

Labor Day weekend brings the National SNPJ Days celebration to the SNPJ Recreation Center

by COURTNEY KOENIG
Fraternal Director

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — The Slovene National Benefit Society invites all of our members to the SNPJ Recreation Center during Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1-3, as we celebrate the 83rd National SNPJ Days.

For those of you who like to start your weekend early and arrive at the SNPJ Recreation Center on Thursday, the Gostilna will be open

Thursday evening, Aug. 31. Food will be available in the Gostilna throughout the weekend.

National SNPJ Days weekend kicks off on Friday evening, Sept. 1, with a welcome party in the Gostilna featuring the music of KTB (Kim Skovenski, Terry Skovenski and Brian O'Boyle) from 8 to 11 p.m.

SNPJ golfers will head to Bedford Trails Golf Course in Coitsville, Ohio, on Saturday, Sept. 2, to compete in the 2023 SNPJ National

Golf Tournament, which begins at 8 a.m. with a modified shotgun start. There will be no golfers' dinner again this year; however, the kitchen at the Gostilna will be open.

The 2023 SNPJ National Women's Balina Tournament will also begin on Saturday in the Balinarena, and bar bingo is scheduled in the Gostilna starting at 7 p.m. Saturday evening.

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Go **GREEN**...
and help SNPJ save \$\$

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briefly

Home Office closed as we celebrate Labor Day

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

And the winner is...

The \$100 winner of the first quarter drawing in the 2023 SNPJ Recommender Program is:
Domenic C. Donovan, Lodge 6, Sygan, Pa.
Congratulations, and thank you for participating!



Access to the Society's new web portal expected in mid-September

by KAREN A. PINTAR
SNPJ National Secretary/COO

IMPERIAL, Pa. — As previously announced, the PolicyView portal on the SNPJ website has been permanently disabled as of Aug. 29 in preparation for our Insurance Administration system upgrade.

The plan is to complete the conversion of the administration system over Labor Day weekend and be up and running on our upgraded system on Sept. 5 when we return to the office.

We anticipate that the new website portal will be available to SNPJ members and agents sometime in mid-September, but no later than the end of the month. You will have to register

for the new portal, when available, by providing a username and password.

We encourage all SNPJ members who had not previously taken advantage of PolicyView to enroll for the new portal. Due to privacy regulations, Home Office staff are often unable to give you the information you seek over the phone — but if you register for the new web portal, you will be able to obtain this information on your own.

A link to our website Privacy Policy and Site Terms of Use will be available once the portal is live online.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we transition into these new systems.

SNPJ Lodge 745 members extend their community service activities

by JOHN MLAKAR
Lodge 745 Secretary/Treasurer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — SNPJ Lodge 745 President Joe Mlakar organized an afternoon at the Oakland/Alameda Coliseum to watch the Oakland Athletics play the Minnesota Twins. Fifteen youth and adult Lodge members were in attendance to watch the Twins win, 5-4. It was a perfect weather day, about 70 degrees, and was especially sweet since the drive took us away from the inland heat of 110 degrees.

Congratulations to Lodge Recording Secretary Lucille Mlakar who received her SNPJ 50-year membership recognition certificate and pin from the Home Office. Lucille started her SNPJ journey with the Lodge 723 Youth Circle

SEE LODGE 745 SERVICE
ON PAGE 5



Enjoy dancing, singing and good food at the traditional Slovenian Grape Festival hosted by the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, on Sunday, Sept. 24.

The SNPJ Farm Grape Festival celebrates traditions of Slovenia

by JOE VALENCIC
Lodge 5

KIRTLAND, Ohio — Celebrate the fruit of the vine, old country-style, at the SNPJ Farm during the colorful, musical Slovenian Grape Festival on Sunday, Sept. 24.

The annual polka parade, featuring Slovenian costumes, accordions and singing, launches the festivities. The Joey Tomsick Orchestra will

perform for four hours of dancing. Hearty harvest fare includes smoked Slovenian sausages, savory roast beef, and homemade krofe. Diners, sandwiches and refreshments are served from 2 p.m. on.

Wear your Slovenian outfit and join the sing-along when the parade starts at 2:45 p.m.

SEE FARM GRAPE FESTIVAL
ON PAGE 6

Lodge 581 members volunteering for St. Marys September Fall Fest

by MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

ST. MARYS, Pa. — SNPJ Lodge 581 members will be helping the St. Marys and Benzinger Township Historical Society during the St. Marys Fall Fest, which will be held Sept. 15-17 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The historical society offers tours, as well as

helps visitors with genealogical research. The volunteers will help sell local history books and other St. Marys memorabilia, memberships to the historical society, as well as accept donations for the St. Marys Historical Society. On Sept. 16, Lodge member John Moore will entertain

SEE LODGE 581 VOLUNTEERS
ON PAGE 5

Call for Candidates
SNPJ Recreation
Center Committee

This announcement serves as a call to all members interested in serving on the SNPJ Recreation Center Committee. Two positions for terms of three years each will be filled during the Sept. 22, 2023, SNPJ National Board meeting.

- Mileage reimbursement will only be paid up to a 100-mile radius of the SNPJ Recreation Center
- Compensation also includes a \$50 per diem

Resumes for these positions should be forwarded by Sept. 8, 2023, to:
Slovene National Benefit Society
Joseph C. Evanish, National President/CEO
247 West Allegheny Road
Imperial, PA 15126
e-mail: pcushman@snpj.com



Noah Tarlo
Born Oct. 10, 2022
Pittsburgh Lodge 665

SNPJ Lodge 665 welcomes Noah Tarlo as the newest addition to the Lodge. Noah is the son of Shawn (665) and Erica Tarlo, and the great-grandson of Karen Sadar Watt (665). We welcome Noah to the Society and extend our best wishes to his 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 () _____

E-mail _____

Complete and return to:
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SNPJ Lodge 5 member Joe Valencic is the new national president of Slovenian Union of America

Press release submitted by
Slovenian Union of America

JOLIET, ILL.—The Slovenian Union of America (SUA) welcomed a new president during a recent convention held in Pueblo, Colo. Joseph Valencic, a member of SNPJ Lodge 5 in Cleveland, now helms the organization as national president.

The Slovenian Union of America promotes interest in and awareness of Slovenia and Slovenian culture, language and history, as well as Slovenian-American activities. SUA sponsors Slovenian-themed programming, grants and scholarships, publishes a quarterly magazine, and operates a museum in Joliet. Plans are underway for the SUA centennial in 2026.

In his acceptance as president, Valencic spoke of SUA's role in connecting Slovenian-American communities across the county. "The Slovenian Union of America board members apply their strengths, skills and contacts to engage members with exciting, innovative events and projects," he said. "We help folks celebrate the Slovenian spirit in America."

Valencic represents Slovenians in the U.S. on the International Advisory Board of Slovenia's Office for Slovenians Abroad. He is based in Cleveland and serves as president of the SNPJ Cleveland Federation of Lodges. He is a founder and past president of the National Cleveland-

Style Polka Hall of Fame and directs the museum and archives. His Saturday radio broadcast features music and news from Slovenia. Joe documents the Slovenian-American experience with films, exhibitions and presentations in the U.S. and Europe. He is also a cofounder of the SUA Literary Award.

The Slovenian Union of America is headquartered in Joliet. SUA Branches are located in nine states and Washington, D.C. The organization was founded in 1926 as the Slovenian Women's Union of America. Membership is open to anyone with an affinity for Slovenia and all things Slovenian. For more information visit SlovenianUnion.org.



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JOE VALENCIC, a member of SNPJ Lodge 5 in Cleveland, is the new national president of the Slovenian Union of America headquartered in Joliet, Ill.

Comets Lodge 715 honoring longtime members at luncheon

by PATTI EVANISH
Lodge 715 Secretary

UNIVERSAL, Pa. — The SNPJ Comets Lodge 715 Annual Luncheon will be held Saturday, Sept. 16, at Palmieri's Restaurant, 951 Old Frankstown Rd., Plum, PA 15239, from noon until 3 p.m.

We will be honoring Lodge members who have reached 50, 60 and 70 years with SNPJ. The luncheon is

free to our honorees, who should have received an invitation in the mail.

All Comets Lodge members are welcome to attend this special event for \$23 per person; make checks payable to "Comets Lodge 715." Please RSVP directly to me by Monday, Sept. 11, by calling me at (412) 443-8825 or by e-mailing pat-tievanish2017@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you soon.

SNPJ Region 2 event brings a crowd to Strabane Lodge 138

by JASON CADEZ
Lodge 138 President
SNPJ Region 2 Vice President

STRABANE, Pa. — SNPJ Lodge 138 hosting Klancnik & Friends for a performance has become a Fourth of July weekend tradition in recent years. This year's Region 2 sponsored event was held July 1.

An energetic crowd came out for a night of fun polka music. The event was scheduled to be held outside, but

was moved inside due to the weather.

However, attendees did have an opportunity to see the new deck and pavilion improvements at Lodge 138 – a retaining wall was added to the rear of the pavilion to help keep water away, and the deck extends the outdoor space with additional seating for more people to enjoy.

Lodge 138 is already looking forward to the Klancnik & Friends event in 2024.



Dancers filled the floor as Klancnik & Friends performed for the SNPJ Region 2 event held at Strabane Lodge 138 in July.



[From left] Slovenian National Home President **BOB HOPKINS** (142), Miss SNPJ 2010 and Lodge 142 Vice President **KARA MARUSZAK**, **MARY WOJTILA HARRIS** (158), and **DONNY WOJTILA** (158) at the Wojtila Bakery booth during the Zavaba Summer Festival held in July.

Annual clambake on the Lodge 142 schedule in Oct.

by CAROL MARUSZAK
Lodge 142 Recording Secretary

CLEVELAND — SNPJ Lodge 142 members have been busy planning their second annual clambake and fundraiser to be held at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, on Sunday, Oct. 1.

The doors at the Farm are open from 1 to 6 p.m.; the clambakes are served 2 to 4 p.m. Dinner choices include a traditional clambake for \$42; half chicken breast, steak and clambake for \$55; or a chicken bake for \$32. All bakes are served with corn on the cob, sweet potato, roll, clam chowder and cake.

Love clams? Extra clams are available for \$12 a dozen. Bringing your children? A kid's meal is available that includes pizza, chips, a drink and a cookie for \$5. A Chinese auction, 50/50 drawing, and a booze cooler drawing will tempt you to try your luck! Entertainment will feature Innovative Blends DJ Marcus Smith who is sure to keep you on the dance floor.

The SNPJ Farm is a cash-only venue (no ATM available on site). Bakes must be ordered in advance by Sept. 23. Scan the QR code at the conclusion of this article, or contact Carol Maruszak at (440) 655-8776 for reservations and

more information.

Several Lodge 142 members attended the first Zavaba Summer Festival at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair, held July 29. What is "zavaba?" The meaning is literally "party" – a party to celebrate summer, and Slovenian music and culture.

Lodge 142 member Robert Hopkins, president of the Slovenian National Home since 1993, and his wife Gerry, the business secretary for the hall, organize many events throughout the year. Bob grew up being involved in SNPJ, having been a member of Youth Circle 77, attending SNPJ Youth Roundup, along with participation in SNPJ Youth Conventions and the Young Adult Conference. Music, dancing and ethnic foods, including delicious pastry from Wojtila's Bakery, made this event so much fun.

Get well wishes are extended to Lodge Secretary Carol Bacnik. We hope to see you up soon! Have a safe and happy Labor Day!



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Up-and-Coming... A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- SEPT. 1-3 National SNPJ Days weekend at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For details phone the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail snpj@snpjrec.com.
- SEPT. 4 Labor Day dance at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Entertainment by the Eddie Rodick Band and Frank Stanger Band, 1-7 p.m. Visit www.snpjfarmkirtland.com/summer-schedule for more information.
- OCT. 1 SNPJ Lodge 142 Clambake at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Entertainment by DJ Marcus Smith.

We've Got You COVERED



by GINA WISE
SNPJ Marketing Manager

Goldilocks and the three-pound laptop

I had been saving up for months to buy a new computer. I wanted something fast, sleek and powerful, but also affordable. I had done some research online and found one that seemed perfect for me. It was a brand I had faith in, a model with all the right features, and most importantly, it was on sale.

I decided to go to the store and check it out in person. I was impressed by how thin and light it was, and how smoothly it ran. The keyboard felt comfortable, the speakers sounded clear, and the battery life was decent. I was ready to buy it, but then I hesitated.

Maybe I could find a better deal somewhere else. Maybe there was another laptop that had more features or a better design. Maybe I should wait for a newer model to come out. I decided to leave the store and look around some more.

I visited several other stores and websites, but none of them had anything that matched what I wanted. Some laptops were cheaper, but had lower specs or worse reviews. Some laptops were better, but way out of my budget or not in stock.

I soon realized that I had made a mistake and should have purchased the computer at the first store. It was “just right” for me. I rushed back to the store to scoop it up.

But when I got there, my heart sank. It was no longer on display. I asked a salesperson where it was, and he told me they had sold out of that model earlier that day. He said that they might get more in the future, but he couldn't guarantee when or at what price.

I had missed my chance to get the perfect laptop. I had wasted my time looking for something better when I already had it in front of me. Being too picky or indecisive when making choices has now lost me the opportunity to get what I really wanted. Now I only have regret.

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Slovenia will honor General Maister in 2024

LJUBLJANA (STA) — As the 150th anniversary of the birth and the 90th anniversary of the death of Rudolf Maister (1874-1934) will be marked next year, the Slovenian government has decided that 2024 will be dedicated to the general who established the first Slovenian army in modern history and made key territorial gains in 1918.

Announcing the decision, the Defence Ministry noted that Maister, who was also a political activist and poet writing under the pen name “Vojanov,” played a major role in the collective consciousness of Slovenians. A ministry representative added that the nationwide commemoration of Maister's creativity and his role in the history of Slovenia will feature many events and projects next year, culminating on Nov. 23 with Rudolf Maister Day, a public holiday.

It was on Nov. 23, 1918, when Maister, having organized a volunteer force of some 4,000 soldiers and 200 officers, seized control of Maribor and the surrounding Štajerska region, preventing the area from becoming part of German Austria.

The Defence Ministry expects that the declaration of Rudolf Master Year will promote the creation of new programs and activities dedicated to the general's patriotic, military and poetic contributions, along with his creative and inspiring life. The ministry also hopes that the related events will help boost the reputation of the Slovenian Armed Forces, which draws from the tradition of Maister's era, and promote careers in the military.

Extending EV charging a challenge for Slovenia

LJUBLJANA (STA) — As the result of a new European regulation, Slovenia will have to install 16 to 20 high-capacity charging stations for electric vehicles along its roadways. Since none of Slovenia's current stations provide sufficient charging capacity, the country faces the challenge of increasing the capacity of the charging network or setting up new charging stations.

In late July, the Council of the EU approved the Regulation for the Deployment of Alternative Fuels Infrastructure, according to which charging stations for electric cars with an output of at least 400 kilowatts will have to be set up at least every 60 kilometers (37 miles) along the EU's core transport network (TEN-T) by 2026. In addition, the charging network will have to increase its output to 600 kW by 2028.

Charging stations for trucks and buses will have to be installed every 120 kilometers (74.5 miles), and by 2028 these points will have to be available, at a minimum, along half of the EU's main arteries and offer an output of 1,400 to 2,800 kW.

Since the vast majority of Slovenian highways are part of TEN-T, the new regulation means Slovenia will have to step up. “Primarily, we will need to strengthen the network at certain gas station chargers or set up new sites for charging electric vehicles. What we envisage is to enhance the distribution network at existing sites up to three megawatts,” a representative from the Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Energy explained to the press.

Given the rapid growth of electric mobility and the fact that Slovenia is a transit country, the country has decided to set up large charging parks with a total output of three or more megawatts in close proximity to the electricity transmission grid.

The new EU regulation also lays out a gradual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from ships. To significantly reduce air pollution at ports, by 2030 all container and passenger ships will have to generate their electricity from shore in major European ports. As a result, the port of Koper is also planning new, capacity-increasing infrastructure.

Damage to the Franja museum will be repaired

CERKNO (STA) — Slovenian Culture Minister Asta Vrečko visited the Franja Partisan Hospital open-air museum in mid-July to announce a national effort to renovate this key symbol of the World War II resistance movement in Slovenia, which was severely damaged during a storm in early July. The Franja Partisan Hospital will remain closed through the



duration of this tourist season.

Meeting local mayors at the site, Vrečko stressed the national importance of the resistance hospital's heritage and announced a concerted restoration effort involving several ministries, the Cultural Heritage Institute, and the Cerklno and Idrija municipalities.

Initial reports following the July storm indicated three of the hospital's 14 outbuildings having being swept away and another three damaged. Flooding also destroyed the last section of the access path, along with electrical infrastructure.

The museum was previously dealt a heavy blow by a storm in 2007, when it had to be almost completely renovated. Extensive work will also be required this year; initial estimates suggest the costs will exceed EUR 1 million (\$1.09 million).

Nestled deep in a narrow gorge near the town of Cerklno in western Slovenia, Franja was established in December 1943 and remained a secret until the end of World War II. Apart from being included on the UNESCO World Heritage tentative list, the Franja Partisan Hospital is a national cultural monument and bears the European Heritage Label. Roughly 120 partisan hospitals were operating on Slovenian territory during the Second World War, but only a few have been preserved.

Slovenia's velodrome repaired, ready to reopen

NOVO MESTO (STA) — Following the January collapse of the air dome cover on Slovenia's only velodrome, located in Češča Vas near Novo Mesto, the damage has now been repaired and a new inflatable cover installed. Cyclists will soon be able to resume training in the velodrome, the operator announced in early August.

The cover collapsed due to the weight of water collecting on top of the dome as heavy snow cover melted. The damage was estimated at nearly EUR 100,000 (\$109,300).

The new inflatable cover was installed by air dome manufacturer Duol with the assistance of members of the Slovenian Armed Forces. After the water was pumped out, repair work and cleaning was completed at the venue, and new fencing has been erected. The municipality is also constructing a swimming pool next to the velodrome with the aim of establishing an Olympic training center in the future.

Aleš Makovac, the head of the Novo Mesto municipal company that operates the velodrome, told the press that cyclists could resume training there by mid-August, while those training in track and field events would be able to start their workouts by the end of August. After the national championship in velodrome racing had to be canceled following the incident, Makovac said competitions are planned to resume in the fall.

The original velodrome, built in 1996 (the air dome was added in 2019), fell into a state of disrepair, and the Novo Mesto municipality, together with government ministries and several sports associations, committed to making the new velodrome “a nationally and internationally recognized sports venue” for cycling, athletics and triathlons.

Record number of storks are nesting in Slovenia

LJUBLJANA (STA) — According to the results of the 25th white stork census conducted by Slovenia's Bird Watching Association (DOPPS), a total of 300 white stork pairs nested in Slovenia this year, the highest number recorded to date, and 473 baby storks learned to fly.

These most recent numbers, which topped last year's figures by some 30 pairs, comes after a record number of storks spending the winter in Slovenia was reported in January.

DOPPS carries out its annual census between the end of June and the beginning of July, when baby storks are big enough to be easily counted. DOPPS members also interview residents of the nesting areas to find out more about the storks' nesting habits and other characteristics. This year, the birds laid claim to nests that had been vacant for 10 years, and groups as large as 70 storks were spotted, DOPPS reported.

At 473, the number of baby storks that

survived and learned to fly this year was only average. The record number, nearly 600, was reported in 2020. The main factor affecting nesting success was the weather, especially in May. “Despite all the devastating storms raging across Slovenia in [the summer], the vast majority of chicks learned to fly,” DOPPS said.

Since 1999, when the first census was conducted, more than 11,100 young storks have left their nests in Slovenia. Only one nest has always been the site of successful first flights – a nest in the Ljubljana Marshes. The most unusual stork nesting locations include a fire station siren, a highway signpost, and an antenna.

Peasant Revolt of 1573 recalled through art

KOSTANJEVICA NA KRKI (STA) — “Revolt 1573-2023,” an exhibition of artworks depicting peasant revolt motifs, opened in mid-July at the Božidar Jakac Gallery in Kostanjevica na Krki as part of a project marking the 450th anniversary of the Croatian-Slovenian Peasant Revolt of 1573.

The exhibition, curated by Miha Colner and on display through Oct. 1, features works by many artists, mostly from Slovenia and Croatia, who reflected on peasant revolts in different periods and under varying social circumstances.

One of the largest peasant revolts in the territory of present-day Slovenia was the Croatian-Slovenian Peasant Revolt of 1573, a 12-day rebellion that ended with defeat of the rebels. One of the leaders of the revolt, Matija Gubec, who was executed after the rebellion was quashed, became a hero to Slovenians and Croats alike by resisting foreign authorities.

There aren't many historical sources detailing the 1573 uprising, and it became part of Slovenian and Croatian collective memory only in the second half of the 19th century when the Slavic nations were oppressed by the Habsburg and the Hungarian empires.

“It was through art that peasant revolts were brought into public discourse as the symbol of a fight for the rights of the underprivileged,” Colner said. Depictions of peasant revolts and their leaders flourished when the Kingdom of Yugoslavia was founded, with the revolting peasants being perceived as fighters for freedom. During World War II, Gubec and the revolts were linked to uprisings against occupation.

The peak of artistic depictions of peasant revolts came during the period of socialist Yugoslavia, when the revolts were seen as socialist revolution. The largest number of artworks were created on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the revolt in 1973. “After the breakup of Yugoslavia and collapse of socialism, peasant revolts almost completely disappeared from public discourse and art,” Colner explained.

Grossmann Film Festival among world's coolest

LJUTOMER (STA) — The Grossmann Festival of Fantastic Film and Wine, which is held every June in the quaint towns of Ljutomer and Ormož in north-eastern Slovenia, has made the list of the Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals released annually by *MovieMaker*, a popular filmmaking magazine with a special focus on independent film.

Sylvia Caminer, a director and producer who contributed to the ranking, described Grossmann as “[T]he most unique festival I [have] attended. “I stayed at the most charming inn, which was also a vineyard, the food was off the charts, and no matter where you were, the wine poured freely – literally non-stop,” Caminer wrote.

Apart from the films selected, she was also very impressed with the team leading the festival, describing them as “truly authentic and always exceedingly entertaining.”

The *MovieMaker* Coolest Film Festivals list also includes the Anchorage International Film, the Atlanta Film Festival, the Austin Film Festival, the Champs-Élysées Film Festival, and the Clermont Ferrand International Short Film Festival, among others.

A press release from the Grossmann Film Festival organizers noted that a decade ago, a vote among *MovieMaker* readers ranked the festival among the world's top five horror/sci-fi festivals.

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

SNPJ fraternal sympathies



Sis. LILLIAN KOZEL (6)

Sis. LILLIAN KOZEL
• LODGE 6 •

SYGAN, Pa. — The Kozel family and the members of Lodge 6 sadly report the May 13, 2023, passing of Sis. Lillian P. “Lil” (Sinkovec) Kozel, 100, of Baldwin Borough, Pa., with her family by her side.

An 83-year SNPJ member, Sis. Kozel outlived the life of her SNPJ insurance policy in January 2019, joining the ranks of the Society’s Honorary Members.

A loving and devoted family woman, Sis. Kozel began caring for members of her family at a young age, taking care of her ailing parents and siblings while managing the household tasks. She loved gardening and taking care of her flowers, and she was an excellent cook, famous for her Slovenian apple strudel. Lil never got angry with anyone, and she set an amazing example of love, patience and tolerance.

She was the beloved wife of the late William J. Kozel Sr.; loving mother of William J. (Lisa) Kozel Jr. and Robert G. Kozel; grandmother of Kevin, Craig (Hilary), William III, and the late Christopher (survived by Angela) Kozel; great-grandmother of Catherine Emma, Nathan, Nolan, Tanner, and Holden Kozel; and sister of the late Ella Snidar, Rose Sinkovec, Emma Sinkovec, Mary Mihelich, Veronica Brotherton and Max Sinkovec. She is also survived by nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sis. Kozel on May 17 at Nativity Catholic Church-Our Lady of Hope Parish, South Park Twp., Pa. The family suggests donations in Lil’s memory to the Slovene Radio Program, 381 F St., Pittsburgh, PA 15209.

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

Sis. PAMELA J. WIESE
• LODGE 2 •

LA SALLE, Ill. — The members of Lodge 2 sadly report the May 21, 2023, passing of Sis. Pamela Jane (Yuvan) Wiese, 64, of Peru, Ill., at St. Margaret’s Hospital, Spring Valley, Ill. She was a 46-year SNPJ member.

Sis. Wiese was born Nov. 1, 1958, in Peru, the daughter of the late John and Betty (Greener) Yuvan. She was a graduate of LaSalle-Peru Township High School and worked in food service until her retirement.

She married Gary Allen Wiese on May 7, 1977, at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Peru. Her greatest joy was spending time with her grandchildren.

Surviving are her husband; three children, Heather Marie (Scott) Willoughby of Spring Valley, Jodi Lynn (Matthew) Tyson of La Salle, Ill., and Jeffrey Allen Wiese of Spring Valley; four grandchildren; and a brother, Gregory (Alicia) Yuvan of Peru.

Memorial services for Sis. Wiese were held May 25 at the Mueller Funeral Home, Peru. Private burial followed in Peru City Cemetery.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 2 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Sis. Wiese’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Sis. PATRICIA E. GATZA
• LODGE 2 •

LA SALLE, Ill. — The members of Lodge 2 sadly report the June 19, 2023, passing of Sis. Patricia E. Gatz, 89, of Oglesby, Ill., in St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Ottawa, Ill.

Sis. Gatz was born April 19, 1934, in Peru, Ill., the daughter of Harry and Christine (Heuser) Cosgrove. She married Walter Gatz on Oct. 25, 1958, in St. Patrick’s Church, La Salle. Following her retirement from Best Impressions in 1995, Pat was a homemaker.

A 64-year SNPJ Lodge 2 member, she was also a member of Holy Family Church and the Lady Elks, and served on the board of directors for the Dickinson House Foundation.

She is survived by her husband, Walt, of Oglesby; a son, Jim, of La Salle; two daughters, Donna Gatz of Henryville, Ind., and Chris (Gary) Goodman of Peru; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents,



Sis. PATRICIA E. GATZA (2)

three brothers and three sisters. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sis. Gatz on June 26 in Holy Family Church, Oglesby. Burial followed in St. Vincent’s Cemetery, La Salle.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 2 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Gatz’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Sis. FRANCES JEAN CIGANA
• LODGE 138 •

STRABANE, Pa. — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report the June 26, 2023, passing of Sis. Frances Jean Zagar Cigana, 87, a longtime resident of Muse, Pa.

Sis. Cigana was born June 10, 1936, a daughter of the late Martin and Ann Zagar. Jean grew up in Strabane with her siblings. She was a 69-year SNPJ Lodge 138 member

On Nov. 6, 1954, she married the love of her life, Carl A. “Bo” Cigana.

Jean enjoyed finding a good bargain, polka dancing, and traveling to Aruba and Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio, with her husband and family.

A dedicated employee, she worked for almost 40 years for Giant Eagle where she made lifelong friends. She was a regular contributor to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Jean is survived by her cherished son, Carl B. “CB”

(Patty) Cigana of West Mifflin, Pa.; her brother, John “Mickey” (Tina) Zagar of Interlachen, Fla.; three grandchildren, Brandon Cigana of New York, Ashley (John) Karger of Cranberry Twp., Pa., and Kylee Cigana (fiancé Nathan Black) of Pittsburgh; four great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and beloved friends.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Joseph Patrick Zagar; and a sister, Ida Agostinelli.

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

BRO. GREGORY J. KAMICKER
• LODGE 721 •

ALIQUIPPA, Pa. — The members of Lodge 721 sadly report the July 11, 2023, passing of Bro. Gregory J. Kamicker Sr., 59, of New Brighton, Pa., at Good Samaritan Hospice, Beaver, with his loving wife and family by his side.

Bro. Kamicker was born July 4, 1964, in Beaver Falls, Pa., a son of the late Frank J. Sr. and Donna (Glover) Kamicker. He worked for Premier Pan, and had worked construction for more than 20 years and provided industrial cleaning at Shippingport. Gregory was a devoted husband, daddy, and PaPa.

A 42-year SNPJ Lodge 721 member, he was also a member of the Croatian Club in New Brighton, where he was the captain of the pool team for 15 years, and Christ Anglican Church, New Brighton. He was an avid Pittsburgh sports fan, especially of the Steelers. He also liked fishing and camping.

Surviving are his loving wife of 33 years, Rhonda L. (Smith) Kamicker; six children, Ronald (Rachel) Redfern

of Beaver Falls, Sondra (Erik) Smith of Ellwood City, Pa., and Brittany (Tina) Kamicker, James Kamicker, Gregory Kamicker Jr. and Frankie Kamicker, all of New Brighton; eight grandchildren, Elizabeth, Ronald Jr., Maria, Rebecca, Joseph, Samuel, Luna and Alexandria; two brothers, Frank (Maureen) Kamicker Jr. of Aliquippa, and Kevin (Billie) Kamicker Sr. of New Brighton; two sisters, Terri (Bruce) Sutton of Industry, Pa., and Lezlee (Dave) Frankenberg of Monaca, Pa.; and several nieces, nephews, and their families.

Services for Bro. Kamicker were held July 15 at J&J Spratt Funeral Home, New Brighton.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 721 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Bro. Kamicker’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

BRO. MARCELLO DARIS
• LODGE 6 •

SYGAN, Pa. — The members of Lodge 6 sadly report the July 13, 2023, passing of Bro. Marcello Daris, 95, a longtime resident of Bridgeville, Pa.

Bro. Daris was born June 18, 1928, in Italy. He immigrated from Trieste at the age of 23 with his wife, Margherita, and

daughter, Gina. He loved the 40 years he spent working for the American Water Company.

A 39-year SNPJ Lodge 6 member, Marcello was the oldest living member of the Bridgeville Italian Club. He was an avid golfer, bowler and card player. He enjoyed following all the Pittsburgh sports teams, especially the Pirates and Steelers. He was also very active in several senior citizen centers.

Surviving are his devoted daughters, Gina (Jim) Stasiowski, Ann (Jim) Brisbin, and Marcy (Pastor Joe) DiDonato; grandchildren Jeremy (Lydia) Stasiowski, Michelle (Chuck) Cribben, Kimberly (Buddy) Wilsher, Lori Menke, Joe DiDonato Jr., Marc (Amanda) Stasiowski, Karen (Mike) Wood, David (Kristen) DiDonato, and Andrew (Andrea) DiDonato; and 18 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Margherita (Mondisano) Daris.

Services for Bro. Daris were held July 22 at Beinbauer-Fryer Funeral Home, Bridgeville. Internment followed in St. Agatha Cemetery, Bridgeville.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 6 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Bro. Daris’ family, relatives and friends on their loss.

DEATHS REPORTED
For the month of July 2023

LODGE	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY, STATE
2	Patricia E. Gatz	06-19-2023	Oglesby, Ill.
3	Daniel Aungst	06-28-2023	Allentown, Pa.
5	Anna Marie Nelis	06-23-2023	North Royalton, Ohio
6	Yvonne M. Reinstadtler	05-10-2023	McKees Rocks, Pa.
6	Beverly Quevi	06-08-2023	Canonsburg, Pa.
6	Linda H. Scott	05-23-2023	Elkins, W.Va.
6	James R. Adair	06-29-2023	McDonald, Pa.
6	John W. Frey	06-04-2023	Bloomington, Ohio
8	Carolyn J. Kratovil	10-28-2020	Griffith, Ind.
8	Edward P. Kovack	06-07-2022	Downers Grove, Ill.
31	Matthew J. Barker	06-24-2023	Hermitage, Pa.
31	Karl S. Anderson	06-14-2023	Erie, Pa.
34	Diane M. Heckstetter	05-20-2023	Arnold, Mo.
89	Dwayne Bruce	07-29-2021	McDonald, Pa.
106	William J. Ernharth	12-21-2022	Pittsburgh, Pa.
138	Frances Jean Cigana	06-26-2023	Muse, Pa.
142	Cheryl F. Vrtovnik	04-20-2023	Cleveland, Ohio
153	Henry J. Vukovich	06-25-2023	Canfield, Ohio
158	Isabelle Pauline Amigo	05-16-2023	North Canton, Ohio
218	Joseph M. Keating	12-02-2022	Placerville, Calif.
254	George Roman	07-13-2023	Wilmington, Del.
518	Helen Urbanic	08-12-2022	Buffalo, N.Y.
564	Doris M. Olinick	06-18-2023	Glasgow, Ky.
584	Virginia Strukel	06-04-2023	Sheboygan, Wis.
604	Maria Comella-Ipavec	06-12-2023	Brunswick, Ohio
721	Gregory J. Kamicker	07-11-2023	New Brighton, Pa.
729	Michael J. Shine	05-14-2023	Masontown, Pa.
729	Mandy M. Allman	05-15-2023	Uniontown, Pa.
749	Rose B. Winter	02-16-2023	Pittsburgh, Pa.
782	Judith A. Sternad	07-07-2023	Gowanda, N.Y.

KAREN A. PINTAR
National Secretary/COO

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PROSVETA 2023 Publication Dates

JANUARY 2023						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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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.

PROSVETA Crossword
SUMMER DAYS (#0823) solution

R	U	T	H			M	E	T					D	O	G		
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82%... people who are under-insured

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ANNOUNCE IT

Lodge 643 couple celebrates 100th birthdays



SNPJ Lodge 643 members Bro. **STEPHEN FABIAN** and Sis. **SYLVIA FABIAN** both celebrated 100th birthdays in June, Stephen on June 11 and Sylvia on June 22.

GIRARD, Ohio—SNPJ Lodge 643 members Bro. Stephen Fabian, born June 11, 1923, and Sis. Sylvia Fabian, born June 22, 1923, both celebrated their 100th birthdays in June. The Fabians were married Dec. 27, 1960.

Sylvia has been an SNPJ member for 82 years, and her husband Stephen, their children and their grandchildren are all Lodge 643 members. Stephen and Sylvia attended many Slovenefests and Senior Weeks at the SNPJ Recreation Center.

Sylvia was an elementary school teacher in Youngstown, Ohio, schools. She was a Girl Scout Leader for more than 20 years, and after raising their two daughters she volunteered as a docent for nearly 30 years at the Butler Institute of American Art, where she used her teaching skills to tour school classes through the museum and give brown bag lunch talks about artists to art lovers. She also volunteered at the museum shop as a clerk, and loved talking to the customers about the art shows.

Stephen was an electrician, an avid gardener, outdoorsman, woodworker and musician, playing button box with Ed Standohar and Steve Luzar at various venues for over 35 years.

The Fabians are formerly from Girard, and now reside at Vista Springs senior/assisted living in Concord Twp., Ohio, close to their two daughters. Together for 63 years, they happily celebrated this 100-year milestone with family in June.

Submitted by Caroline Vicchiarelli (643)

SNPJ Recreation Center
2023 Fraternal Events
Schedule



Sept. 1-3 **National SNPJ Days**

For event information, contact the SNPJ Recreation Center by phoning 1-877-767-5732 or e-mailing snpj@snpjrec.com.

Lodge 745 youth discover rewards of community service

Lodge 745 SERVICE
FROM PAGE 1

in Fontana, Calif.

Lodge 745 community service activities continued this year with some notable service acts. The blood donations continue, California State Park volunteer hours are accumulating, and two of our youth members and their mother were also getting involved. Nathaniel and Maren Miller and their mother, Angela Miller, spent a morning preparing and serving food at The Gathering Inn in Roseville, Calif. The Gathering Inn provides services for individuals experiencing homelessness.

We are especially proud of 9-year-old youth member Maren Miller. She has been growing her hair out for some time in order to donate to a worthy cause. Maren donated 10 inches of her youthful locks to the Michigan-based non-profit Children with Hair Loss. This

organization provides human hair replacements at no cost to children and young adults facing medically-related hair loss.

Thank you, Maren, for your caring and thoughtful gesture!

Our annual Christmas ice skating and pizza party is be-

ing planned for Sunday, Dec. 10, in Historic Folsom. More details will be available in the coming months.



Lodge 745 youth member **NATHANIEL MILLER** [left] helped with meal preparation at The Gathering Inn, and his sister, youth member **MAREN MILLER**, donated 10 inches of her blonde locks to Children with Hair Loss, a Michigan-based non-profit.

Lodge 581 members assist St. Marys Historical Society

Lodge 581 VOLUNTEERS
FROM PAGE 1

with polka music.

The Lodge 581 third quarterly meeting will be held Sept. 3 at the Kersey Fireman's Club starting at 12:30 p.m. All members are welcome to attend. Plans will be made for our assistance with the Polka

Boosters Christmas party on Dec. 17. In addition, we will discuss sales of Zippo lighters, baking potica, and any other business that will be of interest to Lodge 581 members.

After the meeting, Garrett Tatano and his band will perform for the Polka Boosters dance from 2 to 5 p.m. The

dance is open to the public.

On Sept. 17, the Dick Tady Orchestra will perform at the Kersey Fireman's Club from 2 to 5 p.m. This dance is sponsored by the North Central Pennsylvania Slovenian Polka Boosters. Lodge 581 will have Zippo lighters for purchase.

Lodge 581 has four styles

of collectable Zippo lighters available for a price of \$30 each. All proceeds from lighter sales are donated to the Jerry Troha Scholarship Fund.

Call Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Marcia Bleggi at (814) 335-4983 if you need any information about SNPJ Lodge 581.

Songs from
my origin

by MARTY KUMER
Lodge 715

UNIVERSAL, Pa. — The 40th Slovenefest, to me, was the SNPJ's finest. But I'm biased because some of my cousins from Slovenia were part of the folk group that performed in the Heritage Pavilion.

Having been to Slovenia three times, I've visited the farm on the mountain where my Grandfather Martin was raised and from which he emigrated to the USA in 1898. The view of the Slovenian hills from there is "Sound of Music" beautiful, and I sang the song when I first saw it – much to the amusement of my

Slovenian cousins.

The dancing and singing of the folk group at the Heritage Pavilion – the songs of my origin – brought tears of joy and sentiment to my eyes. The beauty of Slovenia, the kinship and hospitality of my relatives there – all filled my soul.

Martin came to America for a better life. Older brothers would inherit the farm, jobs were scarce, and the Austro-Hungarian rulers were even then looking for cannon fodder for World War I. Soon, my grandmother would come over from a nearby village in Slovenia, and together they would raise a family in the little town of Universal, Pa.

Universal was the definition of a melting pot. Immigrants from everywhere: Poles, Bohemians, Croatians, Russians, Greeks, Italians, Mexicans, Spaniards, Serbs – plus the earlier English and German settlers, many you might call Ap-

palachian "hillbillies."

Martin first worked in the coal mines like many of the other immigrants, but he soon became involved with the local bank and borrowed to build some houses, including one his family lived in over a storefront, and others he rented.

He and his sons, Max, Mike, John and Lou; and a cousin, Henry Previc; established an SNPJ Lodge in Universal, Lodge 715. But the SNPJ was not just for Slovenians. The SNPJ represents a *spirit*. Sure, there were plenty of Slovenians in Universal and nearby Center, Pa., but those of other cultures and nationalities were attracted to the SNPJ for its spirit of acceptance and fraternalism no matter their status or origins – as long as they shared the *spirit*.

Gee, isn't there another country a lot like Slovenia? "Give me your tired, your poor..." Yeah, the USA!

Dance the calories away at the Polka Hall of Fame Slovenian Sausage Festival

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

KIRTLAND, Ohio — Did you know it takes 40 minutes of polka dancing to burn up the calories in one Slovenian sausage? The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame makes it easy for you at the 19th Annual Slovenian Sausage

Festival, featuring eight hours of non-stop music, from noon until 8 p.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the SNPJ Farm. You can also vote for the sausage you like best.

The Annual Slovenian Sausage Festival is polka music's tastiest celebration. Dance to top Cleveland-style polka

bands and entertainers, including Hall of Famers Kathy Hlad and Don Wojtila. Performers include Patty C and The Guys, the Fairport Jammers, Ray Kovac, the Hoboes, Al Battistelli, Anthony Culkar and Ron Likovic.

Tote along your accordion or banjo and jam along with

your pals. Sample a sausage from each maker and then vote for your favorite. Nationality treats and refreshments await you between dances.

Slovenian sausages (*kranjske klobase*) are made with cured and smoked pork with garlic and a savory blend of seasonings. The 2023 klobasa

winners for the People's Choice and the Jury Award will be announced at 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the gate; guests age 18 and under admitted free of charge. The SNPJ Farm is located at 10946 Heath Road in Kirtland, off Chardon Road (Route 6).

For tickets, contact the Polka Hall of Fame, 605 East 222nd St., Euclid, next to Euclid City Hall. The Polka Hall of Fame is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Phone (216) 261-FAME, toll-free at (866) 66-POLKA, or e-mail polkashop@aol.com.

PROSVETA Crossword
Football (#0923) by StatePoint Media

ACROSS

- '90s Don Johnson TV character
- India's smallest state
- Light on one's feet
- Arctic floater
- Mouthful, swallowed
- Rocks at mountain base
- Reading helper
- Serve soup
- Clean & _____, in a workout
- *QB's target
- Wholly engrossed
- Religious ritual table
- Scot's woolen cap
- Relating to milk
- Oil-producing plant
- Shakespearean "fuss"
- Crowd
- Like the White Rabbit
- Chip feature
- Mozart's "L" _____ del Cairo"
- Asian goat antelope
- Turn sharply
- Yield
- Compass bearing
- *When QB changes play at line of scrimmage
- _____ identity
- Failed Molotov cocktail
- Alicia Keys' instrument

50. Final notice

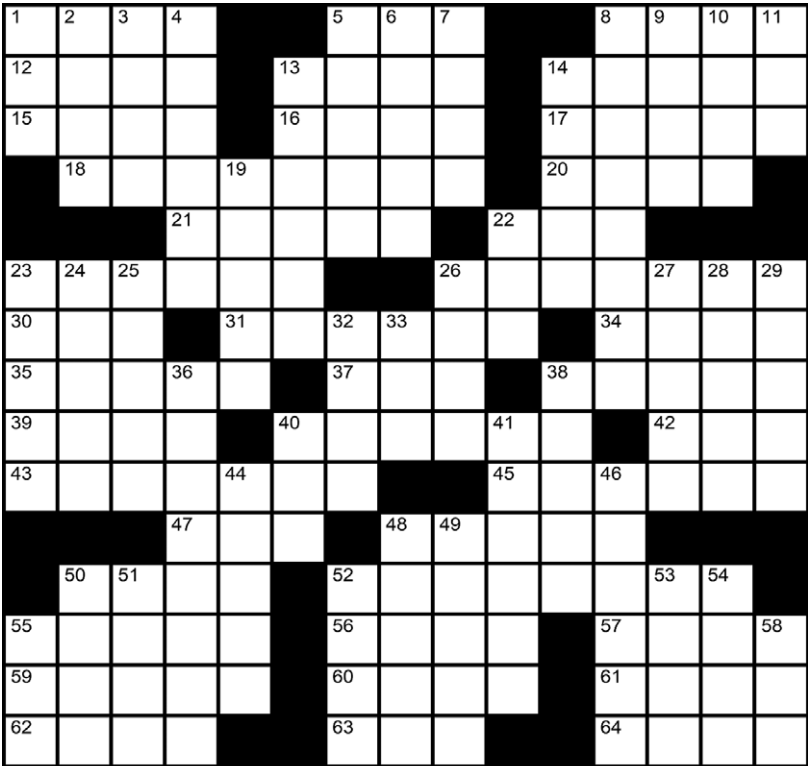
- *It results in change of possession in football
- Off-white color
- Actor Pitt
- Type of ore
- Classic TV's "lovely lady"
- Stiff hair
- Vegetative state
- Distinctive elegance
- Prior to, prefix
- *Tom Brady's 2008, 2018 or 2021 award

DOWN

- *Professional football org.
- Relating to armpit
- Not all
- Jazz subculture hipster
- Tropical juice flavor
- Comparative form of #40 Down
- Imitator
- *QB's run
- SAT or ACT _____ course
- Catch one's breath
- "Owner of a Lonely Heart" band
- Malfunction

- Hair product
- Chosen few
- Dress like Ancient Greeks
- Butterfly, pre-metamorphosis
- Bye, to Élisabeth Borne
- Encrypted
- *a.k.a. hike
- Dog-_____ pages
- Do penance
- Not as old
- Casanova, e.g.
- Two before Dec.
- *NFL playing field
- Shorthand
- Antediluvian
- Idi Amin's country
- Butane derivative
- Not an expert
- Less adulterated
- All worked up
- Like Joe Biden's office
- _____ Bora
- Chef's amt.
- Son of Aphrodite
- Boisterous play
- * _____ the kicker
- "Uh-uh"

The solution to puzzle #0923 will run in the Oct. 2 issue.



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Including Local Channels!

dish **ADDITIONAL**

September meeting date on the Lodge 1 calendar

by MICHELLE HRIBAR-HERNANDEZ
Lodge 1 President

CHICAGO — Slavija Lodge 1 members attended the annual Slovenian Cultural Center picnic in Lemont, Ill., featuring live polka music, Slovenian dancers, fantastic food (including čevapčiči), games, and bounce houses for the kids. We're excited to celebrate

Recording Secretary Marianne Murray's 90th birthday at our next Lodge meeting.

We hope to see you at noon on Sunday, Sept. 10, at McCook Bohemian Restaurant, 8300 Joliet Road in McCook, Ill. For additional details, please contact Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Janina Hribar at (708) 598-2570.



Slavija Lodge 1 members attending the Slovenian Cultural Center annual picnic in Lemont, Ill., enjoyed the polka music, Slovenian dancers, food and games.

Picnic a summer highlight for Lodge 518 members

by BILL KRZISNIK
Lodge 518 Secretary/Treasurer

MELVINDALE, Mich. — On July 16, Lodge 518 members enjoyed a summer picnic for the second year, complete with authentic Slovenian food, music and balina.

The event was hosted at the country home of Lodge President Irene Kovac. Meat was provided by the Lodge, and each member brought various dishes to share. The

authentic Slovenian food served included potato salad, coleslaw, burek, klobase, and apple strudel.

Lodge 518 welcomed our newest member, Ventzel Potochnik, and his wife, Sue, at the picnic. They brought the delicious Slovenian klobase we enjoyed. Ventzel had just returned from a month in Slovenia and shared his experiences through wonderful photos.



For their second summer picnic, SNPJ Lodge 518 members enjoyed authentic Slovenian food, music, balina, and plenty of space to relax and enjoy the beautiful mid-July weather.



Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

Teleconference meeting held March 17, 2022

The teleconference meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. by Chairman Clifford with Brothers Anderson, Hervol, Evanish and Lawrence all on the call.

Discussion on the Society's discretionary contribution to the employees 401k retirement benefit. Motion by Bro. Anderson, second by Bro. Hervol, to recommend to the National

Board that the Society pay a 3.0 percent discretionary 401(k) benefit to the employees retirement plan for calendar year 2021. Motion passed. Brothers Evanish and Lawrence answered questions, but did not participate in discussion and abstained from voting.

Motion by Bro. Anderson, second by Bro. Hervol, to approve the report of the Finance Com-

mittee to the National Board. Motion passed.

The next meeting will be held April 28, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m. by Bro. Hervol, second by Bro. Anderson. Motion approved.

ROGER C. CLIFFORD **ROBERT J. LAWRENCE**
Chairman Secretary

Teleconference meeting held April 28, 2022

The teleconference meeting was called to order at 1:45 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. 27 and March 17, 2022, meetings. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Bro. Evanish, seconded by Bro. Anderson, to approve the secretary's (National Treasurer's) report of bond purchases and disposals for the first quarter 2022. Motion approved.

Reviewed the portfolio and transactions for the period.

Joined by phone conference at 2 p.m. with Wellington Management Company representatives Courtney Brophy, 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 3 p.m.

Discussion on Multi-Asset High Income investment.

Motion by Bro. Evanish, seconded by Bro. Hervol, to invest \$2 million in the Wellington-directed Multi-Asset High Income fund: \$1 million is pledged for the initial fund launch date of June 1, 2022, and will increase to \$2 million with additional funds to be invested over time. Motion approved.

Motion to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. by Bro. Hervol, seconded by Bro. Anderson. Motion approved.

The next meeting will be scheduled in August 2022.

ROGER C. CLIFFORD **ROBERT J. LAWRENCE**
Chairman Secretary

Report of the Secretary for the period Jan. 1 through March 31, 2022

Purchases:					
Trade Date	Security Description	Coupon	Par Value	Cost	Maturity Date
1/4/2022	STSC Chicago IL	3.238%	\$330,000	\$326,076	1/1/2042
1/4/2022	STSC Chicago IL	3.238%	95,000	93,811	1/1/2042
1/4/2022	UBS Group AG	3.420%	235,000	235,000	2/11/2043
1/13/2022	Ares Fin LLC	3.650%	275,000	268,903	2/1/2052
2/8/2022	EIX 2022-A A3	3.240%	180,000	179,983	11/15/2046
2/9/2022	Union Pacific Corp	3.375%	370,000	371,484	2/14/2042
2/9/2022	Union Pacific Corp	3.375%	30,000	29,961	2/14/2042
2/15/2022	Bristol-Meyers Squibb	3.550%	55,000	54,812	3/15/2042
2/16/2022	Carbondale IL	4.043%	225,000	225,000	12/1/2038
2/22/2022	Moody's Corporation	3.750%	400,000	393,128	2/25/2052
2/24/2022	Hillsbrgh FL Sub Air	3.858%	400,000	400,000	10/1/2044
3/2/2022	Nasdaq Inc	3.950%	100,000	99,391	3/7/2052
3/3/2022	Nasdaq Inc	3.250%	225,000	201,132	4/28/2050
3/7/2022	Rogers Communct	3.800%	160,000	159,643	3/15/2032
3/8/2022	Avista Corp	4.000%	265,000	264,905	4/1/2052
3/11/2022	Charter Comm Op LLC	3.500%	125,000	102,540	6/1/2041
3/23/2022	Principal Finl Grp	6.050%	200,000	251,350	10/15/2036
3/23/2022	UofL Health	4.582%	330,000	330,000	5/15/2037
3/30/2022	San Antonio TX E&G	4.158%	500,000	500,000	2/1/2035

ROBERT J. LAWRENCE
Secretary, Finance Committee

SNPJ Scholarship Fund Donations for the months of June & July 2023

SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa. \$40 In memory of Cindy Tonks	SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa. \$40 In memory of Matthew Barker	Anonymous donation at Slovenefest 2023..... \$10
SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa. \$40 In memory of Karl Anderson	SNPJ Lodge 721, Aliquippa, Pa. \$25	Anonymous donation at Slovenefest 2023..... \$5

Celebrate tradition at the SNPJ Farm Grape Festival

FARM GRAPE FESTIVAL
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as accordionist Tony Fortuna leads the way. Joe Valencic will provide you with a song sheet and the stories behind the tradition.

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

Admission to the Grape Festival is free when you wear your

Slovenian costume or bring your accordion to the parade. Participants should arrive by 2:15 to prepare for the parade.

The regular gate admission fee of \$8 includes four hours of live music and all the balina you can play. Guests age 18 and under admitted free of charge.

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

SNPJ Rec Center summer drawing to a close during National Days weekend

NATIONAL SNPJ DAYS
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Please note the change for this year's National Bean Bag Toss Tournament: The tournament will now take place on Saturday, Sept. 2, starting at 3 p.m.

On Sunday, Sept. 3, be sure to make your way to the Balinarena from 8:30 to 11 a.m. for breakfast sandwiches which will be available for purchase from the members of SNPJ Lodge 782. The 2023 SNPJ National Men's Balina Tournament will start Sunday morning.

Entry forms for the National Balina and National Bean Bag Toss tournaments are available

on our website, snpj.org, or by contacting the tournament secretaries.

On Sunday afternoon, a free dance is scheduled in the Heritage Pavilion from 1 to 7 p.m. in celebration of National SNPJ Days. The crowd-pleasing entertainment will feature the Joe Grkman Orchestra and Klancnik & Friends. The entertainment for the National SNPJ Days dance is sponsored by the SNPJ Heritage Center.

Sunday afternoon activity will also include games for the children, so be sure to bring the entire family to the SNPJ Recreation Center the weekend of Sept. 1-3 to celebrate National SNPJ Days.

SNPJ Membership Anniversaries September 2023

80-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
126	Dora T. Donovan	562	Helen M. Jezewski
254	Vera Sturm	776	Harry J. Boben

70-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
8	Rose Conti	584	Mary A. Novak
174	Hermina Tokarsky	584	Dolores E. Petershack
216	Eugene J. Mautino	771	Elaine M. March
225	John W. Tersinar	782	George A. Buell

60-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Joann Gasparich	138	Rita D. Marra
3	Emma M. Saula	158	Allen V. Peterson
6	Janis M. Rogale	603	Eileen K. Wilson
106	Judith A. Hertzner	729	Harry L. Shine
117	Beverly J. Wood	729	Cheryl D. Costellic
126	Joanne Arunski	786	Arnold J. Koci
138	Robert P. Beltz		

50-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
6	Mark Scott	254	James T. Hockensmith
8	James R. Kallinger	559	Linda L. Alic
8	Judith A. Smith	562	Robert Pramik
8	Theresa L. Kuhel	584	John W. Jubala
31	John J. Nespor	584	Gerald M. Missiaen
41	Richard A. Adamic	603	Evelyn S. Pleterski
41	William M. Jereb	604	Beth A. Woodie
106	Donna J. Schmidt	629	Monica M. Heller
106	Mary L. Baselj	629	Donna J. Sabich
158	Patricia L. Hayden	643	Mary G. Hlasta
158	Gregory N. Frattianne	665	Mathilda J. Thomas
225	Robert L. Serra	729	William J. Pangallo
225	Margaret F. Pecarina	729	Charles J. Harris
225	Johnnie J. Zibert	749	Harold L. Gelles
254	Diane Fond	770	Edward L. Caggiano
254	Debbie Shaffer	A01	Jeffrey Panizzi
254	Jeffrey J. Utnik		

The SNPJ Farm 2023 Picnic Schedule

SNPJ Farm, 10946 Heath Road, Kirtland, Ohio
off Chardon Road (Route 6), three miles east of Route 306
Visit www.snpjfarmkirtland.com for schedule changes

Sept. 4	Labor Day Holiday Dance	1 to 7
	Frank Stanger Band and Eddie Rodick Band	
Sept. 13	Slovenian Sausage Festival	noon to 8
	hosted by the Polka Hall of Fame	
Sept. 24	Slovenian Grape Festival	2:45 to 7
	Parade starts at 2:45/Music by Joey Tomsick	
Oct. 1	SNPJ Mirni Raj Lodge 142 Clambake	3 to 7
	Clambake requires reservations/DJ music	

Gates open at 1 p.m. rain or shine. Sunday dinners are served starting at 2 p.m. Sunday music and dancing from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday picnic admission is \$8 per person. No outside food or beverages permitted. The SNPJ Farm is a cash-only venue. There is no on-site ATM.