were selected for the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund".

In addition to the above winners, there were two special awards given. Brian Hawkins is the recipient of the "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and Catherine Cooper is the recipient of the "Stephanie Husek Scholarship". These awards are also one-time grants and are in the amount of \$750.00 each.

Additionally, each scholarship winner will be issued a \$3,000.00 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy upon proof of graduation from college.

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A Sailing We Will Go

COME JOIN US ON A BAHAMAS CRUISE!



Come on board with the First Catholic Slovak Union for a four (4) night Bahamas Cruise. Last year's cruise was so successful; we are planning another cruise.

The Membership and Marketing Committee is sponsoring their Membership Meet aboard the "Majesty of the Seas", from November 17 -21, 2008. The "Majesty of the Seas" is a Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship. The itinerary from Miami includes stops in the Bahamas: Nassau/ Paradise Island, Cococay and Key West, Florida.

The cost for an outside ocean view stateroom is \$496.00 per person based on double occupancy and an inside stateroom is \$456.00 per person based on double occupancy which includes the cruise, port and government taxes, all pre-paid gratuities and transfer from the airport to the cruise ship and back. Included in this cost are your meals and entertainment as provided by

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Message From The President

Vitajte. Welcome.

Some of you are receiving the Jednota newspaper for the first time. Some may not even remember they are Members.

This is our effort to communicate with all of our Members. We have slightly reduced the number of newspaper issues to send out more copies to reach a larger audience.

The Jednota is also available on-line at www.FCSU.com. If you would rather read it on-line than get the hard-copy in the mail please contact us at 1-800-Jednota or by fax (1-800-642-4310) or by E-mail (FCSU@aol.com). It will save us printing and postage costs.

If you have questions or suggestions to improve the newspaper let us know. We are always looking for your input. If you want to submit articles please contact Mr. Anthony Sutherland, Editor, at:

JEDNOTA, 1011 Rosedale Avenue, Middletown, PA 17057-4835

Phone: 717- 944-0461 ; Fax: 717-944-3107

Remember this is your Society and your newspaper. Anything we can reasonably do to improve both is good for all of us.

Be in touch. I am always happy to hear from Members, young and old, either by mail, fax, phone or E-mail.

Fraternally,

Andrew M. Rajec

Andrew M. Rajec
President



FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY/IRA

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- 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)

Insights and Viewpoints



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

June 29, 2008

Saint Peter and Saint Paul **Matthew 16:13-19**

Gospel Summary

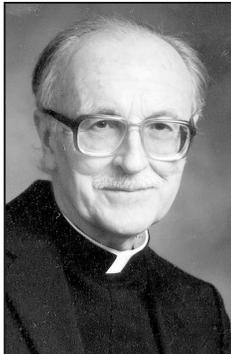
During his historical life, people knew Jesus and thought about him in many different ways. We are shocked to discover that some people called him Beelzebul, the prince of demons (Mt10:25). Jesus, aware of the diversity of opinions about him, asked his disciples, "But who do you say I am?" Peter responded, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him that he is blessed because his heavenly Father has revealed this to him.

Thereupon, Jesus declared that upon Peter (Rock) he will build his church, and bestow upon him the power of his own authority.

Life Implications

Our celebration of the Eucharist on the feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul is an expression of gratitude for the gift of Catholic faith and a prayer for a deepening of that faith. With Peter we are able to say to Jesus present among us, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus in reply says to each of us by name, as he said to Peter, "Blessed are you...for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father."

Just as people had many widely differing opinions about the identity of Jesus during his brief historical life, so now many people have widely differing opinions about the identity of



Champion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

the church. If today we honor Saint Peter for his confession of Jesus as Messiah and Son of the living God during his historical life, we honor Saint Paul for his confession of Jesus as Risen Lord present among us in his church. Flesh and blood did not reveal to Paul (Saul) that Jesus is now sacramentally present in history as the Catholic Church. On his way to Damascus to arrest disciples of Jesus, Paul experienced the remarkable gift of the same faith in the identity of the church that we share: "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" He said, "Who are you, sir?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." This incarnational identification of Jesus with his disciples is why Saint Paul could call the church the Body of Christ.

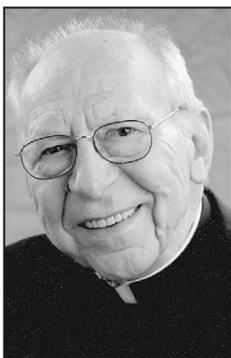
One of the most comforting aspects of Catholic faith is that through the church we are not only in living communion with Jesus, the Risen Lord, but with all the saints who are in communion with him. In our Eucharistic prayer, united in the Liturgy of Heaven, we sing in communion with them: Holy, Holy, Holy.

The saints continue to speak to us in their own words. Saint Peter says to us today, "Although you have not seen him [Jesus] you love him; even though you do not see him now you believe in him. You rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (I Peter 1:8-9). Saint Paul reminds us that our Eucharistic communion with the

Risen Lord in the church is the precious truth of Catholic faith: "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of one loaf" (I Cor 10:16-17). Saint Peter and Saint Paul, apostles and martyrs of faith, pray for us. Amen.

Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

There is No Authority Except from God



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

The one who possesses authority has the power or right to enforce obedience. It is in this light that we read this scripture. "...there is no authority except from God, and all authority that exists is established by God." (Romans 13:10)

God the supreme lawgiver has no one above him, no equals, and no substitutes, only subordinates both in spiritual law and civil law. "The man who opposes authority rebels against the ordinance of God." (Romans 13:2) Anyone in authority who defies, ignores, or makes judgments against the ordinance of God draws condemnation twofold upon himself because he misrepresents the ordinance of God and convinces others to do likewise.

Today, we witness these transgressions of authority both in subordinate authorities and in their subjects. We see these violations both in civil law and in spiritual law.

Justice has given way to pardon of the criminal in various ways, plea agreements, reduced sentences, house arrest, pardons, and early release from incarceration. The victim's families continue to bathe their faces in tears while the assailants trace smiles on their faces and enjoy the publicity of their notoriety.

Violations of spiritual law abound, not only through those who denigrate it as old fashioned, and obsolete but also through those who legislate against it in favor of personal freedom and, on the part of legislators, those who seek to gain (as in votes) the approval of their constituents. (A State Assemblyman, on the California courts ruling gay marriage as legal said: "I think we have seen a change in people's attitudes and beliefs on this subject, and we have many new and younger voters who do not hold the old discriminatory values." Note this scripture: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." Hebrews 13:8.)

In his Letter to the Romans Paul describes humanity without Christ. Referring to pagan society (pantheists, polytheists, hedonists), he writes: "God therefore delivered them up to disgraceful passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and the men gave up natural intercourse with women and burned with lust for one another. Men did shameful things with men, and thus received into their own persons the penalty for their perversity. They did not see fit to acknowledge God, so God delivered them up to their own depraved sense to do what is unseemly. They are filled with every kind of wickedness: maliciousness, greed, ill will, envy, murder, bickering, deceit, craftiness. They are gossipers and slanderers, they hate God, are insolent, haughty, boastful, ingenious in their wrongdoing and rebellious toward their parents. One sees in them men without conscience, without loyalty, without affection, without pity. They know God's just decree that all who do such things deserve death; yet they not only do them but approve them in others." (Romans 1:26-32)

Are these not the deeds we see today in our American culture? What is the reason for God's patience? "Do you not know that God's kindness is an invitation to you to repent? In spite of this your hard and impenitent heart is storing up retribution for that day of wrath when the just judgment of God will be revealed, when he will repay every man for what he has done: eternal life to those who strive for glory, honor, and immortality by patiently doing right,

continued on page 4

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated below because of special holiday scheduling. Copy that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday's issue.

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, JULY 9	FRIDAY, JUNE 27
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6	MONDAY, JULY 28
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	MONDAY, AUGUST 25

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

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Final Tribute to Ma Stipkala

By Frank M. Stipkala

It's been one year since my dear mother, Helen, died- June 28, to be exact. I was with her for 73 of her 101 years.

More than anything else, my Mom loved praying the Rosary and singing Marian hymns.

When she reached her 95th birthday, Mom began to experience trouble walking. So when we went to Sunday Mass at St. Margaret Mary Church, I would drive my car to the church door, help her out of the car, then put her right hand on the railings so she could walk up the three steps to the church entrance. Once inside, I guided her to the side altar area where she sat and prayed alone. The Eucharistic Ministers always gave her the Eucharist at her pew. That was the highlight of Mom's week, every week.

Because she still wanted to go shopping, I devised a plan, which would allow her to shop safely. I pulled my car up to the supermarket door, got out, found a shopping cart, brought it to her side of the car, then helped her grab onto the cart's handle. This was better than a walker. Once she got into the cashier's line, I went back to the parking lot, pulled my car to the store's exit, and waited patiently for her to appear. After unloading the 4 or 5 grocery bags, I helped Mom to sit down in the passenger seat, then I returned the cart to its resting place. During the five years that we navigated these church and shopping trips. Mom never fell. Her Guardian Angel made sure of that.

She was not so fortunate at home. Usually she got up about 5:45 a.m. to listen to the 6:05 a.m. Rosary on WELW radio. One morning I got up and looked for her in the kitchen next to the radio. She was nowhere in sight. Somewhat alarmed, I hurried closer to the radio only to find her peacefully lying on her back, still praying the Rosary. She

had fallen, but never uttered a sound.

Fortunately her aide arrived about fifteen minutes later, and we were able to get her back on her feet and to the breakfast table. She was fortunate, because most people of that age, who have a fall, suffer a broken hip!

Another time, on Christmas Eve, she had gone into my bedroom to fold back my blankets prior to bed time. When I heard a crash and loud thud coming from my bedroom, I knew Mom had fallen. Sure enough, she was wedged between the bed and the lounge chair. Fortunately my family members had gathered at my sister's home for the Vilija dinner, so when I called for help, two of them came over in five minutes. They righted Mom and escorted her to her bedroom. Again, no broken bones. Her Guardian Angel was working overtime.

If I were to enumerate all of her positive traits, they would fill this entire issue of the JEDNOTA. But for starters, she loved making multi-colored afghans. Every family member received three or four afghans and, even now, as I look around our home, her afghans are on every chair and sofa.

No family member ever had to visit a tailor, because every torn garment would be patched up on her 1905-vintage Singer treadle sewing machine. Whether it was a missing button, drapes or curtains that needed mending, belly-warmer neckties that had to be converted into slim-jims, or hem lines on her dresses that had to be shortened because osteoporosis had shrunk her carriage from 5'5" to 4'5", Mom did them all.

She raised her four children with tender-loving care, made home-cooked meals every day of her life, cleaned our home as if it had to pass God's inspection and then, somehow, found the time to go to downtown Cleveland, Ohio, and help clean major build-



Helen Stipkala with son Frank

ings, arriving home by streetcar at 1:30 in the morning.

As a young girl in Slovakia, she learned farming from her grandfather, following behind him as he plowed the soil in the spring or harvested the crops in the fall. She never forgot those talents when she came to America on March 28, 1928. Her garden produced bountiful amounts of tomatoes, pickles, beets, dill, green and yellow beans, lettuce, zucchini, onions and garlic.

Mom and Dad harvested the veggies and then spent about a week each fall putting them into a couple hundred Mason jars for our enjoyment the following twelve months.

After living with someone for seven decades, it's been difficult to become accustomed to living alone. The silence has been "stifling."

What I've missed the most are those cherished moments each evening when Mom and I said our evening prayers and her favorite prayer, the Rosary, in Slovak, followed by her singing of some of the hundred-plus Slovak hymns she knew from memory, to her beloved Blessed Virgin Mary.

So Draha Matka, till we meet again in your new home, heaven above. I leave you with this parting message: So Bohom. Dajte pozor na mna.

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Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

Insights and Viewpoints

Reflections on Our Christianity

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wrath and fury to those who selfishly disobey the truth and obey wickedness." (Romans 2: 4-8)

We who are standard-bearers for Jesus Christ are coming under siege by today's pagans who thrust their contempt for our Redeemer and Savior in our faces, who seek to destroy our consciences formed in the teaching of the gospels, who wage an unending struggle against all laws which deny them their immorality.

Our defense must be firm public witness against those who would nail Jesus Christ back upon the cross and deny his resurrection. Our witness must consist of good charitable deeds ranging from holding the door open for an entrant, saying a comforting word to one in pain, and coming to the assistance of one in need at the expense of our time and means. Our witness too should include some sign of our Christianity on our clothing such as a cross or the fish pin, which was the first sign of Christianity before the cross. The witness for the glory of God will cause the pagan in our midst to blush with shame.

Secondly, "Love your fellow Christians always." (Hebrews 13:1) "While we have the opportunity, let us do good to all men- but especially those of the household of the faith." (Galatians 6:10) Quintus Septimius Tertullianus (c. 160-240) quoted what the enemies of Christianity were saying, "See how these Christians love one another."

The parish church members should always be a family under the inspiring leadership of their spiritual father, the pastor. He must be approachable, one who listens, one who speaks with understanding, compassion and wisdom and before whom all are equal. He joins in the work of his congregants, those paid and volunteers, who make the parish work smoothly in all of its ministries. "You yourselves know that these hands of mine have served both my needs and those of my companions." (Paul in Acts 20:34) Saint Jerome in Letter 52 warns, "Avoid, as you would the plague, a clergyman who is also a man of business."

Paul has these words for the parish family members: "...clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect. Christ's peace must reign in your hearts, since as members of the one body you have been called to that peace. Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness. Let the word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you. In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another. Sing gratefully to God from your hearts in psalms, hymns and inspired songs. Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:12-17)

In these ways, pastors and congregants, in giving witness and in practicing the virtue of love, will show the pagans among us how empty, how stained, how depressing are their lives and, prayerfully, prompt them to shed the shell that burdens them so.

A Sailing We Will Go

continued from page 1

Royal Caribbean. (Optional insurance and airfare package is available through Paul J. Hudak of Adventure International Travel, Inc. at (216) 228-7171 or (800) 542-2487). **A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is required to secure a cabin.**

The First Catholic Slovak Union is not responsible for your travel arrangements or cost to and from Miami, Florida. Please contact Adventure International Travel, Inc. or your own travel agent to make those arrangements. A valid U.S. passport will be required.

The deadline for final payment is September 1, 2008; anyone interested after this date must contact Adventure International Travel directly for available cabin space. The cruise is open to all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union and their guests.

If you have any questions, please contact the Home Office and ask for Karen at 1-800-533-6682.

HURRY – STATEROOMS ARE LIMITED

Staterooms will be reserved on a first come – first served basis.
Make your reservations today!



Apostleship of Prayer Intentions for June 2008

General Intention

Friendship with Christ. That all Christians may cultivate a deep and personal friendship with Christ so to communicate the strength of his love to every person they meet.

Pope Benedict XVI's recent book, JESUS OF NAZARETH, stresses that being Christian depends on building an intimate friendship with Jesus. It's the great theme of his entire life's work. That he makes it his general prayer intention for June shows that friendship with Christ is still uppermost in his mind and that he associates it as well with devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Sometimes Catholics are taken aback when confronted by this question: "Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior?" Our answer should be, "Yes, I do. Jesus is a close personal friend of mine." The Pope wants us to pray that all Christians may cultivate a deep personal friendship with Christ because without it what can be the substance of faith in Christ? Without friendship with Jesus, how can we communicate his love to others?"

In his homily at his inaugural Mass in April 2005, Pope Benedict said: "There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know him and speak to others of our friendship with him."

Friendship is a connection of hearts. The love of Jesus for us comes from his Heart. Our response to his love must come from our hearts. Referring to the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Holy Father wrote that this "devotion, which is totally oriented to the love of God who sacrificed himself for us, has an irreplaceable importance for our faith and for our life in love." Because it speaks of Christ's redemptive suffering, the Pope affirms that the "basis of the devotion is as old as Christianity itself."

The Holy Father said, "We so often feel, and it is true, that we are only useless servants. Yet, in spite of this, the Lord calls us friends."

Reflection

How has your friendship with Jesus Christ developed over the years?

Mission Intention

International Eucharist Congress. That the International Eucharistic Congress in Quebec may lead to greater understanding that the Eucharist is the heart of the Church and the source of evangelization.

In his apostolic exhortation, Pope Benedict XVI made the following connection between friendship with Christ, the Eucharist, and evangelization. "In my homily at the Eucharistic celebration solemnly inaugurating my Petrine ministry, I said that 'there is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know him and to speak to others of our friendship with him.'

"These words are all the more significant if we think of the mystery of the Eucharist. The love that we celebrate in the sacrament is not something we can keep to ourselves. By its very nature it demands to be shared with all. What the world needs is God's love; it needs to encounter Christ and to believe in him. The Eucharist is thus the source and summit not only of the Church's life, but also of her mission: 'an authentically Eucharistic Church is a missionary Church.'

It's beautiful too to reflect on those words while praying for the International Eucharist Congress being held in Quebec this month. What is the 'mystery of the Eucharist' of which the Holy Father speaks? It is the truth that Jesus is alive in the sacrament. He gives himself to us that we can share him with others.

We Apostles of Prayer likewise practice a Eucharistic spirituality. We respond to Jesus' gift of himself to us—his original atoning death re-presented daily in the Mass—by our daily offering to him of our entire day, including all our prayers, works, joys, and sufferings, in the words of our traditional prayer. We do it for the salvation of others throughout the world. We do it out of love that is nourished by the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We call it our "simple, profound, way of life."

This month we are challenged by the Pope to pray that many in the Church and outside the Church may come to a deeper understanding of the Eucharist, the heart of the Church and the source of evangelization.

Reflection

How does receiving the Eucharist relate to your personal friendship with Jesus and your witnessing to him?

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

YOUTH ROUND-UP



Heather and Kristen Barczynski

Barczynski Sisters Earn Girl Scout Bronze Awards

Heather Lynn and Kristen Marie Barczynski, daughters of Dr. and Mrs. John L. Barczynski, were each recently presented the Girl Scout Bronze Award at the 2008 Troop 909 Court of Honor. In addition, both girls crossed over from Junior Girl Scouts to Cadette Girl Scouts as part of that ceremony as well. They have been part of Troop 909 for the past seven years having previously been Daisy and Brownie troop members.

At a Mass of Celebration on April 20 at the the Diocese of Pittsburgh's St. Paul's Cathedral, both girls were presented their "Kateri Tekakwitha" Religious Award as part of the 54th Annual Scout Convocation. They had also earned the "I Live My Faith" and the "Family of God" Religious Awards previously.

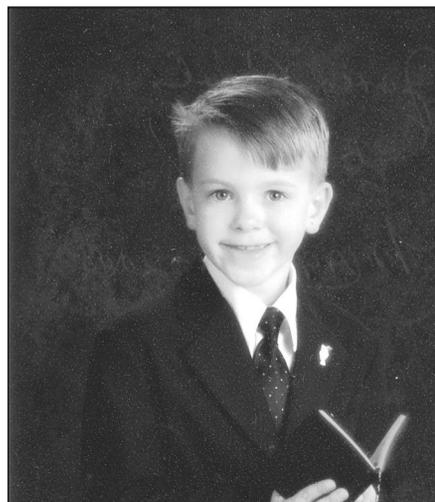
Both girls are sixth grade honor roll students at Marshall Middle School, and are on the YMCA Swim Team, are St. Alphonsus Church members and play the piano. They both were recently part of the MusicFest held at Westminster College on the piano. At their parish, they were participants in this year's Passion Play, Harvest Home Dinner volunteers, part of the CCD Program, singers in the Children's Choir, and are altar servers. In addition, Heather plays viola in the School Orchestra, enjoys writing and poetry, and is on the soccer team, while Kristen is in the School Choir, and enjoys art and guitar.

Kristen and Heather live about 17 miles north of "The Point" in downtown Pittsburgh in Franklin Park Borough, Pennsylvania, and along with their brother, John Edward, are triplet fourth generation members of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 567 in Allentown, Pennsylvania.



Bishop David Zubik recently conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Valentine Church in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania. Pictured with Bishop Zubik is one of the conferees, Thomas Bailey, a member of Branch 410, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, along with his sponsor Robert Zelenak, also a member of Branch 410. Thomas is an eighth grader at St. Valentine School, Bethel Park and is the son of Tom and Lillian Zelenak Bailey.

Rochelle N. Popovich graduated cum laude on Friday, May 16, 2008 from Ursuline College with a R.N.-BSN Degree. She is the daughter of Gerald and Catherine Popovich. Rochelle and her family are members of the St. Joseph Society, Branch 1 in Lakewood, Ohio.

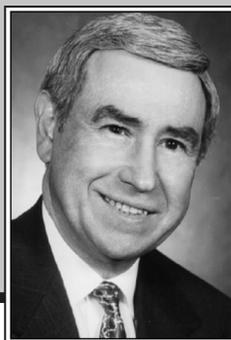


Jared Carl Dubber at his First Communion

Jared Carl Dubber received the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist for the first time on Sunday, May 4, 2008, at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Lakewood, Ohio. Jared is a second grade student at Hayes School in Lakewood. He is the son of David and Karen Dubber. Jared and his entire family are members of the St. Joseph Society, Branch 1 in Lakewood, Ohio.



MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS



By Joseph T. Senko

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



Understand Medicare Advantage Plans

Are you or a loved one enrolled in Medicare? This government health insurance program for older Americans offers many choices in terms of coverage and available plans. Given the wide range of options, make sure that you understand the options available.

Get the Facts

When choosing this, or any other health insurance option, learn as much as possible about the plan before you make a commitment. This advice was proven recently in relation to some Medicare Advantage private fee-for-service plans. A Medicare Advantage Plan is designed to extend coverage beyond the basic Medicare programs. These plans, which are often referred to as Medicare Part C, are similar to a PPO or HMO and can combine hospital, medical, and prescription drug coverage in one plan available through private insurers approved by Medicare.

Problems Discovered

While Medicare Advantage plans can be an excellent choice in some circumstances, Congress and many states have investigated abusive sales tactics employed by marketers selling private fee-for-service Medicare Advantage plans. According to the Center for Medicare Advocacy, those enrolled in the plans sometimes face difficulties in finding doctors to treat them. There have also been instances when a private pay-for-service plan offered no more than traditional Medicare, but charged a higher fee.

Know What to Ask

One of the questions about any plan should be which doctors will accept this insurance, since some doctors won't accept patients from Private Medicare plans. You'll also want to know whether you can see doctors or use hospitals outside the plan's network. Then ask about each plan's premiums, coinsurance, and deductible to make sure they are affordable and compare well with other options, including the original Medicare plan. Find out if the plan provides added benefits beyond what you would get in the basic Medicare plan, such as prescription drug coverage. When you have a Medicare Advantage plan you usually don't need Medigap insurance, so confirm that this is the case when you sign up.

Resources Available

There are many sources of information on Medicare. The main government Web site is www.medicare.gov, or you can call (800) 633-4227 (800-MEDICARE). There are also helpful resources on the Social Security Administration Web site at www.ssa.gov. For questions on another front, "Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage- Your Questions Answered," published by the American Association of Retired People, is available on that group's web site at www.aarp.org.

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Lawrence Basista
Branch 35
Braddock, Pennsylvania



Lawrence Basista, 79, President of Branch 35, Braddock, Pennsylvania, and Vice President of the Pittsburgh District, died Friday, May 16, 2008.

Known to everyone as "Larry", he was retired from the USX E.T. Works. He was a Korean War Army veteran, a member of the Slovak Social Club, and life long member of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Libby" Basista; children, Lauren Zahorchak, Lizanne and Larry Basista; a stepson, Ted Rutkowski; a brother, Edmund Basista; three grandchildren, Bonnie Dyer, and Ian and Sean Zahorchak; and one great-grandson, Ethan Zahorchak. He was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph Basista.

Larry was an active member of the Jednota. He participated in many bowling tournaments, attended many functions in the Pittsburgh District, and served as a delegate to several Jednota conventions.

Friends were received at the Ronald V. Lucas Funeral Home in North Braddock. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, May 20, in Good Shepherd Church, with military honors. Interment was in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies.

Joseph Yuros

Andrew Trojcek
Branch 278
Middletown, Pennsylvania

Andrew Trojcek, 81, of Conewago Township, Pennsylvania, died May 23, 2008 at Hershey Medical Center.

He was born August 1, 1926 in Mala Vieska, Slovakia. He immigrated to Canada at the end of World War II where he worked as a high rise steel foreman and a printer. He was a retired typesetter at the former Jednota Printery in Middletown, where he specialized in English to Slovak translation. He also served as President of Branch 278 of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Middletown, PA.

He was an active member of Seven Sorrows BVM Catholic Church in Middletown, where he served as an usher and Eucharistic Minister. He was also a member of The Slovak Catholic Federation, The Legion of Mary and The Blue Army. He was a 3rd Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 3501, Middletown and participated in the Cursillo Movement.

He enjoyed planting fruit trees, gardening and cutting firewood. He was an avid Pittsburgh sports fan and a spiritual mentor for many young musicians at his sons recording studio.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Anna Trojcek of Conewago Township; a son, Joe and his wife, Lynne Trojcek of Lower Paxton Township; a brother, Joseph Trojcek; a sister, Helen Bednar; an aunt, Veronica Trojcek; and numerous nieces and nephews in Slovakia.

Friends were received at the Matincheck and Daughter Funeral Home, Middletown. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Seven Sorrows Church. Interment was in The Middletown Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to Seven Sorrows BVM parish development program, 401 Conewago St., Middletown, PA 17057.

Eulogy

Given by Joseph Trojack at Funeral

Andrew Joseph Trojcek was born August 1, 1926 in Mala Vieska Slovakia. It is a village the size of Hummelstown, just a few kilometers from Kosice, a city the size of Pittsburgh that was connected to Mala Vieska with a train and a small winding road.

He grew up working in farm fields, taking care of horses. He also grew up during the height of World War II where his friends often chased after shot down planes so that they could run off with the radio and listen to the BBC. This is was the beginning of his passion for news and communication.

Andy witnessed the harshness of war. He recounted how the Germans came through his village. They took watches, jewelry, farm animals and set the new rules. It was much worse when the Russians came through – They smashed everything, attacked the woman and pushed a total godless mind set on his people. He was drafted and told to join a Soviet tank division and quickly gathered with a few other friends and began his run to freedom - kissing his weeping mother good bye and only being able to wave to his Father – who died a few years later after being persecuted for Andy's escape.

Dad ventured in and out of the border's of Slovakia, Hungary and finally Germany where he worked in a labor camp for several weeks. They were fed stale bread dipped in fish oil. This forever removed his desire to eat any kind of fish – the smell was too much.

He finally set sail for America and arrived in New York City where he found that the United States was over run with immigrants – but Canada needed young hard working men.

He ended up in the Toronto area where he found a Slovak Catholic community and quickly made friends. He started off as a farm hand, knowing that at least he would always have access to food, and moved into construction. His work ethic and love for mathematics landed him a job as a steel foreman for several high rise structures. This was a favorite accomplishment of Andy - barely able to speak English in this new world but given such responsibility. A fierce argument in which a co-worker threw an ax at him and missed ended his construction career.

He was ready for something new.

He knew that learning our native language was paramount to success in his new land so Andy set out learning English by watching Gene Autry films and "Perry Mason". He always enjoyed Westerns.

It was at this point that he attended a wedding where his life would change forever – he met the love of his life Anna. My grandparents, Martin and Mary, who we always referred to by the formal Slovak title of Dzedo and Baba, took an instant liking to him. Anna and Andy married in Pittsburgh in 1958. They moved to Canada but decided that Pittsburgh would be their home.

Andy took courses at Carnegie Tech where he received his High School equivalency. He had fond memories of being stuck in the massive traffic jam that engulfed Pittsburgh when the Pirates beat the Yankees in 1960. We were also together as a family listening on the Radio when Franco Harris caught the

immaculate reception that jump started his Pittsburgh Steelers.

But it was printing that brought him to this parish (Seven Sorrows Catholic Church in Middletown) - The Jednota Printing Company where he could put his English and Slovak skills together as a typesetter. He operated a Linotype, a strange beast of cast iron, melting lead and brass type fonts that was the cutting edge technology until the mid 70's when he encouraged the jump to computers. He loved typing out the Gospels for the week in two languages and printing funeral cards for Frank Matincheck.

His second cousin Gerry Gaydos of Canada recounted that "Andy's tour of the Jednota press that he gave our family in the early 70's influenced me to study graphic design which has become my life's passion".

Andy quickly made friends in Middletown – especially at this church. He used his Carpentry skills to cut the pews for Fr. Marinak in the early seventy's and was in the first group of Eucharistic Ministers.

Dad moved the family to our apartment at Jednota Estates knowing one day that I would have one of the best environments a kid could have to grow up in. He was very close with the Sisters of St. Cyril and Methodias who ran the orphanage next door – but he developed a very strong bond with Fr. Andrew Sylvester the Benedictine chaplain - who became his spiritual advisor.

Fr. Sylvester had an intense vision for the future – He read food labels before anyone cared to and feared the construction of Three Mile Island. He also told Andy to buy property. Dad came across 18 acres of woods and the three of us transformed them into a home and one day a print shop. The energy crisis of the late 70's convinced Dad that we have a fantastic ever renewable heat source with wood, so Dad and I have some of our best bonding moments cutting and splitting fire wood. Even this past week as his body only permitted him to work on the pit crew of our 2 man lumberjack team, I discovered that he sharpened the saws for me and we were discussing splitting stacking. We also replenished the forest by planted fruit trees and many enjoyed the apple crisp that mom baked.

Continuous fears of the closing of the Jednota print shop prompted dad to collect older printing machines so that he could support us one day. Jednota lasted beyond his retirement and he quickly realized my passion for communication lie with music and audio production. So we began to build progressive studios.

Thankfully Andy was a deep sound sleeper. We would have rehearsals and improve session where he napped near the wood stove only a few feet away from a pounding drum set. The business grew and we brought his brother Joe and cousin Stanley here to frame the full size studio. Dad could see the plans in his head and all of his structures were beyond solid. He had many innovative great short cuts – once he and my mom moved a set of twenty foot beams into position by placing them on roller skates.

He was immensely proud of the studio – especially the main tracking room. He joked that the crooked walls, designed to maximize the acoustics, were that way because the carpenter we hired was drunk. Dad loved that the names of the 8 sound diffusers, big book shelves that are strategically hung on

the walls were named The Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Faith, Hope, Charity, Patience and Freedom. We introduced this to our clients telling them – You are now surrounding by good things – the rest is up to you.

So how do you summarize my Dad's life which spans 3 Country's that he deeply loved – especially his homecoming to Slovakia last year where my wife Lynne and I shared quality time with over 30 of our relatives?

Allow me to use his favorite film series and the timing could not be better – The Adventures of Indian Jones – Films the entire family can enjoy. He was looking forward to the 4th one.

In the first film, we are introduced to the hero Indy who has to come face to face with the same enemy my Dad had to face – so when you see Harrison Ford's look of fear as he utters the words, "Nazi's – I hate those guys" – you can see how Dad could relate. But Andy's deep reverence for God was mirrored in the end of the film when the Arc of the Covenant opened and Indy screamed – don't look at it". Dad had the utmost reverence for the Power of Almighty God.

In the second film, Temple of Doom, we find a new country with a new sinister evil. The happy ending with the reunion of the children to their families reminds me of Dad's passion for youth – the future of the church and any sound organization.

But it is the third film that defines Andy's life to a "T" – The Last Crusade (Quest for the Holy Grail). Dad loved James Bond Films and was delighted to see Sean Connery play the role of Indy's father. You could understand how Dad loved the idea of The real Grail being the humble wooden cup of a carpenter.

But there are 2 important differences in my Dad's life and that of Indiana Jones. Andy remained ever faithful to the love of his life Anna – and that was evident last weekend at the Mass for all couples celebrating their 50th anniversary. He was as happy as we had ever seem him.

The second was Dad's Quest - He did not just search for the Holy Grail – he searched for what was inside that cup – the Body and Blood of our Savior. He spent many hours meditating in the Eucharistic chapel in Palmyra where he prayed for the intentions of many people. Many times I would inform him of sick friends or clients and within a few minutes, he put his hat on and drove off to be with the Lord.

And like the gunshot wound inflicted on Indy's father, Dad suffered briefly. When the hospital called (Friday May 23, 2008) and alerted us that his breathing was starting to decline – I called Mom and she stated: "I had a dream in which Dad received communion." I rushed to the hospital just missing his passing into eternal rest at 6:45 am – the time of the first Mass in our area where my friend John Kelly attended and told me – "I've got you covered".

The cup of Christ had healed Indy's Father.

– The Body of Christ, which Dad received 1 hour before he fell over on Wednesday, prepared Dad for his ultimate trip to his new home in heaven.

Anyone who knew my Dad over the decades understood that he was a hard worker

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2008 International Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 12 - 13, at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course near Canton, OH.

Registration forms have been mailed out the week of May 19. Registration forms can also be found in this issue of the Jednota paper.



2008 Jednota Golf Tournament Social Events



Saturday Night (at Courtyard Marriott, Canton)

Meal includes:

Salad, Chicken Marsala, Pork Loin with Mushroom Demi-Glaze, Rice Pilaf, Redskin Potatoes, Vegetables, Dessert

Entertainment to be announced

Cost: Golfers \$20
Guests \$35

Sunday Afternoon (at Tam O'Shanter Pavilion)

Meal includes:

All you can eat hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad, and iced tea.

Cost: Golfers and Guests \$15

Make Checks payable to FCSU Activities and return form with payment by July 2 to:

Susan Ondrejco
234 Iliion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Name: _____

Check all that apply:

- Golfer Saturday Only Guest Saturday Only
 Golfer Sunday Only Guest Sunday Only

Amount Enclosed: _____

Cleveland Radio Club Picnic Set for June 29

The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club will sponsor its annual picnic on Sunday, June 29, 2008, from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at the Sokol Farm, 2069 Royalwood Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. There will be Slovak food and pastries. Music will be provided by the John Pastirik orchestra. Admission is \$4.00 per person. Proceeds will benefit the Slovak Hour in Cleveland heard every Sunday from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. AM on WERE 1490. Everyone is welcome to attend

Milan Kobulsky

Allentown Church Festival to be Held June 28

St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church will hold its annual Festival on Saturday, June 28, 2008, from 12:00 noon until 9:00 p.m. at the church, 924 North Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Ethnic foods and homemade baked goods will be available. For information call Helen Fiala at 610/434-8614.

2008 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

Friday, July 11

- ◆ Hospitality Room, Courtyard Marriott, Canton. 6 PM - 10 PM

Saturday, July 12

- ◆ Registration begins at 7am. Golf starts at 8am.
 - 100 golfers are required for a Shotgun Start
 - Less than 100 golfers will have scheduled tee times
- ◆ Tam O'Shanter Golf Course - DALES course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Courtyard Marriott, Canton.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6:30pm at the Courtyard Marriott, Canton.

Sunday, July 13

- ◆ Golf starts at 8am, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course - HILLS course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:

Courtyard Marriott
4375 Metro Circle NW. - Canton, OH 44720
(877) 867 - 7666
(330) 494 - 6494
Rate: \$109/night +tax

** Cut off date June 11, 2008, for Group Rate**

Other area hotels:
Holiday Inn (330) 494 - 2770

2008 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

July 12 and 13, 2008

Tam O'Shanter Golf Club, Hills and Dales Courses
Canton, OH

Registration Forms postmarked after July 2, 2008 will NOT be accepted.

1. Golfer Name _____

Place me in the over 65 Division* (check the box)

My Personal Information is the same as 2007** (check the box)

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Branch Number _____

Certificate Number _____

2. Golfer Name _____

Place me in the over 65 Division* (check the box)

My Personal Information is the same as 2007** (check the box)

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Branch Number _____

Certificate Number _____

* You must be age 65 or over to enter this division.

** If you participated in the 2007 tournament and your personal information has not changed, you do not need to complete the rest of the information.

Note: Those who have not participated in 2 tournaments in the last 10 years will be placed in the Callaway Division.

Fees:	Dales Course Greens Fees (played Saturday):	\$38
	Hills Course Greens Fees (played Sunday):	\$38
	Tournament Expenses:	\$10
	Prize Fund:	\$12
	TOTAL DUE	\$98

Please make checks payable to "FCSU Activities" and mail this registration form with check to:
Susan Ondrejco
234 Iliion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Those who provide email addresses will be notified of the schedule via email.

Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU

Any Golfer who acts in an un-sportsmanlike manner will be disqualified from the tournament.

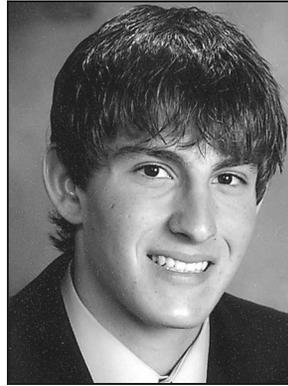
2008 Jednota Scholarship Winners

continued from page 1

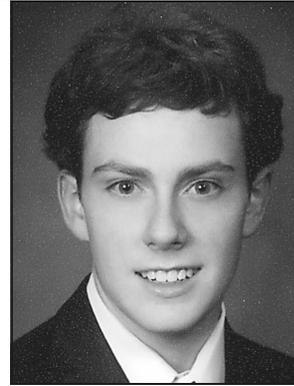
All applicants who did not receive a scholarship will be given a one-time \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bond in appreciation of their efforts.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

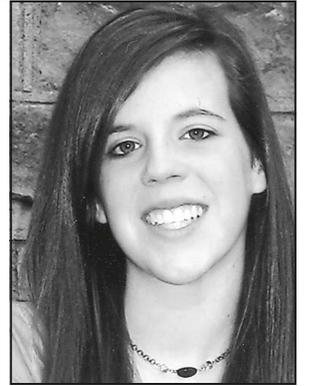
Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



MATTHEW J. BLAHUNKA
Parents: Steve & Kathy Blahunka, Branch: 743KJ ~ Warren, MI, College/University: University of Michigan, Major: Pre-Med

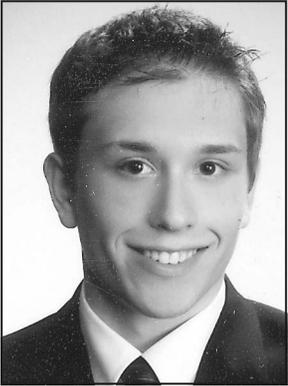


PAUL M. BOYLAN
Parents: Peter & Elaine Boylan, Branch: 326K ~ New Philadelphia, PA, College/University: Wilkes University, Major: Pre-Pharmacy



CATHERINE M. BRETT
Parents: James & Susan Brett, Branch: 23KJ ~ Johnstown, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Biology

Philip Hrobak Award



BRIAN J. HAWKINS
Parents: James & David Hawkins, Branch: 888K, Youngstown, OH, College/University: Ohio State Major: Mechanical Engineering

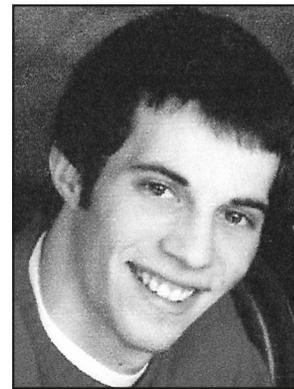
Stephanie Husek Award



CATHERINE M. COOPER
Parents: Chris & Marian Cooper, Branch: 166K ~ Windsor, NY, College/University: University of Virginia Major: History



JOHN L. BRINDLE
Parents: Michael & Theresa Morgart, Branch: 330K ~ Tacoma, WA, College/University: Missouri Southern State University, Major: Chemistry



AUSTIN J. BROWN
Parents: Kenneth & Sharon Brown, Branch: 764K ~ Warren, OH, College/University: Undecided, Major: Biochemistry



JAMEY BUTALA
Parents: Tim & Julia Butala, Branch: 181K ~ Latrobe, PA, College/University: Washington & Jefferson Colleg, Major: Pre-med

John A. Sabol Nursing Awards – 3



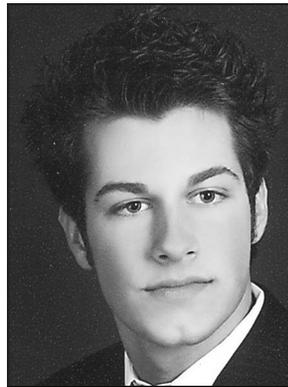
ALYSSA M. CIPRIANO
Parents: Thomas Jr. & Lillian Cipriano, Branch: 003P ~ Hazleton, PA, College/University: Misericordia University, Major: Nursing



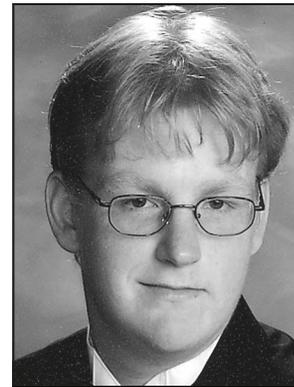
LINDSAY DOISE
Parents: Cliff & Linda Doise, Branch: 153 ~ Chicago, IL, College/University: South Suburban College, Major: Nursing



RACHAEL A. STOCK
Parents: Earl & Debra Stock, Branch: 098KJ ~ Torrington, CT, College/University: Messiah College, Major: Nursing



MICHAEL J. CAMPAYNO
Parents: Jesse & Aimee Campayno, Branch: 213KJ ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Point Park University, Major: Broadcast journalism/Musical Theatre



JONATHON G. CARPENTER
Parents: Donna L. Carpenter, Branch: 888K ~ Palm Beach Gardens, FL, College/University: Palm Beach Atlantic University, Major: Computer Science



TANYA CHANDIK STASKOW
Parents: Catherine Chandik, Branch: 784K ~ Montreal, Quebec, Canada, College/University: Cegep John Abbott College, Major: Social Science with Math



NICHOLAS S. AMBRO
Parents: Stephen & Jay Ambro, Branch: 754K ~ Independence, OH, College/University: Ball State University, Major: Telecommunications



KAYLA C. BENCH
Parents: Sharon Bench, Branch: 181K ~ United, PA, College/University: Indiana University of PA, Major: Early Childhood & Elementary Education



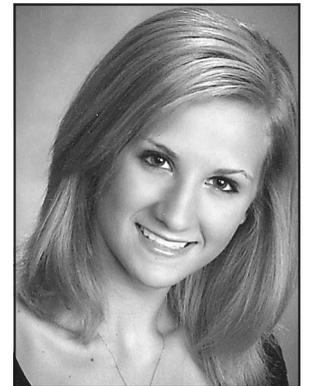
KATHRYN A. BILLOW
Parents: Andrew & Marilyn Billow, Branch: 23KJ ~ Johnstown, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Business



AMANDA R. DANKO
Parents: Russell & Doreen Danko, Branch: 006K ~ Streator, IL, College/University: Illinois Valley Community College, Major: Education

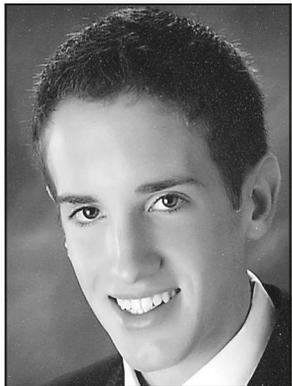


CAROL A. CIACCO
Parents: John & Tammy Ciacco, Branch: 823K ~ Youngwood, PA, College/University: Robert Morris University, Major: Accounting



JAMIE CLARK
Parents: Darrell & Diane Clark, Branch: 313K ~ Orland Park, IL, College/University: Illinois State University, Major: Marketing

2008 Jednota Scholarship Winners



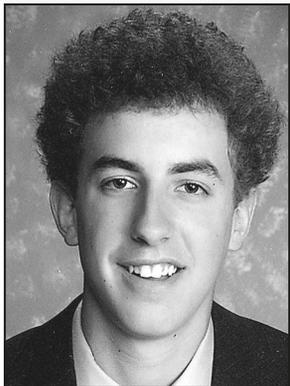
DANIEL P. DUNN

Parents: Daniel & Teresa Dunn, Branch: 240P ~ Clarks Summit, PA, College/University: Penn State University, Major: Mechanical Engineering



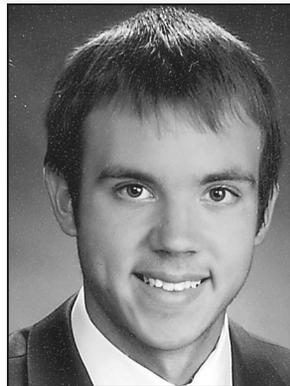
JENNA A. GATCHIE

Parents: Joseph & Monica Gatchie, Branch: 005P ~ Exeter, PA, College/University: Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Major: Early Childhood/Elementary Education



JORDAN GAZZA

Parents: Bill & Beth Gazza, Branch: 484K ~ Graceton, PA, College/University: University of Mississippi, Major: Business



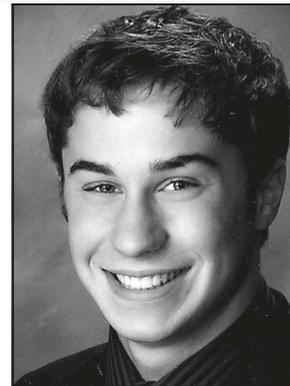
JACOB J. GORONCY

Parents: Joseph & Rita Goroncy, Branch: 853K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Ohio State University, Major: Engineering



AMY E. GEISLER

Parents: Martin & Barbara Geisler, Branch: 618K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Chemical Engineering



ANDREW C. GROMELSKI

Parents: Edmund & Annette Gromelski, Branch: 27P ~ Dureya, PA, College/University: Misericordia University, Major: Speech-Language Pathology



SAMANTHA GUIDISH

Parents: Robert & Patricia Guidish, Branch: 738K ~ Munhall, PA, College/University: Robert Morris University, Major: Business Administration



CHERYL L. GUYER

Parents: David & JoAnn Guyer, Branch: 731K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: Youngstown State University, Major: Undecided



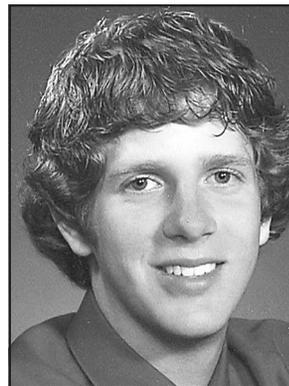
ANNA L. HUNKA

Parents: Karen Hunka, Branch: 181K ~ United, PA, College/University: Boston University, Major: Foreign Language



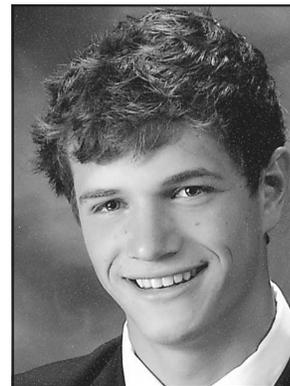
APRIL M. JOHNSON

Parents: Curtis & Cheryl Johnson, Branch: 199K ~ Hostetter, PA, College/University: Washington & Jefferson College, Major: Biology



PHILIP J. JOHNSTON

Parents: George & Debra Johnston, Branch: 738K ~ Munhall, PA, College/University: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Aerospace Engineering



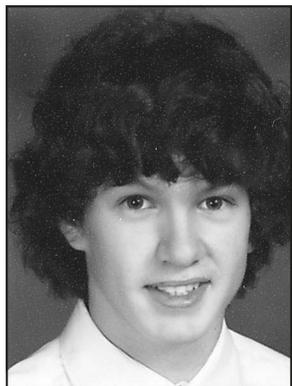
JEFFREY KACSANEK

Parents: Michael & Vivian Kacsanek, Branch: 553K ~ Akron, OH, College/University: Ohio University, Major: Biology



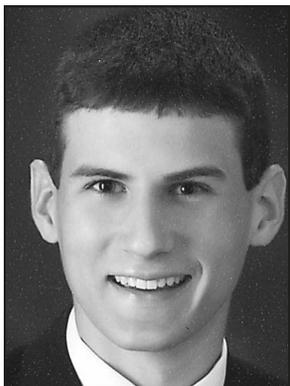
KATHERINE J. KAVULIC

Parents: Susan Hudak & Gerald Kavulic, Branch: 855K ~ Independence, OH, College/University: John Carroll University, Major: Communication in the College of Arts and Sciences



BENJAMIN G. KLOPHAUS

Parents: Gary & Monica Klopheus, Branch: 567KJ ~ Allentown, PA, College/University: Penn State University, Major: Business



ALAN J. KOLONSKY

Parents: David & Judith Kolonsky, Branch: 410K ~ Hibbs, PA, College/University: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Engineering



TIANA L. LAKE

Parents: Ricky & Sharon Lake, Branch: 367K ~ Fairchance, PA, College/University: California University of Pennsylvania, Major: Psychology



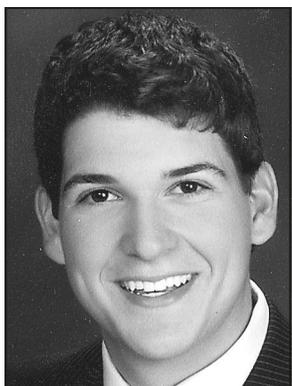
TIMOTHY D. LEWIS

Parents: Robert & Virginia Lewis, Branch: 312KJ ~ Bagdaley, PA, College/University: Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Major: BS Music Education



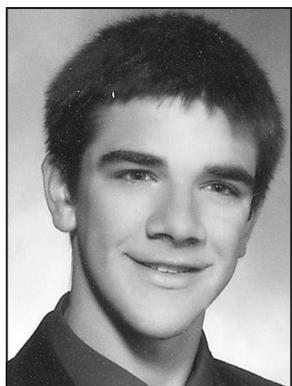
HANNAH LOCH

Parents: Thomas & Patricia Loch, Branch: 157K ~ N. Catsauqua, PA, College/University: Gettysburg College, Major: Chemistry



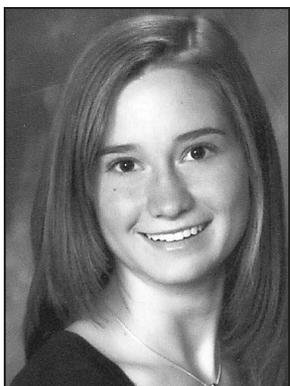
ANTHONY LUCHANSKY

Parents: Mark & Anne-Marie Luchansky, Branch: 308K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: Ohio Northern University, Major: Pharmacy



BENJAMIN D. MATTA

Parents: David & Pamela Matta, Branch: 276K ~ McKeesport, PA, College/University: Penn State University, Major: Communications



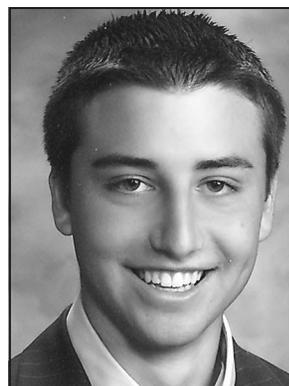
AMANDA R. MCGETTIGAN

Parents: Richard & Marianne McGettigan, Branch: 266K ~ Hazleton, PA, College/University: Alvernia College, Major: Forensic Science



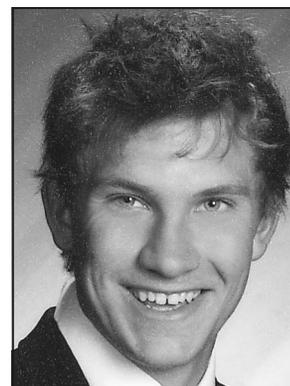
KATIE MCGINNIS

Parents: Daniel and Michelle McGinnis, Branch: 484KJ ~ Coral, PA, College/University: Boston University, Major: Dietetics



MATTHEW D. MINESE

Parents: David & Laura Mineese, Branch: 19KJ ~ Bridgeport, CT, College/University: University of Rhode Island, Major: Business



COLLIN MURPHY

Parents: Scott & Diane Murphy, Branch: 181KJ ~ Latrobe, PA, College/University: Seton Hall University, Major: Management/Criminal Justice

2008 Jednota Scholarship Winners



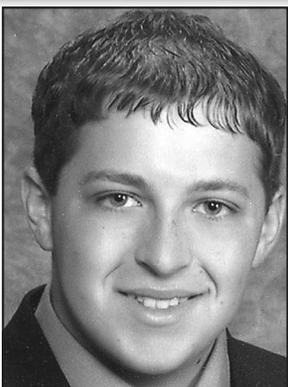
PHOEBE C. NIXON

Parents: Gary and Anita Nixon, Branch: 213K ~ Renfren, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, Major: Communications



JOANNA NOVOTNY

Parents: Mark and Eileen Novotny, Branch: 764K ~ Warren, OH, College/University: University of Toledo, Major: Finance



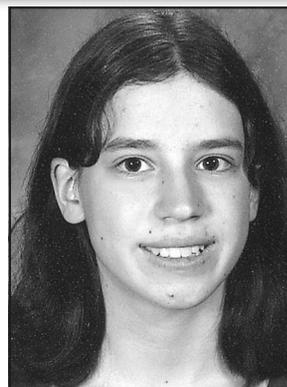
JOHN F. PATULA

Parents: Robert and Barbara Patula, Branch: 199K ~ Hostetter, PA, College/University: St. Vincent College, Major: Mathematics



STEPHANIE PETEYA

Parents: Dennis and Karen Peteya, Branch: 553K ~ Akron, OH, College/University: The University of Akron, Major: Biology for Pre Vet and Zoo Biology



MELANIE PERNA

Parents: Carol Perna, Branch: 181K ~ Latrobe, PA, College/University: Penn State University, Major: Undecided



JESSICA LYNN REAGAN

Parents: James and Joanne Reagan, Branch: 238K ~ Moscow, PA, College/University: Millersville University, Major: Music Business



SERENA B. RENDA

Parents: Robert and Pamela Renda, Branch: 738K ~ Munhall, PA, College/University: Pennsylvania Culinary Institute, Major: Culinary arts



SARA J. RODINO

Parents: Terry and Terri Rodino, Branch: 454KJ ~ Clairton, PA, College/University: Rowan University, Major: Elementary Education



RACHAEL R. ROSS

Parents: Gary and Janice Ross, Branch: 831K ~ Tarentum, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Pharmacy



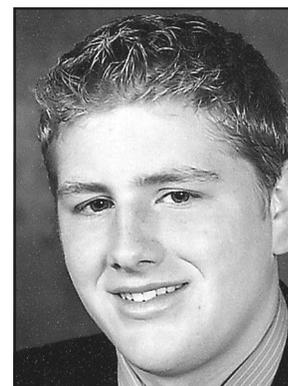
MELISSA A. SABOL

Parents: Joseph and Nancy Sabol, Branch: 456K ~ Hawk Run, PA, College/University: Penn State Altoona, Major: Biology



KATELYN A. SALLEY

Parents: Thomas and Cindy Salley, Branch: 430K ~ Simpson, PA, College/University: Undecided, Major: Elementary Education



JAMES T. SCANLON

Parents: Thomas & Lisa Scanlon, Branch: 682K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: Walsh University, Major: Pre Dental



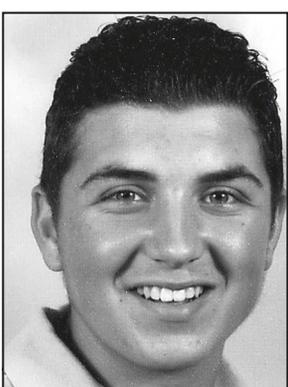
ROBERTA K. SEFCIK

Parents: Lisa Porthouse and James Sefcik, Branch: 215K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: Carnegie Mellon University, Major: Music Performance and Education



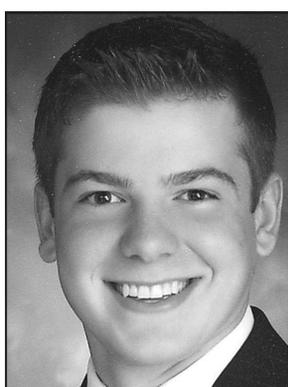
CHAD M. SEMAN

Parents: Michael and Victoria Seman, Branch: 410KJ ~ Hibbs, PA, College/University: University of Central Florida, Major: Business - Banking/Finance



JOSEPH A. SHAFFO

Parents: Joseph and Diane Shaffo, Branch: 213K ~ Renfrew, PA, College/University: Washington and Jefferson, Major: Pre-medicine



ROBERT A. SIEMAN

Parents: Richard and Rachael Sieman, Branch: 682KJ ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: United States Military Academy at West Point, Major: Undecided



TESSA M. SLIFKA

Parents: David and Yvonne Slifka, Branch: 199K ~ Independence, OH, College/University: Washington and Jefferson College, Major: Accounting



MARYANN SOBOTA

Parents: Henry and Diane Sobota, Branch: 181K ~ United, PA, College/University: Community College of Allegheny County, Major: Ultrasound



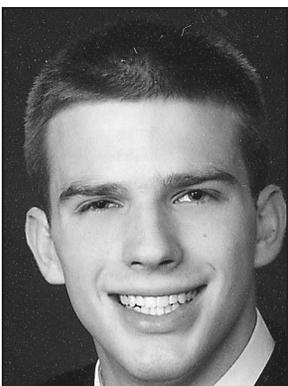
ANNE M. SPENCER

Parents: James and Joanne Reagan, Branch: 181K ~ United, PA, College/University: Brown University, Major: Chemistry



CAITLIN E. STEINER

Parents: Frank and Audrey Steiner, Branch: 580K ~ Duquesne, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Undecided



JEFFREY A. SZCZYPINSKI

Parents: Edward and Andrea Szczypinski, Branch: 628K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Undecided, Major: Business Administration



LAUREN I. TOCIK

Parents: Raymond and Darlene Tocik, Branch: 313K ~ Orland Park, IL, College/University: Dominican University, Major: Pre-Pharmacy



MARIA E. TONSETH

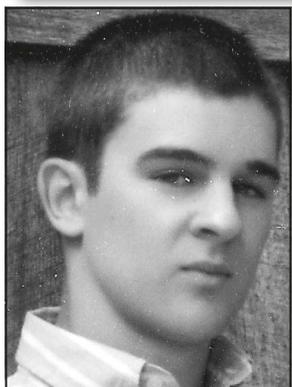
Parents: James Tonseth and Phyllis Bodnar Tonseth, Branch: 831K ~ Tarentum, PA, College/University: The University of North Carolina, Major: Chemistry



ALICIA A. UHRIN

Parents: David and Karen Uhrin, Branch: 2181KJ ~ United, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Spanish/Business

2008 Jednota Scholarship Winners



MICHAEL D. WALOR

Parents: George and Shelley Walor, Branch: 512K ~ Greensburg, PA, College/University: Pennsylvania State University, Major: Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology



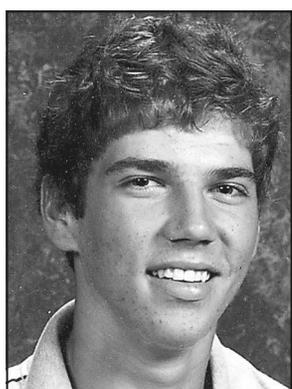
CASSANDRA A. WOLF

Parents: Patrick and Jo-Anne Wolf, Branch: 615KJ ~ Warren, OH, College/University: University of Michigan, Major: Biology



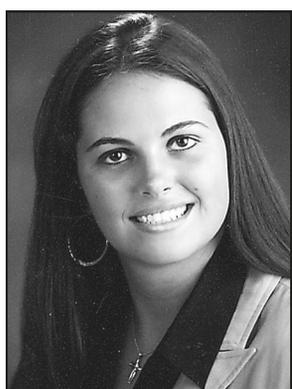
JILLIAN A. WOLLET

Parents: Harry and Joanne Wollet, Branch: 682K ~ Boardman, OH, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Pharmacy



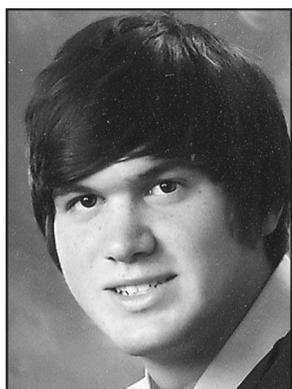
JUSTIN M. YASKO

Parents: Robert and Donna Yasko, Branch: 618KJ ~ Independence, OH, College/University: Virginia Tech, Major: Business



AMY N. ZEBLEY

Parents: Lary and Mary Kay Zebley, Branch: 162K ~ Uniontown, PA, College/University: Alderson-Broaddus College, Major: Physician Assistant Program



MICHAEL R. ZELENY

Parents: Raymond and Robin Zeleny, Branch: 002KJ ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Juniata College, Major: Pre-med



LINDSAY R. ZUR

Parents: William and Deborah Zur, Branch: 181KJ ~ Independence, OH, College/University: St. Vincent College, Major: Accounting

*Congratulations
and best wishes
to all our
scholarship winners*

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT-LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Prince Pribina District will celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. in St. John Bosco Chapel followed by a meeting in the cafeteria. After the meeting there will be a period of fraternal fellowship and a gourmet lunch with dessert and refreshments. All members are invited to attend. All branches in the area are encouraged to send delegates to the meeting. On the meeting agenda will be planning of District fraternal activities and a discussion of FCSU insurance products.

PAUL SKUBEN, PRESIDENT

MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT-MONONGAHELA VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 22, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania. Members of the various District branches are urged to attend.

FRANCES TARQUINIO, SECRETARY

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT-PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Pittsburgh District will hold its annual Father's Day Brunch on Sunday, June 15, 2008. Holy Mass will be said at 9:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Parish, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Brunch will follow in the parish hall.

This event is being sponsored by Branch 2 and Branch 254. If you wish to attend, or if you have an advertisement for the event booklet, please contact your local branch president or Sue Ondrejco at 412/421-1204 by Sunday, June 1.

MARGARET A. NASTA, SECRETARY

**Jednota,
Monsignor Shuba District cordially
invite you to their**

Annual SLOVAK FAMILY DAY Picnic



On Sunday, July 27, 2008

Mass at the grounds starting at 12 noon

<p>Lunch to be served after the Mass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schnitzel \$8.00 Gulash \$6.00 Hot Dogs \$1.00 <p>BBO at 4pm</p>	<p>At Creditvale Park On Barbertown Rd, Mississauga</p> <p><i>Admission \$6.00 for adults Children under 12 is Free</i></p>
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**If each member would sign up just one new member,
we could double our Society immediately**

THINK ABOUT IT!

Pope Benedict XVI Received Warm Welcome And Media Reflected His Themes Of "Christ Our Hope," Love, Truth, Human Dignity, Peace & Freedom

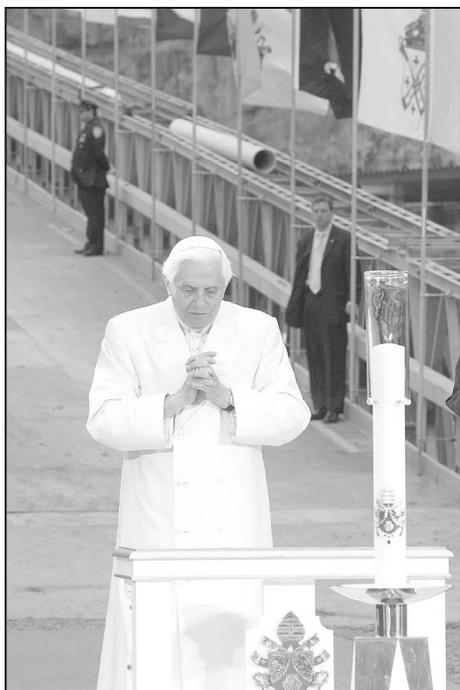
John Karch
Part 2

In this, the third part of Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the United States, we'll endeavor to cover a reasonable reflection in the print and electronic mass media of the Pontiff's events and messages, including a continuation of Catholic and sectarian magazines, non-Catholic newspapers, as well as electronic voices, including blogs. May we express the belief that Benedict XVI is the first Pope who has benefited so enormously from the young, expanding community of online blogs and bloggers, the latter a part of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) impressive coverage and guidance of the Pontiff's visit with which we'll begin.

Bishops' Conference

On January 20 the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Office of Media Relations issued a Press Release on "Papal Visit Media Advisory" about applications for media credentials, available Online, and basic information. A special website—uspapalvisit.org—was created, with a blog, "giving an inside view of papal visit preparations, views from the pew and reflections on the meaning of the visit." Also, a "Media Kit" became available. An April 14 Press Release promised "USCCB to Stream Papal Visit Events Live on the Web."

And it did! For example, it carried twelve Catholic News Service (CNS) stories on the Papal visit and informed the readers how to subscribe. In answer to the question "Where do we go from here?" the USCCB site—uspapalvisit.org—would remain up until the end of June, perhaps longer, permitting the



CNS PHOTO

interested access to texts (27) and videos (22) from most of the events as well as articles, images, audio and video on events, the Church in the U.S., and the Holy Father himself.

Mr. Joe Larson, Director of Digital Media at USCCB (www.usccb.org) welcomed posts and comments and many were received. Several of the Posts by usccbdigitalmedia

were: "Reliving the Papal visit" (April 21), "Reflections on the Papal Visit" (April 25), "Pope Benedict on the Sexual Abuse of Children" (April 28), and "Pope Benedict's Visit and the Family" (April 29). The Office of Media Relations (OMR) gave an informative report of a Cara (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, Georgetown University) survey, on "Sacraments Today: Belief and Practice among Catholics." For the revealing full report see <http://cara-georgetown.edu/sacraments.html>.

"To proclaim Christ in the media at the dawn of the new millennium is not only a necessary part of the Church's evangelization mission; it is also a valid, inspiring and hope-filled enrichment of the media's message. May God abundantly bless all those who honor and proclaim His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the vast world of the means of social communication."

*—Pope John Paul II,
Message for Media Day
2000, January 4, 2000*

edu/sacraments.html.

In its presentation, OMR said "Catholics are obliged to attend Sunday Mass each week."

Catholic Magazines

We have already seen in Parts 1 and 2, the value of the Catholic News Service (CNS), EWTN, Zenit News Agency, Catholic News Agency in providing information and photos which are also used by Catholic magazines in addition to their own writers. Increasingly—to some regrettably—some Catholic magazines/journals have ceased printing but, happily, continue to be seen on the web. The case in point is CRISIS, which returned our check for renewal last year, writing that the printed version would cease but that its coverage of issues would continue on its website—(www.crisismagazine.com).

First Things

This Journal of Religion, Culture and Public Life, published in New York monthly, FIRST THINGS ([WWW.FIRSTTHINGS.COM](http://www.firstthings.com)) invites readers "To start your day with a brand new source on Catholic commentary and inspiration." Its Editor-in-Chief is Fr. Richard John Neuhaus, who surely gained greater familiarity as Co-Anchor with Raymond Arroyo during EWTN's extensive coverage of Pope Benedict XVI's April visit.

Fr. Neuhaus wrote a number of articles about the Pontiff's visit, including "Benedict in America as of Thursday" (April 17); "Friday of Good Shepherd Sunday"; "The Papal Week that Was" about "how pleased [the Bishops] were that Benedict did not take them to the woodshed." In "Benedict and Beauty" (April 25) he revealed the negative reaction to his "somewhat critical remarks" on EWTN about the way Mass was celebrated at Nationals Park. In the May issue, Editor Joseph Bot-



CNS PHOTO

tum cited "Avery Cardinal Dulles speaking magisterially of 'The Freedom of Theology'." In his April 29 essay—"The Pope's Plan for the U.N"—Douglas A. Sylva wrote that Benedict defends "three bedrock values" as "nonnegotiable"—"the protection of human life from conception to natural death, the protection of marriage as a union between a man and a woman, and the protection of the right of parents to control the education of their children. None received explicit mention in his speech."

Knights of Columbus

The Knights' April issue of COLUMBIA (www.koc.org) was special in "welcoming Pope Benedict XVI to the United States and reflecting on his ministry and his message." The cover was a beautiful, colorful painting of the Pope with a book illustrating the parable of the Good Samaritan. The Opening Ode was by Editor Tim S. Hickey, saying that "At the literal and symbolic heart of this issue...is a special section featuring Pope Benedict's own words...Each of these quotes has been paired with a beautiful image of the Holy Father from April 2005 to today." And, indeed, they are beautiful.

Carl A. Anderson, who also joined EWTN's TV coverage team, dedicated "Building a Better World" to the "Pope of the Beatitudes," presenting us with a model for the future of the Church. Bishop E. Lori, Supreme Chaplain, wrote on "Welcome, Holy Father!," The Knights of Columbus will be at the forefront in greeting Pope Benedict XVI to the U.S., a blessing for the Church; he commented on the "Pope's Job."

Other informative remarks were made in "Embracing the Whole World in Love," "The

Life and Ministry of Pope Benedict XVI," "Living out the Truths of His Name," "Making God Credible," "The Gospel of the Family," "A Pope of Love and Hope," "Rediscovering Jesus," "The Pope and the Mass," "A Culture of Dialogue," "Gratitude and Cooperation." Several pages were devoted to "Dear Holy Father," welcoming letters from school presidents capturing "the vibrancy and spiritual life at many Catholic colleges and universities." The special issue ended with "A Moral Platform," by Author George Weigel; "On the Horizon: 'The Benedictine Reform'", by Robert Moynihan, Editor of INSIDE THE VATICAN magazine; and "Partners for Freedom, Justice and Peace," by Jim Nicholson, previous U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See.

"Venerable Servant of God" Father Michael J. McGivney (1852-90) graced the front cover of the May issue of COLUMBIA. In his "An Unparalleled Model" article, Supreme Knight Anderson said that "In proclaiming our founder Venerable Servant of God [March 16], Pope Benedict XVI has given the Knights a great spiritual gift." Dominican Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell, Postulator wrote "Above and Beyond, a Man Worthy of Veneration."

On March 29 Supreme Chaplain Bishop E. Lori celebrated Founder's Day Mass at St. Mary's Church concluding its 125th anniversary. He wrote "Our Faith's Foundation" in this issue.

Other Catholic

The following Catholic magazines- in print, online, or both, have been researched and carried articles by their writers or other news

continued on page 13

Pope Benedict XVI

continued from page 12

sources about the Pope's visit. AMERICA (www.americamagazine.org), for which I reviewed books in the 1960s, before an assignment abroad, is one. Some stories are available only to subscribers. America is one and I was unable to obtain its May 12 "Message of Joy" article although I did download the April 14 "Benedict in America." INSIDE THE VATICAN is posted ten times a year; in CATHOLIC EDUCATION Peggy Noonan had an article "It was beautiful. If you didn't get choked up, you weren't alive"; CELEBRATE LIFE, a monthly of the American Life League, plans to have "Papal Impact: Benedict in America," perhaps in the July-August issue.

CATHOLIC WORLD REPORT claims to be "the world's best all-around Catholic journal of news, analysis, and commentary"; it's a monthly news magazine, edited by George Neumayr who, in the May issue, wrote an Editorial on "A New Pentecost, The Holy Father's inspiring visit to the United States," concluding that "Let us hope that his historic visit marks a turning point in the life of the Church in America—a moment for American Catholics to undertake a 'new Pentecost,' as he put it, and transform the scandals of recent years into an occasion for 'purification'."

On April 23 and 24 Op-ed Columnist Robert Novak was interviewed by ZENIT on the "Pope's U.S. visit." One of Mr. Novak's observations was that there is a new generation: the Pope John Paul II/Pope Benedict XVI generation. On April 21 ZENIT interviewed David Hartline on "Pope Grabbed Youths' Attention and Rally" and the previous day his article "The Role of a Shepherd" appeared in THE CATHOLIC TIMES (Columbus OH); on April 25, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony's article "Reflection: The Pope's Pastoral Visit" was published in THE TIDINGS.com; the April-June issue of THE CATHOLIC WAR VETERAN, with a logo of "Christ Our Hope," had an article "Thousands Cheer for Benedict XVI," citing the events in the nation's capital.

Those interested in learning more about the Catholic coverage of the Pope's visit can gain insights in many ways for numerous wonderful stories of the Pontiff's visit: Search the USCCB with its many Catholic links, Google, Yahoo, CNS, EWTN, U.S. National Catholic Newspapers, on the web (e.g. insidecatholic.com) blogs, and others, including those already cited in JEDNOTA.

Catholic Radio and TV

We have already written on the array of capabilities displayed by EWTN, especially its impressive live coverage of the Pope's visit by TV. Its Global Catholic Network is available in more than 146 million television households in 144 countries and territories by direct broadcast satellite.

Less known is EWTN's radio programming on AM and FM. Its claim of being "the largest religious media network in the world" appears justified. Its radio carried the visit live but some of its daily programs continued. I was informed that some 120 Catholic stations in the U.S. are EWTN "affiliates," their programming, via satellite, ranging in quantity from a few to many hours daily. The growth is "phenomenal." Catholic TV stations in the U.S. are few. "Spirit Catholic Radio and New Jersey Catholic Radio, the

latter relying on EWTN for 80 percent of its programming. EWTN has been on SIRIUS Satellite Radio, with over 130 channels, which includes religious programs.

We should not forget to mention Station KNOM, the Alaska Radio Mission with its huge distances, including Russia, and its financial needs. The Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, broadcasting abroad, included the Pope's visit in their Programming, especially VOA which was my home for seven years in the 1960s.

The Secular Media

With my desk piled up with non-Catholic newspapers, magazines, and internet printouts, a few paragraphs seem unjust. The actual newspapers are mostly from the Washington, D.C. and New York areas, and nationally—USA TODAY. Others—Chicago, Baltimore, Los Angeles—are from websites. Magazines are TIME and NEWSWEEK. The media coverage during the visit was extraordinary and the reaction of the public was genuinely magnificent.

The liberal WASHINGTON POST and conservative WASHINGTON TIMES both had color photos of Pope Benedict XVI on p. 1, above the fold and in other sections—Religion, Style (POST) and METRO as well. The April 14 TIMES contained a 12-page comprehensive color insert on the Pope, his red vestments (U.S. design), his challenges, preparations, churches, and comments from some non-Catholic people. Page 12 was a full-page Ad posted by ALL (American Life League), with a welcome, a thanks, and 'PLEASE protect the body of Christ from...PRO-ABORTION 'CATHOLICS', with photos of 21 Members of Congress. Articles in TIMES included "A Visiting Moral Authority," [music] "Sound of Faith," "Pope hits Iraq Violence, Bishops on Sex Scandal," "Pope's Visit soothes scandal."

On Sunday, April 12 the POST'S Outlook (Commentary) section printed "A Pope with a Talent for Clarity," during the visit it had "Pontiff Calls for Broad Remedies," "Multitudes Gather for a Glimpse," "Mass Appeal, when 46,000 Gather to Celebrate, God is in the Details," "Pontiff Prays with Sex Abuse Victims," "A Spiritual Spectacle" [in Nationals Park], "A Standing Invitation to See the Pontiff, Anticipation, and Some Antipathy, Line the Popemobile's Short Route to the Shrine," [in leaving] "Visit Helped Increase Familiarity with Pontiff."

The liberal NEW YORK TIMES devoted pages A-18 and A-19 to "The Pope in America," with articles and color photos, including "Abuse Victims Warily Consider Pope's Words," "Glimpses of the Pope Fill Pilgrims with Emotion," "At University Visited by Pope, Students Find A Catholicism That's 'Not in Your Face'," "Benedict Meets with the Victims of Sexual Abuse and Offers Them Prayers." In the April 20 issue one finds "At St. Patrick's, Pope Calls for the Healing of a Church divided in Many Ways" and "A Deep Respect for Benedict, but Still True Love for John Paul." On April 21 there was a large color photo of the Pope at Yankee Stadium greeting people who attended Mass. Articles included "After Ground Zero Prayer, Pope Ministers to 60,000 in Stadium," "In the Pit, with the Pope and a Brother's Memory," and "Invited to See the Pontiff, a Bronx Priest Delivers Benedict's Message Instead [to parishioners at his Parish]."

New York's DAILY NEWS on April 18 and 21 and the NEW YORK POST on April 20 and 21 published numerous pages and pictures about the Pope's visit. Full page color pictures of the Pope graced the front pages. Many articles were included. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL on April 21, below the fold on page 1, had a small photo of the Pope among people, and the beginning of an article on "Benedict, in New York, Warns on Poverty," the Pope warning that developing regions "could fall into violence." Of course, the Associated Press distributed many stories, out of Rome before the visit,

then during the visit, and again out of Rome following the visit.

Time and Newsweek

The weeklies TIME and NEWSWEEK published pages on the Pope. In its April 14 issue, with the Pope on the cover, TIME's article was simply titled "The American Pope, a revealing look at his long fascination with America and how it is shaping his vision for the world." NEWSWEEK'S April 21 articles were "How Benedict XVI Will Make History," by George Weigel, "Why This Pope Doesn't Connect," and on Religion page "A Papal Pilgrimage."



Dr. Sarah Hunt and her dog Lucy

Sarah Hunt Receives Doctorate Degree

Sarah Elizabeth Hunt, originally of Clarksburg, West Virginia, received a doctorate degree in August 2007 from the University of Pittsburgh. Her dissertation was entitled: Body Composition and Muscular Strength in Elite Competitive Athletes and Healthy Controls in People 65 Years of Age and Older.

Dr. Hunt was born November 1975 and is the daughter of James and Pamela Hunt and Carol and Ernie Coffindaffer. She is the granddaughter of Marian (Husovsky) Hunt.

Dr. Hunt is an Assistant Professor of Exercise Science at the University of South Carolina at Lancaster. She is a member of Branch 348 in Clarksburg, West Virginia.

Useful Websites

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

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

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1- CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All are welcome. Please attend. Come and meet the members.

Mary Dubber, Secretary

BRANCH 3- MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, will hold its Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 13, 2008, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Kordiak Park, 49th Avenue Northeast off of Central Avenue, N.E., Columbia Heights, Minnesota. A lunch will be served at no charge. There will

also be games and races along with treats for the children. Come and enjoy an afternoon of socializing and fellowship.

Joseph Matlon, Publicity Chairman

BRANCH 10- OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invites all members of Branch 10 and their families to attend the annual Mass and Communion Breakfast on Sunday, June 22, 2008. The 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Ghost Church in Olyphant will be celebrated for all living and deceased members of Branch 10. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast for members of the branch and their families will be held at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant. Reservations are requested and may be made by calling

570/489-9819 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. no later than Friday, June 13.

**William A. Nalevanko,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 24- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Members of the St. Andrew Society, Branch 24, are invited to the Slovak Radio Club Picnic on Sunday, June 29, 2008, and the Zemplin Club Picnic on Sunday, July 20, 2008. Both picnics will be held from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at the Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. There will be plenty of Slovak food, music and dancing. Hope to see you there.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 38- DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday, June 23, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, Pennsylvania. The agenda will consist of Officers' reports. There will also be a discussion on insurance and annuity sales.

The Father's Day Brunch will be held on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at Holy Trinity Church. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. followed by the brunch. Members wishing to attend the Brunch must contact Florence Matta at 412/466-7460 so that reservations can be made.

There will be discussion on the Slovak Day Picnic to be held Thursday, July 17, 2008 at Kennywood Park. Mass will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. Please visit the Slovak Kitchen at noon for delicious Slovak food. All members are invited to attend.

Florence K. Matta, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 85- JESSUP, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Florian Society, Branch 85, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the Jessup American Legion Post 411, Church Street, Jessup, Pennsylvania. The June 28th Golf Tournament will be open for discussion. All members interested in the Golf Tournament are invited to attend.

Bernard Skovira

BRANCH 90- OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 90, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 22, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Michael P. Glinesky, 129 Grant Street, Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

Barbara Sochovka, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 153- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its Mid-Year Meeting on Saturday, June 21, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. All members are 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: Joseph Soltes, Andrew Karkoska, Charles Capiak, Steve Cermak, Frank Cerven, John Kudia, Anthony Guzik, and John Mayer.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162- UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. in the third floor meeting room of the Meridian Point Apartments, Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Branch activities will be discussed. All members of Branch 162 are invited to attend.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 169P- JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 169P, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Monday, June 16, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Joseph Slivosky, 1510 Emmett Drive, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Betty Slivosky, Secretary

BRANCH 181- UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181, will hold its annual Family Picnic on Saturday, June 21, 2008, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Pavilion # 14, located at the lower level ball diamond across from the dam at Mammoth Park, Mammoth, Pennsylvania. As in the past, there will be good food, prizes and games. Each member is asked to bring a covered dish with some extra portions to share. All guests of members are also asked to bring a covered dish. The meat and drinks will be provided by Branch 181. There will be chances to win some very nice door prizes. There will also be games and gifts for the children. There will be lots of fun for all. Come and enjoy an afternoon of friendship, fellowship, and fraternalism. To give the officers an idea of how much food to prepare, please call C. Pfeifer at 724/423-2983, Ed Mizikar at 724/423-2616, or George Sprock at 724/423-4199, if you plan to attend.

G. Kovacina

BRANCH 233- BROCKPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. George Society, Branch 233, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Irene Halko, Route 219 by the Brockport Post Office, Brockport, Pennsylvania.

There will also be meetings on Sunday, August 17 and Sunday, September 21. Both meetings will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Irene Halko.

Irene Halko, President

BRANCH 260- CAMPBELL, OHIO

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 260, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church Monsignor Adamko Hall. A review of the Bowling Tournament held April 25-27, 2008 in Youngstown will be on the agenda along with a discussion of activities for the remaining months of the year. Members are urged to attend and to participate in the discussions to improve our fraternal status as a society.

Charles M. Terek, President

BRANCH 320- STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the next branch meeting on Sunday, July 13, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon,

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REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

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and you have to know that to him his work is half over. Andy is planning trees and building furniture for us in Heaven so all of us can join him one day.

"Zbohom Otetz" – which means - "God be with you" – which he always was.

Joseph M. Kavulich Branch 240P Taylor, Pennsylvania

Joseph M. Kavulich, 82, of RR Jermyn, Pennsylvania, died Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at VNA Hospice of Community Medical Center. His wife of 56 years is the former Betty Holowach, formerly of Herrick Center.

Born May 27, 1926, in Scott Township, son of the late Joseph J. and Anna Papcun Kavulich, he was a lifelong member of Corpus Christi Church, Montdale, and a former member of its Holy Name Society. He attended Scott Township schools and was a self-employed dairy farmer for 45 years. He was a member of the Eastern Milk Producers, Syracuse, New York, until his retirement from dairy farming in 1986. For the next 17 years, he raised beef cattle and was a bus driver for the Lakeland School District. He was also a member of the Pennsylvania Slovak Association.

Also surviving are a daughter, Doreen M. and husband Charlie Brewer of Greenfield Township; a son, John M. Kavulich of Tennessee; a sister, Margaret Kowalewski of New Milford; four grandchildren, Michael Tucker of Allentown, Lauren Christ and twins Chelsea and Maisie Kavulich, all of Tennessee; a great-granddaughter, Natalie Tucker of Allentown; and nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased in death by two brothers, Michael and an infant, Joseph Kavulich; and two sisters, Anna Uhrin and Mary Slebodnik.

Friends were received at the Shifler-Parise Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Corpus Christi Church by the Rev. William Flynn, pastor. Interment was in Our Mother of Sorrows Cemetery, Finch Hill.

Stephen J. Kavulich

Paul W. Chupka Branch 831 Tarentum, Pennsylvania

Paul W. Chupka, 81, of Tarentum, Pennsylvania, died Sunday, May 11, 2008, after a lengthy illness, in William Penn Care Center, Penn Township, where he had been a resident for six weeks.

He was born April 6, 1927, in East Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, a son of the late John P. Cupka and Sophie (Saks) Cupka.

Paul had lived most of his life in Tarentum and was an assembler for PPG Industries, Creighton, where he retired in 1989 with 46 years of service.

He was a World War II veteran, having served in the Army Air Corps.

Paul was a member of Holy Martyrs Church, Tarentum, Brackenridge American Legion, Natrona Heights VFW and Tarentum Jednota.

He was a life member of Summit Hose Company, Tarentum, Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association and Allegheny Valley Firemen's Association.

He enjoyed playing bingo, puzzles, was an avid sports fan and enjoyed his family.

Paul is survived by his wife of 63 years, Pauline (Zencuch) Chupka; two sons, Dennis (Christina) Chupka of Harrison City, and Gary (Diane) Chupka of Rockville, Maryland; a daughter, Karen Isola of Poland, Ohio; a grandson, Nicholas (Allison) Chupka; two granddaughters, Caroline and Jocelyn Chupka; two great-granddaughters, Avery and Isabelle Chupka; and two brothers, Joseph Cupka of Florham Park, New Jersey and Lawrence (Josephine) Cupka of West Leechburg.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Cyril, Robert and Edward Cupka and John Chupka; and three sisters, Marie Cosgrove, Anna Cupka and Sophie Cupka.

Friends were received at the Duster Funeral Home, Tarentum. A Christian Funeral Mass was celebrated in Holy Martyrs Church with his pastor, the Rev. Aaron J. Kriss, as celebrant. Entombment was in Our Lady of Hope Mausoleum, Frazer Township.

Kathleen Persun



News From Slovakia

Former First Lady Irena Schusterova Dies at 70

Slovakia's former first lady Irena Schusterova died of a heart attack at the age of 70 on Saturday, May 24.

"Her condition was incompatible with life, which was also proven by an operation," said Boris Sterbak, a close associate of former Slovak president Rudolf Schuster.

Irena Schusterova, nee Trojakova, was born November 12, 1937, in the village of Bobrov in Namestovo district. She worked as a nurse at the children's ward of the Faculty Hospital in Kosice for 33 years before becoming Slovakia's first lady in 1999.

During the presidency of her husband Rudolf Schuster (1999-2004), she set up the 'Irena Schusterova Foundation' that focused on providing help to children suffering from heart disease. Her charity work also included aid to cancer patients, pensioners and the homeless.

TASR

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Pennsylvania. Since lunch will be served, please call Fran at 724/929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 327- POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 327, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 29, 2008, at 9:15 a.m. at Holy Trinity Church Social Hall, 370 South Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

All members are hereby notified to contact our new Secretary, Georgia Zeleznick, 405 South Street, Pottstown, PA 19464, for any business concerning insurance, claims, forms, etc.

Elmer C. Pollock, President

BRANCH 372- LLOYDELL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 372, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. in Holy Spirit Church Hall, 802 Cameron Avenue, Beaverdale, Pennsylvania. Members are urged to attend.

Michael Hudak, President

BRANCH 493-CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the BVM Society, Branch 493, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Saturday, July 26, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 639 North Blackhawk Drive, Westmont, Illinois. A family style dinner will be served after the meeting. If you plan to attend, please contact Robert Tapak Magruder by July 18 at 773/505-0117 or 502/244-6643. Members from other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate checks.

**Robert Tapak Magruder,
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 581-GARY, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 581, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 13, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at Pruzin's Funeral Home, 6360 Broadway, Merrillville, IN. On the agenda will be a discussion of new officers for 2009 and other business. We are planning a group outing to the Rail Cats game at the Gary Steel Yard in August. Don't forget to contact me on our 2 year Annuity at 4 1/2 percent. This beats the bank at 3/4 percent. Contact me at 219/926-2410.

George Kelchak

BRANCH 587- ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Monday, June 16, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 670- DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the next Branch meeting on Sunday, June 22, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania. All members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 844- LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 844, will hold its Annual Father's Day Mass on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. A delicious, authentic Slovak lunch will be served after the liturgy. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak spirit of Father's Day.

Following the festivities, Branch 844 members will conduct a meeting to review officers' reports and to discuss branch activities.

We hope to see you all there. We wish all the fathers a very special and safe Father's Day.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 853- ELLSWORTH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, will hold a meeting on Saturday, July 5, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at the McDonald's restaurant, Charleroi, Pennsylvania. Members are encouraged to attend.

Monica Rodacy Boone

BRANCH 831- TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Clement Society, Branch 831, has elected an interim President and Vice President at a recent Executive Board meeting. The new President is Matthew Kuniak and the Vice President is Melvin Persun. Their terms will run until nominations are held in November.

Kathleen Persun, Secretary

Kia Facility in Zilina has Produced 200,000 Kia Cee'd Cars to Date

Kia Slovakia has produced 200,000 C'eed model vehicles since the launch of production in December 2006, it was announced recently.

"It's another significant moment in our history," said Kia Motors Slovakia president and CEO In Kyu-bae. "Ten months after production was launched, that is September of last year, we had manufactured 100,000 C'ceeds, and eight months later we've managed to double the number of cars produced. We've achieved a high level of efficiency and productivity in this period," he added.

Over 3,500 C'eed models have been sold in Slovakia since production began. Slovaks are most interested in buying the model in the silver version with a 1.6 liter diesel engine.

Three years after beginning operations in Slovakia, Kia motors Slovakia in 2007 became the second largest car and car parts manufacturer in the country. Earnings in the period reached 54.26 billion crowns, while exports amounted to 53.4 billion crowns.

The company's facility in Slovakia is its first assembly line in Europe. It plans to produce 220,000 cars in 2008.

TASR

U.S. Education Department Assesses Slovak Universities as Equal to U.S.

According to a comparative assessment, the quality of education at Slovak and U.S. medical colleges is at equally high level, U.S. Ambassador Vincent Obsitnik reported to Slovak Health Minister Ivan Valentovic recently.

Obsitnik said the fact that the quality of education doctors receive is at the same level in both countries could provide the impetus for some U.S. students to study in Slovakia.

"Along with these results from the U.S. Department of Education, Ambassador Obsitnik reported that the Slovak Republic doesn't feature in 'Special 301 Watch List 2008' that includes countries in which the protection of intellectual property isn't respected," the Slovak Health Ministry informs on its internet site.

Obsitnik was interested in the current situation in health care, as well as in the development in the field of health insurance companies, protection of intellectual property and how prices are formulated.

TASR

Slovakia Sending Humanitarian Aid Worth 30 Million Crowns to China

The Slovak Interior Ministry is sending tents, blankets, stretchers, sleeping bags and electrical equipment to earthquake-hit China, Silvia Mihalikova from the communications department of the Interior Minister told Slovakia recently.

The market value of the aid provided is 30 million crowns, said Mihalikova.

The Interior Ministry sent the equipment to Frankfurt in two trucks. The ministry used the resources allocated from the 05T humanitarian program to settle the costs of ground transportation. The Chinese took over the transport of the materials at Frankfurt international airport.

TASR

Labor Code Amendment: Shops to Stay Closed on Some Holidays

Shops in Slovakia will be forced to stay closed on New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, Christmas Eve after 12:00 noon and on Christmas Day, according to an amendment to the Labor Code approved by Parliament.

"In practice, many cases appear where employees are forced to go to work on Easter Sunday, Christmas or New Year's Day, although our laws guarantee a paid holiday for them," stated authors of the approved proposal, Marta Damborska, Ludmila Muskova and Jan Podmanicky. The main reason behind the proposal is the effort to have families be together for holiday celebrations, according to proposers.

"We have been contacted by mothers that are forced to stay at work even when their children and relatives are at home," said Muskova.

The amendment to the Act will come into force on the day of its declaration.

TASR

Realm of Slovak Genealogy



Ray Plutko

“There’s Only One Way to Spell Frustrating”

(Editor’s Note: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher- or, if nothing else, the curious.)

“Frustrating, frustrating and the more I think about it, even more frustrating.”

With all due humbleness, I would surmise that my fellow Slovak has virtually exhausted all true definition of the word frustrating (which falls into the adjective category) and any conciliatory remarks at this point would simply add to the self-imposed stress at hand.

Then again our colleague might take issue with a reference to “self-imposed” and if so, I bow to the greater wisdom of the occasion. Just for the record, if you haven’t decoded our dilemma, it is yet another researcher attempting to pinpoint his ancestral village of origin... and an individual showing all the symptoms of fatigue.

Without question, the most common yet challenging task for Slovaks entrenched in genealogical research is that of identifying one’s ancestral village- the span of an ocean, one half of another continent, language barriers, a knowledge based on the geography of the Slovak lands, and the lack of a sympathetic shoulder to occasionally cry on are just a few of the hurdles we have all stumbled over in our individual efforts.

But just what has happened to that “missing village” you are attempting to identify?

I have authored a number of columns on this topic, each with a different suggested search pattern, but hopefully it will be this writing that brings success to your long overdue scavenger hunt.

Most often we are sent astray as a result of a misspelling or having “lifted” what we believe to be the village name from a document that is vaguely legible due to age or penmanship patterns from a distant era. Another possible contributing factor is that the spelling we are working with was written phonetically- how it sounded to the recorder.

Other detours are the result of an “old village name” having changed (generally three or four times for each village in Slovakia), the listing is not actually a village but that of a nearby district (example: Humenne) or county (example: Zemplin), or the addition/deletion of a prefix or suffix.

A prefix or suffix...say what?

This is an interesting twist to the art of locating a missing village, one that had escaped me for years. It is simply a pattern in Slovakia of distinguishing between two- and at times, three- separate settlements of a village that are adjacent to each other.

Most often these “village naming rights” come in the form of a prefix- a syllable, syllables, or a word placed in front of another word to change or make another meaning.

As an example, if one were searching for the village Krupa in the District of Trenčin the

individual would come away with all the symptoms of frustration in that there would be no such listing. However, by expanding one’s search strategies they could uncover listings for a Horna Krupa and Dolna Krupa. Paydirt!

What has transpired is that in decades past the original village of Krupa split into two settlements and they distinguished one from another by adding a prefix to each unit, one based on some feature generally tied to geography, a physical feature, or size.

Horna (upper) Krupa Dolna (lower) Krupa

Just for the record, it wasn’t a complete divorce as if one would send a letter to an individual in either village it would be posted for Dolna Krupa, which houses the postal office serving both settlements.

Examples of other prefixes found in Slovakia include:

Velka, Velke, Velky large or big

Mala, Male, Maly small or little

Nova, Nove, Novy new

Dolna, Dolny, Dolny lower

Stredna, Stredne middle or central

Horna, Horne, Horny upper

Examples of suffixes (a syllable or word placed behind a word to change or make another meaning) found in Slovakia include:

nad over

pod under

hora mountain

dolina valley

Thus, when checking for a village listing in alphabetically arranged lists, be certain to scan the entire listing and in particular, those letters of the alphabet corresponding to a known prefix or suffix.

I know...say what?

(Editor’s Note: There is now available a completely revised and updated Slovak Genealogy Research Kit (52 pages plus forms), one designed exclusively for those tracing their Slovak roots. The kit may be ordered for \$13, plus \$1.75 postage. Also available is a detailed historical summary and comprehensive map for any village you specify in Slovakia at \$5 plus postage-make check payable to Ray Plutko, 6862 Palmer Court, Chino, CA 91719-7343.)

Wedding Celebration



On May 31, 2008, Dr. & Mrs. Michael Kopanic’s daughter Milenka took sacred marital vows at St. Michael the Archangel parish in Loretto, Pa. The daughter of the historian and author has been a Jednota member since a small child, has studied in Slovakia, and is a member of the the PAS, Pittsburgh Area Slovak Ensemble.

In the photo from left to right are Rebecca Kopanic, Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr., Michael Kopanic, Sr., Milenka Ann Kopanic, and her new husband, Paul James Feighner III.



Stephanie Bruning and Brad Young

Stephanie Bruning to Wed Brad Young

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Bruning of Summertown, Tennessee, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Lyn, to Mr. Brad Michael Young. Mr. Young is the son of Ms. Sandra Brunella (Young) Heiden of Dewey, Arizona and the late Dwight Schramm Young III. Stephanie Lyn is the granddaughter of Steve A. Kacinec and the late Linda D. Kacinec. A fall wedding is planned.

Stephanie Lyn is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, with a BA in History and a MA in Historic Preservation. She has a post graduate degree from Academia Istropolitana, Bratislava in Architectural & Urban Heritage Conservation and from the University of Cambridge, UK in Medieval Studies. She is a planner for the City of North Las Vegas and a member of Delta Gamma Fraternity.

Mr. Young is a 1988 graduate of Bradshaw Mountain High School in Prescott Valley, Arizona. He graduated in 1993 from the University of Arizona in Tucson with a BA in Media Arts and did post graduate work in Journalism at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. He is employed as Senior Editor with Vegas Insider.

Stephanie Lyn, her mother Susanna Kacinec Bruning, and her grandfather Steve Kacinec, are all members of Branch 348 in Clarksburg, Pennsylvania.

Na medzinárodnej vojenskej púti nechýbali ani Slováci

Lurdy (TASR) – Záverečnou slávnostnou bohoslužbou pod holým nebom, ktorej neprialo počasie, vyvrcholil 25. mája vo francúzskom pútnickom meste Lurdy 50. jubilejný ročník medzinárodnej vojenskej púte. Rakúsky kardinál Christoph Schönborn v kázni pred 25,000 príslušníkmi ozbrojených síl zo 60 krajín, medzi ktorými boli aj viac ako dve stovky vojenských pútnikov zo SR, vyzval prítomných, aby boli obrancami života, obrancami slabých, starých, postihnutých, nenarodených. Zdôraznil, že skutočný mier je vždy plodom spravodlivosti. A tá by sa mala opierať o rešpektovanie života a ľudskej dôstojnosti, dodal.

Tohtoročná púť sa niesla práve v znamení pokoja a mieru. Na podujatí nechýbali ani početné osobnosti zo zahraničia, napríklad írsky prezidentka Mary McAleesová či rakúsky minister obrany Norbert Darabos. Slovensko zastupovala oficiálna delegácia pod vedením štátneho tajomníka ministerstva obrany Daniela Duchoňa, generálnej riaditeľky Zboru väzenskej a justičnej stráže Márie Kreslovej a štátneho tajomníka rezortu vnútra Vladimíra Čechota. Púť v Lurdoch organizujú už polstoročie príslušníci ozbrojených síl a ozbrojených zborov z celého sveta. V roku 1958, keď uplynulo 100 rokov od zjavenia sa Panny Márie v Lurdoch, sa vojenský duchovní spolu s vojenskými predstaviteľmi francúzskych a nemeckých ozbrojených síl dohodli na prvom stretnutí v modlitbách za zmierenie. Obe strany prežili hrôzy druhej svetovej vojny. Túžili preto po zmierení a po spoločnej modlitbe za pokoj a mier medzi národmi. Postavili tak základy tradície, pretože postupne sa k francúzskym a nemeckým vojakom pridávali ďalší z rôznych krajín. Každoročne sa tak spravidla v priebehu mája stretávajú pod Pyrenejmi vyše 20,000 príslušníkov ozbrojených síl a ozbrojených zborov z asi 30 krajín sveta. V roku 1995 prišli prvýkrát do Lúrd aj príslušníci a zamestnanci vtedajšej Armády SR. Odvtedy sa jej pútnici v uniformách Ozbrojených síl a Ozbrojených zborov SR zúčastňujú na akcii každoročne. Na posledné tri ročníky spolu s vojakmi prišli aj príslušníci a zamestnanci Policajného zboru a Zboru väzenskej a justičnej stráže a vlni prvýkrát aj ich rodinní príslušníci.

Prezident SR prisľúbil pomoc Nadácii M. R. Štefánika

Bratislava (TASR) – O plánovanom umiestnení sochy Milana Rastislava Štefánika a leva s pylonom na nové námestie pred budovou Slovenského národného divadla diskutovali 27. mája s prezidentom SR Ivanom Gašparovičom predstavitelia Nadácie M. R. Štefánika. Združenie sa teraz usiluje o uzatvorenie nájomnej zmluvy na pozemok pod budúci pamätník. Pozemky pod pamätníkom síce podľa predsedu nadácie Jána Fusku patria mestu, to ich však prenajalo do roku 2015 súkromnej firme kvôli výstavbe. Socha M. R. Štefánika je podľa jeho slov hotová, v Bratislave, problémy sa týkajú stavania pylónu, na ktorom bude socha s levom. Sondáž na pylóny by chceli vykonať najneskôr do konca júna kvôli nízkej hladine Dunaja, do konca októbra by sa mali pylóny postaviť, aby 4. mája budúceho roka na 90. výročie Štefánikovho úmrtia mohli sochu predstaviť verejnosti.

“Prezident predstaviteľom nadácie prisľúbil pomoc pri diskusii aj s investorom, firmou Ballymore, ktorá stavia Euroveu, čiže pán prezident sa prostredníctvom kancelárie prezidenta bude informovať o možnostiach uzatvorenia nájomnej zmluvy,” povedal hovorca prezidenta Marek Trubač. “Socha nebude stáť priamo pred divadlom, ale sto metrov od divadla, medzi tým bude celé nábrežie voľné, a na tom pylóne bude do vnútornej strany obrátená Pittsburská dohoda štyrikrát tri metre odliata do bronzu,” spresnil Fuska. Náklady na pamätník predstavujú 30 miliónov Sk (960,000 eur), z ktorých doposiaľ preinvestovali 11 miliónov Sk (350,000 eur). Na tento rok prisľúbil vybavenie 8,5 milióna Sk (270,000 eur) vicepremiér Dušan Čaplovič, istými prostriedkami prispelo aj mesto a viacero súkromných firiem, informoval predseda nadácie s tým, že sochu po dostavaní vrátia mestu.

Gašparovič ocenil úsilie nadácie vzhľadom na život a dielo Milana Rastislava Štefánika ako významnej súčasť československých a slovenských dejín. Podľa hlavy štátu by Slováci mali byť viac hrdí na svoju históriu. Prezident vyslovil presvedčenie, že aj v súčasnosti treba budovať v spoločnosti národné ctenie a vlastenectvo. “Slovenská republika je úspešným demokratickým štátom a na to môžeme byť právom hrdí,” konštatovala hlava štátu.

Pamätná strieborná minca na rozlúčku so slovenskou korunou

Bratislava (TASR) – Pokiaľ európske inštitúcie definitívne rozhodnú o zavedení eura na Slovensku od 1. januára 2009, Národná banka Slovenska (NBS) v priebehu tohto roka vydá pamätnú striebornú mincu v nominálnej hodnote 1,000 Sk (32,1 eur) s tematikou rozlúčka so slovenskou korunou. Vyplýva to z vyhlášky, ktorú centrálna banka predložila do pripomienkového konania. Verejnú súťaž na vytvorenie výtvarného návrhu pamätnej mince vypísala NBS v decembri 2007 a víťazný návrh sochára Karola Lička schválil guvernér centrálny banky v marci tohto roka. Na aversnej strane mince je vyobrazená budova NBS, po ktorej oboch stranách sú umiestnené hviezdy a ich fragmenty symbolizujúce členstvo SR v Európskej únii (EÚ). Na reverze sú v kompozícii štylizovaného znaku eura vyobrazené fragmenty motívov piatich platných slovenských obehových mincí.

Vydanie poslednej pamätnej mince, ktorou bude ukončené vydávanie slovenských platiel s nominálnou hodnotou v slovenských korunách a v halieroch, má byť tiež pripomenutím práce NBS, ktorá od svojho vzniku naplňovala úlohy centrálny banky nového štátu. Prijatím spoločnej európskej meny sa na území Slovenska ukončí vyše 15-ročná platnosť slovenskej koruny.

U.S. Steel pomáha v košickom regióne stavať ihriská

Košice (TASR) – Doteraz chýbajúce detské ihrisko otvorili 27. mája v obci Haniska pri Košiciach. Je to v poradí 23. ihrisko na východnom Slovensku vybudované s podporou košickej hutníckej firmy U.S. Steel. “Vzhľadom na rozlohu obce sme vďaka spoločnosti U.S. Steel mohli vybudovať dva areály, kde si môžu deti zašportovať či zašantiť na preliezačkách,” netajil radosť starosta obce Miloš Barcal. “Bezpečnosť a ochrana životného prostredia patria medzi základné princípy nášho podnikania a prostredníctvom certifikovaných a zmodernizovaných zariadení pre deti a mládež, kde môžu bezpečne a aktívne tráviť svoj voľný čas, uplatňujeme tieto naše hodnoty aj pri podpore komunity, povedal pri otvorení ihriska viceprezident pre ľudské zdroje U.S. Steel Martin Pitorák.

Okrem partnerstva s košickou mestskou časťou Juh pri výstavbe dopravného ihriska a rozvoji multifunkčného športovo-zábavného areálu na Alejovej ulici podporila hutnícka firma výstavbu moderného ihriska v Strednej zdravotníckej škole v Michalovciach, Strednej priemyselnej škole hutníckej v Košiciach, v ZŠ na Bruselskej ulici v Košiciach, ako i školskej plavárne v obci Buzica a ihriska v obciach Resica, Sokolany, Nižný Klatov, Vyšný Klatov, Valaliky a ďalšie vo výške niekoľko miliónov Sk. Ako informoval hovorca U.S. Steel Ján Bača, tento mesiac zverejnili výsledky grantového programu Spoločne pre región, ktorý firma vyhlásila v spolupráci s Karpatskou nadáciou. Jeden milión Sk (32,258 eur) rozdelili medzi 12 víťazných komunitných projektov, ktoré sú zamerané na voľnočasové aktivity detí a mládeže, environmentálnu výchovu a vzdelávanie, bezpečnosť, športové aktivity a zachovanie kultúrnych hodnôt.

Bratislava upevňuje všestrannú spoluprácu s Viedňou

Bratislava (TASR) – Doprava, technologický inštitút a projekt CENTROPA dominovali na stretnutí v polovici mája primátorov Bratislavy a Viedne. “Doprava po Dunaji loďou Twin City Liner je krásny kameňok do našej spolupráce,” uviedol na stretnutí s novinármi primátor Michael Haupl, ktorý pricestoval týmto plavidlom do Bratislavy. Je to nová, druhá loď Twin City Liner, ktorú v našom meste dnes slávnostne pokrstili a od 31. mája posilní riečnu prepravu cestujúcich. Túto dopravu ocenil aj bratislavský primátor Andrej Ďurkovský. Podľa neho je to vstupný most do mesta a vyše 200,000 pasažierov od leta 2006 dokazuje, že je záujem o takéto riečne cestovanie do centier oboch hlavných miest. “Snažme sa rakúskych turistov čo najdlhšie zdržať ponukou rôznych programov aj v okolí mesta,” dodal Ďurkovský. Primátori sa venovali i železničnej, cestnej a leteckej doprave. Host sa zaujímal o bratislavské letisko. “Boli to otázky súvisiace s privatizáciou a rozvojom letiska - sú rovnaké, aké ja kladiem našej vláde,” konštatoval hosť. Plánovaný technologický inštitút ako budúce európske centrum vedy a výskumu chcú obaja primátori. Podľa Ďurkovského je to nielen v záujme oboch miest, ale tiež vlád oboch krajín. Vzájomnému rozvoju miest, ale aj širšieho okolia napomáha projekt CENTROPE v rámci stredo európskeho regiónu. “Toto územie čaká veľmi silný rozmach a ten treba koordinovať, preto sme sa venovali aj územnému plánovaniu medzi Viedňou a naším mestom,” zdôvodnil primátor Bratislavy.

Vyznanie

Vyznávam Boha jedného.

Národ môj zbožňujem.
Slovom, rečou na slávu
mu vavrín vijem;
hlasom cherubína zvelebujem.

Čas nás nerozdvojl.
Diaľky vernosť nevytrelí.
Blízky si mi, celkom blízky
rodný kraj ... ďaleký.

Bez zvukov hlučnej symfónie
volám do sveta vyznanie:
Rodný kraj, ty si môj!
Môj! Môj! Navždy môj!

Čuj národe:
Ja, celý Slováč tvoj!
Lásku bez výhrad
do konca sľubujem.

Vyznávam:

Bláznivo Ťa milujem!
Národ môj slovenský:
Ja som tvoj!
Ty si môj!

My z jednej krvi
svoji sme!
Naveky!
Štefan Hreha

Starý Smokovec bude mať Tatracentrum a Horal park

Poprad (SITA) – Rozšírenie parkovacích miest v Starom Smokovci, Tatranskej Lomnici a na Štrbskom Plese, vybudovanie Horal parku v Starom Smokovci, odkanalizovanie Tatranskej Lomnice a Smokovcov, revitalizácia sídlisk v Dolnom Smokovci a vo Vyšných Hágoch, rekonštrukcia školských zariadení a vybudovanie centra sociálnych služieb predstavujú hlavné rozvojové zámery mesta Vysoké Tatry na najbližšie roky.

Na tieto projekty chce mesto Vysoké Tatry získať prostriedky z fondov Európskej únie. Na prípravu projektov dokumentácie projektov schválili poslanci Mestského zastupiteľstva vo Vysokých Tatrách na tento rok 10 mil. Sk.

Primátor Vysokých Tatier Ján Mokoš si veľa sľubuje od Tatracentra v Starom Smokovci. To by malo vyrásť na mieste súčasného centrálného parkoviska, ktoré sa nachádza pri vstupe do Starého Smokovca. Okrem poschodového parkoviska by tu malo byť aj nové informačné centrum, bus terminál a prírodný amfiteáter. "Bol by to hlavný vstupný bod do Vysokých Tatier," uviedol primátor Mokoš.

Horal park v Starom Smokovci, v priestore bývalých Verejnosprospešných služieb, by mal byť "alternatívou" pre zábavno-obchodné centrá, ktoré v uplynulých rokoch vyrástli v podtatranských mestách. Horal park bude tvoriť drevená goralská dedina. V jednotlivých objektoch budú umiestnené ukážky pôvodného života Goralov, výroba tkaných kobercov, košíkov a hrnčekov, predaj suvenírov, kníh a filmov, ovčieho syra. Súčasťou Horal parku bude adrenalínový park s horolezeckou stenou, parašutistický trenažér, U rampa, TANAP land a ďalšie priestory pre kultúrne a športové podujatia.

Súboj o prezidentský palác v Slovenskej republike

Súboj o prezidentský palác sa dramaturgizuje, kandidáti s najväčšími šancami na funkciu hlavy štátu, sú na najvyšších miestach v prieskumoch popularity, okolie oboch kandidátov pripravuje predvolebnú kampaň. Materská strana súčasného prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča, HZD, už chystá kampaň v obciach aj mestách. Predseda HZD Jozef Grapa pre denník HOSPODÁRSKE NOVINY povedal: "Ako strana chceme pomôcť, členovia sú odhodlaní pomôcť sponzorskými príspevkami, aby sme vedeli vykryť kampaň." Ivan Gašparovič ešte oficiálne nepotvrdil kandidatúru, ale podľa informácií denníka plánuje spustiť kampaň na jeseň. Kampaň už má premyslenú aj opozičná kandidátka Iveta Radičová. "S predstaviteľmi KDH a SMK sme už hovorili o prípravách na moju kampaň a formách spolupráce," uviedla pre noviny. Iveta Radičová aj Ivan Gašparovič chcú do kampa-ne vstúpiť aj ako občianski kandidáti.

Slovenská príroda patrí k najpestrejším v Európe

Bratislava (TASR) – Slovensko patrí svojimi prírodnými hodnotami k najbohatším krajinám Európy. Na území Karpát možno nájsť viac ako jednu tretinu európskych rastlín, útočisko u nás nachádzajú aj ohrozené druhy ako orol kráľovský, či sova dlhochvostá a prežívajú tu aj populácie medveďov, vlkov a rysov.

Pri príležitosti nedávneho Svetového dňa biologickej rozmanitosti to uviedla Martina Badidová z Inštitútu aplikovanej ekológie Daphne.

Pod pojmom biodiverzity sa rozumie rozmanitosť všetkých druhov organizmov a rôznorodosť ich stanovíšť. "Tento pojem je v súčasnosti široko používaný, avšak ho ľudia nechápu," konštatovala. Treba si uvedomiť, pripomenula, že jednotlivé druhy na danom území sú úzko prepojené a vypadnutie významného druhu ovplyvní množstvo ďalších organizmov.

Medzi typické významné druhy patria napríklad dravce, ktoré v prírode regulujú počty zveri a prispievajú k jej dobrému zdravotnému stavu. Slovensko za vysokú druhovú rozmanitosť vďačí aj svojmu umiestneniu medzi Karpatmi a Panónskou nížinou. "Je tu rôznorodosť klimatických, pôdných, ale aj hydrologických pomerov," objasnila Badidová. Na území SR tak možno nájsť okrem množstva druhov rastlín aj živočíchov aj rôzne biotopy ako napríklad orchideové lúky, posledné zvyšky jedľovobukových pralesov, či alpske lúky a vysokohorskú vegetáciu. Nachádzajú sa tu aj druhy, ktoré nemožno nájsť nikde vo svete. "Medzi klenoty slovenskej prírody patrí napríklad žltý kvet - rumenica turnianska, ktorá rastie na Turnianskom hrade," pokračovala. Záujem svetových zberateľov vzbudzuje aj napriek zákazu zberu kríček s fialovým kvetom, lykovec muránsky.

Obyvateľ vysokohorských oblastí kamzík vrchovský má na Slovensku vlastný poddruh, s prívlastkom tatranský. Medzi známe významné druhy patrí aj poniklec slovenský, zvonček karpatský, či iskerník karpatský.

Podľa údajov Svetového fondu na ochranu prírody (WWF) sa na planéte ročne vyrúbe 13 miliónov hektárov lesa, čo je približne plocha veľkosti trojnásobku Švajčiarska. Svetová únia na ochranu prírody (IUCN) zistila, že ohrozených je 40,000 druhov zvierat, rastlín a húb, vyše 16,000 druhom hrozí vyhynutie. Dohovor o biologickej rozmanitosti ratifikovali v roku 1994 aj Slovensko. Dokument o biodiverzite sa poníma ako praktický nástroj na realizovanie a podporu trvalo udržateľného rozvoja a zachovanie tejto rozmanitosti.

V samotnej Konvencii sa uznáva, že nejde len o "prežitie" rastlinných a živočíšnych druhov, mikroorganizmov a ekosystémov, ale o človeka, jeho potreby, bezpečné potraviny, možnosti prípravy nových liekov, ďalej o pitnú vodu a zdravé ovzdušie.

SkyEurope otvorí základňu v Košiciach

Bratislava (ČTK) – Nízkonákladová letecká spoločnosť SkyEurope Airlines otvorí tento rok v lete základňu v Košiciach. Na východnom Slovensku umiestni na začiatok jedno lietadlo, na jeseň by k nemu mohol pribudnúť ešte ďalší stroj. Novinárom to povedal v druhej polovici mája obchodný riaditeľ spoločnosti Steven Greenway. Novú bázu, ktorá sa pridá k súčasným základňam v Bratislave, Prahe a Viedni, sa letecký prepravca podľa Greenwaya rozhodol otvoriť pre vysoký dopyt cestujúcich v Košiciach.

V letných mesiacoch bude z metropoly východného Slovenska lietať do Bratislavy, Dublinu, Londýna, Manchesteru, Prahy a Splitu. Otváranie ďalších nových liniek SkyEurope neplánuje, chce však posilniť súčasné spoje.

Lietadlo by sa do Košíc malo podľa obchodného riaditeľa prepravcu presunúť z Viedne po skončení futbalových majstrovstiev Európy. Počas šampionátu bude totiž voziť do Rakúska fanúšikov napríklad z Poľska či Grécka.

Ďalšie lietadlo sa pravdepodobne na východ krajiny posunie z Bratislavy a od jesene bude lietať len na linke medzi Košicami a hlavným mestom. Cestujúci by tak mali mať možnosť vybrať si zo štyroch spojení denne medzi oboma mestami.

SkyEurope má 15 lietadiel, naposledy získal nový stroj tento rok v apríli a umiestnil ho do Prahy. Na budúci rok chce spoločnosť priviezť ďalšie lietadlo, objednávku však môže zvýšiť o ďalšie dva kusy. Z Bratislavy plánuje nízkonákladový prepravca spustiť nepravidelnú linku do izraelského Tel Avivu a v prípade záujmu od októbra bude lietať pravidelne. S akciami SkyEurope sa od roku 2005 obchoduje na viedenskej a varšavskej burze. Od vlaňajšieho mája do konca apríla tohto roka spoločnosť zvýšila celkový počet pasažierov o 22 percent na 3.7 milióna ľudí. V tomto roku chce prepraviť štyri milióny ľudí.

Euro príde na Slovensko lacnejšie

"Euro príde na Slovensko lacnejšie", zaznamenal na titulnej strane denník PRAVDA. Európske inštitúcie v stredu (28. 5. 2008) v noci odsúhlasili výrazne posunutie kurzu, od ktorého sa koruna v čakaní na euro nesprie posilniť ani oslabiť o viac ako 15 percent. Nová centrálna parita na úrovni 30.126 koruny za euro môže byť podľa ekonómov konečným kurzom, ktorým sa v januári všetko z korún prepočíta na európsku menu. "Vďaka silnejšiemu kurzu si napríklad Slováci budú môcť na dovolenke v zahraničí dovoliť viac..." vysvetlil Michal Musák, analytik Slovenskej sporiteľne. Lacnejšie budú tiež tovary a služby, ktoré sa do krajiny dovážajú spoza hraníc.

Na druhej strane, pre ľudí s dlhmi predstavuje silnejšia koruna väčšie záväzky. Ak sa potvrdí pomer oproti euru tesne nad 30-korunovou hranicou, hypotéka za 1.5 milióna korún výjde na 49,790 eur. Napríklad o tri koruny vyšší kurz by dlžníkovi ušetril zhruba 4,500 eur. Silná mena robí problémy aj vyvážajúcim firmám.

**Jednota,
Monsignor Shuba District srdečne
požívajú na ich**

**Výročný
Slovenský
Deň
Rodiny a
Piknik**

V nedeľu, 29. júla, 2007
Svätá omša v parku začína o 12 :00 hod.

<p>Obed sa bude podávať po omši</p> <p>Rezeň \$8.00 Guláš \$6.00 Rožok v parku \$.1.00</p> <p>GRIL o 16.00 hod.</p>	<p>V Creditvale Park Barbertown Rd, Mississauga</p> <p>Vstupné \$6.00 dospelí Deti pod 12 rokov zadarmo</p>
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Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Tatranské lanové dráhy (TLD) pripravili pre návštevníkov Lomnického štítu na nachádzajúcu letnú sezónu novú atrakciu. Bude ňou visutá kovová mriežkovaná výhliadková terasa, ktorá umožní netradičný pohľad na tatranské bralá. Terasa bude dlhá asi päť až šesť metrov, orientovaná západným smerom, teda na Malú Studenú dolinu. Nová atrakcia má byť pripravená do hlavnej letnej turistickej sezóny.

Šport, ktorý by reprezentoval Slovensko na medzinárodnej úrovni, sa nedá robiť bez záujmu mládeže a jej zápalu, bez profesionálov a ekonomickej pomoci. Vyslovil to 20. mája slovenský prezident Ivan Gašparovič na tlačovej konferencii po pracovnom stretnutí s organizátormi projektu Olympijské festivaly detí a mládeže Slovenska (OFDMS). Cieľom projektu je masovo zapojiť mládež na celom území SR do pohybových aktivít a ukázať jej potrebu i krásu športu. "Myslím, že oveľa drahšie a nevýhodnejšie je pre vládu dávať veľké financie do zdravotníctva. Ak sa bude financovať rozvoj fyzickej kultúry, financie do zdravotníctva nebudú v takej miere potrebné," myslí si hlava štátu.

Prierez históriu Slovenska od prehistorického obdobia až po súčasnosť ponúka čitateľom nová knižná publikácia Dejiny Slovenska, ktorú 22. mája do života uviedol prvý slovenský kozmonaut Ivan Bella. Miestom predstavenia knihy sa symbolicky stala jedna z najúspešnejších výstav Slovenského národného múzea Ako sme žili? Slovensko v 20. storočí. Každá kapitola 888 stránovej knihy má krátky interpretačný úvod do daného obdobia, ktorý nasleduje chronologický prehľad udalostí. Publikácia tiež ponúka všetkých panovníkov, prezidentov, palatínov, kráľovských miestodržiteľov, ale aj cirkevných hodnostárov či vlád.

Kolekciu netradičných čepcov, čiapok a klobúkov, ktoré vytvorili študenti - výtvarníci zo Slovenska a USA predstavujú od 23. mája v Galérii Petra Michala Bohúňa v Liptovskom Mikuláši. Práce vznikli počas projektu Inšpirácia-citácia-interpretácia. Mladí tvorcovia pochádzajú z katedry textilnej tvorby Vysokej školy výtvarných umení (VŠVU) v Bratislave a z oddelenia textilného dizajnu Buffalo State College, v USA. Slovenskí autori sa inšpirovali zbierkami Galérie P. M. Bohúňa a ich americkí kolegovia získali námety v múzeu Erie County Historical Society v Buffalo. Návštevníci si môžu výstavu pozrieť do konca septembra.

Drevené kostoly slovenskej časti Karpatského oblúka by sa mohli už čoskoro ocitnúť na Zozname Svetového dedičstva UNESCO. Návrh Slovenska na zápis odobrili aj experti UNESCO, ktorí svoje jednoznačné odporúčanie vyjadrili v oficiálnej hodnotiacej správe. Dôvodom je ich výnimočná a celosvetová hodnota. Konečný verdikt oznámi 21 členov Výboru Svetového dedičstva začiatkom júla 2008. Ak bude ich stanovisko kladné, drevené kostoly by sa stali už siedmou slovenskou pamiatkou, zapísanou v prestížnom Zozname.

Štátom Európskej únie sa nedávno ani po dlhom rokovaní nepodarilo vybrať z piatich uchádzačov vhodné sídlo pre vznikajúci Európsky inovačný a technologický inštitút. Rokovanie zablokovalo Poľsko, ktoré bolo medzi kandidátmi. Z hry už vypadla Bratislava, ktorá sa o sídlo uchádzala spolu s Viedňou. Rokovania o inštitúte pokročili natoľko, že sa nakoniec už zvažujú len dve miesta: Vratislav a Budapešť, ktorá má podporu väčšiny. Okrem týchto dvoch miest a zmieneného slovensko-rakúskeho projektu mali záujem o umiestnenie inštitútu, ktorý má úniu pomôcť vylepšiť jej pozíciu vo vede a aplikovanom výskume, i nemecká Jena a španielska Sant Cugat del Valles. Rozhodnutie o umiestnení EIT sa posúva na jún. EIT má úniu pomôcť vo vede a aplikovanom výskume. To sú oblasti, v ktorých Európa zaostáva za "vedeckými veľmocami," teda USA a Japonskom.

Na Slovensku sa dá k vysokoškolskému diplomu dostať skratkou, ktorú zákon nepozná. Na Trenčianskej univerzite nastúpilo niekoľko desiatok študentov rovno do tretieho ročníka bez toho, aby predtým študovali na vysokej škole. Tento spôsob štúdia na tejto univerzite predložil súčasný štátny tajomník ministerstva školstva Jozef Habaník, keď bol prodekanom na Trenčianskej univerzite. Schválil ho súčasný rektor univerzity Miroslav Mečár. V praxi to prebiehalo tak, že študentov prijali do prvého ročníka a takmer ihneď sa dostali do tretieho, lebo škola im ako vysokoškolské štúdium uznala účasť na projekte celoživotného vzdelávania. Udialo sa to v akademickom roku 2005/2006 a väčšina týchto študentov mala v máji štátnice. Kauzu od začiatku mája 2008 preveruje aj Ministerstvo školstva Slovenskej republiky. Viac informácií priniesol denník PRAVDA na titulnej strane pod názvom "Študenti z Trenčína dostanú pochybné diplomy".

Fínska spoločnosť zaoberajúca sa výrobou káblov a káblových zväzkov Alfaram Oy otvorila svoju pobočku v Partizánskom. "Spoločnosť Alfaram má viac ako 10-ročné skúsenosti v oblasti práce s káblovými zväzkami, ich navrhovaním, rozvojom, ďalej aktivita mi súvisiacimi s ich predajom a získavaním zdrojov na dané komponenty," informuje Slovenská agentúra pre rozvoj investícií a obchodu (SARIO). "Založenie novej spoločnosti považujeme za vhodné pre náš investičný zámer v meste Partizánske aj preto, že tu nachádzame dostatok vhodnej pracovnej sily. Zriadenie pobočky v danej lokalite nám tiež umožní byť bližšie k našim zákazníkom a dodávateľom v Európe," uviedol riaditeľ spoločnosti Alfaram, s.r.o., Taavi Kallankari.

Plné otvorenie francúzskeho trhu práce nielen pre poľských občanov, ale aj občanov ďalších siedmich krajín strednej a východnej Európy - vrátane Slovenska - s platnosťou od 1. júla 2008 oznámil 28. mája oficiálne vo Varšave francúzsky prezident Nicolas Sarkozy. Stalo sa tak po jeho stretnutí s najvyšším predstaviteľom Poľska Lechom Kaczyńskym. Informáciu, ktorá rozširuje pôvodnú správu nemeckej agentúry DPA, priniesol britský Reuters. Bez podobných rozhodnutí nie je možné budovať Európu," vyhlásil hosť z Paríža, ktorého krajina prevezme v druhom polroku na šesť mesiacov predsedníctvo v Európskej únii.

Hlavným motívom zahraničných účastníkov cestovného ruchu (CR) v Banskobystrickom kraji sú okrem zimných športov, rekreačných pobytov v horách a pri vode, ozdravovacích pobytov v kúpeľoch aj poznávacie zájazdy. Cudzinci obľubujú najmä prehliadky kultúrno-historických pamiatok. "Historické objekty vyhľadávajú predovšetkým v starobylých banských mestách Banská Bystrica, Banská Štiavnica, ktorú zapísali v roku 1993

na Listinu svetového kultúrneho a prírodného dedičstva UNESCO, a Kremnica. Populárne sú rôzne kultúrne podujatia ako Podpolianske folklórne slávnosti, ktoré sa konajú už vyše štyri desaťročia v Detve, či Hontianska paráda v Hrušove i preteky psích záprahov na Donovaloch," uviedol Peter Cibula z odboru CR Úradu Banskobystrického samosprávneho kraja.

Päť investorov v hedom priemyselnom parku v Detve, ktorý otvorili v decembri 2007 v niekdajších Podpolianskych strojárňach, by malo v najbližších 5 rokov investovať do nových technológií približne 204 miliónov Sk (6.57 milióna eur) a zamestnať takmer 540 ľudí. Ich ročná produkcia by v cieľovom roku 2012 mala dosiahnuť asi 980 miliónov Sk (31.55 milióna eur).

TASR a slovenské časopisy

V Dóme sv. Alžbety posledná rozlúčka s Irenou Schusterovou

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štátnej správy a samosprávy mesta a regiónu. Oficiálnu časť cirkevného pohrebu celebrol v Dóme sv. Alžbety košický arcibiskup Alojz Tkáč a pokračujúce obrady na cintoríne Rozália pomocný svätia biskup Bernard Bober. Tkáč počas homílie v katedrále vyzdvihol najmä osobné vlastnosti Ireny Schusterovej ako vzornej manželky, starostlivej matky, ktorá po 47 rokov vytvárala pevné zázemie pre prácu manžela - bývalého košického primátora, neskôr slovenského veľvyslanca v Kanade a napokon v rokoch 1999 - 2004 prezidenta republiky. "Aj za nepriaznivých okolností si uchovala vieru a bola hlboko veriaca katolíčka," povedal arcibiskup. Za košickú verejnosť sa so zosnulou rozlúčil popredný slovenský umelec, šéf opery Štátneho divadla Košice Peter Dvorský. Okrem iného pripomenul aj obdobie, keď bola manželovi oporou počas jeho život ohrozujúceho ochorenia v roku 2000.

Irena Schusterová zomrela náhle 24. mája vo veku 70 rokov, keď podľahla akútnej srdcovej príhode. Po boku bývalého primátora Košíc a neskôr prezidenta republiky Rudolfa Schustera stála 47 rokov. Bývalá prvá dáma SR Irena Schusterová, rodená Trojákova sa narodila 12. novembra 1937 v Bobrove v okrese Námestovo. Po ukončení postgraduálneho štúdia pracovala 33 rokov v Detskej nemocnici v Košiciach. Neskôr sprevádzala manžela, ktorý pôsobil ako veľvyslanec ČSFR v Kanade. V roku 1999 bol inaugurovaný za prezidenta SR a v tejto funkcii zotrval do roku 2004. Manželka bývalého prezidenta počas jeho pôsobenia v úrade založila Nadáciu Ireny Schusterovej, ktorá sa zamerala na pomoc deťom a na podporu Detského kardiocentra Detskej fakultnej nemocnice s poliklinikou v Bratislave. Ako prvá dáma sa venovala charite a pomoci onkologickým pacientom, dôchodcom, či bezdomovcom.



FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškáš

Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič (vpravo) 3. júna 2008 v Bratislave na návrh premiéra Roberta Fica vymenoval za nového ministra zdravotníctva doterajšieho riaditeľa Fakultnej nemocnice v Bratislave Richarda Rašiho (vľavo). Urobil tak po tom, ako prijal z rúk doterajšieho šéfa rezortu Ivana Valentoviča abdikačné listiny.



Prezentácia originálu Pittsburskej dohody v NR SR

Bratislava (TASR) – História dokazuje, že sme sa za slobodu a demokraciu vždy vedeli pobiť a máme byť na čo hrdí. Aj vďaka tomu je dnes Slovensko sebavedomý národ, ktorý v rámci veľkej európskej rodiny môže pomýšľať na lepšiu budúcnosť. Uvedol to pri prezentácii originálu Pittsburskej dohody 30. mája 2008 v Národnej rade SR predseda parlamentu Pavol Paška. "História dokazuje, že americkí Slováci boli pred 90 rokmi tým najpevnejším pilierom slovenských národných záujmov," dodal predseda parlamentu. Zásľuhu na tom, že sa Slováci vymanili spod uhorskej nadvlády, majú totiž podľa neho aj samotní Američania a krajanovia. Ako ďalej uviedol, Pittsburská dohoda mala zásadný význam pre vznik demokratického a slobodného Česko-Slovenska, lebo v tejto dohode našli spoločné ciele Slováci aj Česi.

Ako nadviazal minister zahraničných vecí Ján Kubiš, aj v súčasnosti má Slovensko s Českou republikou nadštandardné vzťahy. "Sú to vzťahy tesných spojencov. Sú to vzťahy priateľov. Aj toto je jeden z výsledkov takého významného kroku ako je Pittsburská dohoda," pokračoval Kubiš a zároveň dodal, že práve dohoda tvorí našu súčasnosť a budúcnosť.

Podpredsedníčka NR SR Anna Belousovová vníma dohodu ako jeden z míľnikov "k tomu, čo žijeme dnes" a naplneniu myšlienky samostatnosti. "Bola to nielen deklarácia toho, že Slováci už nechcú byť súčasťou Rakúsko-Uhorska, ale bol to signál svetu, že Slováci existujú a chcú byť samostatní," uviedla.

Inšpiráciou pre vznik Pittsburskej dohody bola podľa veľvyslanca USA na Slovensku Vincenta Obsitníka viera Američanov v princíp sebaurčenia. "Som rád, že dnes stojíme pri vás ako vaši spojenci. Tak ako je to zakotvené už v Pittsburskej dohode," podčiarkol veľvyslanec. Poslanec za SDKÚ-DS Ivan Štefanec považuje dohodu za základ pre nezávislosť Slovenska. "Podľa mňa zohrali veľkú úlohu nielen Slováci, ktorí pôsobili v tom čase v Amerike, ale sme vďační aj USA, že umožnili svojim zriadením konštituovať túto dohodu," povedal pre TASR.

Slovensko si 30. mája pripomenulo 90. výročie od prijatia Pittsburskej dohody, ktorú 30. mája 1918 v americkom Pittsburghu podpísali zástupcovia Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, České národné združenie a Zväz českých katolíkov. Dohoda mala Slovensku zaručiť vlastnú administratívu, snem a súdy. "Slovenčina bude úradným jazykom v škole, v úrade a vo verejnom živote vôbec," píše sa v dohode. V záverečnej vete sa hovorí, že podrobné ustanovenia o zriadení česko-slovenského štátu sa ponechávajú oslobodeným Čechom a Slovákom a ich právoplatným predstaviteľom. Politický vývoj však fakticky poprel základné články Pittsburskej dohody. Československá republika vznikla ako demokratický, ale unitárny štát "československého národa" s "československým jazykom". Originál Pittsburskej dohody bol vystavený vo vstupných priestoroch NR SR do piatka 6. júna. Potom poputuje do Slovenského národného múzea a stane sa súčasťou expozície Ako sme žili.

Koncert pre Slovákov ku cti sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme

Taliansko (RV/TK KBS) – Veľvyslanectvo Slovenskej republiky pri Svätej stolici usporiadalo v nedeľu 1. júna koncert venovaný ku cti sv. Cyrila a Metoda. Zazneli na ňom árie svetových skladateľov v podaní operného sólistu Jaroslava Dvorského s klavírnym sprievodom Júlie Grejtákovéj.

Podujatie sa konalo v Kostole Ježiša a Márie v centre Ríma, na mieste, kde sa pravidelne stretávajú na nedeľnej eucharistii slovenskí veriaci žijúci v Ríme a blízkom okolí. Oba umelci vystúpia aj v Bazilike Panny Márie Snežnej pri slávnostnej Bohoslužbe ku cti Slovánskych vierozvestov, celebrovanej kardinálom Jozefom Tomkom, vo štvrtok 5. júna. Túto slávnosť každoročne organizuje slovenský zastupiteľský úrad pri Svätej stolici ako anticipáciu sviatku sv. Cyrila a Metoda.

V rámci hudobného účinkovania v Ríme sa Jaroslav Dvorský zúčastní aj na generálnej audiencii pápeža Benedikta XVI., na počesť ktorého pripravil osobitnú nahrávku pod titulom "Ave Maria pro pace."

V Dóme sv. Alžbety posledná rozlúčka s Irenou Schusterovou



Foto TASR - František Iván

Pohreb Ireny Schusterovej v Košiciach v Dóme sv. Alžbety 29. mája 2008.

Košice (TASR) – Posledná rozlúčka s Irenou Schusterovou, manželkou bývalého prezidenta Rudolfa Schustera, bola 29. mája v košickom Dóme sv. Alžbety a na košickom cintoríne Rozália, kde ju pochovali do rodinného hrobu. Do katedrály sa okrem manžela, detí Petra a Ingridy, vnúčať a najbližších príbuzných prišla rozlúčiť približne tisícka Košičanov a smútočných hostí, ďalšie stovky ich stáli pred katedrálou. Pri katafalku s rakvou a portrétom bývalej prvej dámy neustále pribúdali ako prejavy poslednej úcty smútočné vence a kytice s nápisom Posledné zbohóm.

Na smútočných obradoch boli najvyšší ústavní činitelia - prezident republiky Ivan Gašparovič, predseda NR SR Pavol Paška s manželkou, predseda vlády Robert Fico a predsedníčka Ústavného súdu SR Ivetta Macejková. Prejavy sústrasti prišli vyjadriť aj poslanci NR SR, predsedovia politických strán, zástupcovia diplomatického zboru a predstavitelia

Pokračovanie na str. 19

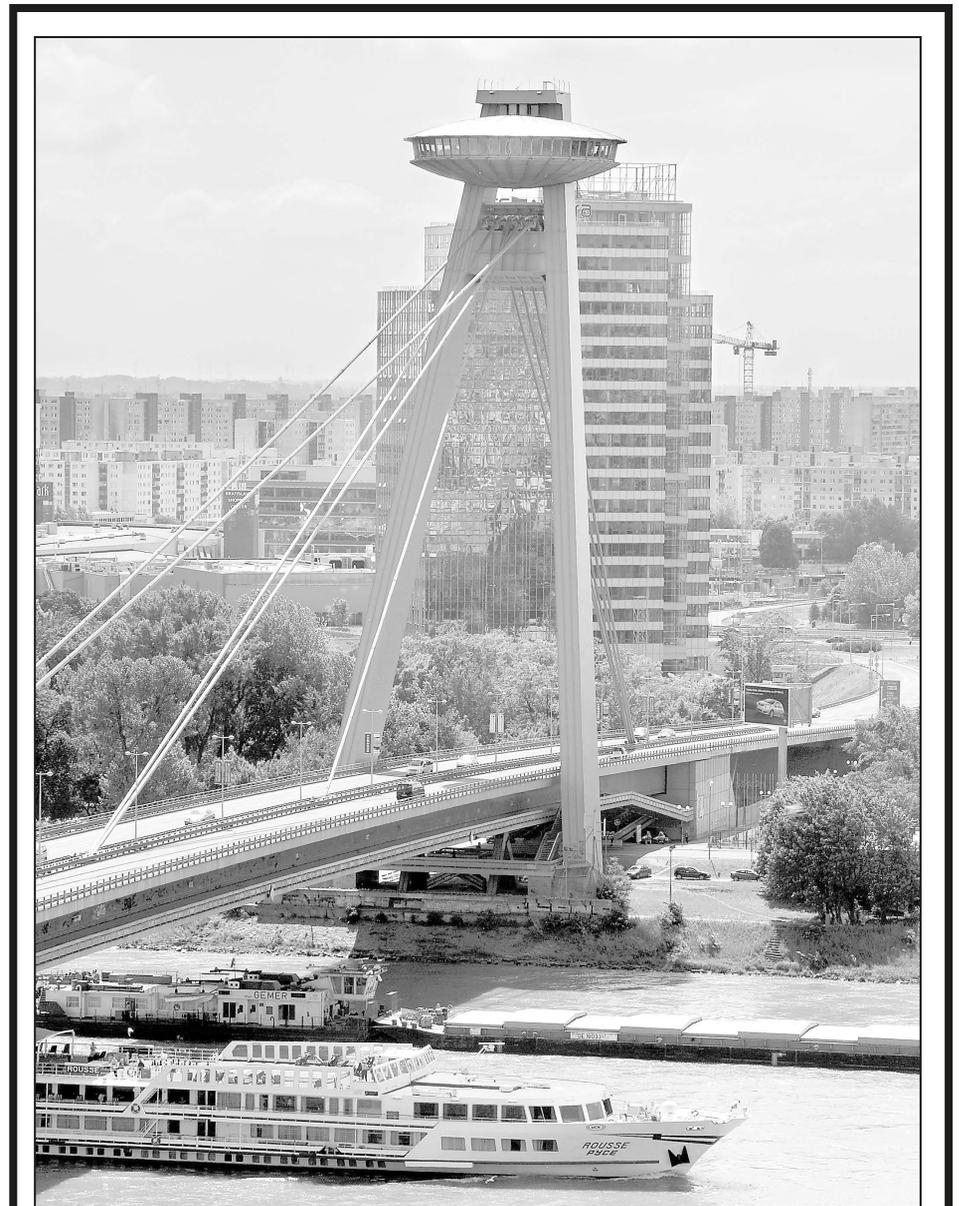


FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškáš

Lodná doprava po Dunaji 3. júna 2008 v Bratislave.