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The well attended, elaborate funeral Mass of Bishop Rudolf Baláž was celebrated in the cathedral church of Slovakia's Banská Bystrica diocese.

Defender of the Faith: Bishop Rudolf Baláž (1940 - 2011)

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

This past summer, Slovakia mourned the passing of Bishop Rudolf Baláž, the shepherd of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Banská Bystrica. He faithfully served in office from 1990 until his death from a blood embolism on July 27, 2011. During his entire career as a priest, Baláž established a reputation as a firm defender of the faith and resisted pressures from politicians to compromise the Church's independence.

Bishop Rudolf Baláž was buried on August 3. Over 300 bishops and numerous state and municipal dignitaries attended an elaborate funeral Mass. The grand ceremony took place in the cathedral church of the Banská Bystrica diocese. But Bishop Baláž would interment at a graveyard next to the pastor whom he knew during his youth, in his home village of Nevoľne, which lies in the Žiar nad Hronom district (okres), about 57 km from the diocesan seat.

Born during the Second World War, Baláž

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September is Life Insurance Awareness Month: Have You Insured the Times of Your Life?

September is life insurance awareness month. That makes this month a once-a-year opportunity to remind ourselves of the importance of life insurance can play in our lives, and the lives of our loved ones.

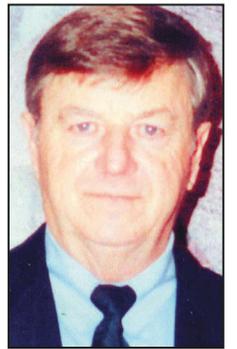
Life insurance presents a very simple answer to a very difficult question: How will my family manage financially when I die? It's a subject that no one really wants to talk about. But if someone depends on you financially, it's one you cannot avoid.

While there is no definite "rule of thumb" telling you how much life insurance to buy or when, September – Life Insurance Awareness Month – is a good time to review the many benefits that life insurance can buy.

Think about it: the right life insurance policy pays cash to your family after you die, allowing loved ones to remain financially secure. Life insurance payments can be used for immediate expenses following the death of a loved one, things like funeral costs, uncovered medical expenses, and estate settlement costs. An insurance policy can be used to cover on-going daily living expenses as well, such as mortgage payments, outstanding loans, college tuition, and other essential expenses like utilities, clothing, healthcare, and food. It also can fund future expenses for college and retirement. Perhaps most important, the death-benefit proceeds of a life insurance policy are almost never subject to federal income taxes.

If you've worked hard to establish a solid financial framework for your family – investments, home equity, a savings plan, retirement accounts – life insurance is the foundation upon which it all rests. The reality is that most of us need life insurance, and even those of us who already have it, need to update our coverage. Yet, according to the industry research group LIMRA, 30 percent of households in the United States have no life insurance whatsoever. Today there are 11 million fewer American households covered by life insurance compared with six years ago.

So I would encourage all of our members and Jednota readers to take the time now, during Life Insurance Awareness Month, to learn about your options and explore a life insurance program that's right for you.



Andrew Harcar
National Vice
President

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FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

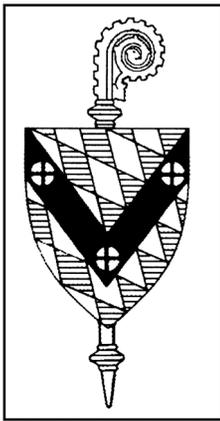
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Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

Insights and Viewpoints



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

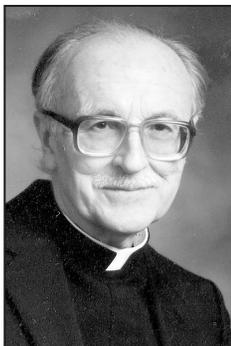
October 2, 2011

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 21:33-43

Gospel Summary

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



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

the Marriage Feast.

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

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

Life Implications

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

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

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

human beings, sons and daughters of God?

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



October 23, 2011

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 22: 34-40

Gospel Summary

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is frequently involved in confrontational situations. This reflects the tensions in the church of Antioch between conservative Jewish Christians and more liberal converts from among the Gentiles. The Pharisees in this gospel represent in some sense a conservative position that emphasizes observance of the law. They want to draw Jesus into their own interminable and sterile disputes about the relative importance of their numerous and detailed legal minutiae.

Jesus responds by quoting the essence of that great text from Deuteronomy (Chapter 6: verses 5 and 6) which has been justly called the heart of Israel's covenant commitment. In fact, when devout Jews today attach a mezuzah to their door posts, it contains this very text. And it does indeed sum up the divine revelation of the Old Testament. Its importance, therefore, can scarcely be overemphasized.

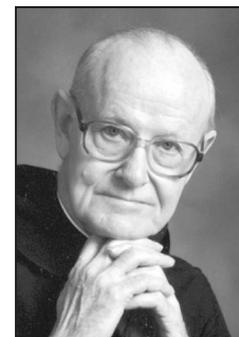
Life Implications

We all recognize the importance of rules of conduct in our society. The alternative is chaos and the cruel law of sheer power. Laws are often derived from the accumulated wisdom of society. We have learned from hard experience that there can be no real freedom without an order that protects rights and assigns obligations.

At the same time, there are laws that are based on divine revelation and which we may very well not be able to discover by our own wits. The law that Jesus calls the first and greatest of all laws belongs to this category. It has two parts: love of God and love of neighbor.

Love of God always presupposes a prior experience of God's goodness, and God offers most of us abundant evidence of such goodness, usually mediated through the kindness of others and the beauty of creation. Nonetheless, the awareness of divine goodness may seem to disappear at times, such as at 9/11 or in the terrible consequence of Katrina. Love of God then becomes trust, which is especially pleasing to God, for even among humans it is a rare and precious gift. The experience of God's goodness that makes such trust possible causes us to be intensely aware of the gratuity of divine love. The proper response to such a discovery is wonder and gratitude.

Love of one's neighbor is profoundly influenced by one's loving relationship with God, because such human love, at its best, is also gratuitous. The other person is not loved simply because he or she is attractive. Rather, this love comes from the goodness of the one who loves and reaches out instinctively to anyone who is in need. After all, God did not love the Hebrew slaves in Egypt because they were beautiful or cultivated but simply because he is good and they were in desperate need. Such unconditional love, even among humans, creates freedom, confidence and beauty. A person who is loved in this way acquires an inner beauty, which manifests itself by a special personal sparkle. Perhaps that is because, even among humans, such love is really divine



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12	MONDAY, OCTOBER 3
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26	MONDAY, OCTOBER 17
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9	MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

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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TERESA IVANEC, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com

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Life Insurance Awareness Month

continued from page 1

How much is enough?

The average adult American only has coverage equal to four times his or her annual income. Do you really need \$250,000, \$500,000, \$1million or more? Sounds like a lot of money, but when you consider all the things that life insurance proceeds need to fund and how long the money will be needed, you begin to realize that your true need for coverage is often 10 or 15 times your gross annual income – sometimes more. Imagine if one of those amounts had to pay for a funeral, retire credit card balances and other debts, and support your loved ones for years to come. Would it be enough? How would you know?

Calculating your insurance needs

To start, estimate what your family members would need after you're gone to meet immediate, ongoing, and future obligations. Then, add up the resources of your surviving family members could draw on to support themselves. These would include things like a spouse's income, accumulated savings, life insurance you may already own, etc. The difference between the two is your need for additional life insurance, as expressed in this simple equation:

$$\text{Current and future financial obligations} - \text{Spouse's earnings, savings, investments, and life insurance you already own} = \text{Life Insurance Needed}$$

While this equation may seem simple enough, coming up with all the input information can feel overwhelming. Plus, you'll need to factor in the effects of inflation and assumption about how much your investments will earn over the long run.

Fortunately, there are plenty of resources you can turn to for assistance. A first step would be to visit the First Catholic Slovak Union website (www.fcsu.com) for the latest rates and the general life insurance coverage options available through our Society. The next step would be to contact your local branch officer or the FCSU home office to put you in touch with someone who can conduct a thorough analysis of your needs, and then help you determine the right amount and type of life insurance to protect the ones you love. I strongly urge you to act now to make sure you have the right insurance policy. Your family is too important to let another September – Insurance Awareness Month – go by without acting to preserve its financial future.

Until next time,
Good luck and God Bless,

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
National Vice President

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Radio host/producer for The Christophers

A Happy Catholic

One of my favorite quotes about living a religious life is the statement from St. Teresa of Avila, "From serious, sullen saints, save us, O Lord." I think of it every time I'm riding the New York City subway and I hear a makeshift preacher shouting about the love of God – but sounding angry and miserable as he's doing it!

That's why it was a treat to interview Julie Davis on Christopher Closeup recently. Many years ago, she started a blog called "Happy Catholic" and has now written a book with the same title. In it, she shares parts of her own spiritual journey along with reflections on quotes that inspire her.

Julie was raised by a loving Mom and Dad who were good, decent people, but they didn't believe in God. Julie explained, "They weren't the kind of proselytizing, angry atheists that you see a lot now...I just was taught and believed that [religion] is something for weak people to lean on."

When Julie's daughter Hannah faced some difficulties with her kindergarten teacher in public school, she and her husband transferred the 5-year-old to a nearby Catholic school which provided a more nurturing environment. One day, the religion teacher asked the class, "How many children go to Mass?" Almost everyone except Hannah raised their hand. At her daughter's insistence, Julie became a regular churchgoer.

Sitting at Mass every week led Julie to thinking there might be a God after all. At first, she decided to play "Let's Make a Deal," asking God to prove He was real by helping the family find a new house. A year later, they still hadn't found a house, but Julie had undergone what she called "a slow change of grace." She was at Mass when she told God, "I don't have a reason not to believe in You. I don't have proof, but I'm good with that. You don't have to pay off on the bet." The next day, the family accountant told the Davis's he found money that they were owed in back taxes – enough to afford a new house. Julie didn't see that unexpected outcome as a reward for believing; she simply saw it as an outpouring of God's tremendous love.

Over time, Julie started to change. She'd always been a negative, glass-is-half-empty person who was good with a stinging putdown of someone else. A few years after she started blogging, she saw some people commenting about her, "I love Julie. She's so happy, cheerful, perky and optimistic." Julie realized, "I am now a glass-is-half-full kind of person."

That positive attitude helped her be a model of faith to her non-believing father when he was dying. Julie had tried to change his mind about God by talking to him and giving him books to read, but nothing worked. Then she asked herself, "How can I let a reflection of God shine through me?" Julie recalled, "For a year before that, I had gone to daily Mass a lot in sacrifice for my father especially...What changed his mind was...being there...I had the great privilege of being allowed to sit on the bed next to him and say, 'Dad, you're going to die soon and when that happens and God reaches out His hand, please reach out and grab it back. All the happiness that you've been looking for and not finding is there.' He started crying and he looked at me. He grabbed my hand and said, 'I will. I will.' And that's not anything I did. I was doing my best, but only God could move a heart like that."

Now that's something to be truly happy about.

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

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Nov Benefit for Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Svorad



Located on the highest point in Cleveland, OH, the monks of St. Andrew Abbey ascend to God through a life of prayer and work, and run the all-boys college preparatory Benedictine High School. The Slovak Institute also is housed on the grounds. The Abbey is a part of Branch 24.

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey will present their Abbey Benefit on Sunday, November 6, 2011. "Dedicated Commitment to the Lord", is this year's theme. The benefit will celebrate the fiftieth (50th) anniversary of the profession of Monastic Vows of Rev. Anselm Zupka, OSB, and the thirty-fifth (35th) anniversary of Priestly Ordination of Rev. Dismas Boeff, OSB.

A Mass of thanksgiving will be offered at 12:15 PM at the Church of the Assumption, 9183 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio, 44147. A reception, banquet and program will follow at the Parish Center.

Rt. Rev. Abbot Christopher Schwartz, OSB will be the main speaker for the banquet. Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB will be the Master of Ceremonies. He will present recognition in memory of Dorothy Hudac, who volunteered for twenty years as a member

of the Benefit Committee.

Entertainment will be provided by Swing City Big Band. Catering will be provided by Billy Hricovec, of Tom's Country Place. Center piece flowers donated by Orban's Flowers. A silent Slovak auction will be held. The event concludes about 4:00 PM with the Monks singing the "Benedictine Anthem" -- The Ultima.

Your support of our Annual Benefit is a very important part of the monks' present and future ministry. Please join in honoring our Monks for their many years of service. If you can not attend, a gift in their honor will be greatly appreciated.

Ticket price is \$65.00. Additional sponsorships, including \$100.00 "Honor-a-Monk" contributions, are available. For reservations and additional information please contact Rev. Albert Marflak, OSB at 216-721-5300 ext. 209, Marie A. Golias at 216-228-8179, or Rose Stiffar at 216-721-5300 ext. 0. Please make reservations by October 27, 2011.

Submitted by Rev. Albert Marflak, Branch 24 Chaplain



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- * Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- * Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- * The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications or visit our web site at FCSU.com

Branch 581 Invites All to Oct 16 Mass and Meeting

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fraternally,

Ed Bach, FIC Branch 581



Nov Slovak Heritage Festival Supports Slovak Studies Program in Pittsburgh

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

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

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

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

About the Slovak Studies Program

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



Oct Clambake at American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH

A Clambake by Pogie is scheduled at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH. 44055, on Saturday, October 8, 2011, from 6:00-7:00p.m. DJ/Karaoke by Tunes Unlimited will be featured for the evening's entertainment. It is sponsored by the United Slovak Societies, which consists of members of our own Branch 228, along with members of other local branches in the SCS 111&77, FCSLA 114, NSS 160 and LPSCU.

Advanced ticket sales only, \$22.00.

Contact John Akosi at 440/984-2212.

- Submitted by Michele Mager, FCSU Branch 228.

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Book Corner

New Local Book Explores Slovak History of Northeastern Ohio

Local authors team up to tell story through vintage photographs

The newest addition to Arcadia Publishing's popular Images of America series is Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley from local authors Susan J. Summers and Loretta A. Ekoniak. The book boasts more than 200 vintage images and memories of days gone by.

To many people, the sight of a sky aglow with flame, clouds of smoke, and the smell of sulfur in the air would bring thoughts of sermons about brimstone, fire, and punishment for a life of sin. But Slovak immigrants fleeing poverty in Europe saw a picture of hope and prosperity as they came to the Mahoning Valley of northeastern Ohio in response to the promise of jobs and good pay in the steel mills.

These mills stretched in an almost unbroken chain from Warren, Ohio, through Youngstown and Campbell and on into Sharon and Farrell, Pennsylvania. From the 1870s, when the first Slovaks came to this area, to the present, there is no part of American life in which these Slovak Americans have not thrived while living the American Dream.

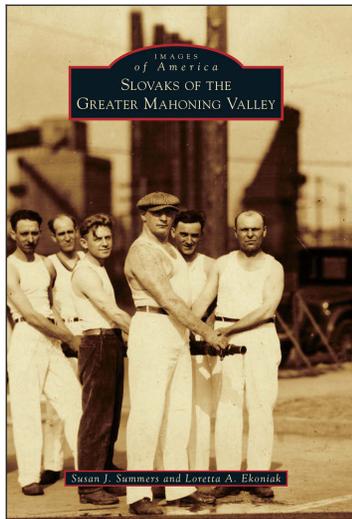
Highlights of *Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley*:

- Nearly 100 local families donated photographs to be included in the book.
- Nineteen area churches, which originated as Slovak congregations, are included in the book; some are the only known pictures of the original churches.
- Sports played an important role in the Slovak community and there is an entire chapter dedicated to it, including everything from school teams, to Slovak Fraternal competitions to local players who made it to the pros.

Available at area bookstores, independent retailers, and online retailers, or through Arcadia Publishing at www.arcadiapublishing.com or (888)-313-2665.

The authors will be participating in a book signings at the Shenango Valley Community Library 11 North Sharpville Avenue Sharon, PA 16146 on October 22, 2011: 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Arcadia Publishing is the leading publisher of local and regional history in the United States. Our mission is to make history accessible and meaningful through the publication of books on the heritage of America's people and places. Have we done a book on your town? Visit www.arcadiapublishing.com.



Loretta Ekoniak, a grandchild of Slovak immigrants, grew up in Youngstown, Ohio. She is president of the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley and is deeply involved in keeping the Slovak heritage alive. Susan Summers grew up in Campbell, Ohio. Her work at the Youngstown Arms Museum and the Campbell Historic Society fueled interest in her Slovak heritage and influenced her decision to help maintain these Slovak memories.

Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley

by Susan J. Summers,
Loretta A. Ekoniak

Images of America Series

Price: \$21.99

128 pages/ softcover

Available: September 19, 2011



FALL GALA

Saturday, November 12, 2011

POKROVA HALL

6812 Broadview Road • Parma, OH 44134

Performances by

Lúčinka Children's Ensemble

and special guest **Living Traditions**

Music and Dancing to follow by

Ralph the Accordion Man & Party Band

Tickets: \$30/person

Includes full-course dinner with cash bar

Raffles & Gift Baskets

Cocktails 6:00p.m. Dinner 6:30p.m.

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

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

All proceeds to benefit the Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble

Thank You for Your Support

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

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

Fraternally,

Joseph Sedivy, Branch 703

Useful Websites

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

Slovakia Travel Guide
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 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

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2011 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

(TELECONFERENCE)**OPEN MEETING**

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and asked the National Chaplain, Fr. Thomas Nasta, to offer the opening prayer.

ANTHEMS

President Rajec asked Fraternal Activities Director, Susan Ondrejco, to lead the Board in singing the anthems.

ROLL CALL

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call:

Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain – present via telephone;
 Andrew M. Rajec, National President – present;
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President – present;
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary - present;
 George F. Matta, National Treasurer – present;
 Karen M. Hunka, Chairman of Auditors – present via telephone;
 Susan M. Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director – present via telephone;
 Gary J. Matta, General Counsel – present via telephone;
 Joseph F. Minarovich, Regional Director, Region 1 – present via telephone;
 Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2 – present via telephone;
 Carl Ungvarsky, Regional Director, Region 3 – present via telephone;
 James Marmol, Regional Director, Region 4 – present via telephone;
 Regis P. Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5 – present via telephone;
 Henry Hassay, Regional Director, Region 6 – present;
 Rudolph Bernath, Regional Director, Region 7 – present via telephone;
 Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 & 9 – present via telephone;

READING OF THE CALL

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Quarterly Meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2011

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by James Marmol to accept the minutes of the March Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Quarterly Meeting which had previously been sent to all the Board members and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Henry Hassay to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order if necessary. Motion carried.

AQS – ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC.

Larry White of AQS Asset Management Company, LLC, presented his report to the Board via teleconference. A copy of his presentation was distributed to each Board Member prior to the meeting. Following his report he answered all the Board's questions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Rajec stated he and Executive Secretary Arendt along with the Regional Directors are working on merging active branches with the inactive branches.

The President informed the Board that the Ohio Department of Insurance has completed their four year audit of our Society. President Rajec reviewed the report with the Board and stated that we received a very satisfactory report and are in complete compliance with the state.

The President stated the Scholarship Committee has reviewed all the applications and completed their selections. All applicants have received a letter and the winners list has been published in the Jednota newspaper.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FIRST QUARTER 2011Executive Secretary's Report

Secretary Arendt presented the summary of the Financial Report for the 1st Quarter of 2011. After his report he answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 2011 first quarter Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

The Vice President reviewed the sales production by Districts and also by General Agents and Independent Agents and answered the Board's questions.

The Vice President also stated that we are still in process of recruiting independent agents to sell our products.

The Vice President further led a discussion regarding seminars for 2011 and encouraged the Regional Directors to contact him regarding seminars within their region. The Vice President will update the Board of Directors with the dates of scheduled seminars for 2011.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Director of Fraternal Activities Susan Ondrejco presented her report on the Bowling and Golf Tournaments and the Photo Contest. The Fraternal Director stated there will be a joint Bowling Tournament with the Slovak Catholic Sokol, National Slovak Society and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union on May 4-6, 2012. This tournament will be held in Eastlake, Ohio. Fraternal

Director Ondrejco further stated plans are being made to hold a joint golf tournament also in 2012. She will inform the Board as details become available.

Regional Director Hassay made a suggestion to allow our members to bring non-members as guests to the bowling and golf tournaments. This will be taken under advisement.

Director Ondrejco stated the final details are being handled and everything seems to be working out for the National Picnic being held on August 14, 2011.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented the Auditor's Report and answered the Board's questions. She stated that the Internal Auditors conducted a thorough audit and everything was in order.

Chairman of Auditors Hunka reminded the Board that, per the FCSU Bylaws, all travel vouchers must be submitted within 60 days of the event.

PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTSExecutive Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee Meetings. He stated that in accordance with the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Executive Committee meets monthly and whenever else it is necessary to take care of the business of the Society.

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the directives adopted by the Board of Directors. All investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee.

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee has completed their selections, applicants have been notified and the winners have been published in the Jednota newspaper.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT

Jednota, Inc. The President of Jednota, Inc., George Matta, gave his report to the Board of Directors and, after answering the Board's questions, he turned the meeting over to the President of Jednota Properties, Inc., Regis Brekosky, who presented his report to the Board. The reports of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., are informational in nature.

DISTRICT BYLAWS

Executive Secretary Arendt updated the Board on the District Bylaw updates. It was decided to table the approval until further review at the next Board Meeting in September.

MISCELLANEOUS

Regional Director James Marmol presented a draft and potential cost of the Middletown Monument Memorial Project, which entails moving the doughboy statue at the Printery Building to the front of the property. Motion was made by Regional Director Henry Hassay and seconded by Treasurer George Matta to allocate a maximum of \$30,000.00 for the project. Motion carried.

The President asked James Marmol to submit a revised budget showing the suggested changes made by the Board.

PAYMENT FOR MEETING

A motion was made to pay all bills associated with the Board Meeting by Henry Hassay and seconded by Damian Nasta. Motion carried.

DONATIONS

Donation requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Andrew Harcar to adjourn. Motion carried.

It was announced the next Board Meeting will be at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio on September 16 – 17, 2011.

The President asked Father Thomas Nasta to end the meeting with a prayer.

 Andrew M. Rajec
 President

 Kenneth A. Arendt
 Executive Secretary

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

Branch 553's 42nd Annual Kielbasa Open Golf Outing

The 42nd Annual Kielbasa Golf Outing was held Saturday, June 25, 2011 by Branch 553 (Akron, OH) at the Rolling Greens Country Club, one of the top rated golf courses in Northeastern OH. Ninety-eight golfers tested their skills on the course while 12 hardworking volunteers ensured that there was plenty of great food and cold refreshments during the entire day.

Golfers started the morning at 6:30AM, feasting on what other than homemade sausage by George Kacsanek, Lenny Gmerk, Mike Wahl, and Greg Petrasek – the breakfast of champions. Branch President Joe Petrasek was the designated distributor of “pálinky” and other “better golf” juice. Polka music could be heard throughout the course, which made for interesting conversation at the pavilion regarding the teams who were chipping and putting. Teams traveled from Washington, DC; Pittsburgh, PA; and Virginia. Volunteers came from both Warren and Youngstown, OH.

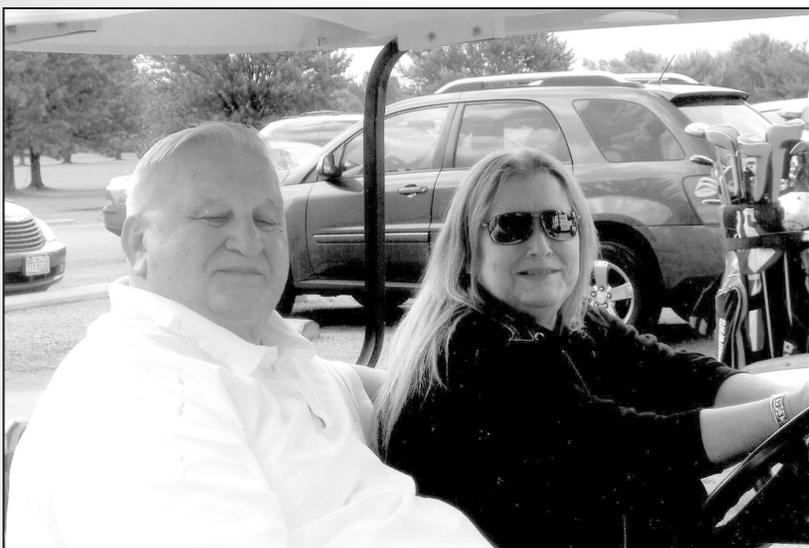
As Branch Vice President and Outing Chairperson, I would like to thank all our golfers and volunteers that made this event a resounding success.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory P. Petrasek
Golf Outing Chair, Branch 553 Branch
President, and District 10 President



Volunteer Laura Jewell (Warren, OH) serves a sausage sandwich to Larry Petrasek.



(R) Sandy Liepold drives President Joe Petrasek around the course. Note: President Joe has to close his eyes out of FEAR.



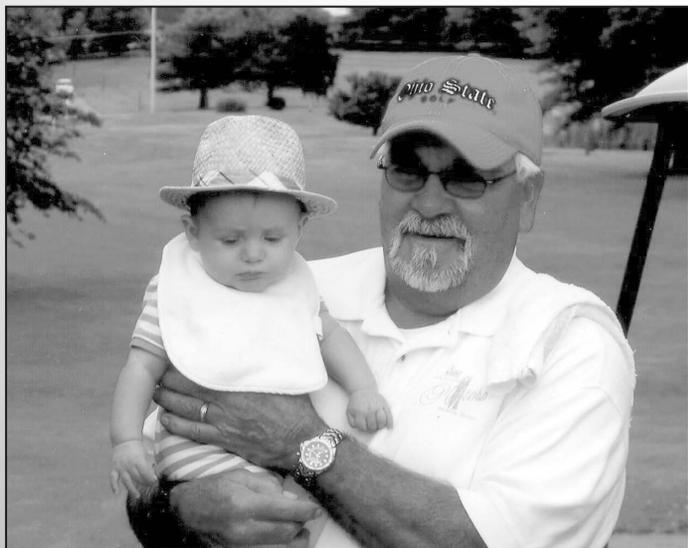
(L – R) Bianchi Petrasek and fiancé Andrew Victory, with club bartender Albie Collier



(L – R) 4th Place Winners Tommy Williams and Scotty Collier jam to “Roll Out the Barrel” played over the club’s PA system



Branch 553 President Joe Petrasek



Volunteer Jim Gazdacko lets Connor Thomas (L) get a good look at a grill full of kielbasa and steaks



(L- R) George Kacsanek is congratulated by Outing Chair Greg Petrasek for his team’s first win in 42 years of attending the Kielbasa Open.

Defender of the Faith: Bishop Rudolf Baláž (1940 - 2011)

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lived through Slovakia's trials of the late twentieth century and guided the moral conscience of the young independent Slovak Republic during its early turbulent years.

Obtaining most of his education during the communist era, he was not always free to practice openly the priestly vocation he had chosen. From 1958-1963, he studied at the Roman Catholic Theological School of Saints Cyril and Methodius at Comenius University in Bratislava. He was ordained as a priest on June 23, 1963, and proceeded to serve the faithful of Slovakia in a number of parishes — as a chaplain (*kaplán*) in Brezno (1963-65), Krupina (1965-67), Vrútky, Kláštor pod Znievom, Vrúcko (1967-68). When his talents became apparent, the Church appointed him actuary in Banská Bystrica (1968-70), and then pastor of the parish in Pitelová (1970-71).

Baláž's career took a turn for the worse following the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. Communist authorities elevated their supervision of Church appointments and tightly controlled them by penalizing non-conforming clergy. Because he had accepted a pastoral position without official state permission, from 1972 until 1982, the communists forced him to work a secular job, first as a tractor operator for the firm JRD, and then later as a truck driver. Finally, he spent last eight years of communist rule (1982-1990) as the pastor in Turčiansky Peter.

Following the overthrow of communism during the Velvet Revolution of November 1989, the Roman Catholic Church quickly promoted Baláž. On February 14, 1990, the Church pronounced he would become the Bishop of the Banská Bystrica Diocese, and the esteemed Cardinal Jozef Tomko ordained him as bishop on March 19 of that year.

Bishop Baláž's pastoral career took an important leadership role when the Conference of Bishops of Slovakia elected him president. He held that prestigious office from April 13, 1994 until August 31, 2000. During his last years, from September 16, 2003, he served as vice-president to the Bishops' Conference.

But it was during his term as president of the Bishops' Conference that Baláž stood out for his uncompromising positions during the government of Slovakia's controversial Prime Minister Vladimír Mečiar. Baláž's term of office paralleled the early years of Slovak independence and Baláž set an important precedent by refusing to submit to government pressures to subvert Church policies to secular control. The Catholic Church occupies a special position in Slovakia since as many as 69 percent of the population claims membership in the Church.

From 1995 to 1998, Baláž took a number of stands which juxtaposed church and state in Slovakia. He stood firm in opposing any discrimination against Hungarians and the Roma people (Gypsies) of Slovakia. He also warned of the dangers of potentially undemocratic legislation, such as the "Law for the Protection of the Republic," which the Mečiar cabinet proposed that the government pass in 1996.

Under Baláž's leadership, the Catholic Church bishops cautioned against such a law which aimed to penalize "internal enemies" of Slovak Republic. The bishops warned that such a law would create "the danger of a new totalitarianism in our republic." The Church actively supported and even took part in large protests against passing such dangerous legislation.

The Mečiar government even attempted to gain the cooperation of the Church by offering the gift of a Catholic university. When Baláž refused to compromise the integrity of the Church for political favors, government negotiations with Church authorities reached an impasse.

When the government found out it could not buy the Church's support, it attempted in 1995 to smear Baláž and other Catholic leaders by staging the fake purchase of a sacred icon. The Slovak Intelligence Service (SIS) supposedly found out that the Banská Bystrica



Achievements of the late Bishop Rudolf Baláž have contributed to a stable relationship between church and state in the Slovak Republic to this day.

Diocese had made a copy of a Medieval Flemish triptych painting, "The Adoration of the Magi," and alleged that it wished to sell the original copy. A secret police agent posed as a Swiss citizen, Thomas Grabner, and pretended that he bought the painting for \$200,000. After the alleged purchase, SIS agents forced entry into the diocesan office and conducted a search for evidence in order to discredit Bishop Baláž.

Following this unprecedented invasion of Church privacy in independent Slovakia, 2,000 peaceful protesters gathered in prayer to express their discontent with government intrusions. The Bishop's Office declared that "the government not just declare democracy but exercise it in practice." Many rightly believed at the time that the police search aimed to intimidate Bishop Baláž for a public statement he had made in support of then President Michal Kováč, whose son government agents had kidnapped and dumped in Austria.

Subsequent investigations proved that SIS chief Ivan Lexa had directed the fake purchase with the assistance of his former deputy, Jaroslav Sechota. They had illegally absconded funds from the government for buying the artwork. In January 2005, a Bratislava court found Lexa and his then deceased colleague guilty of abusing their power. The courts acquitted the Church of any wrongdoing.

Interestingly, the triptych of the Magi did return to the Banská Bystrica diocesan office in November 2000, after Mečiar's party lost the 1998 parliamentary elections. The "Adoration of the Magi" triptych has since become part of the collection in the Slovak National Gallery.

These and other disagreements resulted in an ebb in church-state relations in the new Slovak Republic. Government relations with the Vatican also deteriorated, despite a papal visit to Slovakia by John Paul II in 1995. In order to consult with its own legate, the Vatican recalled its ambassador stationed in Bratislava, Slovakia, Anton Neuwirth. The Vatican then delayed the signing of a treaty between the Holy See and Slovakia because the Mečiar government had demanded that it be notified before the Vatican appointed any new bishops in the country. Following the 1998 victory of a new coalition government led by Prime Minister Mikuláš Dzurinda, Bishop Baláž advised the government to proceed slowly in pursuing its aims, so as not to destabilize the new coalition, which included conservative Christian parties. The Vatican would eventually conclude a treaty with Slovakia in 2004 that included equal funding for both public and church schools.

During the 1998 election campaign, Bishop Baláž led Slovak bishops who called on the government to respect democracy, international law, and constitutional processes. The Conference of Slovak Bishops insisted that the Slovak government grant unconditional respect for decisions of the Constitutional Court and dutifully punish those who had violated the law. It also warned against using the media for its own political purposes and insisted that Slovak Television provide citizens with objective information. During the tense atmosphere leading to the 1998 elections, the bishops warned against deteriorating moral and ethical values and specifically noted the increasing power of the Mafia in intimidating people and infiltrating political circles. They cautioned against "vulgarity, the thirst for profit, and frauds."

Essentially, Bishop Baláž led the Catholic Church and acted as the conscience of the nation during its most trying times in post-independence history. In recognition of his many achievements and his uncompromising moral stance, current Prime Minister Iveta Radičová offered her condolences at his death and commended him for "the greatness of his personality and his high moral values during the communist regime." Likewise, she added that during the Mečiar regime, the bishop had "stood up for the principles of freedom and democracy, for which he was openly besmirched by the regime." Having conversed with Baláž on many occasions, Radičová noted how he conducted himself "with a spirit of respect and open dialogue."

In an interview with the *Slovak Spectator* newspaper in 1999, Bishop Baláž explained how he viewed the role of the Church in Slovakia. He stated that "nurturing a spirit of unity is the most important role of the Church. This idea is based on tolerance, tact and respect. Our role is to glue society together, not to fragment it. We can help to create a peaceful atmosphere in this country, the government of which needs stability." Baláž cautioned against ruinous bickering over "trifles" and the need for church and state to listen to one another and cooperate in building a better and more moral society.



The "Adoration of the Magi" triptych in the Slovak National Gallery.

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The Pittsburgh Philharmonic Orchestra Set to Perform With Pàs

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

October 2011 – The Pittsburgh Area Folk Ensemble (PÁS) will be performing two community concerts with the Pittsburgh Philharmonic Orchestra. The two appearances will take place in both the cities of Butler and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The concerts are part of the Pittsburgh Philharmonic's program theme of "Going Abroad" during its 2011-2012 regular season. The "first stop" on the tour will take the audience to experience the cultures of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which included the area of present-day Slovakia.

The concert will open with Béla Bartók's *Hungarian Sketches*. Bartók is noted for his depictions of Slovak, Magyar and Romanian folk cultures. Next, the program will feature a rendition of Czech composer Antonín Dvořák's "exciting (and scary!)" *Noon Witch*. The night will conclude with Dvořák's optimistic Symphony No. 8.

For a brief preview of some of the music, one may go to YouTube:

Hungarian Sketches - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r16nQQbOEQo>

Noon Witch - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q-Nd17kjbGk>

Symphony No. 8 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6f1-11wyoG4>

PÁS dancers will perform to the music of Moravian folklorist/composer, Leoš Janáček.



PAS will perform two community concerts with the Pittsburgh Philharmonic Orchestra in October.

For over 30 years, the Pittsburgh Philharmonic, a 60-member symphony orchestra, has presented very unique performances in community settings. The orchestra performs between 10 and 15 concerts each year,



including both its regular classical season and a summer pops series. The orchestra also "promotes music education through its Young Artist Concerto Competition, Music Exploration Workshops for elementary students, and a summer student mentoring program."

"The Pittsburgh Philharmonic rehearses and performs in the North Hills of Pittsburgh. The Philharmonic will perform four concerts at North Hills Junior High during its 2011-2012 Season "Going Abroad!" As part of their continuing community outreach, the Philharmonic will repeat these performances at the Butler County Community College's subscription series at the Succop Theatre" (www.pghphil.org).

The first concert will take place at 8 pm on Friday, October 28, at the Butler County Community College. The second performance will be at North Hills Junior High School on October 29, at 7 pm.

For information on purchasing tickets, please visit the Pittsburgh Philharmonic website, www.pghphil.org and click on the performance entitled "Czech & Hungary." One may also buy tickets by telephoning Pro Arts at (412) 394-3353. Advanced purchase tickets are \$12 for Adults, \$8 for Seniors, and \$5 for Students.

To learn more about PÁS visit www.PAS-Folkensemble.com.

Fall 2011 PÁS Performance Schedule

Pittsburgh Philharmonic Symphony ... 8:00 p.m. October 28th, Butler County Community College, Butler, PA & 7:00 p.m. October 29th, North Hills Junior High School, Ross Township, PA.

21st Annual Slovak Heritage Festival ... 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. November 6th University of Pittsburgh, Cathedral of Learning, Commons Room, Pittsburgh, PA

The Fourth Annual Heritage Holidays Weekend at the Heinz History Center ... November 12th, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. & November 13th, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Senator John Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Saints Cyril & Methodius Roman Catholic Church Slovak Vigil ... 6:00 PM, December 9th 50 N. Morgantown Street, Fairchance, PA 15436, RSVP to: Jean Thompson, (724) 564-2641 blossom1961@atlanticbb.net.

Crossroads Journey to Bethlehem ... December 10th Crossroads Presbyterian Church, 2310 Haymaker Road, Monroeville, PA.

If you would like more information about this topic, or wish to schedule an interview with Angie or a representative of the Philharmonic Orchestra, please call Melanie Kopanic-Feighner at 814/934-5323 or e-mail Melanie at minki281@yahoo.com.

Defender of the Faith: Bishop Rudolf Baláž (1940 - 2011)

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To this day, the achievements of Bishop Rudolf Baláž have contributed to creating a more stable relationship between church and state in the Slovak Republic. Long after his passing, Slovakia's citizens will be able to look back and remember with pride that Bishop Baláž possessed the moral courage to take a stand in defense of liberty, religious freedom, and moral integrity.

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Address Changes?

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

Cleveland Slovak School Resumes 2011-2012 School Year

The Cleveland Slovak School for Adults and Children will resume classes for the 2011-2012 school year on Saturday, October 1, 2011.

Classes will meet again at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church located at 8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH. Mrs. Miriam Visnovsky has agreed to teach again this year and we are most appreciative!

Something new for this year is the addition of another level for those students who previously completed Level 2 and would like to advance but do not yet feel ready for the most advanced level.

New levels and class times are as follows:

Level 1 - 8am to 9am children's beginner ages 4 to 8

Level 2 - 9am to 10am children age 9 and older to adult, no previous Slovak language fluency

Level 3 - 10am to 11am children age 9 and older to adult who have completed Level 2 previously or have some fluency (this class will begin where the previous Level 2 ended last year)

Level 4 - 11am to 12 noon children age 9 and older to adult who have more advanced fluency and conversational ability

If you are uncertain as to what level would be appropriate, please give me a call at 440-930-2197. Class fees are \$100 for the first family member and \$50 for each additional family member and may be paid at the first class or by completing an application available on the web site at www.slovakschool.com and sending the application and check made payable to Cleveland Slovak School to my attention at 514 Danbury Lane, Avon Lake, OH 44012. Fees are nonrefundable.

The text used in the Level 2 and 3 Class is Slovincina pre Cudzincov by Dratva and Buznova and can be purchased online through Bolchazy Publishing at www.bolchazy.com. Materials for Level 4 will be provided during class.

Please feel free to call or email with any questions and please share this information with any interested parties. Thank you!

Fraternally,

Cleveland Slovak School Director and Branch 754 Member Mary Ann Dzurec

Slovak Self-taught

Easy Questions

Are you Slovak? (to a man)

Ste Slovák?

Are you Slovak (to a woman)

Ste Slovenka?

Do you speak English?

Hovoríte anglicky?

Do you speak Slovak?

Hovoríte slovensky?

How are you?

Jako sa máte?

What is it?

Čo je to?

How much?

Kol'ko?

What do you call it in Slovak?

Ako sa to volá po slovensky?

Don't you know?

Neznáte?

What is it good for?

Na čo je to?

Is it true?

Je to Pravda?

Is it possible?

Je to možné?

What is to be done?

Čo robiť?

Where are you going?

Kam idete?

What is the news?

Čo nového?

Did you know?

September marks the month that the First Public Appearance of the Slovak National Council – The Slovak National Council served as a predecessor of sorts to the present Slovak parliament. It was created on September, 15, 1848; and on September 19th, it initiated the Slovak Volunteer Campaigns of 1848/1849.

British Magazine Ranks Vysoké Tatry Among Top Parks

The Ecologist, a prominent British environmental magazine, ranked Vysoké Tatry among the top 10 European national parks. This ranking puts the Slovak mountain range into the same category as the national parks of Switzerland, France, Great Britain, Greece or Sweden. All of these national parks combine wonderful natural scenes with remarkable flora and fauna.

According to The Ecologist, Vysoké Tatry is one of the last places where you can encounter chamois—a critically endangered antelope species. Moreover, the national park is home to marmots, brown bears and ample bird species. The Ecologist listing of the national park includes a mention of the highest peak of the Tatra Mountains, Gerlachovský štít, and a walk around its mountain lake Štrbské pleso as a good starting point for hiking tours, as it leads up to Kriváň peak, long a symbol of Slovakia.

The magazine recommends eco-friendly accommodations at Štrbské pleso. At the end of the article, the author gives advice how to get from London to Slovakia and Tatry Mountains by train. The article also contains a link to the national portal of tourism of the SR www.slovakia.travel. When writing the article, the author cooperated with the Slovak Tourist Board (SACR).

The world reknown magazine The Ecologist was founded by Edward Goldsmith in 1970. The magazine has become the platform of the ecologist movement and significant initiatives calling attention to climatic changes and globalization. Since 2009, the magazine has been published only electronically (www.theecologist.org) and is primarily focused on topical ecological problems.

source: SACR. Reprinted with permission.



Vysoké Tatry (High Tatras)


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

District 2 Members Share an Aug Afternoon at the BallPark

Twenty-two members of the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District 2 for Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin participated in a fraternal outing to the US Steel Ballpark in downtown Gary, IN, on Sunday, August 7, 2011.

The minor league ball clubs of Gary SouthShore Railcats played the Kansas City T-Bones, and the Railcats won the game.

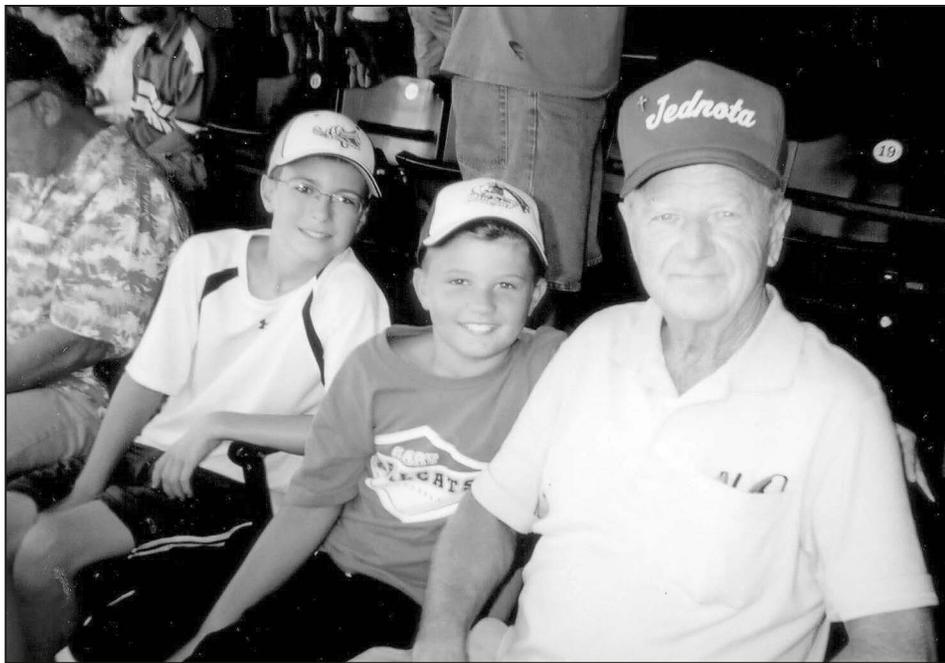
George Kelchak, Okres 2 Fraternal Activities Director, arranged this successful fraternal event. District 2 subsidized the cost of tickets for FCSU members.

Afterwards, several District 2 members visited the childhood home of the popular musical group, the Jackson 5, in Gary.

Robert Ľapák Magruder, District 2 Recording Secretary



Clockwise) Branch 493 members Val Vesely and Todd Peters, and District 2 Fraternal Activities Director George Kelchak

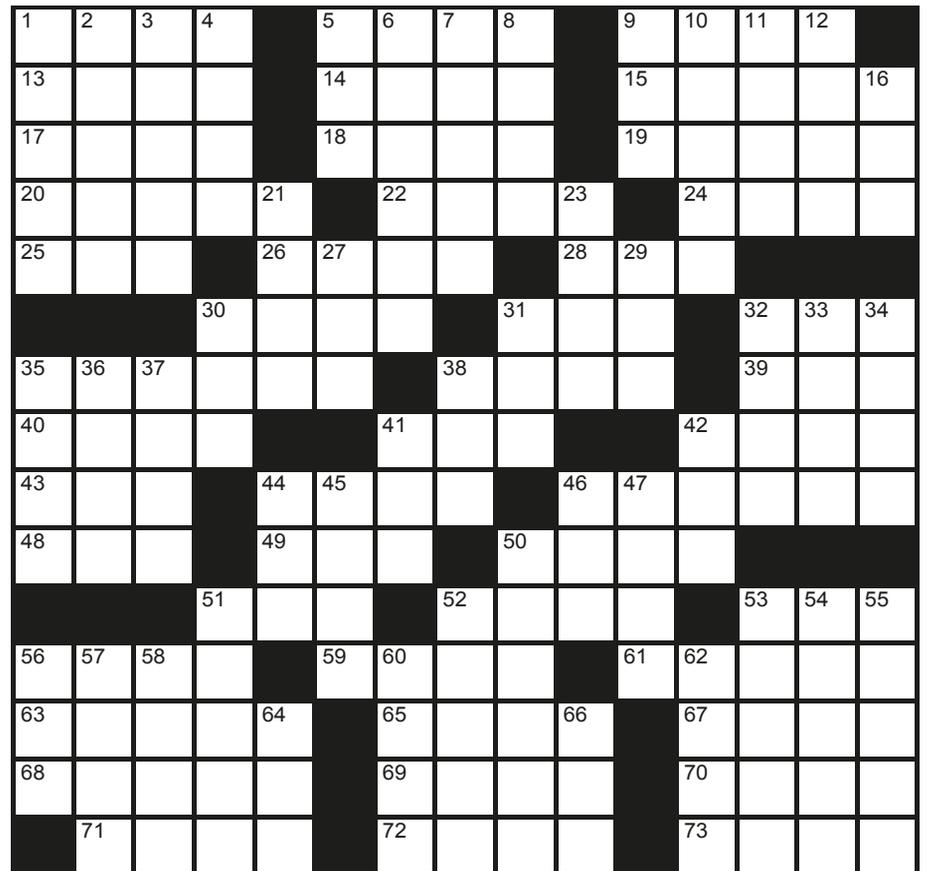


National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., with (L – R) godson Alex Redd and grandson Matthew Manzella



The Peters family of Branch 493

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Blemish
- 5 Instep
- 9 Scratch
- 13 Stride
- 14 Hindu frock
- 15 Work out after an injury
- 17 At another time
- 18 Mocked
- 19 Maternal
- 20 Elec. lines
- 22 Roman date
- 24 Fencing sword
- 25 Even (Poet.)
- 26 Commotion
- 28 Quarry
- 30 Some hogs
- 31 Equality
- 32 Gr. letter
- 35 Disinherit
- 38 Cougar
- 39 Not him
- 40 Aces
- 41 Piece of cloth
- 42 Digit
- 43 Compass pt.
- 44 Ancient city in Asia Minor
- 46 Icy
- 48 Second sight
- 49 Consume
- 50 Threesome
- 51 Clod
- 52 Small fragment
- 53 Before Vegas
- 56 Trickery
- 59 Former monarch
- 61 Build
- 63 Singer Ford
- 65 Forest member
- 67 Capital of Hawaii
- 68 Desires

Down

- 69 The Terrible
- 70 Employed
- 71 In debt
- 72 Scarlet and cerise
- 73 Hardy heroine
- 1 Interval
- 2 Small boat
- 3 Oak fruit
- 4 Rive
- 5 King of Judah
- 6 Whitewater
- 7 Philosophy
- 8 Conceal
- 9 Wrath
- 10 Article of faith
- 11 Type of stick
- 12 Detest
- 16 Quilting party
- 21 Pack away
- 23 Unwanted e-mail
- 27 Possess
- 29 Bank offering, for short
- 30 Distress call
- 31 Curly-tailed dog
- 32 With, in Paris
- 33 Roll call reply
- 34 Duffer's club
- 35 Wrapped up
- 36 Getaway places
- 37 Percolate slowly
- 38 Foot the bill
- 41 Decompose

- 42 Menagerie
- 44 Oolong, for one
- 45 Huck Finn's ride
- 46 Calendar abbr.
- 47 Mellow, maybe
- 50 Sewing need
- 51 Red lead, e.g.
- 52 Slice
- 53 Renter's paper
- 54 Flu symptoms
- 55 Frame parts
- 56 Lady lobster
- 57 Creme cookie
- 58 Afresh
- 60 Recipe advice
- 62 Defeat badly
- 64 Sharp curve
- 66 Printer's marks

See Solution on Page 19

Slovak Catholic Family Day



L - R) Father Jozef Vano, pastor; Father Patrik Solar, newly appointed assistant pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Church in Mississauga Ontario; altar servers Stefan Slovak Jr., Kristian Vacval and Filip Karandysovsky.

The annual Slovak Catholic Family Day picnic, sponsored by Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish and First Catholic Slovak Union Msgr. Michael Shuba District was held Sunday, August 14, 2011 at Creditvale Park in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

Father Jozef Vano, pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Church in Mississauga Ontario, assisted Father Patrik Solar, newly arrived priest from the Orava area of Slovakia, were the celebrants for Mass. Rev. Patrik Solar is the new assistant pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius parish.

Events of the day started with a Slovak home cooked lunch (sponsored by the Vychodna Slovak dance troupe) and games for the adults. After the lunch, watermelon was available for purchase. Klobasa sausages (hot dogs) were also available. A large variety of Slovak pastries were for sale, such as orechovnik & kolacik.



(L - R) Milos Mitro, Mike Kapitan, Denise Ricutti, Helen Konecny, and Helen Panov



(L - R) The Cartwright Family - Ian, Ryan, Michelle and Danielle



(L - R) Jim Szabo, Gary Kapsa, Vanessa Kapsa, Mike Fricke, Matt Nesbit, and Al Chodelka



(L - R) Mary Cizmar, Josie Siman, and Anne Zapletal



(L - R) Standing: Jara Ragan, Josie Siman, and Cathy Szabo; Sitting: Diane Pella, Anne Forma



(L - R) Back row: John Vardzel, Rose Carey, Irene Gorman; Front row: Mary Vardzel, John Pollack, Mary Pollack



(L - R) Joe and Maureen Jursa

Picnic Mississauga, Ontario

an outdoor mass, followed by Slo-
tzel & goulash), a cultural program
e group, races for the children, and
e games, ice cream cones and cut
or all to enjoy. Bacon (slanina) and
ere bar-b-qued later in the afternoon.
es and baked goods were available
makovnik (nut roll and Poppy-seed

We had over 500 people in attendance, music by Miro Letko and
Dusan Drobny. Inflatables donated by Main Event (Brian Vacval).
We wish to express our sincere appreciation to Mike Kapitan,
president of Okres Michael Shuba district, and Anne Mitro, president
of the Sts. Cyril & Methodius parish council, for their dedication and
hard work in organizing this Slovak Catholic Family Day picnic.

Submitted by Jerry Siman



(L - R) Cathy Szabo and Sue Babinchak giving ice cream cones to children



(L- R) John Tokarsky and Ed Forma, working the BBQ



(L - R) Chris Tokarsky and Josie Siman, enjoying their ice cream cones



(L- R) Emil Jursa and Jerry Siman, Pension Board Trustee



(L - R) Joe Seliga, Mike Sayewich, Mike Urminsky, Helen Sayewich, Ine Urminsky, and Betty Seliga

(L- R) Milos Mitro, FCSU Regional Director; Anne Mitro, President of Parish Council; Mike Kapitan, President of Okres Michael Shuba district.



Vychodna Slovak senior dance group



Vychodna Slovak junior dance group



Vychodna Slovak dance group

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2 - THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

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

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

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

Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 3 - GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT - WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

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

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

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

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 - MICHIGAN DISTRICT

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

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

Ann Magusin, District Secretary

CORRECTION: DISTRICT 7 - REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT - BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMERSET AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 2:00 PM at Hoss's Steak & Sea House, 441 Theatre Drive, Johnstown (Richland area), PA, 15904. The election of district officers will take place at this meeting. All Branches are invited to attend.

Lawrence Fenimore, Branch 23 President ; District 7 Vice President

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

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

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

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 9 - FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

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

Fraternally,

Barbara A. Holly

DISTRICT 10 - REV. STEPHEN FURDEK

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District #10 will hold its second and final meeting for 2011. The meeting will be held on Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 2pm at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311.

This will be our final meeting for the 2011 year and we will hold election for new officers for the 2012 Year.

We invite all branches in District 10 to attend this meeting. To assist your district officers with planning refreshments - please let us know how many members will be attending from your branch.

Please call Linda Hanko @ 330-706-0151 or via email lhnako@neo.rr.com.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

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

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

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

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

Grace M. Charney, Secretary

DISTRICT 12 - MSGR. ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, Dec 4, 2011, at 1:00 PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. On the agenda: election of officers. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 13 - JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

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

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

Rosemary Deliman, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 - REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District, District 14, has scheduled its next meeting for Tuesday Oct. 18, 2011, at 7:00PM in the St Matthias Church Rectory. The agenda will include a review of the District's participation at the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest held on August 14, 2011. Also on the agenda will be discussions of future District activities.

Fraternally,

Carlie Peshek, President

DISTRICT 15 - PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Prince Pribina District will hold a meeting on Sunday October 30, 2011. Celebrations begin with a Holy Mass at 3:00 PM at St. John Bosco Chapel, St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Boulevard, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. The Slovak Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Pavol Sochulak from San Bernardino. We will pray for All Saints and all beloved departed Souls.

The meeting will follow in the cafeteria. After the meeting will be a period of fraternal fellowship, and coffee and donuts will be served. All members are invited and all branches in our area are encouraged to send delegates to the meeting.

On the agenda will be promotion and schedule of District fraternal activities and First Catholic Slovak Union insurance information.

Sincerely,

Paul Skuben, President

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

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

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

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

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

Fraternally,

Henrietta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

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

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

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

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

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

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

Michael J. Slovenkai, President

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Tuesday December 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. We will hold our elections at this time. It is also our Christmas party and all members are encouraged to attend. Members of our branch will be attending the annual Abbey Benefit on November 6, 2011 at the Church of the Assumption in Broadview Hts. Also members will be attending the Viliya that will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2011 at Benedictine High School cafeteria and will be sponsored by the Slovak Radio Club. If you have any questions or are interested in attending please call 216.228.8179.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 3 - MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

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

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

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

A lunch will be available after the meeting.

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

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

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

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

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 28 - BONNE TERRE, MISSOURI

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 100 - ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

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

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

We wish to thank all the past officers for their

continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 109 – ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 166 – WINDSOR, NEW YORK

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

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

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

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

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

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

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

Fraternally,

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

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

As Summer fades and Fall approaches, the St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, will begin holding their monthly meetings again at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. Our meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held.

The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors.

This is an opportune time to get into office and help manage our branch as well as become involved with the Slovak Club. Anyone interested in running for branch office and/or ASC board representative should contact the branch officers and attend the December 19, 2011 meeting. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current and future activities.

See you at the Club!

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 268 – WEIRTON, WEST VIRGINIA

There has been a merger between Branch

268K Weirton, WV and Branch 900K Independence, OH.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 296 – GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

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

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

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

All members are encouraged to attend.

Micki Smolleck, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 380 – CANONBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 13, 2011, at 1:00PM at the home of Mary Ann Nalevanko on 459 Front St, Greensburg, PA. All members are invited. A light lunch will be served. We will elect officers for the following year.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 407 – THAYER, ILLINOIS

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 408 – MADISON, WISCONSIN

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

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

We wish to thank all the past officers for their

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 419 – WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Stephen the Martyrs Branch 419 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2011, at 1:30PM during which time election of officers will be held.

We encourage all members to attend; help us make our branch more productive. Your participation is what makes our society successful.

The meeting will be held at Norm's Pizza on Sherman St, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Fraternally,

Marie Gryczko, President

BRANCH 493 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, with the branch Christmas Luncheon following, on Saturday, December 4th, 2010.

Location: Mabenka's Restaurant, 7844 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL 60459.

At 1:30 pm, members will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm, with a delicious dinner following.

If you plan to attend, please call the Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder at (773) 505-0117 or (502) 244-6643 by November 26th. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 500 – HIBBING, MINNESOTA

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

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

Save these dates:

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

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

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

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

Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at NOON at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. On the agenda: election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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

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

All members are urged to attend this meeting.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary

BRANCH 721 - BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

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

Respectfully,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 741 – WEIRTON, WEST VIRGINIA

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 743– STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer Report, a 2011 financial report, approval of the 2012 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of branch officers will also take place.

Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

The annual meeting will follow mass in the Church Social Hall.

Please come and enjoy our annual Christmas meeting with your fellow branch members.

Members who need assistance with their policy or need to change their address or beneficiary should contact the Financial Secretary of Branch 743, Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr. Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone @586-254-0225.

Fraternally,

**Joseph C. Rimarcik, President
and Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OH

A Mass will be held on October 30, 2011 at SS Cyril & Methodius, 185 Laird Ave NE, Warren, OH 44483. This Mass intention will be for the living and deceased members of FCSU for the combined parishes of SS Cyril & Methodius and St. James. A free breakfast hosted by

continued on page 16

OBITUARIES

MARY BANISH BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Mary Banish, 87, passed away August 21, 2011. Mary was born May 3, 1924 in Mingo Junction, the daughter of Stephen and Anna Bartos Vizvary.

Mary was a 1942 graduate of Campbell Memorial High School. She as a former member of St. Elizabeth Church and its Infant of Jesus of Prague Guild, the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 260, and the Slovak Catholic Sokols 107, where she was an officer for more than 60 years. She was currently a member of St. John's Catholic Church.

She was an avid gardener, loved to crochet and loved to travel the world with her husband Stanley, whom she married October 29, 1946. She leaves to him cherish her memory, along with their four children Betty (Richard) Cepin of Campbell, Robert (Mary Ann) Banish of Poland Township, William (Kate) Banish of Florida, and Brian (Diane) Banish of Harrisburg; as well as nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents. Friends were received at the Wasko Funeral Home, where services were held, followed by a funeral Mass at St. John Catholic Church with Father John Jerek officiating.

The officers and members of Jednota Branch 260 offer their deepest condolences to the Banish family.

Charles M Terek, Branch President

ANDREW "POOCHIE" LUCANSKY BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Monsignor Peter Polando at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept 1, 2011, at St. Matthias Church for Andrew "Poochie" Lucansky, 84, who passed away late Sunday afternoon, August 29, 2011,



at Hospice House in Poland, OH.

Poochie was born, in Youngstown, on Jan. 8, 1927, a son of John Michael and Anna Beney Lucansky.

A member of the 1947 graduating class of Woodrow Wilson High School, he played on the school's football team and helped it achieve an undefeated record in both 1942 and 1946. During both World War II and the Korean conflict, he served our country as a member of the U.S. Army.

Poochie was employed as a pipe fitter for Union Carbide at the Linde Division, retiring in 1980 after 35 years of service.

He belonged to St. Matthias Church, where he served as an usher and was a member of its Holy Name Society. He was also a member of Slovak Catholic Sokols 108 and of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 682.

He was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Sandra Lucansky and by his brothers, Paul, Joseph and John Lucansky.

Poochie leaves his wife, the former Norma Maddamma, whom he married May 23, 1959; his son, John (Pamela) of Boardman; his grandchildren, Madison and Seth Lucansky; his sister, Lillian (John) Hodos; and his niece, Paula Cipriano.

Friends called Wednesday, August 31, 2011, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Kubina-Yuhasz-Wasko Funeral Home in Boardman, where the St. Matthias Infant Jesus of Prague Guild also held a prayer service at 4:45 p.m. Friends also called at the church on Thursday, Sept 1, 2011, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., one-half hour before the Mass.

Interment took place at Lake Park Cemetery, where a full military honors service was held by the Ellsworth VFW Post 9571.

The officers and members of Branch 682 offer their deepest sympathy to their families. May he rest in peace.

Joseph T. Scavina, Branch 682 Financial Secretary

SISTER M. STEPHANIE, SS.C.M.

Sister M. Stephanie (Sophie Matlak), 88, died on Sunday, September 11, 2011, at Emmanuel Center, Danville, Pennsylvania. Born in Lozorno, Slovakia, on May 10, 1923, she was the daughter of Vendel and Frances (Rac) Matlak.

She attended St. John Nepomucene School in New York City and graduated from St. Cyril Academy, Danville, Pennsylvania. Sister received a B.S. in Education from Marywood University, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

On January 20, 1944, Sister entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. She was received as a novice on August 16, 1944 and made her first profession of vows on August 13, 1946.

During her years as a religious Sister Stephanie was involved in two of the missions of the Sisters: education and eldercare. She taught grades 1-6 in parish schools in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania for over 40 years. She served also as superior and principal.

After her teaching ministry she performed nursing assistant duties at Villa St. Cyril, Highland Park, Illinois and St. Ann's, Columbia, Pennsylvania. She was a Pastoral Visitor at Maria Hall and Emmanuel Center. She served as a superior at St. Methodius Convent and

Maria Joseph Manor in Danville. When she retired to Maria Hall, she became the director of the Religious Article Shop and was also was engaged in general duties.

Sister Stephanie was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Stephen and Edward. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

The transferal and recitation of the Rosary took place on Saturday, September 17, at 9:30 a.m. at Maria Hall in Danville. The Wake Service, also at Maria Hall, was at 11:30 a.m. At 1:30 p.m. a Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by the Reverend Gerard Heintzelman, Maria Hall chaplain, who was also the homilist. Father Albert Oldfield concelebrated. Burial was in the Sisters' cemetery.

Former Hockey Captain For Slovakia Pavol Demitra Dies in Plane Crash



Pavol Demitra Tribute at the Ondrej Nepela Arena, Bratislava, on Sept 9, 2011; photo by Marian 2.

Former long-time captain of Slovakia's national hockey team and ex-NHL all-star Pavol Demitra died in a plane crash in Russia on Sept 7, 2011.

The passenger plane carrying the entire Kontinental Hockey League (KHL) team Lokomotiv Yaroslavl crashed near the city of Yaroslavl in central Russia immediately after take-off. The crash claimed the lives of 43 people, according to reports.

Pavol Demitra earned a lot of success in his career as ice-hockey player, but fans will remember him mainly for the moments that he evoked emotion and sadness. Pavol cried while publically retiring his national team jersey with the number 38 at the hockey World

Championship in Bratislava earlier this year. Four months later, the entire country of Slovakia shed tears in grief over the tragic death of this exemplary athlete and humble father of two little children in the Russian plane crash.

While the Slovak national team was saying goodbye to the fans after an early elimination at the World Championship in May – a tournament at which many expected a medal or even the championship title, given its all-star roster – Demitra's predecessor as team captain at major tournaments, Miroslav Satan, reminded the crowds that no human tragedy had occurred and that life would go on: chilling words in the light of the real human tragedy that was to come on Wednesday, September 7, 2011.

In his career, Demitra, 36, played for Dukla Trencin (Slovakia), the Ottawa Senators, the St. Louis Blues, the Los Angeles Kings, the Minnesota Wild, and the Vancouver Canucks (all NHL teams). Most recently, he as a member of the Lokomotiv Yaroslavl (KHL/Russia).

He won bronze as a member of the Czechoslovak team at the junior World Championship in 1993, and another bronze medal, this time competing for Slovakia (established in 1993) at the World Championship tournament ten years later. Demitra won the individual scoring competition at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. He was a threefold participant in the NHL All-Star Games, and was awarded the Lady Bing Trophy for sportsmanship in 2000 (he recorded only eight penalty minutes during the entire season in one of the toughest sports playing today).

Slovakia Sheds Tears for Unforgettable No 38

Slovakia's Prime Minister Iveta Radicova late on the Wednesday of Demitra's death sent a telegram of condolence to his relatives.

"Pavol was a role model not only for ice-hockey fans, but also for all those in whom, as captain of the national team, he engendered feelings of pride in being Slovak," read the letter.

"Only a few of us have the gift of having such a profound impact on the hearts of other people. Pavol Demitra did just this, which made him an unforgettable person - both on the ice and off it," said the premier, extending her sympathy also on behalf of the entire Cabinet.

On September 8, 2011, the Slovak Parliament observed a minute of silence to commemorate Demitra.

"This is a minute of silence for one of the best hockey players Slovakia's ever had. It's a very sad thing to happen and I believe we ought to honor him," said the Slovak Parliamentary Chairman Richard Sulik.

In the wake of the tragedy, leaders of the coalition parties decided not to speak to journalists after four hours of talks late on Wednesday, calling this inappropriate.

Demitra's dying in Russia in a plane crash along the entire team Lokomotiv Yaroslavl is one of the most tragic accidents in the history of hockey.

- Based on information from the TASR News Agency

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 15

Branch 764 will be held following the 9:30 am Mass at the Social Hall. The breakfast menu will be cheese strata, sausage, potatoes, pastry and fruit cup served with coffee or milk. Door prizes will be awarded during the breakfast. A short business meeting will be held immediately following breakfast. All members are encouraged to attend.

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 774 – MERRILL, MICHIGAN

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

Fraternally,

Frank Radosa, President

BRANCH 775 – BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

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

Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, (800) 533-6682.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 796 – WHITEHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 796, The Holy Trinity Society, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 1pm at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Egypt, PA. The meeting will be held in the church basement. Sokol Branch 255 will also be in attendance. Election of officers will take place. Food and beverages will follow the meeting. All members are cordially invited to attend.

God bless,

Jerry Lloyd, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

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

Fraternally,

Linda Kolesar, Secretary/Treasurer

Branch 200 Members: We Need Your Help!

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

You can contact me by mail, email or phone. My mailing address is: Vicki L. Schaub, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA, 16226. My email is vschaub123@gmail.com. The phone is 724-763-9229 (Monday-Friday, between noon and 5PM).

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Branch Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

"PARK FREE PLUS" ANNUITY

Effective September 1, 2011 the "Park Free Plus" Annuity is earning 2.15% for the first year and is limited to \$25,000.00 per individual.

*The new annuity plan that combines features from our most popular annuities...
The Park Annuity and the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.*

The "Park Free Plus" offers a first year interest rate of 2.15%. This initial interest rate is guaranteed for the entire first year of the Annuity policy. At the first anniversary date of the policy, the **Annuitant has 15 calendar days to elect this option:**

1. Withdraw the full value of the accumulated Annuity funds (principal plus interest) WITHOUT INCURRING A SURRENDER CHARGE!

*Note: If the funds are withdrawn prior to the first anniversary of the policy, a 6% surrender will be imposed on the funds withdrawn.**

2 If this option is not exercised, the Annuity will continue for an additional five years. The interest rate at that time will be based on the interest rate established by the Society on its Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity. This rate is published regularly in the official publication and on our website.

If the policy is continued, the Annuitant may withdraw up to 10% of the policies cash value at the beginning of each policy year, without incurring a surrender charge.*

If the Policy is continued, withdrawals that exceed 10% of the policy's cash value will incur a surrender charge of 5% in the second year and withdrawal charges will decrease by 1% each year until the end of the sixth year from the issue date*.

INITIAL DEPOSIT MAY BE AS LOW AS \$1,000!

Low Minimum Deposit. Initial deposit may be as low as \$1,000 for the "Park Free Plus" Annuity. Maximum deposit for this program is 25,000.00 per individual. No additional deposits are permitted during the first year.

Flexible Deposits. Additional deposits of \$1,000 or more will be accepted at any time after the first year.

Maturity Options. At the end of the six year policy period; the Annuitant has these options:

(a) The policy can be continued. There will be no surrender charges on any withdrawals.* The interest rate will be based on FCSU Life's Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity interest rate.

(b) The policy can be converted to any Annuity product offered by FCSU Life at that time. The interest rate will be based on the then current declared interest rate on the selected policy.

(c) Taxes on all interest earned on the "Park Free Plus" Annuity and any subsequent policy selected, will be deferred until funds are withdrawn.

For additional information, contact your Branch officer or the Home Office.

* Early withdrawals may be subject to IRS penalties.

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence OH 44131-8013
1-800-JEDNOTA - Website: www.fcsu.com - E-mail: FCSU@aol.com

Scholarship Funds Available at University of Ottawa

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

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

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

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

Publication Schedule for 2011

Issue Date	Deadline
October 12	October 3
October 26	October 17
November 9	October 31
November 23	November 14
December 7	November 28

FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Special!

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

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren and receive a

**FREE \$10.00
GIFT CARD**

to present with the certificate!

Features:

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



News From Slovakia

Bratislava Commemorates 9/11 Tragedy

Bratislava, September 8 (TASR) - The public in Slovakia's capital will be able to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy on its tenth anniversary date, Sunday, Sept 11, 2011, mayor of Bratislava Milan Ftacnik said after meeting US Ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick on this date.

The event is being organized by the US Embassy in co-operation with local authorities in Bratislava. The official commemoration will begin Sunday at 2.45 p.m., symbolically at the time when the first plane hit the World Trade Center in New York (8.45 a.m. EST). Bells of the St. Martin's Dome and other churches in Bratislava are set to begin ringing at this time.

Part of the accompanying events will be blood donation campaign at the seat of the Old Town local authority.

Dzurinda Sends Letter to Clinton Ahead of 9/11 Anniversary

Bratislava, September 9 (TASR) - The events of 9/11 represented an attack against Western civilization, its values and lifestyle, but this date also remains a testimony to heroism, humanity and international solidarity with the U.S.A., Slovakia's Foreign Affairs Ministry said on this date in a statement in anticipation of the tenth anniversary of the attacks.

Over the past ten years, the U.S.A. and its allies, including Slovakia, and the entire international community have made significant efforts to eliminate the threat of terrorism and violent extremism, said the ministry.

Slovakia feels part of the international struggle against terrorism, which has only one aim - to undermine the fundamental principles of freedom and democracy, stressed the Foreign Ministry.

Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Mikulas Dzurinda has sent a letter to U.S. State Secretary Hillary Clinton. "Slovakia will never forget those terrorist attacks. Just as we remember the lives that have been lost and marked, we also recall the great stories of heroism and humanity that followed [the attacks]," said Dzurinda, who also assured Clinton that Slovakia remains a reliable and close ally of the U.S.A. and values the superb level of co-operation between the two countries.

SU: Exports Exceeded Imports in July by €117.5 million

Bratislava, September 8 (TASR) - Exports from Slovakia exceeded imports by €117.5 million in July 2011, the Statistics Office (SU) said on this date.

Exports reached €4.33 billion, which represents growth of 12.5-percent year-on-year. Total imports increased slightly, by 6 percent, to €4.21 billion.

SU also reported a foreign trade surplus of €939.8 million in the period between January-July 2011, €400.6 million more than during the same period of 2010.

Nominal Salaries in ICT Sector Grew by Over Fifth in July Y-o-Y

Bratislava, September 9 (TASR) - Information and communications activities posted the largest year-on-year hike in nominal salaries in July - 21.4 percent, the Statistics Office reported on this date.

The average nominal salary in July 2011 was 3.7 percent higher than in the same month of last year.

Transport and warehousing as well as selected market activities saw the second biggest annual rise - 1.7 percent, while construction posted a hike of 1.2 percent. Meanwhile, the largest drop in salaries was observed in wholesale - 0.4 percent y-o-y.

Information and communications activities were the only area to record a y-o-y increase in real salaries in July - 17.1 percent. Salaries in wholesale fell by 4 percent, in the sale and maintenance of vehicles by 3.7 percent, in accommodation by 3.6 percent, and in restaurants and pubs by 3.3 percent.

In the first seven months of the year, the highest average monthly salary was paid in information and communications technologies - €1,669. Other salaries were: in industry - €804, in selected market services - €802, in wholesale - €732 per month, in the sale and maintenance of vehicles - €786, in transport and warehousing - €700, in construction - €582, in accommodation - €549, in retail - €544, and in restaurants and pubs - €356 per month.

Real monthly salaries rose in information and communications technologies by 4.2 percent over the first seven months of this year, followed by selected market services on 1.4 percent. Industry and construction both posted 0.3 percent increases, while all other sectors recorded drops in real salaries.

Stats Office: Consumer Prices Up 4 percent Y-o-Y in August

Bratislava, September 12 (TASR) - Consumer prices in August rose 4 percent y-o-y, the Statistics Office announced on this date.

The most significant increase was recorded in transport - 6.3 percent, followed by housing, water supplies, electricity, gas and other fuels - 5.6 percent, food and non-alcoholic beverages - 5.5 percent, education - 4.8 percent, alcoholic beverages and tobacco - 4.1 percent, health - 3.7 percent, miscellaneous goods and services - 3.6 percent, clothing and footwear - 2.5 percent, hotels, cafes and restaurants - 2.1 percent, recreation and culture - 0.5 percent, and postal and telecommunication services - 0.2 percent.

Conversely, the prices of furniture, house furnishings and ordinary household maintenance fell by 0.5 percent.

Compared to July, prices in August increased by 0.1 percent, with the most significant increase recorded in housing, water supplies, electricity, gas and other fuels - 0.9 percent month-on-month.

Survey: Mood on Labor Market Seen Mostly as Favorable

Bratislava, September 12 (TASR) - There's a prevailing positive atmosphere on the Slovak labor market, according to a survey conducted recently by the recruitment firm Manpower that was released on this date.

The poll, which is entitled Manpower Labor Market Index, was carried out among 753 employers in Slovakia. It showed that 12 percent of the companies approached are planning to raise the number of their employees in the last quarter of 2011. Conversely, 10 percent of those questioned are planning to cut staff, with the net labor market index thus standing at plus 2 percent.

"The economy, employers and companies will be doing relatively well," said head of Manpower for the Czech Republic and Slovakia Jaroslava Rezlerova.

The processing industry appears most optimistic, with its index reaching plus 15 percent, followed by the wholesale and retail sector on plus 12 percent and construction on plus 7 percent.

Meanwhile, prospects regarding employment in agriculture are somewhat negative as the indicator stood at minus 14 percent, followed by state administration, health care and education on minus 13 percent.

According to Rezlerova, the survey is carried out in 41 countries on a regular basis. Long-term experience shows that the polls are quite accurate vis-a-vis upcoming developments on the job market.

Slovakian Airlines Unveil Their First Plane

Bratislava, September 20 (TASR) - A new carrier called Slovakian Airlines was unveiled at Bratislava Airport on this date with its first plane, thereby meeting a fundamental condition for receiving its licence to launch operations.

"We expect to begin flying by December 15," said Arnold Medzihradsky, CEO of Slovakian Airlines.

According to Medzihradsky, Slovakian Airlines should have three Boeing 737-500 planes at its disposal by the end of the year. The first flights should connect Bratislava with England, Italy, Spain and Russia, while talks continue concerning further destinations. The carrier doesn't want to fly to destinations that are already occupied, and is not positioning itself in the low-cost sector.

Slovakian Airlines is in negotiations for a cooperative agreement with Armavia from Armenia, as the two companies are connected by ownership. Earlier in the year, Armavia attempted to introduce a regular line to Tehran. Slovakian Airlines has also indicated an interest in operating this line on an "intense basis".

[TASR Editor's Note: The correct adjective related to Slovakia is 'Slovak'. However, people over the world tend to say 'Slovakian'.]



Check out the redesigned
FCSU website @ www.fcsu.com.

Same great resource –
now with a great new look!

Let us know what you think.
We want to hear from you.

More Scenes From Recent Slovak Events

From the 81st Annual Slovak American Day in Franklin, WI, held on Sunday, July 24, 2011



L - R) Branch 493 Members Val Vesely, Don Cummings, and kath McCauley travelled from Illinois to enjoy the festivities.



Liz Bernath and husband Rudy Bernath, Region 7 Director, before the start of the cultural program



Carl Micech, past president of former Branch 624, volunteered at the Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society booth.



The Tatra Slovak Dancers after the performance



Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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Betty Valent, one of the primary organizers of the Annual Slovak-American Day

More photos on page 20

More Scenes From Recent Slovak Events

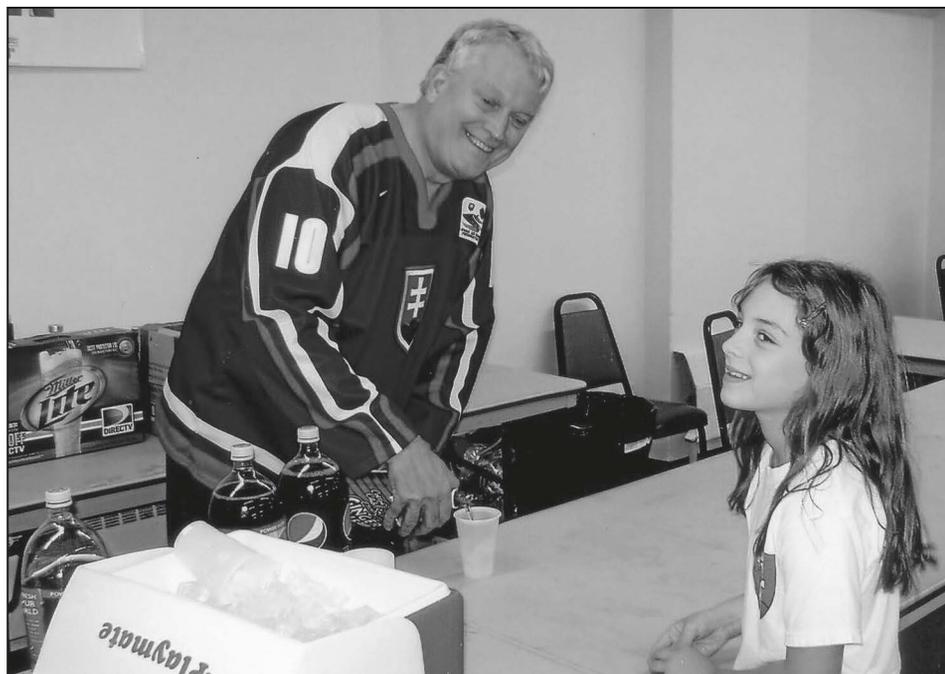
From the 40th Annual Slovak Festival in Parma, OH, held on Sunday, Sept 4, 2011



(L – R) FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, and National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt provided information about the FCSU portfolio of insurance and annuity products to attendees at the festival



(Seated) Member Helene Cincebeaux showcased key pieces from her renowned collection of Slovak Folk Art and Folk Dress, with George Terbrack (standing), a Cleveland-area Slovak activist who has helped Helene stage many of her travelling collections including those at the FCSU 49th Quadrennial Convention and at the FCSU Home Office Museum.



Branch 24 Auditor, and one of the festival's bartenders for the day, Tom Ivanec pours a glass of ginger ale for Lúčinka dancer Victoria Oros



(L – R) FCSU Staff Members Barbara Sutilla and Jednota Editor and Branch 24 Member Teresa Ivanec helped serve food to the many attendees of the Slovak Festival, including Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt

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Spišská Nová Ves

Príchod Kontinentálnej hokejovej ligy zvýši záujem o celý Spiš

Poprad (TASR) – Priamo z popradského letiska budú počas hokejovej sezóny lietať hráči HC LEV Poprad na svoje zápasy Kontinentálnej hokejovej ligy (KHL). Minister dopravy, výstavby a regionálneho rozvoja Ján Figel' predpokladá, že tento fakt výrazne prispeje k rozvoju regiónu vo viacerých oblastiach. Okrem Popradu, kde sa bude hrať seniorská súťaž, sa podľa neho zvýši záujem o celý Spiš. Mládežnícka hokejová liga (MHL) sa bude totiž hrať v neďalekej Spišskej Novej Vsi.

„Som rád, že klub HC Lev spojil svoju cestu a budúcu perspektívu práve s týmto mestom. Je to jedinečná príležitosť rozvinúť hospodársky, turistický a sociálny potenciál východného Slovenska, osobitne Popradu - Tatier,“ zhodnotil Figel'. Nové lety podľa neho prispievajú k vitalite popradského letiska, ktoré považuje za dôležitý predpoklad celkového rozvoja regiónu.

„V oboch mestách sú rekonštruované štadióny a realizujú sa tam potrebné investície. Jedno s druhým znamená modernizáciu nielen športovej, ale aj turistickú infraštruktúru,“ povedal minister. Záujem o KHL v Poprade už prejavili nielen Slováci, ale aj fanúšikovia z Ruska, Česka, Poľska a okolitých štátov. Podľa ministra je preto dôležité zlepšiť dostupnosť vízovej služby, predovšetkým pre ruských turistov. „V Rusku evidujeme asi 70-% nárast záujmu o víza,“ vysvetlil Figel'. KHL môže podľa neho zabezpečiť, že záujem zo strany ruských hovoriacich turistov bude naďalej rásť. „Pripravujú sa opatrenia, aby sa spružnil a liberalizoval vízový režim zo strany Slovenska,“ informoval minister.

Okrem zlepšenia vízovej politiky je však potrebné upraviť aj samotné letisko. Jednou z potrebných investícií je rekonštrukcia odletovej haly asi za 2,5 milióna eur. „Druhou oveľa náročnejšou investíciou je úprava samotnej dráhy tak, aby aj väčšie lietadlá mohli v Poprade pristávať,“ priblížil Figel'. To bude podľa neho predmetom ďalšieho posudzovania a vláda SR by sa mala na jeseň vrátiť k otázke budúcnosti a zámerov tzv. regionálnych letísk.

Projekt KHL víta aj samotné letisko Poprad – Tatry. „V rámci KHL predpokladáme 27 lietadiel plus osem v rámci HC LEV Poprad. To znamená, že v celkových hodnotách to bude predstavovať tržby vo výške okolo 110,000 eur len v rámci KHL,“ priblížila prognózy riaditeľka letiska Ivana Herkeľová. Ďalší potenciál však vidí aj v odohraní zápasov MHL a nárast počtu letov predpokladá aj v rámci všeobecného letectva. „Popradské letisko je kategorizované ako medzinárodné letisko schengenského typu a môžem povedať, že sme plne pripravení na splnenie všetkých požiadaviek, čo sa týka KHL,“ zhodnotila Herkeľová. Letisko je pripravené aj na predĺženie prevádzkového času alebo prípadne nepretržité otvorenie na 24 hodín. Hráči HC LEV Poprad budú z Popradu lietať so spoločnosťou Holiday Czech Airlines, čo je dcérska spoločnosť ČSA, lietadlom Boeing 747. „Budeme prvým hokejovým klubom, ktorý bude mať k dispozícii také veľké lietadlo, ako je Boeing,“ konštatoval obchodný riaditeľ HC LEV Poprad Marcel Binek.



Najvyššie položená kaviareň na Slovensku je na Lomnickom štíte

Tatranská Lomnica (TASR) - Najvyššie položené miesto na ubytovanie v strednej Európe sa nachádza na Slovensku, presnejšie na Lomnickom štíte. Okrem ubytovania je tam však možné dať si i kávu v najvyššie položenej kaviarni. Tá sa volá Dedo, pretože Lomnický štít tak ľudia kedysi dávno nazývali.

„Vo výške 2634 metrov nad morom turisti môžu nájsť hlavne tú krásu, čo je tu naokolo. A okrem toho môžu využívať služby kaviarne a ubytovania,“ priblížil vedúci kaviarne Anton Čupka. Kaviareň, a teda i výlet na Lomnický štít, využíva denne množstvo ľudí, klientela je podľa neho rôznorodá. Okrem posedenia vo vnútri, kde sa nachádza približne 30 miest na sedenie, môžu klienti využívať aj terasu s výhľadom na Vysoké, Belianske i Nízke Tatry. Netradičnú kaviareň otvorili v júni 2006.

Výlet lanovkou zo Skalnatého plesa na Lomnický štít považujú turisti za najzaujímavejšiu atrakciu vo Vysokých Tatrách. Vyplýva to z prieskumu, ktorí každoročne vykonáva Združenie cestovného ruchu (ZCR) Vysoké Tatry. „Z pohľadu návštevníkov je na druhom mieste návšteva Štrbského plesa a na treťom výlet k Symbolickému cintorínu pod Ostrvou pri Popradskom plese,“ priblížil riaditeľ ZCR Peter Chudý. Najviac navštevovanou lokalitou v Tatrách je tradične Hrebienok.

Okrem kaviarne a apartmánu na ubytovanie sa na Lomnickom štíte nachádzajú aj Veľvyslanectvo slnka, prírodná botanická záhrada, ktorá funguje vo vegetačnom období, koronárna stanica a sú tu tiež fyzici, ktorí merajú kozmické žiarenie. Práca v takejto nadmorskej výške má svoje výhody i nevýhody.

„Je to veľmi netradičné pracovné miesto, každý deň i každá noc tu je úplne iná, každý deň sa tu vyskytne nejaká situácia, ktorá sa na iných pracoviskách nestáva,“ konštatoval Čupka. Pracuje na Lomnickom štíte už štyri roky a najzaujímavejšia na práci je pre neho práve scenéria, ktorú výhľad z Lomnického štítu ponúka. „Ja som pred tým pracoval na lodi, takže som šiel z nulovej nadmorskej výšky až sem,“ dodal.

Bratislava chce byť významným vedeckým centrom v strednej Európe

Bratislava (TASR) – Vzniká projekt Bratislava – vedecké mesto XXI. storočia. Okrem hlavného mesta sa na ňom podieľa Slovenská akadémia vied (SAV), Slovenská technická univerzita (STU) a Univerzita Komenského (UK).

„Projekt má hlboký zmysel a mesto sa na ňom bude podieľať svojimi pozemkami, v rámci stavebných konaní pri budovaní novej infraštruktúry a výskumných ústavov, tiež propagáciou výsledkov,“ po prvom pracovnom rokovaní kompetentných zo spomínaných inštitúcií nedávno informoval novinárov primátor Bratislavy Milan Ftáčnik. Uviedol, že magistrát už má vyčleneného jedného pracovníka, ktorý sa bude venovať podpore mesta pre podnikateľskú sféru i podpore prenosov výsledkov výskumu do praxe.

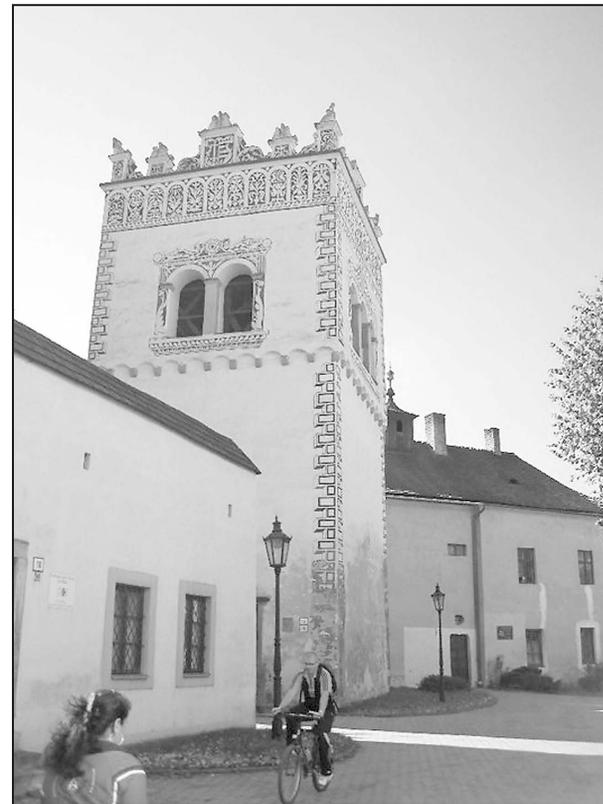
Do dvoch týždňov chcú spomínané inštitúcie vytvoriť koncept projektu, kde sa zamerajú najmä na podporu a rozvoj troch oblastí, v ktorých má Slovensko špičkových odborníkov. Týmito oblastami sú nové materiály a energetika, biomedicína, informačné a komunikačné technológie a znalostné techniky na nich založené. SAV s dvoma univerzitami už majú vytvorené tzv. kompetenčné centrá, do ktorých okrem výskumných ústavov a škôl patria aj výrobné podniky. „Nechceme robiť vedu pre vedu, ale prenášať jej výsledky do praxe,“ dodal Ftáčnik.

Podľa predsedu SAV Jaromíra Pastoreka iniciátori projektu chcú čo najefektívnejšie využiť prostriedky Európskej únie určené na vedu a výskum. „Pre obdobie 2014-2020 to môžu byť pre Slovensko až dve miliardy eur a to sú financie, aké nám naša vláda nikdy nedá,“ zdôvodnil Pastorek. Zároveň dodal, že za ostatných 20 rokov sa na Slovensku nič pre vedu a výskum nevybudovalo a treba využiť a vylepšiť to, čo je k dispozícii – ústavy SAV na Patrónke a vzdelávacie možnosti v neďalekej Mlynskej doline.

Aj podľa rektora STU Roberta Redhammera má Bratislava veľký potenciál byť vedeckým mestom, kde je najviac vzdelávacích a výskumných inštitúcií. Táto univerzita je orientovaná na priemysel, prax a spoločenské potreby. „Do nášho kompetenčného centra vstúpilo deväť súkromných subjektov a od roku 2005 sme v praxi podporili 40 podnikov,“ povedal Redhammer. „Dozrel čas na novú postupnosť rozvoja vzdelávania i pre spoluprácu so špičkovými zahraničnými centrami. Chceme využiť široký potenciál UK s mnohými partnermi,“ pripomenul rektor UK Karol Mičieta.

Asociácia historických hotelov Slovenska má desať členov

Bratislava (TASR) – Asociácia historických hotelov Slovenska má desať členov, najnovšie jej rady rozšíril hotel Hviezdoslav v Kežmarku. Trojhviezdičkový hotel sa nachádza v budove z konca 17. storočia na Hlavnom námestí v blízkosti všetkých významných pamiatok historického mesta. Samotný názov hotela je odvodený z pôsobenia významného slovenského básnika P. O. Hviezdoslava v meštianskom dome, v ktorom žil počas svojich štúdií na lýceu. „Malý hotel s veľkým srdcom ponúka ubytovanie v dvojlôžkových izbách a apartmánoch, kde sú citlivo sklbené historické prvky s modernými interiérovými doplnkami. Okrem ubytovacej a reštauračnej časti sa v hoteli nachádza aj Hviezdoslavova literárna kaviareň s kapacitou 35 miest, zariadená v klasickom elegantnom štýle.



Kežmarok

Reštaurácia ponúka kulinárske špeciality s uprednostnením regionálnej kuchyne a tokajských vín, pretože mesto Kežmarok vlastnilo kedysi vinohrady práve v Tokajskej oblasti,“ uviedla prezidentka asociácie Daniela Miháliková.

Asociácia Historické hotely Slovenska bola založená v septembri 2009. Ide o skupinu desiatich hotelov v zámkoch, kaštieloch a historických budovách na Slovensku. „Je to stelesnenie tradície a histórie, ktorú svojim pokrytím ponúka celá krajina a jej obyvatelia vo forme pohostinnosti a výnimočnosti s dôrazom na jedinečný zážitok prežitý v atraktívnom prostredí,“ doplnil generálny sekretár asociácie Michal Čuridlo.

K členom asociácie v súčasnosti patria Grand Castle v Liptovskom Hrádku, hotel Amade Château vo Vrakúni, hotel Bankov v Košiciach, hotel Chateau Bela v Belej, hotel Hviezdoslav v Kežmarku, hotel Jeleň v Hlohovci, hotel Sandor Pavillon v Piešťanoch, hotel U leva v Levoči, kaštieľ Péchy, Lovecký dom & park v Hermanovciach a kaštieľ Villa Nečas v Žiline.

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

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

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

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

Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Výročná členská schôdza Štefana Krasuľu Spolok č. 16 IKSJ

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

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

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Schôdza Okresu Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Okres Princa Pribinu bude mať svoju schôdzu v nedeľu 30. októbra 2011. Oslava začne o 15:00 hodine poobede so svätou omšou v kaplnke sv. Jána Bosku pri St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Bl., Bellflower, CA 90706. Slovenskú svätú omšu bude slúžiť otec Pavol Sochulák, ktorý príde zo San Bernardina. Pripomenieme si v modlitbách pamiatku Všetkých svätých a milovaných zosnulých. Po svätej omši bude schôdza Okresu Princa Pribinu a nasledovať bude spoločné posedenie s priateľmi pri káve a šiškách. Všetky obvody v okolí sú pozvané na zasadnutie Okresu.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

55. kongres Slovenskej ligy v Amerike bude v apríli 2012

Výkonný výbor Slovenskej ligy v Amerike na svojom zasadnutí v New Yorku dňa 30. apríla rozhodol, že 55. kongres SLvA sa bude konať cez prvý víkend po Veľkej noci v roku 2012 v meste Bridgeport, Conn. Začne sa v piatok 13. apríla a bude pokračovať aj nasledujúci deň. Presnejšie informácie budú oznámené v krátkom čase v oficiálnom oznámení o 55. kongrese.

Predseda a tajomníčka SLvA pozvali na toto zasadnutie Výkonného výboru aj oblastných podpredsedov a všetkých hlavných úradníkov, vrátane revízorov, aby sa dosiahla zhoda o čase a mieste konania 55. kongresu. Kongres bol plánovaný pôvodne na jar alebo jeseň t.r., ale Výkonný výbor po porade s predstaviteľmi členských organizácií musel brať do úvahy okolnosti, že viaceré fraternalistické organizácie majú v tomto roku svoje konvencie a iné väčšie podujatia.



Slovenská katolícka púť do Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, NY

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

umožnil využiť priestory Marian Shrine, na svätú omšu, ružencovú pobožnosť, ako aj pripraviť obed pre zúčastnených pútnikov. Za plynulý priebeh podujatia patrí vďaka výboru Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716, štyrom kňazom, ktorí odslúžili slávnostnú svätú omšu a nášmu pánu farárovi Martinovi Svitanovi, ako i nášmu organistovi a všetkým zúčastneným pútnikom.

Návšteva Detského domova „Ratolesť“ Trnie okres Zvolen, Slovensko

V mene Slovenskej osady, Slovenských spolkov a jednotlivých farníkov pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City sme odovzdali finančný dar pre potreby detí Detského domova „Ratolesť“ vo výške 2,716.00 US dolárov. Na týchto finančných prostriedkoch sa najviac podielali: Slovenský kostol sv. Jána Nepomuckého, pán farár Martin Svitan, manželka Lepková z New Jersey, pani Etela Jendrek, Spolok sv. Štefana, I. zbor Slovenskej ligy v NYC, Okres č. 16 Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu, manželka Biliková, Čulenová, Daitová, Holí, Korčáková, Krčmarová, Lysaková, Málekovi, Šulákoví, Žakovičovi a ostatní štedrý darcovia našej farnosti a z iných štátov USA.

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana



Pohľad na zúčastnených pútnikov z ľavej strany miestnosti.

Život ľudí v pokročilom veku

Sme v kostole, sviatočne oblečení a keď skloníme hlavu, vidíme, že jedna punčocha je modrá a druhá je červená.

Stojíme v kúpeľni a chceme sa umývať. Ale nie sme si istí, čo máme robiť. Či sme sa už umývali, alebo či sa máme umývať. Treba zistiť, či je uterák mokry, alebo suchý.

Dobří priatelia v susedstve nás pozvali na večeru. Presne o šiestej hodine tlačíme zvonček na dverách a zistíme, že pozvanie je na zajtra večer.

Toto sú momenty u starších ľudí. Keď sa prihodí vieme, že staroba nielen že prichádza, ale že sme už naozaj starí.

Momenty už u osemdesiatnikov sú zvýšenou starosťou a napätím pre rodinu. Rodina a priatelia sú netrepezliví, pozerajú jeden na druhého, potriasajú hlavou a pozorujú starcov, či zhasili plamienok na peci.

Staroba v osemdesiatke, to má byť kúzelné číslo. Ale to sa len hovorí, lebo to dobre znie. Pravidlá sa menia v osemdesiatych rokoch. Ľudia sú uvoľnení, niet napätia a odpočinku do vôle. Punčochy, ktoré nemajú páru sú spoločensky prijateľné, lebo v očiach ľudí taký človek dosiahol druhé detstvo – ako štvorročný.

Sú ľudia, ktorí sa nemôžu dočkať aby aj oni prežívali taký život v starobe – niet starosti, napätia, trápenia a nikto neočakáva mnoho od takých ľudí.

Nie je všetko vždy také ružové, bez starosti a bez trápenia. Ľudia v starobe presedia celé hodiny u lekárov. Prelistujú minulo-ročné magazíny a často si aj zadriemajú. Nič nového. Príde ošetrovateľka a zobudí pacienta lebo už je na rade.

Prehliadka alebo liečenie nie je radosťou pre človeka v starobe. Lekár nie vždy nájde žilu na krvnú skúšku. Pichá na viaceré miesta a pacient sa nemôže dočkať, kedy pichanie skončí. Potom klopanie kladivom po kolenách nie je potešením a hmätanie a tlačenie brucha nie je pôžitkom. Nakoniec lekár predpíše nové pilulky a pripomenie starcovi aby zas prišiel za dva týždne. Uboľený a dopichaný pacient zaplatí za „milú návštevu“ u špecialistu, ďakuje Bohu že to vydržal a ponáhľa sa stratiť z miestnosti.

Po ceste domov premýšľa, čo s medicínou čo lekár predpísal? Kedy ju užívať, veď má doma už osem ďalších na polici? Nemožno sa diviť, že si stariec posťažuje a „pokrstí“ lekárov kvetnatými menami a titulmi.

Je jeden Všemohúci Boh, ale počet lekárov sa u penzistoch zvyšuje každým rokom. A každý lekár je „špecialistom“. Ľudia v starobe potrebujú špecialistov na uši, oči, sinus, dŕasná, srdce, žalúdok, vnútornosti, nohy, zuby a po čase sa vynoria ďalší iní. Mnohí pacienti strávia mnoho času na telefóne, aby si urobili schôdzky u lekára. A potom treba hľadať kde ten-ktorý lekár má ordináciu a ako sa k nemu dostať.

Prežitie roky u človeka majú svoje následky: telo sa zohýba smerom nadol, kolená vrzgajú, sluch slabne, zuby hrkotajú a človek šušle. S takým človekom sa nedá porozprávať. Budiček často zvoní a starc odbehne lebo musí zobrat ďalšiu pilulku. Takto trávia mnohí ľudia „zlatý“ odpočinok – retirement a čakajú príchod Boží...
Rudo L. Greguš



Rudo L. Greguš

Po Dožinkovej zábave ...

Po dobrej, veselej, dožinkovej zábave,

viedol si ma, poľnou cestičkou domov.

Chcel si vraj nazrieť, do môjho srdiečka,

ale si sa zmýlil, oči ti zvlhli, smutnou slzou.

Láska je krásna, keď je ako víno, čistá.

Keď ju nevedia zmeniť, ani bankové čísla.

Prídi, až tak o rok, dva, keď dozrieš do veku

v ktorom nájdeš, čistú lásku a plne dozretú.

Či si bol dobrý chlapec a si si ju vymodlil?

Ten „Hore“ ti ju do vena dal, On sa

nemýlil.

Či si to nevedel, keď si pri oltári stál?

Keď, vánok lásky a šťastia, na teba vial.

Jozef Smák

Martin je najtransparentnejšie mesto Európy a Severnej Ameriky

Bratislava (TASR) - Za úspech celého Slovenska považuje prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič ocenenie Organizácie Spojených národov (OSN), s ktorým prišiel do Prezidentského paláca v Bratislave martinský primátor Andrej Hrnčiar. Mesto získalo cenu za projekt Transparentné mesto v rámci Európy a Severnej Ameriky. Ide o medzinárodné ocenenie za verejnú službu - United Nation Public Service Award 2011 a Martin ho získal v kategórii Prevencia a boj proti korupcii. „Bola tam silná konkurencia, boli sme ohodnotení ako jediné mesto, v ďalších kategóriách vyhrávali skôr ministerstvá,“ vysvetlil Hrnčiar.

Len čo pricestoval s cenou z africkej Tanzánie, jeho prvý kroky mierili na stretnutie s prezidentom, ktorý mu mohol ako prvý zablahoželať k úspechu. „Boli v histórii Slovenska prví, ktorí boli ocenení OSN. Je dôležité, že toto ocenenie nedostali iba za predložený projekt, ale aj za jeho realizáciu,“ vyzdvihol význam ocenenia najvyšší predstaviteľ SR. Podľa neho je dôležité, že sa do projektu zapojili aj občania a ukázalo sa, že v praxi funguje.

Projekt dáva možnosť vstupovať verejnosti do diania v meste, ktorého vedenie zverejňuje všetky elektronické obstarávania či verejné aukcie. „Ide aj o to, aby sme občanom dali možnosť ovplyvňovať veci verejné nielen vtedy, keď idú raz za štyri roky k volebným urnám,“ poznamenal primátor.

OSN udeľuje cenu verejnemu sektoru, samosprávam od miestnej po regionálnu a vládnú úroveň, ministerstvám, úradom vlád a neziskovým organizáciám. Martin je prvým slovenským mestom, ktoré získalo toto ocenenie.

Krátké správy zo Slovenska

• V lokalite Panoráma sa bude nachádzať 77 rodinných domov. Ďalších osem si chcú postaviť majitelia okolitých pozemkov. Skoro všetky pozemky sú predané a čaká sa na výstavbu. Panoráma je názov lokality severného okraja Veľkého Slavkova. „Inšpirovalo nás to, že nech ste na tomto mieste kdekoľvek, všade vidíte na Tatry,“ povedal majiteľ stavebnej firmy Jaroslav Dlouhý. Obec privítala takýto nápad. „Teší ma, že to nie sú apartmány alebo sociálne byty podobné panelákom. Rodinné domy sľubujú prílev stálych obyvateľov,“ povedal starosta obce František Šary (nezavislý).

• **Mincovňa** Kremnica na základe pochvaly zo strany Argentíny získala objednávku na dodávku mincí pre Uruguajskú centrálnu banku. Napriek vyššej cene oproti ponuke konkurencie z Juhoafrickej republiky na prvom mieste medzinárodnej súťaže a pred ponukou holandskej mincovne na treťom mieste získala Kremnica objednávku na 10 miliónov obehových mincí v hodnote 50 pesos s motívmi k 200. výročiu nezávislosti Uruguaja. Takisto vyrobí sedemtisíc strieborných a bronzových pamätných mincí s historickými motívmi v hodnote tisíc pesos, čo je približne 40 euro. Výrobky Mincovne Kremnica pred ekonomicky výhodnejšou juhoafrickou konkurenciou uprednostnili vyššiu kvalitu a dobrú povest' na juhoamerických trhoch. Zákazku v predstihu mali dodať v prvej polovici septembra letecky a následne kontajnermi po mori.

• **Realizácia** projektu elektronického zdravotníctva, eHealth, by mala byť o 120 miliónov eur lacnejšia ako sa pôvodne plánovalo. Rezort zároveň očakáva, že elektronické zdravotníctvo po plnom sprevádzkovaní prinesie ročné úspory okolo 100 miliónov eur, ktoré sa využijú na zdravotnú starostlivosť. Ministerstvo zdravotníctva v súčinnosti s Ministerstvom financií SR, zástupcami poskytovateľov zdravotnej starostlivosti, profesionálnymi organizáciami v rezorte a zdravotnými poisťovňami už ukončilo prípravnú fázu v realizácii Programu implementácie elektronického zdravotníctva - eHealth. Všetky jeho projekty prešli počas tejto fázy podľa rezortu výraznými zmenami tak, aby boli zamerané na rýchlejšiu dostupnosť užitočných elektronických služieb pre občanov, lekárov, zdravotné poisťovne a ďalších aktérov v sektore. Prvé aplikácie budú nasadené na celom Slovensku o jeden a pol roka.

• **Časy veľkých investorov**, ktorí prichádzali na Slovensko, sú podľa šéfa Ministerstva hospodárstva (MH) SR Juraja Miškova (SaS) za nami. Roadshow bude podľa neho zameraná na stredne veľké firmy a na firmy, ktoré môžu na Slovensko priniesť technologický pokrok, ako aj výskum a vývoj. Toto je možno cesta, po ktorej by sme chceli ísť a ukázať Slovensko ako atraktívnu krajinu pre investovanie aj pre stredne veľké firmy. Informačným technológiám sa podľa Miškova na Slovensku „veľmi darí“. Tieto firmy začali s call-centrami a postupne ich investície prichádzajúce na Slovensko majú stále vyššiu a vyššiu pridanú hodnotu.

• **Fastfoody** sa chcú vo svojej ponuke zamerať na čo najčerstvejšie jedlá. Po ére výdatnosti totiž slovenskí spotrebiteľia začínajú preferovať zdravšie chute. „Náročnosť stravníkov sa zvyšuje najmä vo väčších mestách,“ hovorí Jozef Šétaffy, člen Predstavenstva Slovenskej franchisingovej asociácie. Za pravdu mu dávajú hneď dve staronové siete, expandujúce na Slovensku - Subway a Minute. No už v tomto roku reťazec pripravuje otvorenie ďalších prevádzok. Sústreďuje sa na čerstvé sendviče, wrapy či šaláty. Práve v takej ponuke vidí budúcnosť i spoločnosti Fornetti Slovakia, ktorá nedávno otvorila prvú oficiálnu predajňu pod hlavičkou Minute-Fresh food bar. Sieť rozšíri ponuku Fornetti o čerstvé plnené bagety, sendviče, zeleninové šaláty či chleby. Výraznejšie sa značka chystá expandovať budúci rok.

• **Ludia** na Slovensku sa pre dlhú krízu, ktorá sa rýchlo šíri Európou, začali obávať o svoje peniaze. Rizikovejšie investície v podielových fondoch v júni hŕňe premiestnili na istejšie, aj keď aktuálne menej úročené vklady. Z otvorených podielových fondov, kde majú občania priemerne takmer desiatnu úspor, vybrali za jeden mesiac viac ako 60 miliónov eur. Podobný náhly masový presun peňazí je v rámci fondov najväčší za posledné roky. Ide o prvú výraznú reakciu Slovákov na obavy z dlhovej krízy. Podľa analytika sa ľudia obávajú, že ďalšia kríza ich pripraví o prácu. Z fondov tak vyťahujú hotovosť, ktorou by dokázali splácať hypotéky.

• **Štát** investuje do výučby budúcich lekárov veľa peňazí, stovky z nich však po skončení štúdiá zo Slovenska odchádzajú. Každý desiaty absolvent lekárskej fakulty hľadá prácu za hranicami Slovenska, kde majú zdravotníci lepšie platy, pracovné prostredie, ale aj uplatnenie v praxi. „Najviac mladých lekárov odchádza do Česka, ale aj Nemecka a Rakúska“, povedal šéf Slovenského odborového zväzu zdravotníctva a sociálnych služieb Anton Szalay.

• **Na Slovensku** je takmer 200 tisíc nezamestnaných mladých ľudí. Ide o 15-24 ročných ľudí, ktorí nikdy nepracovali a ich pocit nepotrebnosti môže prerásť do agresivity ako sme to prednedávnom videli v Londýne. V rámci Európskej únie máme na Slovensku trikrát viac nezamestnaných mladých ľudí, ako je priemer spoločenstva. „Najhoršie je, že už máme stratenú generáciu a popri nej vyrastá ďalšia. V niektorých oblastiach Slovenska je situácia doslova neriešiteľná“, uviedla sociologička Zuzana Kusá. Prognostik Pavol Karász vidí príčiny dlhodobej nezamestnanosti v špecifikách slovenskej ekonomiky. „Ak vláda nenájde na dlhodobú nezamestnanosť liek, môže to zvýšiť sociálne napätie“, varuje.

• **Ministerstvo** obrany (MO) SR pripravuje prvú fázu prepúšťania, v rámci ktorej by rezort malo opustiť približne 1400 ľudí. Dôraz sa pritom bude klásť predovšetkým na civilných zamestnancov v predpokladanom počte 900 ľudí. Zvyšný počet by mali predstavovať vojaci. Tieto kroky vyplývajú zo strategického hodnotenia obrany (SHO) SR, ktoré vzala na vedomie vláda SR. Na toto číslo by mali postupne nadväzovať aj ďalší civilni. Redukovať finančné výdavky by chcel Galko napríklad cez pracovníkov, ktorí strážia objekty pod správou MO SR. Tých je v súčasnosti približne 1600 a ich služby sú pre rezort lacnejšie, ako keby v týchto miestach boli nasadení profesionálni vojaci. Jedným z hlavných bodov novej stratégie rezortu obrany v nasledujúcich rokoch by mala byť rozsiahla modernizácia rôznych zložiek Ozbrojených síl SR.

• **Po** šiestich rokoch sa opäť rozozvučali zvony na kostole sv. Ladislava v Nitre, ktorý je známejší pod pomenovaním Piaristický kostol. Niektorí obyvatelia okolitých domov však namietajú, že zvony zvonia príliš nahlas a v príliš krátkych intervaloch. Nebijú totiž iba na poľudnie a večer, ale od piatej hodiny rannej v hodinových intervaloch. Občania sa preto nechtiac budia na zvonenie zvonov. Niektorí sa boli sťažovať aj na miestnom farskom úrade. Správca kostola Alojz Orlický však uviedol, že intenzitu zvonenia nemožno ovplyvniť. Môžu sa však hodiny nastaviť tak, aby zvony začali biť od neskoršej hodiny. S tým však musia počkať. Dokáže to totiž iba odborník z Passau, ktorý do Nitry pride najbližšie až na jeseň.

TASR a slovenské časopisy



FOTO TASR - František Iván

Turisti na Hrebienku (1285 m) vo Vysokých Tatrách.

Hrebienok is the most popular tourist locality in the High Tatras.

Najnavštevovanejšou lokalitou v Tatrách je Hrebienok

Vysoké Tatry (TASR) – Z pohľadu návštevníkov sú najzaujímavejšími atrakciami vo Vysokých Tatrách výlet lanovkou na Lomnický štít, na druhom mieste je to návšteva Štrbského plesa a na treťom mieste výlet k Symbolickému cintorínu pod Ostrvou pri Popradskom plese. Vyplýva to z ankety, ktorú medzi turistami robilo Združenie cestovného ruchu Vysoké Tatry.

Riaditeľ združenia Peter Chudý uviedol, že najnavštevovanejšou lokalitou v Tatrách je Hrebienok a nad ním ležiaca Studenovodská dolina. „Na druhom mieste je Skalnaté pleso a na treťom mieste magistrála zo Štrbského plesa smerom na Popradské pleso,“ doplnil Chudý. Tieto štatistiky vyplývajú zo sčítania návštevníkov, ktoré realizujú Štátne lesy Tatranského národného parku už viac ako 20 rokov.

Medzi najnavštevovanejšie atrakcie v tatranskom a podtatranskom regióne patrí aj Tatralandia, ale aj lanovka na Skalnaté pleso. „Je to kabínková lanovka, navštevujú ju aj rodiny s malými deťmi a dá sa využívať aj vtedy, keď nie je ideálne počasie,“ zdôvodnila Lenka Maťašovská z Tatra Mountain Resorts (TMR). Na Skalnatom plese môžu turisti okrem observatória navštíviť aj Eko mini park pre deti a Tatranskú divočinu.

„Tento rok sme Tatranskú divočinu rozšírili o ďalšie štyri príbehy, nie je už len na Skalnatom plese a na Hrebienku, ale aj na Štrbskom Plese,“ doplnila Maťašovská. Po mikulášskom akvaparku, lanovkách na Hrebienku a na Skalnatom plese je podľa prieskumu TMR štvrtou najnavštevovanejšou atrakciou lanovka na Chatu pod Soliskom, odkiaľ je výhľad na Podtatranskú kotlinu, Kriváň i jazero Štrbské pleso. Turisti môžu opäť využívať aj člňkovanie na Štrbskom plese, okrem toho i kolobežky a bike park na Hrebienku, lukostreľbu, trampolíny a Minitatralandiapark na Štrbskom plese.

Telegram Svätého Otca kardinálovi Jánovi Chryzostomovi Korcovi

Vatikán – Pápež Benedikt XVI. zaslal blahoprajný telegram kardinálovi Jánovi Chryzostomovi Korcovi pri príležitosti 60. výročia jeho biskupskej vysviacky:

Nášmu ctihodnému bratovi Jánovi Chryzostomovi, kardinálovi svätej rímskej Cirkvi, Korcovi, SJ Nitrianskemu emeritnému biskupovi

S radosťou sme prijali radostnú správu, že Ty, náš ctihodný brat, budeš čoskoro sláviť 60. výročie dňa, ktorý si budeš vždy pripomínať, keď si bol vysvätený za biskupa a zaradený medzi nástupcov apoštolov, keď Ti bola táto česť tajne udelená.

Ako to vyžaduje dôvod tak šťastnej ako i preslávnnej udalosti, My Teba, činného, verného pastiera náramne chválime, spomínajúc na posvätnú službu, ktorú si tak starostlivo toľko rokov konal a sľubujeme Ti Svoju duchovnú blízkosť v tejto oslave.

Zatiaľ čo z hĺbky srdca prednášame vrúcne priania - spásonosné, žiaduce a šťastné, naliehavo Ti vyprosujeme od najsvätejšieho a večného Boha hojnosť nebeských darov; nech je prianím i zárukou Našej milostivej vôle apoštolské požehnanie, ktoré Ti s láskou udeľujeme.

V Castel Gandolfe, dňa 15. augusta, na Slávnosť Nanebovzatia Panny Márie, roku 2011, v siedmom roku nášho pontifikátu.

Benedikt XVI.
(TK KBS, RV)

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

Diamantové biskupské výročie kardinála Jána Chryzostoma Korca

Nitriansky emeritný biskup kardinál Ján Chryzostom Korec si 24. augusta 2011 pripomenul 60. výročie svojej biskupskej vysviacky.

Narodil sa 22. januára 1924 v Bošanoch. Dňa 15. septembra 1939 vstúpil do noviciátu k jezuitom, o dva roky neskôr zložil prvé rehoľné sľuby. Na kňazstvo sa pripravoval v Trnave a Brne. V roku 1950 bol komunistickou štátnou mocou, spolu so svojimi spolubratmi, násilne internovaný v Jasove, Podolínci a Pezinku. V septembri 1950 bol prepustený do civilného života. Z rúk rožňavského biskupa Róberta Pobožného tajne prijal 1. 10. 1950 kňazskú vysviacku a následne 24. augusta 1951 ho biskup Pavol Hnilica v tajnosti konsekroval za biskupa. Pracoval ako robotník v civilných zamestnaniach - v Mototechne v Nitre, v Priemstave v Bratislave, v Tatracheme, v Ústave hygieny práce a chorôb z povolania, v Závodoch Juraja Dimitrova.

Kardinál
Ján Ch. Korec

Za svoju vernosť kňazskému a rehoľnému povolaniu bol 11. marca 1960 zatknutý a neskôr odsúdený na 12 rokov straty slobody. Väznený bol na Pankráci a vo Valdiciach. Po ôsmich rokoch ho prepustili na slobodu, v roku 1969 sa dočkal plnej rehabilitácie, no ešte ďalších 20 rokov nemohol vykonávať verejne svoju duchovnú službu. Najprv pôsobil ako kňaz u rehoľných sestier Najsvätejšieho Spasiteľa, no neskôr ako závozník v Tatracheme a potom ako údržbár výťahov. Tajne vysvätil okolo 120 rehoľných kňazov a jedného biskupa.

V tom čase písal knižné diela – tzv. Knižnicu viery. Stál pri organizovaní Sviečkovej manifestácie za náboženskú slobodu v roku 1988.

Po zmene politického režimu bol 2. januára 1990 vymenovaný za rektora Kňazského seminára v Bratislave. Pápež Ján Pavol II. ho 6. februára 1990 vymenoval za nitrianskeho diecézneho biskupa a 28. júna 1991 mu odovzdal kardinálsky purpur.

Ako nitriansky biskup sa postaral o obnovenie Kňazského seminára v Nitre – vysvätil 200 kňazov pre starobylú diecézu, usiloval sa o obrodu náboženského života veriacich. Od 16. júla 2005 je emeritným biskupom v Nitre.

TK KBS



Počas svätej omše zľava: otec František Čonka, otec Roman Dominik Palečko, hlavný celebrant, otec Marko Makai a otec Štefan Chanás.

Podujatia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v NYC

Slovenská katolícka púť do Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, NY

V nedeľu dňa 14. augusta 2011 sa uskutočnila tradičná Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, NY, ktorú ako každoročne usporiadal Spolok sv. Štefana Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Na rozdiel od predchádzajúcich rokov, keď sme mali krásne, slnečné počasie, bola búrka a celý deň dažď. Ani nepriazeň počasia neodradila 55 pútnikov z Connecticut, New Jersey, New Yorku a niekoľko hostí zo Slovenska.

Sávnostnú svätú omšu, k úcte Nanebovzatia Panny Márie odslúžil otec Marko Makai zo Slovenska za koncelebrácie kňazov: Roman Dominik Palečko zo Slovenska, Štefan Chanás zo Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC a otec František Čonka z Tapan, NY. Organistom na tejto svätej omši bol Rado Lesay, ktorý svojím nádherným spevom vzdal úctu našej nebeskej Matke.

Po omši sa podával chutný obed v areáli Marian Shrine, ktoré pripravili naše členky Milka Matfiaková, Mária Božeková a Veronika Packová.

Na záver Slovenskej katolíckej púti sa pre hustý dažď nemohla uskutočniť procesia v tradičnom a nádhernom prostredí Krížovej cesty. Namiesto toho sa Ružencová pobožnosť konala v areáli Marian Shrine. Pútnici sa pomodlili Ruženec k Božiemu milosrdenstvu – „Korunka“.

Touto cestou by sme sa chceli poďakovať otcovi Williamovi Buciferovi, ktorý nám

Pokračovanie na str. 22



Pohľad na zúčastnených pútnikov z pravej strany miestnosti.



FOTO TASR - Radovan Stoklasa

Symbolický dres s číslom 38 a menom Pavol Demitra stúpa k stropu zimného štadióna v zápase 1. kola hokejovej Tipsport extraligy Dukla Trenčín - HC 05 Banská Bystrica, 16. septembra 2011 v Trenčíne.

Slovenský hokejista Pavol Demitra zahynul v stredu 7. septembra vo veku 36 rokov v Rusku po páde lietadla. Obrovská tragédia postihla ruský klub Lokomotiv Jaroslavl, keď celá jeho výprava našla smrť pri havárii čartrového lietadla, ktoré viezlo mužstvo na zápas KHL.

A symbolic Number 38 uniform of Pavol Demitra is displayed during a game in Trenčín on September 16. The popular Slovak hockey player Pavol Demitra was killed in the tragic airplane crash in Russia on September 7.