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## briefly

### Home Office closed as we celebrate the New Year

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — The SNPJ Home Office will be closed Friday, Dec. 30, 2011, and Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, in celebration of the New Year. Normal office hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., will resume Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012. We wish all SNPJ members and friends a very happy and healthy New Year!

### Society sympathies for Lodge 216 treasurer

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — The SNPJ Home Office has been notified of the Dec. 10, 2011, passing of Bro. Joseph C. Provenza, treasurer of Lodge 216 in Verona, Pa.

On behalf of the entire Society, the members of the Executive Committee and Home Office staff extend their condolences to Bro. Provenza's family and friends on their loss. A complete obituary will run in a future issue.

### Lodge 776 has meeting plans in mid-January

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 776 will gather for their first regular meeting of the new year Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012, at the SNPJ Recreation Center. The meeting will begin at 2 p.m., and all Lodge 776 members are encouraged to attend.

**VONNIE DOMBROSKY**  
Lodge 776 Recording Secretary

### Have you recommended a new member lately?

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — Take advantage of SNPJ's Recommender Program which offers members an enhanced benefit for encouraging family, children, friends and acquaintances to join SNPJ. The recommender will receive \$10 for each valid referral. Every valid referral earns the recommender one chance in the quarterly drawing for a chance to win \$100 and an additional opportunity in the year-end drawing for a chance to win \$500. Pay a visit to the SNPJ web site, [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org), to complete an online Recommender form and get a head start on your reward.

## THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are Jan. 11 and Jan. 25, 2012. All material must be received by Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011, for the Jan. 11, 2012, issue, and by Monday, Jan. 16, for the Jan. 25 issue. If you are running short on time and concerned about making the deadline, e-mail [prosveta@snpj.com](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com) or submit material via the publications area of our web site, [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org).

# Singing in the holiday season

## Milwaukee youth members welcome Santa's annual visit

by MARY DONOVAN  
Lodge 584

**MILWAUKEE** — The annual SNPJ youth Christmas party is truly one of the most enjoyable events of the year that Badger Lodge 584 sponsors.

The day started out with two different craft projects that were spearheaded by Michele,

Carley and Amber Schweiger. The creativity by the kids while making different types of ornaments, wreaths and gingerbread cookies was amazing. No two items looked the same, and they all looked great. Karen Bolka also added a special star craft that she created.

After crafts, the children were invited to come to the front to participate in singing. Jane Lynch and Emily Poklar lead the kids in song from audience requests. During this part of the party, the kids were also invited to show their individual musical talents. Three children participated this year. Tatiana Ebbinger played the viola, Andrew Lynch played the piano and Briahna Lynch sang. It's amazing to see these

young people perform.

A request was made for "Jingle Bells." As the kids started to sing loudly, lo and behold, Santa appeared! He had a string of bells that chimed in perfectly with the singing. The kids cheered with smiles from ear to ear! Each child patiently awaited their name to be called for an opportunity to visit with Santa and receive a present.

After each child received his gift, we had a countdown of "3... 2... 1" and the wrapping paper flew! The kids opened their presents all at once and the cheering started again.

SEE MILWAUKEE CHRISTMAS  
ON PAGE 2



Santa always pays a visit to the Milwaukee youth Christmas party, hosted by Badger Lodge 584, making it a much-anticipated annual event.

PERIODICAL MATERIAL

# A very merry Orange Coast Lodge Christmas

by JEAN KOCI  
Lodge 786 Secretary

**ORANGE COUNTY, Calif.** — After a few days of very strong winds in Southern California, the sun was shining and the air was brisk as a large group of Lodge 786 members, families and friends attended the annual Christmas celebration at one of our favorite locations in Laguna Woods Dec. 4. Even power outages didn't hamper some of our attendees who traveled from San Diego, Sierra Madre, Palm Desert and

all over the coastal communities.

After taking care of business at our meeting, which included electing officers for 2012 and setting the meeting and event dates, we proceeded with the fun part of the afternoon. As has been the case for several years now, we had fantastic adult musicians Don Milek on accordion and Marty Swiderski on piano. It was also great having Ellie Koci and Miranda Arriola sing in both

SEE MERRY ORANGE COAST  
ON PAGE 5



Lodge 786 youth members performed a variety of traditional Christmas carols, prompting Santa to stop by for a visit.

# Happy New Year!



• **Joseph P. Ferrigno**  
Born March 24, 2010  
Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87

Lodge 87 welcomes its newest member, Joseph Peter Ferrigno. Joseph is the son of Jeremy and Charlotte (A02) Ferrigno, and the grandson of Linda Bart (87). We welcome Joseph to the Slovene National Benefit Society and extend our best wishes to his entire family.

Keep up with **PROSVETA** on the go. Scan this code with your smart phone and stay up-to-date on SNPJ news.



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# Utopians Lodge extends season's greetings

by GERRI TREBETS  
Lodge 604 Secretary

CLEVELAND — Lodge 604 Utopians ended the 2011 year with a holiday celebration at the Slovenian Society Home in Euclid, Ohio. It was a rainy evening and the lights even went out for a couple of hours before we got there, but in spite of it all, everyone who attended had a good time.

We decided to divert from our usual menu, and I think it went over quite well. In addition, delicious sausage and sauerkraut was made by member Pam Dirk. Rudy and Charlotte Perdan brought scrumptious desserts which they spent many hours preparing.

After dinner, the children anxiously awaited the appearance of Santa Claus. All of a sudden, we heard bells ringing and a “ho, ho, ho!” and in walked jolly Old St. Nick. After listening to all of the childrens' wish lists, he presented them with gifts and candy. He then passed out scratch tickets for all the adults, and we even had a few winners.

Thanks to all members who came out in the nasty weather. We hope you all had a good time and had plenty to eat. Thanks to officers Kathleen Trebets, Rudy and Charlotte Perdan, Alexandria Perdan, and Pam, Bill and Mary Dirk for all your help in making this another wonderful holiday party.

Our other activities included the Spring and Fall Pancake Breakfasts. Both mornings were beautiful, and a good crowd was on hand to partake of those light and fluffy pancakes, sausage patties, orange juice, coffee and hot chocolate. The best part was being able to go back for seconds. Our SNPJ Farm Board chefs do a magnificent job flipping those pancakes; compliments were in abundance.

Those in attendance for the Spring Breakfast were members John and Rose Bregar, Stefi Somrack, Frances Ogoreuc, Charlotte Perdan, and Emily, Sarah and Cindy Kolacz. Enjoying the Fall Breakfast were members Dorothy Rzeszut, John and Rose Bregar, Donna and Trent Weber, Cindy and Sarah Kolacz, Stefi Somrack and me.

Once again, our members attended Heritage Night at Captain's Stadium July 25. What a great evening, with the polka and waltz melodies of Joe Novak and Patty Candela permeating the stadium and surrounding areas. Dorothy Gorjup and Angie Zabjek sang the Slovenian National Anthem, and Dick Goddard sang the United States National Anthem. Dorothy's granddaughter and



Santa stopped by the Utopians Lodge holiday party for an after-dinner visit with youth members.



In July, Utopians Lodge 604 members headed to Captains Stadium for Slovenian Heritage Night.

great-granddaughter threw out the first pitch of the game. It was a beautiful, warm evening and very enjoyable.

It's been a very busy year. It seems as if time just flies by... or is it because we are getting older that the time seems to go so quickly? I think I'll just attribute it to a “busy” lifestyle! I want to extend holiday wishes to everyone at the SNPJ Home Office, to members of the various Lodges throughout the country, and to our own Lodge 604 Utopian members. Special holiday wishes go out to Frances Ogoreuc, who was unable to attend our Christmas party. She recently suffered a broken arm, but is mending nicely. Frances is such a pleasant lady, and we missed seeing her.

May the 2012 year hold many good things for us all, most of all good health and happiness. Hopefully I'll get my act together and write more articles. Procrastination is one of my downfalls, unfortunately. Too many irons in the fire!

# Senior Corner

by CARL ZVANUT  
Lodge 107

DEVON, Pa. — Well, we got past returning to standard time with the dining room grandfather clock reset by stopping the pendulum for an hour. My table partner wondered how many people came early for church, and a few of us wondered why there was no bacon aroma at breakfast. And as always seems to be the case, there was an occasional wrist watch stem that was balky, making it difficult to reset the time.

I did some shopping for clothing in a store primed for “Black Friday,” and got my first experience with unique pricing methods. To make a long story short, the maximum price was the one on the sleeve of the garment, \$229.

The “sale” price was second, \$99.99. The third price was \$79, if the sale was handled by the store's credit card. The fourth price was \$69, if I listed my life history and assets to apply for and use the store's credit card. (I still have one credit card).

I got my flu shot early in November, just about the time I saw the *Philadelphia Inquirer* blog post “Anti-flu-shot message at 39,000 feet (is) played” that questions the propriety of a three-minute video produced by the National Vaccine Information Center (NVIC), an anti-vaccination group, that was being shown on Delta Airlines flights.

There is nothing outright anti-vaccine in this advertisement but there is plenty on the NVIC web site, to which the video directs viewers for more information. There is also no mention of this information be-

ing vetted by government or medical organizations.

The author, Michael Yuddell, an associate professor at the Drexel University School of Public Health, asked, “Should an organization that is known for its anti-vaccine advocacy be the voice of public health for Delta passengers as flu season approaches?” The American Academy of Pediatrics didn't think so, and asked Delta to remove the ad. An extensive discussion of the value of flu shots followed.

The fee for my room at the home was adjusted for the coming 12 months, as it has every year that I've been here. Interesting is the effect of those numerous small (three to five percent) yearly increases. Six annual increases have resulted in an increase of 28 percent from my original yearly fee. It's like interest, only in reverse.

# Get a jump on new year activity at Imperial Lodge 106

by KEVIN RICHARDS  
Lodge 106

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The Christmas rush is over for another year. Lodge 106 adult members enjoyed a Dec. 17 Christmas party featuring music by Cool Change, while youth members celebrated the holiday Dec. 18 in the Lodge 106 Banquet Hall. Many thanks to Ruth Bouchon and all of our Lodge assistants for their help with the holiday parties. On behalf of Lodge 106, I wish all SNPJ members a safe

and happy New Year!

Here at Lodge 106, we'll hit 2012 at full speed with several events. First, we'll welcome the Dog House Country Band from Clifton Forge, Va., to our banquet hall Friday, Jan. 6, from 8 p.m. until midnight. The public is welcome to attend. Admission is \$5 at the door; the doors open at 7 p.m.

The very next evening, Saturday, Jan. 7, Renewed Memories II will return to perform in the Lodge 106 Clubroom from 7 to 11 p.m.

American Pie, a local oldies group, will be performing in the Lodge 106 Clubroom from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. The SNPJ Lodge 106 kitchen will be open during all three performances.

In the coming month, we'll be playing bar bingo in the Lodge 106 Clubroom on Thursdays, Jan. 12 and 26. The first game starts at 7 p.m. and the kitchen will be open.

Dinner night at the club is planned Saturday, Jan. 21. Chef Brian will

# Spartans spreading holiday cheer in January

by NANCY NOVAK  
Lodge 576 Recording Secretary

CLEVELAND — Spartans Lodge 576 members will celebrate the holidays with a dinner on Sunday, Jan. 22. The holiday party will be held at Gostilna Knezak, 768 East 200th St. in Euclid, Ohio, from noon until 3 p.m.

The Lodge will pay for the dinner of any active member (one who has attended at least three Lodge meetings during the past calendar year). The cost of dinner is \$15 for non-active members and all guests. Please RSVP to Lou Novak at (440) 461-6476 by Jan. 16. We've planned a \$10 gift exchange for those who want to join in.

Our next regular meeting following the holiday party is scheduled Monday, Feb. 13, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Waterloo Hall.

Special get well wishes are extended to Vice President Joe Monteleone who is still recuperating at Parma Hospital Rehab Center. We know Joe will work hard to be back out there golfing by spring.

We wish you all a very happy and healthy 2012!

# 'Tis the season for Milwaukee youth members

MILWAUKEE CHRISTMAS  
FROM PAGE 1

A very nice luncheon was served afterward that we all enjoyed. Michelle Melton and Bailey Phalen were our chief cooks and did a fantastic job. The “bring a dish to pass” idea added a lot of assortment to the menu. I'm confident that everyone left with a full tummy and then some.

Special thanks to Bob Smole for all of his help. He is a behind-the-scenes guy and truly brings the party all together. Thanks for your help all of these years! Another Christmas party was over, but there were many more to enjoy the rest of the month.

We hope everyone had a merry Christmas, and we wish all a happy and healthy New Year!

## Have something for Up-and-Coming?

Lodge/Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Event \_\_\_\_\_  
Site \_\_\_\_\_  
If a concert or dance, who is performing? \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Who to contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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# Up-and-Coming...

## A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- DEC. 31 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 New Year's Eve party featuring Clem Rolin and the Pittsburgh All-Stars Band in the Lodge 106 clubroom; 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Tickets are \$25. For more information contact the Lodge at (724) 695-1411 or e-mail [kevinrichards22@gmail.com](mailto:kevinrichards22@gmail.com).
- JAN. 6 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 presents The Doghouse Country Band in the Lodge 106 Hall; 8 p.m.-midnight. Admission is \$5 at the door and the kitchen will be open. For more information contact the Lodge at (724) 695-1411 or e-mail Kevin Richards at [kevinrichards22@gmail.com](mailto:kevinrichards22@gmail.com).
- JAN. 7 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 presents Renewed Memories II in the Lodge 106 clubroom; 8 p.m.-midnight. Kitchen will be open. For additional information contact the Lodge by calling (724) 695-1411 or e-mail Kevin Richards at [kevinrichards22@gmail.com](mailto:kevinrichards22@gmail.com).
- JAN. 8 .....Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87 jam session in the Horizon Room; 1-5 p.m. All musicians welcome. Kitchen will be open. For details contact Shirley Bailey at (724) 864-1606.
- JAN. 14 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 presents oldies group American Pie in the Lodge 106 clubroom; 8 p.m.-midnight. Kitchen will be open. For additional information contact the Lodge by calling (724) 695-1411 or e-mail Kevin Richards at [kevinrichards22@gmail.com](mailto:kevinrichards22@gmail.com).
- JAN. 21 .....Verbick Fraternal Memorial Bowling Tournament at Riviera Lanes, West Allis, Wis. Bowling begins at noon. For additional information contact Mary Donovan at (414) 817-0192 or e-mail [marydonovan@aol.com](mailto:marydonovan@aol.com).
- FEB. 12 .....Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87 jam session in the Horizon Room; 1-5 p.m. All musicians welcome. Kitchen will be open. For details contact Shirley Bailey at (724) 864-1606.
- JAN. 17-22 .....Youth Roundup at the SNPJ Recreation Center. Contact SNPJ Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or e-mail [krichards@sn timer .com](mailto:krichards@sn timer .com) for registration forms.
- JUNE 22-24 ..... SNPJ Young Adult Conference at the SNPJ Recreation Center. For registration details contact SNPJ Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or e-mail [krichards@sn timer .com](mailto:krichards@sn timer .com).
- JULY 13-15 ..... Slovenefest XXXI and the 56th Miss SNPJ Pageant at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For information phone the Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732.
- JULY 22-28 ..... First Family Week at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For information phone the Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732.
- JULY 29-AUG. 4. Second Family Week at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For more information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732.

# We've Got You COVERED

DENISE HERRON  
SNPJ Marketing Department



## Decision making

It's the SNPJ Marketing Department's responsibility to present our products to you in such a way that it makes you realize that they are desirable and necessary. It's our job to convince you that a life insurance policy or an annuity account is valuable to you and your family. Even though I believe in their value completely, it's not always an easy task to convince someone else.

Part of the reason for that difficulty is that there are a lot of other marketing departments out there vying for your attention. Before the holiday season, you were bombarded with sales pitches for one important thing after another. There were big-screen televisions, juicers, exercise machines, carpet cleaners and toys of every kind. They all seemed so necessary, it was hard to believe you had been able to live without them! If the marketers and advertisers did their jobs well, there were probably a few of these under your tree this year.

Chances are that when deciding what to spend your money on during this holiday season, most of you probably chose the big-screen television over the life insurance policy. Researchers have discovered that when asked to make a choice, the majority of people prefer immediate rewards and will postpone the things that they think are good for them. When asked to make an immediate response, the decision-making process is emotional and impulsive.

The second part of that study showed that if you are asked to decide now which object you will be buying three weeks down the road, you will choose the more intellectual option. When making a decision for a future purchase, the decision-making process is extremely rational and deliberate.

So I ask you, which would you like to purchase in January: a life insurance policy or an annuity? The Christmas rush is over and you have time now to give it some thought. In January, give SNPJ a call to discuss which plan would work best for you. You know right now that in the long run, the life insurance policy or annuity will be better for your family than that big-screen television. The pressures of Christmas caused your decision-making process to work totally in "immediate rewards" mode. We understand. We'll wait for your rational decision-making process to kick in, and we'll expect your call in January.

- **Thought for the Week** — Good decisions come from experience, and experience comes from bad decisions.

Unknown



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## Dec. 4 elections seat new powers in Slovenia

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Positive Slovenia, the party led by Ljubljana Mayor Zoran Jankovič, emerged as the surprise winner of Slovenia's early general election, held Dec. 4. The Positive Slovenia party won 28.8 percent of the vote, or 28 seats in the 90-member legislature. Voter turnout, recorded at 62.84 percent, was high for the election.

Jankovič attributed his party's success to a "focus on the platform and the team," saying that Positive Slovenia's victory was "evidence that Slovenia will move in the right direction."

The Democrats (SDS) party, led by former Prime Minister Janez Janša, secured just over 26 percent of the vote and 26 seats in parliament, while the Social Democrats (SD), led by the outgoing Prime Minister Borut Pahor, garnered 10.5 percent of the votes and 10 seats, which Pahor said was better than expected.

Representatives of three additional parties were elected to parliament: the Pensioners' Party (DeSUS) won 6.97 percent of the vote and six seats, the People's Party (SLS) won 6.83 percent of the vote and six seats, and New Slovenia (NSi) won 4.73 percent of the vote and four seats. The remaining two seats are reserved for representatives of the Italian and Hungarian minorities.

As a result of the election, three parties have been excluded from parliament: after 20 years in parliament, the LibDems (LDS) and National Party (SNS) failed to garner sufficient votes, while the Zares party will miss out on seating a representative after only one term in parliament.

## Record number of women elected to Parliament

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — With all the talk of the Dec. 4 election being a game-changer for Slovenia, one aspect of the election has been overshadowed even though it marks a profound shift in Slovenian politics: nearly a third of the seats in the new parliament will be occupied by women.

A total of 28 women have been elected to the 90-seat legislature according to unofficial results. To put this in perspective, only 12 women won legislative seats three years ago.

The result is partially a consequence of the phasing-in of a gender quota for candidates, which reached the final goal of 35 percent in this year's election, up from 30 percent three years ago. But there appears to be more behind the result, since the number of women elected to Slovenia's parliament had barely changed for 20 years prior to this election, hovering near 15 percent.

The Positive Slovenia party will contribute the bulk of women in parliament; 12 of its 28 legislators are women. Two smaller parties, the Citizens' List and New Slovenia (NSi) parties, will bring a 50/50 male/female ratio to parliament.

## Slovenia cooperating to fight drug trafficking

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — In mid-December, representatives of European countries active in the Pompidou Group signed a declaration in Ljubljana on cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking in Southeast Europe, which is a part of the so-called Balkan drug trade route.

Pompidou Group chairman Etienne Afaire told the press after the meeting that the countries within the Balkan drug trade route were exposed mainly to heroin and cocaine. "Although this is primarily a transit region, a certain quantity of drugs remains there," he added.

With this declaration, the participating countries have committed themselves to the exchange of best practices and to develop all mechanisms necessary for the fight against illegal drugs, according to Afaire.

Ivan Erzen, the director of Slovenia's Government Commission on Drugs who also took part in the meeting, noted that the number of injection-drug addicts in Slovenia was declining, while the number of marijuana, cocaine and synthetic drug consumers was rising. Erzen pointed to the low number of Slovenian injection-drug addicts who are HIV positive or infected with hepatitis B or C. While Estonia, Greece and Italy record a substantial number of HIV outbreaks among drug addicts, the figure in Slovenia is less than 1 percent.



Erzen also explained that the amount of funding earmarked by the Slovenian government for prevention of drug abuse remained at pre-crisis levels. The Health Insurance Institute spends \$6.5 million per year for abuse prevention and methadone substitution therapy.

The Pompidou Group, also known as the Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs, is an inter-governmental body formed in 1971 at the initiative of late French President Georges Pompidou.

## Lawyers offer pro bono services in mid-December

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Several hundred Slovenian lawyers offered their legal services to citizens free of charge on Dec. 19 to allow people with limited means access to legal advice. The day coincided with the founding of the National Bar Association in Ljubljana 144 years ago.

Miha Kozinc, the head of the Bar Association, told the press that the pro bono day was being organized because of the increasingly deteriorating financial situation Slovenian citizens find themselves in. "That's why we decided to set a date when pro bono legal assistance would be available to everyone. Whoever comes to a lawyer's office that day will receive free advice of their rights," Kozinc said.

A total of 600 lawyers who managed to find time to participate in the project took part in the campaign. The list of participating attorneys was published on the Bar Association's web site. Lawyers offered legal counsel to people either at their offices or over the phone with prior notice. Those with financial problems received priority treatment.

Kozinc said that before Slovenia gained independence in 1991, pro bono legal aid was available to citizens at all courts and at state attorney offices, even though the number of legal experts, judges and attorneys was significantly fewer than it is today.

## Police warn: ATM fraud on the rise in Slovenia

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — In early December, police across Slovenia warned citizens of the increase in bank card fraud cases as thieves from abroad were obtaining card data with special skimming devices attached to ATMs. The thieves read the magnetic data of the card and the PIN code typed into the ATM, using the information to make cash withdrawals abroad with duplicate cards.

The Ljubljana Police Administration, which handles the majority of such cases in Slovenia, told the press that total thefts by Dec. 7 amounted to around \$650,000. The cases follow a similar pattern: skimming devices are attached to ATMs by foreigners who come to the country with this sole purpose and then perform cash withdrawals abroad, sometimes only a few days later.

Ljubljana Police Chief Igor Ciperle said that in one case, a 21-year-old Bulgarian citizen was suspected of installing skimming devices across Ljubljana to collect bank card data used to make illegal cash withdrawals in Mozambique, stealing \$8,500 from card owners' accounts. In June, the police investigated a fraud case in which the theft amounted to \$42,000. In that case, the withdrawals were made in the Dominican Republic and the United States.

## New device will aid cancer treatments

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Slovenia's main cancer treatment institute launched a new linear accelerator for radiation treatments in early December. The device, which carries an estimated value of \$4 million, will allow 40 patients to be X-rayed each day, thus reducing important waiting periods.

During a Dec. 1 ceremony held at the Ljubljana Oncology Institute, outgoing Prime Minister Borut Pahor said the new device was not a donation from the government, but instead a present from the taxpayers, for whom the device is intended. He expressed his wish for everyone needing treatment to get well with the help of the hospital staff and

the new device.

Testing of the radiation unit, the eighth linear accelerator in operation at the Oncology Institute, began in October. By the time it operates at full capacity in early 2012, it will allow 40 patients to receive cancer treatments each day.

Radiology engineer Emir Kuduzovič said the new device delivered a much shorter and precise radiation treatment than was offered in classic radiation techniques. The new radiation treatment takes only 2 to 3 minutes, as opposed to more than 10 minutes for the classic techniques.

## Constitution anniversary marked with exhibit

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — An exhibition on the Slovenian Constitution opened at the National Assembly Dec. 13 to mark the 20th anniversary of the adoption of Slovenia's fundamental document, with Parliament Speaker Ljubo Germic praising the feat as "one that ensured Slovenia's political and legal stability."

The exhibition, which is arranged in two parts, highlights the main events in the drawing-up process, and displays all the editions of the document since 1991, including those in Italian and Hungarian, the languages of the national minorities in Slovenia. Special editions of the Slovenian Constitution, including editions in Braille, an audio edition, and a sign language edition for the deaf — as well as a comic-book edition for children — are also showcased.

The other portion of the exhibition presents the constitutions of all countries in the European Union.

Germic said that the adoption of the Constitution on Dec. 23, 1991, ensured the Slovenian nation's political and legal stability. "We set up the foundations for a democratic political system, protection of human rights, rule of law, and the framework for social and economic relations and local self-government," he said.

Ernest Petrič, the president of the Constitutional Court, stressed that residents should know the Constitution and the legal order, which he does not believe Slovenians know well enough.

## Slovenia showing off its Olympic Games medals

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Copies of medals won by Slovenian athletes in the Olympic Games since 1912 were put on display in Ljubljana in early December to mark the 20th anniversary of sports in the independent Slovenia.

The winner of the first "Slovenian" Olympic medal was Rudolf Cvetko, an officer in the Austrian army who won the silver in fencing at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics for the Austrian team.

At the most recent Olympic Games, held in Vancouver, Canada, in 2010, Slovenia won three medals: skier Tina Maze won two silvers, and cross-country runner Petra Majdic captured a bronze, bringing the total medal tally to 50.

The exhibition is a part of the celebration marking the 20th anniversary of the Slovenian Olympic Committee, which was founded with the signing of the Olympic Charter on Oct. 15, 1991. The medals will be displayed through Jan. 5, 2012, at the Crystal Palace, an office building in the BTC commercial district. Admission is free.

## Ljubljana aglow for the holiday season

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — On Dec. 3, Ljubljana mayor Zoran Jankovič switched on the Christmas lights lining the streets of Ljubljana during an activity that marked the start of the holiday season in the Slovenian capital. Like every year, December in Ljubljana features the traditional Christmas market on the banks of Ljubljana River.

A series of events leading up to New Year's Day included the St. Nicholas Fair and procession, Father Frost procession, street theater at Mesarski bridge, and concerts at Congress Square, Pogačar Square and Mestni Square.

The holiday season will culminate with New Year's Eve celebrations featuring performances by a number of popular bands in Congress Square, Mestni Square and Pogačarjev Square, and the French Revolution Square.

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## Med finalistami za access city award

**HEADLINE:** Among the finalists for the Access City Award

**TOPIC:** Out of a total of 114 cities from 23 EU nations, Slovenia's capital city of Ljubljana is among the eight finalists competing for the 2012 Access City Award. The cities are introducing examples of best practices which should serve as a model for other European cities. For that reason, the nomination is also an obligation for Ljubljana to continue with its plans to increase accessibility for the handicapped in the future. The European Committee launched this competition to promote the European strategy concerning disabilities in the 2010-2020 period.

Slovensko glavno mesto Ljubljana je bilo med 114 prijavljenimi mesti iz 23 držav EU sprejeto v finalni izbor

osmih, ki se potegujejo za nagrado za dostopnost za osebe z oviranostmi access city award 2012. Ljubljana se je na javni natečaj evropske komisije prijavila septembra, so sporočili iz mestne občine. V skupini osmih finalistov mesta predstavljajo primere dobre prakse, ki naj bi bila zgled drugim v Evropi. Zato je nominacija tudi zaveza, da v prihodnje nadaljujejo z ukrepi, namenjenimi povečevanju dostopnosti za vse vrste invalidov.

Evropska komisija je zasnova ta natečaj, da bi evropska mesta spodbudila k uresničevanju temeljnih ciljev evropske strategije o invalidnosti za obdobje 2010-2020. Želi nagraditi mesta z več kot 50.000 prebivalci, ki sestimatično načrtujejo in izboljšujejo dostopnost urbanega okolja za gibalno in senzorno ovirane prebivalce.

DELO

## Letos bodo izdelali rekordnih 550.000 parov obutve

**HEADLINE:** This year they will make a record 550,000 pairs of footwear

**TOPIC:** The Planika shoe factory in Turnišče isn't aware of the recession. For the second consecutive year they will make a record number of the most sought-after walking, mountain and specialty footwear.

Again this year, Meind, a German company, will purchase 95 percent of the footwear to sell as their own brand. Partners Benjamin Fugina and Martin Žilnik have been co-owners of the Slovenian company since 2005, when they purchased the bankrupt Planika production plant in Kranj.

The owners of the German company were well acquainted with the abilities of the Turnišče shoemakers because they had been dealing with the Planika factory – which organized production of the most demanding footwear products in the Turnišče plant – for numerous

years.

These days, Turnišče Planika, which employs 220 workers, is a universally qualified company that produces technologically-advanced walking and specialty footwear. And despite these difficult times, their product is in great demand on European markets.

V Turniški Planiki ne poznajo recesije. Že drugo leto zapored bodo izdelali rekordno število najzahtevnejše pohodniške, gorske in specilne obutve: lani 406.250 in letos 448.500 parov.

Tudi letos bo kar 95 odstotkov obutve kot lastno blagovno znamko kupilo nemško podjetje Meind, ki je skupaj s slovenskima podjetnikoma, Benjaminom Fugino in Martinom Žilnikom, enakovreden lastnik podjetja od leta 2005, ko so ga partnerji kupili kot proizvodnji obrat kranjske Planike v stečaju.

Lastniki nemškega podjetja so zelo dobro poznali sposobosti turniških čevljarjev, saj so vrsto let sodelovali z kran-

jsko Planiko, ki je imela najzahtevnejšo proizvodnjo obutve organizirano prav v turniškem obratu. Zato, skupaj s Fugino in Žilnikom, niso oklevali z nakupom turniške Planike. Zaposlili so tudi vse delavce, ki so ob stečaju kranjske Planike ostali brez dela. Danes je turniška Planika, ki zaposluje 220 delavcev, vsestransko usposobljeno podjetje za proizvodnjo tehnološko najzahtevnejše pohodne in druge specialne obutve, po kateri je kljub kriznim časom na evropskih trgih veliko povpraševanje.

Po besedah tehničnega direktorja Stanka Draškoviča se v podjetju ukvarjajo tudi z razvojem novih modelov obutve. Tako bodo še pred koncem leta začeli proizvodnjo ekološke obutve. Izdelovali jo bodo iz govejega usnja, katerega sledljivost bo zapisana na vsakem paru obutve, ki bo imel tudi svojo številko. Živali, iz katerih kože bodo izdelovali čevlje, bodo vzrejene na ekoloških kmetijah.

DELO

## S četrtim Portorožem največja slovenska flota doslej

**HEADLINE:** With the fourth Portorož, the largest Slovenian fleet to date

**TOPIC:** Splošna Plovba Portorož recently acquired a new ship, the Portorož (the fourth ship of this name), from the Chinese port Nantong along the Yangtze River.

The Slovenian shipowner is now managing 28 ships with a total capacity of 1,025,000 tons, which is Slovenia's largest fleet to date.

The new Portorož is 653 feet long and 105 feet wide, and it is among the three largest Slovenian ships. The purchase cost Splošna Plov-

ba close to \$26.5 million. Egon Bandelj, the president of Splošna Plovba, said that eight years ago they had 14 overseas ships with a total capacity of 430,000 tons.

V kitajskem pristanišču Nantong ob reki Jangce je Splošna plovba Portorož pred dnevi prevzela novo ladjo Portorož, četrto s tem imenom.

Slovenski ladjar zdaj upravlja 28 ladij, ki skupaj premorejo 1.025.000 ton nosilnosti, kar je največje ladjevje doslej. Ladjo je krstila Duška Žitko, svetovalka Pomorskega muzeja Piran, ki ji je zaželela vam plovbo po morskih prostranst-

vih in večje izogibanje čerem. Kobilico za ladjo so položili sredi decembra lani, splavili pa so jo 2. septembra letos.

Dolga je 190 in široka 32 metrov, njena nosilnost je 57.000 ton in spada med tri največje slovenske ladje. S 23-člansko posadko bo pod poveljstvom Miroslava Koželja iz Izole plula pod malteško zastavo. Splošno plovbo bo stala približno 26,5 milijona dolarjev.

Egon Bandelj, predsednik uprave Slošne plovbe, je dejal, da so imeli še pred dobrimi osmimi leti 14 čezoceanik in 430.000 nosilnosti: "Odkar predsedujem družbi, smo

kupili 19 novih ali mlajših rabljenih ladij. Samo dve sta še starejši - Slovenija in Piran (26 in 25 let). Starost našega ladjevja je zdaj močno pod povprečjem, značilnim za ladjevje za razsute tovore v svetu," je pojasnil prvi mož daleč najuspešnejše ladjarske družbe iz območja nekdanje Jugoslavije.

DELO

*Srečno, uspešno in zdravo novo leto 2012!*

## Očistimo svet 2012 – največja čistilna akcija

**HEADLINE:** Let's Clean the World 2012 – the largest cleaning event

**TOPIC:** Preparations for the largest volunteer environmental project in history, "Clean the World 2012," are already in progress. The idea for the project "Let's Do It!" originated in Estonia on May 3, 2008, when 50,000 volunteers removed 10,000 tons of rubbish from the natural environment in only five hours.

The preparations for this large global cleaning event are already underway in 59 countries and large cities, and again in Slovenia. The aim of this project is to clean up

illegal dumps in close to 100 countries worldwide. These one-day cleaning activities, "Clean the World 2012," will be held from March 24 through Sept. 25, 2012, around the world.

By some estimates, there are more than 100 million tons of waste in illegal dumps. Participants in this project, the largest cleaning and volunteer event ever announced, include all European countries, Russia, India, Indonesia, half of the African nations, and the United States, San Francisco in particular.

To date, 15 countries and altogether more than

2.4 million volunteers have followed Estonia's example. Last year, Slovenia's effort was by far the best among all participating countries: the "Let's Clean Slovenia" campaign attracted 270,000 volunteers, which is close to 13.5 percent of Slovenia's population. The Slovenian volunteers collected 10,000 tons of refuse in one day.

Priprave na največji okoljski prostovoljski projekt v zgodovini Očistimo svet 2012 že potekajo. Zamišljal je projekt Let's Do It! je nastala v Estoniji, kjer se je 3. maja 2008 organiziralo 50.000 prostovoljcev, ki so samo v petih urah naravno očistili 10.000 ton

odpadkov.

Na veliko globalno čistilno akcijo prihodnje leto se že pripravljajo v 59 državah in velikih mestih, spet tudi v Sloveniji. Cilji projekta so čiščenje nezakonito odloženih odpadkov v približno sto državah sveta in ozaveščanje ljudi. Enodnevne čistilne akcije Očistimo svet 2012 bodo organizirane od 24. marca do 25. septembra 2012, dejansko po vsem svetu. Po ocenah na nelegalnih smetiščih sveta leži več sto milijonov ton odpadkov. Sodelovanje v doslej največji čistilni in prostovoljski akciji so napovedale vse evropske države, vključno z Rusijo, pa tudi Indija, Indonezija, pol afriških držav in

ZDA oziroma San Francisco.

Do sedaj je po zgledu Estonije sledilo že 15 držav in skupno več kot 2,4 milijona prostovoljcev. Slovenija je bila od vseh sodelujočih držav po udeležbi daleč najboljša, saj je v akciji Očistimo Slovenijo! lani sodelovalo 270.000 ljudi, kar je približno 13,5 odstotka

prebivalcev.

Zbrali so 10.000 ton odpadkov, pomembneje pa je, da je sodelovalo zelo veliko ljudi, ki so pomagali pri nastajanju elektronskega zemljevida vseh slovenskih divjih smetišč. Ekologi brez meja so svoje izkušnje že prenesli v Srbijo.

DELO

## Ukrepi proti radonu niso zapleteni

**HEADLINE:** Orders against radon aren't complicated

**TOPIC:** The educational course "Radon in the Building" was recently held in Idrija, where participants learned more about the new procedures to lower high concentrations of radioactive radon gas. The course was introduced by Swiss experts from the Competitive Center for Radon.

Idrija Mayor Bojan Sever assured participants that they will perform all of the recommendations before spring, when the group of Swiss experts will return to Idrija. Idrija's problem stems from uranium buried in landfills and the resulting build-up of radon gas.

V Idriji so se na tečaju Radon v zgradbah seznanili z novimi ukrepi mitigacije oziroma zniževanja previsokih koncentracij radioaktivnega plina radona. Predstavili so jih strokovnjaki švicarskega kompetenčnega centra za radon, župan Bojan Sever pa je

zagotovil, da bodo predlagane ukrepe opravili najpozneje do pomladi, ko se bo skupina strokovnjakov iz Švice vrnila v Idrijo. Žgalniške ostanke pri pridobivanju živosrebrove rude, tako imenovane haldo, so namreč več stoletij nasipali po mestu za pridobivanje novih površin. Težava je prisotnost urana v haldi in posledični pojav radona. Koncentracije radioaktivnega plina so v preteklosti ponekod močno presegle mejne vrednosti, najbolj znan primer je bil nekdanji otroški vrtec. Švicarji so opozorili, da mitigacije večinoma ne zahteva veliko časa in ni draga, po strokovnih navodilih jih lahko lastniki objektov opravijo sami. Je zelo preprosta in temelji na praktičnem testiranju.

DELO

**POMARANČE** - "Prtožila bi se v zvezi s pomarančami, ki sem jih kupila pri vas včeraj. Zelo težko se lupijo." - "Draga gospa, če vam za en evro prodam pet pomaranč, ne morete pričakovati, da bodo imele zdrago!"

## Mirovniški festival generalka pred EPK

**HEADLINE:** Peace Festival a dress rehearsal before EPK

**TOPIC:** Numerous arrangements intended to spur a "peace culture" were recently held in Slovenj Gradec on United Nations Days. At the same time, the Peace Festival was also a trial before the European Cultural Capital City (EPK) 2012.

According to Slovenj Gradec mayor Matjaž Zanoškar, the 13th festival was an opportunity for the city to start preparing for EPK 2012. "The Culture of Peace is also strongly included in our EPK program. With this year's festival we finalized and designed the events, and next year we will include partnership

cities from Japan and from Cyprus."

This year's Peace Festival was titled "Here and Now," and encouraged young people to think about what they could do to provide for a better future for themselves and for society. Workshops were arranged in the city to stimulate the participants to think about world events. A Tree of Peace was planted in the vicinity of the youth hostel; children completed the longest painting in Slovenia, which measured close to 100 feet; and pigeons of peace and balloons with attached wishes were released.

Ob dnevu Organizacije združenih narodov (OZN) so v Slovenj Gradcu pripravili glasnik miru ZN številne

prireditve, namenjene spodbujanju mirovniške kulture. Hkrati pa je bil mirovniški festival tudi preizkus pred Evropsko prestolnico kulture (EPK) 2012.

Trinajsti festival je bil po besedah župana Mestne občine Slovenj Gradca Matjaža Zanoškarja priložnost, da se mesto začne pripravljati za EPK 2012: "Kultura miru je močno vpeti tudi v naš program za EPK. Stokratni festivalom smo ga tudi dokončno oblikovali, prihodnje leto pa bomo vključili še partnerska mesta iz Japonske in s Cipra."

Mirovniški festival se je začel tokrat pod geslom Tukaj in zdaj! Tako bi radi spodbudili mlade, da bi premislili, kaj lahko naredijo za boljše prihodnost zase in za družbo. V

mestu so pripravili delavnice, ki so udeležence spodbudile k razmišljanju o dogajanju v svetu. V bližini novega mladinskega centra so posadili drevo miru, otroci pasonaricali najdaljšo risbo v Sloveniji, ki je merila več kot 30 metrov, v zrak so poleteli golobi miru in želje, pripete na balone. V Koroški galeriji likovnih umetnosti pa so odprli razstavo ter razglasili nagrajence tradicionalnega natečaja za otroške risbe, fotografije in literarnih del, ki se ga je letos udeležilo 78 šol.

DELO

**TEŽJA LITERATURA** - Policista si v knjigarni kupujeta knjigo. "Kaj pa želita? vpraša prodajalka. "Kaj lažjega?" - "Lahko je tudi kaj težjega, saj sva prišla z avtom."

## Dr. Andrej Kobal – svetovni popotnik s slovensko dušo

**HEADLINE:** Dr. Andrej Kobal – world traveler with a Slovenian soul

**TOPIC:** The National and University Library in Ljubljana has arranged an exhibit titled "The World Traveler Is Relating, Dr. Andrej Kobal (1899-1988)," which will be open until Jan. 7, 2012.

Who was Andrej Kobal? Without a doubt, he achieved as much in his lifetime as anyone else would achieve in three or four lifetimes. A four-time doctor of science from Cerklje, as a 17-year-old he experienced the bloody battles of World War I. He later moved to Ljubljana where he successfully completed the school of commerce. In 1921 he emigrated to the United States.

In Chicago, where the Slovene National Benefit Society was headquartered, Andrej Kobal was an assistant *PROSVETA* editor until

1927, and from 1926 to 1929 he was also an editor for the *Mladinski list* and *Svoboda* publications.

Since he had a strong desire for knowledge, he became, as he called himself, "an impractical, perpetual student," and in the years before WWII he attained four doctorate degrees: in political science, history, civil law and psychology. His varied knowledge made it possible for him to perform numerous government tasks.

In 1942 he accepted a position at the Pentagon, and in 1947 he started to work for the CIA, division for the Balkans. As a government advisor, he spent two years in Japan, Formosa and Korea. After he returned to the United States, he lectured at Stanford University, and at universities in New York and Washington.

As an active member of Slo-

venian associations, he wrote 12 theater plays.

5. decembra 2011 so v Narodni in univerzitetni knjižnici (NUK) v Ljubljani odprli razstavo z naslovom Svetovni popotnik pripoveduje, dr. Andrej Kobal (1899-1988), ki bo odprta do 7. januarja, 2012.

Kdo je bil Andrej Kobal? Brez težav bi lahko rekli, da je bil človek več življenj. V enem samem je naredil in dosegel toliko, kot bi marsikomu uspelo v treh ali štirih. Štirikratni doktor znanosti doma iz Cerklje, je kot sedemnajstleten doživel in preživel krvave bitke prve svetovne vojne, raznašal pošto po domačih hribih in nato zaradi groženj z italijanskim zaporom pobegnil v Ljubljano. Tam je uspešno dokončal trgovsko šolo in se zaposlil v Slovenj Gradcu, že leta 1921 pa emigriral v ZDA.

V Chicagu, kjer je imela sedež Slovenska narodna podpora, je imela

(SNPJ), je bil do leta 1927 pomožni urednik njenega glasila *PROSVETA*, v letih 1926 do 1929 je urejal tudi Prosvetni *Mladinski list* in tri leta glasilo *Svoboda*. Kljub mladosti je imel bogate osebne izkušnje. Iz njih, ter zgodb, ki jih je srečal na svoji poti, je črpal snov za prenekatero pripovedi in jih je objavljajl v različnih slovenskih listih v Ameriki. Zaradi silne želje po znanju je postal, kakor sam sebe imenuje "nepraktičen večni študent" in v letih do druge svetovne vojne dosegel kar štiri doktorate iz političnih ved, zgodovine, javnega prava in psihologije. Vsa pridobljena znanja so mu omogočila, da je opravljal številne občutljive vladne zadolžitve, in zanje napisal strokovna mnenja. V času, ko je poučeval na Policijski akademiji v New Yorku, je uvelodil sposobnostne teste, ki so jih začeli krmalu uporabljati po vseh ZDA in so v rabi še danes. Leta 1942 je sprejel potrdbo

Pentagona na oddelku za psihološko bojevanje. V Kairu je vodil usposabljanje obveščevalnih trojk, ki so jih pošiljali na določene strateške točke. Na tem mestu je preprečil ameriško bombardiranje Ljubljane in Zagreba. Leta 1947 je sprejel delo v CIA - oddelku za Balkan. Kot svetovalec vlade je dve leti in pol preživel na Japonskem, na Formozi in Koreji. Po vrnitvi v ZDA je predaval na univerzi v New Yorku, Washingtonu in na Stanfordu. Napisal je vrsto del, ki pa so zaradi občutljivosti tematike namenjena izključno rabi vladnih organov ZDA. Kot aktiven član slovenskih društev je napisal dvanajst gledaliških iger, v zrelih letih pa avtobiografsko pripoved v dveh delih, Svetovni popotnik pripoveduje (GMD 1975, 1976) in Slovenec v službi F.B.I. in druge zgodbe ameriških službovancev (GMD 1981).

Helena Janežič

# Slavija Lodge 1 ready to tackle the new year

by EDWARD HRIBAR  
Lodge 1 President

**CHICAGO** — The members of Slavija Lodge 1 determined their 2012 meeting dates at their 2011 annual meeting. The 2012 meetings will be held the first Thursday of March, June and September. The December meeting will be held the first Sunday in December. Our meeting site remains the Czech Plaza Restaurant, 7016 W. Cermak Road in Berwyn, Ill. The 2011 annual meeting was well at-

tended and the weather cooperated. It was a pleasant day filled with important decision making, including the election of 2012 officers. Elected to carry on the promotion and leadership of Lodge 1 were President Edward R. Hribar, Vice President Conrad Novak, Secretary/Treasurer Janina Hribar, Recording Secretary Marion Kieras, Sergeant-at-Arms MaryAnn Murray, and auditors Marion Kieras, Emma Cleveland and Marlene O'Connell. During the meeting, Slavija Lodge

members approved donations to the SNPJ Scholarship Fund, the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association and the Cancer Society. Following the meeting we enjoyed a Christmas party with members and friends. Get well wishes are extended to Sisters Helen Simon and Bertha Vleck.

Slavija Lodge 1 would like to take this opportunity to bid everyone a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2012. *Srečno novo leto!*



KAY NOWJACK and PAULINE BUŽAN spent some holiday time with fellow Lodge 786 members.

## Holiday excitement for Orange Coast Lodge 786

MERRY ORANGE COAST  
FROM PAGE 1

English and Slovenian. Fred Mlakar took over to accompany all the youngsters as they sang traditional Christmas carols.

It wasn't long before Santa heard the call and came trooping. The huge sack slung over his shoulder was, of course, filled with toys for all the good girls and boys. Marcia Leathers acted as the helper elf, along with Youth Circle Director Teresa Koci. The 12 children ages 2 to 14 were all smiles (except for 2-year-old Katja).

Santa posed his usual question, something about being good. Of course they were all good, and Santa knew it! We are thankful that Santa has been coming to our party for at least 10 years now, as we know he is very busy. Thank you very much, dear Santa!

Everyone was hungry by this time, even though appetizers and beverages were available during the early part of the afternoon. Now the "real" food came out: beef brisket, ham and sausage along with Rosemary's roasted potatoes, many side dishes and salads, and of course, the desserts! Except for the meat and rolls, everything else was potluck. Thanks to all who outdid themselves and brought such delicious foods for our table (and our stomachs).

Another huge thank you goes out to all who came early to help decorate the tables, and set up the bar and serving tables. Thanks especially to Rosemary who made sure everything in the kitchen was tended to: warming the foods, refrigerating when needed, and washing the many serving dishes, pots and pans.

Chuck has been my meat-slicing guy for many years now, and he always works with a smile. He continues until everything is put away and every counter is cleared and washed. Many others helped unload the car and load it up again at the end.

There must have been at least 15 of you who took part in some way for the cause. We appreciate all of you.

I know the children and their parents were pleased that Teresa Koci planned a craft for them that they could take home. They each made a snowman ornament for their tree. They also had a chance to do some drawings for *The Voice of Youth* while the meeting was going on.

We thank Ellie for giving her report on the TEL Workshop that took place in August. Her report was an incentive for the younger ones to take part in this event in the future.

We were happy that Pauline Bužan's son, Boris, was able to bring her to the party. She had been in the hospital and a nursing home for more than a month, but is now back home where family members or a caregiver stay with her. She seemed very happy to see her many friends.

Kay Nowjack was also able to attend after her wrist surgery, thanks to Dorothy Jerneycic. Dorothy so kindly drives Kay around whenever she possibly can.

Door prizes, SNPJ gifts and calendars, and applause from the "Koci Kitchen" made certain that everyone in attendance had something to take home. But most of all, the smiles, hugs and good wishes made the day a complete success. Thanks to all!

On Nov. 30, Julie Nagode and I dropped off about 250 books at the Orangewood Children's Home. These books were donated by our members and friends, as well as teachers from Diamond Elementary School where Julie teaches. This was our charitable cause for the year. Although it was a bit late for Make a Difference Day, any day is a good day to make a difference and make a child smile. Thank you, Julie, for suggesting this project. And thank you, members, for taking part in the donation.

We hope it was a very merry Christmas for all!



Slavija Lodge 1 officers are preparing for a busy calendar of events in 2012.

## News from Here & There

by GRACE DOERK  
Lodge 559

**CHICAGO** — We had our first snowfall, just a little, but enough to call it snow. Everyone anticipates snow for Christmas, but then who cares if it snows after that?

I've found that attending Christmas parties can really be hectic when you have two or more in one day, and then every day of the week. I've decided to attend fewer scheduled parties since there is so much to do in preparation for Christmas. I hope you will take heed and so you too can enjoy Christmas to the fullest.

I belong to many clubs, and each plans a holiday party. The women's club in Joliet, Ill., held their luncheon at the Jacob Mansion. What a place! This was one of the nicest mansions I've ever seen. Another pensioners group in Joliet, subsidized by politicians, held their holiday party with about 300 in attendance. All the politicians were there to garner support in the election.

Following our Dec. 9 meeting, Pioneer Lodge 559 members held a grab bag exchange and enjoyed a delicious meal and specially decorated cake. We were so happy to see that Conrad Ladstatter has been able to attend the last few meetings.

All officers attended the meeting with the exception of Lucille Goste. Minutes were read and a complete financial report was presented. A letter was read from SNPJ National Secretary Karen Pintar concerning rules of electing officers for 2012 and other formalities to be followed. All forms must be completed by March 1, 2012. A letter was also read from National President Joe Evanish regarding the Scholarship Fund. Our Lodge will continue our donations.

Tribute was paid to Adeline Tracongo who passed away recently. We heard a report from Otto Doerk regarding the Chicago Federation youth Christmas party. Tina Rigler is to be commended for doing

such a great job with this party each year.

Frank Sternisha was recognized as a 50-year member, and Charles Junes as a 60-year member. Our 2011 officers were re-elected for 2012, with the change of one auditor. We also elected delegates to the Chicago Federation, and approved one minor change to the Lodge bylaws.

We thank Anita Vitous and her father, Conrad Ladstatter, for donating five prizes that were drawn off at the close of the meeting. We had a nice time enjoying each other's company.

My favorite holiday gathering is our SNPJ Perfect Circle 26 annual reunion held at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant. It breaks my heart to see some of my dearest friends suffering with health problems. During these gatherings, we always talk about activities the Circle hosted under the direction Ann Sannemann, who is no longer with us. At that time, Michael Vrhovnik was the SNPJ Fraternal Director.

Many of our Youth Circle friends have left us, but hopefully we will all continue to meet each year. Believe me when I say those Circle years were the best; they really were. My very best wishes to all of my Circle friends reading this. We touched upon anyone and everyone who was a Perfect Circle 26 member.

On Dec. 11, I had two holiday parties to attend, but family always comes first, so we attended the graduation of Laura Wysopal (559) who received her degree from Northern Illinois University. I was surprised at the number of mid-term graduates. Laura, you have been determined and successful in achieving your goal, and we wish you nothing but the very best.

Amy Polis (559) graduated from Illinois State in Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 17. Congratulations, Amy, and much success in obtaining your masters degree.

As I've mentioned before there are 10 homes on our cul de sac, and six are for sale. We have houses for sale on either side of ours. We were sorry to hear that one of our neighbors who moved to Florida passed away this past week.

This coming year will be a busy year for our family as our grandson, Joe Wysopal

(559), will be getting married to Mary Donoghue sometime in the fall. It's fun just hearing about all of their wedding plans. Our family is very excited.

Besides all of our doctor appointments, we're now looking forward to another week of holiday parties. It's either feast or famine. Congressman Tom Cross held a very festive Christmas celebration to thank everyone for their support. It's been a great pleasure for me to serve on his senior advisory committee.

It was so nice to see everyone at our recent SNPJ retirees' party. As usual, we update one another about family happenings. We hear that Chuck O'Connell (1) will have knee replacement surgery Jan. 3. Good luck, Chuck. We wish you a speedy recovery. Our next gathering will be held Feb. 14, Valentine's Day.

The Slovenian Pensioners' Club held a wonderful party Dec. 14. We were sorry to hear that club president Emil Golub was hospitalized unable to attend. We hope that he is soon feeling better to enjoy the holiday. Pensioners' Club members will meet Jan. 11 to elect officers for the coming year. We welcome all seniors to join our group.

Otto and I still attend Sokol activities. Otto was an active member of this organization for many, many years. The Sokol club hosted a recent potluck supper, and as usual there was a great variety of food and far too much to eat. You wonder why you gain weight during the holidays? I guess it's all part of season. Mixed in with the holiday parties was a surprise 80th birthday party for one of Otto's Sokol buddies.

It's been a joy to receive many Christmas cards and numerous letters informing us of what's been happening in our friends' lives. I love it! We were sorry to hear that Bill and Judy Dedic's granddaughter, Abby, just finished eight weeks of treatment for a rare form of cancer. We wish Abby a complete recovery.

Well, we've come to the end of another year. Where did the time go? Here's wishing each and every one of you a happy and healthy New Year. Until next year, best wishes to everyone...

# PROSVETA Crossword

Holiday Traditions (#2611) by StatePoint Media

### ACROSS

1. Movie "Flowers in the \_\_\_\_\_"
6. \_\_\_\_\_ down, as in time
9. Follows "flip"
13. "Little House on the Prairie" character
14. University of Rhode Island
15. Queen's headdress
16. Sacrificial spot
17. Tasseled hat
18. Court order, e.g.
19. Stop serving
21. \*It has 7 or 9 branches
23. Giant thrower
24. Used in floats
25. Pacquiao's punch, e.g.
28. Talk like a drunk
30. School of hard \_\_\_\_\_
35. Paleozoic and Mesozoic, e.g.
37. \*Coniferous tradition
39. Trinity or triad
40. www.google.com, e.g.
41. Keep yours to yourself!
43. Tel \_\_\_\_\_, Israel
44. Lighted helper
46. Toy building block
47. \*It's wonderful in Bedford Falls
48. It \_\_\_\_\_ like such a good idea...
50. \*Red on a Christmas poinsettia
52. Short for Leonard
53. Partiality

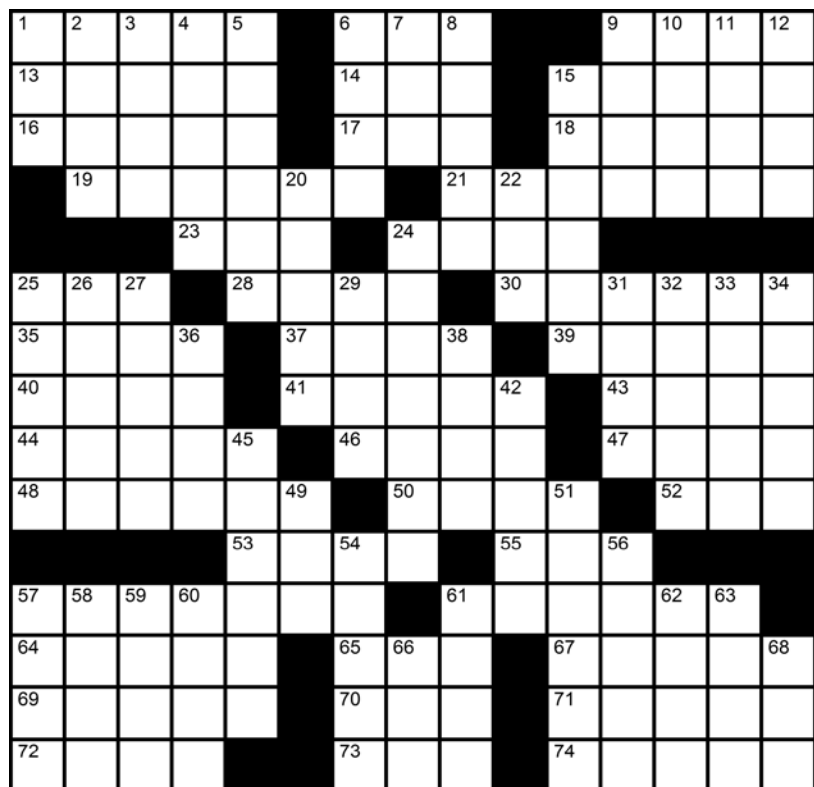
55. Aaron Rodgers, as \_\_\_\_\_ opposed to Andrew Luck
57. \*Tiny Tim creator
61. Eyesight abnormality
64. Perfect
65. Mauna \_\_\_\_\_, Hawaii
67. Rigs
69. "She \_\_\_\_\_ sea shells..."
70. It's on your face?
71. Pro move
72. "\_\_\_\_\_ and hearty"
73. Misery
74. Mandarin's headquarters

### DOWN

1. Pie \_\_\_\_\_ mode
2. Bath powder
3. \*\*\*"The Nutcracker" outfit
4. Angry
5. \*\*"White Christmas" and "Silent Night," e.g.
6. Magic dragon
7. \*\*\*...I heard him exclaim, '\_\_\_\_\_ he drove out of sight...'
8. Whatchamacallit
9. Dog name
10. Batman's cave, e.g.
11. Black and white killer
12. Beaten by walkers
15. Dweller without mortgage
20. Pigsty contents

22. Member of the Benevolent Order
24. Scallops
25. \*Central to nativity scene
26. \_\_\_\_\_ from the ashes
27. Cleanse
29. Europe/Asia mountain divide
31. Type of test
32. Law, but not criminal
33. Chef Ramsay's tool
34. \*Number of Kwanzaa days
36. Give certain impression
38. Competitive advantage
42. Like water with detergent
45. Guerillas
49. Loud noise
51. \*He'll be back again some day
54. Lopsided
56. Verdi's opus
57. \*Christmas goose, e.g.
58. Worth a million dollars?
59. Jailbird's home
60. Curly-leafed cabbage
61. Magician, in the olden days
62. Allah's cleric
63. \_\_\_\_\_-de-camp
66. Big head
68. Precedes senator

The solution to puzzle #2611 will run in the Jan. 11, 2012, issue.



PRESENTED BY



SNPJ fraternal sympathies

**Sis. MARY MAVRICH**  
• LODGE 138 •

**STRABANE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 138 sadly announce the Nov. 17, 2011, passing of Sis. Mary "Mitzie" Mavrich, 87, of Canonsburg, Pa., in her home.

Sis. Mavrich was born March 16, 1924, in Washington, Pa., a daughter of the late Anthony and Sophie Dukovich Skariot. She lived most of her adult life in Strabane, where she was a homemaker.

Mitzie was an avid bowler who bowled with the Strabane SNPJ Tuesday Night and Sunday Women's leagues, and she enjoyed gardening, cooking and Sunday family dinners.

She was a member of St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church in Canonsburg, a 56-year member of Strabane Lodge 138 and a 69-year member of the Croa-

tian Fraternal Union lodge in Cokeburg, Pa.

On April 11, 1953, she married Anthony R. "Titch" Mavrich. He preceded her in death July 26, 2002.

Sis. Mavrich is survived by two sons, Dennis (Ellen) Mavrich of McMurray, Pa., and Frank A. (Amy) Mavrich of Canonsburg; four granddaughters, Katie (James) Green, and Emily, Catherine and Angela Mavrich; two sisters, Jennie (Walter) Sibert of Alta Loma, Calif., and Mildred (Edwin) Chesnic of Canonsburg; a brother, John Skariot of Washington; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by four brothers, Frank, Steve, Joseph and Thomas Skariot; and a sister, Helen Kaskie.

A blessing service for Sis. Mavrich was celebrated Nov. 21 in Salandra Funeral Service,

Inc., Canonsburg, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church. Interment followed in Forest Lawn Gardens, McMurray.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Sis. Mavrich's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**BRO. VALLIE F. ROZANCE**  
• LODGE 138 •

**STRABANE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report a second loss with the Nov. 18, 2011, passing of Bro. Vallie Frank Rozance, 91, of Canonsburg, Pa., in his home.

Bro. Rozance was born May 2, 1920, in White Valley, Pa., a son of the late Anton and Josephine Luzer Rozance. He lived most of his life in Canonsburg and was formerly employed as a coal miner.

In addition to 66 years of membership with SNPJ Lodge 138, he also belonged to the Russian Brotherhood Organization where he had served as president for more than 20 years.

On May 29, 1939, he married the former Elizabeth Popka, who died Jan. 19, 2007.

Bro. Rozance is survived by a daughter, Josie (Robert) Nill of South Park, Pa.; two sons, Vallie "Butch" (Linda) Rozanc of Canonsburg and Ronald (Marlene) Rozanc of Albuquerque, N.M.; 10 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews. Deceased are four brothers, Harry, John, Tony and William Rozanc; and a sister, Irene Christoff. He was the last of his immediate family.

Services for Bro. Rozance were celebrated Nov. 22 in Salandra Funeral Service, Inc., Canonsburg. Interment followed in Forest Lawn Gardens, McMurray, Pa.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene

National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Bro. Rozance's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**Sis. JACQUELINE KOPACH**  
• LODGE 6 •

**SYGAN, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 6 sadly announce the Nov. 24, 2011, passing of Sis. Jacqueline Drobne Kopach, 70, of Upper St. Clair, Pa., and Palm Beach, Fla.

Sis. Kopach was the only child of the late Jacob and Antonia Drobne; beloved wife of Gerald Kopach for 49 years; loving mother of Gerald (Anne) Kopach Jr. of Upper St. Clair, and Karen (Ed) Cirra and Kevin (Jennifer) Kopach, both of South Fayette Township, Pa; and cherished grandmother of six.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 28 in St. Louise de Marillac Church, Upper St. Clair.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 6 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Sis. Kopach's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**BRO. RICHARD CHAPPEL JR.**  
• LODGE 6 •

**SYGAN, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 6 sadly report a second loss with the Nov. 24, 2011, passing of Bro. Richard H. Chappel Jr., 84, of Cecil, Pa., in his home.

Bro. Chappel was born April 17, 1927, in Sygan Hollow, a son of the late Richard Sr. and Kathryn Durbin Chappel. He served as a seaman 1st class in the U.S. Navy during World War II and worked as a steel inspector for Universal-Cyclops, Bridgeville, Pa.

He was a member of Lodge 6 and enjoyed golfing, playing the lottery and talking politics.

Bro. Chappel is survived by his wife, Helen Chappel of Cecil; two sons, Donald (Judy) Chappel of Waynesburg, Pa.,

and Robert Chappel of Naples, Fla.; three grandchildren; and three brothers, Paul (Earline) Chappel of Bridgeville, Howard (Gladys) Chappel of Upper St. Clair, Pa., and Donald (Lena) Chappel of Weirton, W.Va. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by five brothers, George, James, Raymond, Harry and Hayes Chappel; and a sister, Nell Ludlam.

Services for Bro. Chappel were celebrated Nov. 30 at National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Cecil, with the Rev. Stan Gregorek officiating.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 6 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Bro. Chappel's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**Sis. LOUISE GOODISH**  
• LODGE 87 •

**HERMINIE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 87 sadly announce the Nov. 25, 2011, passing of Sis. Louise Goodish, 86, of Carmichaels, Pa., in Ashbury Heights Nursing Home, Mt. Lebanon, Pa.

Sis. Goodish was born Aug. 19, 1925, a daughter of the late John and Mary Kirk Skoda. She was a graduate of Mapletown High School and resided near Greensboro, Pa., for many years.

In addition to 68 years of SNPJ membership, Louise also belonged to the Mapletown High School Band Boosters, the Carmichaels Women's Civic Club and Grange 1389. She also attended St. Hugh Roman Catholic Church in Carmichaels.

Survivors include a daughter, Carolyn (Brice) Hartley of Carmichaels; a son, John H. (Kitty) Goodish of New Florence, Pa.; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, John Goodish Jr., in 2006.

A prayer service for Sis. Goodish was celebrated Nov.

28 at Paul M. Lesako Funeral Home, Inc., Carmichaels, followed by Mass in St. Hugh Church with the Rev. John Bauer as celebrant. Interment was held in Greene County Memorial Park, Morgan Township, Pa.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 87 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Sis. Goodish's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**BRO. RICHARD A. LISE**  
• LODGE 721 •

**ALIQUIPPA, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 721 sadly announce the Dec. 6, 2011, passing of Bro. Richard A. Lise, 63, of Crescent, Pa., in Heritage Valley, Sewickley, Pa.

Bro. Lise was born Nov. 29, 1948, in Rochester, Pa., a son of Helen (Hribar) Lise of South Heights and the late William R. Lise. He was employed by Courtyard Marriott in Moon Twp., Pa., at the time of his passing, and was a member of SNPJ Lodge 721 and the Celtic Reds Athletic Club, both of Aliquippa. He was a U.S. Army veteran, having served during the Vietnam War.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Catherine (Louvra) Lise; a son, Andrew (Clare) Lise of Green Tree, Pa.; a daughter, Stephanie Lise of Moon Twp.; a stepdaughter, LuAnne Seech of Crescent, Pa.; two grandchildren, Ty and Tate Hartman; a brother, William Jr. (Diane) Lise of Hopewell Twp., Pa.; a sister, Bonnie (Dale) Weber of Sewickley, Pa.; and several nieces and nephews.

Services for Bro. Lise were private, under the direction of Tatalovich Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., Aliquippa.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 721 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Bro. Lise's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

# Slovenian Nat'l. Homes Fed elects new officers

by EDWARD GABROSEK (626) Slovenian Nat'l. Homes Fed.

**CLEVELAND** — The Federation of Slovenian National Homes has elected officers for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Officers include President Stephen Zalar, First Vice President Jerri Hopkins, Second Vice President Tony Mannion, Financial Secretary Lou Grzely, Recording Secretary Karen O'Donnell, and Executive Sec-

retary Patricia Ipavec Clarke. The auditors are Anna Mae Mannion, Larry Hocevar and Al Zdolshek; our legal advisor is Charles Ipavec; and our historian is Edward Gabrosek.

The Federation of Slovenian National Homes was organized in 1960 to assist in the enhancement and preservation of the future of the Slovenian Homes in the Greater Cleveland area.

**information at your fingertips**

Looking for information on your SNPJ life insurance and annuity policies? Log on to [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org) and follow the step-by-step instructions.

## 2012 SNPJ Winter Classic Bowling Tournament February 17-19, 2012

co-sponsored by SNPJ Lodge 6 and SNPJ Lodge 138 and SNPJ Athletic Districts 1 and 2

**MEN**

**Doubles & Singles Events**  
at Strabane Lodge 138  
269 Latimer Ave.  
Strabane, PA 15363  
Club: (724) 745-9860  
Lanes: (724) 745-9775

- Friday, Feb. 17, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 18, 9 a.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 18, 1 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 18, 5 p.m.

**WOMEN**

**Doubles & Singles Events**  
at Sygan Lodge 6  
540 Third Ave.  
Bridgeville, PA 15017  
Phone: (412) 221-9862

- Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.

**WOMEN**

**Team Event**

at Strabane Lodge 138  
269 Latimer Ave.  
Strabane, PA 15363  
Club: (724) 745-9860  
Lanes: (724) 745-9775

- Sunday, Feb. 19, 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 19, 12:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 19, 3:30 p.m.

**MEN**

**Team Event**

at Sygan Lodge 6  
540 Third Ave.  
Bridgeville, PA 15017  
Phone: (412) 221-9862

- Sunday, Feb. 19, 9 a.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 19, Noon
- Sunday, Feb. 19, 3 p.m.

	Doubles & Singles Entry fee \$30 per person Friday/Saturday Only	Lodge No.	Highest Average 2010-11	All-Events \$5 per person YES/NO
1.				
2.				
1.				
2.				

Submit bowlers' names by position in lineup

	Four Person Team Event Entry fee \$60 per team Sunday Only	Lodge No.	Highest Average 2010-11
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Team name \_\_\_\_\_  
Team captain's name, phone number & e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

The entry fee in each event is \$15 per bowler, \$9.00 of which shall be used for prizes and \$6.00 for bowling. An extra \$5 is charged to all who desire to compete for handicap all-events prizes. The Slovene National Benefit Society adds \$6 per member to each prize fund except all-events.

Return form, along with fees of \$15 per person, per event, to:  
John Wagner  
1435 Paxton Farm Rd., Washington, PA 15301  
Phone: (724) 746-5074

**Make checks payable to SNPJ Lodge 138**  
**ENTRY DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27, 2012**

The Home Office will verify all memberships. Complete tournament rules are available by contacting the SNPJ Fraternal Department, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126. Rules are also available online at [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org).

## DEATHS REPORTED

For the weeks of Nov. 1-15, 2011


LODGE	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY/STATE
2	William J. Zoran	08-16-08	Ottawa, Ill.
5	Stanley Zamlen	05-21-11	Dallas, Texas
6	Adeline E. Pratt	10-29-11	New Bern, N.C.
8	Julia Kasher	11-20-10	Joliet, Ill.
53	Rose Milosovich	10-08-11	Seven Hills, Ohio
87	Bruno Palinski	10-10-11	Wendel, Pa.
87	Evelyn R. Dedo	10-16-11	Herminie, Pa.
87	Julianne M. Manuella	10-16-07	Middle Island, N.Y.
107	Mollie Rami	10-16-11	Lisle, Ill.
142	Frank V. Klemenc	09-21-11	Willoughby, Ohio
153	Adolph Flowers Jr.	10-23-11	Youngstown, Ohio
174	Lee A. Lamosek	10-10-11	Greensburg, Pa.
190	Margaret Belfiglio	10-17-11	Reading, Pa.
207	Stanley H. Preskar	05-15-11	Anaconda, Mont.
225	Albert Pike	09-27-11	Girard, Kan.
225	Lucy J. Gorence	10-07-11	Arma, Kan.
564	Rose Hribar	10-03-11	Clinton Twp., Mich.
576	Josephine R. Kapla	10-18-11	Orange Village, Ohio
584	Frances J. Riedl	07-18-11	Muskego, Wis.
629	Joseph Barbish	10-22-11	Pittsburgh, Pa.
677	Mae Dickinson	09-15-11	Charlotte, N.C.
723	Nancy Tomsick	08-04-11	Paramount, Calif.
776	Clara Simonsic	09-24-11	Tucson, Ariz.
776	Eugene W. Gibbs	10-31-11	Polk, Pa.
782	Patricia Reiser	09-29-11	Pittsburgh, Pa.

**KAREN A. PINTAR**  
National Secretary

In loving memory of  
**Lou "BLP" Progar**

Who passed away seven years ago on Nov. 28, 2004

Sadly missed by mother Dolly, brother Mike, Frank and Amy Mavrich and all of his friends and family.



## SNPJ Crossword

HOLIDAY MOVIES (#2511) solution

S	P	A	S	M	A	B	C	C	O	D
P	A	R	T	I	L	A	H	C	A	P
A	R	I	A	S	E	D	O	A	P	A
R	A	L	P	H	I	E	R	U	D	O
		H	A	L		H	E	L	D	
W	E	U		P	E	S	O	T	I	P
H	U	N	K		U	M	B	O	E	L
I	R	A	N		M	O	N	D	O	E
T	O	P	E	R		G	O	O	S	A
E	S	T	E	E		B	R	I	G	E
		D	I	B	S	E	R	E		
M	I	R	A	C	L	E		P	R	I
U	V	U	L	A		L	E	E		N
G	A	L	O	P		I	L	L		C
		N	E	E		E	F	T		H

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**DONNA MICHELBRINK BAUCHER**

December 16, 2010

We all miss you, Meema.

Stan • Little Stan • Tina Sheryl • Stephen • Carey & all eight grandchildren



WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU

In Memory

Cvitkovic & Sever Families  
Grandson - Jonathon Sever

Vange & Joe Sever

