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## briefly

### Required Lodge report deadlines moved to June

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — Due to the current state of the pandemic affecting the country, all Lodge reporting requirements will be postponed this year. The Election of Officers Report, Lodge Meeting Verification and Certification, Lodge Audit Report, and the Report of Local Unit Activity are all due into the SNPJ Home Office by June 1. Please disregard the original deadlines.

**KAREN A. PINTAR**  
SNPJ National Secretary/COO

### Lodge 559 meeting date set for March 12

**CHICAGO** — Lodge 559 has a meeting scheduled for March 12 starting at noon. Due to most members still adhering to COVID-19 precautions, we will be available to meet via Zoom or phone call. If you are interested in attending either way, please contact Lodge Secretary Melanie Matiassek via e-mail to [mjmatiassek@gmail.com](mailto:mjmatiassek@gmail.com) or call (708) 715-0131.

**MELANIE MATIASSEK**  
Lodge 559 Secretary/Treasurer

### Lodge 776 schedules meeting on March 14

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — SNPJ Lodge 776 members will gather for their regular meeting at the SNPJ Recreation Center on Sunday, March 14. The meeting will start at 2 p.m.

**VONNIE DOMBROSKY**  
Lodge 776 Recording Secretary

### Have you recommended a new member lately?

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — Take advantage of SNPJ's Recommender Program. Every valid referral earns the recommender \$10, plus an entry in the quarterly drawing for a chance to win \$100. Pay a visit to the SNPJ website, [snpj.org](http://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 April 1 and May 3. All material must be received by noon on Monday, March 15, for the April 1 issue, and by Monday, April 19, for the May 3 issue. If you're concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to [prosveta@snpj.com](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com) or submit your material via the publications area of our website, [snpj.org](http://snpj.org).

# Family fun in store at the SNPJ Recreation Center

by JOSEPH C. EVANISH  
SNPJ National President/CEO

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — We're looking forward to the summer season at the SNPJ Recreation Center and counting the days until Family Week 2021, scheduled Sunday, Aug. 1, through Saturday, Aug. 7.

For those of you who aren't aware of everything that goes on at Family Week, think of it as a summer camp for families. But you don't even need a family to attend since activities are geared toward individual campers of all ages. You can participate in arts and crafts, balina and beanbag toss tournaments, bingo games, picnics and hayrides, or just hang

out at the cabins and enjoy the friendship of fellow SNPJ members. Of course, there's always time for the pool in addition to other special activities, many times featuring live entertainment!

Campers will enjoy three meals a day. Although the meal service will conclude with breakfast on Friday, Aug. 6, you'll be able to stay in your cabin and enjoy all of the Friday evening fun at the SNPJ Recreation Center. Of course, you can stay Saturday evening as well for an additional fee. Please remember that the Gostilna kitchen is open on the weekends so that you can purchase food.

The Family Week registration fee for SNPJ

members is \$140 per person; for non-members the fee is \$200 per person. There is also an additional lodging fee based on the type of cabin in which you will be staying. For a two-bedroom Upper Cabin (numbers 3-24), the fee is \$350 for the week. For a two-bedroom Lower Cabin, the fee is \$230 for the week. For a one-bedroom Lower Cabin, the fee is \$120 for the week. Want to stay in the newly-renovated Cabins 1 or 2? The fee is \$575 for the week. All lodging fees are fixed, regardless of whether one person or the maximum number of occupants are staying in the cabin.

SEE **SNPJ FAMILY WEEK**  
ON PAGE 2

# Lodge 581 backs plan for a music scholarship honoring late secretary

by MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI  
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

**ST. MARYS, Pa.** — During their most recent meeting, held Feb. 14 at the Wildwoods in St. Marys, Lodge 581 members continued their relationship with the North Central Pennsylvania Polka Boosters.

In honor of late Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Troha, who was an influential member of both groups, the Polka Boosters are establishing a music scholarship for two graduating students who plan to further their studies in music after high school. One student will be selected from each of the two high schools in St. Marys.

John Troha and Pat Moore will coordinate the scholarships with St. Marys Area High School and Elk County Catholic High School.

Other programs planned for the spring and summer include sponsoring a Pennsylvania

SEE **LODGE 581 SCHOLARSHIP**  
ON PAGE 5



SNPJ Lodge 581 and the the North Central Pa. Polka Boosters are establishing a music scholarship in memory of late Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer Bro. JERRY TROHA.

PERIODICAL MATERIAL

# Dec. elections usher in the new year for Lodge 749

by EVELYN DIMPFL  
Lodge 749 Secretary

**JOHNSTOWN, Pa.** — I just checked my records and realized that it has been months since I last wrote an article for *PROSVETA*. That is rather strange for me, but then, this past year has been rather strange too.

During the December 2020 Lodge 749 meet-

ing, after the regular business was conducted, election of officers was held. Our returning officers are President Joseph Vasilko (since 1963), Vice President James Vasilko, Treasurer Judith Edsall, and Recording Secretary (since 1963) and Lodge Secretary Evelyn Dimpfl.

Our auditors are Beatrice Edwards and Julie Wagner. Lodge delegates to the Conemaugh

Federation are Joseph Vasilko, Joanne Vasilko, Evelyn Dimpfl, Julie Wagner and James Vasilko.

I guess that the one constant in life is the passing of life. That being so, I extend sympathies to Lodge 749 members who have died recently.

SEE **LODGE 749 NEW YEAR**  
ON PAGE 2



## From the archives

### PLAY BALL! Recalling the Strabane Lodge 138 Young Bucs-Old Timers Games

Just in case you missed it online, on a news broadcast, or in the sports section of your local newspaper, Major League Baseball teams opened their spring training camps in mid-February, bringing pitchers and catchers to camp Feb. 17-19, while position players reported a few days later, on either Feb. 22 or 23, depending on the team's spring training schedule.

With the start of the 2021 MLB regular season slated for April 1 (*hmmm... isn't that April Fool's Day?*), it seems appropriate to celebrate by sharing a photo submitted via e-mail by Lodge 138 member Bro. George Elish, a former member of the SNPJ National Board Supervisory Committee (1986-1990). According to Bro. Elish, this photo was taken in 1982 during the Strabane, Pa., Lodge 138 Young Bucs-Old Timers softball game. As Bro. Elish wrote in an article published in the Sept. 22, 1982, *PROSVETA* issue, "...enough guys for four teams showed up. Everyone had a chance to play and the Young Bucs won, 17-11." [From personal experience, the editor is almost certain that 1982 was the last time the Young Bucs defeated the Old Timers.]

For the sake of historical reference, this photo is the very first *PROSVETA* "From the archives" submission printed in color. And after almost 40 years, the 1982 version of the Strabane Lodge 138 Young Bucs-Old Timers game never looked better!



### • Carlie Anne Larsen

Born March 24, 2020

Helper, Utah, Lodge 689

The members of SNPJ Lodge 689 welcome Carlie Anne Larsen as their newest addition. Carlie Anne is the daughter of Tasia Anne Klarich-Larsen (689), granddaughter of Tamara Anne Klarich-Gray (689), and great-granddaughter of Sharon Klarich (689) and the late Albert Klarich (689). We welcome Carlie Anne to the Society and extend our best wishes to her entire family.



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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 (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

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## Don't miss out on the fun of Family Week at the SNPJ Rec Center

**SNPJ FAMILY WEEK**  
FROM PAGE 1

If you are staying in your RV in the Trailer Court, there is no lodging fee. You must turn in your registration form and a \$25 cabin deposit (if you didn't pay it when you checked out

last summer) to the SNPJ Recreation Center by July 1. The balance will be due when you check in on Sunday, Aug. 1. Please call Sue Zarella at the Rec Center if you are unsure if you left a cabin deposit. You can also mail in your total balance due with

your registration form, if you wish. If we haven't received your registration and deposit by July 1, you may lose your deposit and your cabin may be rented to somebody else.

Daily member guests are welcome for \$50 per person, per day; non-

member guests are welcome for \$75 per person, per day.

We're looking forward to a fun-filled week of camp during SNPJ Family Week! Contact the Recreation Center at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail [snpj@snpjrec.com](mailto:snpj@snpjrec.com) for information.

## Elections bring a new year of service for Johnstown Lodge 749 officers

**LODGE 749 NEW YEAR**  
FROM PAGE 1

Albert F. Likar passed away on Aug. 6, 2020, at the age of 92. Al was always at SNPJ functions in the area and enjoyed his button box accordion. He was predeceased by his dear wife, Anne, and is survived by children Ronald, Patricia (Horvath), Diane (Bullock) and Mariann (Edwards), as well as 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Deepest sympathies to you all.

Member Robert E. Merle died on May 19, 2020, and sympathies are extended to his family. Member Jack J. Jaber passed away on Aug. 12, 2020, and is survived by daughter Carrie, and granddaughters Izabella and Violet. Condolences go out to

his family.

Longtime member Frances Shikala recently died. I remember her and her husband, Walt, from the Slovenian Hall in Lorain Borough. They were very nice people and now will be remembered lovingly by their son, William.

My dear aunt, Frances Mavri, who outlived her SNPJ life insurance policy, died at the age of 102. She lived most of her life in Windber, Pa., but spent the last few years of her life in the Hollidaysburg, Pa., area. She was a WWII veteran, having served as a nurse in Germany, Vietnam and other posts throughout her career. She retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel. She traveled the world over in her retirement and leaves behind

the many stories of her wonderful experiences.

She will be sorely missed by her nieces and nephews, Joanne (Glovach) Vasilko, Evelyn (Glovach) Dimpfl, Barbara (Gonnella) Case, Stephen Wukina and Roberta (Wukina) Kenny, as well as numerous great-nieces and great-nephews. She was predeceased by her parents; four sisters; a brother; a niece, Frances (Gonnella) Brezina; and a nephew, Ronald Gonnella. Rest in peace, Aunt Fran.

While this seems to be a litany of death notices, I would be remiss if I didn't include the unexpected loss of SNPJ Recreation Center Director Kevin Richards. Kevin passed away suddenly in early December, and I was shocked to learn of his passing.

Kevin was perfect for his former job as SNPJ Fraternal Director, and he was always on hand for whatever was going on. We won't forget his big smile and his jokes. I will miss seeing him at the Recreation Center.

Lodge 749 made a nice contribution in Kevin's name to the Recreation Center. Sympathies are extended to his family.

Hopefully we will all soon receive our COVID-19 vaccinations and will be able to go about a normal lifestyle once again.

Just as a reminder, since we are in a new year, please do some housekeeping with your SNPJ policies, making sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Call me if you need any help or information.

## Strangers to Paradise

by JAY SEDMAK  
SNPJ Publications Editor/Manager

Part 3, continued from the Jan. 1 and Feb. 1 issues

**AUTHOR'S NOTE** – Credit where credit is due: The vast majority of the material compiled for this article was researched and written by Polonca Cesar-Nedzbala and published, in Slovenian, in Dve Domovini, Vol. 1/1990 (translation by Google Translate, which did an admirable job). Additional sources include Slovene Immigrant History, 1900-1950, Autobiographical Sketches, by Ivan Molek, translated by Mary Molek, published by M. Molek, Inc., 1979; The Slovenes of Northern California, 1860-2001, by Donald Kambic, published 2001; and columns from various newspapers, all of which have been identified throughout the text.

After parting ways with Jeram and leaving the Eden Valley settlement, Martin Konda became disillusioned with religion in general and felt he had been swindled out of a hefty sum. He eventually made his way to Pueblo, Colo. – which was quickly becoming a hotbed of organized labor disputes – where he worked for several months in 1901 as the manager of *Mir* (Peace), a Catholic weekly newspaper. He traveled throughout Colorado and Minnesota as a representative of the newspaper, returning to Pueblo in 1902 to publish his very own newspaper, *Glas Svobode* (Voice of Freedom).

Konda admitted to Ivan Molek that his main goal when launching *Glas Svobode* was “to get rid of other newspaper competitors in his home territory;” the first casualty was the *Mir* Catholic newspaper, which folded shortly thereafter. Announcing the newspaper's demise, a less-than-subtle headline on the *Glas Svobode* front page reads “Our *Mir* has eternal peace.”

As a result of his experience in Eden Valley, Martin Konda was a changed man. He intimated, again to Molek, that his time spent in the colony “had made an atheist of him,” and that he had somehow been cheated in his subsequent business agreement with the *Mir* newspaper, for which he pledged vengeance. Konda exacted his toll on the Catholic publication when he and Frank Medica (another of the 12 SNPJ founders) began publishing *Glas Svobode*, filling its pages with columns devoted to progressive, “free thought” ideas which railed against the religious principles of early 20th century Slovenian benefit societies.

Both Konda and Medica recognized that Colorado was a less-than-ideal base for their progressive newspaper since the majority of Slovenian immigrants – along with Slovenian newspaper subscribers – resided in the Midwest (Chicago and Cleveland) and further east (in Pennsylvania and, to a lesser degree, New York). These were the centers of the Slovenian immigrant community in America, and in an effort to sustain their fledgling newspaper, the pair agreed to move the *Glas Svobode* publication to Chicago in 1903. The move paid off handsomely: Within a year – in April 1904, to be exact – Konda and Medica had generated enough support to establish the SNPJ, a new progressive benefit society, and *Glas Svobode* became the society's first official publication.

### A Broken Promise ...and Shattered Hope

While it could be argued that the Eden Valley colony had an indirect effect on the formation of the Slovene National Benefit Society, there is little doubt that the settlement made a definite impact on its residents. Even as the settlers' complaints and personal attacks continued, Fr. Jeram proceeded with his plans for the colony's success.

During the spring and summer of 1896, the settlers constructed a small sawmill, the benefit of which Jeram described as a means of attaining self-sufficiency by “cut[ting] lumber for building houses for the colonists, and also for barns, fences, stores, etc.” Later that summer, an article in the Aug.

7, 1896, issue of the *San Francisco Call* detailed a surprising new development: the Slovenian settlers were now mining copper in the fertile Eden Valley, along with coal in the surrounding hills.

According to the author, “A shareholder, who is one of the principal men in the colony, said yesterday: ‘We have great hopes for the future, especially since the copper mine has proved a rich one. The mine is being worked. Two shifts of men are employed, one by day and the other by night, and they are taking out considerable ore while opening the shaft. A syndicate of Eastern capitalists has taken hold of the mine, having the necessary capital to work it, but the colony will share the benefits derived from it.’” Jeram, however, was more reserved in his estimation of the hidden resources, saying only, “[T]here will be busy times in the colony, and it will all rest with the people themselves then to put the agricultural colony on a sound basis, altogether independent of the mine and lumber mill.”

News of the “vast wealth” represented by the discovery of “a wonderfully rich copper mine” in Eden Valley was also reported in an issue of the (California) *State Mining Journal* dated Aug. 21, 1896. But despite the attention paid by the media at that time, no further mention was made of the colony's copper or coal mines, nor of the alleged deal struck between Jeram (ostensibly on behalf of the Eden Valley colony) and the “syndicate of Eastern capitalists.”

In his overview of the Eden Valley settlement, Molek includes portions of a letter he received in 1937 from Mary Pogorelec, who along with her husband were among the first 100 or so settlers in Eden Valley. Mary recalled that many of the settlers who desired to leave the colony pressed Jeram to return their deposits. He, of course, would always refuse any demand for a refund, replying instead that they should “Stay here and work, work!” Jeram's vision of a cooperative Slovenian settlement belied the truth of the entire venture: By the autumn of 1896, after only five months of existence, the colony was already faltering and Jeram's loan payments would soon be in arrears.

The relationship between Fr. Jeram and the Eden Valley settlers, which was strained almost from the date of the colony's inception, had deteriorated rapidly after Jeram introduced his amended communal contracts in the spring, and the settlers' initial resistance to the new arrangement turned to complete disdain as the year wore on. While they continued to raise livestock, which was their main source of food, the settlers refused to work the land, build additional houses, and in general support the welfare of the community. The residents had failed in their promise to further develop the colony. Had they worked together for the greater good of the settlement, it is quite possible that Eden Valley would have expanded by attracting a number of new Slovenian settlers, each of whom would have been required to make an investment in the colony, as was required of the current and former residents. But that wasn't the case.

As a result of these interpersonal conflicts, many of the settlers – in particular, those who had some savings set aside – left the colony in the final months of 1896. Those who remained (i.e.: those who could not afford to leave) lamented their ill fortune in letters to family and friends. The arrival of any new settlers had long since ceased, as had any new investments in the colony. The colony was collapsing, and Jeram, who had secured the loan and was registered as the sole property owner, was acutely aware of that fact.

Cash-strapped and fearing the colony would soon disband, Jeram sold all of the livestock in February 1897. While no one can be certain of his motive for the sale (retribution, blind faith, or maybe sheer stubbornness?), Jeram used the proceeds to pay an installment on the loan. Several sources indicate that he also sold all of his possessions around that same time, retaining only his library, the manuscript for his Slovenian-English grammar book, a pocket watch, and a few personal items of little value. By this time the Eden Valley settlement was impoverished and, as Molek describes, the settlers who stayed “remained like slaves for one year, from June 1896 until June 1897.”



**MARTIN KONDA**, editor, publisher, and one of the 12 founders of the Slovene National Benefit Society.

Although the sale of the livestock was transacted in February, several months passed before the livestock could be transferred to the new owner, a well-known local cattle-buyer. On May 3, 1897, the date both parties had agreed to conduct the transfer, Jeram met the buyer in the town of Cahto and they then proceeded back to Eden Valley. Shortly after arriving at the settlement, Jeram and a second man, identified as Tom Chase (a member of the buyer's party, perhaps?), set off on horseback to conduct business in nearby Covelo.

Reaching the Eel River and finding the ferryman absent, the pair decided to cross, Chase entering the stream first to lead the way. The crossing proved fatal for Jeram, however, as he somehow fell from his horse into the chilly water. Chase's attempts at a rescue were futile; Jeram was swiftly carried downstream. The body was finally found in mid-July, and Jeram was buried – rather unceremoniously, given that he was a priest – in the Catholic cemetery in Ukiah. Details of the fatal accident were reported in the May 7, 1897, issue of the *Ukiah Republican Press*.

The mysterious circumstances surrounding the death of Fr. Peter Josip Jeram resulted in a number of rumors. Did he commit suicide? Was it murder – did someone push him into the river? Or was it all a hoax – was it really Jeram's body that was discovered more than two months after the accident? The speculation made little difference to the few settlers who remained in the Eden Valley colony as of May 1897. Regardless of which rumor they may have preferred, the fact remained that Jeram was gone and the settlement had no chance of survival. The colony had been suffering a steady decline for months; Jeram's death simply precipitated its collapse.

When the last of the Slovenian settlers departed Eden Valley in 1897, a balance of roughly \$47,000 was still owed on the loan. What little remained of Jeram's personal property was awarded to the state administrators and sold at public auction. The last vestige of the Eden Valley settlement, the Jeram post office, so named in 1896, was closed in 1897.

Today, nearly 125 years later, any mention of Eden Valley elicits only a vague recollection of the former Slovenian settlement. But its history lingers in the names of the settlers, many of whom made their homes in and around San Francisco when the colony dissolved. Reading through the list of investor surnames, one would think it's a review of a who's who of the Slovenian-American community in the early 20th century: Adamič, Ancel, Bizjak, Čadež, Demšar, Klemenc, Kočvar, Konda, Koren, Košir, Kukar, Omerza, Peterlin, Peternel, Petrič, Plut, Pugel, Škof, Tavčar, Trojar, Zupan, Zupančič... and it goes on and on.

In the 1930s, when Ivan Molek wrote of the Eden Valley colony, he noted that “Not a single Slovene lives in that area today.” While that is very likely a true statement, Molek's words fail to take into consideration the undeniable significance of the former settlement. Even with its failure – better still, as a result of its failure – the Eden Valley colony was a major contributor to the growth of the Slovenian immigrant community in San Francisco. And in a roundabout manner, the reasons for its failure provide further insight into one progressive Slovenian who helped lay the foundation for the Slovene National Benefit Society.

~ END ~



# We've Got You COVERED



DAVID C. ELY, CPIA  
SNPJ Sales Director

## Spring Forward!

Recently, the COVID pandemic claimed yet another tradition – the annual festival in Punxsutawney, Pa., in celebration of Groundhog Day! While the event was still held and aired, the excitement in the air was noticeably missing. Upon witnessing Phil see his shadow, meaning six more weeks of winter, I got to thinking: “How did all this start?”

The first official Groundhog Day celebration took place 134 years ago, on Feb. 2, 1887, in Punxsutawney. It was the brainchild of local newspaperman Clymer Freas, who sold a group of local businessmen on the idea. The men trekked to a site called “Gobbler’s Knob,” where the inaugural groundhog became the bearer of bad news when he saw his shadow.

Today, the yearly festivities at Gobbler’s Knob are presided over by a band of local dignitaries known as the Inner Circle. Its members wear top hats and tuxedos, and conduct the official proceedings, supposedly speaking to the groundhog in “Groundhogese.” Typically, tens of thousands of spectators descend upon Groundhog Day events in Punxsutawney, a borough that’s home to around just 6,000 people. This annual rite of passage was further immortalized on the big screen in the aptly named 1993 Bill Murray classic “Groundhog Day.”

Also known as woodchucks, groundhogs belong to a group of large ground squirrels known as *marmots*. They grow up to 25 inches long and can live for 10 years in captivity. (According to legend, Punxsutawney Phil is more than 130 years old, thanks to the magical elixir he imbibes every summer.) Groundhogs spend the winter hibernating in their burrows, significantly reducing their metabolic rate and body temperature; by February, they can lose as much as half their weight.

When groundhogs emerge from their winter slumber, these whiskered rodents eat plant life, wild berries and a variety of insects – and they don’t mind helping themselves to garden vegetables or agricultural crops during planting and harvest seasons!

The Groundhog Day traditional celebration in Pennsylvania has spawned others, but none have gathered the notoriety of the original Punxsutawney Phil. Some of Phil’s groundhog weather-forecasting brethren include Balzac Billy (Calgary, Alberta, Canada), Buckeye Chuck (Marion, Ohio), Fred la marmotte (Quebec, Canada), General Beauregard Lee (Jackson, Ga.), Shubenacadie Sam (Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia), Staten Island Chuck (New York, N.Y.), Stormy Marmot (Boulder, Colo.), and Wiarton Willie (Warton, Ontario, Canada).

The groundhog phenomena has even crossed species! For nearly 50 years, residents of Vermilion, Ohio, have turned to a vastly different creature for their annual weather forecast: the woolly bear caterpillar. According to tradition, if the bugs have more orange than black coloring in autumn, the upcoming winter will be mild. The one-day family festival attracts approximately 100,000 people!

Unfortunately, these critters – whether (get it?) they be groundhogs or caterpillars – forecast the future correctly only 25 to 50 percent of the time, proving yet again: Nothing and no one can accurately predict the future consistently. Don’t take that chance! Call SNPJ today at 1-800-843-7675 for a free insurance analysis and let us help you spring your family’s future forward!




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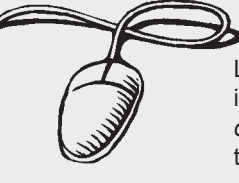
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Looking for information on your SNPJ life insurance and annuity policies? Visit [snpj.org](http://snpj.org), click the **PolicyView** link, then follow the step-by-step instructions.

## Charge d'affaires heads U.S. Embassy in Slovenia

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Susan K. Falatko has again assumed the position of charge d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Slovenia following the departure of former Ambassador Lynda C. Blanchard, the Embassy announced in mid-January. Falatko has been serving in Slovenia since June 2019.

“We have made great strides in expanding the U.S.-Slovenia relationship in areas of mutual interest, creating new opportunities for us to work more closely together than ever to overcome the challenges ahead as allies, partners and friends,” Falatko was quoted as saying.

Prior to her assignment as Deputy Chief of Mission in Ljubljana, Falatko was the director of the Office in Charge of the Western Balkans at the U.S. State Department. She also served in U.S. diplomatic missions to Mauritius and the Seychelles, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cuba, Mali, Rwanda and Geneva.

Former Ambassador Blanchard started her stint in August 2019 and handed in her resignation on Jan. 11, as is customary when a president’s term expires. She departed Slovenia a few days prior to President Biden’s inauguration.

## Foreign Ministry’s art collection is expanding

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Slovenia’s Foreign Ministry has expanded its art collection by purchasing 41 pieces of art, most of which have been produced by the younger generation of Slovenian artists as part of the New Wave project. The new paintings, prints and drawings will hang on the walls of diplomatic representation offices and consulates to promote Slovenian art around the world.

Prior to the purchase, Foreign Ministry representatives contacted the Union of Associations of Slovenian Painters (ZDSLU). Olga Butinar Čeh, ZDSLU curator and author of the text in a brochure that will be issued as part of the New Wave project, selected 66 artists, and a special commission at the Foreign Ministry then picked 23 artists who offered three to five works. The ministry purchased one to three works from each artist.

Although most of the artists are from the younger generation, works by Bogdan Čobal, a representative of the older generation, were also among those purchased.

Butinar Čeh sees the project as a “bright moment at the end of a dark year,” and a successful continuation of a nine-year cooperation between the Foreign Ministry and the ZDSLU. She said that more than a third of the artists were not members of the ZDSLU, but were members of regional associations. “The idea was to give an opportunity to all young artists, those under the age of 40,” she explained.

Butinar Čeh hopes the New Wave project will have a positive impact on the nonexistent Slovenian art market. “We have appraisers, but unfortunately we don’t have norms that are reliable and would guarantee that a purchase of art is a safe investment. In addition, the prices of some art works – say, a part of Impressionists – are set too high.”

In the past, Slovenian banks and some successful companies, such as Krka and Lek, were purchasing art work at realistic prices, which enabled artists to live off their work. State institutions were also buying art. But this practice died away as some of these companies went bankrupt and a law was introduced in 2003 setting a ceiling for the value of gifts. Previously, works of art were often purchased as gifts.

## Laser scanner utilized to examine avalanches

**BOVEC (STA)** — The aftermath of the avalanches that hit the area of Bovec in northwestern Slovenia on Jan. 22-23, shutting off local roads, was investigated with a laser scanner mounted to a drone. This was the first time the device was used in Slovenia to determine the depth and overall volume of snow following an avalanche.

The use of the drone and scanner is part of a wider research of avalanches in the upper Soča Valley, which shows that these occurrences are frequent in that area of Slovenia. The first avalanche map was made by local foresters in 1952.

Addressing the January avalanches and their examination with the laser scanner, Ljubljana Biotechnical Faculty



researcher Milan Kobal said it was interesting that their reach stretched beyond the local roads.

Kobal explained that in 2020, faculty researchers started using a drone-mounted laser scanner to examine erosion processes, including torrential floods, avalanches, landslides and rockfall. “In Bovec, it was used for the first time to determine the depth and overall volume of snow after an avalanche,” he said, noting that the laser scanner enabled what standard photogrammetry could not. “The researchers will use the acquired data to create maps of potential snowslide and rockfall hazards,” he added.

## Slovenia’s coastal area threatened by rising sea

**KOPER (STA)** — According to a recent study conducted by researchers at the Geography Department of the University of Primorska Faculty of Humanities, the expected rise in the sea level in the coming decades, coupled with high tide flooding, could affect some 3,800 people living along the Slovenian coast, flooding some nature reserves out of existence.

High tides have been increasingly flooding low-lying sections of the Slovenian coast, and the sea level has risen 10 centimeters (approx. four inches) in the past 50 years, as indicated by the study. The researchers, Gregor Kovačič and Valentina Brečko Grubar, note that in the past 20 years the rise of the sea level in Slovenia has been higher than European and global averages.

Scientists participating in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimate the global sea level could rise by up to 100 centimeters (39 inches) by the year 2100 but, unlikely, not by less than 50 centimeters (19.6 inches).

Given a 50-centimeter rise in the sea level, high tide floods would cover 700 hectares (1,730 acres) of the Slovenian coast with about 25 centimeters (10 inches) of water along the lowest portions of the coast. This would mean extensive flooding of the salt pans in Strunjan and Sečovlje, and several important fauna and flora habitats.

During high tide, the water level would be comparable to that of extremely high tides or extreme flooding today, with about 80 centimeters (31.5 inches) of water on low-lying portions of the coast, and up to 144 centimeters (56.5 inches) in the case of an exceptionally high tide.

The built-up areas of the low coast would be threatened, such as those in the area of Koper port. Like today, Piran would be hardest hit, with a large part of the old town under water. Some residential areas of Lucija would also be flooded, along with the entire Sečovlje salt pans.

Conservation areas such as the Škocjanski Zatok, Sečoveljske Soline and Stjuža in Strunjan would be gone forever, the researches warn. They call for developing detailed mid- and long-term plans to adapt to the consequences of sea flooding, which would include mapping out where certain human activities would no longer be possible.

## Book on 18th-century Slovenian lands issued

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — A priceless presentation of geographical, geological and ethnographic features of Slovenian lands in the 18th century compiled by Belsazar Hacquet, a Carniolan physician of French descent, was recently issued in a Slovenian translation. The book is the first of four volumes of the “Oryctographia Carniolica” and features the first known image of Mt. Triglav.

In what is considered the most important scientific work of the 18th century on Slovenian lands, Hacquet presents the physical geography of Carniola, Istria and portions of neighboring lands in text, maps and illustrations. He also presents some of the regions’ ethnographic features.

In the first volume of the book, which was first published in 1778, Hacquet describes underground caves, Slovenian hills and mountains, fossils, rivers and lakes, and waterfalls. The book opens with a full-page illustration of Mt. Triglav, the oldest known illustration of Slovenia’s highest peak. The illustration was based on a 1776 sketch made by cartographer Franc Ksaver Baraga.

The first volume also includes an ap-

pendix and a detailed map of the hilly areas of Carniola from Klagenfurt to the Sava River.

Hacquet, who left his native country to become a surgeon in Idrija, as well as a professor of anatomy and surgery in Ljubljana (Laibach, at the time), was one of the first researchers of the Slovenian mountains and the Alps. He was the first to climb Mali Triglav, the third highest peak in Slovenia and the Julian Alps, in 1777, and the Pasterze, the longest glacier in Austria, in 1779.

He was also one of the first researchers to describe karst features and phenomena. As a geologist, he devised his own theories about the development of the Earth’s surface based on existing theories and his own critical thought.

The book, which was translated from German by Primož Debenjak, and from Latin by Matej Petrič, was issued in 300 copies by publisher Maks Viktor in conjunction with the Jože Udovič Cerknica Library. This is the third translation of an important work in Slovenian history, following a translation of the book on Cerknica Lake by Franc Anton von Steinberg, and Tobias Gruber’s book about the hydrography [the science of surveying and charting bodies of water] of Carniola.

## N1 Slovenija news site launching in Slovenia

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — United Media, the media division of United Group, plans to expand to the Slovenian market this year by setting up a news website under the group’s existing N1 brand, which is already active in the region.

Based in Luxembourg, United Media has already opened its Adria News subsidiary in Ljubljana, under which the N1 Slovenija website will operate. The site is scheduled to launch in the first half of this year, possibly as early as spring.

“N1 has established itself as a trustworthy and independent media platform, as well as the number one pick by consumers in all the markets where it is present, and N1 Slovenija aims to do the same in the Slovenian market by meeting the highest journalistic standards,” United Media managing director Aleksandra Subotić wrote in a January press release.

Katja Šeruga has been appointed Adria News director, as well as the website’s editor-in-chief. She had previously worked as a broadcast editor and journalist, and as editor-in-chief for the Večer newspaper.

According to Šeruga, the website will seek to elevate journalism in Slovenia. N1 Slovenija will cooperate with the N1 international editorial department that features, among others, the former BBC World Service director.

In Slovenia, United Group already owns telecommunications provider Telemach, online retail website Shoppster, and the Sport Klub sports channels. N1 news channels, which are currently broadcast in Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, are the leading news media platforms in those countries and a CNN partner in the region, according to the press release.

## A contemporary art museum coming to Bled

**BLED (STA)** — The lakeside resort of Bled, one of Slovenia’s top tourist destinations, can look forward to hosting a museum of contemporary art. Designed by renowned architect David Chipperfield, the museum will be located at the foot of the castle hill, along the main road leading up to the castle. Construction work is scheduled to start in the spring.

The museum will feature works by world-renowned artists; above all, those from the private collection of Igor and Mojca Lah. The Lah family, which ranked fourth on the *Manager* magazine list of the richest Slovenians in 2020, founded the Lah Contemporary Foundation. The museum, bearing the name Lah Contemporary Museum, has been announced on the foundation’s website.

News of the forthcoming construction was also announced in a press release from the Bled municipal Culture Institute shortly after a construction permit for the museum was issued.

The Culture Institute believes that the museum will raise the appeal factor of Bled, Slovenia, and this part of Europe among art connoisseurs. The press release also noted that Chipperfield will visit Bled to present the design as soon as pandemic restrictions allow.

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



SNPJ fraternal sympathies

Sis. JENNIE DURKT  
• LODGE 715 •

**UNIVERSAL, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 715 sadly report the Dec. 3, 2020, passing of Sis. Jennie (Bole) Durkt, 95, of Harmar Twp., Pa., in Amber Woods, Cheswick, Pa.

Sis. Durkt was born Nov. 2, 1925, the daughter of the late Anton and Jennie Bole, and was a lifelong resident of the Cheswick area. She graduated from Springdale High School in 1943, and later from business school. She was formerly part owner of Bole's Bar in Harmar Twp., which she ran with her husband. She enjoyed dancing, gardening, and listening to polka music.

A lifelong SNPJ member, she was also a member of the Acme Club.

Surviving her are her son, George "Butch" Durkt Jr. of Cheswick; grandchildren Jeff (Denise) Durkt of Shaler, Pa., and Kristi (Ryan) Cunningham of New Jersey; and great-grandchildren Nolan, Andrew and Logan.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, George "Butch" Durkt Sr.; and two brothers, Joseph "Peppy" Bole and Tony Bole, a former SNPJ National Board member.

Private services and interment in Deer Creek Cemetery were limited to immediate family.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the American Slovenian Radio Hour, 381 F St., Pittsburgh, PA 15209.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 715 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our sympathies to Sis. Durkt's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Sis. PAULINE A. JONTES  
• LODGE 603 •

**SAMSULA, Fla.** — The Jontes family and the members of Lodge 603 sadly report the Dec. 7, 2020, passing of Sis. Pauline Annie (Klun) Jontes at her home in Samsula.

Sis. Jontes was born Nov. 17, 1927, in DeLand, Fla., to John and Josephine (Medved) Klun. When she was in high school the family moved to Samsula, a farming community where many other Slovenians had settled. She graduated from New Smyrna High School in 1945, and two years later married the love of her life, Robert "Bob" Jontes Sr. They lived in Samsula on the same property for the remainder of their lives.

As a young girl, Pauline sold grapes and other fruit from her father's DeLand orchard, learning the farm business at an early age. After marriage, she worked alongside her husband on their Samsula farm. When Bob started working at Cape Canaveral, Pauline took over the day-to-day operations of managing the farm.

Over the years the Jonteses grew a variety of vegetables, from bell peppers and black-eyed peas to sweet onions and kale. While they were the first in the area to own and operate hydroponic greenhouses, where they grew tomatoes and cucumbers, their "Jontes Farm" sweet corn harvest became a legendary annual event. Customers would line up at the farm each morning waiting for the sweet corn crop to be picked, eager to get theirs before the corn ran out.

With son Steve, they were well-known and respected for the quality and freshness of their vegetables, and they would drive each week to deliver produce to Albertson's Plant City warehouse and local vendors after Pauline had negotiated that week's prices. Pauline took pride in the farm store, decorating it from her memorabilia and collections of glassware, license plates and antique toy tractors.

Pauline went back to school in the early 1970s and graduated from Daytona Beach Junior College as a licensed practical nurse (LPN), then



Sis. PAULINE A. JONTES (603)

worked at Halifax Hospital and as a private duty nurse. She was a 73-year member of SNPJ Lodge 603 in Samsula and a lifelong member of the Samsula Woman's Club. During the late 1960s and early 1970s she took photos for the *Daytona Beach News Journal*.

Pauline loved flowers and gardening, and she was a great cook, finding many creative ways to serve the vegetables from their farm. She and Bob loved dancing to big band and polka music, and enjoyed attending the SNPJ and Polish Club dances.

Sis. Jontes is predeceased by her husband of 67 years, Bob; her parents, John and Josephine Klun; and a sister, Helen Jensen.

She is survived by her three children, Robert Jr., Steve, and Carol Jontes (Fred) Strack; three grandchildren, Robert III, Scott, and Frederick Strack II; five great-grandchildren; nephews Chris and Roy (Judy) Galbreath, and Stan (Gayle) Jensen; and nieces Marcy Galbreath and Julie (David) Jensen-Lauser.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 603 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Sis. Jontes' family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Bro. WILLIAM EVANSKY  
• LODGE 665 •

**PITTSBURGH** — The members of Lodge 665 sadly report the Dec. 18, 2020, passing of Bro. William L. Evansky, 95, of Cordova, Tenn., formerly of Charleroi and East Pittsburgh, Pa., in Cordova.

Bro. Evansky was born May 23, 1925, in North Charleroi, a son of the late Jacob and Anna Yerega Evansky. He was a U.S. Air Force World War II veteran in the Pacific Theater.

In addition to his SNPJ membership, he was a member of various Orthodox Christian parishes over the years, including Holy Ghost Orthodox Church in Ambridge, Pa.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy Barna; his second wife, Helen Gabor; three sisters, Hazel Fayak, Frances Lenhart and Mary Kozubal; and one brother, John J. Evansky.

Surviving are one son, the Very Rev. Fr. William J. (Debra) Evansky; a daughter, Kera (David) White; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and other family members.

A private service was held for Bro. Evansky in Holy Ghost Orthodox Church, Ambridge, with his son, the Very Rev. Fr. William J. Evansky, officiating. Interment followed in Monongahela Cemetery.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 665 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Bro. Evansky's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Sis. ESTHER KOVACH  
• LODGE 770 •

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 770 sadly report the Dec. 19, 2020, passing of Sis. Esther Kovach, 91, of Rices Landing, Pa., in Woodside Place of Presbyterian Senior Care, Washington, Pa.

Sis. Kovach was born June 28, 1929, in Cumberland Twp., Greene County, Pa., a daughter of the late Attilio and Albertina

Campani Bertugli. A 1947 graduate of Jefferson High School, she worked for the Department of Public Welfare in Waynesburg, Pa., as the clerical supervisor for 33 years and was recognized as Supervisor of the Year by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In addition to 34 years of SNPJ membership, she was a lifelong member of Sacred Heart Church in Rices Landing, now the St. Matthias Parish, and had taught Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes. She also visited shut-ins, worked the St. Ann's soup kitchen, and was recognized for her service by the Catholic Church.

She was a founding board member and volunteer for Hospice Care, Inc., the initial hospice care in Greene County, and had volunteered at the former Greene County Memorial Hospital.

On Oct. 11, 1947, she married Victor Kovach. He preceded her in death on Oct. 21, 2014.

Surviving are a daughter, Virginia (Raymond) Montibeller of Rices Landing; two sons, Victor (Pam) Kovach of Santa Fe, N.M., and Mark (Monique) Kovach of Fredericksburg, Va.; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a sister-in-law, Donna Kovach of Jefferson, Pa.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was predeceased by a brother, Remo E. Bertugli; and three sisters, Anita Dukate, Erma Mosier and Eola Trumka.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sis. Kovach on Dec. 28 in St. Marcellus Roman Catholic Church of St. Matthias Parish, Jefferson.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 770 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Kovach's family, relatives and friends on their loss.



Sis. MILDRED T. REZEK (643)

Sis. MILDRED T. REZEK  
• LODGE 643 •

**GIRARD, Ohio** — The Rezek family and the members of Lodge 643 sadly report the Dec. 29, 2020, passing of Sis. Mildred T. Rezek, 86, at Humility House, Austintown, Ohio, from complications of dementia, with her loving husband and daughters by her side.

Sis. Rezek — Millie, as she was known — was born Sept. 16, 1934, in Youngstown, Ohio, the daughter of the late Helen (Tobias) and Joseph Janosov. She was a 1952 graduate of East High School and the Choffin School of Cosmetology.

On Oct. 15, 1955, she married the love of her life, Del Rezek, and they were blessed to share 65 years together.

Millie worked at General Fireproofing and left in 1964 to be a full-time wife and mother, her favorite roles that she did with great love and devotion. She returned to the workforce when her daughters were grown, and retired from Banc One in Girard in 1997.

She joined SNPJ Lodge 643 in Girard on Dec. 1, 1955, and she was also a member of St. Rose Catholic Church in Girard.

A beloved wife and mother, Millie loved to cook and bake. Her Santa Claus cakes and clothespin cookies were highly sought after and graced many holiday and wedding tables. She also loved music and to dance the polka. She traveled

with her husband and his polka band whenever possible.

Most of all, she loved being a grandma. "Bubba" Millie cherished her five granddaughters, Isabella and Gabriella Pasqualucci, Samantha Jones, and twins Allison and Lindsay Jones.

In addition to her husband and granddaughters, she leaves behind two daughters to cherish her memory, Susan (Dan) Pasqualucci and Sally Jones.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Bob Janosov.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sis. Rezek on Jan. 4 at St. Rose Catholic Church. Burial followed in Girard City Cemetery.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 643 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our sympathies to Sis. Rezek's family, relatives and friends on their loss.



Sis. MARTHA K. SCHABERL (158)

Sis. MARTHA K. SCHABERL  
• LODGE 158 •

**EUCLID, Ohio** — The Schaberl family and the members of Lodge 158 sadly report the Jan. 2, 2021, passing of Sis. Martha K. (Minut) Schaberl, 94, after a brief illness.

Sis. Schaberl was born Jan. 14, 1926, a daughter of the late Milton and Martha (Leuschner) Minut. She graduated from Westlake High School with her twin sister, Marie, in 1944.

A regular participant in the Twinsburg, Ohio, annual Twins Day Festival, she and Marie also won a contest at Stillman Theater in Cleveland for most resembling the Wilde Twins who performed in the movie "Twice Blessed." In fact, she and her sister dressed alike until each were married in the same year, 1947.

After graduation from high school, Martha worked at the Ohio Bell Telephone company and eventually married Ernest Schaberl on Nov. 8, 1947. The couple enjoyed a nearly 62-year marriage.

An avid bowler, Martha enjoyed socializing with friends while knocking down countless pins in alleys across Northeast Ohio. She loved attending annual summertime family reunions, always adorned in a fashion-forward outfit complete with perfectly coordinated accessories.

In addition to 71 years of SNPJ membership, later in life she also belonged to the Richmond Heights Senior Citizen Club and the Richmond Heights Garden Club for more than 40 years. She was quite active in both clubs, holding the position of vice president in each and coordinating numerous luncheons and programs.

Some of her favorite interests were gardening, quilting, word search, bingo and pen pal correspondence. Her fondness for bowling also carried over as she picked up the Nintendo Wii version.

She was especially fond of writing letters and had a knack for spreading joy through her many greeting cards. It was said that she always had a friendly smile, and that she would do anything for others that she could do.

Martha was the beloved wife of the late Ernest C. Schaberl; loving mother of James (Karen) Schaberl and the late Barbara Abate (Donald); devoted grandmother of Alison (Daniel) Alfieri, David (Tina) Abate, Matthew (Es-

ther) Abate, Michael (Kacie) Abate, and Thomas (Marissa) Schaberl; great-grandmother of 10; and aunt and great-aunt of many.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Barbara Abate; two sisters, Arlene Spencer, and her twin, Marie Zugel; and three brothers, Leroy, Stanley and Edward Minut.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, all services were private.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 158 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Schaberl's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Bro. GARY L. MCCLAIN  
• LODGE 776 •

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 776 sadly report the Jan. 4, 2021, passing of Bro. Gary L. McClain, 63, of Lebanon, Pa., at his residence.

Bro. McClain was born Dec. 4, 1957, in Greensburg, Pa., a son of Joyce (Fountain) McClain of Lebanon and the late O. Louis McClain. He was a graduate of Blackhawk High School in Beaver Falls, Pa.

In addition to his SNPJ membership, Gary was also a member of Christ Presbyterian Church in Lebanon and a social member of the Enon Valley Fire Department. He was a dedicated volunteer over the years to his church and, whenever able, for Lebanon County Christian Ministries, Enon Presbyterian Church in Enon Valley, SNPJ Lodge 776, and any family activities.

He enjoyed many years of bowling, and was a generous and dedicated fan of swimming and 4-H events to support his nieces.

Surviving, in addition to his mother, are his brothers, Kevin (Mary Beth) McClain of Enon Valley, Pa., and David (Linda) McClain of Manheim, Pa.; his sister, Tari (Gilbert) Weik of Lebanon; several nieces; a nephew; a great-nephew; and two great-nieces. He is also survived by his dear friend, Richard Dombrosky of New Castle, Pa.

A memorial service for Bro. McClain will be held at a later date. Private interment was held in Beaver Falls.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 776 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Bro. McClain's family, relatives and friends on their loss.



Sis. ANTOINETTE BLANCK (715)

Sis. ANTOINETTE BLANCK  
• LODGE 715 •

**UNIVERSAL, Pa.** — The Blanck family and the members of Lodge 715 sadly report the Jan. 9, 2021, passing of Sis. Antoinette "Tea" (Puskarich) Blanck, 98, of Penn Hills, Pa. She was an 80-year SNPJ member.

It is difficult to find the words to best describe Tea. A few that come to mind are caring, loving, funny and thoughtful.

Sis. Blanck was a proud lifelong resident of Penn Hills. She loved being a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She worked hard, never complained, and was always there when anyone needed her. Her greatest joy was being with family and friends. "BB," as her family knew her, will be sadly missed by everyone she touched.

She was the beloved mother of Carolyn "Toots" (David) Meyers; grandmother of Karri Meyers, Chris and Lou Shearer, and David and Jen Meyers; great-grandmother of Brent and Heather Meyers, Lindsey Jovanovski, Taylor Shearer, and Mackenzie, Kaylee and Garrett Meyers; and aunt of Dr. Fred (Susan) Harchelroad and Debra (Steve) Nemeth. She is also survived by her youngest sister, June Valencic, who comforted and resided with her at William Penn Care Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William "Bill" Blanck, and six siblings.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sis. Blanck on Jan. 11 at St. Susanna Roman Catholic Church of Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish, Penn Hills. Interment followed in Plum Creek Cemetery.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 715 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Sis. Blanck's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

FRATERNAL SYMPATHIES  
CONTINUE NEXT PAGE

DEATHS REPORTED  
For the month of January 2021

LODGE	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY, STATE
5	Joyce Laurenzi	11-06-2020	Bedford Hgts., Ohio
6	Dolores M. Dernovsek	10-03-2020	Huntingdon, Pa.
6	Dolores L. Davis	11-06-2020	Bridgeville, Pa.
6	Patricia Irene Kuhlman	12-29-2020	Pittsburgh, Pa.
8	Roman Possedi	11-15-2020	Las Vegas, Nev.
31	Richard Benetto	12-04-2020	Elyria, Ohio
33	Frank Bosanac Jr.	01-01-2020	Ambridge, Pa.
41	Ronald T. Florence	01-01-2021	Greensburg, Pa.
41	Hugh G. Cook Jr.	01-11-2021	Monroeville, Pa.
87	Alex J. Cantini Sr.	11-30-2020	Irwin, Pa.
106	Helen D. Haramé	12-10-2020	Pittsburgh, Pa.
107	Virginia A. Taylor	08-30-2020	St. Louis, Mo.
126	Stanley Buchar	11-01-2020	Strongsville, Ohio
138	Robert O'Hare Sr.	12-16-2020	Canonsburg, Pa.
207	Dolores A. McAuliffe	11-13-2020	Golden, Colo.
257	Maryann C. LaBuda	10-25-2020	Bay Village, Ohio
265	Dorothy Druga	01-11-2021	McDonald, Pa.
274	Rose M. Haley	01-08-2021	Johnstown, Pa.
358	Richard A. Campitelli	10-13-2020	Malvern, Ohio
449	Charles W. Lanning	12-02-2020	Cortland, Ill.
459	Jennie A. Kalakay	11-08-2020	Flushing, Mich.
559	Helen V. Zacharski	11-15-2020	Bartlett, Ill.
559	Rudolph Smolich	12-17-2020	Plainfield, Ill.
581	Anthony M. Celin	12-07-2020	St. Marys, Pa.
581	Joseph S. Wolfe	12-11-2020	Kane, Pa.
584	Kurt A. Kodrich	09-15-2020	San Diego, Calif.
584	John S. Nartnik	12-05-2020	Virginia, Minn.
584	Rudolph F. Poklar	12-21-2020	Tucson, Ariz.
603	Pauline A. Jontes	12-07-2020	New Smyrna Beach, Fla.
665	Carol A. Whitacre	11-24-2020	Claysville, Pa.
729	Frank Tegel	11-30-2020	Highland Hgts., Ohio
749	Frances Shikalla	11-08-2020	Johnstown, Pa.
770	Esther Kovach	12-19-2020	Rices Landing, Pa.
770	Jeffrey A. Gulas	12-25-2020	Sagamore, Pa.
771	Raymond E. Cracraft	12-09-2020	Bessemer, Pa.
776	Delna C. Phillips	10-27-2020	Enon Valley, Pa.
776	David M. Tomon	12-15-2020	Ellwood City, Pa.
786	Jane Bowden Redhead	01-04-2021	Phoenix, Ariz.

KAREN A. PINTAR  
National Secretary/COO



SNPJ fraternal sympathies

FRATERNAL SYMPATHIES  
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Sis. DOROTHY DRUGA  
• LODGE 265 •

**SOUTHVIEW, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 265 sadly report the Jan. 11, 2021, passing of Sis. Dorothy L. Druga, 95, of Southview in St. Clair Hospital, Mt. Lebanon, Pa. Sis. Druga was born Jan. 8, 1926, in Southview, a daughter of the late Tony and Minnie Boldt Slugo. She was employed as a cafeteria worker for Canon-McMillan School District at Cecil Elementary,

retiring in 1990. A 78-year SNPJ member, she was also a member of Venice Presbyterian Church and secretary of the Sunday school, the Ladies Auxiliary of Cecil #3 Volunteer Fire Company, and McDonald-Cecil Senior Citizens. She enjoyed baking, crocheting, bowling, bingo, visiting the casino and watching Pittsburgh sports. She made more than 100 crocheted lap blankets as gifts for friends and family. Surviving are a daughter, Linda (Bob) Feathers, and a son, Andy (Shari McCullough)

Druga Jr., both of Southview; a son-in-law, Denny Shiflet Sr. of Speers, Pa.; three grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; a sister, Ann DeBlander of Midway, Pa.; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Andrew A. Druga, in 2015; a daughter, Wendy Shiflet, in 2020; and a brother, Tony Slugo. Services for Sis. Druga were held Jan. 15 in Coleman-Taylor Funeral Services, Cecil, Pa. Private interment followed in Venice Cemetery, Cecil Twp. On behalf of the members of Lodge 265 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Druga's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

BRO. LEROY C. LYONS  
• LODGE 138 •

**STRABANE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report the Jan. 20, 2021, passing of Bro. Leroy Clifford Lyons, 72, of Cecil Twp., Pa., in South Hills Rehabilitation and Wellness Center, Canonsburg, Pa.

Bro. Lyons was born Sept. 25, 1948, in Isabella, Fayette County, Pa., a son of the late Van Lyons and Lena Simon Lyons Booker. He was a graduate of Red Stone High School in Republic, Pa., and served honorably with the United States Air Force in Medical Services during the Vietnam War. He had been with the Pennsylvania State Police for nine years as a dispatcher and was a South Strabane Twp. police officer. Prior to his retirement in 2003, Leroy had been a lieutenant detective with the Chartiers Twp. Police Department. After retiring, he was a driver for Jeffries Drug Store in Canonsburg. In addition to his SNPJ membership, he was also a member of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 22, American Legion Post 793 in Cecil, and previously Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 191 in Canonsburg. He was a member and past Exalted Ruler of Elk Lodge 776 in Washington, Pa. Leroy loved going to rendezvous, camping, knife collecting and his dogs, Oscar and Bailey. Surviving are his devoted wife, Linda Roberts Lyons;

two sons, Joseph Lyons and Jarrett Lemonakis (Brandy Baker); five daughters, Christie (Shane) Land, Leigh Ann (Andy) Shaner, Sara (Will) Willard, Samantha (Chuck) Rizor, and Lacey Lemonakis (Kris Small); and 15 grandchildren. Deceased, in addition to his parents, are his brother, William Lyons; and his sister, Nancy Arbuckle. He was the last of his immediate family. Services for Bro. Lyons were held Jan. 22 at Sandra Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc., Canonsburg. Interment with full military honors followed in National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Cecil Twp. On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our sympathies to Bro. Lyons' family, relatives and friends on their loss.

BRO. RAYMOND P. BASELJ  
• LODGE 6 •

**SYGAN, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 6 sadly report the Jan. 22, 2021, passing of Bro. Raymond Paul Baselj Sr., 83,

of Scott Twp., Pa. Bro. Baselj was the beloved husband for 55 years of the late MaryAnn Speicher Baselj; loving father of Ray (Dawn) Baselj Jr., Diana Baselj, and the late George Paul Baselj; cherished grandfather of Kristen (Garret) Choby and Casey Baselj; and great-grandpap of Luke, Jackson and Ezekiel Choby. He was the son of the late Paul and Anna (Papakei) Baselj; brother of Leonard (Earlene) Baselj, Thomas (Patricia) Baselj, and the late Dorothy Baselj; and uncle of many nieces and nephews. In addition to his SNPJ Lodge 6 membership, he was also a member of the Imperial and Strabane SNPJ clubs. He enjoyed riding motorcycles and auto racing, and he loved polkas. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Bro. Baselj on Jan. 29 at Holy Child Church of Corpus Christi Parish, Bridgeville, Pa. On behalf of the members of Lodge 6 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Bro. Baselj's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

SNPJ Lodge 581 planning  
a memorial scholarship

LODGE 581 SCHOLARSHIP  
FROM PAGE 1

Cleanways Project on West Creek Road in St. Marys, and a potica raffle with proceeds to be donated to the Christian Food Bank. Anyone interested in either of these projects should contact Marcia Bleggi to offer their help. *Hvala!* The North Central Pennsylvania Polka Boosters have already held several successful dances in 2021. An upcoming Polka Boosters dance is scheduled Sunday, March 14, at the Wildwoods in St. Marys from

2 to 5 p.m. featuring the Dick Tady Orchestra. Lodge 581 will be baking poticas on Saturday, March 13, for a drawing that will be held at the Sunday dance. All proceeds will be donated to the local food bank. We're hoping to see you there. For additional information about SNPJ Lodge 581, contact Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Marcia Klancer Bleggi at (814) 335-4983 or e-mail [marcia.and.don@gmail.com](mailto:marcia.and.don@gmail.com). Visit our Facebook page, *St. Marys SNPJ Lodge 581*.

PROSVETA Crossword  
BE MY VALENTINE (#0221) solution

T	U	T	O	R		M	B	A			S	L	E	D	
A	T	O	N	E		O	E	R			C	L	O	V	E
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E	X	E	S			T	R	Y		S	E	D	E	R	



SNPJ Recreation Center Director  
Bro. KEVIN RICHARDS

I was deeply saddened to hear that SNPJ Recreation Center Director Kevin Richards passed away recently. In 2012, I was in high school and participated in the Miss SNPJ Pageant. It was my Grandpa's goal for me to participate in the pageant when I was old enough. Kevin was in charge of coordinating the pageant that year, and he made me and every contestant feel like a celebrity during the entire Slovenefest weekend. It was truly a pleasure to be in the pageant due to Kevin's excellent coordination of the entire event. I will always remember Kevin's kindness and love for SNPJ. I am thinking of Kevin's family during this time. **LAUREN KRZISNIK** Lodge 518, Melvindale, Mich.

At the age of 13, I met Kevin Richards as a newcomer to the

In Memory of Bro. Kevin Richards

SNPJ Recreation Center in Western Pennsylvania when I attended the Teens Experience Leadership (TEL) Conference for the first time. Growing up in the California Bay Area and being a member of Lodge 786 in southern California, my first TEL conference was an incredible opportunity for me to connect with other members of Slovenian descent who were my age. I attended three TEL events (one was canceled during my teen years) and, so far, one Young Adult Conference (YAC), where it was great to see friends I made during earlier events and catch up with where we have been and what we are looking forward to next. Kevin welcomed every SNPJ youth member with open arms, embodying the values of fraternalism and really making me feel like I was at home. Each summer, he put thought and intention into these youth events, exemplifying his own mantra of "Don't anticipate; participate!" Through Kevin's kindness and commitment to youth programming, I have made invaluable friendships with fellow SNPJ members from across the country. These friendships in turn have made me feel connected to both my community and heritage as a Slovenian-American. A quintessential example of Kevin's dedication to the youth of SNPJ was my final

year of TEL. We had been inside making tie blankets for charity while a traditional mid-west summer thunderstorm rolled through. When the storm passed, we were all eager to get outside in the waning daylight. Kevin proceeded to organize a game of capture the flag on the upper lawn of the Rec Center grounds and, as the sun went down, used his car headlights to illuminate the field. It was an awesome summer memory of running around in the balmy evening humidity and just feeling like a care-free kid. Still unable to drive at the time, I had no idea of the adverse effects running headlights can have on a car battery, and as it turned out, at breakfast the next morning Kevin asked one of the other counselors for a jump. That was just who Kevin was — he put his heart and soul into everything SNPJ, driven by his belief in fraternal values. He will be sorely missed by all SNPJ youth for whom he provided a second home at the Recreation Center. **JACOB FAJNOR** Lodge 786, Orange County, Calif. There are some people who follow their daily routine to complete a task or check all the boxes for the day. Others truly care about the impact of the work they do. They care about the people they meet and the

smiles that they create along the way. This is the man that I knew Kevin Richards to be. Not only did he care about the mission and core values of the SNPJ, but he lived them out every day. Most importantly, Kevin invested his time in the next generation of leaders. He was loved and respected by so many people, and his wisdom will be greatly missed. Personally, the thing that stuck out most about Kevin is that he always wanted everyone to be included, and he wanted everyone to have a good time. Speaking for myself and many others, we will always remember his words: "Don't anticipate; participate!" **AUSTIN WILLIAMS-AYERS** Lodge 41, Irwin, Pa. When I hear the name Kevin Richards, I automatically get a smile on my face, as does anybody else who had the honor of knowing him. I have truly never met a man so selfless and who carried the biggest heart there ever was. Kevin taught us everything there is to know about the origins of SNPJ, and he did so with pride. To keep it short and sweet, I wish everyone would love and care half as much as he did. Rest in peace to a legend, and as always, "Don't anticipate; participate!" **ALEXIS TROUT** Lodge 6, Sygan, Pa.

PROSVETA Crossword  
Civil War (#0321) by StatePoint Media

- ACROSS**
- Rodeo garb
  - Prefix for prior
  - a.k.a. leaf cabbage
  - Conversation starter
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ the land of the free..."
  - Drunks
  - Tree in Latin
  - Exec's degree
  - Full of emotion, in slang
  - \*Meeting at Appomattox Court House
  - \*Major Civil War issue
  - Sun in Mexico
  - Recover
  - \*It was split during the Civil War
  - \_\_\_\_\_ book
  - Be in the right place
  - Botticelli's Venus, e.g.
  - Soccer \_\_\_\_\_, pl.
  - Excessive sternness
  - Orthodox artwork
  - Homeless cat's home
  - Presented at customs
  - Galactic path
  - Desperate
  - Like never-losing Steven
  - Vital
  - Grannies
  - "C' \_\_\_\_\_ la vie!"
  - "At \_\_\_\_\_, soldier"
  - Casual attire
  - \*Spielberg's 2012 movie
  - \*"American Nightingale"
  - Remote in manner
  - Between Fla. and Miss.
  - IRS' threat
  - Middle Eastern rice dish
  - Hi-\_\_\_\_\_ graphics
  - Part of a whole
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Mall, in London
  - Cry of horror in comics
  - Ruhr's industrial center
  - Repeated Cuban dance step
  - Flavor-giving plant
  - "Fantastic Four" star
  - Land chunks
  - Somewhat
  - Fleshy fruit
  - \*Johnny's other nickname
  - Clear the chalkboard
  - Chicken \_\_\_\_\_
  - Initial stake
  - Displeasure on one's face
  - Grammy of sports
  - Melville's "Pequod," e.g.
  - "Is Your Mama a \_\_\_\_\_?"
  - Dr. Frankenstein's workplace
  - Bottom of a dress
  - \*Divided, it cannot stand

- Sugar in Paris
- PDF reader
- \*"\_\_\_\_\_ Mountain," Charles Frazier's novel
- Like SNL
- Nose of a missile
- Olfactory organs
- \*General and post-Civil War President
- Children's author \_\_\_\_\_ Blyton
- "Will be" in Doris Day song
- Busybody, in Yiddish
- Start a hole
- Indian restaurant staple
- Colorful Mexican wrap
- Animal catcher
- Lady's pocketbooks
- Nordic native
- Pelvic parts
- Steelers' Chuck
- \*\_\_\_\_\_ Torpedo, used by Confederacy against steam engines
- Lounge, like in the sun
- Words from Wordsworth
- French Riviera city
- \*Commander of the Confederate States Army
- Base of the decimal system

The solution to puzzle #0321 will run in the April 1 issue.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15

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64 65 66 67 68

69 70 71

72 73 74

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The solution to puzzle #0321 will run in the April 1 issue.



# 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 January 2021

SNPJ Lodge 254, Bon Air, Pa..... \$100 <i>In memory of 2020 deceased Lodge 254 members</i>	<i>The following donations were made in memory of SNPJ Recreation Center Director Bro. Kevin S. Richards:</i>	PayPro HCS, LLC, Kennesaw, Ga. .... \$75
Vincent “Babe” & Beverly Baselj (6), Bridgeville, Pa..... \$50 <i>In memory of Dolly Davis</i>	The Cadez Families (138), Strabane, Pa..... \$400	Vincent “Babe” & Beverly Baselj (6), Bridgeville, Pa. .... \$50
Dave & Jeanne Cvetas (106), Juno Beach, Fla. . \$25 <i>In memory of Sonny Jurkowski</i>	SNPJ Lodge 749, Johnstown, Pa. .... \$300	Joseph S. Kumer (715), Erie, Pa. .... \$50
Dave & Jeanne Cvetas (106), Juno Beach, Fla. . \$25 <i>In memory of Dolly Davis</i>	Rodney & NaDean Eads, Cypress, Texas..... \$300	Ron & Sara Tkach (138), Canonsburg, Pa. .... \$50
Greg & Michelle (715) Preisser, Portersville, Pa. . \$25 <i>In memory of Dolly Davis</i>	The John Kumer Family (715), Seattle and Palo Alto, Calif. .... \$200	John & Kathy Brown (6), McDonald, Pa. .... \$50
Greg & Michelle (715) Preisser, Portersville, Pa. . \$25 <i>In memory of Sonny Jurkowski</i>	Natalie & Wes Bush, McLean, Va..... \$200	Norman & Martha (106) Kalina, Bridgeville, Pa. . \$50
Greg & Michelle (715) Preisser, Portersville, Pa. . \$25 <i>In memory of Gina Volpe</i>	Hattie Arnau, Eatonton, Ga. .... \$200	Evelyn Dimpfl (749), Johnstown, Pa. .... \$50
Greg & Michelle (715) Preisser, Portersville, Pa. . \$25 <i>In memory of Marion Volpe</i>	Louis & Terry Bonno, Houston, Texas..... \$200	Johnson Club, Hillsville, Pa. .... \$50
Amy D. Mavrich (138), Canonsburg, Pa..... \$25 <i>In memory of Gina Volpe</i>	The Olan & Profy Families, Sugar Land, Texas.. \$100	John M. & Mary E. Providenti, South Charleston, W.Va..... \$50
Amy D. Mavrich (138), Canonsburg, Pa..... \$25 <i>In memory of Mary Donofrio</i>	Anna E. Evanish (715), Oakdale, Pa. .... \$100	Dave & Jeanne Cvetas (106), Juno Beach, Fla. . \$50
	David & Peggy Cushman (138), Houston, Pa. . \$100	Ralph Gaetano (6), Bridgeville, Pa..... \$50
	Robert J. & Jan M. Lawrence (138), Canonsburg, Pa. .... \$100	Cynthia M. Mitchell (6), Bridgeville, Pa. .... \$30
	Douglas R. Volovic (6), Pittsburgh, Pa..... \$100	Cathy A. Kalenits (776), Poland, Ohio ..... \$25
	James & Catherine Crandell, Cumming, Ga..... \$100	Greg & Michelle (715) Preisser, Portersville, Pa. . \$25
	SNPJ Wolverine Lodge 677, Detroit, Mich..... \$100	Shawn (138) & Sara Fetcko, Bridgeville, Pa..... \$25
		Amy D. Mavrich (138), Canonsburg, Pa. .... \$20

## SNPJ Scholarship Fund Donations for the months of December 2020 & January 2021

Randall W. (138) & Cheryl A. Casciola..... \$250	Kenneth J. & Kimberly R. Zakraysek (174), Elton, Pa..... \$100	Frank J. Markelc (584), Milwaukee..... \$25
SNPJ Pioneer Lodge 559, Chicago..... \$200 <i>In memory of deceased members Dorothy Gurnic, Janette Vuolo, Marlene Marie Braxton, Jane Rohrbien, Robert Crawford, Anita Vitous, Richard Scordato and Lillian Petrovich</i>	Linda Skok (355), Heidi Skok and Gretchen Skok-DiSanto, Chardon, Ohio ..... \$100 <i>In memory of LeRoy G. Jackopin</i>	SNPJ Excelsiors Lodge 721, Aliquippa, Pa.... \$25
SNPJ Lodge 174, Krayn, Pa..... \$100	Westmoreland County Federation..... \$100	John & Shelly Volpe (564), Roseville, Mich.... \$25 <i>In memory of Gina Volpe</i>
	SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, PA..... \$40 <i>In memory of Richard Benetto</i>	Pauline E. Barbish (53), Willowick, Ohio ..... \$25 <i>In memory of Robert Altman</i>
		Agnes DeJohn (138), Washington, Pa. .... \$20 <i>In memory of Frances Zele Peternel</i>

## PROSVETA 2021 Publication Dates

<b>JANUARY 2021</b> 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	<b>MAY 2021</b> 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	<b>SEPTEMBER 2021</b> 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
<b>FEBRUARY 2021</b> 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	<b>JUNE 2021</b> 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	<b>OCTOBER 2021</b> 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
<b>MARCH 2021</b> 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	<b>JULY 2021</b> 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	<b>NOVEMBER 2021</b> 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
<b>APRIL 2021</b> 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	<b>AUGUST 2021</b> 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	<b>DECEMBER 2021</b> 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

Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the dates circled above. Submissions may be mailed to PROSVETA, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126; faxed to (724) 695-1555; e-mailed to [prosveta@snpj.com](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com); or submitted via the Publications section of the SNPJ website, [snpj.org](http://snpj.org).

## Slovene National Benefit Society Privacy Policy

We value you as a member of the Slovene National Benefit Society and we take your personal privacy seriously. We will inform you of our policies for collecting, using, securing and sharing non-public personal information the first time we do business and every year that you are an SNPJ member.

You have provided SNPJ with certain non-public personal information, such as your name, age, residence, marital status and social security number. When you applied for life insurance you may have also provided us with employment and medical information and authorized us to obtain further information concerning your health history, mode of living, avocations and other personal characteristics. Based on this authorization, only the minimum amount of information necessary to underwrite your application has been collected. We may obtain other information from your transactions with us, such as your payment history and claim documentation.

We maintain the highest level of confidentiality concerning your non-public personal information. The employees at the SNPJ Home Office have been trained in the careful handling and protection of such information. Oversight of these matters is rigorous, and our employees understand that improper disclosure of non-public personal information is a serious matter with severe consequences.

We are a fraternal benefit society which has always been committed to protecting the privacy of our members. There are no affiliated financial institutions or third-party non-affiliates that have access to your non-public personal information, except pursuant to your written authorization. We never sell lists of our members' names and addresses to any goods or services vendor.

Access to your records is limited to those Home Office employees who are working with your file. Should we be required to disclose information in connection with civil or criminal litigation we must comply; however, such instances are very rare. Our policy of protecting the security of non-public personal information also extends to potential insureds and former insureds who no longer maintain coverage with us.

## SNPJ Membership Anniversaries March 2021

### 80-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Bertha Y. Herron	584	Hilda E. Terek
138	Agnes DeJohn	614	Rose L. Jochum
142	Agnes J. Koporc		

### 70-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
8	Marian Zeppi	449	Mary J. Palmquist
8	Dorothy L. Woynovich	584	Carolyn R. Nagode
158	C. John Chesnic	584	Jean M. Hagsten
225	Bertha E. Hincey	665	Rose M. Smith
371	Mathew E. Balint		

### 60-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Janice M. Bly	265	Joyce Drugmand
2	Kenneth W. Knafelc	274	David F. Brown
5	Sabella M. Gallon	355	Stanley V. Baucher
6	Darlene Mills	562	Thomas L. Gertscher
8	Betty J. McElean	603	Frank D. Benedict
138	Raymond Brennen	614	Janice M. Lucci
257	John H. Samanich	786	Joseph B. Sankovich
257	Jane E. Wilson	A02	Eileen J. Wilfong
257	Diane J. Klohs		

### 50-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
1	Diane M. Thompson	577	Sandra K. Brown
2	Sandra J. Resetich	584	Frank K. Strukel
2	Steven G. Rauh	584	Judith A. Jensen
117	Janice L. Albright	584	Jennifer M. Swensen
138	Barbara V. Smith	584	Debra H. Stanonik
138	Phyllis D. Lagoni	584	Michele M. Pavelich
142	Gregory Tomsich	584	Gail S. Behnke
174	Paul J. Ferry	584	Carla M. Macynski
223	Ronald W. Falkosky	677	Frank J. Klancnik
225	Susan L. Nepote	723	John A. Frolic
254	Thomas P. Wiczorek	749	Garry C. James
254	Dennis M. Rabic	771	Frank Kinkela
459	Jana A. Hescott	776	Tony E. Setinsek
559	Karen F. Guziec	A02	Dennis J. Hughes



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