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briefly

Lodge 778 plans to fill treasurer's office May 10

SPRING HILL, Fla. — Lodge 778 announces that the nominations and election for the office of treasurer will be held Sunday, May 10, beginning at 1 p.m. All Lodge members are encouraged to attend this special meeting.

BEN DRONGOSKY
 Lodge 778 President

Loyalites cancel May meeting, plan for June

EUCLID, Ohio — The Loyalites' May Lodge meeting has been canceled due to a scheduling conflict. The officers will meet sometime in May on a date that has yet to be determined. The next Loyalites Lodge meeting will be held Thursday, June 11, beginning at 7 p.m. As usual, the meeting will take place at Recher Hall. We hope to see you there!

JOHN WOJTLA
 Lodge 158

Join Lodge 745 members on a trek to wine country

GRASS VALLEY, Calif. — Join Lodge 745 Saturday, May 9, at 1 p.m. for a wine tasting at Dobra Zemlja Winery in Amador County. Please bring a side dish to share and your choice of drink; the Lodge will provide the main course and bottled water. There will be food, music, fellowship and fun.

JOHN MLAKAR
 Lodge 745 Secretary

Lodge 53 members invited to SNPJ Farm breakfast

CLEVELAND — V-Boj Lodge 53 members are invited to a complimentary meal at the SNPJ Farm Board's annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Sunday, May 17, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Lodge members should sign-in at the cashier station. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at this event, the Farm's first in 2009.

PAULINE BARBISH
 Lodge 53 President

Free Farm breakfast for Lodge 126 members

CLEVELAND — Lodge 126 invites its members to a free pancake and sausage breakfast at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, Sunday, May 17. Breakfast will be served from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Sign in at the ticket booth, receive your ticket, and enjoy the delicious breakfast prepared and served by the SNPJ Farm Board.

GRACE MARINCH
 Lodge 126

THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are May 20 and June 3. All material must be received by Monday, May 11, for the May 20 issue, and by Friday, May 22, for the June 3 issue. If you are running short on time and concerned about making the deadline, try faxing your submission to (724) 695-1555 or e-mailing prosveta@snpj.com.

Girard Lodge 643 salutes their queen

by TONY KREN
 Lodge 643 Secretary

GIRARD, Ohio — Over 60 members and guests of Golden Eagles Lodge 643 attended a banquet honoring Miss SNPJ 2009 Brittney Zemko. The festivities were held at the Croatian Hall in Youngstown, Ohio, April 18. The atmosphere was very cordial and nostalgic, with good attendance from our members.

Lodge 643 Vice President Del Rezek served as master of ceremonies and did a great job introducing our guests, who included SNPJ National President Joseph C. Evanish, and Girard Mayor Jim Melfi and his wife, Nina.

SEE **GIRARD SALUTE**
 ON PAGE 8



Among those honoring Miss SNPJ 2009 BRITNEY ZEMKO were [from left] Lodge 643 Vice President DEL REZEK, SNPJ National President JOSEPH C. EVANISH, Lodge Recording Secretary ADAM FURIN, Lodge Treasurer JOAN TWADDLE, Lodge Secretary TONY KREN, Girard Mayor Jim Melfi and Lodge 643 Social Chairwoman ELSIE FURIN.

Duo of entrants opens the 53rd Miss SNPJ Pageant



JESSICA SNYDER (721)



ARICA DENNICK (259)

by KEVIN RICHARDS
 SNPJ Fraternal Director

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The SNPJ Fraternal Department is pleased to introduce the first two contestants of the 2009 Miss SNPJ Pageant, Jessica Snyder (721) and Arica Dennick (259).

Jessica Snyder is a member of Lodge 721 in Aliquippa, Pa. She is the daughter of Ronald and Carolyn Snyder (721), and the granddaughter of the late Luby F. and Thomas E. Wuchina (721). A student at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School, Jessica is in the National Honor Society and the Pennsylvania Music Education Honors Chorus at Westminster College. She is a recipient of the Racheal Carson Book Award for Excellence in English and Science, as well as the Presidential Merit Scholarship at Chatham University. She was also awarded the World Ready Women Scholarship.

Jessica has performed in many song and dance productions at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School. She also participated in the People to People Student Ambassador Program, through which she was able to visit many countries, including Australia, New Zealand, France, Italy and Greece.

Jessica volunteers at the Pittsburgh Opera Center and helps with the children's choir at

Divine Mercy Parish.

Our second contestant is Sis. Arica Dennick, a member of Lodge 259 in Meadowlands, Pa. Arica is the daughter of Dave Dennick and the granddaughter of Bonnie and Tom Hartzog Jr. (259).

Arica is a junior at Pennsylvania Distance Learning Charter School, where she is active in student council, the Event Planning Committee and the Spanish Club. She is a member of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and has also attended the SNPJ Teens Experience Leadership (TEL) Workshop in 2007 and 2008.

On behalf of the SNPJ Fraternal Department, I welcome these two young ladies to the 2009 Miss SNPJ Pageant and wish them all the best. The pageant will be held July 10-12 at the SNPJ Recreation Center. These dates coincide with Slovenefest XXVIII.

I'd like to remind all eligible members that we are offering a few of bonuses for entering this year's Miss SNPJ Pageant. As an incentive to enter early, the Fraternal Department is once again offering a \$50 gift card to any contestant who enters by June 1. In addition, all contes-

SEE **FIRST ENTRIES**
 ON PAGE 10

Greet spring at the Recreation Center in May

by JUDY GERMANI (715)
 SNPJ Recreation Center

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — The SNPJ Recreation Center staff has been busy getting the cabins cleaned and the pool up and running for Memorial Day weekend. The holiday weekend will be here before you know it, and we're looking forward to seeing all of our friends this summer. There is no friendlier place than the SNPJ Recreation Center.

I only have 10 tenting spots left for Slovenefest XXVIII. A payment of \$50 covers a spot for three days. Your payment is your reservation and must be received in advance. A pass will be sent to you. RV spots on the hill are \$50 per spot. As with the tenting area, RV spots must be paid for in advance before a pass is issued. There are no spots available with electricity. All cabins are rented as well. Slovenefest is one of the best weekends to join us. We hope to see you then!

It's time for our trailer court residents

SEE **REC CENTER SPRING**
 ON PAGE 6

Three cheers for the home(land) team

Lodge 745 members support the Kings and Slovenia during recent NBA outing

by JOHN MLAKAR
 Lodge 745 Secretary

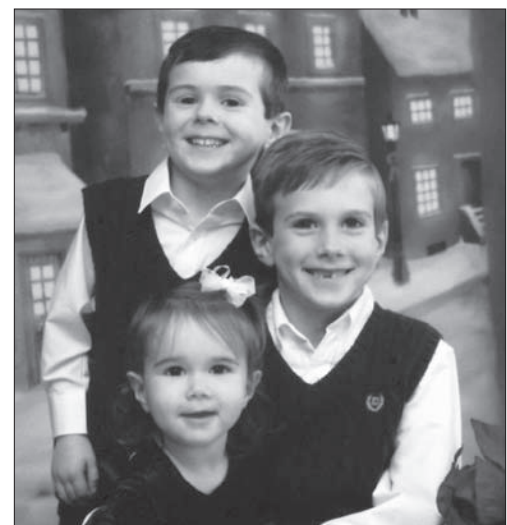
GRASS VALLEY, Calif. — On April 5, members of Golden Valley Lodge 745 attended an NBA game at Sacramento's Arco Arena. On a warm spring evening, the Sacramento Kings hosted the Golden State Warriors. Lodge members and guests cheered on the Kings, led by Slovenian point guard Beno Udrih. Although the Kings lost to the Warriors by a score of 100-105, Lodge members were able to witness Beno score 20 points.

The most recent Lodge 745 meeting was held April 26 at the home of Matthew and Adriana Mlakar. We discussed the final plans for our spring picnic, scheduled Saturday, May 9, at Croatian Winery *Dobra Zemlja* ("Good Earth") in California's beautiful Shenandoah Valley, near the small town of Plymouth in Amador County. The picnic will begin at 1 p.m. Wine tasting, music, food and fellowship are promised. Visit the Lodge 745 web site at www.snplodge745.com or e-mail Connie

SEE **GOLDEN VALLEY LODGE**
 ON PAGE 10



The Mlakar crew from Golden Valley Lodge 745, [from left] JOHN, ANGELA, ADRIANNA, PETER, LUCY and JOE, posed against a backdrop poster of Slovenian NBA star Beno Udrih while attending a Sacramento Kings game.



• Christopher, Robert and Lauren Smallwood
 Youngstown, Ohio, Lodge 153

The members of Lodge 153 welcome the newest additions to their Lodge, 5-year old Christopher, 7-year-old Robert and 2-year-old Lauren Smallwood. They are the children of Robert and Jennifer (153) Smallwood, the grandchildren of Dennis and Kate Pavlich (153), and the great-grandchildren of Sophie Pavlich (153). We welcome the Smallwoods to the Society and extend our best wishes to their entire family.

PERIODICAL MATERIAL

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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 () _____
Complete and return to:
PROSVETA
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e-mail: prosveta@snpj.com

Fontana Slovene Hall to debut renovations

by LINDA COSTELL
Lodge 723

FONTANA, Calif. — Lodge 723 hosted a dance Feb. 15 at the Slovene Hall in Fontana. We danced to great music by the Fontana Slovene Button Accordion Club under the direction of Frank Rote. A good time was had by all; the dancers were very enthusiastic. We hope to have the Club back again this year.

Lodge 723 has been working hard the last few months to refurbish the

Slovene Hall and repair a few items. The bar and dining areas have been repainted and a new floor has been installed, thanks to the hard work of Eric Wood and his crew. New lights with ceiling fans and new window coverings were also added. If you have not been to the Hall since this work has been done, come on back and see what's been happening. It looks great! The Hall Board members are looking to continue the improvements at the facility for the enjoyment of our

members and guests.

The next big event will take place Memorial Day weekend, May 23-24. There will be dancing to Polka Power California Saturday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. Come by the Hall to enjoy this great band and meet old friends from northern and southern California.

The Slovene Hall is located at 8425 Cypress Ave. For further information contact Eric Wood at (909) 823-1953. We hope to see all you there.

Chicago area bus is bound for Slovenefest

by TINA RIGLER (449)
Region 6 Vice President

CHICAGO — I would like to invite you on a fun-filled weekend bus trip to the SNPJ Recreation Center for Slovenefest XXVIII and the Miss SNPJ Pageant scheduled July 10-12.

Slovenefest has been a major event held at the Rec Center in the Borough of SNPJ, Pa., for over 25 years. There will be many different bands from around the country as well as food and craft booths for you to enjoy. In addition, there will also be the crowning of Miss SNPJ 2010!

If you're interested in a quick weekend trip this summer filled with lots of fun and enjoyment, join us for a weekend at the Rec Center! You'll be entertained non-stop with music Friday evening through Sunday afternoon. You can view the Heritage Center Museum too. This trip is for young and old alike; there is an outdoor swimming pool to enjoy as well as miniature golf course and a playground for children.

The bus will leave the Lemont, Ill., area Friday morning, July 10, and return the evening of Sunday, July 12. So, if you love to dance, listen to Slovene music or the sound of a button-box, come to Slovenefest and leave the driving to us!

Reservations will be made on a first come, first served basis. Seats on the bus are limited this year. For further details and reservations, contact Tina Rigler at (630) 257-5051 and a reservation form will be sent to you. Please note that the deadline for all reservations is June 1. I'll provide you with additional details once I have your reservation.



PEGGY and WALTER SUSANJ performed after dinner during a recent Lodge 738 meeting.

Lodge 738 treated to Hall of Fame afternoon

by GARY GORSHA
Lodge 738 President

ENUMCLAW, Wash. — Mt. Rainier Lodge 738 held a very successful meeting and blind auction with Secretary/Treasurer Max Manowski providing a spirited event as auctioneer. After a fine meal of klobase, polenta, lasagna, salad, potica and other desserts, we were treated to a concert by Walter (738) and Peggy Susanj, with Walter on the tamburitza and Peggy on guitar. Walter is a Tamburitza Association of America Hall of Famer, and a past president, secretary and the current vice president of Lodge 738.

Our next event was a May 3 Mother's Day dinner dance. This activity was held a week prior to Mother's Day so as not to interfere with family gatherings. As always, members of Lodges 11 and 371, and SWU Branch 79 were invited. Music was provided by the Puget Sound Button Box Group.

Visit the Heritage Center before a trip to Slovenia

by ROGER EVANISH (715)
SNPJ Heritage Center Committee

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — If you are planning a trip to Slovenia and want to brush up on your Slovenian or just learn the essentials to get by, then there are a few items from the SNPJ Heritage Center that can help you along the way. We have two Slovenian/English dictionaries available; a simple dictionary and phrase book, or a larger, soft back dictionary. The simple dictionary and phrase book fits in the back pocket of mens' slacks and is \$12.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling. The larger, soft back dictionary is thicker and contains more words.

It can be purchased for \$24.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling.

Another useful item is our Colloquial Slovenian/English CD and book package for \$27.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling. You can listen to the correct pronunciation of the Slovenian language on CD while following along in the book.

The Heritage Center also has a new supply of Slovenian maps. The map unfolds to a size of 52 inches by 37 inches, and shows over 5,000 Slovenian towns and villages. Just about any small village in Slovenia can be found on this map! If you have visited the Heritage Center, you've seen the

large wall map in the gift shop; this new map is very similar. Visitors from Slovenia have described this map as the one they remember from grammar school. The cost of the map is \$13 plus \$2 shipping and handling.

If you order any two of the items mentioned, please add \$5 to the total for shipping and handling. Make checks payable to "SNPJ Heritage Center." Mail your payment to the SNPJ Heritage Center, 270 Martin Road, Enon Valley, PA 16120.

For additional Heritage Center items, visit our gift shop at snpjheritage.com or through our link on the SNPJ web site, www.snpj.org.

Up-and-Coming...

A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- MAY 9 Lodge 745 picnic and wine tasting at Dobra Zemlja Winery in Amador County, Calif. Visit www.snpj745.com or e-mail ConnieMlakar@yahoo.com for additional information.
- MAY 11 La Salle, Ill., Lodge 2 wine tasting, 1 p.m. at Dickinson House, Oglesby, Ill. For details phone Delores Spelich at (815) 223-8650.
- MAY 17 SNPJ Farm Board Pancake & Sausage Breakfast at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Breakfast served 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; music by Boom Box Bill. For information phone Joseph Blatnik at (440) 943-1191.
- MAY 23 CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open at Rolling Green Golf Course, Huntsburg, Ohio; 9 a.m. shotgun start. For information phone Linda Gorjup at (216) 731-2723 or (216) 650-1279, or e-mail lmg1020@roadrunner.com.
- MAY 23-24 Lodge 723 Memorial Day weekend festivities at the Slovene Hall, Fontana, Calif. Dancing to Polka Power California Saturday 5-9 p.m. and Sunday 2-6 p.m. For details phone Eric Wood at (909) 823-1953.
- MAY 24 Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87 Memorial Day dance at the Crystal Ballroom, 2-7 p.m. Music by the Mikey Dee Band and Al Hreno Orchestra.
- MAY 31 SNPJ Farm Board Picnic at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Dinners served at 2 p.m.; entertainment by Frank Moravcik 3:30-7:30 p.m. For information phone Joseph Blatnik at (440) 943-1191.
- JUNE 7 Orange Coast Lodge 786 Wine Tasting Party and Picnic at Keyways Winery, Temecula, Calif.; noon-5 p.m. For reservations (required), contact Jean Koci at (949) 495-0097 or e-mail ajkoci@cox.net.
- JUNE 7 Spartans Lodge 576 picnic at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio; 2 p.m. Entertainment features Joey Tomsick, Joe Novak and Wayne Tomsic. Phone Lou Novak at (440) 461-6476 for details.
- JUNE 7 Westmoreland (Pa.) Federation Slovenian-Italian Day Picnic at the Evanstown Picnic Grove, Evanstown, Pa.; 1-7 p.m. Music by the Sam Pugliano and Jim Rhoades bands. For details phone Mary Ann Bebar at (724) 668-7394.
- JUNE 8 La Salle, Ill., Lodge 2 50-, 60-, 70- and 80-year member luncheon at 4 Star Restaurant, Peru, Ill., beginning at 11:30 a.m. For information phone Eleanor Kuhar at (815) 883-8983.
- JUNE 13 11th Annual Tony Mlinar Memorial Golf Outing, New Berlin Hills Golf Course, Milwaukee. Shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. For information contact Tony Mlinar at (414) 257-3385.
- JUNE 13 Detroit Lodge 677 annual picnic and balina tournament at Ruth's picnic ground beginning at 2 p.m. For information phone Ken Anderson at (248) 649-6228.
- JUNE 14 Loyalties Lodge 158 annual summer picnic at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Dinners served at 2 p.m.; dancing to the music of the Bobby Kravos Band 3:30-7:30 p.m. For information contact Pat Nevar at (216) 481-0163.
- JUNE 14 Westmoreland (Pa.) Federation hosts Mikey Dee's Polka Picnic at the Evanstown Picnic Grove, Evanstown, Pa.; 1-7 p.m. Music by the Mikey Dee Band and Jack Tady & the Tady Bears. For additional information contact Mary Ann Bebar at (724) 668-7394.
- JUNE 21-26 SNPJ Youth Roundup at the SNPJ Recreation Center. Contact Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or e-mail krichards@snpj.com.
- JUNE 21 Strugglers Lodge 614 picnic at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Dinners served at 2 p.m.; entertainment by George Staiduhar 3:30-7:30 p.m. For details phone Joseph Blatnik at (440) 943-1191.
- JUNE 21 Westmoreland (Pa.) Federation Father's Day Picnic at the Evanstown Picnic Grove, Evanstown, Pa.; 1-7 p.m. Entertainment features the Dick Tady Orchestra and Don Wojtila Band. For details phone Mary Ann Bebar at (724) 668-7394.
- JUNE 26-28 SNPJ Young Adult Conference at the SNPJ Recreation Center. For registration information contact Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or e-mail krichards@snpj.com.
- JUNE 28 V-Boj Lodge 53 annual picnic at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Entertainment features the Joey Tomsick Orchestra. For details phone Martha Meglich at (440) 884-5043.
- JUNE 28 Slovene Federation of W. Pa. Lodges annual picnic at the Recreation Center, upper pavilion; 3-7 p.m. Music by Bob Turcola.
- JULY 5 Westmoreland (Pa.) Federation hosts Pam & Jerry Zagar's Polka Picnic at the Evanstown Picnic Grove, Evanstown, Pa.; 1-7 p.m. Entertainment by Klancnik & Friends and Silver Sky w/ Geoge Suhon. For information phone Mary Ann Bebar at (724) 668-7394.
- JULY 10-12 Slovenefest XXVIII and the 53rd Miss SNPJ Pageant at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For weekend information phone the Rec Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732.
- JULY 18 Lodge 745 participation in the Eppie's Great Race relay triathlon. Visit www.snpj745.com or e-mail ConnieMlakar@yahoo.com for additional information.

snpj ...it's about LIFE Producer showcase

Bro. TOM
DISABATINO
Lodge 626



Bro. Tom DiSabatino, a member of Barberton, Ohio, Lodge 626, is this week's featured Top Producing Agent.

Tom began his insurance career in 1981 with Prudential after a short time in bricklaying; he was one of the few in his Italian family not to proceed in the trade. As an independent agent, he has seen quite a few changes in the industry, both good and bad.

Bro. DiSabatino sells Whole Life insurance by emphasizing the set payment that never changes and how it accumulates tax-deferred interest. He also emphasizes that after your passing, your family or favorite charity can receive the benefit tax-free.

Tom writes: "There are two types of people in life: those who care and those who don't. Keep in the first category and you'll change a lot of lives someday. You don't really get good until you pay a death claim. And when you own permanent insurance, you can sell it easily."

Bro. DiSabatino is a professional jazz drummer on weekends. He also has a 23-year-old son attending Bowling Green College.

Tom can be reached at DiSabatino Ins. LLC, P.O. Box 35757, Canton, OH 44735; or by phone at (330) 896-8900.

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GREG FELTON
Marketing Director



10-Pay Life: A real bargain

One of the new plans available from SNPJ is the 10-Pay Life plan. This simple variation of Whole Life insurance provides lifetime protection with just 10 years of premium payments.

Imagine having your life insurance paid-up in just 10 short years. The new 10-Pay Life features lifetime protection, a short payment period, increasing cash/loan values, reduced paid-up options should you discontinue your premium payments, and dividends. Everything about this plan is guaranteed except the dividends. This is also the most cost-effective manner of purchasing life insurance, with the exception of the Single Premium product. In the long run, this is a smart economical choice.

A unique feature of 10-Pay Life is the cash value account. Because the premiums are slightly higher in order to pay up the plan, so are the cash values. After 10 years, most of your total payments are available if the cash or loan option is selected. A good example of this is a \$25,000 10-Pay Life plan for a non-smoking male, age 30. His premium is \$703 per year. In 10 years he will have paid \$7,000 in premiums and the projected cash will be \$6,948. So in a sense, this plan helped him save money while providing life insurance protection.

This plan works especially well for children and at any age when limited payments are a must. Near retirees will like the fact that they can purchase coverage and have it paid up quickly. This is useful when your group coverage terminates at retirement and you want to try to replace some amount of insurance coverage. The premiums on this plan are very competitive.

For a free quote or more information, please contact your Lodge secretary, local sales representative or the SNPJ Home Office at 1-800-843-7675.

- **Thought for the Week** — Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which one has overcome while trying to succeed.

sn timer
...it's about LIFE

Booker T. Washington

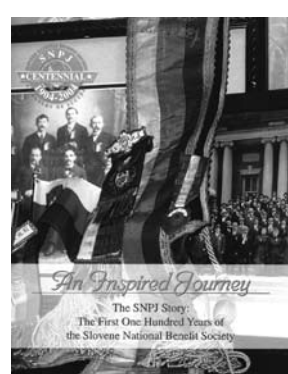
The SNPJ Farm 2009 Dance Schedule

SNPJ Farm, 10946 Heath Road, Kirtland, Ohio

off Chardon Road (Route 6), three miles east of Route 306
For information phone (440) 256-3423 or (440) 943-1191

May 17	Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Boom Box Bill	9 to 1
May 31	SNPJ Farm Board Picnic Frank Moravcik Band	3:30 to 7:30
June 7	Spartans Lodge 576 Picnic Tomsick, Novak & Tomsic	3:30 to 7:30
June 14	Loyalites Lodge 158 Picnic Bobby Kravos Band	3:30 to 7:30
June 21	Strugglers Lodge 614 Picnic George Staiduhar Band	3:30 to 7:30
June 28	V-Boj Lodge 53 Picnic Joey Tomsick Orchestra	TBA
Aug. 2	Chicken BBQ Picnic Don Wojtila Orchestra	3:30 to 7:30
Sept. 6	SNPJ Farm Board Picnic Eric Noltkamper Band	3:30 to 7:30
Sept. 20	Friends of the Farm Picnic Don Wojtila Orchestra	3:30 to 7:30

Dancers enjoy the finest in Cleveland-style polkas and waltzes at the SNPJ Farm. The Farm features the best-known names in polka music, plus down-home dining. Gates open at noon. Dinners served Sundays at 2 p.m. with music and dancing from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday picnic admission is \$5. Rent the SNPJ Farm for picnics, anniversaries or other special functions! For more information phone (440) 256-3423 or (440) 943-1191.



A CENTURY in the making

Proud of your SNPJ membership? Then you owe it to yourself to delve deeper into SNPJ history through the pages of *An Inspired Journey* — *The SNPJ Story: The First One Hundred Years of the Slovene National Benefit Society*.

This richly-illustrated chronicle of SNPJ history compiled and written by SNPJ Publications Editor Jay Sedmak is now available for purchase.

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Regional waste center gets nod from the EU

LJUBLJANA (STA) — The European Commission has approved EU funding for the construction of a regional waste center in central Slovenia estimated at \$187.3 million, the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy announced in a mid-April press release. The EU's Cohesion Fund will cover \$101 million of the cost.

The center, which is part of the spatial and infrastructure development program for the 2007-2013 period, is the country's biggest cohesion project ever. The plans entail construction of waste recovery facilities, a waste water treatment plant at the Ljubljansko barje refuse, and the expansion of the dumping grounds by over 12 acres.

The Ljubljana municipality and other municipalities involved in the project have licensed the Ljubljana utility company Snaga to manage the project, which has already been started.

The waste center will cover 17 municipalities in the region populated by some 414,000 people. Slovenia prepared the project with the help of JASPERS, a major joint policy initiative of the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Commission and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which assists new EU member-states with drawing up major infrastructure projects.

This is the second major EU-backed project in Slovenia for the 2007-2013 EU budget period. The first was the construction of the \$151 million Beltinci-Lendava highway section which was approved by the commission in July 2008.

The commission confirms only major projects financed from the Cohesion or European Regional Development Funds exceeding \$32.5 million for spatial projects and \$65 million for road construction. Other projects are confirmed by the member states.

Škocjan Caves will benefit from EU funding

LJUBLJANA/ŠKOCJAN (STA) — The Škocjan Caves Park is planning to invest \$4 million into the renovation of its infrastructure in the coming years. The Government Office for Local Government and Regional Policy confirmed on Tuesday that \$2.7 million for the project will be secured from EU funds.

The company operating the Škocjan Caves will renovate the elevator at the exit of the caves and the infrastructure of the cave system, lay out new paths, and establish a conference center which will host various exhibitions, the office announced. The project is aimed at upgrading the cave's tourism offerings and promoting the Karst region and Slovenia as a whole.

The Škocjan Caves are currently the only site in Slovenia listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

A million bees likely killed by pesticides

LJUBLJANA (STA) — Nearly one million bees died in the northeastern Podravje region in late April, and according to the authorities, the deaths were most likely caused by pesticides.

"The bees in the Race-Fram municipality were probably killed by pesticides that a nearby plant nursery used to treat decorative plants," the Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief reported in a press release.

Officials suspect the bees were poisoned when drinking the water which had been contaminated by the chemicals. The minister said an investigation was underway and that the results should be known within three days.

The Veterinary Administration prohibited sales of products coming from the affected bee families to prevent further spread of the contamination. Agriculture inspectors also checked the corn fields in the area, but the insecticides added to corn seeds have been dismissed as a cause since that specific type of insecticide is supposedly harmless to the bees.

Slovenian Agriculture Minister Milan Pogačnik said that some 300 pesticides were used in Slovenia, and the use of some 250 of them was regulated by strict rules. The minister pointed to the efforts to minimize the use of chemicals, but added that "this cannot be done in only a few years' time. Society as a whole must be engaged in these efforts, and the public interest shows that the future will bring



progress in this respect," he noted.

The National Biology Institute meanwhile pointed to the danger of sublethal doses of pesticides, which can also cause fatal damage to bee families. Institute representative Andrej Cokl said that combinations of pesticides which have no measurable harmful effects on people or animals were especially dangerous. Cokl's colleague, Jasna Kralj, said that massive bee deaths were a complex problem which join various negative effects of chemicals in a scenario that can lead to disaster.

A third of human food comes from plants which need pollination to bear fruit, and four-fifths of these plants are pollinated by bees. Humans and their activities, especially intensive farming, are one of the biggest threats to the survival of these vitally important insects, the institute noted.

Archaeologists discover Germanic graves in Kranj

KRANJ (STA) — Archaeologists excavating an ancient burial ground in Kranj have discovered what they believe to be nine Germanic graves. Drasko Josipovič, head of the excavations, told the press that judging by the valuable objects found next to the bodies, they were excavating Germanic graves from the sixth century.

Since the excavation on the site in the city center reopened three weeks ago, the team has unearthed the skeleton of a woman aged 35-40 with golden thread on her forehead. "The thread was probably sewn onto a veil or some other piece of headgear," Josipovič explained. "This is 24-carat gold, which was formed into a thin plate in the sixth century and then hand-cut into strips," he said, adding that gold was a sign of dignity and was worn only by aristocrats.

The archaeologists also found a gold and silver brooch with colorful stones embedded, and a gilded belt buckle, also from the sixth century.

Josipovič added that this was an important burial ground because it used to be the town cemetery of the late-antiquity settlement of Carnium, the predecessor of modern-day Kranj. "It is also one of the biggest from the sixth century in Europe," said Josipovič, adding that during the last century more than a thousand graves have been discovered at the site.

Exhibition marks the first Slovenian encyclopedia

ŠMARTNO PRI LITIJI (STA) — A ceremony to mark the 320th anniversary of "The Glory of the Duchy of Carniola," an encyclopedia of Slovenian history, folklore and natural science compiled by celebrated 17th-century Slovenian Janez Vajkard Valvasor, opened April 15 at Bogensperk castle near Litija, where Valvasor lived and worked for two decades.

The anniversary of the encyclopedia will be marked by the presentation of a project involving a comprehensive translation of "The Glory of the Duchy of Carniola," which has still not been entirely translated into Slovenian, and an exhibition depicting it through time.

On April 15, 1689, Valvasor wrote his famous work dedicated "to the Carniolan provincial nobility," which has since become a symbol of the Slovenian nation, the Bogensperk public institute noted on its web site. Written in German, "The Glory of the Duchy of Carniola" is a 3,532-page encyclopedia of natural history, Slovenian customs and folklore, history, and the topography of a region that makes up a large part of present-day Slovenia.

The monumental work, with which Valvasor wanted to present his region to outsiders, was published in 15 volumes in 1689, lavishly illustrated with 528 copperplate engravings. Valvasor spent a fortune writing and publishing the book. He was forced to sell his property and possessions, including his Bogensperk castle, his vast library and his "Iconotheca Valvasoriana," a collection of 7,752 prints and drawings by Duerer, Cranach, Rembrandt, Callot and other European masters of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Valvasor was born in May 1641 in Ljubljana. After graduating from high school in 1658, he decided not to

further his education, but instead take a 14-year journey across Europe, during which he collected the "Iconotheca Valvasoriana."

Valvasor is also credited with studying the hydrology of the intermittent Lake Cerknica, for which he was inducted into the Royal Society in London in 1688. He is also believed to be the first explorer of caves in Slovenia and a pioneer of Karst region studies.

Valvasor died in Krško in September 1693 and is buried in his family's cemetery at Izlake in central Slovenia.

Farm selling milk from vending machines

MEDVODE (STA) — In mid-April, Kamit, a food and dairy distributor, and the Miš farm introduced a vending machine for the sale of fresh milk in Medvode. According to Kamit, the vending machine that will sell milk directly from the farm is the first such machine in Slovenia. The initiative for the project came from the farm, Tomaz Miš explained to the press, adding that such vending machines are already very popular in Italy.

The quality of the milk, which is cooled to 39.2 degrees fahrenheit, will be monitored regularly and the milk changed daily. Miš expects to sell 53 gallons of milk each day in this manner, and believes that people are demanding higher-quality foods.

The distributor and farm are planning to install a network of vending machines, and other farmers have already expressed their interest in the project.

A third of Slovenians are battling the bulge

LJUBLJANA (STA) — According to the results of a recent survey, roughly 31 percent of Slovenians are overweight. Around 35 percent of Slovenians have a normal weight, and there is an identical portion (16 percent) of obese and underweight people in Slovenia.

The survey, conducted by the Mediana agency, also asked about the respondents' income to determine whether there is a correlation between standard of living and body mass index. The results indicate that the lower the Slovenians' income, the higher their body mass index, while people with a normal weight earn the most money.

The survey also included people in Serbia and Croatia. A comparison of the results showed that the situation was nearly the same in Slovenia and Croatia, while the income-weight ratio is exactly the opposite in Serbia: those who earn the most also have the highest body mass index, and the poorest are mostly underweight.

Bear wanders off, park reopens after scare

LJUBLJANA (STA) — A wild bear that was spotted near the Ljubljana Zoo April 15 was caught in the Ljubljana park that evening. After a massive hunt, which drove the bear from the city, the park reopened in the afternoon. However, the bear was spotted again in the same area that evening.

"The bear was finally tracked down and tranquilized just below the peak of Roznik hill. The authorities will register him, fit him with an identification collar and release him in a forest," according to Slovenia Forestry Service representative Tone Lesnik.

In the afternoon, authorities said the wildlife service managed to chase the bear back into the woods in Dobrova, south of the capital, from where he is thought to have wandered into Ljubljana. However, the bear was again spotted in the same area, near a restaurant just under Roznik hill, which is part of Tivoli park, a popular recreation area. Roznik hill also borders Rozna dolina, an upscale neighborhood that is home to many diplomats.

The bear, which is thought to be no older than three years, was first spotted overnight by Ljubljana Zoo employees who raised the alarm after confirming that it was not one of the zoo's bears. The police issued a warning for people to stay away from the area the morning of April 15. According to official statistics, Slovenia is home to around 430 brown bears.

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V Radovljici so predstavili zlati med

HEADLINE: In Radovljica they introduced gold honey

TOPIC: In the Radovljica manor, the Radovljica Municipalities Museums recently introduced a new product named Gold Honey. Gold honey is a precious product – and at the same time a high-quality source of nourishment – which has been poured into crystal containers made at Rogaška Slatina which are decorated with Idrija lace, gold appliqué and gold leaf. They will sell 120 bottles of this product, all of which are unique and have artistic value. In the near future they will make a smaller version of this product which can be used as protocol or business gifts.

Muzeji radovljiške občine so pred dnevi v radovljiški Graščini predstavili nov

izdelek, ki so ga imenovali zlati med. Zlati med je dragocen izdelek in obenem visokakovostno živilo, ki so ga vli v kristalne izdelke iz Rogaške Slatine. Odlikujejo ga še idrijska čipka, zlatarske aplikacije in zlati lističi. Letno bodo prodali 120 izdelkov, saj gre za unikat, ki ima umetniško vrednost ter vrednost v zlatu in draguljih. Zlati med so skupaj uresničili radovljiški muzeji, oblikovalka Irena Zupan Ambrožič ter mladi podjetnik in vodja projekta Jaka Djak. V muzejih radovljiške občine še napovedujejo, da bodo predstavili tudi manjši in cenovno dostopnejši izdelek, ki bo lahko služil kot protokolarno ali poslovno darilo. Ob 50. letnici čebelarskega muzeja so pred dnevi v baročni dvorani Graščine odprli razstavo o zgodovini muzeja.

DELO

Na sejmu zbirateljstva Collecta največji evropski zlatnik

HEADLINE: The largest European gold coin at the Collecta collecting fair

TOPIC: The third International Fair of Collecting, Collecta, which unites collectors and merchants across Europe from different fields of collecting (philately, numismatics, militarism, minerals, fossils, gems, record players and CDs, Pez figurines and other collectibles), was recently held at the Gospodarsko razstavišče (exhibition place) in Ljubljana. This year's event attracted 132 collectors and merchants from 14 countries, as well as thousands of domestic and foreign visitors.

The main attraction of the fair was a 62-pound gold coin which, as the largest European coin, measures more than 14 inches in diameter. The coin is valued at \$1.04 million. In its 800-year history, the Austrian mint has made only 15 of these coins.

Na Gospodarskem razstavišču v Ljubljani je pred kratkim potekal že tretji mednarodni sejem zbirateljstva Collecta, ki združuje zbiratelje in trgovce iz vse Evrope z najrazličnejših področij zbirateljstva (filatelije, numizmatike, kartofilije, militarije, antikvitete, mineralov, fosilov, draguljev, telefonskih kartic, gramofonskih plošč in zgoščenk, figuric Pez in Kinder, stripov in drugih zbirk). Letošnja pridobitev je privabila 132 zbirateljev in trgovcev iz 14 držav, udeležilo pa se je tudi več kot tisoč domačih in tujih obiskovalcev.

Glavna atrakcija sejma je bil 31 kilogramski zlatnik, ki ima kot največji evropski kovanec v premeru kar 37 centimetrov. Njegova vrednost je 800.000 evrov, avstrijska kovnica z 800-letno tradicijo Münze Österreich pa je izdelala zgolj 15 takšnih kovancev. Kovanec imenujejo "Dunajski filharmonik". Avstrijska nacionalna banka pa nam ga je posodila prvič doslej.

Spomin na matematika in vojaka Jurija Vego

HEADLINE: Memories of mathematician and soldier Jurij Vega

TOPIC: The 225th anniversary celebration of the birth of scientist and Austrian army lieutenant colonel Baron Jurij Vega was recently held in front of his birth house in Zagorica near Dolsko. The main speaker at this event was Slovenia army Major Dragan Pavkovič. School children arranged a cultural program.

Jurij Vega presented algorithmic tables, which for more than two centuries were probably the forerunners to today's computers, to Slovenia, Europe and the

world. Even today, students and scientists still call the tables a "mathematic bible." However, Vega didn't receive his baron's title for his mathematical work, but rather as an unbeatable commander of artillery combat units in battles against the Turks, French and Prussians.

"Jurija Vego sta poleg drugih vrednot krasila tudi skrb in sočutje za sočloveka. Vojakom je vedno stal ob strani, jih vzpodbujal, in čeprav je v očeh nekaterih kolegov veljal za čudaka, mu je z delom in znanjem uspelo pridobiti njihovo spoštovanje. Bil je izvrsten strateg, kar je v letih 1789 do leta 1797 dokazal na

številnih bojiščih, od Beograda na vzhodu do Rena na zahodu," je ob 255. obletnici rojstva barona, znanstvenika in podpolkovnika avstrijske vojske Jurija Vego zbrani množici pred domačijo v Zagorici pri Dolskem povedal slavnostni govornik, major slovenske vojske Dragan Pavkovič. V kulturnem programu so sodelovali učenci osnovnih šol iz obeh občin, zbrane pa sta nagovorila tudi župana dolske in moravške občine Primož Zupančič in Martin Rebolj (obe občini sta si izbrali za občinski praznik Vegov rojstni dan). Vega je Slovincem, Evropi in svetu podaril logaritemske tablice, ki so bile dobri dve

stoletji bržkone predhodnica današnjih računalnikov. Djaki, študentje in znanstveniki jih še danes imenujejo matematična biblija. Vega je tistemu, ki bi takrat našel zgolj eno napako v izračunu števil na deset decimal obljubljal možno cekinov.

A napake niso odkrili nikoli. Spoštljivega naslova barona pa Vega ni pridobil za svoja matematična dela, ampak kot odličan in nepremagljiv poveljnik topničarjev v bojih proti turkom, Francozom in Prusom. Izumil je možnarje, s katerimi je bilo mogoče streljati bolj navpično, kar je pomenilo daljši dolet. DELO

Odprli najvišjo tekmovalno steno v dvorani v Sloveniji

HEADLINE: They opened the highest competitive wall in Slovenia

TOPIC: The new Pungart Sport Hall in Šmartno recently opened a more than 45-foot-high competitive climbing wall which is the highest in the country. Miha Praprotnik, director of the Citywall Company, said that they completed the work in two months and it is the most modern climbing wall in the country. The first official state competition in wall climbing will be held next spring.

The Koper City Police Unit has the highest climbing wall, but it is used only for recreational purposes.

V novi šmarnski športni dvorani Pungrt

so konec prejšnjega tedna odprli najvišjo tekmovalno plezalno steno v državi, visoko dobrih 14 metrov. Postavilo jo je logaško podjetje Citywall, stala pa je 110.000 evrov. Direktor podjetja Citywall Miha Praprotnik je povedal, da so steno postavljali dobra dva meseca in sodi med najsodobnejše v državi. Skupna plezalna površina meri dobrih 230 kvadratnih metrov. Na njej je nameščenih 130 varovalnih kompletov. Največji previs meri 6,5 metra. Praprotnik je raložil, da je stena sestavljena iz lesenih plošč, obdelanih s posebno peščeno teksturo, ki plezalcem omogoča trenje pri stopanju na plezalno površino. Konstrukcija je izdelana iz

lesenenih tramov in železnih profilov, povezanih v palični sistem. Z najvišjo plezalno steno se sicer ponašajo koprski poklicni gasilci, saj je visoka 26 metrov, široka pa štiri metre, vendar sodi med rekreacijske in ne med tekmovalne plezalne stene. Vodja plezalne sekcije, ki ima 50 članov, Jernej Peterlin je povedal, da jo bodo lahko preizkušali tudi plezalci od drugod; za dve uri bo treba odšteti 70 evrov.

Prva uradna tekma v dvoranskem športnem plezanju za državno prvenstvo bo prihodnje pomlad. Sedaj je na steni postavljenih 25 plezalnih smeri, do jeseni pa jih nameravajo podvojiti.

DELO

V Novem mestu temeljni kamen za podjetniški inkubator

HEADLINE: In Novo mesto a foundation stone for the enterprise incubator

TOPIC: In the small city of Podbreznik on the western edge of Novo mesto, where today there are a few apartments and a technology park, they recently placed the foundation stone for the enterprise incubator. The enterprise incubator will start operating in February 2010, and 30 young, small companies will have the space to create 53 new jobs. The incubator will be designated mainly for small companies with innovative and technologically demanding products which are highly valued and attractive for export.

The young businessmen will be able to stay in the incubator for three years, and for an additional two

years by paying a slightly higher rent.

V nastajajočem malem mestu Podbreznik na zahodnem novomeškem obrobju, v katerem je za zdaj nekaj blokov in tehnološki park, so pred dnevi položili temeljni kamen za podjetniški inkubator. Delovati naj bi začel februarja prihodnje leto, v njem naj bi dobilo prostor 30 mladih podjetij in najmanj 53 na novo zaposlenih. Inkubator bo namenjen predvsem mladim podjetjem z inventivnimi in tehnološko zahtevnimi izdelki, ki prinašajo višjo dodano vrednost in so izvozno zanimivi. V Imos Holdingu, ki je investitor inkubatorja, se ne bojijo, da ne bi našli najemnikov za približno 4000 kvadratnih metrov površin v dvonadstropni stavbi. V Razvojnem centru Novo mesto, ki

je nosilec projekta in bo podjetnikom pomagal s strokovnimi in podpornimi storitvami, pričakujejo predvsem podjetja iz kovinske, strojne, tehnične in predelovalne panoge. Inkubator naj bi čez slabo leto začel delovati s prvimi petimi najemniki, do leta 2015 bi se jim pridružilo še 25 novih podjetij. Mladi podjetniki bodo lahko ostali v njem najmanj tri leta, še dodatni dve pa s plačilom

nekaj višje najemnine, ki bo še vedno 30 odstotkov nižja od realne. Delovanje v inkubatorju omogoča do 30.000 evrov državnih sofinancerskih sredstev na leto.

Za novomeški podjetniški inkubator so združili moči Imos Holding, Razvojni center Novo mesto in občina, ki je prevzela organizacijo in njegovo delovanje.

DELO

Policist ponoči opravil rutinski pregled po mestnih ulicah, in na tleh zagleda sumljivega moškega. Stopi k njemu in ga vpraša: "Gospod, ali je kaj narobe?" - "Niti ne. Vračam se z zabave, pa sem nekaj izgubil". Kaj pa ste izgubili?" - "Ravnotežje!"

Družina pride domov od slovesne maše na Veliko noč. Oče takoj začne nergati, da je bila pridiga zanič, da so na koru slabo peli in tudi orgle so bolj škripale. Potem se pa oglasi sinek: "Čuj, očka, za en evro vstopnine za štiri osebe, ki si ga vrgel v košarico, je bil spored v cerkvi kar v redu!"

The Ethnic Kitchen

PINEAPPLE ICEBOX DESSERT

½ cup (more or less) crushed vanilla wafer crumbs
½ cup (1 stick) butter, room temperature
1½ cups powdered sugar
2 large eggs
1 can (15¼ ounces) crushed pineapple, drain well
1 cup whipping cream
Ground nuts, toasted coconut, grated chocolate or crushed vanilla wafer crumbs

Crush the vanilla wafers to make crumbs. Lightly butter a 10-inch pie pan and cover the bottom and sides with crumbs. Cream butter and add powdered sugar; beat well. Add eggs one at a time and beat with each addition. Spread this mixture on top of the crumbs. Refrigerate until needed. Drain pineapple thoroughly. Whip the cream until stiff and blend in the pineapple. Spread on top of the mixture in the pan. Sprinkle top of dessert with any of the following: ground nuts, toasted coconut, grated chocolate or crushed vanilla wafer crumbs. Make at least one day ahead and keep in the refrigerator.

More Pots and Pans

Istrske olive zaščitene

HEADLINE: The Istria olives are protected now

TOPIC: The Slovenian Agriculture Ministry issued a preliminary decree for the national protection of table olives from the Slovenian Istria with a "trademark of origin" (Z.O.P.) to the Štorta Piran Olive Association. With this decree, Piran's olive growers have successfully protected their olives, which are recognized as the best for preserving. The Štorta Association had been striving for three years to obtain the geographical trademark of their product's origin. Now they are expecting that before fall it will be approved by the appropriate committee on the European board.

Only those growers that obtain the certificate, the pro-

cess of which is neither simple nor inexpensive, will be able to grow these olives.

In Slovenia they sell tons of preserved olives, most of which are imported. The people in Istria preserve close to four tons of olives, only half of which make it to Slovenian store shelves.

Ministrstvo za kmetijstvo je oljarskemu društvu Štorta Piran izdalo odločbo o predhodni nacionalni zaščiti namiznih oliv slovenske Istre z "zaščiteno označbo porekla" (Z.O.P.). S tem so piranski oljkarji uspeli zaščititi svoje olive, ki slovijo kakor najboljše za vlaganje. V društvu Štorta so si za geografsko zaščito porekla prizadevali tri leta. Zdej pričakujejo, da jo bo še pred jesenjo potrdil ustrezeni odbor evropske komisije. Tako bi za

olivnim oljem slovenske Istre namizne olive postale drugi slovenski proizvod z evropsko zaščito označbe porekla.

Primorci vedo, da imajo prehrabni proizvodi v Italiji oznako D.O.C., ki potrjuje zaščito označbe porekla, v Sloveniji ima takšno oznako (Z.O.P.) oljivo olje. Kakor kaže, ga bodo prihodnje leto imele tudi nekatere namizne olive in drugi živilski izdelki. Olive bodo lahko pridelovali samo tisti oljkarji, ki bodo pridobili certifikat, postopek zanj pa ne bo preprost in poceni. Odločba ministrstva o zaščiti geografskih označb in označb porekla namiznih oliv slovenske Istre je začasna in velja le do vpisa v poseben register zaščitenih označb, ki ga vodi evropska komisija.

V Sloveniji prodajo na de-

setine ton vložnih oliv, največ uvoženih. Po besedah Egidija Žiberja iz Parecaga je vložnih avtohtonih oliv malo. Istrani vložijo približno štiri tone oliv sorte štorta, ki so najbolj cenjene med poznavalci, vendar jih na slovenske prodajne police pride le polovica. Največja proizvajalca sta prav Egidij Žiber in Gianfranco Fonda. V projektni skupini za zaščito namiznih oliv so sodelovali še Vanja Dujc, Benjamin Ličerin in Peter Deržek.

DELO

Mož vstopi v trgovino z živalmi in se radovedno ogleduje okoli. Ko odkrije papagaja, ga vpraša: "Ej, papček, ali znaš tudi govoriti?" Papagaj na to: "Seveda, lebelinko! Ali znaš ti tudi leteti?"

ANNOUNCE IT

Member earns medical degree

MIDWAY, Pa. — Dr. James Christopher Kelly of SNPJ Lodge 89 recently graduated from Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia.

James served as president of Jeff Hope 4 Kids, a group that provides free health care, mentorship and companionship to homeless inner-city children. As a fourth-year medical student, he was granted a Christian scholarship to serve as a health care provider for two months in a third-world country. He served in Tello, an Indonesian island.

James is currently in the department of general surgery at West Virginia University Hospital. He is a 2004 graduate of Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., and a 2000 graduate of Trinity High School in Washington, Pa. James is the son of Jim and Suzanne Kelly; the grandson of James Kelly (292) and the late Betty Gene Kelly, and Eugene and Erma Raggi (89); and the great-grandson of the late Frank and Anne (Cmic) Mavrigh (89).



Members of Lodge 584 in Milwaukee competed in the 2009 SNPJ Youth Telegraphic Bowling Tournament.

Youth Telegraphic bowlers rock the lanes

by MARY DONOVAN (584)
District 6 Athletic Director

MILWAUKEE — The pins shook and the house rocked as 12 youths showed up to compete in the Telegraphic Bowling Tournament, an annual outing the kids look forward to in order to renew friendships and compete. The adults show up for the wonderful entertainment and food. This year's participants were Lodge 584 members Jeremy Gorgas, Amber and Carley Schweiger, Bailey Phalen, Tyler Mouthey, Emily Mlaker, Joshua Mlaker, Andrew Lynch, Briahna

Lynch, David Picard, Tyler Trickle, and Tatiana Ebbinger.

Thanks to the Milwaukee Federation for their support of this event. Since the Federation will be disbanding, I will continue to run this event as well as the Family Twosome Bowling Tournament. I'll work with the individual Lodge officers regarding their participation with and support of future events like this.

I'd also like to thank the Home Office. Fraternal Director Kevin Richards sent piggy banks and FM radio scanners for the kids. We handed

out these fine items after bowling while the kids enjoyed pizza, snacks and soda.

It was really nice to see all of the parents and grandparents cheering for their bowlers. We all had a few grins and could feel the enthusiasm when the kids knocked down the pins. One of our better bowlers, Jeremy Gorgas, rolled a 571 series. Nice job, Jeremy!

The Telegraphic Bowling Tournament was a really nice way to spend an afternoon with everyone. I truly appreciate the support from the parents, grandparents, Federation and Lodges.

Spartans open Farm season

by NANCY NOVAK
Lodge 576 Recording Secretary

CLEVELAND — By now Spartans Lodge 576 members should have received a letter in the mail with drawing tickets and a flyer about our picnic, which will open the summer season at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, June 7; doors open at noon. There will be quite a line-up of music featuring the Wayne Tomsic Combo, Joe Novak & Friends and the Joey Tomsick Orchestra. Music is scheduled from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Please support Lodge 576 by attending the picnic and purchasing the drawing tickets since that is our only fund-raising effort. Special activities for children are being planned, so bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends to the Spartans picnic Sunday, June 7. For further information, please contact Lou Novak at (440) 461-6476 or Joe Novak at (330) 723-3523.

Congratulations to Sis. Eleanore Capko, who recently celebrated her 60th SNPJ membership anniversary.

Lodge President Joe Novak and I are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our first grandchild in May, so the Spartans will be welcoming a new member soon! All the best to Susan Novak and her husband, Adam Dickinson, in Durham, N.C., as they await the birth of their son.

The next Spartans Lodge 576 meeting will be held Monday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Waterloo Hall. Please remember that our meetings are now held at 6:30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. Come to the meeting to help us finalize our picnic plans and socialize as refreshments are served following the meeting.

information



at your fingertips

Looking for information on your SNPJ life insurance and annuity policies? Simply log on to sn timer.org and follow the step-by-step instructions.

SNPJ Scholarship Fund Donations for the month of March 2009

Frances Banks, Chuck, Barbara and Staci, Philadelphia...\$150
In memory of Michael Evanish

California SNPJ Federation.....\$150

American Fraternal Union Officers and Directors, Ely, Minn...\$100
In memory of Michael Evanish

Westmoreland County Federation of SNPJ Lodges.....\$100

Spartans Lodge 576, Cleveland.....\$50
In memory of the deceased members of Lodge 576

Fontana Slovene Hall, Fontana, Calif.....\$50
In memory of Michael Evanish

SNPJ Lodge 33, Sharon, Pa.....\$50
In memory of the deceased members of Lodge 33

Ed and Elizabeth Tomsic (218), Denver.....\$50
In memory of Charles Milavec

SNPJ Lodge 218, Denver.....\$50
In memory of Charles Milavec

Ann, Cheryl and Wally (6) Bele, Bethel Park, Pa.....\$50
In memory of Joe Progar

Lodge 138 members Millie Progar, Joe Progar, Carole Fatigati and Jim Progar.....\$50
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

SNPJ Lodge 165, Wickhaven, Pa.....\$50

Don and Donna Pidanich (165), Perryopolis, Pa.....\$50

Sharon Green (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$40
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Judy Germani (715), New Castle, Pa.....\$40
In memory of Mike Evarish and Al Jerala

John and Kathy Brown (6), McDonald, Pa.....\$35
In memory of Michael Evanish

SNPJ Lodge 225, Girard, Kan.....\$30
In memory of Margaret Scott

Ed and Teresa (138) Lewis, Michael (138) and Lori (259) Potochar, and Walt Potochar (138), Canonsburg and Houston, Pa.....\$30
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Bob and Doris White, Strabane, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Bill and Veronica Progar (138), Houston, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Bob and Rose Marie Lawrence (138), Strabane, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Bob and Rose Marie Lawrence (138), Strabane, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Francis "Fritz" Tkach

Bill Frank (158), Euclid, Ohio.....\$25
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Henry (138) and Angie Lavrich, Canonsburg, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Edward, Agnes, Ed Jr. and Allison Engel (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Edward, Agnes, Ed Jr. and Allison Engel (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Edward, Agnes, Ed Jr. and Allison Engel (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Al Jerala, everyone's Campsite Pal

Rose Germovsek (138), Strabane, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Young Americans Lodge 564, Detroit.....\$25
In memory of Michael Evanish

Nelson and Sylvia McCullough (138), Houston, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Joe and Connie Juricich (87), North Versailles, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Albert M. Jerala

Joe and Connie Juricich (87), North Versailles, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Mirko Rehar

Joe and Connie Juricich (87), North Versailles, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Lucille A. Hrovat

Joe and Connie Juricich (87), North Versailles, Pa.....\$25
In memory of William "Willie" Hrovat

Joe and Connie Juricich (87), North Versailles, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Michael G. Evanish

John and Shelly Volpe (564), Macomb, Mich.....\$25
In memory of Albert Jerala

John and Shelly Volpe (564), Macomb, Mich.....\$25
In memory of Michael Evanish

Dorothy Gorjup (158), Euclid, Ohio.....\$25
In memory of Michael Evanish

SNPJ Lodge 777, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.....\$25
In memory of Robert Cvetan

SNPJ Lodge 777, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.....\$25
In memory of Eleanor Heaton

Slovenian Pensioners Club of Euclid, Ohio.....\$25

Bob and Lucille Jergel (800), Palm Coast, Fla.....\$20
In memory of Michael Evanish

Cicero Neighbors Lodge 449, Cicero, Ill.....\$20

Paul and Mary Jo Hartman (138), Pittsburgh.....\$20
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Bo and Janice Yarkosky (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Strabane Girls Bowling League (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Fritz Tkach

Strabane Girls Bowling League (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Agnes DeJohn (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Francis "Fritz" Tkach and Joseph T. Progar

Pat and Kathie Rheam (138), Washington, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Rich and Dorothy Yarkosky (138), Strabane, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Peter and Jeannette Elish (142), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$20
In memory of Al Jerala

SNPJ Lodge 265, Southview, Pa.....\$10
In memory of Frank Richards

Rich Batista (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$10
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Frank and Jean Barbish (138), Canonsburg, Pa.....\$10
In memory of Joseph T. Progar

Joe and Millie Progar (138), Strabane, Pa.....\$10
In memory of Albert Jerala

PROSVETA Crossword

Gardening 101 (#0909) by StatePoint Media

ACROSS

1. Woman of refinement
6. Clod or goon
9. Not quite love
13. Type of lizard found in Old World tropics
14. By way of
15. More dire
16. Rebroadcast
17. MoMA contents
18. Republic on Arabian Peninsula
19. Sultry
21. They live one year
23. ___ Lanka
24. "___ Beetle," common pest of gardens
25. Take more than one's share
28. ___ your garden or lawn to create a clean line
30. Stay clear of
35. Days before Christmas and New Year
37. Panache
39. Queen's headdress
40. Respiratory rattling
41. "___ Rathaus," famous town hall of Berlin
43. Miners' passage
44. Of short duration
46. Exclamation of relief or disgust
47. Fairytale beginning
48. Host of 2000 Summer Olympics
50. This garden was a Biblical paradise
52. Applied before feathers

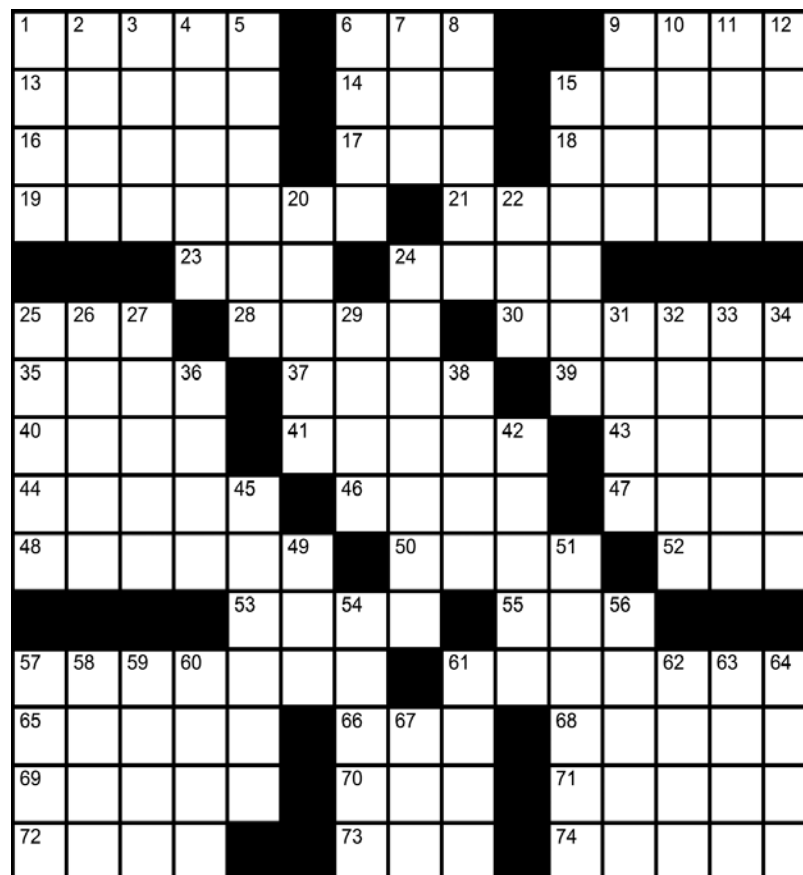
53. Expression of contempt or scorn
55. Be ill
57. Homemade plant food
61. Support for climbing plants
65. '79 movie promoted with tagline, "In space no one can hear you scream"
66. TV variety show "Hee ___"
68. Capital of Egypt
69. If you don't weed, your lawn or garden will become this
70. Inventor of cotton gin
71. Type of stock feed
72. Well-mannered Emily
73. Short for "retired"
74. "If you ___"

DOWN

1. Fourth planet from sun
- "A Death in the Family" author James
- "___ it!" - as in disappointment
4. Collect
5. Type of fertilizer
6. Elliptical
7. "___" Jordan
8. It describes Michael Douglas' infamous attraction
9. "In ___ of"
10. "___ la Douce," starring Shirley MacLaine
11. Use stakes so tomato plants don't ___ over or collapse
12. European sea eagles
15. A hereditary ruler

20. Helper
22. Clinton ___ Rodham
24. Found on Robin Hood's cap
25. Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme, e.g.
26. Estrogen producer
27. Extremely cold
29. Lump of stuff
31. "Goodbye" to Sophia Loren
32. Had not
33. "Fear of Flying" author Jong
34. Plant necessity
36. "___ but not heard"
38. Anything that is necessary but lacking
42. Curse
45. You'll get locked up for doing this
49. "Oui" in English
51. Brother's daughters
54. Formerly used as anesthetic
56. Camel's relative
57. "___ David" retreat
58. Butter substitute
59. Not a hit
60. Garden foe
61. Foolish person
62. Consisting of lime
63. Wraths
64. Guillaume ___, Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire
67. Type of brew

The solution to puzzle #0909 will run in the May 20 issue.



PRESENTED BY



Lodge 2 plans for upcoming wine tasting

by DELORES SPELICH
Lodge 2 Secretary

LA SALLE, Ill. — Happy spring from the members of Lodge 2! It's been a long, cold and snowy winter. We put the snow shovels away... for the second time this year. Now everyone should get outdoors, enjoy the sunshine, pick dandelions, and watch the grass and gardens grow.

The following officers were elected during the recent Lodge 2 meeting: President Mary Rudzinski, Vice President Emil Kotar, Recording Secretary Eleanor Kuhar, Secretary/Treasurer Delores Spelich, and auditors Ray Miklavcic, Mary Stubble and Elmer Spelich. A moment of silence was observed for recently deceased members Frank Furar and Roger Rudzinski.

Letters from the Home Office were discussed. Congratulations to National Secretary Karen Pintar on her recent honor.

We sure will miss hearing about Milwaukee Federation activities from Bob Smole. It's sad to hear the group is disbanding. We have many happy memories of events in the Milwaukee area over the years. As a teen, my folks and I would drive to Wisconsin and stay overnight with the John Schluge family in West Allis. We kids would sleep on the floor on quilts; this was

a time before sleeping bags. John would wake us up Sunday morning by playing his accordion and prancing around the room, singing Slovenian songs.

When the Schluge family came to Chicago to visit John's sister, Ann Reven, and Lewis' family, they would visit my aunt and uncle. My uncle, John Zavasnik, got out his concertina and they'd all have fun singing Slovenian songs. Later we'd all go to the Dom on 26th St. to see a program, dance and eat, or on Sundays during the summer we'd go to the Pioneer Lodge picnics at Pilsen Park. Elmer and I will still try to attend events in Milwaukee, Bob.

We had a good turnout to honor dedicated Lodge 2 Recording Secretary Eleanor Kuhar for her 23 years in office. She was also recognized as our adult Member of the Year and was presented with a gift from the Lodge. Her husband, Bill, was Lodge 2 president for several years before he passed away in December 2002. Their children and grandchildren are also Lodge 2 members. Bill's sister, Angie Nico, was also very active in the Lodge, and attended many conventions and activities until she passed away in June 2006. Thank you, Eleanor, for your loyal membership which is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to Mary Rudzinski for bringing treats to share after the business meeting. Gene Jakse brought his 132-year-old Gem Roller Organ. When the organ is wound by hand, the inserted wooden roll plays a polka and a hymn. Gene collects these instruments. Sears, Roebuck and Co. used to sell them for \$50. It was a pleasant surprise since most of us had never seen one before.

Don't forget the Lodge 2 wine tasting meeting scheduled Monday, May 11, beginning at 1 p.m. We hope Adolph Gnidovic and Frank Dernach are feeling well enough to join us. Please phone (815) 223-8650 if you plan to attend.



Lodge 2 members honored **ELEANOR KUCHAR** [seated, far left] for her 23 years of dedicated service as recording secretary.

Our best wishes to Outlived members Lodge 225 member has ties to NASA



GIRARD, Kan. — Lodge 225 member Sis. Josephine Lenassi recently outlived the life of her SNPJ insurance policy. She writes:

"I was born in Yale, Kan., Jan. 29, 1912, the fourth of five children and the first to be born in the United States. My mother, Franceska Bogataj Mahorich, and my father, Jacob Mahorich, had emigrated from the Gorenjska area of Slovenia. Until I started school, my primary language was Slovenian.

"My father worked in the coal mines in the southeastern corner of Kansas, along with many other miners who had come from that corner of Europe. Money was never overly abundant, but I remember a happy and healthy childhood. My father was severely injured in a mine accident in 1926. He lived another nine months but ultimately died of his injuries; I was 15 years old at the time. In order to survive, my mother took the job of janitor at the local two-room school house. This meant waking early each morning during the cold months to start a fire in the potbellied stoves, and cleaning the rooms and blackboards at the end of each day.

"At the age of 18 in April 1930, I married John Lenassi, a distant neighbor and friend of my older brother, Joe. We had a short engagement, and a long and happy marriage which ended with his death in December 1988. We had one son who is now retired from the Army. My husband worked for Kraft Cheese for many years. During that period we lived in many places, including Chicago, Dallas and small towns in Kansas, Missouri and Texas. In 1955 we moved to the Los Angeles area where John bought a service station. In 1971 he retired and we moved to Hemet, Calif. In 1976 we returned to the area of Kansas where we both were born, and I'm still living in the house we built at that time. Throughout our life together we belonged to SNPJ and visited the local Lodges whenever possible. We both loved the food, fellowship and dancing.

"During World War II, I went to work in Chicago for a wholesale distributing company. While in the Los Angeles area I worked for an engineering firm that produced diodes and transistors for NASA. I was told some of the items I helped manufacture went to the moon.

"Over the years my husband and I traveled to Europe three times, and went on cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean and Hawaii. Our travels were always enjoyable, but flying always made me a little tense. On the first commercial flight I ever made in the late 1950s, the crew was unable to lower the landing gear. The aircraft was diverted to an Air Force base where foam was placed on the runway and we made a belly landing. I'm happy to say nothing like that ever happened again, but still...

"I find at the age of 97 that life is still good and interesting. My health is good and I feel well. I take life one day at a time, and thank God each day for the gift of this wonderful world and the great and caring people in it."

On behalf of the members of Lodge 225 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend best wishes to Sis. Lenassi for continued health and happiness.

Heritage Center cookbook coming to life

by CAROL SADAR MARUSZAK (53)
SNPJ Heritage Center Committee

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — Hello from the SNPJ Heritage Center! I hope everyone had a happy Easter.

Many recipes for the Heritage Center Cookbook included words of encouragement for the committee or "the story" about the recipe submitted. Since there wasn't enough room for comments to be included in the cookbook, we wanted to share them through *PROSVETA*. The committee enjoyed reading them and we hope you do too!

Lodge 218 member Mary King of Raton, N.M., writes: "My mom and dad came from Osp, a small village in Slovenia. My father enrolled his six children in SNPJ as juveniles. He worked in a coal mine and just missed being paralyzed when a big rock caved in and broke his back. He couldn't work for a long time, but SNPJ carried his dues until he was able to pay. My parents lived on the small benefits my dad received as an SNPJ member; he never forgot this. I'm 85 years old and enjoy reading *PROSVETA*. I've always loved recipes. We belonged to Lodge 197 which recently merged with Lodge 218 in Denver."

Lodge 158 member Lori Kiefer of Willoughby, Ohio, writes: "This bread ball

(dumpling) recipe of Slovenian origin was handed down by my Grandma Russ and is really good! The cheese sauce and banana cream pie recipes were both favorites of Del Russ."

Lodge 778 member Mary Ann Klotz of Muskegon, Mich., writes: "I live in Michigan in the summer and spend the winter in Spring Hill, Fla. My dad came from Ljubljana in 1920 and my mother's family came from Austria so I was raised on very good food! This blueberry dessert recipe is very good!"

Lodge 729 member Mary Kosh of Donora, Pa., writes: "This Christmas mother's holiday rolls recipe has been used for about 20 years at our church. They asked me two years ago to take over the project; I'm 85 years old! I was involved for many years before retiring due to health problems. I'm back again and this year we made 739 rolls! The recipe seems long, but it really isn't. Our rolls have traveled to Canada, Georgia, North Carolina, Florida, New York and Chicago."

Lodge 223 member Delpha Johnson of Windsor, Colo., writes: "I used to save all the recipes that were printed in *PROSVETA* when I lived in Pennsylvania. Since I lost my husband, Sam, I moved to Colorado six years ago and still receive the paper."

Marilu Jenovic of Wickliffe submitted

a kidney stew recipe in memory of her mother-in-law; it was her original.

Lodge 138 member Paul Hartman of Pittsburgh writes: "This baccalà/Dalmatian dried cod salad recipe originally came from my wife's grandfather, George Wrkich, who grew up on the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia. My father-in-law, Joe "Mooney" Germovsek, learned to make it, and it became part of our Christmas celebration for years. Before Mooney passed away, he shared this recipe with me. Now I prepare it every Christmas Eve."

Details on obtaining the Heritage Center Cookbook will appear in a future *PROSVETA* issue. This 325-page book is filled with over 680 tasty recipes. Thank you for supporting this cookbook project!

The Heritage Center will be open during Slovenefest so be sure to stop by the museum or booth and say hello. A Slovenian basket filled with items for the kitchen and a copy of the cookbook will be given away in a drawing. Be sure to purchase a \$2 ticket for a chance to win. Remember that donations, monetary or items for the museum, are graciously accepted.

Visit the Heritage Center at the SNPJ Recreation Center Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. April through October. Watch *PROSVETA* for an updated list of guest speakers, and summer and fall activities.

Spring brings new activity to the SNPJ Recreation Center

REC CENTER SPRING
FROM PAGE 1

to join us! The Gostilna will host entertainment by Eddie Vallus Friday night, May 8, from 8 to 10:30 p.m. Things always seem to liven up when Eddie is around, and we're lucky to have him here. Join us and see what we mean.

For you polka dancers searching for a big dance floor, we have what you're looking for. Sunday, May 10, will be

full of surprises. Struthers, Ohio, Lodge 277 will be sponsoring a Mother's Day dance from 3 to 7 p.m. in the beautiful Alpine Room. The energetic Mikey Dee will keep the dancers moving across our large wooden dance floor. The afternoon will also include a bake sale and 50/50 drawing. Get your friends together and come early for a front-row seat; the crowd will be big for this event.

It's not too early to get your Couples Reverse Raffle ticket for Saturday, Sept. 5. I'm holding your lucky number from last year. After hearing what a great time the over 260 people had last year, I've been getting calls for tickets from new people that would like to join us. Great prizes and a delicious dinner will be offered, along with beverages served all night. Music will be provided by the Wayne Tomsic Combo.

Appetizers will be offered from 5 to 6 p.m. and dinner will be served from 6 to 7 p.m. The drawings will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. with music from 8 to 11 p.m. Each ticket is \$100 and admits any two people. This is an adult-only function. Call 1-877-767-5732 today for your ticket. If you do not want your ticket from last year, please let me know so I can give your lucky ticket to someone else. We hope to see you there!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

The annual meeting of members of the **SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED** will be held Sunday, May 17, 2009, in the Laurich Room of the Slovene Home for the Aged, 18621 Neff Road, Cleveland.

Registration: 1:30 p.m. — Meeting: 2 p.m.

*Members are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

*Members, as defined in the bylaws, are those individuals and organizations who have contributed a minimum of \$25 during the preceding year. For the May 17 meeting, this is the period from April 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009.

SNPJ RECOMMENDER PROGRAM



The SNPJ Recommender Program provides an opportunity for adult members to encourage family, friends, children and acquaintances to join the Slovene National Benefit Society and take advantage of SNPJ's competitive products and numerous fraternal benefits. Not only will you be helping a friend and strengthening our Society, you'll also be receiving benefits yourself.

Recommender Benefits

- Receive \$10 for each valid referral submitted.
- Every valid referral earns the recommender one chance in the Quarterly Drawing for an opportunity to win \$100.
- Every valid referral also earns the recommender one chance in the Year-end Drawing for an opportunity to win \$500 cash.

By submitting one valid referral, you have the opportunity to earn a total of \$610 in cash prizes!

I would like to introduce

for SNPJ membership

Please contact: _____
(Parent or guardian if under age 18)

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Indicate Preferred Agent _____
(Optional)

My Name: _____

My Lodge Number: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

e-mail _____

Each individual must be informed that an agent will contact him/her and the referral must have some interest in SNPJ in order for the recommender to be considered valid.

Complete this coupon and return to
Slovene National Benefit Society
Att'n: Marketing Department
247 West Allegheny Road • Imperial, PA 15126

Westmoreland County Federation of SNPJ Lodges

Picnic Schedule 2009

The Evanstown Picnic Grove Evanstown, Pa. The grounds open at noon		
June 7	Slovene-Italian Day Sam Pugliano & Jim Rhoades	1 to 7
June 14	Mikey Dee Polka Picnic Mikey Dee & Jack Tady	1 to 7
June 21	Father's Day Picnic Dick Tady & Don Wojtila	1 to 7
June 28	Jack Tady's Polka Picnic Jack Tady & TBA	1 to 7
July 5	Prime Time Polkas Picnic Klanchnik and Friends & Silver Sky	1 to 7
July 19	Polka Picnic Ray Skovenski & Eddie Rodick	1 to 7
July 26	American Slovene Day Radio Picnic Frank Stanger & Kres Folklore Group	TBA
Aug. 9	Westmoreland Co. Federation Picnic TBA	TBA
Aug. 16	Polka Review Polka Picnic Karl Lukitsch & Dick Tady	1 to 7
Aug. 23	Mikey Dee's Polka Picnic Mikey Dee & Polka Quads	1 to 7

Spring Hill Lodge 778 members take in a Texas-sized polkafest

by EILEEN HARFMANN
Lodge 778 Secretary

SPRING HILL, Fla. — As we arrived in central Texas, spring was just arriving. After enduring nearly a year of drought and dry conditions, the spring rains were returning green to the grasses on the tranquil hills. While traveling the back roads through farm country, signs of rebirth were around every corner. We saw many baby animals; a few fawns, playful colts and fillies, as well as nursing calves and goats. Spring is peak season for all the wonderful wildflowers, such as blue bonnets, Texas paintbrushes, purple coneflowers, red yuccas, primroses, poppies and black-eyed Susans. The view of the fields and along the roadways were breath-taking and provided many opportunities to take a few choice shots on my new camera!

Walt and I attended a three-day polka and sausage festival in Hallettsville, Texas. The festivities were held in the local K.C. hall. We camped in the RV park and enjoyed dancing to the talented Czech bands. The food was delicious and abundant. Friday's fare was fish, Saturday's was sausage and Sunday's was fried chicken and sausage. Takeout was also available throughout the weekend. The food was prepared and served with such

precision, it was mind-boggling. We were told that a thousand pounds of fish were prepared for Friday evening!

Later in the week we stayed in nearby Schulenburg, Texas. We visited the famous painted churches of Dubina, Ammansville, Praha and High Hill. Although many of these churches seem rather plain on the exterior, their interiors are another story. There are hand-painted murals and frescoes, and other historic artworks. All are lovingly maintained and open to the public with no admission charge.

A few days later we traveled to Round Top, Texas, population: 77. Many folks are familiar with this town because several Big Joe's Polka Shows have been filmed here, but this small town has much more to offer. Inside a split rail fence on the town square sit several restored structures from the 1820s to 1870s. They are filled with utensils, furnishings and artwork from that period.

Another unexpected gem was the Festival Concert Hall. Classical musical performances are held in this lovely facility. We were lucky enough to venture inside. The craftsmanship is remarkable!

Our main purpose for visiting this

city was because it hosts the nation's largest antique festival. They like to brag that everything is bigger in Texas, and this antique show certainly lives up to that phrase! We shopped for four days, until we couldn't walk another step, and we still didn't see it all! We saw some unique antiques. Many of the European pieces were one-of-a-kind, museum-quality things you might find at large estates and castles. Many of the Texas dealers had old buggies, covered wagons and chuck wagons from cattle drives. They also had saloon and mercantile furnishings; things you just don't see every day.

We had lunch in nearby Fayetteville, Texas. We ate at Joe's Place at Baca's Saloon. This charming, historic hangout offered chicken fried steak, one of Walt's favorites. I'm glad I ordered the small portion because Walt's large portion took up the entire plate! It was mouth watering and delicious.

On Sunday we traveled to Industry, Texas, for the Texas Polka Music Museum's auction and dance. Two bands donated their time to entertain, and local residents and businesses contributed articles to be auctioned. All proceeds will be used to support the purchase and maintenance of the

newly acquired Texas Polka Music Museum, located in Schulenburg, Texas.

The Saturday before Easter we visited the town of Burnet, Texas, for its annual Bluebonnet Festival. The celebration included a parade, games for the children, a carnival, arts and crafts show, fun runs, and an antique car show as well as an air show. Although the weather was a bit chilly that day, we really had a good time. In the late afternoon, we drove to nearby Lake Buchanan and the Buchanan Dam, one of the largest of its kind in the U.S. The lake has 124 miles of shoreline and measures 30 miles long by 5 miles wide.

Monday we toured the capitol building in Austin, Texas. Since the legislature was not in session, we were able to view the House and Senate chambers as well as the offices below. The building is beautiful, and the grounds are well maintained and very welcoming. The nearby Bob Bullock Texas History Museum was within walking distance. This state-of-the-art museum features interactive exhibits that trace Texas' history. The capitol building and museum are both a must-see for Austin visitors.

With weather predictions of heavy rains, severe thunderstorms and pos-

sibly large hail, we decided to cut our trip short and leave a few days early. When camping in an Airstream trailer, any mention of hail is reason enough to move on!

We thoroughly enjoyed our latest trip to Texas. We arrived back home in time to celebrate our son Kurt's 28th birthday with him and his wife, Cris. Happy birthday, Kurt!



EILEEN and WALT HARFMANN (778) enjoyed a southwestern polka during their recent trip to Texas.

Slovenefest@Sea a swinging good time

by MICHAEL BENZ (576)
Kollander World Travel

CLEVELAND — Fans and friends of dance and polka music were treated to a week with "the best polka band in the Caribbean" as SNPJ favorites the Don Wojtila Orchestra and Tony Klepec played for our group during a seven night cruise that set sail March 1 from Tampa, Fla. This was the second Slovenefest@Sea and the 120 Kollander cruisers were treated to an excellent week. Travelers came from several states including California and Washington. Canada was also represented with polka fans from as far as Saskatchewan, and friends of the Klepecs came all the way from Slovenia to enjoy the party!

Those with foresight planned ahead and were in the Tampa area a few days early to take part in the party at Spring Hill Lodge 778. It was great to see so many familiar faces like Joe Fedorchak (643), Carmen White (715) and Bob Turcola (643). The hall was filled with snowbirds and local residents dancing to the sounds of the Wojtila Orchestra. SNPJ National Secretary Karen Pintar and her husband, Ken, showed off their smarts (and too many Steelers' logos) by arriving in Florida early enough to develop a serious base tan while they attended Florida SNPJ days.

Sunday morning rolled in early after a second great night of music in Spring Hill, and so did the rain and wind! The Tampa cruise port is quite new and only handles two to four ships at a time, which makes boarding your ship much quicker. By 1 p.m., almost all of our cruisers were aboard the Carnival Legend and beginning their vacation! Even Al Bambic's (153) critical drum

kit made it aboard so we could have "the polka beat." Tony and Ann Klepec (643) drove to the ship from their winter home, meeting friends from all across the country and Canada as we prepared to set sail. Tampa Bay was chilly and windy as we headed out to sea our first evening aboard ship.

At our first gathering early the next evening, Kollander Travel and SNPJ hosted a get-acquainted cocktail party for the entire group. Everyone got a chance to introduce themselves to one another while the Wojtilas and Tony Klepec played a few tunes. The Carnival Legend staff also got their first dose of lively music and our lively crowd too! Guenter and Margaret Michaelis celebrated 66 years of marriage with a circle dance and cheers from the crowd. The boat rocked and rolled that evening, and everyone enjoyed dancing and singing in Sachmo's Lounge that night. Then it was off to dinner and taking in the attractions of the ship. It's always fun wandering around a ship in the middle of the ocean and seeing so many people you know!

The Grand Cayman port was closed to tenders the next morning as the little "life boats" that ferry passengers from the ship to the tiny port were unable to safely negotiate the waves. We were somewhat disappointed that we weren't able to visit the island as it's one of the nicer shopping stops in the Caribbean. Others were relieved to not set foot on the island for the same reason...the expensive shops! We enjoyed time around the ship as it sailed on sunny waters en route to Cozumel, Mexico.

The polka dances began in earnest when we moved to the Firebird Lounge in the

bow of the ship. The ship's technicians had the sound system dialed in and ready. The Wojtila Band took off with a series of up-tempo dances and waltzes; the party was on! The fabulous voice of Christine Hibbs sounded great with the band as she sang those classic tunes and old time Slovenian-style favorites. Tony Klepec brought out the button box and stepped it up a notch with some Oberkrainer-style tunes. Vocalist and bassist Dave Skrajner (142) did a fabulous job of singing along with Tony Klepec throughout the week. He really knows his Slovenian! There were so many excellent and fit dancers in the group that the dance floor always was busy. If ships at sea allowed slippery dance wax, the wood floors would be even better for the experienced waltzers and polka experts!

You'd never guess based on how young they look that Tony and Ann Klepec have significant birthdays approaching! The group celebrated their birthdays and big wedding anniversary with a huge cake that was rolled onto the dance floor by the ship's staff and the Klepec's close friends. Everyone enjoyed cake after singing to the wonderful couple. The afternoon dance went by quickly, and we all headed to the dining room for dinner.

As you might imagine, when the staff and crew put on a dinner show, they had plenty of help and participation from the lively Slovenefest@Sea group. Onboard staff members come from over 80 countries around the world with quite a few from Slovenia and neighboring countries. It was great to see how much people from across the world admire music. Their fun spirit and energy was

shown at every dance event, even the late evening dance that lasted until almost 1 a.m.! The combined talents of the musicians really made a great range of music. Mike Wojtila played everything on the keyboard, from swinging standards to ballads with Christine Hibbs. Joe Wojtila added a saxophone punch and some unusual dance moves to the stage, not to mention other venues on the ship! Dan Wojtila even broke out of vacation mode and joined the group for a few tunes throughout the week. Bandleader Don Wojtila moved from piano accordion to grand piano and added Sinatra-like vocals to our parties. By the end of sailing, Don had gone from the "King of Karaoke" to a full-fledged Sinatra impersonator during the talent show held the last night for the entire ship. Out of thousands of people on the ship, we were quite proud to see three band members as finalists portraying Sinatra, Madonna and Elvis!

Friday afternoon in the Firebird Lounge, the musicians hosted an open bar cocktail party for their fans and friends as they played another series of tunes. Tony Klepec organized a polka conga line with over 100 dancers and singers winding their way through the casino, lounges and atrium en route to the dining room.

Music and singing continued as the waiters and waitresses joined in. It seems everyone around the world knows "In heaven there is no beer!" Seeing people from Sri Lanka, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sygan (Pennsylvania, that is) sing and laugh together gives you hope for the future of our world. When meeting over good music and good food, everyone gets along.



National Secretary KAREN PINTAR addressed the cruise crowd before one of the many onboard performances.



Performer TONY KLEPEC (643), pictured with ROSE MARIE JISA (643), is no stranger to the Slovenefest@Sea cruise.

Quite a number of new friends were made between group members and a lot of information was shared. When passengers learned of Rose Marie Jisa's involvement in the Slovenian Genealogical Society International, they got excited about tracing their roots in Slovenia. The week was filled with discussions about heritage and long-lost relatives.

What was the biggest complaint? Time passed too quickly! Many cruise veterans are looking forward to getting together again at Slovenefest XXVIII in July or next year's polka party at sea. Current

plans include a Feb. 21-28, 2010, cruise from New Orleans featuring The Eddie Rodick Orchestra along with Steve Meisner from Wisconsin. The Karousels with Bob Doszak will also join along with friends from Arizona. The Pacific Polka Party sets sail April 17 from Los Angeles with Joe Tomsick, Hank Eberle, and the Seibert fueled Polka Power California providing the dance tunes and fun on board.

Thank you, SNPJ, for working with us to offer this fun cruise experience, and thanks to all the great people that came along Slovenefest@Sea. *Lep Pozdrav!*

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JOHNSTOWN, PA.

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OMISSION
In the article "Lodge 53 joins the candy brigade" which appeared on page 8 of the April 22 issue, the following information was omitted: "For additional information, contact Pauline Barbish at (440) 944-9139."

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Senior Corner

by CARL ZVANUT
Lodge 800

DEVON, Pa.—Four years ago I came into this home and never bothered to check cable services because there was only one, analog service, and the home paid for the basic channels. They still do, but today there are analog and digital channels. Since most assisted living homes were wired before the switch to digital, there will almost certainly be a change in their basic channels as the conversion

proceeds. That has certainly been the case at this place. The best thing to do before entering a home, if television is important to you, is check to see if they have what you want.

One of the more interesting uses of computers in independent living can be found in the March 22 *Philadelphia Inquirer* article "Getting a chance at life outside a nursing home" by Stacey Burling. This piece is about using computers and sensors to monitor an independent living resident to keep him safe. Basically, sensors monitor the movement of a resident to establish a pattern and store it in a computer.

Deviations from the pattern, such as leaving the refrigerator door open, initiate a call to the resident. If he doesn't answer, the computer starts calling others. The article discusses the system's lower cost relative to a conventional nursing home; involvement of a live person; an emphysema patient's experience and delight with the technology after a stay in a nursing home; and the commitment of the non-profit operator, New Courtland, which plans to sell five of its seven nursing homes to concentrate on such projects. The program is only for low-income people. Other similar

programs are discussed.

Using a cane to defend yourself is the topic of the March 29 *Philadelphia Inquirer* article "Seniors learn cane fighting as way to defend themselves" by Matt Sedensky. The article discusses defending oneself using a cane designed for that purpose; one made of "thick, harder wood to sustain wear, and wider crooks to fit around an attacker's neck." These canes are made by Cane Masters, whose founder uses one to teach a two-hour course on protecting oneself with the cane. The course is "increasingly being offered in senior centers and retirement

communities."

I have a cane because I have to use one for balance. Occasionally I find it handy to increase my reach to save a few steps, as in pushing elevator buttons, but I would have reservations on risking my balance to wield it as a weapon. Twenty-one years ago, when I was 70 years young and had no need for a cane, I might have considered carrying a cane had I known how effective it was as an automobile traffic regulator. The reality today is that my cane's intended use is balance, and anything displacing that use is not good.

News from Here & There

by GRACE DOERK
Lodge 559

CHICAGO—After not meeting for six months, the retirees of the Burr Ridge, Ill., SNPJ Home Office finally met at the Bohemian Crystal. There weren't many of us attending because of prior obligations, but we always enjoy each other's company. Some of the retirees are traveling, others are enjoying visits to the casinos, while still others are just staying home. We missed seeing Marion Kieras (1) who was vacationing in Florida with her sister and brother-in-law. Marge Murin is looking forward to becoming a grandmother for the 11th time. She and her husband, Les, do a lot of traveling. Enjoy it now; the time will come when you no longer can.

Since I'm involved with so many Slovenian organizations, I have decided to learn to speak Slovenian. Since my parents never talked in Slovenian, I never had the opportunity to learn the language. I have a good book, so I'll just try it on my own. My friends at the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont will be surprised.

If you're looking for a polka cruise, Kollander is offering two next year, but I'm disappointed that neither will depart from Florida so that we could

have a chance to visit our Florida friends. The first polka party at sea is scheduled Feb. 21-28 in the western Caribbean, sailing from New Orleans. This cruise will feature the Eddie Rodick Orchestra, Steve Meisner, and the Karousels with Bob Doszak, who originally lived in our area. The next cruise, a Pacific polka party, is planned April 17-24 featuring Joey Tomsic, Herb Eberle and Fr. Frank Perkovich. There's a good possibility that I will be organizing SWU members to sail on the Feb. 21-28 cruise. More details will be forthcoming.

Food for thought: I understand that the recent Tea Party Movement may possibly be reorganized as a July 4 American Freedom Day Tea Party and considered to be held each Fourth of July. The day would go down as a decisive turning point in the history of defending our freedom.

The Chicago Federation will host their annual memorial services at the SNPJ section of Woodlawn Cemetery Monday, May 25, beginning at 11 a.m. Following the services, many members head to the Plaza Restaurant in Berwyn, Ill., for lunch. I'll be taking reservations, so if you are interested in attending, please give me a call at (815) 439-3596. Reservations must be made at least a week in advance. Lunch will be served family-style at a cost of \$12.35 per person, which includes taxes and tip. Drinks are not included.

There are many concerns over the condition of the graves situated near the road. I'm told by the cemetery

caretaker that all efforts have been made to correct the situation and they will continue to work on the problem. I have a cemetery planting service that is cheaper than the one offered by the cemetery. If you are interested in this information, please contact me.

For those of you interested in attending the USPEH Chorus concert at Sacred Heart Church, it will be held Sunday, May 17. This year marks the 30th anniversary of this chorus. Tickets for dinner following the concert are priced at \$10.

I remember when we had the PreSeren Chorus concerts here. Those were the days. Many times I recall all the activity that was in our area, and now we have very little. Of course, many of our old timers are no longer with us, and it is very difficult to get young people active. Boy, what memories I have of dances and concerts at the SNPJ Hall on 27th and Lawndale that were filled to capacity. I can even remember Vincent Cankar attending these activities; his son was a member of our Youth Circle. Our first Youth Circle here in Chicago, under the direction of Ann Sannemann, hosted many programs. My dearest friends were Circle members, and I am in contact with many of them, most by e-mail and telephone. My first pen pal from the *Mladinski List* was Clarence Zaitz (559) who now resides in Oregon.

I could go on and on about my many memories of SNPJ activity throughout the years. Oh, yes, *PROSVETA* was

published in the basement of the SNPJ Hall, while meetings, dinners and programs were held in the lower hall.

We're happy to report that Sergeant First Class Thea Udovick – daughter of Ed (1) and Sara Lea Udovick – who is stationed in Iraq, was able to get a leave to attend her daughter Kyla's fifth birthday party in Germany. We're also glad to hear that her husband, Steve, is out of the hospital, and that Trent Udovick is out of the hospital after a nasty staph infection.

Don't forget that Steve Meisner will perform June 21 and Jeff Winard will perform Aug. 16 at Triglav Park in Wind Lake, Wis. Although the Milwaukee Federation no longer exists, I believe there is still a lot of Slovenian activity in Wisconsin. I remember when we had a bus load of people attending the Milwaukee Federation annual picnic. Those bus rides were so much fun, and we all looked forward to renewing those friendships each year. It would be nice if Chicago and Milwaukee friends could get together once again.

SNPJ Region 6 Vice President Tina Rigler (449) has once again made plans for a weekend bus trip to the SNPJ Recreation Center for this year's Slovenefest and Miss SNPJ Pageant July 10-12. For details and reservations, contact Tina Rigler at (630) 257-5051. The deadline for all reservations is June 1. The bus will be leaving the Lemont area the morning of Friday, July 10, and returning late in the evening Sunday, July 12. If you

love to dance and listen to Slovenian music, this trip is for you.

Congratulations to Fran Nespor (755) who has outlived the life of her SNPJ insurance policy. It's been years since we've seen each other, Fran. I believe our first encounter was at an SNPJ Circle director's conference way back when. Fran's late sister, Mary Robich, also attended that conference, along with others with whom I am still in contact today.

Zarja, the magazine produced by of the SWU, will celebrate its 80th anniversary June 19-20. Events for June 19 will take place at the Slovene Heritage Museum in Joliet, Ill. A June 20 banquet is planned at the Slovene Cultural Center in Lemont, followed by entertainment featuring the Singing Slovenes from Minnesota. This group is one of my favorites, and I've seen them several times both in this area and in Minnesota.

Just the other day as I was driving down the highway, I saw people picking dandelions. I remember when my parents picked dandelions and I thought it was gross, but after my mother served the dandelions for dinner, I thought they were delicious. I wonder how many people today still pick dandelions?

Can you believe it's 80 degrees as I'm writing this article? I saw many pontoon boats cruising the lake, many people were fishing, and I even saw a family eating outside. I guess the warmer weather is finally with us — enjoy it!

Girard Lodge 643 pays tribute to Miss SNPJ 2009

GIRARD SALUTE
FROM PAGE 1

Miss SNPJ 1994 Dr. Deirdre Kocjan Petrich (643) opened with a welcoming address which defined Brittney's strong determination to excel as a youngster. Emcee Rezek introduced the Golden Eagles officers, and Mayor Melfi read a proclamation from the City of Girard. Kurt Seifert presented a congratulatory letter from U.S. Senator George Voinovich (R-OH), Jacquie Kimpel (643) read a message from U.S. Congressman Tim Ryan, and Lodge Secretary Tony Kren read a proclamation from State Senator Capri Cafaro.

In addition, Miss SNPJ 2001 Kandace Kocjan (643) presented Brittney with a Golden Eagles plaque and Kurt Seifert II (643) gave Brittney a gift from Youth Circle 7. Our queen, a devoted Pittsburgh Steelers fan, also received a photo of Troy Polamalu, Pittsburgh's popular safety.

National President Evanish gave a very informative speech on the status of affairs and financial strength of SNPJ, and Mayor Melfi provided some interesting information on his knowledge of the Kocjan family. He also shared his working relationship with Kathleen Seifert (643), Brittney's mother, when he was Girard city treasurer.

A special thank you goes out to Anna Marie Gearheart (643) for her coordination of the menu at the Croatian Hall; the chicken and roast pork were delicious and the service was outstanding. Thank you as well to Kathleen Seifert, who prepared the banquet program and coordinated the guest invitations. Kathleen and Anna Marie also took care of the seating arrangements and decorations. The hall was decked in black and gold, the colors of the Steelers... boo! Just kidding, Brittney!

In Brittney's closing remarks, she expressed her appreciation for the banquet and thanked everyone for their support. Jack Vasko and Company, along with cameo appearances by Joe Fedorchak, Del Rezek and Ray Kovac, provided polka and waltz music for the remainder of the evening.

Golden Eagles Lodge President Andy "Sonny" Kocjan was unable to attend the festivities. Andy, Brittney's uncle, had undergone surgery at Cleveland Clinic, but managed to call during the banquet and speak with family and friends. Good luck, Andy, for a speedy recovery.

Thanks to everyone who attended the banquet. Special thanks to our guests, SNPJ National President Joseph C. Evanish and Girard Mayor Jim Melfi.

There's still time to sample the vintage with Lodge 786 members

by JEAN KOCI
Lodge 786 Secretary/Treasurer

ORANGE COUNTY, Calif.—A nice group of members got together for the Lodge 786 regular meeting held at the home of Fred and Rosemary Mlakar April 25. We had a lot to talk about, including reminiscing over last week's whale watching trip, and choosing delegates for the Young Adult Conference, TEL Workshop and our Lodge nominations for members of the year. We also spent quite a lot of time taking care of the final planning for our upcoming Wine Tasting Party which will be held Sunday, June 7. It's great to have such an active membership with everyone ready and willing to help out in any way they can to promote a successful event.

Natalie Mlakar will be our delegate to the SNPJ Young Adult Conference. She has been very active in Youth Circle and Lodge affairs all her life, and this will be her third experience at the Young Adult Conference. We're certain that she will be a valuable delegate to the conference. We also want to congratulate Natalie;

she will be graduating from nursing school at the University of California Irvine in June.

Dean and Kurt Ambrozich, and Lucas Nizzi will be representing the teens this year. I'm sure these boys will have a great time at the Recreation Center, along with their chaperone, Gary Ambrozich. I'll hold up congratulating the members of the year for our Lodge until a later issue, but they are all very deserving.

If you don't have tickets for the Wine Tasting event, please call me right away. More than half of the tickets are already sold, but there may still be availability, so don't delay if you really want to attend. Phone me at (949) 495-0097, or Teresa Koci at (949) 363-1513 if you can't reach me. Arnie and I will be out of town for about a week to attend his high school reunion in Nebraska.

We finished up our afternoon at the Mlakars with a great potluck lunch featuring Rosemary's wonderful reuben casserole, along with many delicious appetizers, sides and desserts... yummy! We even enjoyed a little music.

SAHF presents the golden era of Slovenian opera in Cleveland

by ANTHONY HITI (576)
Slovenian American Heritage Foundation

EUCLID, Ohio—The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the fourth talk in our 2009 lecture series. The foundation is extremely pleased to have Cecilia Dolgan (576) and Joe Valencic (5) discuss the Cleveland Slovenian community's rich history of opera performance.

The program, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled Tuesday, May 5, beginning at 7 p.m. in the lower hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave. in Euclid. A coffee and strudel social will follow the lecture.

Opera played a key role in Cleveland's Slovenian cultural scene from the 1920s into the 1960s. Full-scale opera productions, performed in the Slovenian language, enthralled audiences with masterful singing enhanced by costumes, scenery and orchestral accompaniment.

Cecilia Dolgan and Joe Valencic will present a program on the golden era of

Slovenian opera in Cleveland with rare recordings and vintage photographs. You will learn about memorable productions such as "*Carmen*," "*La Traviata*" and "*Il Trovatore*," as well as the voices that brought these works to life, including Eddie Kenik, June Price, Mary Ivanusch and Anton Schubel.

Cecilia "Cilka" Dolgan was a young performer with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus when she appeared in her first Slovenian opera in Cleveland. She directed the SNPJ Slovenian Junior Chorus for many years, and is now president of the American Slovenian Polka Foundation and its National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame.

Joe Valencic writes, lectures and produces documentaries on Slovenian-American history. As a child, Joe also appeared at Severance Hall with the Lake Erie Opera. He serves as president or an officer of several Slovenian-American societies, and is a founding trustee and historian of the Polka Hall of Fame.

Official Proceedings

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Jan. 5, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. by President Evanish with Sis. Pintar and Bro. Lawrence in attendance.

Approved the minutes of the Nov. 11, 2008, meeting.

Discussed the Recreation Center, areas of improvement, recycling, expenses and projects for the upcoming season.

Reviewed and approved the reinsurance proposal from Optimum Re.

Discussed the Slovenefest@Sea Cruise and reviewed the itinerary.

Reviewed and discussed the plans and timing for the upgrade of the software for the computer system.

Approved to send Bro. Lawrence to the Pust banquet sponsored by SNPJ Lodge 304 on Feb. 21, 2009.

Approved to send Sis. Pintar to Florida Slovene Days and Florida SNPJ Days.

Approved an ad in the amount of \$140 for the Slovenian National Home for the Slovenian Man and Woman of the Year.

The Executive Committee minutes of Sept. 9, 2008, were corrected to read that Lodge 368 (not Lodge 367) merged with Lodge 274 on Sept. 2, 2008.

Cash Withdrawals:

Nov. 12, 2008 - There were six Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$4,471.06; insurance, \$19,500.

Nov. 19, 2008 - There was one Matured Endowment and five Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$10,986.18; insurance, \$67,710.

Nov. 24, 2008 - There were three Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$1,192.52; insurance, \$2,270.

Dec. 4, 2008 - There were two Matured Endowments and five Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$3,089.64; insurance, \$53,250.

Dec. 10, 2008 - There was one Adult Cash Withdrawal, which was not a conversion. Cash value, \$610.62; insurance, \$1,000.

Dec. 17, 2008 - There was one Matured Endowment and seven Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$4,873.51; insurance, \$38,500.

Dec. 22, 2008 - There was one Outlived Policy and six Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$5,179.06; insurance, \$106,200.

Dec. 29, 2008 - There were two Juvenile Cash Withdrawals and three Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$5,014.50; insurance, \$52,500.

Dec. 30, 2008 - There was one Adult Cash Withdrawal, which was not a conversion. Cash value, \$0; insurance, \$25,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

JOSEPH C. EVANISH
National President

KAREN A. PINTAR
National Secretary

Easter a gem for Samsula Lodge 603

by JEANNETTE HUMPHREY
Lodge 603

SAMSULA, Fla. — SNPJ Lodge 603 in beautiful downtown Samsula continues to remain active. The Lodge is serving Friday night dinners beginning at 6 p.m. The meal comes complete with an entrée, vegetable, salad, bread, dessert and coffee, all for \$7 for adults or \$4 for children age 12 and under. The bar is open for your favorite drinks and socializing. Even if you don't have dinner at the Lodge, you're welcome to enjoy the crowd and support our hall. The cooks are not planning a meal for Friday, May 8, but will continue serving Friday nights through the end of May.

The men of our Lodge and community will be cooking for the Lodge's annual Mother's Day dinner Sunday, May 10, at 12:30 p.m. You are invited to attend! The meal is \$8.50; \$5 for children age 12 and under. The profit from this dinner will benefit the Lodge 603 scholarship fund. The men always cook a great meal, and it's nice to give the women a break from kitchen duties.

We send our appreciation to Easter Sunday dinner chairperson Pauline Lockwood for the successful activity at our Lodge hall that welcomed over 250 guests. There were many Lodge and community volunteers helping with the meal and cleanup. Thanks to Connie Massey and Susan Goodrich for taking charge of the Youth Circle 57 Easter egg hunt. It was a huge success. Thanks to Linda and Frank Luznar and their family for the generous donation of 30 dozen eggs for the hunt. Susan and Connie arrived at the Lodge hall early Saturday morning and boiled the eggs for the Circle children to color. Some of the children helped hide the eggs for the hunt.

In Samsula, everyone offers a hand or two for chores. Mada Nursery donated a dozen Easter lilies and mums which were given out as door prizes. President Bill Benedict awarded one plant to Mrs. Lockwood for taking charge of the Easter meal. Special recognition is given to Jerry McDon-

ald and her children, Lisa, Robert, Yancey and Sheila, for helping clear the tables and clean the Lodge. This family helps clean up every year.

Ruth Benedict and her daughter, Ashley, took charge of the sweeping and mopping. They were assisted by several Lodge members. Our Lodge hall floors look beautiful. Jorge Figueroa and his cleaning crew scrubbed the floors and added a coat of wax. This sure helps out with the cleaning; our brooms and mops seem to glide as we work.

Samsula Lodge 603 was saddened once again with the passing of Joseph "Butch" Tomazin III, a lifelong resident. He was born in a little white house on Samsula Dr. 71 years ago and passed away in his home on South Samsula Dr. March 25 with his family at his bedside. He was a supporter of Lodge 603 and, along with his family, donated vegetables for dinners and gatherings. Even if Butch could not attend a function, he would still donate. The produce would be sitting at the delivery door in time for meal preparation.

After Butch became ill, his five children and their spouses stayed with him around the clock. Butch's great-paternal grandparents, Mary Ann and Joseph Kravanja, are believed to be the first Slovenians to move to Samsula in 1910; his maternal grandparents, Jennie and John Luznar, followed in 1915. His paternal grandparents were Mary and Joseph Tomazin Sr.

Butch and his siblings grew up on Tomazin Farms in Samsula where they worked every day. I happen to be one of his sisters. I introduced Butch to his wife of 39 years, the former Joyce Marie Branum. Their wedding reception was held at Lodge 603 along with the wedding receptions of each of their five children.

Joyce passed away six years ago. Their children, Joseph "Huck" Tomazin IV, Linda Piercy, Susan Still, Marjorie Ferreira and Matthew Tomazin, took care of Butch. After Joyce's passing, Butch decided that every Wednesday night he would have his children and their families

over for a pizza party. During the past six years, there were only a few Wednesdays that were missed because of other engagements or family sickness. Often, his brothers and sisters would join the pizza parties.

Butch graduated in 1954 at the age of 16 from New Smyrna Beach High School and served in the U.S. Army. He loved farming, working on tractors and selling his produce at local farmers' markets. He farmed the Slovenian way with Huck, producing high quality vegetables. Our family is lucky because we can harvest the vegetables we need from the farms of our brothers. We have visited the homeland and the farms in Samsula remind you of those in Slovenia. It is nice to know that Butch's son will continue the family farming.

Visitation for Butch's family was conducted at Dudley Funeral Home March 28 and 29. The family hosted a barbecue and celebration of his life at the farm. There were games for children and adults, and lots of four-wheeler and golf cart rides. A huge tent, provided by Ron Luznar and his family, sheltered guests as they feasted on all kinds of food and dessert. Lodge President Benedict delivered the Lodge eulogy, and Butch's children released balloons in the air. Memorial donations may be made to the SNPJ Lodge 603 Building Fund.

Samsula was also saddened with the March 13 passing of Sam Raulerson, 76. Sam was a devoted member of our Society. His memorial was celebrated at Lodge 603 April 5. The Lodge was filled and it was touching to hear about his life. President Benedict delivered the Lodge eulogy. Sam's daughters, Teresa Clancy, Lisa Farber and Elaine Figueroa, and their families were on hand to welcome members and guests. The Benedict-Raulerson family took charge of the meal, and many guests brought dishes for all to enjoy.

Through this family, our Lodge continues to be strong in operation. They are always willing to help out. Sam attended so many of our Lodge



Youth Circle 57 awarded prizes to Easter egg hunt winners JAYDEN FIGUEROA, HAILEY LUZGAR and DEREK PELL.



Samsula, Fla., Lodge 603 President WILLIAM BENEDICT distributed the door prizes at the annual Easter Sunday celebration.

functions. He suffered a stroke at age 52 that left him disabled, but he still did a lot of work. He always carried a pen and paper to write what he wanted to say. Sam and his wife, Frances Benedict, were injured in a vehicular accident several years ago. Frances did not survive, but after several months in the hospital, Sam was released to the care of his family. His caregiver, Teresa, stayed with Sam all day while his daughters worked. He was confined to a wheelchair, but it never kept him from smiling and coming to the Lodge.

The family requests that donations be made to the SNPJ Lodge 603 building or scholarship fund. Sam loved

his "Raulerson Ranch" in Samsula and took pride in raising beautiful beef cattle.

Mark your 2010 calendar for our Florida SNPJ Days Feb. 19-21. We already have bands lined up for this celebration. Joe Novak & Friends will be coming in from Medina, Ohio. The Marc Bouchard Orchestra from Daytona Beach will perform, along with our own Ron Luznar and the Polka Pals. And we can't forget the talents of Bob Turcola and Tony Klepec, who will also be on hand. These talents will make for one great time at Lodge 603 on Polka Ave. in beautiful Samsula. We're looking forward to seeing you!

Badger Jabber

by BOB SMOLE
Lodge 584

MILWAUKEE — Badger Lodge 584 President Tim Donovan called the regular monthly Lodge meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All officers except Secretary/Treasurer Jeff Mlaker were present. Bro. Mlaker is enjoying a vacation in Florida with wife Kari, and children Tyler, Emily, Evan, Joshua and Maxwell. This is a trip they all look forward to

each year.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved, as were the secretary and treasurer reports. Jeremy Gorgas was nominated and elected as our entry for Youth Member of the Year. Jeremy is an active young man in both sports and volunteering at Lodge functions. He always helps at the annual Christmas parties and at various other events throughout the year. Jeremy is an excellent athlete and participates in high school baseball, basketball and is in several leagues during the bowling season. At last report, he carries a 202 average in bowling.

Eric Donovan and Jennifer Wucinski were elected to represent our Lodge at the upcoming Young Adult Conference scheduled to take place at the beautiful SNPJ Recreation Center June 26-28. Both of these individuals have participated in Youth Roundup and the TEL Conference. If there is anyone interested in attending these kind of activities, please contact me at (262) 242-6204 or Bro. Tim Donovan at (414) 817-0192. These events are good opportunities for youngsters to see the Rec Center, meet and visit with SNPJ youths from around the U.S., and to travel with all expenses paid. You can't beat that!

A lengthy discussion was held regarding plans for the USPEH Slovenian Chorus' 30th anniversary celebration and concert. An open invitation is extended to all to attend the concert Sunday, May 17, at Sacred Heart Church, 917 N. 49th St., a half-block north of Wells St. Tickets cost \$10 and include the 2 p.m. concert in the church followed by a delicious dinner in the hall. There is limited seating, especially for dinner, so please make arrangements to obtain your tickets well in advance. There will be plenty of free parking and the facility is easily accessible. Make plans early to attend this special celebration honoring

the anniversary of our talented local Slovenian chorus. We need to support these ethnic groups, and encourage them to continue carrying out our Slovenian heritage and traditions. Contact Sis. MaryCay Freiberg at (414) 778-1464 for tickets and additional information. Details about the "Koncert in the Park" were disclosed. The date is Sunday, Aug. 29. Ansambel Erazem from Postojna, Slovenia, will perform at Triglav Park in the Wind Lake, Wis., area. This beautiful outdoor park is nestled among large shade trees, a perfect setting for the European group to present their wonderful ethnic music and songs. Following their performance, the group will play for your listening and dancing pleasure, making for an enjoyable afternoon in the park.

USPEH is sponsoring this special day to commemorate their 31st anniversary. USPEH is formed from eight groups in the Milwaukee area, including Sloga, the Milwaukee Slovenian Retirees, Fun-O-Leers, KSKJ, SNPJ, SWU, TRIGLAV and the USPEH Chorus. I know you will enjoy this experience and won't want to miss it! Tickets are \$10. There will be baked goods, sandwiches, and plenty of beer, wine and soda available for purchase all afternoon. This is another opportunity to support the Slovenian culture that we are so proud of. Come out and enjoy! The fresh air will do you good and the entertainment will be unbeatable. For additional information and tickets, contact Sis. Fan Smole at (414) 258-5572.

Two special Lodge 584 members, Sisters Rose Chepeck and Toni Needham, will be receiving a Volunteer Service Award. This award honors their dedicated service for the past 12 years, and for volunteering over 2,000 hours each. The American Red Cross will present this award at the Zablocki Veteran Medical Center in Woods, Wis., where these two special ladies donate all of their services. Hats off in congratulations to these two deserving, big-hearted ladies. We'd also

like to include our declaration of thanks for all that you do for our veterans.

The monthly performance of the popular birthday song was sung to Brothers Rudy Papa and Bob Alperner. They are both retired. Bro. Alperner wouldn't divulge how many years he has been brewing coffee, and Bro. Papa wouldn't reveal how many years he has been drinking coffee. At any rate, we wish them many more. Bro. John Poklar was the lucky winner of the monthly attendance award, and Sis. Marge Adomat won a special Lions Club pancake breakfast ticket donated by Bro. Bob Smole.

As a friendly reminder, Badger Lodge 584 meets the third Thursday of each month at St. Peter's Church Hall, 79th and Lincoln Ave., beginning at 7:30 p.m. Why not attend the next meeting Thursday, May 21? The expertly brewed coffee and exquisite homemade desserts served at the social following the meeting make for a wonderful evening out. Come enjoy the friendship of your fellow Lodge members. If anyone has news to share and would like it included in the "Badger Jabber" column, you may contact me via e-mail at rsmole@wi.rr.com. Please reference Badger Jabber in the subject line. I will consider any and all news items on a timely basis, keeping in mind the publication deadlines for PROSVETA.

This is a good time to mention that SNPJ has restructured and added some new insurance products. If you were considering changing, adding to or updating your policies, this would be a good time to give me a call at (262) 242-6204. We can go over the new policies, and find one that best suits your specific needs and tailor it just for you. Have a newborn in the family? Did someone you know just have a baby? What a wonderful gift to give a newborn; a lifetime of life insurance and all the benefits of SNPJ membership, including a scholarship program, at a reasonable rate. Enroll in the first year after birth and save even more.

PROSVETA 2009 Publication Dates

JANUARY 2009

	1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21
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MARCH 2009

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Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Monday a week prior to the issue date, unless otherwise noted above or on the front page. Submissions may be mailed to PROSVETA at 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126; faxed to (724) 695-1555; or e-mailed to prosveta@snpj.com.

Lodge 745 has plans for an active summer

GOLDEN VALLEY LODGE
FROM PAGE 1

Mlakar at conniemlakar@yahoo.com for more information. If you do not have Internet access, phone John Mlakar at (530) 823-6544. Another planned Lodge activity will take place July 18 when we participate in the Eppie's Great Race triathlon.

During the meeting we also discussed picking a date to attend a Sacramento River Cats AAA baseball game. We enjoyed this activity last year and members have showed interest in attending another game. The Lodge is also planning a fall dance at the home of Dale and Suzi Buse in Newcastle, Calif.

The Lodge 745 up and coming events promise fun for just about anyone. We hope all Lodge members will attend and bring a friend.



The Miss SNPJ Pageant Committee, pictured with the contestants entered in the 2008 Miss SNPJ Pageant, invites all eligible female members to enter the 2009 pageant.

53rd Miss SNPJ Pageant opens with two entrants

FIRST ENTRIES
FROM PAGE 1

tants will receive a \$50 participation award.

I encourage all of our 17- to 25-year-old female members to enter the pageant. You will be treated like royalty throughout the weekend as you become part of a 53-year SNPJ tradition.

The young woman who is crowned Miss SNPJ 2010 will win a \$2,000 scholarship award, and an official crown, banner and trophy. Miss SNPJ will have the opportunity to travel to SNPJ activities across the country and will appear on the 2010 SNPJ calendar. The winner of the Miss Activity crown will receive a \$1,200 scholarship award, and Miss Talent will receive an \$800 scholarship award. Participation in the pageant fulfills the activity requirement for the SNPJ Scholarship Program.



In loving memory of
Pauline Bence
Jan. 10, 1911 — May 11, 2008

"Quietly remembered every day.
In our hearts,
you are always there."

Sadly missed by daughter Joyce Asher & husband Ron; son Vincent & wife Carole; grandchildren Kim & Harley Evans, RJ & Mary Beth Asher, Michael & Stephanie SelfBence, and Neil & Rebecca Bence; and great-grandchildren Ryley Evans and Nathan & Megan Bence

SNPJ fraternal sympathies

SIS. MARY SAMSA • LODGE 778 •

SPRING HILL, Fla. — The Samsa family and Lodge 778 sadly announce the March 11, 2009, passing of Sis. Mary (Vehar) Samsa, 87, of San Jose, Calif., formerly of Richmond Heights, Ohio.

Mary worked at the Gen-

eral Motors Fisher Body Plant in Euclid, Ohio, for 30 years. Soon after retirement, she moved to Spring Hill and became a member of SNPJ Lodge 778.

Sis. Samsa was the devoted wife of the late Charles Samsa; cherished mother of Marilyn (Jim) Pekol of San Jose, Charlene Dornback of

Willoughby, Ohio, and Donn (Debbie) Samsa of Salem, Va.; grandmother of Bryan Pekol, Ken Dornback, Jennifer Trotter, and Tim and Matt Samsa; great-grandmother of Ariel, Marisa, Ben, Madeline, Alex and Eve; and the aunt to many nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her brothers, John, Henry

(Jack) and Victor Vehar; and sisters Lillian Obed, Olga Leskovec and Albina Zupon. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 778 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to the friends, family and relatives of Sis. Samsa on their loss.

In Loving Memory

SIS. ELSIE ANDERSON • LODGE 113 •

PRICE, Utah — The Anderson/Vuksinick family and members of Lodge 113 sadly announce the March 10, 2009, passing of Sis. Elsie Vuksinick Anderson, 80, at her home in Mesquite, Nev. She was born March 23, 1928, in Rolapp, Utah, to Rudolph and Annie Sterlekar Vuksinick. On her most recent birthday, she would have been an 80-year member of SNPJ.

Elsie was the daughter of a coal miner and grew up in the coal camps. Her mother ran a boarding house where Elsie learned the value of hard work and honed her homemaking skills; she was an excellent cook and housekeeper. She made the best potica which her family always looked forward to at Christmas. Elsie loved to play the accordion and dance to polkas. She was proud of her Slovenian heritage and passed this on to her children.

Sis. Anderson married Wendell Wharff in 1946. They lived in Castle Gate, Utah, and later moved to Spring Glen, Utah. After their divorce she worked two jobs to support her three daughters. She worked at Price Floral and Price Medical Center for many years.

Elsie married Max Anderson Jan. 26, 1964, in Elko, Nev., and moved to Sandy,



Sis. ELSIE ANDERSON (113)

Utah, where she was blessed with another daughter. She worked at Ziniks' Cottonwood Mall as a manager until they closed. She went on to manage Mini World, a children's clothing store. She moved to Mesquite 12 years ago from Sandy and managed the Eureka gift shop until she retired at the age of 77.

Sis. Anderson was preceded in death by her husband, Max, and parents Rudy and Annie Vuksinick of Spring Glen. She is survived by her four daughters, Linda (Jim) McKee of Milburn, Utah, Wendy (Gene) Short of Sandy, Carrie (Mike) Cannell of Mesquite and Jolene (Gary) Kretschmann of Mesquite; one brother, Rudy (Mildred) Vuksinick of Orem, Utah; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews that have always kept in touch; Elsie always

cherished their visits.

Graveside services were held May 2 at Lake Hills Cemetery in Sandy. A celebration of Sis. Anderson's life followed at the home of Wendy Short in Sandy.

BRO. AL JERALA • LODGE 88 •

BOCA RATON, Fla. — The time is soon approaching for my wife Bea and I to bid farewell to Florida and head north to our favorite little corner of the world, the SNPJ Recreation Center in the quaint little town of the Borough of SNPJ, Pa. This year, however, our return will lack the joy and enthusiasm of years past. We will miss the pleasant greeting of our dear and longtime friend, Al Jerala. We'll miss his cheerful smile, his firm handshake and his warm embrace.

My association with Al goes back many years. He was a true friend in every aspect of the word, and a man of pride and integrity. His love of his Slovenian heritage was heartwarming and inspiring. I spent many summer afternoons sitting with Al and listening to tales of his Slovenian upbringing. He always spoke lovingly of his mother's warmth and her love of singing. He attributed his lyrical knowledge of the many Slovenian songs he

loved to sing to his mother. He loved to reminisce about the "good old days," and I loved to listen.

One of Al's greatest joys was opening up his trailer each spring for the season and greeting his many friends. He participated in the many activities at the Recreation Center, and particularly enjoyed listening to Slovenian music and singing along to the songs he knew best. My thoughts go back to the many pleasant evenings I spent with Al and friends at Tony and Ann Klepec's trailer, singing and listening to the beautiful tunes Tony played so proficiently. Al particularly enjoyed attending the Sunday picnics at the "pavilion on the hill." He was always surrounded by his many friends and trailer neighbors. Part of my commitment to Al was to pick him up in my golf cart each Sunday so he could attend the picnics and activities along with my wife, Bea.

Much has already been written about Al and his many attributes; I could probably go on and on for pages. Al was a very special person, loved by all who knew him. The fond memories that I have of my dear friend Al Jerala will remain in my heart forever.

Editor's Note: This article was written by Bro. Joe Cvetas (787).

SNPJ Crossword DINNER TIME (#0809) solution

F	O	R	C	E		L	A	C		P	E	A	L	
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DEATHS REPORTED

For the weeks of March 1-15, 2009

LODGE	NAME	DEATH	DATE OF CITY/STATE
A01	William F. Schick	3-05-09	Pittsburgh, Pa.
A02	Ruth H. Robinson	1-07-09	Philadelphia, Pa.
FD4	James R. Zwick	1-31-09	Coraopolis, Pa.
6	Jake Bait	2-05-09	Bethel Park, Pa.
87	John J. Stodolsky	1-30-09	North Huntingdon, Pa.
88	Albert M. Jerala	2-09-09	Pittsburgh, Pa.
89	Elsie M. Ferbezar	3-02-09	Venus, Pa.
89	Mary Ann Tasz	3-04-09	McDonald, Pa.
138	Joseph T. Progar	2-20-09	Strabane, Pa.
138	Louis J. Bernard	1-10-09	Washington, Pa.
158	Mildred Mehollin	2-12-09	Willoughby, Ohio
225	Sevio D. Cardiali	1-25-09	Arma, Kan.
259	Michael Baker Jr.	2-25-09	Washington, Pa.
268	Edward Masera	1-07-09	Gilbert, Minn.
318	Stella M. Zabkar	2-12-09	Ligonier, Pa.
559	Bertha J. Hofer	12-22-08	Shorewood, Ill.
564	Alvena H. Willard	2-20-09	Fraser, Mich.
581	Margaret Rominski	2-24-09	W. Naticoke, Pa.
584	Roger A. Dragan	1-06-09	Milwaukee, Wis.
614	Agnes C. Pace	2-17-09	Parma Heights, Ohio
721	Zoli T. Almasi	11-03-08	Aliquippa, Pa.
749	Robert Livermore	1-10-09	Denmark

KAREN A. PINTAR
National Secretary

CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament May 23, 2009

at Rolling Green Golf Course, Huntsburg, OH
9 a.m. Shotgun Start

Check Entry:
Men Ladies Youth

Name	Lodge	Phone	Hdcp.
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

The \$70 entry fee covers greens fees, cart, prizes, dinner, and sandwich and beverage at the turn. Youth entry fee is \$62.

Return this form, along with entry fees, to:
Linda Gorjup

790 E. 250th St., Euclid, OH 44132
Phone: (216) 731-2723

Make checks payable to

SNPJ Cleveland Athletic League (CAL)

ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 16, 2009

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.

2009 Miss SNPJ Pageant Official Entry Form

Entrants must be between the ages of 17-25 by Dec. 31, 2009, and an SNPJ member in good standing for at least 3 months.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

BIRTH DATE _____

POLICY NUMBER _____ LODGE _____

PARENTS' NAMES _____

GRANDPARENTS' NAMES _____

HOBBIES _____

LOCAL NEWSPAPER _____

I will compete in the Miss SNPJ talent competition

YES NO

Type of talent _____

(NOTE: Talent is not necessarily proficiency on a musical instrument or singing ability. Creativity is encouraged. Everybody has a talent.)

On a separate sheet of paper and in your own words, please describe any school honors you have received, and any organizations, clubs and activities you were involved with. Be sure to include specific SNPJ Youth Circle, Lodge or Federation activities.

Mail completed application,
along with a clear, color photo, to:

Slovene National Benefit Society

Att'n: Fraternal Director

247 West Allegheny Road

Imperial, PA 15126-9774

Application Deadline: June 15, 2009

SNPJ Recreation Center 2009 Dance Schedule



May 10	Lodge 277 Mother's Day Dance Mikey Dee Orchestra	3 to 7
May 24	Memorial Day Dance Joe Grkman Orchestra	2 to 8
June 14	Del Sinchak Orchestra and Frank Stanger Orchestra	2 to 8
June 21	Lodge 770 Father's Day Dance	3 to 7
June 28	Western Pa. Federation Dance Bob Turcola Orchestra (pavilion)	3 to 7
July 5	Lodge 782 Annual Dance Joe Grkman Orchestra (pavilion)	3 to 7
July 10-12	SLOVENEFFEST XXVIII	Day-long
July 19	Lodge 6 Annual Dance (pavilion)	2 to 8
Aug. 2	East Ohio/W. Pa. Federation Dance Del Rezek Orchestra	3 to 7
Aug. 9	Lodge 643 Annual Dance	3 to 7
Aug. 16	Lodge 715 Annual Dance Mikey Dee Orchestra (pavilion)	3 to 7
Aug. 23	Frank Stanger Orchestra	3 to 7
Aug. 30	WKBN Dance Stan Blout and Del Rezek orchestras	2 to 8
Sept. 6	FREE Labor Day Dance Joe Grkman Orchestra (new pavilion)	2 to 8

The SNPJ Recreation Center invites all members, families and friends to the dances and other events planned in 2008. Dances are held in the Alpine Room unless otherwise noted. Schedule is subject to change. For information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center at 1-877-767-5732.