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Cleveland Consulate General hosting events to mark 30th anniversary of Slovenia's independence

by ALENKA JERAK
Consul General, Republic of Slovenia

CLEVELAND — Dear fellow compatriots, American friends, readers of PROSVETA, and all members of SNPJ:

On June 25, the Republic of Slovenia will celebrate its 30th anniversary of independence. We are proudly looking back to the process of the formation of our nation, as well as SNPJ members' contribution to its recognition in the United States. Thank you, to each of you, for

your selfless actions and assistance to our home country in extremely difficult and uncertain times, and to help speed up the international recognition of our new nation.

For this year's jubilee, the Slovenian Consulate General in Cleveland is preparing a number of events. Due to the current restrictions, the celebration of Statehood Day on June 25 will have to take place virtually, but we intend to hold live events in the second half of September in six states within our consular jurisdiction,

including Pennsylvania.

On June 25, we will stream, via our Facebook page and YouTube channel, an online event with a short documentary (a generous contribution from RTV Slovenia) on the process of the formation of independent Slovenia.

The second part of the presentation will be devoted to video testimonies of representatives of the Slovenian communities in Ohio, Illinois,

**SEE SLOVENIAN INDEPENDENCE
ON PAGE 5**



PERIODICAL MATERIAL

Following their potica baking session and drawings held in March, SNPJ Lodge 581 donated \$300 to the Christian Food Bank of St. Marys, Pa. Pictured [from left] are JOHN TROHA, MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI, food bank representative Robert Luchini, PATRICIA MOORE and JOHN MOORE.

SNPJ Lodge 581 March fundraiser benefits food bank in St. Marys, Pa.

by MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

ST. MARYS, Pa. — After baking 10 poticas on March 12 and drawing them off on March 14 at the North Central Pennsylvania Slovenian Polka Boosters dance, Lodge 581 raised \$300 which was donated to the Christian Food Bank. The response was really amazing!

The attendance at the dance was nearly 70, with many attending a Polka Boosters dance for the first time, and more than happy to support

the cause. In addition to the Wildwoods menu, the polka music was excellent! A check for \$300 was presented to Bob Luchini, a representative of the Christian Food Bank in St. Marys.

Lodge 581 is anxiously awaiting the applications for the Jerry Troha Music Scholarships, established in memory of late Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Troha who passed away at the end of 2020. The scholarships were planned

**SEE LODGE 581 DONATION
ON PAGE 5**

COVID-19 FORCES CANCELLATION OF SLOVENEFEST IN JULY 2021

With regret, the SNPJ Recreation Center announces the cancellation of Slovenefest this year due to ongoing public health concerns resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Slovenefest was scheduled to take place July 9-11, 2021, at the SNPJ Recreation Center.

While the number of Americans receiving vaccinations is encouraging, ongoing public health guidance makes it impossible

to produce the event our members and friends have come to know and love. We must continue to put the health and safety of our members, attendees, performers, volunteers and staff first.

Given the logistics and work involved in producing the festival, we had to make a decision sooner rather than later.

JOSEPH C. EVANISH, Chairman
SNPJ Recreation Center Committee

Annual Lodge 138 Duck Race back on the schedule in July

by KATIE MAVRICH GREEN
Lodge 138

STRABANE, Pa. — The Duck Race at SNPJ Lodge 138 in Strabane is back on schedule for Saturday, July 17! Ducks, available for \$5 each, are currently on sale at the Lodge hall or from several members.

Due to the pandemic, there will be no buffet served this year, but the kitchen will be open with a special menu for purchase. Karl Lukitsch & Autobahn will perform starting at 6 p.m.; the ducks will start their journey down Chartiers Creek at 6:30. All CDC recommendations that are current the day of the event will be followed.

We look forward to seeing everyone for the annual race!



A Reason to Celebrate

In November, Sharon, Pa., Lodge 31 hosted a dinner to recognize members who celebrated their SNPJ membership anniversaries in 2020. Pictured [from left] are 70-year member Sis. HELEN SCARMACK, 50-year member Sis. DELORES NOVAK and 70-year member Sis. PATRICIA GOLUBICH. Each received a floral arrangement presented by Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Barb Bogolin. All Lodge members in attendance received a holiday arrangement.

Photo submitted by Sis. Barb Bogolin (31)



Everett H. Musser

Born Dec. 4, 2020

St. Marys, Pa., Lodge 581

St. Marys Lodge 581 welcomes new member Everett Hayes Musser. Everett is the son of Richard and Hannah Musser, grandson of Todd and Cheryl Musser, and great-grandson of Patricia and John Moore (581). We welcome Everett to the Society and extend our best wishes to his entire family.

PERIODICAL MATERIAL

Lodge 776 hosts meeting and dinner social in June

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — SNPJ Lodge 776 will hold a dinner social and regular meeting on Sunday, June 27, at the SNPJ Recreation Center starting at 2 p.m. Members planning to attend should make a reservation by contacting John Pierog at (330) 757-1369, Ed Snyder at (330) 952-0911, or Vinnie Dombrosky at (724) 336-6500 by June 20.

VONNIE DOMBROSKY
Lodge 776 Recording Secretary

Share an e-mail address for Lodge 5 information

CLEVELAND — Are you a member of SNPJ Lodge 5 or the former Lodge 566? Share your e-mail address for important messages from Lodge 5. You won't want to miss any information and news as Lodge 5 switches to e-mail contacts with members. Call (216) 481-1379 with your e-mail address or drop a line to Lodge Secretary Karen Tomsic, 25571 Glenbrook Blvd., Euclid, OH 44117.

JOE VALENCIC
Lodge 5 Vice President

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, to complete an online Recommender form and get a head start on your reward.

THE DEADLINE

The next two PROSVETA issue dates are July 1 and Aug. 2. All material must be received by noon on Monday, June 14, for the July 1 issue, and by Monday, July 19, for the Aug. 2 issue. If you're concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to prosveta@snpj.com or submit your material via the publications area of our website, snpj.org.

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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:
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New items soon available from the SNPJ Heritage Center

by KATHY PAULENICH (776)
SNPJ Heritage Center Director

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — Another season is ready to start at the SNPJ Heritage Center! We are excited to open the season as we do have a couple of new items that might be of interest to all ages.

One new item that was suggested to us is homemade in Slovenia. We will have socks on sale for adults in eight different Slovenian motifs:

potica, kranjska klobase, medene (honey), Cviček wine, rebula wine, Teran wine, and čipka lace in red or blue.

The socks are just being ordered, so we hope to have them in the Gift Shop by the June opening date. However, the price hasn't yet been determined as we must see what the shipping charges will be.

Our second new item is a beginner's Slovenian word search book and

a learn Slovenian with word search puzzle book. Both of these books will sell for \$12 each.

The price of our "Cook, Eat, Slovenia" cookbook will be \$32 as of June 1. We had to increase the price because of the overseas shipping costs.

The Gift Shop shelves will be restocked with some items that sold out last year, such as cookies, chocolate bars, noodles and čevapčiči mix.

Mark your calendar for opening day on Saturday, June 5, from 1 to 5 p.m. The SNPJ Heritage Center will be open every Saturday in June, July and August. Remember, the Heritage Center is a great place to visit if you have never visited the SNPJ Recreation Center.

Stay safe, and be sure to get vaccinated to keep your family and friends safe. Hopefully we will have a better summer than last year!



From the archives

Greetings From the SNPJ Recreation Center in Scenic Enon Valley, Pennsylvania

Among the numerous items that have been stashed away in the SNPJ Publications Department over the years, this three-panel image is one of the most unique. Does it look familiar, perhaps stirring a sense of nostalgia? If so, then you'll recognize this image as a photo representation of the SNPJ Recreation Center in its early days.

More than simply a photo, however, this image graces the front of a postcard (yes, a real postcard) that was designed shortly after the Recreation Center opened to SNPJ members and guests in 1967.

The description on the rear of the postcard reads "S.N.P.J. Recreation Center, R.D. 2, Martin Road, Enon Valley, Pennsylvania, 16120.

340 Acres of beautifully wooded terrain with camping, motel & cabin facilities. Planned programs, swimming, private lake, fishing and a nine-hole par three golf course."

Though the golf course is long gone, and the center panel image of the rear of the main building and pool now includes the Gostilna deck and the Tiki Bar, the scenic beauty continues to thrive. And more than 50 years later the Recreation Center remains the jewel of SNPJ fraternal benefits.

Recent release introduces Adamic to a new generation

by BOB ROSSI
Lodge 371

CLE ELUM, Wash. — Older SNPJ members may remember Slovenian-American writer and activist Louis Adamic (1898-1951). He built a career as a writer in the 1920s, and by the early 1930s he had achieved some renown as a spokesperson for Slovenian-Americans and the American-born second-generation "new Americans."

Adamic sought to explain Yugoslavia to people in the United States, and took it as his mission to expound on democracy and pluralism. It is remarkable to consider today that Louis Adamic, the self-taught émigré intellectual and author, gained access to President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and many of the great thinkers and most of the important press of his day. He helped shape foreign policy and American perceptions of fascism during the Second World War. Cold War politics lessened his popular influence after the war, but in many ways he was prophetic. Adamic died tragically in 1951.

Bucknell University Professor John P. Enyeart has brought Louis Adamic into the present with his recently-released "Death to Fascism: Louis Adamic's Fight for Democracy." We meet Adamic as a young and cynical writer distancing himself from his Slovenian and immigrant roots. We see him mature into a gifted writer who authored "The Native's Return," once a standard work on Slovenian-Americans' bookshelves, other books, and hundreds of articles that probed immigrant and American identities.

Professor Enyeart spends much time on Adamic's years of political engagement, including critically examining his wins and losses. Our SNPJ comes in for some mention, of course; and Ivan Cankar, Ivan Molek and so many others who should be familiar to our history come in for mention as well.

The task of this book is to put *Slovenstvo* (Slovene spirit) and Adamic's Yugoslavism into their proper perspectives, to bring Adamic's ideas into the present, and to show how relevant some of Adamic's ideas are to the present day. We had amongst



Louis Adamic (1898-1951)
File photo.

us someone who understood pluralism, diversity and the need to extend democratic ideals into every facet of life, and we were proud that he represented us. The controversies that surrounded him the 1930s added to his appeal and filled the pages of the Slovenian and American press. The author generally succeeds in fulfilling his tasks and bringing Adamic's thinking into our present moment.

I have some arguments with the author: He says that there was only really one Adamic, while I see a young man running from his past, and an older and wiser Adamic finding his roots. And I think that Adamic received good advice from SNPJ leaders that I wish he had heeded. I also wish that we had more insight into Adamic's personal life.

On the other hand, Adamic remained popular in Slovenia after losing popularity here, and the author did a great job of using Slovenian sources.

The book is a bridge into Slovenian intellectual life in a sense. I hope that the book will introduce Louis Adamic to young people, and that we can again appreciate his great writing and further explore his ideas.

"Death to Fascism: Louis Adamic's Fight for Democracy" by John P. Enyeart. Working Class in American History Series. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2019. xii + 216 pp. Available in paperback (ISBN 978-0-252-08432-4) and hardcover (ISBN 978-0-252-0g4250-8).

Support the Polka Hall of Fame at the August golf outing

by JOE WOJTLA (158)

Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame

CLEVELAND — The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame (PHOF) is swinging things off with a golf outing fundraiser at St. Denis Golf Club in Chardon, Ohio, on Saturday, Aug. 21, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Enjoy a four-person scramble outing with live polka music. The \$100 per person entry fee includes

18 holes of golf and cart, beverages provided on the course, a hot dog lunch, a barbecue rib and pulled pork dinner, drawing prizes, golfer goodie bags, prizes for the winners – and lots of fun!

Make a donation from the heart by sponsoring a hole (each hole sponsor

receives a sign for name recognition), provide items for the goodie bags, or donate a drawing basket to show your support of the Polka Hall of Fame. All sponsors and donors will be acknowledged on-site, in the PHOF "Polka Focus" newsletter, on the radio, and in the 2021 Awards Show souvenir book.

Golfers and sponsors can contact Joe Wojtla at (440) 487-0118 or Dave Skrajner at (216) 401-8817.

The purpose of the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame is to preserve the polka legacy through its museum, annual award show, events and promotion.

The PHOF is conducting a membership drive through July 15 to increase present-day awareness and

provide polka camaraderie. Become a lifetime or High Note Society Member and receive a free limited-edition "I got squeezed at the Polka Hall of Fame" T-shirt or a "Polka Fun-Raiser" CD.

Join the High Note Society: Become a member of the High Note Society at the Bronze level of \$250, Silver Level of \$500 and Gold Level of \$1,000 or more, and a personalized and engraved music note will be placed on the PHOF High Note Society Wall in the PHOF Museum.

The High Note Society also includes a PHOF lifetime membership.

Become a Lifetime Member: Pay a one-time donation of \$150.

Annual Membership: Pay yearly dues of \$18.

Make a Donation: All donations are graciously welcome! PHOF donations and memberships are 100 percent tax deductible and make a perfect gift or in-memory remembrance.

The benefits of being a PHOF member include receiving "The Polka Focus" newsletter, voting for the awards, free admission to the annual Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame Appreciation Dance, and discounts at the PHOF Gift Shop. PHOF members help preserve the Slovenian culture and polka history, and support good-time polka music.

For additional membership information, contact PHOF Membership Chairman Joe Wojtla at (440) 487-0118 or e-mail *PHOFmembership@gmail.com*.

Up-and-Coming...

A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- JULY 23-25.....SNPJ Young Adult Conference at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For registration and additional event details contact the SNPJ Home Office by phoning 1-800-843-7675 or e-mailing snpj@snpj.com.
- AUG. 1-7Family Week at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For details phone the Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732. Registration forms available online at snpj.org. The registration deadline is July 1.
- SEPT. 19.....SNPJ Lodge 643 Fall Dance at Rolling Mills Lounge (formerly Kuzman's), 1025 S. State St. in Girard, Ohio; \$10 donation. Music by the Frank Stanger Band from 3 to 7 p.m. For more information contact Ray Kovac at (330) 824-2154.

We've Got You COVERED


DAVID C. ELY, CPIA
SNPJ Sales Director

Don't skimp on life insurance coverage

Life insurance is essential if there's someone you care about who would suffer if you and your financial contributions were no longer in the picture. This could include a spouse, children, disabled family members, aging parents, or anyone else who depends on your earnings to make ends meet.

There are several different types of life insurance, but what they all have in common is that they pay cash to your loved ones in the event you pass away. This lets your nearest and dearest remain on firm financial ground even though your earnings have stopped.

From the mortgage to childcare costs to the weekly grocery haul, you already know that life comes with many expenses. We all do so much to take care of our loved ones in the here and now, but many people don't consider how those left behind would manage if the unthinkable were to happen.

Over the years I've heard from countless people who were extremely grateful to have a financial lifeline in the form of life insurance. And I've sadly also heard from those who didn't have life insurance to rely on when a breadwinner passed away.

As a rule of the thumb, it's a good idea to touch base with your life insurance agent at least once a year or whenever a life change happens. A life insurance review will help ensure your coverage is at the proper level to protect your loved ones. Life insurance often needs to be adjusted after a big change like getting married, having a baby, starting a business, retiring and more. In these kinds of instances, you'll want to schedule a life insurance review with your agent as soon as possible.

There are many reasons to consider life insurance. The good news is that getting life insurance is simpler and more affordable than most people think. One of the best ways is to work with a licensed insurance agent who can walk you through the entire process. You can also work directly with an insurance company.

Give SNPJ a call today at 1-800-843-7675 to schedule a time to complete a free review of your current life insurance needs.



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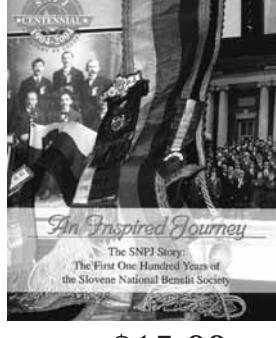
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Proud of your SNPJ membership? Then you owe it to yourself to delve deeper into SNPJ history through the pages of *An Inspired Journey — The SNPJ Story: The First One Hundred Years of the Slovene National Benefit Society*.

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

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Slovenska potica now protected within the EU

BRUSSELS, Belgium (STA) — Slovenska potica, a rich traditional cake made of a special dough and filling, has been protected with the EU's traditional specialities guaranteed label. While not geographically limited to Slovenia, the cakes sold as "Slovenian potica" must be certified for their shape and ingredients.

Slovenska potica will have to meet standards of dough, fillings and shape. The potica can have five different traditional fillings (walnuts, walnuts and raisins, raisins, tarragon, or tarragon and cottage cheese), must be baked in a round pan to produce a hole in the middle, and must have a minimum diameter of 14 centimeters (5.5 inches).

All producers who want to make the protected Slovenska potica will have to obtain a certificate; others can continue selling the cakes labeled simply as "potica" or as "orehova potica/walnut potica," etc.

Announcement of the protected status was published in the EU's Official Journal in late April.

Slovenian Agriculture Minister Jože Podgoršek said he was very proud that as Slovenia's traditional cake, potica will help enhance the country's profile abroad. "Slovenian cuisine has a very rich tradition. Slovenian food has its own identity, which is reflected by the EU-level protection. Potica is definitely a food that best symbolizes a festive menu for Slovenians," he wrote.

An application to protect Slovenska potica was submitted to the Agriculture Ministry by several agriculture, food-processing, commerce and small business organizations in 2017. The ministry protected the cake at the national level that same year, and submitted an application for protection to the European Commission in early 2018.

Austria objected to Slovenia's plans, arguing it wanted to protect its producers that make cakes with similar names, such as *potize* and *putize*. Slovenia and Austria then reached a deal allowing Austrian producers to continue using these names since the goal of the Slovenian bid was to protect the name "Slovenska potica," not potica or any other derivatives.

A ministry representative said that potica had a special place in Slovenian cuisine, and that as a Slovenian speciality it is almost a national symbol. Potica is made in all Slovenian regions, though varying in name, filling, type of dough, and shape. More than 100 various types of potica have been recognized.

A second Lipizzaner bid for UNESCO heritage list

LJUBLJANA (STA) — Following the nomination of beekeeping for the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List in March, Slovenia renewed its nomination of Lipizzaner horse breeding, which it initially filed in 2020 on behalf of eight countries that maintain this tradition.

A new submission was required because the original nomination will not be up for review this December due to the number of nominations submitted last year. For the Lipizzaners to be considered in the 2022 cycle, the nomination had to be re-filed.

Like last year, the nomination was made by Slovenia on behalf of itself, along with Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Romania and Slovakia.

The Slovenian Culture Ministry announced in a press release that the nomination included a broad spectrum of cultural and social practices, knowledge and skills, as well as oral traditions, celebrations and equestrian sports related to Lipizzaner breeding.

The Lipizzaner has held a symbolic role in all eight countries for centuries. It is the symbol of many communities and a central part of local celebrations.

With Vega, Slovenia now a supercomputing center

MARIBOR (STA) — The Vega supercomputer was formally launched in Maribor on April 20, landing Slovenia on the global map of computer super powers. Slovenia is now home to the first of a series of eight planned high-performance computing (HPC) centers in the EU.

Vega is a 6.9 petaflops supercomputer — which means it can complete 6.9 million billion computing operations per second — with a price tag of EUR



17.2 million (\$20.69 million).

Currently the most powerful supercomputer in Slovenia, Vega was set up as part of the national project to upgrade both the EU's research infrastructure and EuroHPC, a public-private partnership for European high-performance computing.

Vega is based at the Institute of Information Science (IZUM), and IZUM director Aleš Bošnjak said there were currently only 13 countries in the world with more powerful supercomputers. "Our supercomputing power is just behind that of the UK and ahead of Russia's," University of Maribor Vice Dean Zoran Ren said during the online inauguration.

The Vega supercomputer is named after Jurij Vega, the 18th-century Slovenian mathematician and physicist. The project was co-funded by the EU from the European Regional Development Fund, by the Slovenian Ministry of Education and Science, and by EuroHPC.

Along with Slovenia, the seven other EU high-performance computing centers will be located in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal and Spain.

Tolmin recalling poet Dante's 14th century visit

TOLMIN (STA) — Tolmin, a northwestern Slovenian town near the border with Italy, will join this year's events marking the 700th anniversary of Italian poet Dante Alighieri's death by remembering his alleged visit to the area in 1319 at the invitation of Aquileia patriarch Pagano della Torre.

The alleged visit by Dante (1265-1321) will be marked by a memorial board, and the poet will also be remembered as part of an exhibition that will open in June, arranged at the Tolmin Museum.

The exhibition will focus on three castles from the area, including the Kozlov Rob (Goat's Edge) castle, where Dante supposedly stayed, museum director Damjana Fortunat Černilogar told the press.

"It's interesting that the legend of Dante's visit has appeared in written texts since the 16th century, although its interpretations have differed. Various authors have tried to prove that this was not the case, or that the text is accurate, but we don't have any written record about the visit," Černilogar explained.

A memorial board will be set up in front of the cave that Dante visited and which supposedly inspired his vision of what Hell would look like in his masterpiece "Divine Comedy." The board will present new facts about the Zadlaška Cave, which is also known as Dante's Cave; about its mythology; and about the legend of Dante's visit, which has neither been confirmed nor rejected.

Dante is said to have been invited to the area by della Torre in 1319, just two years before his death while in exile, and to have stayed in the castle at Kozlov Rob above Tolmin. After this area of Slovenia came under Italy following WWI, Italians set up a memorial plaque to Dante in front of the cave, and later a monument in Tolmin. The plaque is now housed at the Tolmin Museum.

Tolmin municipality representative Matej Kavčič said the idea for Tolmin to join the Dante celebrations came from its Italian twin town of Vicchio, near Florence. The two towns are marking 40 years of being twinned, so the Tolmin municipality decided to erect a bilingual memorial in front of Dante's Cave.

In Ljubljana, a Plečnik structure finds new life

LJUBLJANA (STA) — On Vegova Street in Ljubljana, between the National and University Library building and the Krizanke Outdoor Theatre, stands a small, rather minimalistic construction, a brick cylinder about three meters (10 feet) tall covered by a simple flat roof. The structure was designed by Jože Plečnik in the first half of the 20th century.

It is one of the three kiosks in Ljubljana that represent the legacy of the famous architect. One stands near the Triple Bridge and is still used by vendors selling newspapers, tobacco and other odds and ends; a second, in Hrvatski Trg near the UKC Ljubljana Medical Center, sits abandoned.

A hybrid kiosk-poster column, the ki-

osk on Vegova St., in the city's academic quarter, had also gone unnoticed for some time. People walked past it without realizing that it was a Plečnik design.

After years of waiting and having been forgotten, the kiosk was revived in April. The aim is to not only preserve Plečnik's legacy, but above all to promote a culture of reading and create a new literary center in Ljubljana; while bringing the city closer to the spheres of architecture, art, science and culture, and developing a vibrant city atmosphere.

Matevž Granda, art director for *Outsider* magazine, says that modern news agents no longer focus on selling newspapers. "We want to provide kiosks for news agents with a new function. The aim is to not only sell magazines, but also create a space for various events... to stimulate debates and different views, revitalize public life and create spontaneity in the city," he explained.

Through small public events, *Outsider*, a media outlet focused on architecture, culture and society, aims to reach out to passersby and raise awareness of the importance of Ljubljana's art and culture.

"In the past year we have all retreated into our screens. But this kiosk is physical; it encourages physical contact — from the gesture of coming into town and buying a newspaper, which is the only thing that can save news agents and newspapers, to encouraging socializing, face-to-face conversations, and real life that moves away from the virtual," said *Outsider* editor-in-chief Nina Granda.

In the short time since its opening, the kiosk has attracted a number of curious visitors, young and old alike. Due to the proximity of important national institutions, as well as the Faculty of Architecture and the Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning, a large number of people of different generations walk along the street every day.

Slovenian Olympic torch visiting all municipalities

LJUBLJANA (STA) — From May 3 through July 23, the Slovenian Olympic torch is passing through all Slovenian municipalities as some 5,000 runners carry the symbol of the Olympic Games throughout the 81-day span leading up to the start of the Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo.

The Slovenian Olympic Committee organized the relay in conjunction with the police, and Slovenian sports fans have been urged to monitor its progress online given that pandemic restrictions remain in place, the organizers announced in mid-April.

Bogdan Gabrovec, the chairman of the Slovenian Olympic Committee, explained that the goal was "to transport the Olympic spirit into all Slovenian localities." Gabrovec said all but two of Slovenia's 212 mayors were thrilled with the idea despite the restrictions currently in place, adding that the situation may improve so that some events and gatherings may be held in person.

The torch, made of recycled steel and Slovenian beechwood, was launched from the town of Bovec on May 3 and will finish its journey in Ravne na Koroškem, where it was forged, on July 23, the day the Olympic Games are scheduled to open.

Ljubljana Zoo welcomes the arrival of newcomers

LJUBLJANA (STA) — The Ljubljana Zoo has welcomed a newcomer to its midst as a chimpanzee named Tai was born in mid-January. The zoo has also recently welcomed the arrivals of newborn crested geckos, black-tufted marmosets (a species of New World monkeys), kangaroos and meerkats.

Tai, the newborn chimp, was named after the national park in Ivory Coast where endangered West African chimpanzees live. Tai is expected to be able to ride on his mother's back by mid-summer, the zoo wrote in a press release.

The zoo has invited visitors to come see the newcomers, but has asked them not to disturb the animal families by knocking on the glass or using flash photography. Animal feeding is also not allowed due to the risk of transmitting infections. "Since animals can also catch the novel Coronavirus or other diseases, it is recommended that visitors wear face masks outdoors as well, especially when visiting the monkeys," zoo representatives urged.

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

SNPJ fraternal sympathies**BRO. RUDOLPH VUKSINICK JR.
• LODGE 113 •**

PRICE, Utah — The Vuksinick family and the members of Lodge 113 sadly report the Jan. 23, 2021, passing of Bro. Rudolph Vuksinick Jr., 91, at home with his family.

Bro. Vuksinick was born July 25, 1929, in Royal, Utah, to the late Rudolph and Annie Sterlekar Vuksinick. He was the youngest of two children and was preceded in death by his sister, Elsie.

Rudy grew up in the Royal and Castle Gate coal camps, and later Spring Glen, Utah. He joined the Army at age 16. When his age was discovered, he was sent back to Utah where he graduated from Carbon High.

Rudy met his future wife when his family moved from Royal to Spring Glen, both then age 14. He knew when he saw her walk out of the school doors that she was the one. He was smitten with his "Little Englishman" and they married six years later, on May 13, 1949. Rudy and Mildred had five children.

After finishing vocational school, Rudy worked as a mechanic for the Castle Gate Mine. Never satisfied with working for someone else, in about 1958 he left the mine to start his own business, Rudy's Chevron, then located in Helper, Utah, between the city building and what was then the Five, Ten and Twenty-five Cent Store. In 1962 he moved his family to Provo, Utah, where he opened R&G Texaco with his friend, Glen Stole. Later he operated Rudy's Chevron, also in Provo.

In 1970, Rudy left the service station business for the auto parts business, first under the American Parts banner and later under the NAPA banner, but always RPM Auto Parts.

Fittingly, if you knew Rudy, the original auto parts store was located in what was formerly the Nugget Lounge. The original crew included Rudy, sons Tom and Kurt, loyal friend Norm Crosby (manning the counter), and Mildred (delivering parts in a 1955 Ford pickup and tallying the receipts at the end of the day).

As with everything he did, his auto parts business was very successful. The one store is now three, operated by sons Kurt and Albert, and grandson Gehrhart.

Rudy's family and the family business were his passions.

At one time or another the family business employed all his children, and several of his grandchildren and nephews. His first two grandchildren, Rudy K. and April, were raised in the auto parts store.

He was a much-admired father, and without exception a loving and much-loved husband. And except for, in his younger years, an occasional stop at Harold's tavern or the Stork Club on the way home from a hard day's work, he was also a dutiful husband.

You had to know Rudy to appreciate the quality of the man.

He was an irresistible combination of optimism, strength of character and unbounded energy. He was accepting of all, compassionate, and his love came without conditions.

He was gregarious to the point of being the life of every party,

and as a result he had a great many friends.

Rudy took pride in his ethnic heritage and was proud to be a "bohunk." At 83 he got his first and only tattoo, the Slovenian coat of arms. He was a longtime SNPJ member and a lifelong member of the Slovenian National Home.

He touched many lives and will be missed by all.

Rudy is survived by his wife, Mildred; children Tom (Lori), Kurt (Jeana), Albert, Jamie, and Brett (Paul); 13 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his sister, Elsie Anderson; beloved grandson Rudy K. Vuksinick; and great-granddaughter Jayda Bryner.

A funeral service was held for Bro. Vuksinick on Jan. 29

in Mitchell Funeral Home, Price. Burial followed in the Austrian Central Cemetery in Spring Glen.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 113 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Bro. Vuksinick's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**SIS. MILDRED VUKSINICK
• LODGE 113 •**

PRICE, Utah — The Vuksinick family and the members of Lodge 113 sadly report the Feb. 19, 2021, passing of loving mother, grandmother, aunt and friend Sis. Mildred (Haycock) Vuksinick, 91.

Sis. Vuksinick was born June 27, 1929, in Spring Glen, Utah, to Thomas and Phoebe Bellows Haycock. She was the youngest of 11 children, only eight of whom lived to adulthood, and was the last member of her family to pass.

She was born and grew up in the family's two-bedroom home on Haycock Lane in Spring Glen, where she was raised along with her four brothers and three sisters. At the time of her birth her mother was 45 and her father was 49. She graduated from Carbon High in 1948.

Mildred started her life just as the Great Depression began. If you believe her sister Vera, her diapers were re-purposed flour sacks, Star Flour brand. Despite her humble beginnings, she had a life filled with love, both given and received, and happiness which she shared with all.

Though she and her oldest sibling were separated by more than two decades, she had close relationships with all of her siblings. Mildred was especially close to her sisters Vera and Dorothy, who were both widowed at a young age. Vera's son Jeff Jacob, and Dorothy's son James Marshall both lived with Rudy and Mildred at different times.

Because she was the youngest and born late in her parents' lives, she played a significant role in the care of her parents. For her mother, this included help with the wash and grocery shopping; for her father, driving him to Helper, Utah, for an occasional shot of straight whiskey.

Mildred met her future husband, Rudy, at Spring Glen Junior High when both were age 14. They went through junior high and high school together. Mildred was popular, a member of the pep club and queen of the Sweetheart Ball. Rudy was a truant.

Looking back after 70 years of marriage, both Mildred and Rudy professed that it was love at first sight. It certainly was for Rudy, and perhaps it was for Mildred, but Mildred wasn't against going to a movie with another boy if asked. The result was quite a few black eyes, both for Rudy and the other boys. She finally decided that she would go to the movies only with Rudy, and they were married on May 13, 1949.

Mildred and Rudy prospered in every way after their marriage. Rudy worked hard as mechanic for a coal mine, and later as a successful self-employed businessman. Mildred also worked hard raising five healthy children and helping Rudy in his businesses. Even as their family grew they went dancing on Saturday nights, either at the Polka Palace or the Hi-Way Rendezvous, often with Rudy's parents.

Despite the differences in their family's respective cultures (her parents were English and railroaders; his were Slovenian and coal miners), she developed a bond with Rudy's parents as strong as that of her own. To Rudy she was always his "Little Englishman," but after more than 70 years as a Vuksinick, she was equally a "Slovenian." She joined the SNPJ, of which she was member for 71 years. She also embraced the Slovenian culture then thriving in Carbon County, Utah, and which, at the time, still bore the values

and influences of Slovenian immigrants who had settled there not so long before.

In about 1956, Mildred and Rudy moved from their home in Spring Glen, affectionately referred to as the "two-room-shack," into their new home in Spring Glen. This was a significant improvement as, among other things, the new house had an indoor "water closet." She loved the house, she loved the new twin tub and the Dexter washing machine in the basement, and she loved the five-wire clothesline in the yard.

Very reluctantly, in 1962, she left her home when Rudy's desire to make a better living for his family meant a move from Spring Glen to Provo, Utah.

They eventually bought a new home in Orem, Utah, which became a gathering place for family and friends for the next 45-plus years, until age and failing health made it impossible to carry on. Even then, the home was frequently visited by family and the many friends who were always welcome there.

Mildred was petite but strong, both mentally and physically. She dealt with the hardships inevitable in every life with aplomb, wrangled five children, delivered auto parts for the family business, and survived rheumatic fever as a child and three bouts of breast cancer as an adult.

She was a loving mother and grandmother. Perhaps her greatest strength was a predisposition to love and accept all. She was reserved, but cared deeply for her parents, in-laws, siblings, children, nephews, nieces and friends. She will be missed by all who loved her.

Mildred is survived by her children, Tom (Lori), Kurt (Jeana), Albert, Jamie, and Brett (Paul); 12 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Rudy; grandson, Rudy K. Vuksinick; great-granddaughter, Jayda Bryner; and her brothers and sisters.

A funeral service was held for Sis. Vuksinick on Feb. 26

at Mitchell Funeral Home, Price. Burial followed in the Austrian Central Cemetery in Spring Glen.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 113 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Sis. Vuksinick's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**SIS. BEVERLY D. PURK
• LODGE 138 •**

STRABANE, Pa. — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report the March 15, 2021, passing of Sis. Beverly D. Purk, 73, of Canonsburg, Pa., in Bradenton, Fla.

Sis. Purk was born March 23, 1947, in Uniontown, Pa., a daughter of the late Fred E. Howarth and Dora P. Fleming Howarth. She was also the step-daughter of Shirley McDonald Howarth. She retired from Western Center and formerly worked at the SNPJ Lodge 138 Club in Strabane.

In addition to her SNPJ membership, she was a long-time member of Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church, where she served as a lay worship leader.

Her husband, Robert Purk, preceded her in death in May of 2008. She was also preceded in death by two stepdaughters, Bobbi Jo and Kathy Jo Purk.

Surviving are her granddaughter, Cassandra Laughlin (fiancé Joshua Kozak) of Canonsburg; grandson Terrell (Valerie) McClain; two great-granddaughters, Brynn and Kaia McClain, both in Germany; three sisters, Beatrice Affleck of Peters Twp., Pa., Barbara (Robert) Willson of St. Albans, W.Va., and Beth (Jeff) Anderson of Muse, Pa.; several loving nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; and her two best friends, Linda Grant and Sue Renaud.

A celebration of life was held for Sis. Purk on April 10 in Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we

offer our condolences to Sis. Purk's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**BRO. ALBERT J. CELIO
• LODGE 138 •**

STRABANE, Pa. — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report a second recent loss with the April 7, 2021, passing of Bro. Albert J. Celio, 84, at his home in Strabane.

Bro. Celio was born March 6, 1937, in Canonsburg, Pa., a son of the late Raffaele and Giovinia Teti Celio. He was the owner/operator of Albert J. Celio Heating & Cooling in Strabane for many years. He was dedicated to and loved his work.

A 59-year SNPJ Lodge 138 member, he was also a member of St. Oscar Romero Parish.

Surviving are his two sisters, Antoinette Liberatore of Canonsburg and Jean Lucas of McMurray, Pa.; his brother, Richard P. (Marilyn) Celio of Scott Twp., Pa.; two grandchildren, Alicia and Hayley; his great-grandson, Anthony; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Moze Celio; his son, Ralph Celio; his daughter, Annemarie Celio, who died in infancy; three brothers, Joseph, Mario "Rocky," and Lucien Celio; and his sister, Mary Sacco.

Services for Bro. Celio were private.

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

**BRO. THOMAS A. SEDMAK
• LODGE 87 •**

HERMINIE, Pa. — The members of Lodge 87 sadly report the April 15, 2021, passing of Bro. Thomas A. Sedmak, 77, of Jefferson, Pa., in Washington Hospital, Washington, Pa.

Bro. Sedmak was born Nov. 23, 1943, in Waynesburg, Pa., a son of the late Anthony and Josephine Sedmak. He was a graduate of the former Cumberland Township High School, now known as Carmichaels Area, and served his country in the U.S. Air Force in Iceland.

Tom started working at Nemacolin Mine, and retired from Cumberland Mine.

A 61-year SNPJ member, he was also a proud member of the United Mine Workers of America, the NRA-Life, the American Trap Association, and the Waynesburg Sportsman Association. He belonged to the Mather Christian Church.

He loved his family and his pets, and enjoyed shopping with his wife, Joanne.

On Feb. 11, 1977, he married Joanne Tenant Sedmak, who survives. Also surviving are a son, Rob (Anita) Barclay of Waynesburg; two grandchildren, Chip (Elizabeth) Barclay and Bayli Barclay; and several cousins.

A memorial service for Bro. Sedmak is planned at a later date.

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

MEMORIAL REQUEST FOR KAREN RUSS**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.**

This year marks 20 years since Karen Russ passed away on June 25, 2001.

To honor her memory, I am asking everyone to paint a rock and place it at Karen's Memory

AMY MAVRICH
Lodge 138

DEATHS REPORTED

For the month of April 2021

LOGE	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY, STATE
A02	Theresa E. Boehm	03-26-2021	Avalon, Pa.
1	Conrad Novak Sr.	01-20-2021	Norridge, Ill.
1	Corinne A. Leskovar	04-02-2021	Lemont, Ill.
5	Robert Adamich	05-21-1999	Strongsville, Ohio
6	George C. Gerard	03-26-2021	Bridgeville, Pa.
8	Anthony Lump	12-14-2020	Lyons, Ill.
8	Warren T. Richards	04-03-2021	Micco, Fla.
31	Richard Jean Clevenger	02-02-2018	Corry, Pa.
41	John W. Kohosek	01-20-2021	Export, Pa.
53	Dolores J. Scheid	02-27-2021	Eastlake, Ohio
87	Mary Ellen Pesut	11-23-2020	Sterling, Va.
87	Thomas A. Sedmak	04-15-2021	Jefferson, Pa.
106	Mildred Bouchon	12-31-2020	Imperial, Pa.
106	Stanley J. Repos Jr.	03-13-2021	Imperial, Pa.
107	Alfred C. Coco	09-05-2015	St. Louis, Mo.
120	Lawrence Uidenich	04-14-2020	Sun City, Ariz.
138	Albert J. Celio	04-07-2021	Strabane, Pa.
138	Beverly Hartman	03-12-2021	Brooklyn Park, Md.
138	Beverly D. Purk	03-15-2021	Canonsburg, Pa.
142	Julie M. Plavan	04-17-2021	Medina, Ohio
158	Robert D. Jamison	09-03-2020	Willoughby, Ohio
158	Daniel F. Minello	12-30-2020	Mentor, Ohio
158	Theresa C. Perme	04-09-2021	Garrettsville, Ohio
218	Mary L. Brown	02-05-2021	Idaho Springs, Colo.
223	Twila F. Svetkovich	03-26-2021	Wilmerding, Pa.
371	Joe Zumeck	01-20-2021	Maple Valley, Wash.
459	Jack L. Davies	01-04-2021	Youngstown, Ohio
476	Matilda Stratton	12-11-2020	Salem, Ohio
564	Edward D. Kooolitz	11-17-2020	Muskegon, Mich.
564	Blanche K. Travnik	02-23-2021	Rochester, Mich.
564	Barbara A. Reinke	03-23-2021</td	

The SNPJ Farm saluting July 4th with Polka Party

Press Release

KIRTLAND, Ohio — Join in the celebration of Independence Day at the SNPJ Farm on Sunday, July 4, as Val “the Polka Gal” Pawlowski’s annual 4th of July Polka Party makes its return in 2021. Val “the Birthday Gal” will also be celebrating her 70th birthday that afternoon.

The gates at the SNPJ Farm will open at noon, as will the kitchen, which will be serving picnic dinners, sandwiches, snacks and refreshments. In

support of the SNPJ Farm and Val’s radio shows, no outside food or beverages are permitted.

The entertainment for the afternoon, featuring KTB (Kim Skovenski, Terry Skovenski and Brian O’Boyle) and the Frank Stanger Band with Anthony Culkar, is scheduled from 1 to 7 p.m.

Pre-sale tickets are priced at \$12; admission at the gate is \$15. For information and ticket purchases, contact Val Pawlowski at (330) 318-3004.

Events scheduled in June and September to celebrate Slovenia's independence

SLOVENIAN INDEPENDENCE

FROM PAGE 1

Wisconsin, Minnesota and Pennsylvania—including SNPJ member activities at the time, as well as American politicians who contributed to the American recognition of Slovenia.

The third part will be dedicated to an exhibition titled “Testimonies” with documents and artifacts on Slovenian independence and the American recognition of Slovenia, which will be set up at the Slovenian Museum and Archives in Cleveland.

The streamed Statehood Day event will also feature music and vocal performances by Slovenian artists.

The main live festivities to celebrate our jubilee will be held Sept. 11-28, again in Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Wisconsin and New York. During that time, our Consulate General will hold numerous official celebrations with a cultural program of musicians and singers from Slovenia and the U.S., an exhibition from the Technical Museum of Slovenia titled “Knowledge without Borders” in various cities, and simultaneously welcome the Minister for Slovenians Abroad, Dr. Helena Jaklitsch, who will be visiting the Slovenian communities in the above-mentioned states, including Pennsylvania.

A major event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of inde-

pendent Slovenia will be taking place at the SNPJ Recreation Center on Friday, Sept. 17 (attendance is by reservation only; additional information will be available in the near future). If everything goes according to plan, we will have fun together and dance to the music of the Slovenian group Čuki.

In addition, you are all welcome to join us in Cleveland during “Slovenian Week,” Sept. 15-19, which will feature an official reception at Cleveland City Hall; the opening of the exhibition of the Technical Museum of Slovenia titled “Knowledge without Borders;” a cultural evening at the Slovenian National Home with local and Slovenian musicians; a full-length concert performed by Choir Megaron in the Cleveland Cathedral; the exhibition “Testimonies” with documents on Slovenian independence and American recognition of Slovenia in the Slovenian Museum and Archives in Cleveland; and celebrations held at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, on Sept. 15, and at Slovenska Pristava on Sept. 19.

On behalf of the Slovenian Consulate General, I wish you a pleasant and healthy spring and summer, and I hope to see you at our virtual celebration on June 25, as well as the in-person celebration on Sept. 17 at your SNPJ Recreation Center.

Stay safe and take care!

SNPJ Lodge 581 donation benefits St. Marys food bank

LODGE 581 DONATION

FROM PAGE 1

for presentation by the end of May to the deserving students who look to continue their studies in the field of music.

Just a note: During our May 1 Jackson Road and Swissmont Hill cleanup, our youngest volunteer was age 7, and the oldest was 76. We had Boy Scouts, honor students, an Eagle Scout, local residents, and a friend from New York City helping out.

If you’ve ever cleaned up a wooded area, you wouldn’t be surprised to learn that we found a bed frame, a bowling ball, a toilet, a television, a set of wheels with tires, a coyote skeleton, and the usual trash. A real treasure, a brown bottle dated 1864 and in perfect condition, was also discovered. Lodge 581 donated hot dogs and buns, sweet rolls, and side dishes for lunch at the Troha camp.

The Lodge 581 and Polka Boosters picnic, to be held Aug. 22 at the Johnsonburg, Pa., fire hall, is still being planned. The dinner will be catered. Reservations must be made one week prior to the picnic by calling Pat and John Moore at (814) 837-9218.

North Central Pennsylvania Slovenian Polka Boosters dances are scheduled on June 20 and July 11 in Ridgway and St. Marys, and on June 6 at the Maple Inn in Crosby, Pa. Come out to the dances and our picnic!

The St. Marys SNPJ Lodge 581 Facebook page includes posts of articles and pictures from *Discover Slovenia*, posts from the Slovenian Consulate of South Australia and “Feel Slovenia,” as well as Lodge 581 happenings. For additional information about SNPJ Lodge 581, contact Marcia Klancer Blegger at (814) 335-4983 or e-mail marcia.and.don@gmail.com.

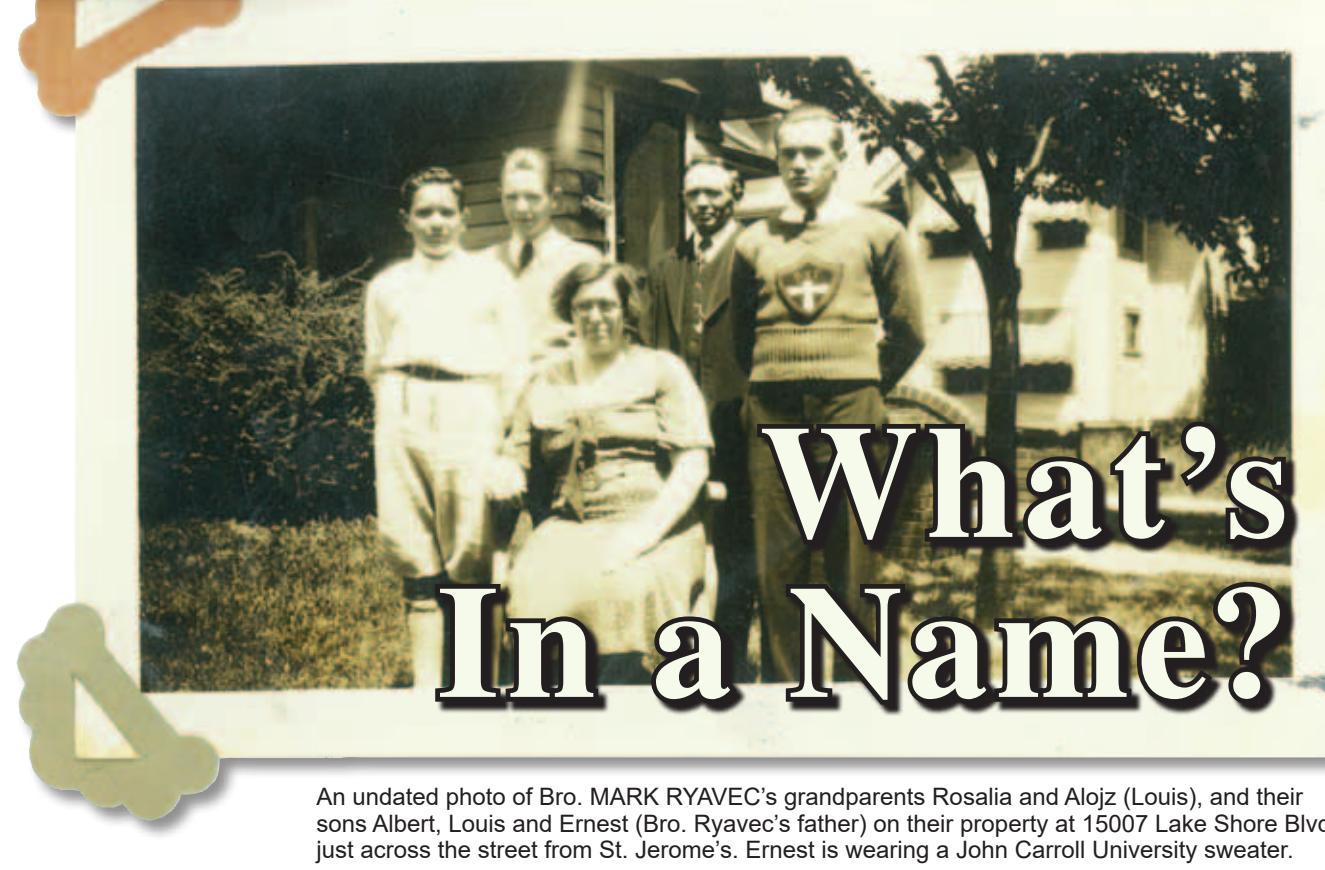
Important figures to consider...



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



An undated photo of Bro. MARK RYAVEC's grandparents Rosalia and Alojz (Louis), and their sons Albert, Louis and Ernest (Bro. Ryavec's father) on their property at 15007 Lake Shore Blvd., just across the street from St. Jerome's. Ernest is wearing a John Carroll University sweater.

by MARK RYAVEC
Lodge 786

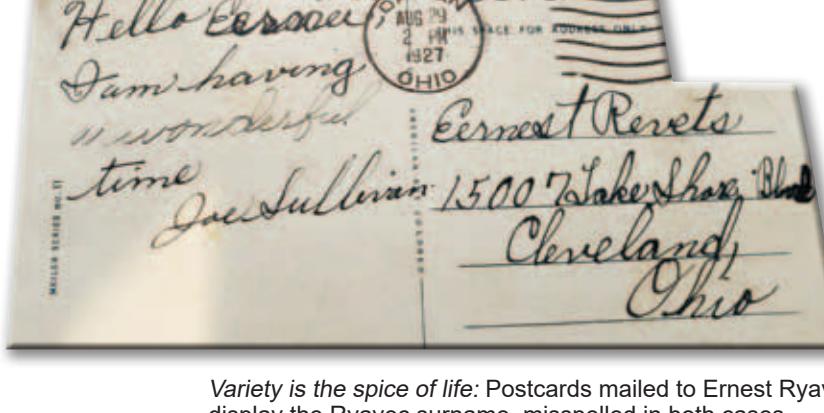
Having a difficult-to-pronounce last name myself, I found the recent consternation over the mispronunciation of actress Jilly Lee’s first name at the Los Angeles Theatres’ Ovation Awards overblown. I have lived with misspellings, mispronunciations and rude versions of my name for my whole life. And survived with a relatively intact ego. I find it inevitable in a multilingual nation that many will not be able to figure out how to say my name. In my case, it’s ironic that my father contributed to the unfamiliarity of my last name to most Americans.

My grandfather, Alojz (Louis) Rijavec, and his two brothers emigrated from the Slovenian-speaking area of Austria in 1908 from a small mountain village about an hour north of Trieste. They landed at Ellis Island and were interviewed by three different immigration officers. The result was three different surnames: the original Rijavec, Ryavec and Reavetz.

My granddad got Reavetz, which the immigration officer thought was a reasonable phonetic version of Rijavec, where the “j” is all but silent and the “c” is pronounced as “ts.” But schoolchildren being as they are, my father grew up being called “Rivits.”

When my father turned 21 he convinced his father and uncles – who lived within a couple miles of each other in Cleveland – to settle on just one version of the name and legally change it. However, in choosing which version, my father argued for Ryavec, not Rijavec. This was in response to the widespread anti-Eastern and Southern European prejudices of the day. My father chose Ryavec because it looked and sounded like Reykjavik, which had been settled by the Danes. So with the stroke of the judge’s pen, he and his family moved from Eastern European to being perceived as Anglo-Saxon... or so he thought.

Over the years, others have spelled my name Ryavek, Ryvak, Ryback (like the Steven Seagal character in “Under Siege”), and sundry other versions, though misspellings were not the worst of it.



Variety is the spice of life: Postcards mailed to Ernest Ryavec display the Ryavec surname, misspelled in both cases.

When I was serving an internship in college, an official of a local union, learning the name was originally Slovenian, referred to me as a “bohunk,” derogatory slang for a lower-class immigrant from Central or Eastern Europe. On several occasions I have been called a “slob,” a conscious mispronunciation of Slav.

There was one Los Angeles city council deputy – still employed by the city – who regularly would call me “Rayovac,” after the battery company, in a loud and mocking manner.

So it’s not clear that my dad’s decision really allowed me and my extended family to avoid America’s tribalism. It also suggests that current anti-Asian incidents are a continuation of this tribalism and not unique to Asians, though my family has never been the target of the atrocious violence that has accompanied recent attacks on Asians.

Despite the public’s frequent confusion over my name, my father’s decision did have some positive aspects. My

surname has led to an endless number of conversations about where my family was from, and I have not found the inquiries offensive. With a surname carried only by the descendants of my grandfather and his two brothers, I have valued its uniqueness. It may have made me even more conscious of my Slovenian heritage, which led to frequent visits to cousins there, and to later serving as Slovenia’s Honorary Consul General for California.

I long ago concluded that life has been more interesting with Ryavec than if that immigration officer had had a Slovenian-to-English dictionary available and simply went with the translation, which is “brown.”

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bro. Mark Ryavec lives in Venice, Calif., where he is a public affairs consultant. As mentioned above, Bro. Ryavec is a former Slovenian Honorary Consul General for California. This article was reprinted with permission from cleveland.com, © 2021 Advance Local Media, LLC. All rights reserved (About Us).

SNPJ Scholarship Fund Donations for the month of April 2021

Frank & Diana Rote (723), Alta Loma, Calif. ... \$50
In memory of Suzie Buse

Mike & Karen Watt (665), Altoona, Pa. \$50
In memory of Anthony and Albina (Erzen) Sadar

SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa. \$40
In memory of Craig Brace

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

Teleconference meeting held April 24, 2020

The teleconference meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by Chairman Clifford with Brothers Anderson, Hervol, Evanish and Lawrence in attendance.

A motion was made by Bro. Hervol, seconded by Bro. Anderson, to approve the minutes of the Jan. 23, 2020, meeting. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Bro. Evanish, seconded by Bro. Hervol, to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2020, interim meeting. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Bro. Anderson,

seconded by Bro. Hervol, to approve the secretary’s (National Treasurer’s) report of bond purchases and disposals for the first quarter 2020. Motion approved.

Reviewed the portfolio and transactions for the period.

Joined by phone conference at 1 p.m. with Wellington Management Company representatives Courtney Madden, Liz Kleinerman and Abigail Clare.

Discussion and questions on capital markets review by Liz Kleinerman.

The committee reviewed portfolio performance,

outlook and strategy, and compliance issues. The committee thanked the Wellington representatives for the presentation and ended the phone conference at 1:55 p.m.

Discussion on CLO investments. Affirmed a motion at prior meeting to allow investment in CLOs rated AA or higher.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 23, 2020, at 2 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 2:10 p.m. by Bro. Hervol, seconded by Bro. Anderson. Motion approved.

ROGER C. CLIFFORD ROBERT J. LAWRENCE
Chairman Secretary

Report of the Secretary for the period Jan. 1 through March 31, 2020

Purchases:

Trade Date	Security Description	Coupon	Yield	Par Value	Cost	Maturity Date	Rating
1/09/2020	Brookfield Finance Inc	4.70	3.78	\$390,000	\$450,325	09/20/2047	A-
1/07/2020	Metropolitan Transit Author Rev	6.69	3.40	500,000	708,310	11/15/2040	A

Sales or Full Calls:

Disposal Date	Security Description	Coupon	Yield	Par Value	Consideration	Maturity Date	Gain/Loss
2/01/2020	Virginia College Bldg Auth VA	5.63	5.69	\$350,000	\$350,000	02/01/2028	\$1,454

ROBERT J. LAWRENCE
Secretary, Finance Committee

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 April 2021

Fred W. & Frances M. Martin (158),
Wickliffe, Ohio\$100
SNPJ Lodge 782, Glenshaw, Pa.\$100
In memory of deceased members of Lodge 782
SNPJ Lodge 2, La Salle, Ill.\$100
Julius R. Jerich (216), Anthem, Ariz.\$50
In memory of Happy & Frances Jerich, Acmetonia, Pa.
Vincent & Beverly Baselj (6), Bridgeville, Pa.\$50
In memory of Stan Repos

SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa.\$50
In celebration of our existence for over 100 years
William T. Puz (782), St. Petersburg, Fla.\$25
Amy D. Mavrich (138), Canonsburg, Pa.\$20
In memory of Stanley Repos
Amy D. Mavrich (138), Canonsburg, Pa.\$20
In memory of Leonard Evanish

*The following donations were made
in memory of Bro. Kevin S. Richards:*
SNPJ Lodge 254, Bon Air, Pa.\$200
Alison A. Evanish (715), Virginia Beach, Va.\$50
SNPJ Lodge 721, Aliquippa, Pa.\$50
Shelly L. Morris (689), League City, Texas\$50
SNPJ Lodge 782, Glenshaw, Pa.\$50
Vida (106) & Frank Kosir, McMurray, Pa.\$50

PROSVETA 2021 Publication Dates for the months of July through December

JULY 2021											
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					

SEPTEMBER 2021											
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							

NOVEMBER 2021											
7	(8)	9	10	11	12	13					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27					
28	29	30									

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; or submitted via the Publications section of the SNPJ website, snpj.org.

SNPJ Membership Anniversaries

June 2021

80-Year Members

Lodge Member
643 Sylvia F. Fabian

70-Year Members

Lodge Member
5 Marylyn J. Valentine
749 Mary J. Dougherty
A02 Virginia M. Kryl

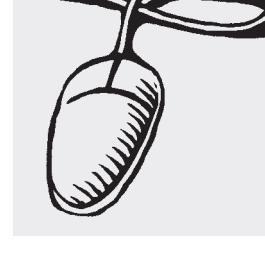
60-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
41	Marilyn V. Davis	254	Michael J. Bozic
107	Linda L. Beck	371	Charlene R. Carlson
138	James R. Tershel	723	Nancy J. Lamberto
142	Patricia Frantz	782	Genevieve Slovenec

50-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
1	John D. Brackett	254	Albert F. Tursic
5	Lawrence W. Trennel	358	Ronald A. Ronshak
5	Paula J. Roach	564	Joan L. Thompson
6	Linda D. Vidmar	584	Robin L. Lawson
6	Michael E. Hart	584	Adele V. Belec
6	Barbara L. Ramous	584	Timothy M. Miller
31	Henry G. Fabrey	584	Ronald A. Nucech
31	David F. Minor	584	James E. Svilg
31	Rose A. Hoffman	603	Kent A. Kozina
87	Shirley L. Biancheria	603	Marcy L. Galbreath
87	Frances J. Watona	614	Richard E. Jancigar
106	Wilbur D. Patton	614	James J. Zdesar
107	Renee Crews	614	Curtis S. Woodworth
107	Deborah Drake	715	Lillian R. Forrest
107	Joni K. Scrivner	715	Karen J. Borieo
138	Mary A. Maslanik	715	Kenneth L. Borieo
158	Evelyn A. Lesniakowski	715	Melanie S. Baden
216	Richard Offak	749	John W. Urbas
223	Susan J. Kardell	749	Morris W. Severn
223	Teresa L. Immel	771	Margaret Simeone
254	Mario D. Marisa	786	Gregory M. Goyeneche

information at your fingertips



Looking for information on your SNPJ life insurance and annuity policies? Pay a visit to snpj.org, click the "PolicyView Login" link, then follow the step-by-step instructions.



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PROSVETA Crossword Fictional Fathers (#0621) by StatePoint Media

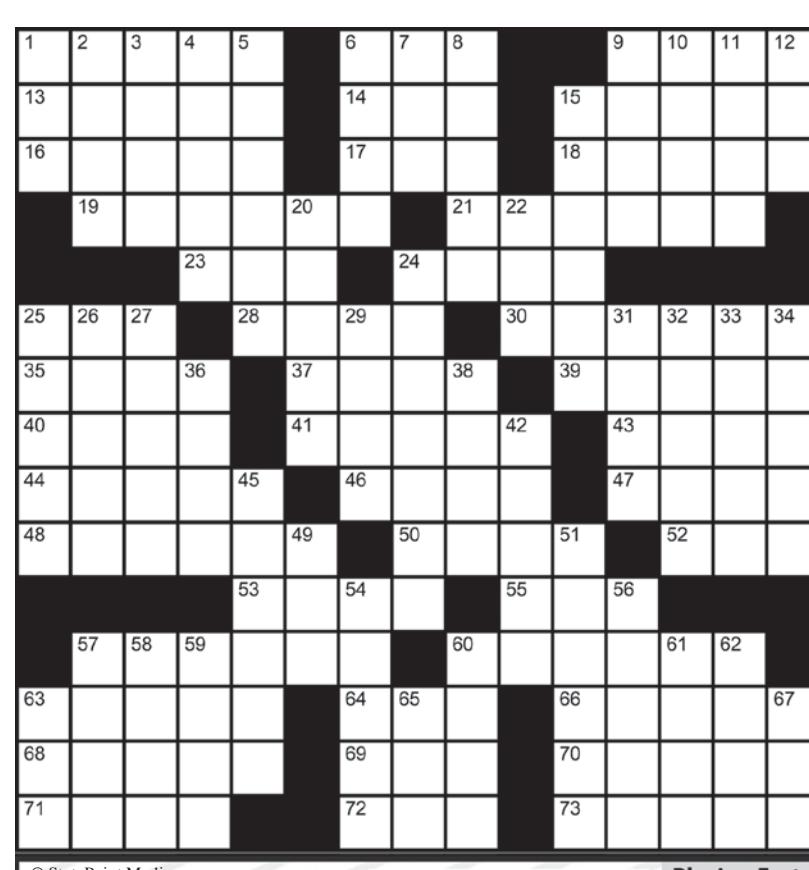
ACROSS

- Like Annapolis Academy
- Pine juice
- One in a manger
- Like a good athlete
- Modern address
- Printer cartridge contents
- Cate Blanchett's movie
"____ on a Scandal"
- 2nd largest living bird in world
- U in UV
- *Honoré de Balzac's
"Le Père ____"
- *Nemo's dad, named
after a sport fish
- "____ of the morning!"
- Seaside bird
- Tax accounting specialist, acr.
- Back of the neck
- Chew the fat
- Country dance formation
- Greek goddess of fertility
- Waterwheel
- *Drunk and, incidentally,
Huck Finn's Pap
- Metallic sounding
- Quite a stretch
- Place to dry out
- Like the White Rabbit
- Dr. Robert Bruce Banner's
green alter ego
- Sun-____
- Toothy wheel
- Bad-mouth

DOWN

- A Bobbsey twin
- Awestruck
- The Godfather's given name
- Heads-up
- Wound
- Cooking grease
- Hammer holder?
- D'Artagnan's hat decoration
- Weevil's target
- Not in favor of
- Capital of Switzerland
- Chapter in history
- As opposed to turn-off
- 1960s abstractionism
- Rainbow shape
- Made a rug
- Low-____image
- Simba's father in
"The Lion King"
- Luke's and Leia's father
- Golfer's sun protection
- Romanian monetary unit
- Introverted one
- Follow as a consequence
- Pooh's wise friend
- Territory in China known
as Las Vegas of Asia
- Young woman
- "That '70s Show" dad
- One-room school house
"notebook"
- Like ones between
13 and 19 years old
- *Griswold family patriarch
- Mushroom caps
- Egyptian symbol of life, pl.
- *Jay is to Claire
as ____ is to Haley
- Flood survivor
- Father of psychoanalysis
Sigmund
- Garlicky mayonnaise
- *Both father in "Mary
Poppins" and father in
"Father of the Bride"
- Unfledged hawk
- Casino chip
- Pine
- of dog!
- I ____ at the altar
- Middle Earth and Kingdom
of the North, e.g.
- Courage in the face of danger
- Smokeless tobacco brand
- Short skirt
- It was Brezhnev's domain
- Unplayable baseball
- Old in Scottish
- Cuzco valley empire
- Straight pour from the bottle
- Chill in front of TV, with 'out'
- Ovine mom
- Beluga yield

The solution to puzzle #0621 will
run in the July 1 issue.



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