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Off to a great start

Her first month a busy time for Miss SNPJ 2019

by ELIZABETH SMRDEL (158)
 Miss SNPJ 2019

EUCLID, Ohio — It's hard to believe that it's already been over a month since I was crowned Miss SNPJ 2019. Ever since I was little, I always wanted to be Miss SNPJ. I never thought that when I sent in my entry form in May, I would actually accomplish that dream. When I heard my name announced as the winner, I had so many thoughts going through my head and so many people I wanted to thank, but I was so overwhelmed I was unable to put those thoughts

into sentences. My parents will tell you this is the first time they've ever seen me speechless! Now that the shock has worn off, I want to thank those people.

First off, thank you to every single member of Lodge 158, the Loyalties, especially President Pat Nevar. Thank you for supporting me ever since I announced I was running. I would not want to be a part of any other Lodge.

To the women I competed with, thank you

SEE MISS SNPJ 2019
 ON PAGE 4



Miss SNPJ 2019 **ELIZABETH SMRDEL** (158) and her boyfriend, Derek, enjoying the atmosphere of Slovenefest.

briefly

Home Office closed as we celebrate Labor Day

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The SNPJ Home Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 3, in celebration of Labor Day. Normal office hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., will resume Tuesday, Sept. 4. We wish all SNPJ members and friends a safe, happy Labor Day.

Lodge 603 hosts fish fry, meet-and-greet Sept. 3

SAMSULA, Fla. — On Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3, SNPJ Lodge 603 will host a fish fry "Meet and Greet" at the Lodge 603 Hall in Samsula. Meet with Lodge 603 members and SNPJ agents Richard Tremblay and Robert Konopka while enjoying an all-you-can-eat fish fry.

For more information, contact Lodge 603 Secretary Elaine Figueroa at (386) 566-3512.

ELAINE FIGUEROA
 Lodge 603 Secretary

Sept. 20 meeting date scheduled for Lodge 257

CLEVELAND — The Sept. 20 Lodge 257 meeting will be held at Brecksville United Methodist Church, 65 Public Square, Rt. 21, beginning at 6 p.m.

Lodge 257 is very proud of the Emery family, who take pride and interest in the SNPJ, and we congratulate SNPJ Miss Talent 2019 Erin Gee and the other Miss SNPJ Pageant contestants.

RUDY PIVIK
 Lodge 257

Have you recommended a new member lately?

IMPERIAL, Pa. — Take advantage of SNPJ's Recommender Program. Every valid referral earns the recommender one chance in the quarterly drawing for a chance to win \$100! Pay a visit to the SNPJ website, www.snpj.org, to complete an online Recommender form and get a head start on your reward.

THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are Oct. 1 and Nov. 1. All material must be received by Wednesday, Sept. 19, for the Oct. 1 issue, and by Wednesday, Oct. 17, for the Nov. 1 issue. If you are concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to prosveta@snpj.com or submit your material via the publications area of our website, www.snpj.org.



• **Sterling J. Miller**
 Born Jan. 20, 2018
 Bon Air, Pa., Lodge 254

SNPJ Lodge 254 welcomes Sterling James Miller as its newest member. Sterling, a sixth-generation SNPJ member, is the son of Makayla Sral (254) and James Miller, grandson of Christine Naugle (254), and great-grandson of Lodge 254 Secretary Donna Naugle and the late Anthony Naugle (254). We welcome Sterling to the SNPJ and extend our best wishes to his entire family.



Photo submitted by Bro. Jerry Troha (581).

East Meets West at the 31st Quadrennial Convention
 East coast delegates mingled with west coast delegates during the 31st National Convention at the SNPJ Recreation Center: [from left] **FRANK ROTE** (723), **MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI** (581), SNPJ Region 6 Vice President **FRED MLAKAR** (786), **JERRY TROHA** (581), **JOHN MLAKAR** (745) and **CAROL JANCICH** (786).

PERIODICAL MATERIAL

Miss SNPJ 2018 reflects on her memorable year

by LAUREN SEBUSCH (576)
 Miss SNPJ 2018

CLEVELAND — Well, here we are; my final *PROSVETA* article as Miss SNPJ. I didn't realize how fast this year was going until it ended.

Saying goodbye is probably the most difficult part of being Miss SNPJ. The travels we enjoy are so much fun, the fraternalists we meet are a blessing, and the Slovenian culture we embrace is unforgettable. The hard part comes when it's time to relinquish our crown and step aside.

No one ever said this day would be easy. And if you've ever attended a Miss SNPJ crowning, then you know it's not. Plenty of tears are shed as we stand up there and pour our hearts out in gratitude to all the kind souls who have made our journey one we'll never forget.

For those of you who don't know me too well, or didn't know the relationship I shared with my grandmother, Dorothy Gorjup, then you may not know that I almost dropped out of the Miss SNPJ Pageant last year. My grand-



mother held my heart and soul in her hands and was, by far, the most influential person in my life. After she passed on, I felt cheated and broken.

SEE FAREWELL
 ON PAGE 5

You're the judge at the Rec Center's annual Wine & Sausage Fest

by SUSAN ZARELLA (277)
 SNPJ Recreation Center

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — Summer isn't over yet at the SNPJ Recreation Center! We're cooking up a fun-filled day on Saturday, Sept. 29, at the North Pavilion (upper pavilion) for our sixth annual Wine & Sausage Festival.

You, as a guest, will choose the best wine and sausage makers from the area to be crowned the winners of the 2018 Festival. Your admission fee will cover a sample from each participating vendor. Taste them all and cast your vote! Music will be provided from 2 to 8 p.m. by Turcola & Kravos.

SEE WINE & SAUSAGE
 ON PAGE 7



Enjoy dancing, singing and good food during the Slovenian Grape Festival at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, on Sunday, Sept. 23.

Celebrate the fruit of the vine at the SNPJ Farm Grape Festival

by JOE VALENCIC
 Lodge 5

KIRTLAND, Ohio — It's time to celebrate the fruit of the vine, old country-style, at the SNPJ Farm's colorful, musical Slovenian Grape Festival, Sunday, Sept. 23.

A polka parade with Slovenian costumes and singing will start the festivities, and the Joey Tomsick Orchestra will perform for four hours of dancing. Hearty harvest fare will be available, including smoked Slovenian sausage, savory roast beef and homemade donuts.

Wear your Slovenian outfit and join the sing-along when the parade starts at 2:45 p.m. with accordionist Tony Fortuna leading the way. Joe Valencic will provide song sheets and the story behind the tradition. Dance to

Joey Tomsick's polka and waltz favorites from 3 to 7 p.m. under the pavilion decorated with grapevines and hanging treats. If you dare grab a goody, you could wind up in jail!

Admission is free if you wear a Slovenian costume or bring your accordion to the parade; participants need to arrive by 2:15 p.m. to prepare. Regular admission is \$8, free for those 18 and under, and includes four hours of live music and all the balinca (bocce) you can play. Dinners, sandwiches and refreshments will be served beginning at 2 p.m.

The SNPJ Farm is located at 10946 Heath Road, off Chardon Road (Route 6) in Kirtland, three miles east of State Route 306 and six miles west of Route 44. For more information, call (440) 256-3423.

PROSVETA ENLIGHTENMENT

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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
247 W. Allegheny Road
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e-mail: prosveta@snpj.com



Photo submitted by Sis. Anna Feltes (776).

Just Can't Miss Slovenefest!

While manning the SNPJ Marketing Booth at Slovenefest on July 15, sales agent Susanne Kresser was visited by 97-year-old Honorary Member **RUTH SHUSTER (41)** [left], **ANNA M. BOLKA FELTES (776)** [third from left] and 99-year-old Honorary Member **ANGIE DROP (87)** [right]. We're certain these ladies enjoyed themselves at Slovenefest this year, and we're looking forward to seeing them again at Slovenefest 2019.

W. Pa. Fed will meet in Imperial in October

by BRIAN PATOSKY (106)
Federation Secretary

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The Western PA Federation will meet at Imperial Lodge 106 on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 4 p.m. We will be discussing our Funny Fund-raiser that will be held at Imperial Lodge 106 on Saturday, Nov. 3. We'll also be discussing future events that we may sponsor, such as snow tubing, ice skating or a polka dance. Your input would be appreciated.

The Western PA Federation includes Lodges 6, 33, 89, 106, 138, 216, 245, 265, 629, 665, 715, 721, 782, A01, A02, A18 and FD4. If your Lodge is on this list, we would like your input and involvement in our meetings, no matter how big or small, active or inactive your Lodge is. Many collective voices will help guide our decisions on how to promote our Slovenian heritage through music, food and fraternal events yet to be planned.

Westmoreland Fed continues Pretty in Pink fund-raiser effort

by MARYANN BEBAR (41)
Federation President

YUKON, Pa. — The Westmoreland County (Pa.) Federation of SNPJ Lodges held their annual "Pretty in Pink" fund-raiser June 24 at the Yukon Slovenian Hall. This fund-raiser, hosted by Treasurer Lois Denning (41) and her committee, has been an annual project for seven years. Lois is a cancer survivor, as are a few other members of our Lodges.

Paying it forward is the best feeling in the world. The "Pretty in Pink" fund-raiser assists cancer patients in need of financial help to pay for groceries and fuel. Another organization we support

is the Karla J. Nease Foundation. This foundation was founded in memory of Joe Nease's late wife, Karla, and assists terminally ill patients with utilities and repairs, paying back to those in need.

Many thanks to SNPJ Lodges 41, 87, 223 and 729 for all their help in setting up, donating baskets and baked goods, and working the event.

The "Pretty in Pink" event had a super crowd, and the music provided by The Polka Classics was awesome. Fun was had by all! The food offered by Bubba's was sold out before I could stop for a break. This was good for business, but not for the hungry! Thanks to all who

came out and supported us again.

On Saturday evening, Oct. 27, we are sponsoring an oldies dance with live music by The Classics from 6 to 10 p.m. This dance will be held at the Yukon Slovenian Hall. Food and refreshments will be available. Sure hope to see you there!

On Sunday, Dec. 2, the Federation will hold a Christmas holiday dance at the Crystal Ballroom in Herminie, Pa. There will be music by The Polka Classics from 2 to 6 p.m. Food and refreshments will be available.

Looking forward to seeing you real soon. Enjoy the rest of the summer and keep dancing!



Among those enjoying the Westmoreland County Federation "Pretty in Pink" fund-raiser in June were [from left] **ROSE MASARIK (223)**, **JOANN RASPOPTNIK (41)**, **LOIS DENNING (41)** and **MARYANN BEBAR (41)**.

Plenty of sun and fun during the Lodge 786 summer picnic

by JEAN KOCI
Lodge 786 Secretary/Treasurer

ORANGE COUNTY, Calif. — Balloons, bubbles and a refreshing pool kept over 30 kids and adults happy at this summer's Lodge 786 picnic. The picnic was held at the beautiful Rancho Niguel Recreation Center, thanks to Paula and Jim Manning who live in that community. We were able to use the Niguel Room for our meeting and buffet, so it was cool and convenient, and the outdoor grassy field was perfect for the water balloon toss. Some of the most competitive tossers were on vacation this year, but young adult member Garret and his friend, Sheryl, were about the last ones standing. Even 4-year-old Isaiah and a couple of the Leathers children took part.

Angela and Jesse Leathers drove in from Redlands, Calif., to find cooler temps here on the coast. They brought several of their children to enjoy the fun and the great barbecue. We thank Tony, Johnny and Arnie for taking care of the delicious brats and burgers, which were done to perfection. Folks brought salads, appetizers and desserts to share, so there was plenty for all.

Our Lodge meeting was held prior to the meal and playtime. We voted to make Vocational Visions our Make a Difference Day charity once

again. The committee was very impressed with the facility when we visited with our donation last year. Vocational Visions cares for adults with mental and physical disabilities in a way that gives them a feeling of self-worth and provides them with social skills for a happier life. Donations can be mailed to me at 29476 Vista Plaza Dr., Laguna Niguel, CA 92677.

Reports from our three Young Adult Conference delegates were also featured at the meeting. Garret Montoya Jancich gave an oral report about his experience and read a nice message that was sent by Jacob Fajnor. Ellie Koci could not attend our meeting because she was on a family vacation, but relayed her thoughts to me and Garret. All three enjoyed the weekend and learned a lot at the conference.

Devin Leathers and Summer Nunez attended the TEL Workshop during the last weekend of July, and I hope they had a great time. We hope that our young adults and teens continue attending these workshops and meetings to bring them closer into the fold of the Society and their heritage.

The next Lodge 786 meeting will be held Sept. 9 at the home of Lina and Tony in San Juan Capistrano. Best wishes to all for the last bit of summer!



Between the pool and the water balloon toss, there was lots of warm weather activity at the Lodge 786 picnic.



Spartans Lodge 576 preparing for volunteer service in October

by TONI THOMEY
Lodge 576

CLEVELAND — Summer has been a very busy time for the members of Spartans Lodge 576. We had a wonderful showing at this year's Slovenefest in July. In addition to celebrating youth member Christian Thomey's 18th birthday, we got to witness an amazing farewell speech by Miss SNPJ 2018 Lauren Sebusch, a member of Lodge 576. Thank you for the "shout out" to the Lodge and for moving us all to tears. Love you, Lauren!

On Aug. 5, Lodge 576 members held their annual picnic at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio. Our "Nacho Average" picnic was quite a success. Even though it was an extremely hot day, we had several friends join us for some great food, featuring walking tacos, and some great music by Patty C & The Guys! On behalf of our Spartan officers, I would like to thank all those who volunteered. Without you, it would not have been such a great success. A special thank you goes out to Karen Novak, Pat Novak and Lauren Sebusch for their decorations. It truly made the Farm festive. Thank you to all those who donated baskets for our drawing as well.

August continued to be a busy month. On Aug. 13, Karen Novak, Patty (Josephine) Candela and I had the privilege of representing Lodge 576 as delegates to the 31st Quadrennial Convention at the SNPJ Recreation Center. I'd like to thank Lodge 576 Secretary/Treasurer Lou Novak for his 12 years of service on the National Board as a member of the Audit Committee. You did a tremendous job on the board and we are so proud to call you a lifelong member of our Lodge.

I'd also like to thank Lodge 576 member Linda Gorjup for her phenomenal work

as Region 3 Vice President. Linda's work to engage our community and our youth members will not be forgotten. We always had a voice, and for that we are grateful. Thank you as well to our dear friend and honorary Spartan Phyllis Wood (723) for her service as Audit Committee chairwoman for many years. Our members always felt there was someone who was protecting us and our families.

All three of you have so much to be proud of! Even though your time on the board has ended for now, we know you will continue to be an active part of our Society and an advocate for all.

The Spartans would like to extend our best wishes to our new National Board Members. We hope that you continue to serve in our rich fraternal traditions and always keep the best interest of our membership in your thoughts and actions.

As most of us prepared for the back-to-school season, several Lodge 576 members enjoyed Slovenian Heritage Night at the Lake Erie Captains baseball game on Aug. 20. Thank you to Region 3 Vice President Linda Gorjup for sponsoring this great event!

A warm congratulations is extended to Nancy Novak and Teri Kopco on their retirement. Best wishes on your next journey. Enjoy this wonderful time. *Na zdravje!*

As we move into fall, we'll be preparing for our annual volunteer event at St. Mary's Church on Oct. 8. Please contact Lou Novak at (440) 461-6476 if you are interested in volunteering. We're also preparing for a bus trip on Nov. 17. Please see future PROSVETA issues for more info.

The next Spartans Lodge 576 meeting will be held on Sept. 10 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland.

Up-and-Coming...

A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- SEPT. 3.....Samsula, Fla., Lodge 603 "Meet and Greet" fish fry at the Lodge 603 Hall; 12:30 p.m. Meet Lodge 603 members and local SNPJ agents. For details contact Lodge Secretary Elaine Figueroa at (386) 566-3512.
- SEPT. 6.....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 bar bingo in the Lodge 106 clubroom. Early bird games start at 6:30 p.m., regular games start at 7. The kitchen will be open. For details contact Lodge 106 at (724) 695-1411 or snpj106@gmail.com.
- SEPT. 16.....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 Black & Gold car cruise; noon-4 p.m. A buffet will be available. For more information contact Lodge 106 at (724) 695-1411 or snpj106@gmail.com.
- SEPT. 20.....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 bar bingo in the Lodge 106 clubroom. Early bird games start at 6:30 p.m., regular games start at 7. The kitchen will be open. For details contact Lodge 106 at (724) 695-1411 or snpj106@gmail.com.
- OCT. 27.....Westmoreland Co. Federation oldies dance at the Yukon Slovenian Hall, Yukon, Pa.; 6-10 p.m. Entertainment by The Classics. Food and refreshments will be available.
- DEC. 2.....Westmoreland Co. Federation holiday dance in the Crystal Ballroom, Herminie, Pa.; 2-6 p.m. Music by The Polka Classics. Food and refreshments will be available.

We've Got You COVERED

DENISE HERRON
SNPJ Marketing Department



Live longer

We're always trying to figure out how to live healthier and longer. Social media is filled with unsolicited advice, books loaded with instructions are falling off the shelves and grandma has a few suggestions of her own. We're a society obsessed with looking better, feeling better and living longer.

Even with all this information, unfortunately, the United States is not on the top of the list of countries with the longest living or healthiest population. For example, Okinawa, Japan, has the highest prevalence of centenarians who remain healthy into old age and suffer few age-related ailments. Sardinia, Italy, has citizens who are particularly long-lived, and a 60-year-old man in Nicoya, Costa Rica, has twice the chance of reaching age 90 than a man living in the U.S. The secrets of longevity in these countries are more active lifestyles, healthy diets and less stress — and naps are encouraged.

Napping is usually not encouraged in mainstream U.S.A., but as I mentioned, we are flooded with information from all directions on how to live longer. I recently read an article that listed 100 things to do to live longer. It gave the obvious tips like get enough sleep, cut the sugar and get more exercise, but it also mentioned smile more often, sing in a choir and develop a positive attitude about getting older.

It was #51 on that list that really caught my attention because it simply said "Be Rich," followed by the explanation that having more money in the bank meant a longer life. This statement correlated with a piece of information in a separate article that listed Monaco as having the world's highest life expectancy, and that it also happens to have the highest number of millionaires and billionaires per capita in the world.

If having more money helps you live longer, SNPJ can help you achieve longevity by helping you accumulate more money. You may not become a millionaire or a billionaire, but by placing your money into a Loyalty Annuity and taking advantage of the compounding interest feature, you'll be well on your way to #51. The Loyalty 8 Annuity is earning 3.5 percent, and the Loyalty 5 Annuity is earning 3.0 percent. With an annuity your interest is tax-deferred, which means no taxes are paid on the interest that you earn until you actually withdraw money from the account. An annuity is flexible, allowing you to deposit as much as you like or nothing at all. You can also arrange to have regular withdrawals taken from your bank account and deposited into the annuity, or you can add to the annuity randomly when you have the funds.

Do everything possible to live longer by following as many of the 100 suggestions as you can. Contact SNPJ today to help you with #51, "Be Rich," by opening a SNPJ Loyalty Annuity today.

- **Thought for the Month** — If you would be wealthy, think of saving as well as getting.

Ben Franklin



Uncle Sam wants your money... and it's up to you whether you pay now or pay later.



SNPJ offers **Roth IRAs** in addition to our regular IRAs and annuities to help build a safe financial future for you and your family. We've helped build secure futures for our members for over a century. Phone **1-800-843-7675** and we'll be happy to help you too.

Slovenia officially closes Minneapolis consulate

LJUBLJANA (STA) — During its Aug. 1 correspondence session, the Slovenian government decided to officially close the consulate in Minneapolis which hasn't been in operation since 2004. According to the Government Communication Office, the closing was proposed by the Foreign Ministry.

Between 2000 and 2004, the Minneapolis consulate was headed by Honorary Consul Kenneth Zapp. Its main roles were to develop economic and cultural ties with Minnesota, and provide assistance to Slovenian citizens.

Zapp stepped down in 2004 and the Slovenian government failed to appoint a replacement, but the consulate was never officially closed.

Slovenia now has one consulate in Minnesota, which opened in 2012 in Roseville, headed by Honorary Consul Miro Medved. The consulate assists the Slovenian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and the Slovenian Consulate General in Cleveland.

Slovenian firm will lead recycled plastics project

CELJE (STA) — TECOS, the Slovenian Tool and Die Development Center, has partnered with five companies from four EU countries in a project designed to make new materials out of plastic packaging waste and waste newspaper. "The goal is to transform two sources of scrap material into new materials for high-tech production in the automotive, construction and packaging industries," project coordinator Vesna Žepič Bogataj said.

Apart from TECOS as the lead partner, the partnership also involves Adria Mobil and Omaplast from Slovenia, Aitiip from Spain, Ecopulp from Finland, and the ITB Institute in Poland.

"The production line for processing new materials from recycled raw materials will be in Spain, prototypes of products for RV interior equipment will be made in Slovenia, demo products for the building sector will be manufactured in Poland, and the line for manufacturing industrial packaging from 100 percent recycled raw materials will be in Finland," Bogataj explained.

Bogataj, who heads the TECOS applied materials lab, added that the project pursued the circular economy goal of increasing the rate of recycled waste products by 40 percent and cutting carbon emissions by an equal amount. Most of the plastic packaging waste to be recycled in the project will come from communal waste, and a portion from industrial production.

The raw materials will be provided by Omaplast, a Slovenian plastic waste processing company that operates a waste sorting unit in Trebnje and accepts only separated plastics.

After the project is completed, Omaplast will have the opportunity to expand its channels to sell recycled plastic granules at the local and regional levels, via supply chains of the consortium companies and associated partners. As an end user of the newly-developed products, RV producer Adria Mobil will have green products from fully recycled materials at its disposal.

Slovenia will be Region of Gastronomy in 2021

LJUBLJANA (STA) — Slovenian cuisine will be in Europe's focus as the country becomes a European Region of Gastronomy (ERG) in 2021. Slovenia will receive the title from the International Institute of Gastronomy, Culture, Arts and Tourism (IGCAT) in October.

As a candidate for the title, Slovenia hosted a panel of experts who were thrilled with the country's gastronomy, so they will recommend that the IGCAT management board confer the award on Slovenia, which should be a formality.

As panel chair and IGCAT president Diane Dodd explained at a news conference in late July, the panel decided to recommend Slovenia on the basis of the country's application, their visit, and the ensuing presentation and discussion. "Awarding Slovenia the title will thus be a mere formality," Dodd said at the press conference, which was held at Ljubljana Castle. The formal awards ceremony will be held in Brussels Oct. 8.

Panel members told the press they were thrilled with Slovenia's gastronomic achievements, its commitment to sustainability and its past activity. They also praised the high quality of food



production in Slovenia, as well as the country's respect for the environment and its ability for self-sufficiency.

According to Dodd, the panel firmly believes Slovenia will use the title well, facilitating its efforts to become a green country known worldwide for gastronomy, sustainable tourism, food education and quality food supply.

Slovenian Tourist Board (STO) director Maja Pak said that the STO was "extremely happy and proud" that Slovenia was able to attain the ERG title. Pak believes the ERG is an extremely important opportunity to develop and promote gastronomy. The STO aims to make Slovenia a top-quality gastronomic destination, which Pak believes will in turn enhance the quality of life in Slovenia.

Slovenian Economy Ministry State Secretary Eva Stravs Podlogar added that the award was indicative of "Slovenian tourism taking a step in the right direction." She also stressed that Slovenia had been giving gastronomy its due attention for decades.

According to ethnologist Janez Bogataj, the ambassador of Slovenia's ERG bid, "This title is not about star ratings or choosing important cooks. It means much more." Bogataj is also the editor of the book "Okusiti Slovenije" (Taste Slovenia) that Slovenia had to produce as part of its ERG candidacy. In the book, which was sent to IGCAT in June, Slovenia had to lay out its vision and goals, and list activities related to the development of gastronomy.

Sixteen partners, including the STO and several government ministries, are working on Slovenia's ERG project, which is estimated at 4.3 million euros (approximately \$5 million).

This year's European Regions of Gastronomy are Galway, Ireland, and North Brabant in the Netherlands.

New Galileo satellite named for a Slovenian

KOUROU, French Guiana (STA) — On July 25, an Ariane 5 rocket was launched from the Guiana Space Center carrying four satellites which will be utilized by the European Galileo navigation system. One of the satellites, Tara, is named after a Slovenian girl who won a European drawing competition in 2011. "It makes me very proud that a satellite in space will carry my name," the now 17-year-old student told the press.

Tara, who is a successful track and field athlete today, was attending a summer camp during the launch and wasn't able to follow the launch online. She joked that she would "be watching the sky to see if it perhaps flies by."

The remaining satellites carry the names Samuel, Anna and Ellen, after a Slovak boy and two girls from Finland and Sweden who also won the Galileo competition dedicated to outer space and aeronautics.

Children born between 2000 and 2002 took part in the competition, and the jury selected a winner from each of the 27 EU member states. Each winner has a satellite bearing his or her name.

By 2020 the Galileo system, which comprised 22 satellites before the late July launch, is expected to include 30 satellites. Its estimated cost through 2020 is EUR 10 billion (\$11.7 billion).

A Ljubljana street yields surprising treasures

LJUBLJANA (STA) — After nearly a year of excavations on Gosposvetska Street in Ljubljana, and with the re-opening deadline fast approaching, archaeologists stumbled upon yet another surprise when they uncovered an early-Christian church in what was once a cemetery on the northern outskirts of the Roman outpost Emona.

Knowing that there was an ancient cemetery south of what is now Slovenska Street, archaeologists expected to find graves and a few sarcophagi, but the newest discoveries exceeded their expectations.

More than 350 human remains were uncovered in the area between Kersnikova and Slovenska streets, as well as over 40 sarcophagi, a church and a tomb. The cemetery dates back to the fourth and fifth centuries, a time when Emona had a flourishing Christian community. "Archaeologists also found some ar-

tifacts in the graves, a common practice of the Romans, which had gradually been abolished by the time this cemetery was used," archaeologist Andrej Gaspari told the press.

One of the most impressive artifacts was a blue glass bowl inscribed with a toast in Greek. The bowl was found in the sarcophagus of an adult woman; a high-ranking member of the community, likely a nun. A piece of cloth with golden thread was also found next to the skeleton in what seems to be the most prominent grave in this part of the cemetery.

The most recent find, the church, was adorned with frescos and a mosaic. It is located just outside the walls of the Figovec restaurant on Gosposvetska Street.

The high density of graves and the church "indicate that this was truly a special part [of the cemetery], tied closely to the ancient Christian development of the city," Gaspari said.

Archaeologists have made several suggestions on how to present the newest discoveries. These could be indicated on the pavement or with a model, according to Gaspari.

Gosposvetska Street has been closed for renovation since August 2017 and was scheduled to reopen to traffic in mid-July.

Stolen dagger returned to Slovenia after 33 years

LJUBLJANA (STA) — A precious bronze dagger that dates back around 3,600 years has been returned to Slovenia 33 years after it was stolen from the National Museum in Ljubljana. The artifact was tracked down by Interpol at a London auction in 2015 and has been returned via diplomatic routes.

The dagger, discovered in 1876 at a former pile dwelling site near Ig in the Ljubljana Marshes, was one of among 45 examples of Bronze Age tools, jewelry and weapons stolen from the National Museum in 1985.

The only piece among the stolen items to be discovered to date, the dagger was part of Interpol's database of stolen works of art. It appeared at an auction featuring the collection of a deceased British collector who had acquired it at an auction in New York in 2005.

The dagger, which was a symbol of prestige and not part of the ordinary equipment of Bronze Age warriors, is considered extremely valuable for its unique ornamentation and because of its mint condition. "It is a testimony to the craftsmanship in the territory of present-day Slovenia in the second millennium B.C.," according to written sources at the National Museum.

Museum director Barbara Ravnik told the press that both auctions at which the dagger appeared offered false information on the artifact, sourcing it to the Duchess of Mecklenburg Collection. Its return to Slovenia was organized via diplomatic routes once prosecutorial proceedings in Britain fell under the statute of limitations.

Bear watching popular with Slovenian tourists

LJUBLJANA (STA) — Among the many tourists who visit Slovenia every year, an increasing number decide to go bear watching. During this potentially dangerous undertaking, visitors must be accompanied by an experienced guide, usually a hunter.

"Summer and early autumn are the perfect times to go bear watching because the days are long and bears venture out to find food before dusk," said Miha Jernejčič, an employee at Notranjska Regional Park. "Bear watching is safe if the visitors are accompanied by an armed hunter," he said, adding that "the walled-in lookout is four meters (13 feet) off the ground, and there is no possibility for the bear to approach the humans."

An automatic, solar-powered food dispenser is installed under the lookout. This is necessary so that the bears don't connect the available food with the presence of humans. "If bears sense that humans are nearby, they retreat," Jernejčič said.

The Notranjska Regional Park charges EUR 90 (\$104) for a single person bear-watching trip, a pair will pay EUR 120 (\$140), while a group of three will pay a total of EUR 150 (\$175). Most of the visitors who opt to go bear watching come from Europe, Jernejčič added.

Apart from the Notranjska region, bear watching is also possible in the vast woods of the Kočevska region.

The articles comprising this feature have been reprinted with permission from the Slovenian Press Agency (STA).



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Badger Jabber

by BOB SMOLE
Lodge 584

MILWAUKEE — Enjoying this hot and humid weather? I hope so, because we're getting our share of it.

There isn't much to write about since there were no Badger Lodge 584 meetings scheduled in July and August. I did receive information that Sis. Jan Gehm had fallen and suffered a broken wrist requiring surgery to repair. I hear that she is doing well recuperating at home.

Get better soon, Jan. I hope to see you and Bro. Tom at the ice cream social when our regular Badger Lodge meetings resume on Sept. 13 starting at 7 p.m. at Mary Queen of Heaven gym, 2360 S. 106th St. in West Allis, Wis., which is our regular meeting site. Hopefully everyone will be ready to get back to business after a summer meeting lull.

Since we'll be holding our annual ice cream social (so we can build our favorite ice cream sundaes) on Thursday, Sept. 13, if you have a special topping that you would like to bring and share with the group, feel free to do so. We all like to try something different.

Many festivals have and are taking place again this summer. If you're looking for something to do, it's surely to be found in the Milwaukee area. Summer Fest, Italian Fest and German Fest are just a few of the big crowd-pleasers. Unfortunately, with the weather being so hot and humid, many of the elderly are not participating over concerns with the heat index.

Now it's time to get back on track with our Badger Lodge 584 regular monthly meetings. As I mentioned, meetings will resume Thursday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. I hope to see a good turnout for this meeting and our annual ice cream social.



Brush-up on your knowledge of Slovenian-American cuisine at the Euclid Public Library on Sept. 5.

A busy month of SNPJ events for Miss SNPJ 2019

MISS SNPJ 2019
FROM PAGE 1

for making the weekend one I will never forget. Each and every one of you deserves to wear the crown. You are some of the kindest and most talented women that I know.

Thank you to my extremely supportive parents, Gary and Janet. Thank you for getting me involved at such a young age and showing me how incredible the Slovenian culture is. Thank you for making sure I triple-checked my bag before Slovenefest so I wouldn't forget anything (which I almost did) and for never once doubting me.

A huge thank you as well to my boyfriend, Derek, for being with me all weekend, holding my purse whenever I had to take a picture or polka, reminding me to drink water, and especially for keeping me calm from the moment I turned in my entry form until I was crowned.

Last but certainly not least, thank you to all my friends and family for coming out to the SNPJ Recreation Center and supporting me all weekend. I would not have wanted to share that experience with anyone else. I love you all!

As soon as I was crowned,

the invites started pouring in and I was ecstatic! My first event was the annual Duck Race hosted by Strabane, Pa., Lodge 138. I can't decide which I loved more, seeing all the ducks coming down the creek or the airbrush tattoo artists! I couldn't have asked for a better event to begin my year. Everyone was so friendly and I had such a great time!

My next stop was the SNPJ

Farm in Kirtland, Ohio. I have always loved going to my own Lodge picnic, so it was really fun for me to be able to go to the other Lodge picnics and meet all of their members. Nothing beats the music, food and atmosphere at the Farm! Each and every Lodge has welcomed me with open arms and treated me and my family like gold. I am very excited to be able to go to more events

before the picnic season ends.

I'm looking forward to all the upcoming events, especially a visit to Chicago, which, as I'm writing this, is coming up this weekend. Being able to represent SNPJ at all of these events is a dream come true. From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for giving me the experience of a lifetime. I hope I will be able to make you all proud!



Miss SNPJ 2019 **ELIZABETH SMRDEL** (158) at the podium following the announcement of the new Miss SNPJ.

Get a taste of Slovenian cuisine at Euclid library

by JOE VALENCIC (5)
Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame

EUCLID, Ohio — Cooking links us to our ethnic heritage, our family, our childhood, our neighborhood and our country. Slovenian-American communities prepare unique, traditional recipes that reveal much about their heritage. Learn how Slovenians in the U.S. celebrate their culture through age-old dishes (and inventive new ones) at Euclid Public Library on Wednesday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m.

Writer and historian Joe Valencic, president of the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame, will reveal

how tasty Slovenian favorites like sausages, sauerkraut and pastries, are winning new fans and finding their places on local menus. Recipes will be provided so you can try them at home.

Admission is free. You're welcome to share your own favorite Slovenian and hybrid recipes.

The Euclid Public Library is located at 631 East 222nd St. in Euclid, next to the Polka Hall of Fame. For details call the Hall of Fame at (216) 261-FAME, or the Euclid Public Library at (216) 261-5300. You can also visit the library's website, www.euclidlibrary.org.

Slovenefest 2018 Prize Winners

Marketing Booth drawing winners

- 30" HD Smart TV **Debra Crownover**, South Park, Pa.
- Smokeless Indoor Grill **Beth Northrop**, Gillett, Pa.
- Shoulder Sling Backpack **Joe Hoffer**, New Stanton, Pa.
- Black & Decker Air Fryer **Pam Reed**, Bethel Park, Pa.
- Ultrasonic Pest Repellent.... **Erin Gee**, Broadview Hts., Ohio
- Arctic Zone Cooler..... **Abby Flores**, Lewis Center, Ohio
- Cosbity 12X Monocular **Jeff Cramer**, Poland, Ohio
- Tactical Flashlight Set..... **Alyssa Urban**, Boulder, Colo.
- \$50 Visa Card..... **Marcella Micko**, Windber, Pa.
(Winning Guess: 620/Actual Total: 620)

Two-day event focuses on Slovenians in W.Va.

by JOE VALENCIC (5)
Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame

FAIRMONT, W.Va. — Discover the rich heritage of Slovenians across West Virginia at a special presentation on Thursday, Sept. 13, at the West Virginia Folklife Center at Fairmont State University. Historian and writer Joe Valencic will share stories of the Slovenian communities that helped enhance the cultural fabric of the Mountaineer State with their music, food and traditions.

The day begins at noon with a screening of *Polka! The Movie*, Joe's tune-filled documentary on how Slovenians contributed to our country's good-time music with performers like West

Virginia-born Frank Yankovic, America's Polka King and Grammy Award winner.

At 7 p.m. Joe will return with his presentation on Slovenians of West Virginia. Many of these immigrants from Central Europe arrived a century ago and worked as loggers, farmers and miners. Others brought talents such as glass-making and leather-working. Joe will share stories on how they dealt with the challenges of building new lives in West Virginia and the ways they maintain their identity today. You'll be introduced to personalities such as Fairmont's NFL football legend Tony Adamle, and Morgantown columnist and author Norm Julian.

Did you grow up Slovenian in West Virginia? Share your story with Joe about how your Slovenian kinfolk came to the Mountaineer State and dealt with the challenges of working and building lives for their families. E-mail Joe at jvalencic@yahoo.com by Monday, Sept. 10, with your reminiscences and he may include your anecdotes in his presentation.

Return to the West Virginia Folklife Center on Friday, Sept. 14, to celebrate during West Virginia Polka Day, presented by the West Virginia Folklife Center and the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame. Fairmont's own polka bandleader, Sam Manno, will entertain with

accordion talents such as the legendary Fred Gregorich. Enjoy polka and waltz music for dancing from 5 to 8 p.m.

Enjoy hearty nationality treats including smoked Slovenian sausage sandwiches, the original pepperoni rolls from Fairmont's Country Club Bakery and apple strudel, plus refreshments.

Admission for both days is free. The West Virginia Folklife Center is located on the campus of Fairmont State University, 1201 Locust Ave. in Fairmont. For more information, call the Folklife Center at (304) 367-4403 or check the center's Facebook page. You can also contact the Polka Hall of Fame at (216) 261-FAME.

PROSVETA Crossword

Back to School (#0918) by StatePoint Media

ACROSS

1. Téa Leoni as ___ Secretary
6. Lending letters
9. Cat-headed Egyptian goddess
13. Round openings in architecture
14. Pilot's estimate
15. Short tale
16. Deprived of a limb, e.g.
17. Popular pickup
18. Revolving mechanism
19. *L in LMC
21. Peninsula with Portugal
23. Not a win nor a loss
24. Lou of The Velvet Underground
25. The ___ Four
28. Unpleasant road display
30. Authoritative declaration
35. The 15th of March
37. Rubik's puzzle
39. *Sorority letter
40. Pinocchio's lie detector
41. Do-re-do-re-do-re-do-re, e.g.
43. Same as alighted
44. Perpendicular to the keel
46. Major in the sky
47. Condoleezza ___
48. *Varsity award
50. *Multiple choice challenge
52. *Where Driver's Ed occurs
53. Richie ___

55. *Standard aptitude assessment
57. **"Sideways Stories from ___ School"
61. *Hall order keeper
65. George Clooney's recurring character
66. Shakespearean "fuss"
68. Heating outlet cover
69. Muse of love poetry
70. Confession subject
71. All the words in a language
72. Withered
73. Id's partner
74. Same as #30 Across

22. Made in the morning?
24. Spring event
25. *Type of assessment
26. Acrobat maker
27. Continually annoy
29. Buddhist teacher
31. Burn to a crisp
32. Denoting the final end or purpose
33. Carthage's ancient rival
34. *Alma ___
36. *Assigned spot
38. More
42. Rodeo rope
45. Breed of sheep prized for wool
49. Free
51. Hair knot
54. This and desist
56. Clichéd
57. Things to lament
58. Homesteader's measure
59. *180 days, in most states
60. Fill to satisfaction
61. Kissing disease?
62. De Niro's ride, 1976
63. Like an ear infection
64. None of this for the weary
67. Like a lot

- DOWN
1. Gangster's gal
2. Berry high in antioxidants
3. Avoid these mistakes
4. Red or orange announcement
5. Somewhere above ground
6. Bald eagle's nest
7. *Parents+teachers, acr.
8. China Grass
9. Uncouth one
10. Not in favor
11. Roofed colonnade
12. Seaside bird
15. *Extra of it can help students
20. Act against

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13					14			15					
16					17			18					
19				20		21	22						
		23				24							
25	26	27		28		29		30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37		38		39				
40					41			42		43			
44				45		46				47			
48					49		50		51		52		
					53		54		55		56		
57	58	59	60					61			62	63	64
65						66	67			68			
69						70				71			
72						73				74			

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The solution to puzzle #0918 will run in the Oct. 1 issue.

Beaverdale Reunion draws a crowd to the Farm

by LEE JACKOPIN (355)
Beaverdale Reunion

KIRTLAND, Ohio — Those with roots in Beaverdale and the small coal mining towns of Cambria County, Pa., had their 30th consecutive reunion during the Mirni Raj Lodge 142 picnic dance at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland on June 24. This continued the tradition, which started after World War II, of having a reunion in the Cleveland area for families with roots in the small coal mining towns in the Beaverdale area.

Historically, people came from Beaverdale to reunite with their relatives and friends living in the Cleveland area. The first reunions were probably held at farms; there are no known records of these early

reunions. Eventually they were held at the original Geauga Lake Park, with a busload of relatives coming from Pennsylvania.

The reunions stopped in the mid-1960s, however, in 1989, a Beaverdale Reunion Committee was formed. The original committee consisted of Jim Ilersich (5), Joe and Joan (Hrebar) Goletz, Bill and Lee Hynds, Irene (Sustarsic) Kelly, Lynn Robinson, Elsie (Niznik) Rubal, and Bill Ilersich (603), all now deceased. They succeeded in having a Beaverdale/Dunlo Reunion at Strawberry Lane Metropark in Willoughby Hills, Ohio, in the spring and fall of 1989 with 168 and 122 attendees, respectively. Jim Ilersich had to arrive at 3 a.m.

to claim the pavilion for the reunion.

In 1990, Jim suggested having the reunion at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland since it provided a large pavilion, good Slovenian food, beverages, a polka band, balina courts, picnic tables and a reunion space during an SNPJ Lodge picnic. The committee decided to always hold the Beaverdale Reunion at the SNPJ Farm on the last Sunday of June during the picnic hosted by one of the Cleveland SNPJ Lodges.

The 2018 reunion had 37 registered attendees: Phil and Jackie (Gold) Berkeimer (158); Kenyon and Jamie (Ilersich) Broadbent; Ken Broadbent and Kellie Chambers; Bernie Brown (274); Dave Brown

(274); Mary Pat (Brown) Vontorcik (274); Bob Chulik; Kathy Debevits; Hank Guzel Jr.; Fran Dill; F. Michael Dill; Ginny (Jereb) Doms; Joan Goodrich; Jim and Sharon Ilersich and their grandchildren, Jayla, Neveh, Tor, Julynn and Brayden Eastlake; Lee Jackopin (355); Irene Kompore (142); Bernice Mandel; Nancy Janecko; Eileen (Vasilko) Markusic (158); Greg Vasilko; Kathy (Valko) Sabol; Ed and Henrietta (McClosky) Snyder (776); Michelle (Snyder) Willis; Graden Snyder; Ruby Luba Zaremba; Jeanette (Zaremba) Mucha; and Anna Marie Eagan.

This was the largest crowd since 2014, and there were four first-timers! Perhaps



The 2018 Beaverdale Reunion, held Sunday, June 24, attracted a crowd of more than 30 reunion attendees.

some people no longer attend because they feel they won't know anyone, but somehow Pennsylvania people always find commonalities: friends, relatives, where they lived or went to school. There's something very unique about our time period and growing up in small coal mining towns.

Reunioners agreed to hold

the 31st Beaverdale Reunion next year, same place, same day. Please pass the word to your relatives and friends! The reunion is a chance to renew friendships and remember relatives, good times and events.

We look for a good gathering next year. For more information, contact Lee Jackopin at (440) 943-3170.

Miss SNPJ 2018 bids farewell following a memorable year of SNPJ activities

FAREWELL
FROM PAGE 1

But if you knew Dorothy, and I think many of you did because she was just amazing, then you know she would have given me an earful about how she wanted me to live my life the way she did and do all that she couldn't. Being crowned Miss SNPJ 2018 was a dream come true, a dream I never knew I needed.

None of this would have been possible if it wasn't for the support of the SNPJ Executive Committee and Miss SNPJ Pageant Committee. So, first and foremost, thank you Joe, Karen and Bob; and of course, thank you to good ol' Kevin Richards. To all the former Miss SNPJs who served on the Pageant Committee last year, from the bottom of my heart, thank you all for giving me this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to represent the entire Slovene National Benefit Society.

To SNPJ Lodge 576 and CAL, my friends and, more importantly, my family: thank you all for con-

stantly supporting me and loving me throughout my journey. You push me to be better, wiser and happier. To the Novak family and Gerri Trebets (604), you have my heart. Special thanks as well to SNPJ Publications Editor Jay Sedmak for creating my beautiful calendar and editing my articles for *PROSVETA*.

A huge thank you goes out to Phyllis and Eric Wood (723) and Tracey Anderson (677). It's hard to believe that I only truly met you a year ago in Slovenia. Regardless, you've given me love and encouragement as if you've known me my whole life. I also want to give a special thanks to the families who made my travels extra special: the Hartmans and Cadezes of Pennsylvania; the Andersons and Volpes of Michigan; the Riglers and Dabrowskis of Illinois; the Woods, Mlakars and Kocis of California; and the Benedicts of Florida. You all went the extra mile in making sure my visits were full of adventure and kindness.

To the ever-growing Gorjup clan,

I love you and our monthly "Dinners with Dorothy." Many of you don't know that we used to have monthly dinners with my grandmother. Her five kids took her out to dinner each month, and after a while, the grandkids and great-grandkids were also invited. It was great to see everyone, and I know it meant a whole lot to my grandma. We continue these dinners to honor Dorothy's legacy and wishes, and to simply get together and catch up.

Even though we all have our own busy lives, we still have each other's backs and cheer each other on. Plus, who would've watched my dog when I went on all of my Miss SNPJ adventures? (A-hem, Aunt Linda...) Thank you for being you, Aunt Linda. No matter what life throws your way, your love and kindness never falter. You have a heart of gold and a genuine personality.

To all the previous Miss SNPJs, thank you for lighting the way for this amazing journey. You are impeccable role models and I am blessed to

share this sisterhood with you. Betty, you're a saint! Thanks for listening to my bio a million times as I tried to shorten it. Thanks for answering my last-minute calls for tips, and thanks for coming over just to double check my outfit choices. Most of all, thanks for crowning me. I wouldn't have wanted to share that moment with anyone else. You're a true friend, and I hope to be there for the new Miss SNPJ like you were for me.

Mom, I guess it's time I thank you! This was definitely the most difficult part to write because all I could hear in my head was you saying how you're the "Queen's Mum." If you know me, then you probably know how much that phrase annoys me. But without a doubt, mom, you are my rock. You took time off work and paid your way to every single event I attended, and even added an extra day to our trips to California, Chicago and Florida so we could explore and relax from our busy schedules. You were my personal cheerleader, paparazzi, designated sash-pinner and crown

alignment-checker.

Thank you, mom, for dealing with me as I stressed out while trying to make everything perfect, and thank you for putting up with my crazy, silly moments. (I know I always give you a good laugh when making a fool of myself, so maybe you should be thanking me for that?)

This last year has been just as hard for you as it has been for me without your mother, my grandma, around. But even on my weakest days, you stayed strong. I love you and I appreciate you more than you'll ever know. I hope to be just as strong as you when I have kids of my own. I hope I was the Miss SNPJ you dreamed I'd be — I hope I made you proud.

I hope I made all of you proud as your Miss SNPJ 2018. I know that my reign has made me even more proud to be a member of this organization, and to have had the chance to get to know all of you. It has been my pleasure representing you at the national level. Thank you.

best wishes to our Outlived Members

Member celebrated her 101st in June



Sis. STEFINA RUGEL (225)

GIRARD, Kan. — Sis. Stefina Yencic Rugel of Lodge 225 has outlived her life insurance policy.

Sis. Rugel was born in Yale, Kan., in June 1917, the daughter of John and Frances Yencic, and the sister of Frances and John Yencic II. She went to school at Cockerill High School and graduated in 1935.

In 1941, Stefina moved to Detroit and worked for Cadillac Motors as an inventory controller. She married Rudolph "Rudy" Rugel of Radley, Kan., in 1943. After the war, they moved to Illinois and later had a son, Ronald.

Sis. Rugel enjoys gardening, crocheting and daily long walks which she attributes to her longevity. She lived on her own until after her 100th birthday, and just recently moved to an assisted living apartment in Edwardsville, Ill. She likes to joke around with fellow residents and "generally cause trouble."

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

The SNPJ Farm 2018 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) 461-6476

Sept. 3	Holiday Dance	1 to 7
	Eddie Rodick and Frank Stanger bands	
Sept. 9	Ladies Auxiliary Goulash & Polenta Dinner	3 to 7
	Bob Kravos Band	
Sept. 12	Polka Hall of Fame Picnic	12 to 8
	Slovenian Sausage Festival	
Sept. 16	Friends of the Farm Picnic	3 to 7
	Wayne Tomsic Orchestra	
Sept. 23	Slovenian Grape Festival	2:45 to 7
	Joey Tomsick Band	
Oct. 21	Pancake & Sausage Polka Brunch	10 to 1
	Kathy Hlad	

The gates open at 1 p.m. Dinners served every Sunday starting at 2 p.m.; music and dancing from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday picnic admission is \$8 per person. For more information visit www.sn timer farmkirtland.com.

Athletic Board selects host for Fall Classic Bowl

by KEVIN RICHARDS
SNPJ Fraternal Director

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The Fraternal Department is pleased to announce that the National Athletic Board has approved a bid for the SNPJ Fall Classic

Bowling Tournament.

SNPJ Lodge 106 in Imperial submitted a bid to host the 2018 Fall Classic Bowling Tournament Oct. 13-14. Bowling will take place at Paradise Lanes and all social activities

will be held in the Lodge 106 clubroom.

We are currently accepting bids to host the 2019 SNPJ National Bowling Tournament at the SNPJ Recreation Center in the Borough of SNPJ, Pa.

Bowling will take place at Colonial Lanes in New Castle, Pa., and all social activities will be held at the Recreation Center.

I look forward to seeing you at a fraternal event in the near future.

An emphasis on memories at the Zarja fall concert

by DOUG ELERSICH (5)
Zarja Slovenian Singing Society

EUCLID, Ohio — As I sit here composing this article, it's the middle of August and the temperatures are certainly reflecting that. It seems that Oct. 28 is a long way off, but it's time to start working on the Zarja 2018 fall concert.

As usual, our fall program will be in concert format and will include a wide variety of styles of Slovenian and English

music, with an emphasis more or less on memories.

The chorus will reprise a couple of songs from our Spring Frolic that our audience particularly enjoyed, including a really great arrangement (not mine) of "Down by the Riverside" and "Pesem o svobodi" by Radovan Gobec. Specialty numbers and a couple of instrumental pieces will compliment the chorus selections.

Of course, roast beef and

klobase sandwiches, desserts and beverages will be available for purchase, and music for dancing and listening will be rendered by Patty C & The Guys.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased by contacting Barbara at (440) 257-2540, Karen at (216) 481-1379, the Polka Hall of Fame at (216) 261-3263, or your favorite Zarja member.

Join us for an enjoyable afternoon of music on Sunday, Oct. 28, at the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave. in Euclid. The doors will open at 2:30 p.m. and the program will start at 3; Patty C & The Guys will be performing right after the program.

Thanks to everyone for your support in helping us to keep Slovenian music and culture alive in the Cleveland area. We'll see you at the concert!

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.

**By submitting one valid referral,
you have the opportunity to earn
a total of \$110 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.

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SNPJ fraternal sympathies

BRO. JAMES M. ELIOU
• LODGE 33 •

AMBRIDGE, Pa. — The members of Lodge 33 sadly report the April 27, 2018, passing of Bro. James M. Eliou, 90, at his home in Ambridge.

Bro. Eliou was born Nov. 14, 1927, in Patmos, Greece, a son of the late Michael and Anna Lagoumizis Eliou. He was a retired foreman in the round mill department of the former J&L Steel Corp.

In addition to his SNPJ membership, he was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Ambridge.

Surviving are his loving wife of 62 years, Christina Rigas Eliou; four children,

Anna (Tom) Napoleon of Indiana, Michael (Lisa) Eliou of Pittsburgh, Katina Eliou of Harmony Twp., Pa., and Emanuel Eliou of Ambridge; an adopted daughter, Gayle Maretta of Harmony Twp.; an adopted son, John Fennick of Butler, Pa.; three grandsons, James (Carrie) Eliou, Joseph Eliou, and Dimitri Napoleon; a sister, Irene Nicholas of Aliquippa, Pa.; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by five brothers and three sisters.

A funeral service was celebrated for Bro. Eliou on May 1 in Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, officiated by

Fr. Emmanuel N. Lillios. Interment followed in Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery, Aliquippa.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 33 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Bro. Eliou's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

BRO. ROBERT C. PUNOLA
• LODGE 89 •

MIDWAY, Pa. — The members of Lodge 89 sadly report the June 28, 2018, passing of Bro. Robert C. "Bob" Punola, 85, of Imperial, Pa., surrounded by his loving family.

Bro. Punola was born Jan. 30, 1933, in Primrose, Pa., a son of the late John and Anna Mlinac Punola. A graduate of Hickory High School, he was retired from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and had also worked at Consolidation Coal, Bethlehem Steel and Taylor Forge. He also served as the tax collector for Mt. Pleasant Twp., Pa., for 29 years.

A 67-year SNPJ member, he was also a lifelong member of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in McDonald, Pa., where he served on the finance council.

In his younger days, Bob was well known as a left-handed pitcher in the Greater Pittsburgh Baseball League, including pitching at Forbes Field in a tryout for the Pittsburgh Pirates. In his later years, Bob was known as a fearless competitor on the golf course, winning the Wellsville (N.Y.) Country Club member-guest tournament five times.

He married the love of his life, Mary Ann Toulouse, in 1959. She survives. Also surviving are his children, David (Diane) Punola of Fruitport, Mich., and Linda (Scott) McCracken of Coraopolis, Pa.; three granddaughters; a sister, Patricia (the late Jerome) Funaro of Hankey Farms, Pa.; a brother, John (Nancy) Punola of Madison, N.J.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a sister, Barbara Olson.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Bro. Punola on July 2 in St. Alphonsus Church, McDonald, officiated by Fr. Ben Vaghetto. Burial followed in Robinson Run Cemetery, McDonald.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 89 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Bro. Punola's family, relatives and friends on their loss.



Sis. DOROTHY GORUP (138)

SIS. DOROTHY GORUP
• LODGE 138 •

STRABANE, Pa. — The Gorup family and the members of Lodge 138 sadly announce the July 2, 2018, passing of Sis. Dorothy Klobucher Gorup, 93, of Canonsburg, Pa.

Sis. Gorup, known affectionately by her family as "Do Do," was born Nov. 14, 1924, in Strabane, one of six children born to the late George and Mary Zigon Klobucher. She attended Alexander Grade School in Strabane and worked at Canonsburg Pottery for many years.

On Nov. 19, 1956, Dorothy married the love of her life, Frank "Squirrel" Gorup Jr., in St. Patrick's Church, Canonsburg, which she attended faithfully when well. Although she and her husband never had children, she poured her life into the hearts of her sisters and brothers, and then helped shape the lives of her nieces and nephews. This responsibility of matriarch of the family she accepted unconditionally, but always warned her brothers and sisters, "Whatever you do, don't embarrass the family."

Sis. Gorup was a member of SNPJ Lodge 138 and AFU Lodge 149. In her spare time, she shared her efforts by donating baked goods to the Slovenian Radio Hour's annual picnic, the St. Patrick's Church festival and numerous SNPJ Youth Circle 19 events. Her specialties were apple strudel, potica, pizzelles, chocolate chip cookies, Texas sheet cake and a variety of delicious cookies that graced the "cookie tables" at family events.

As her brothers and sisters married, and nieces and nephews were born, "Do Do" came alive with the heart of a loving sister and aunt. Along with her husband, she created amazing memories for their loved ones expressing her love through her passion for cooking "chicken soup." Even though she was a Strabane resident for three decades, her heart was planted

in her home in Shouptown, a part of Strabane where she was born and raised.

Deceased, in addition to her parents, is her brother William and her brother George, who died at 11 months old.

Along with a thousand loving memories to be cherished, Dorothy leaves her faithful husband of 64 years, Frank; her cherished sister-in-law, Kathryn Klobucher of Pittsburgh; one brother, Edward (Lyla) Klobucher of Hazel Park, Mich.; three sisters, Josephine (George) Mikitin of Cecil Twp., Pa., and Mary Jane (William) Prost II and Agnes (Edward) Engel of North Strabane Twp., Pa., whose lives she impacted over the years.

With the passing of time, Sis. Gorup reached out to touch the lives and hearts of her nieces and nephews: William (Kathy) Klobucher, June (Robert) Bernard, Kathy Klobucher, Edward (Diane) Klobucher, Scott (Lia) Klobucher, Larry (the late Janice) Johnson, Patricia Mikitin, Barbara Mikitin, William (the late Worth) Prost, Peggy (Steve) McMahan, Beth Ann (Ed) Manning, Edward Engel, Allison (Gregory) Thompson, and Michael (Erin) McMahan. Her love continued with the most recent additions to the family, her great-nieces and nephews, Emily and John Manning, Maxwell and Ian Thompson, and Caroline McMahan, who brought her many smiles and love while she resided at the Greenery Health Center and at Townview for more than four years.

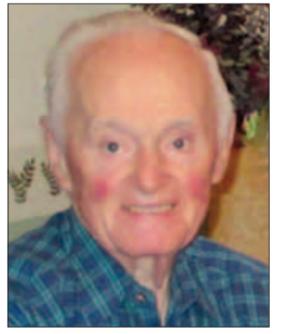
While residing in a nursing home, Dorothy cherished the care she received from the nurses, aides and hospice who were drawn to her genuine spirit of love, appreciation and witty humor, warmed by her twinkling eyes and beautiful smile.

Her family says, "Dorothy, thank you for leaving us your legacy of love. We promise to carry it on!"

A Mass of Christian Burial for Sis. Gorup was celebrated in Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church, Muse, Pa., July 6. Interment followed in the National Cemetery of the Allegheny's, Cecil Twp.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Slovenian Radio Hour, 851 F. Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15209, or a charity of one's choice.

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



Bro. EDWARD KLOBUCHER (138)

BRO. EDWARD KLOBUCHER
• LODGE 138 •

STRABANE, Pa. — The Klobucher family and the members of Lodge 138 sadly announce a second recent loss with the July 11, 2018, passing of Bro. Edward Klobucher, 91, of Hazel Park, Mich.

Bro. Klobucher was born Oct. 13, 1926, in Strabane. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After his military service, he moved to Detroit and took a job with the Chrysler Corporation, where he worked for over 40 years until his retirement in 1988. He was a member of the United Auto Workers Union. He also worked part-time for Joe Sone Auto Sales for many years.

Edward was an avid sports fan and a keen follower of current events. He was especially proud of his Slovenian heritage and SNPJ membership.

Bro. Klobucher is survived by his devoted wife of 60 years, Lyla (Rinnan) Klobucher; three sons, Larry (the late Janice) Johnson, Edward G. (Diane) Klobucher and Scott A. (Lia) Klobucher; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Edward is also survived by three sisters, Josephine (George) Mikitin, Mary Jane (William) Prost and Agnes (Edward) Engel; and in-laws Frank Gorup and Kathryn Klobucher. He was preceded in death by brothers George and William Klobucher, and sister Dorothy Gorup.

A visitation for Bro. Klobucher was held July 16 at Hopcroft Funeral Home, Madison Heights, Mich.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Hazel Park Promise Zone, or the Alzheimer's research charity of your choice.

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

SNPJ Crossword
CHILDREN'S MOVIES (#0818) solution

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DEATHS REPORTED

For the month of June 2018

LODGE NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY/STATE
A02 Rose Golden	10-13-2016	Whitesboro, Texas
5 Antonia G. Topolnicki	03-17-2018	Garfield Heights, Ohio
5 Richard J. Motuza	11-30-2014	Wickliffe, Ohio
6 Linda Jeannette	06-02-2018	Weirton, W.Va.
6 Lawrence L. McCool	02-10-2018	Murrysville, Pa.
8 Mary-Rose E. Conti	06-11-2018	Madisonville, Ky.
31 Helen B. Canter	12-27-2017	Hermitage, Pa.
34 Dorothy Sparenblek	05-20-2018	Indianapolis, Ind.
41 Christopher Kettering	05-26-2018	N Huntingdon, Pa.
41 Robert P. Zgonc	06-17-2018	Monroeville, Pa.
53 Florence E Allen	12-16-2017	Willoughby, Ohio
87 Helen P. Dubaich	05-24-2018	Acme, Pa.
87 Robert C. Keller	06-09-2018	West Mifflin, Pa.
106 Frances E. Zaloznik	05-02-2018	Pittsburgh, Pa.
126 William K. Gabrenya	03-29-2018	Orlando, Fla.
138 Susan L. Pentland	03-28-2018	Austin, Texas
138 Roxanne Perrelli	04-19-2018	Wheeling, W.Va.
138 Frank L. Vulcano Sr.	05-22-2018	Houston, Pa.
138 James A. Goodson	05-13-2018	Wheeling, W.Va.
138 George R. Coleman Jr.	04-12-2018	Canonsburg, Pa.
138 Judy K. King	03-12-2018	Redwood City, Calif.
138 Elmer E. Blankenship Jr.	05-19-2018	Lore City, Ohio
138 Leonard Butka	05-17-2018	Houston, Pa.
158 Charles R. Znidarsic	05-08-2018	Mentor, Ohio
174 Darcel D. Fahy	10-20-2017	Central City, Pa.
190 Josephine Bopp	02-26-2018	Euclid, Ohio
218 Blanche C. Smerdel	05-21-2018	Denver, Colo.
223 Paul Butchko	10-17-2017	Greensburg, Pa.
225 Charles R. Wosel	04-28-2018	Garland, Texas
225 Roger Sterbentz	05-05-2018	West Fork, Ark.
254 Marion T. Brezovec	05-26-2018	Johnstown, Pa.
274 Daniel W. Rese	02-21-2018	Ronkonkoma, N.Y.
576 Mildred Rusbasan	04-11-2018	Willowick, Ohio
584 Marian A. Susnik	01-20-2018	Sheldon, Wis.
689 Lorraine Babcock	05-27-2018	Helper, Utah
721 Anne Borato	04-15-2016	Westlake, Ohio
749 Margaret Zupan	06-10-2018	Johnstown, Pa.
757 Antone A. Lessar	04-26-2018	Price, Utah
782 Ernest J. Bozich	06-04-2018	Johnstown, Pa.
782 Priscilla Chabal	05-28-2018	Bellevue, Wash.

KAREN A. PINTAR
National Secretary/COO

PROSVETA 2018 Publication Dates

JANUARY 2018	MAY 2018	SEPTEMBER 2018
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5	1
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
FEBRUARY 2018	JUNE 2018	OCTOBER 2018
1 2 3	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
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18 19 20 21 22 23 24	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
25 26 27 28	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30 31
MARCH 2018	JULY 2018	NOVEMBER 2018
1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3
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18 19 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31	29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30
APRIL 2018	AUGUST 2018	DECEMBER 2018
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4	1
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the third Wednesday of each month, 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; e-mailed to prosveta@snpj.com; or submitted via the Publications section of the SNPJ website, www.snpj.org.



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 is available for purchase.

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Name _____

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Payment in full must accompany all orders. Make checks payable to SNPJ. Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Visit the SNPJ Farm for the Ladies Auxiliary polenta and goulash dinner

by GERRI TREBETS (604)
SNPJ Farm Ladies Auxiliary

KIRTLAND, Ohio — Here we come to the end of another picnic season. I know I always say this, but where does the time go? So far it has been a nice season, and we thank everyone who has come out to support us.

We hope that you will put

aside Sunday, Sept. 9, and join the SNPJ Farm Ladies Auxiliary for our annual polenta and goulash dinner – oh, so good! We will also be serving roast beef and sausage dinners which include Slovenian potatoes, sauerkraut or salad, and krofe for dessert, along with a roll, butter and coffee, all for the low cost of \$9 (this does not include

the gate fee of \$8).

The gate opens at 1 p.m. with dinner service beginning at 2. Dinners will be served as long as they're available, and hot dogs, sausages, sides and krofe will be served throughout the day. This all takes place at the SNPJ Farm on Heath Road in Kirtland.

Many people have remarked

how good the Farm looks, so why not come out for yourself see all the improvements that have been made? Big thanks to our working crew who come out every Tuesday and Thursday to do repairs and maintain the grounds. Our new caretakers, Ben Madden and Ashley Nemenz, have been very helpful and are doing a

great job keeping the grounds neat and clean.

From 3 to 7 p.m., Bob Kravos and the Boys In The Band will be there to entertain you with many melodious tunes. Get out on the dance floor or just sit, tap your feet and sing along. I assure you, you will enjoy their music.

Should you need any ad-

ditional information, contact either Gerri Trebets at (440) 951-9611 or Bobbie Elersich at (440) 257-2540. Here's hoping to see many Lodge members, friends and acquaintances in attendance on Sept. 9! Let's all help keep our Slovenian heritage alive and well.

Stay healthy and live each day to the fullest!

A busy year leading up to the holiday season at Lodge 643

by KURT SEIFERT
Circle 7 Co-Director

GIRARD, Ohio — Golden Eagles Lodge 643 and Youth Circle 7 members have been busy in 2018! The annual Circle 7 Easter party was a great way to start off the year's events as Co-Director Kurt Seifert, his mother Kathleen and his grandmother Kathy Nail hosted the traditional festivities. The children thoroughly enjoyed lunch, an Easter egg hunt and many other games. Following the activities, each child got to meet and have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny. We'd like to express our gratitude to Amen Corner in Girard, the host of this annual event as well as other Lodge 643 activities.

Many thanks to Lodge 643 Treasurer Joan Twaddle for handling the finances. Thank you also to Jack Twaddle for orchestrating the appearance of the Easter Bunny, who, as always, brought a bundle of happiness and fun to the party. The Twaddle family always goes above and beyond to help our Lodge, and their work and dedication is met with a tremendous amount of respect and admiration. From me, my family and all of those in Circle 7 and Lodge 643, thank you

all very much.

On May 6, we held our second event of the year: the annual Golden Eagles polka dance. The Frank Stanger Orchestra filled the night with joy and music at Rolling Mills (formerly Kuzman's Lounge), and joyful it was. All of the dancers and everyone in the audience greatly enjoyed the music and the fun times that were had. We'd like to thank the Frank Stanger Orchestra for their great performance.

Our third event was Join Hands Day in May. Over the course of three days, Lodge 643 members raked leaves, dug soil, removed weeds, clipped bushes, planted four new bushes and applied new mulch around the gazebo at Todd Park, one of the jewels in our fair city of Girard. Thank you to everyone who was able to lend a hand for Join Hands Day! The work we did and the time we put into our efforts made a difference, and it was my honor to be a part of that.

The Golden Eagles would like to thank Treasurer Joan Twaddle, Sgt. at Arms Jack Twaddle, David Twaddle, Circle Co-Director Kurt Seifert Jr., Secretary Kathleen Seifert, Kathy Nail and President Ray Kovac for taking time away from their busy sched-

ules to help maintain our beautiful park for city and township residents.

In June, two Lodge 643 members attended the Young Adult Conference. Kurt Seifert and Michael Masucci met young adult delegates from Lodges across the country at the SNPJ Recreation Center for a weekend of socializing and volunteer work. This year's conference was a work weekend, and the young adults participated in several clean-up projects around the Recreation Center grounds, as well as a community service project making blankets for cancer patients. We would like to thank Fraternal Director Kevin Richards for doing such an outstanding job. The weekend was a massive success and served to not only give the young adults a chance to give back to their community, but to also let these young men and women, who are the future of SNPJ, meet one another and engage in their culture.

In July, there was good attendance by the Golden Eagles at Slovenefest. Our members thoroughly enjoyed the festivities, pageantry, excellent Slovenian music and great food. The music at the outdoor pavilion on Sunday capped off a beautiful weekend at the SNPJ Recreation Center. It made

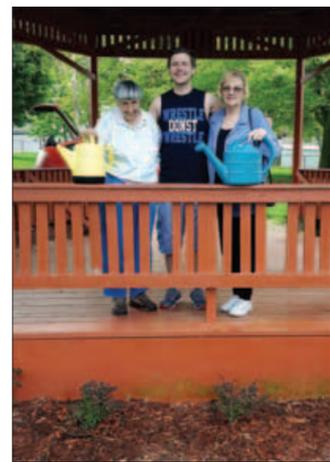
us proud to be part of the American-Slovenian family.

In August, President Ray Kovac, Vice President Ed Matasy and Secretary Kathleen Seifert represented Lodge 643 at the 31st SNPJ Quadrennial Convention. The SNPJ Recreation Center did a great job organizing this event!

Upcoming events for Lodge 643 and Circle 7 include Make a Difference Day in October and our Christmas parties Dec. 8 at Amen Corner. The staff at Amen Corner will be decorating their party room and fireplace with green, red and all of their holiday trimmings, as well as displaying their beautiful Christmas tree.

The Circle 7 Christmas party will begin at 1 p.m. and Santa will be stopping by. There is no charge for Circle 7 members, but we ask that you contact Circle Co-Director Kurt Seifert at (330) 259-1601 by Dec. 3 with the names of your children who plan to attend.

The adult Christmas party will begin at 5 p.m. with cocktails, and dinner will be served at 6. More details will follow. As in the past, we hope to have button box and accordion music,



Lodge 643 members take pride in sprucing up the Tod Park gazebo each year for Join Hands Day.

complements of our members, to add to the festive occasion.

The Lodge 643 meeting dates for the remainder of the year are Sept. 20, Oct. 18 and Nov. 15. At the November meeting, we'll elect officers and vote on our Lodge bylaws. There will be no meeting in December due to our Christmas parties. Our meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held at Amen Corner in Girard. Pizza and dessert are served following each meeting. We hope to see you there!

Head to Imperial Lodge 106 for autumn fun

by KEVIN RICHARDS
Lodge 106

IMPERIAL, Pa. — Greetings from Imperial Lodge 106! Stop by our clubroom on the first Tuesday of each month to see bartender Shari and enjoy an evening of free jukebox.

We're playing bar bingo the first and third Thursdays of the month. Early bird games start at 6:30 p.m.; the first regular game starts at 7. Our kitchen is open during bar bingo.

Join us for our final car cruise of the season on Sunday, Sept. 16. This Black & Gold Car Cruise will offer food, drinks, a 50/50 drawing and door prizes, all on our level, paved parking lot and in our air-conditioned

clubroom. Dash plaques will be distributed to the first 50 cars. Bikes are welcome too! This event is open to the public.

The Lodge 106 euchre tournaments are starting back up on Sunday, Sept. 30. The games begin at 2 p.m. in our clubroom.

Another "Seems Like Old Times" Dance has been scheduled in the Imperial Room on Sunday, Oct. 7, from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission is \$8 at the door. Our kitchen will open at 5 p.m. with a bountiful buffet for only \$12. Enjoy the Wally Merriman Group for this ballroom-style dance as we celebrate the music of America's greatest generation!

Lodge 106 will once again host the SNPJ Fall Classic Bowling Tournament Oct. 13-14. Bowling will take place at Paradise Lanes with all social activities at Lodge 106.

Would you like to receive periodic e-mails from Lodge 106 about upcoming events and important announcements? If so, e-mail sn timer 106@gmail.com and we'll add you to our list.

Keep track of all the activities we have going on here at SNPJ Lodge 106 by visiting the "Upcoming Events" page on our website, www.sn timer imperialpa.com. You can also follow us on Facebook at SNPJ Lodge 106 and Imperial Room at SNPJ.

Children's Corner a hit with the young crowd at Slovenefest

by DARCY BIBLE
Lodge 6

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — One of my favorite things about SNPJ is the relationships and friendships I've made through my membership and involvement with the organization. Growing up, I was lucky enough to attend Slovenefest for as long as I can remember, solidifying those relationships.

Slovenefest is one of my absolute favorite weekends, and this year's event was another successful time celebrating fraternal spirit and polka music. Each year the music, company and good times bring positivity and happiness to folks young and old. For the second year now, I've had the opportunity to work with my partner, Circle 36 Director Bryn Snow, in making sure that all the children at Slovenefest have just as much fun as I did when I was young. With help from Grant Strack (6), we were able to do just that!

As the temperatures soared, so did the fun this year down at the Children's Corner. In addition to the traditional Rainbow Express trackless train and the bouncy house, there were plenty of crafts, games and snacks that had a daily theme for the little ones. Saturday had a pirate theme in which the kids were encouraged to color, cut and assemble pirate hats. After their hats were ready, they moved on to get an eye patch and come up with their very own pirate name. There were even a few balloon swords!

Once they were dressed for the occasion, the children made treasure maps that resembled the Recreation



The Slovenefest youth activities, coordinated by Sygan, Pa., Lodge 6 members **DARCY BIBLE** (left) and **BRYN SNOW**, were a big hit this year, featuring a pirate theme on Saturday and a beach theme on Sunday.

Center grounds. And what's a treasure map without a treasure? We were lucky to have the young ladies who were contestants in this year's Miss SNPJ Pageant, alongside Miss SNPJ 2018 Lauren Sebusch, join us and hide lots of coins and booty in the sand pit. All of the young pirates were excited to hunt for treasure!

After enjoying the candy treasure, the children were able to make their own ocean in a bottle with sand, glitter, stones and blue water to take home with them.

On Sunday, the children had some fun with a beach theme. A beach coin drop took place in the sand pit, along with make-your-own ocean pudding snacks, water bottle bug and critter

crafts, and sun catchers for the kids to paint. The most fun was had when the children made their own ocean slime and tie-dye T-shirts! Each child was able to have some colorful fun while creating beautiful art to take home and enjoy.

All in all, it was a fun-filled time and the children really enjoyed themselves. It's such a great feeling to pass on my love of Slovenefest and share in all the good times with the young ones. Bryn, Grant and I had a blast spending the afternoon at Children's Corner making sure the kids had just as much fun as the adults at this year's Slovenefest. I can't wait to see what next year holds!



Lodge 34 members, including Lodge Secretary/Treasurer **JERRY WATSON**, were hard at work during the Aug. 3 Indianapolis SNH dinner.

Lodge 34 teaming with SWU Branch for an October event

by JERRY WATSON
Lodge 34 Secretary/Treasurer

INDIANAPOLIS — On Aug. 3, many satisfied members of the Slovenian National Home (SNH) enjoyed the baked potato bar and desserts that were prepared and provided by the officers of SNPJ Lodge 34. The SNH profit from this dinner exceeded \$200.

Our third quarterly meeting is scheduled for Sept. 30 starting at 1

p.m. at Dawson's on Main in Speedway, Ind. Please join us!

The next Lodge 34 event is scheduled for Oct. 7 at the SNH at 1 p.m. Our Lodge and Slovenian Women's Union Branch 5 have joined forces to host a luncheon of fresh sausage and more. After the luncheon, courtesy of the Slovenian government, SNPJ Lodge 5 member Joe Valencic will be here to show *Polka! The Movie*. Plan on an exciting time!

Close out your summer at the Rec Center Wine & Sausage Fest

WINE & SAUSAGE
FROM PAGE 1

Returning this year is our "Make It, Bake It, Grow It" crafters bazaar. Featured artists include Bill Smith Chain Saw Carvings, The Jefferson Glass Company, Hooter Essentials, Bound Together Knits, Connie's Creations, Crafty Creations, Happy Hag Originals, Metal Masters Custom Art, Patricia Proto, RW Ladybugz Hand Sewn Gifts, Sew Jazzy Creations, Simply Crafts, Stephanie Bush, The Purple Turtle, Three Shelties and a Cat, Tinkers Affordable

Creations, Wood N'at, Yinzpired Designs, Cookies & Candies by Christy, Fitzroy Apiary, and RD Kettle Corn. You can learn more about these artists and see a sample of the wares they'll have for sale by following the "Wine & Sausage Festival" event on the Recreation Center Facebook page.

Cabins are still available for your stay that weekend, so give us a call at 1-877-767-5732 to make a reservation. Come enjoy the day as we wrap up the Recreation Center's summer events. We hope to see you there!

Slovenian language classes for adults start in September

by LILLIAN CENTA (158)
St. Vitus Slovenian School

CLEVELAND — Classes for the 2018-2019 St. Vitus Adult Slovenian School will begin Saturday, Sept. 8. They're scheduled two Saturdays a month from 9:15 to 11:45 a.m. through May 2019.

Three levels of classes are of-

fered, beginner, intermediate and advanced. The location is St. Martin de Porres High School (formerly St. Vitus School), 6111 Lausche Ave. in Cleveland.

For more information or to enroll, contact Lillian by phone at (216) 350-6889 or by e-mailing elcenta@sbcglobal.net.

St. Marys Lodge 581 shares the art of polka

by JERRY TROHA
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

ST. MARYS, Pa. — Several Lodge 581 members and North Central Pa. Slovenian Polka Booster members helped teach polka and all-style dancing at the fifth annual Creative Women's Workshop at Crooks Farm in Bradford, Pa., under the direction of Barb Shufan. We provided dance partners for about 20 women while playing polka music from CDs, and live accordion tunes were played by Lodge 581 members John Moore and Jerry Troha. The workshop provided a variety of activities and crafts for women to learn and explore.

As a reminder to our readers, on Oct. 14 there will be a celebration of and tribute to Jim Murone's founding of the Radio Polka Party on the WKBI radio station in St. Marys some 65 years ago. Dick Tady will perform for the tribute. Listen to "Murone's Polka" by the

Jack Tady Orchestra.

The Lodge 581 delegates to the 31st SNPJ Convention, Marcia Klancer Bleggi and Jerry Troha, were very impressed by the preparation and presentations. The presenters were very well informed and interesting.

This event provided an opportunity to meet our fellow SNPJ delegates from across the United States. Marcia had a chance to share some of her homemade potica with delegates and new Region 1 Vice President Ken and Kim Zakraysek from Krayn, Pa.

North Central Pa. Slovenian Polka Boosters will host a dance on Sept. 16 featuring the Anthony Culkar Band from Cleveland at Wildwoods Bar and Grill in St. Marys from 2 to 5 p.m., and on Sept. 30 featuring the Rob DeBlander Orchestra from Michigan at St. Marys Moose Club from 2 to 5 p.m.



Members of Lodge 581 and the Polka Boosters hosted polka lessons during a Creative Women's Workshop in Bradford, Pa.

John Berne of the Maples Inn, Rt. 46 in Crosby, Pa., will host dances on Sept. 9 with Larry Lewicki of Olean, N.Y., and on Sept. 23 with Bob Kravos of Cleveland. Dancing will be from 2 to 5 p.m. A hot, delicious buffet is included with admission and will be served at 1 p.m.

For information on North

Central Pa. Slovenian Polka Boosters, contact Pat Moore at (814) 837-9218 or moorski@verizon.net. For information on SNPJ Lodge 581, contact Jerry Troha at (814) 781-6978 or jerometroha@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook at St. Marys SNPJ Lodge 581. We'd like to see you at one of our dances in Elk County, Pa.

Samsula Lodge 603 back to business in early Sept.

by JEANNETTE HUMPHREY
Lodge 603

SAMSULA, Fla. — SNPJ Lodge 603 in beautiful downtown Samsula will host a Labor Day fish fry on Monday, Sept. 3, starting at 12:30 p.m. Members are asked to bring a covered dish or two to share, and non-members will be asked to pay a small fee for the meal. Several Lodge members will catch the fish for the fry. If you can help out with these festivities or make a fishing trip, please call President George Benedict at (386) 427-1410. The public is welcome and President Benedict hopes all Lodge 603 members will take part in this enjoyable afternoon.

Connie Massey, John Tesauro and I traveled to the Borough of SNPJ, Pa., for the 31st Quadrennial Convention Aug. 12-13. We had an enjoyable time. It was the first trip for Connie and John, and they thoroughly enjoyed learning more about the business of SNPJ and the beautiful campsite. A special thanks is extended to Wendy and Butch for providing a golf cart tour of the grounds.

Aug. 12 was a Margaritaville-themed welcome reception for the Executives, National Board members and convention delegates from all over the U.S. Food was provided by the Society's treasury. The convention was conducted in the Alpine Room and meals during the convention were served in the dining hall.

After the convention, dinner was served followed with several musicians providing music in the Gostilna. It was a good time for

all. National President Joseph Evanish, National Secretary Karen Pintar and National Treasurer Robert Lawrence, as well as the National Board, were all on hand to meet and greet.

Lodge 603 will resume meetings on Tuesday, Sept. 4, at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck meal followed by the business session at 7.

Cindy Griswold continues to do a great job as Lodge manager. If you are interested in renting the Lodge hall, you may contact her at 689-9454. She also serves as Youth Circle 57 director and has the group quite active once again. The Circle had a very successful spaghetti dinner at our Lodge hall last month. The youth members, under the direction of their leaders and several parents, did a fine job.

The Frank and Mary, and John and Jennie Luznar families gathered at the Lodge Aug. 4 with nearly 200 in attendance. Traveling the farthest were Sara and Steve Brown of Double Oaks, Texas, along with their daughter Abbie, her husband Chris Schlatter and their 1-year-old son, Owen. Also in from Texas were Andrew Brown and his friend Melissa. They visited for several days with Sara's parents, Mary and Jack Pleterski. This was the first time Mary and Jack were able to see and hold their great-grandson Owen.

Chairman Bill Tomazin did another fine job with the reunion and has scheduled the next one for the first Saturday in August 2020. A few more leaves were added on the family tree, which was designed and created by Pauline Lockwood.



Lodge 603 delegates JEANNETTE HUMPHREY, CONNIE MASSEY and JOHN TESAURO enjoying the 31st SNPJ Quadrennial Convention welcome party



Representing four generations of the Pleterski family at the Luznar family reunion: SARA BROWN, ABBIE and OWEN SCHLATTER, and MARY PLETERSKI.

Support the Rec Center Cabin Renovation Project



by JOSEPH C. EVANISH
SNPJ National President/CEO

IMPERIAL, Pa. — For many years, SNPJ members have enjoyed the unique and truly remarkable facility that is the SNPJ Recreation Center. The experiences and countless memories that have been made there are treasured by thousands. The Recreation Center is now more than 50 years old and, as with so many things, time, along with wear and tear, have taken their toll.

The large upper cabins, situated opposite the lake along Martin Road, are some of the first structures that were built on the property. Cabins #1 and #2 have already been completed. The budgeted cost to complete one cabin was \$28,000. There are a total of 24 large cabins and 12 motel units as part of this project. It will take a significant amount of capital to finish this project, and will likely take years to complete. The more donations we receive, the quicker we can complete the project. Since this is not a cultural or educational (scholarship) cause, but

rather, recreational in nature, contributions are not considered tax deductible.

We encourage Lodges, Federations, members, friends and other organizations to contribute. Several have already contributed. While we do offer "Club Level" recognition, all donations will be listed in *PROSVETA*.

Donors at the following Club Levels will receive their name on a plaque inside the corresponding cabin: Bronze Level, \$1,000; Silver Level, \$5,000; Gold Level, \$10,000; and Platinum Level, \$25,000.

Donation checks can be made payable to "SNPJ." Please indicate "Cabin Renovation" in the memo area. Provide your name and address, and the acknowledgment name and address if the donation is made in memory of someone.

Send your donation to Slovene National Benefit Society, 247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!

Rec Center Cabin Renovation Donations for the month of July 2018

Slovenian Speaking Federation of SNPJ Lodges of Western PA.....\$300

Kenny Lawrence, Monica Progar & Anna Progar (138) Strabane, Pa. & Pittsburgh.....\$101
In memory of deceased members of the Progar Family

Jeff & Terry Cramer (715), Poland, Ohio.....\$100
In memory of Paul H. Cramer

David, Peggy & Kristen Cushman (138), Houston, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Mary Cadez

David, Peggy & Kristen Cushman (138), Houston, Pa.....\$25
In memory of Leonard Butka

David, Peggy & Kristen Cushman (138), Houston, Pa.....\$25
In memory of William O'Hare

50-Year Members

September 2018

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Barbara A. Pierson	223	Gregory A. Kern
5	Laura A. Ziernicki	254	Victor M. Sabo
6	Kirk G. Usnick	254	Larry J. Korber
34	Frank J. Konechnik	254	Valerie Southard
41	Patricia L. Applestein	254	David R. Brandle
41	Jane F. Sandrick	304	Ivan Dodic
87	Linda D. Burns	371	Michael J. Reedy
107	Marsha G. Grasher	476	Deborah A. Alvarez
117	Elaine A. Pierce	518	Brenda A. Bradley
138	Joanne E. Buckel	562	Linda M. Fitzsimons
138	Frank J. DeLost Jr.	562	Jeffrey F. Oblak
138	Gregory J. Kern	584	Mary J. Howard
158	Lillian J. Zdanowicz	584	Karen M. Lillesve
207	Leslie E. Stone	643	Marilyn Hladiuk
216	Carl F. Flisek	686	Mary Lou Conaway
218	Ronald F. Arbaney	723	Christopher V. Ursich
218	Phillip E. Duran	770	John R. Anthony
218	Carol J. Velasquez	770	Amy Jo Hosa
218	Linda L. Stengel	776	Judith A. Adamczyk

60-Year Members

September 2018

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
A01	Frieda Eberhardt	304	Diane S. Brahney
2	Edward E. Pencia Jr.	564	Blanche K. Travnik
31	JoAnn M. Bogolin	584	Kathleen H. Weeks
126	Ernest J. Kerzicnik	584	Marilyn L. Bregger
142	Lois Klemenc	584	Phillip Friedl
158	Jean L. Zakraysek	643	Donna J. Prevec
257	Virginia Holmok	723	Andrew G. Mitchell
304	Dianne E. Altman	782	Barbara A. Makuta

70-Year Members

September 2018

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
A01	Michael F. Batchen Jr.	190	Rose Marie Myers
1	June K. Thacker	190	Hermine Sivec
8	Anna Capporelli	459	Irene J. Farah
8	John W. Rae	584	Dolores K. Maki
174	Dorothy N. Dablock	626	Mary A. Kompara

80-Year Members

September 2018

Lodge	Member
686	Julia Sersha

Important figures to consider...



29%... people who would purchase more life insurance if they were asked

62%... people who own coverage, but don't know what they have or why they have it

82%... people who are under-insured

If your coverage is over 5 years old, contact SNPJ for a policy review.



1-800-843-7675

2018 SNPJ Fall Classic Bowling Tournament

October 13-14, 2018

hosted by Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 at

Paradise Island Bowl

7601 Grand Ave.

Neville Island, PA 15225

Phone: (412) 264-6570

www.paradiseislandbowl.com

Doubles & Singles Events	Team Event
Saturday, Oct. 13, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday, Oct. 14, 10:30 a.m.

Doubles & Singles	Lodge No.	Highest Average 2017-18	All-Events \$5 per person YES/NO
Entry fee \$30 per person Saturday Only			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			

Submit bowlers' names by position in lineup

Four-Person Team Event	Lodge No.	Highest Average 2017-18
Entry fee \$60 per team Sunday Only		
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

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

The entry fee in each event is \$15 per bowler, \$6.75 of which shall be used for prizes and \$8.25 for bowling. An extra \$5 is charged to all who desire to compete for handicap all-events prizes. The Slovene National Benefit Society adds \$6 per member to each prize fund except all-events.

Return form, along with fees of \$15 per person, per event, to:
Slovene National Benefit Society
Att'n. Kevin Richards
247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126
Phone: 1-800-843-7675

Make checks payable to SNPJ

ENTRY DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

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