



Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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Well-known and respected New England Sokol and community activist

Our Honorary Supreme Officer, Roger J. Manyak of Group 3 Selected as our 2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year

One of our organization's best known New England Sokol activists, Honorary Supreme Officer Roger J. Manyak was selected by our Board of Directors as our 2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year.

A native of Worcester, Massachusetts, Brother Roger was born there December 23, 1940, son of the late John V. Manyak and the former Catherine Kolumber. His grandparents were natives of the village of Velka Lesna in the Spis region of Slovakia who had emigrated to Massachusetts in the 1890s. He was educated locally. On June 29, 1963, Roger and the former Judith A. Therrien exchanged marriage vows in St. Denis Church in East Douglas, Mass. with the late Rev. Edmund Mochak officiating. Roger and Judy have been active in St. Denis parish all their lives. The marriage has been blessed with four children, Gary, John, Christine and Lori as well as eight grandchildren. The Manyaks are a 100 percent Sokol family, enjoying membership in Assembly 28 and Wreath 18.

Brother Roger was employed for 25 years as the office manager for the Bay State Company in Westboro, Mass., retiring in 2002. Since then, he has devoted his retirement years promoting the work of our organization in the East Douglas area. He has been on the board of directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club in Douglas for many years.

Active civically, Brother Roger has served on numerous boards over the years. He served on the Douglas Zoning Board of Appeal and has been an organizer of the annual Douglas Octoberfest celebration. He has been active in St. Denis parish all his life. Brother Roger served on the parish's finance committee which raised funds for the recent church addition. He served as a Little League coach for seven years and has also coached basketball for local teams. An avid golfer, he helped to organize the annual Group 3 Golf Open held every September as a fund-raiser for various Sokol sporting events. He has served as the chairman of this benefit for the past 39 years, since its inception.

Brother Roger began his Sokol activities as a boy competing in various local and Group 2 tournaments. He served as the Assistant Physical Director of Group 2 and led teams to numerous Group and international Slets. He has served as president of Assembly 28. He currently serves as the financial secretary of this lodge. In 1983, he served on the committee which recommended the transfer of the headquarters of Group 3 from Lisbon Falls, Me. to East Douglas, Mass. and the incorporation of the Massachusetts lodges from Group 2 to Group 3. Since then, the Massachusetts and Maine Sokol lodges are now part of Group 3 under the patronage of the Rev. Edmund Mochak. In 1996, he served on the committee which welcomed our organization's newest lodge, Assembly 314 in Boston, Mass.

Brother Roger has enjoyed competition at our various international Sokol bowling, softball and

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Our 2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year, Roger J. Manyak, third from the left, of East Douglas, Mass. is shown above with his wife and their children on the occasion of couple's 50th wedding anniversary celebrated in 2013. Our Honorary Supreme Officer is shown on the above photo with, l-r, his daughter Christine Manyak, son, Gary Manyak, wife Judith, son, John Manyak and daughter, Lori Cyr. In addition, the marriage has been blessed with eight grandchildren. In addition to Brother Roger, all of the above serve as officers of Group 3 or the local Sokol lodges of Assembly 28 and Wreath 18.

Cardinal Jozef Tomko Leads Marian Pilgrimage in Levoca

Cardinal Jozef Tomko, retired Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples in Rome, journeyed to Slovakia to participate in the annual Pilgrimage honoring Our Lady under her title of the Visitation at the Holy Hill in Levoca in eastern Slovakia. More than 300,000 of the faithful participated in the pilgrimage the weekend of July 5-6. His Eminence was celebrant and homilist at the principal pilgrimage liturgy celebrated on Sunday, July 6. This year's pilgrimage celebrated the 30th anniversary of the elevation of the neo-gothic Shrine Church of Our Lady of Levoca, which dates from the mid-nineteenth century, as a minor basilica by Pope Saint John Paul II. This year's pilgrimage also coincides with the 450th anniversary year honoring Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia.

The Holy Hill of Levoca was filled with pilgrims as far as the eye can see. In his homily, Cardinal Tomko, who this year celebrated his 90th birthday and 65th anniversary of priestly ordination, wanted

to journey as a pilgrim to Levoca in gratitude for Our Lady's intercession during his priestly and episcopal ministry. He recalled his own participation in the Levoca pilgrimage beginning as a child. He would travel with his family from Udavské for the traditional pilgrimage. He continued the tradition until he left for Rome for his priestly studies in

1943. Following his ordination in 1949, the Communist authorities prevented him from returning to his homeland. He was not able to participate in the Levoca pilgrimages in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. Following the fall of Communism in the then Czechoslovakia, he was finally able to participate in the pilgrimage

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The Holy Hill of Levoca in eastern Slovakia was filled with more than 300,000 pilgrims during the annual pilgrimage, honoring Our Lady of the Visitation, the weekend of July 5-6.

9th Annual Mahoning Valley Slovakfest set for August 10 in Youngstown, Oh.

All is in readiness for this year's celebration of Slovak pride at the 9th Annual Mahoning Valley Slovakfest set for Sunday, August 10 in Youngstown, Oh. Slovakfest will be held on the grounds of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Matthias Church located at 2800 Shady Run Road in the southside neighbor-

hood of Lansingville.

Festivities begin with a Mass celebrated at 11 a.m. in St. Matthias Church in Slovak with the pastor, the Rev. Martin Celuch as celebrant. During the liturgy, the choir will lead the congregation in the singing of our traditional Slovak hymns. Following the liturgy,

the festivities will move outside to the parish grounds and inside to the Father Snock Hall. Traditional Slovak culinary specialties, including halusky, klobasy, roast pork, pirohy, along with homemade pastries will be available throughout the day. And of course, imported Slovak pivo(beer) will be available. Inside the Father Snock Hall, full Slovak dinners will be served from 12 noon until 3 p.m.

An array of colorful displays and exhibits will allow visitors to locate their ancestral villages in Slovakia. Arts and crafts displays will be featured and our various Slovak organizations will offer information and brochures on their history and activities, including the Slovak Catholic Sokol. A variety of books on Slovak history, language and traditions will also be available for sale along with many imported items including crystal and pottery from Slovakia. There will be a silent auction of baskets filled with all sorts of items, along with a raffle of \$2,000 worth of Get Go/ Giant Eagle gift cards for gasoline or food. There will be a variety of games and activities for children as well.

No Slovakfest would be complete without music and dancing. Outdoor musical entertainment will be provided by the Eddie Valus Band and the Del Sinchak Orchestra. Indoors, the Living Traditions Folk Ensemble will host entertainment including a popular Slovak sing-along and demonstrations of folk dances from the various regions of Slovakia. As you can see, there will be something for everyone, young and old alike at this year's Slovakfest. An enjoyable opportunity to celebrate Slovak pride is assured. A number of Group 17 Sokol members are serving on the Slovakfest committee and look forward to seeing many area Sokols and Sokolky.

Historically, Ohio's Mahoning Valley has been home to one of the largest and most active of Slovak communities in the United States. This year's Slovakfest is dedicated to the centennial observance of the founding of St. Matthias Parish. It was in 1914 that a new parish to serve the Slovak faithful was established on the southside of Youngstown. Today, St. Matthias is a component of the recently established Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows. In addition to St. Matthias, SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Youngstown's oldest Slovak parish founded in 1898 and Holy Name of Jesus Parish founded in 1915 make up Our Lady of Sorrows Parish with the Rev. Martin Celuch serving as pastor of the three historic Slovak churches. The arrangement seems to be working and is an example for other dioceses.

For additional information on the Slovakfest, contact Loretta Ekoniak, president of the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley, at tel. (330)549-3760 or loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com.



SOKOL MUSEUM VISITORS - Well-known Chicagoland Sokol activists Therese M. Buc and Fred Olszowka paid a visit to the home office on June 26. Therese is our former Chairperson of Supreme Auditors and Supreme Treasurer. She currently serves as treasurer and recording secretary of Assembly 11. She is also currently active in Group 4. Fred is the new president of Assembly 11 in Chicago. Assembly 11, founded in 1906 under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius, is our organization's oldest lodge in the midwest. It was established at Chicago's oldest Slovak parish, St. Michael the Archangel in the city's historic Back-of-the-Yards neighborhood. The lodge is currently affiliated with St. Simon the Apostle Parish, the only parish in the Chicago Archdiocese with Slovak ministry. During their visit to Passaic, our Chicago visitors contributed a collection of Sokol and Slovak memorabilia designated for our Sokol Museum. Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. is shown with the Chicago visitors as they sign the guest book in our Sokol Museum. In the upper photo, a painting of another prominent Chicago Sokol activist, the late Dr. Peter P. Hletko, may be seen.



HOME OFFICE VISITORS - On July 1, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., right, welcomed our well-known Group 10 Sokol activist, Stephen J. Roman, second from the right, at Sokol headquarters in Passaic, N.J. for an early Fourth of July visit. Brother Roman serves as the financial secretary of Assembly 72 in Catasauqua, Pa. and is active in Group 10. Shown with them on the photo are, from the left, editor Daniel F. Tanzone and Emery Roman, our Assembly 72 Sokol and brother of Steve Roman. During the visit, Brother Roman informed us that the former St. Andrew's Slovak Church in Catasauqua, Pa. will now be the new worship site of the merged parishes of Catasauqua under the patronage of St. John Fisher.

Slovak Hockey Legend Retires

Team Slovakia's last game at the 2014 IIHF World Championships in Minsk, Belarus on May 20 was also the last game in the illustrious career of hockey legend Miroslav Satan. Following the 4-3 victory over Denmark, the native of Jacovce, a municipality in the Topolcany District of the Nitra Region of western Slovakia, made his announcement, he had to repeat his decision to leave international and club competition several times to the incredulous media scrum.

"It was my last match. I already announced earlier in the season that this would be my last com-



petition. I find it hard to believe myself, but I think it is the right decision. I stand by it," said the 39-year old veteran. In the immediate future, Stan wishes to devote himself to his family and to

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Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain

Saint Ann, Pray for us

by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic

The name 'Anne' derives from Hebrew. 'Hannah' meaning 'grace.'

Tradition refers to St. Ann as being the mother of the Virgin Mary. Although not written of in the Bible, Ann is given credence in the non-biblical gospel of James.



Saint Ann was born in Bethlehem and married Joachim from Nazareth in Galilee. Joachim was a shepherd given the task of supplying the temple of Jerusalem with sheep for sacrifices.

After twenty years of marriage Ann and Joachim had no children. Once, when Joachim overheard ridicule because of their childless state, he is said to have gone into the desert to plead with God to give them a child. After a time of fasting an angel appeared to assure Joachim he and Ann would be given a child they were to name Mary and dedicate to God.

In the meantime Saint Ann wondered where her husband had gone and in her despair at having been barren she prayed while she watched newborn birds in their nests in her garden. She cried out, "Why was I born, Lord?" That is when an angel appeared to tell her she would soon give birth to a daughter she was to name Mary. The story continues with Ann and Joachim's joyous reunion at the golden gate of Jerusalem.

After her birth Ann and Joachim dedicated Mary to God at the temple of Jerusalem and she spent much of her childhood there. When Mary was fourteen they betrothed her to Joseph of Nazareth and so Mary's story continues with the birth of her son, Jesus, and his life on earth.

The life of Saint Ann and her connection as holy mother of Mary and grandmother of Jesus was very popular to early Christians. In the year 550 a church was built in honor of St. Anne in Jerusalem. It is believed to be near where Anne, Joachim and Mary lived.

Since the Seventh Century the Greek and Russian Churches have celebrated feasts honoring St. Joachim and St. Ann.

The Western Churches began to celebrate the feast of St. Ann in the Sixteenth Century.

The feast of St. Ann is July 26th (western) or July 25th (eastern calendar). There is no mention of Ann in the New Testament. The story of St. Ann comes chiefly from the Protoevangelium of James which only dated back to the second century.

St. Ann, patron saint of mothers and women in labor and minors, is symbolized by Mary in her lap holding the infant Jesus.

John the Evangelist Parish on the parish grounds, Church and Broad Sts. and Seton Auditorium, Pittston, Pa.

AUG.9-10

■ 60th annual Holy Dormition Pilgrimage hosted by the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, St. Mary's Villa, Sloatsburg, N.Y. for information call Sister Kathleen at (845)642-6143.

SUN.AUG.10

■ 9th Slovak-Fest hosted by the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley, on the grounds of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Matthias Church site, 915 Cornell St., Youngstown, Oh., beginning with Mass at 11 a.m. For information call Loretta Ekoniak (549)3760 or email: loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com.

■ Annual Slovak Day Pilgrimage hosted by the Slovak fraternal societies of the New York area at the Salesian Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians, Filors Lane, West Haverstraw, N.Y. beginning with confessions at 10 a.m., Slovak Mass at 11 a.m., luncheon and afternoon marian devotions to follow; for information and directions call the shrine at tel. (914)947-2200.

AUG.14-17

■ First-ever Sokol camp for children at Camp Fitch, 12600, Abels Road, North Springfield, Pa., tel. 877-863-4824.

SUN.AUG.17

■ Annual Summer Festival of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 1315 Second St., N.E., Minneapolis, Minn. tel. (612)379-9736, beginning with Mass at 10:30 a.m., games, entertainment, Slovak and Spanish culinary specialties, throughout the afternoon until 5 p.m.

AUG.22-23-24

■ Annual Slovak Festival hosted by SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 41233 Ryan Rd. (north of 18 Mile Rd.) Sterling Heights, Mich. daily entertainment, games, Slovak culinary specialties; Saturday vigil Mass at 4 p.m., Sunday Mass in Slovak at 11:30 a.m.; for information call (586)726-6911.

AUG.30-31

■ 80th annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, hosted by the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, Mount Saint Macrina, Uniontown, Pa.

SEPT.4-6

■ 128th annual meeting of the American Fraternal Alliance at the Hilton Austin, Austin, Texas.

SAT. SEPT.6

■ 39th annual Group 3 Slovak Catholic Sokol Golf Open at the Connecticut National Golf Course, Putnam, Conn. registration begins at 7 a.m., benefit supports Group 3 sports program, for information, call the chairperson Roger J. Manzyak at (508)476-2668.

TUES. SEPT.9

■ Slovak language classes begin at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa., 7 to 8:30 p.m. free tuition, call Albina Senko (412)343-5031.

SUN. SEPT.14

■ 16th annual pilgrimage in honor of Our Mother of Sorrows, hosted by the Youngstown Chapter of the

From the Desk of the Supreme President

Thoughts on Fraternalism

by Larry M. Glugosh

I sincerely hope that all of our Slovak Catholic Sokol members and their families enjoyed their special celebrations on the 4th of July. Whether you are Canadian or American, it is wonderful that we celebrate our independence and identity, as contributing individuals within our communities. We have so much to be thankful for in our daily lives and it is in large part to the efforts and sacrifices of our founders and forefathers. I hope it was a safe, enjoyable and memorable holiday for everyone.

This said, I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation to our members who continue to support our international athletics events. These are wonderful benefits that everyone should take full advantage of within the summer months. As you know we just hosted our International Softball tournament in Wilkes Barre, PA on July 12th. I would like to congratulate the players and coaches from Group 1, Passaic, NJ who recaptured the men's championship for the 2nd year in a row. As well, I would like to extend a warm thank you to all the participants, members and officers that came out to support this program and enjoy in the fraternal atmosphere. Finally, my thanks to the local committee for their assistance and to our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward Moeller and his staff for their support to run this year's event.

Following the Softball tournament our society will host our 59th annual International Golf Tournament in West Middlesex, PA at the Oakmont and Tam O Shanter golf courses on the August 1st - 3rd weekend. Even though the entry form deadline was July 1st there is still room in the schedule to participate. Therefore you should contact Edward Moeller or the home office and register for the tournament. It is a wonderful weekend event with over 100 golfers and guests expected to attend.

More recently, I had the pleasure and honor to chair our quarterly Board of Directors meeting in Wilkes Barre, Pa. We discussed many important issues and agenda topics for the betterment of our society. It was rewarding to hear from our Director of Sales and Marketing that our organization continues to grow in both members and life/annuity assets. We are close to \$70M in total assets and have signed over \$30M in new life and annuity business at the half way point of the year. We have over 140 external agents in the field and continue to grow this team.

In addition to this new sales growth our financial portfolio continues to increase and build on our healthy solvency. Over the past five (5) years our Board of Directors with the support of our financial advisory PNC Bank have demonstrated effective leadership and responsibility for our society and generated a 7.27% rate of return in our fixed portfolio (bonds) and 8.91% in the total portfolio. With this type of financial return for our members, we can continue to enjoy the many fraternal benefits that are provided. I would like to offer my heartfelt appreciation to our Board of Directors in performing their fiduciary obligation, in keeping with the mandate set forth by our bylaws and membership. A special congratulation to Brother Albert J. Sues and

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Sokol Calendar

SUN. JULY 20

■ Family Bowling Day hosted by Assembly 78 at Revolutions, Route 378, Bethlehem, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m., free of charge with refreshments, for reservations contact Fran Blonar (610)866-8381, deadline for reservations is July 1.

■ Annual Slovak Day Picnic hosted by the American Slovak Zemplin Club of Cleveland at the Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Rd., (between State & Broadview Rd.) Broadview Heights, Oh. 12 noon to 8 p.m., Slovak and American picnic specialties, music by the Johnny Pastirik Band; for information call George Camy (440)885-5702.

■ Mass for the living and deceased members of Assembly 86 under the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel of Port Griffith, Pa. at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, 35 William St., Pittston, Pa. beginning at 12:15 p.m.; all members and family are invited to attend.

■ Slavic Festival hosted by St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church, 5408 Locust Lane, Harrisburg, Pa. on the parish grounds, 12 noon to 9 p.m., ethnic foods, games for children, music for dancing, take-out avail-

able, free admission and free parking, for information call (717)652-1415.

■ 41st annual Slovak Day observance of the Diocese of Gary at the Salvatorian Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 5755 Pennsylvania St., Merrillville, Ind., Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by luncheon and cultural program, call Betty Yurechko (219)795-1518.

JULY 25-27

■ Annual Pierogi-Pirohy Festival of Whiting, Ind. presented by the Whiting Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Slovak folk ensembles to perform on Saturday 2 - 4 p.m. and on Sunday non - 2 p.m., ethnic foods available, for information visit the festival's website: www.pierogifest.net or call toll free 800-659-0292.

SUN. AUG.3

■ Wreath 81 Annual Summer Picnic in the Sacred Heart Rose Room, 1723 Laporte Ave., Whiting, Ind. beginning at 12 noon, free of charge for members; for reservations call Judy Strisko (219)659-6743.

AUG.7-8-9

■ Annual Summer Festival of St.

Slovak Catholic Federation, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon, North Lipkey Rd., North Jackson, Oh. beginning a 2:30 p.m.

SAT. SEPT.20

■ Group 16, "Rev. Ferdis Juriga" annual meeting at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 41233 Ryan Road (north of 18 Mile Road) Sterling Heights, Mich. beginning with Mass at 4 p.m. in church followed by the meeting in the parish's Heritage Room.

SUN. SEPT.21

■ Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation at the Calumet College of St. Joseph, 2400 New York Ave., Whiting, Ind. beginning at 1 p.m. includes lunch; \$20.00 per person, for reservations call Geri Hletko (708)387-7812.

SAT. SEPT.27

■ Lecture by Professor Martin Votruba of the University of Pittsburgh titled "Slovakia and World War I" hosted by the Slovak Amer-

ican Society of Washington, D.C. at the Embassy of Slovakia to the United States, 3523 International Court, N.W., Washington, D.C. beginning at 2 p.m.

■ Christmas in September, imported items from Slovakia for sale, entertainment, folk crafts, refreshments at The National Slovak Society Museum, 351 Walley Brook Rd., McMurray, Pa. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., free admission.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS JULY 30TH

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, July 30th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, July 24th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholic-sokol.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!
Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Slovak Heritage Society plans Father Joseph Murgas memorial

The time has finally arrived for the establishment of a lasting tribute to the Rev. Joseph Murgas according to the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania (SHSNEPA).



The group which promotes Slovak culture and heritage in the Keystone State, hopes to honor Father Murgas, spiritual leader among the early Slovak immigrants in the United States, pioneer in wireless telegraphy, scientist, botanist and artist. The project begins in this the 150th anniversary of his birth. A native of Tajo in central Slovakia, he was born there in 1864. He emigrated to the United States in 1896 and died in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. in 1929.

Over the years, the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania has hosted numerous exhibits on the life and accomplishments of Father Murgas. In 2005, they hosted an extensive exhibit at King's College as well as in various high schools, colleges, at the 43rd International Slet of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in 2009 and as well as at the Slovak Association of the Laurel Highlands in Johnstown, Pa.

The group has finally found a permanent home for the Murgas exhibit. King's College recently acquired the former Ramada Inn on Public Square in downtown Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The building will now be known as "King's on the Square." There is an opportunity to dedicate a room as a permanent home for tribute to Father Murgas. Many of his important artifacts, including photos of Father Murgas, his butterfly collection, copies of his many patents, as well as photos of the paintings of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of our Blessed Mother which he completed for the altars of the former Sacred Heart Slovak Church in Wilkes-Barre where he served as pastor from 1896 until his death in 1929.

Cost of this project is \$50,000. In addition, funds are needed for the restoration of some pieces, lighting, a permanent plaque and future maintenance. Donations of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a permanent plaque which will be placed in the Murgas Room. This is an important project as a lasting memorial to Father Murgas, "Radio's Forgotten Genius." Tax-deductible donations are needed to complete the project. Our Sokolka of Assembly 59 in Wilkes-Barre and area Slovak cultural activist, Magdalen Benish is Project Chairman. For additional information on the Murgas Project, call her at (570)823-1222. Professor Philip A. Tuhy serves as the chairman of the board of the Slovak Heritage Society.

To help create a permanent place for the Father Murgas exhibit, send donations, made payable to Slovak Heritage Society, to: Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 5004, Station "A", Wilkes-Barre, PA 18710-5004.

In a recent feature article by Mary Therese Biebel in The Times Leader of Wilkes-Barre, Frederick Pettit, vice president for institutional advancement at King's College, referred to Father Murgas as "A true renaissance man."

As part of the sesquicentennial of the birth of Father Murgas, the Slovak Heritage Society will host two concerts in September. The acclaimed Bratislava Boys Choir will travel from Slovakia and perform a concert on Friday, September 19 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Wilkes-Barre and on Saturday, September 20, the choir will perform in concert at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton.

We commend the Slovak Heritage Society for

its numerous cultural projects over the years. We hope that many of our Sokol Groups, lodges and individual members will support their newest project, a permanent tribute to the genius and legacy of Father Murgas in downtown Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Traditional Marian pilgrimage in West Haverstraw, N.Y. on Aug. 10

The annual Slovak Day Pilgrimage, sponsored by the Slovak parishes and Slovak fraternal societies of the Archdiocese of New York, is scheduled for Sunday, August 10 at the Marian Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians located on Filors Lane in West Haverstraw, N.Y. The annual religious event recalls the rich pilgrimage traditions in Slovakia. This year's pilgrimage program begins with the sacrament of Reconciliation (confessions) available beginning at 10 a.m. A concelebrated Mass in Slovak will be offered at the outdoor shrine altar at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Stefan Chanas, associate pastor of St. John Nepomucene Slovak Parish in New York City as principal celebrant. Following the liturgy a luncheon featuring Slovak culinary specialties will be available. Afternoon Rosary devotions will conclude the pilgrimage at 2:30 p.m.

This year's pilgrimage commemorates the 450th anniversary of the founding of the great Shrine of Our Mother of Sorrows in Sastin, located in western Slovakia. The shrine, which commemorates Marian apparitions, honors Slovakia's patroness. The Slovak Day pilgrimage is under the direction of the members of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri located in Tappan, N.Y. The oratory includes five priests from Slovakia under the direction of the Very Rev. George A. Torok, C.O., the provost. A bus from New York City will depart from St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue in Manhattan. For information on the bus call Maria Bozek at tel. (347)612-1934. For additional pilgrimage information and directions to the shrine call Jozef Bilik at (718)463-2084 or the shrine at (914)947-2200.

37th New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival set for September 28

All is in readiness for this year's exciting 37th annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival set for Sunday, September 28 at the PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, N.J. The festival this year commemorates the 450th anniversary of the great Shrine of Our Mother of Sorrows dedicated to Slovakia's patroness in Sastin.

Festivities begin at 10 a.m. with an array of colorful and interesting exhibits celebrating Slovak culture and heritage in the Garden State. A concelebrated Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Celebrant and guest of honor at this year's festival will be the Most Rev. Peter A. Libasci, Bishop of Manchester, N.H. Bishop Libasci, a New York native, is active in the American Slovak community. His maternal grandparents were natives of eastern Slovakia. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y. in 1978. Pope Benedict XVI appointed him an Auxiliary Bishop of the diocese in 2007. In 2012, he was appointed Bishop of Manchester.

Following the liturgy, an array of Slovak culinary specialties, baked goods and American picnic favorites will be available. At 2 p.m. the cultural program begins. The program opens with the traditional Parade of Slovak Fashions. Participants attired in the traditional Slovak dress "kroj" of their ancestral villages and regions of Slovakia offer a colorful display. An explanation of each "kroj" makes for an interesting and unique program. Some participants don the "kroj" of their

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The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Sixteenth Sunday of the Year - July 20th

Matthew 13:24-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field.

While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat,

and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.

The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?'

He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him,

'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them.

Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time

I will say to the harvesters,

"First collect the weeds and tie them into bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Seventeenth Sunday of the Year - July 27th

Matthew 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy

goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant

searching for fine pearls.

When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea,

which collects fish of every kind.

When it is full

they haul it ashore

and sit down

to put what is good into buckets.

What is bad they throw away.

Thus it will be at the end of the age.

The angels will go out

and separate the wicked from the righteous

and throw them into the fiery furnace,

where there will be weeping

and grinding of teeth.

"Do you understand all these things?"

They answered, "Yes."

And he replied,

"Then every scribe

who has been instructed

in the kingdom of heaven

is like the head of a household

who brings from his storeroom

both the new and the old."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Roger J. Manyak of Group 3 Selected as our 2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

golf tournaments over the years. He has also attended many of our national conventions. At our 26th national convention held in New Haven, Conn. in 1991 he was elected a Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board. At the 27th national convention held in Orlando, Fla. in 1995, Brother Roger was elected as Supreme Assistant Physical Director. He was reelected to this position at the 28th national convention in Buffalo, N.Y. in 1999. Brother Roger's long-time efforts on behalf of our Slet program was fulfilled when the delegates of the 29th national convention in Orlando, Fla. elected him as our Supreme Physical Director. Having served as a Group Assistant Physical Director, his years of Slet experience served him well as he now took the helm of our historic Slet tradition as Supreme Physical Director. Following an illustrious career as a member of the Supreme Assembly, the delegates of the 30th national convention in Las Vegas, Nev. in 2007 elected him an Honorary Supreme Officer.

Over the years, Brother Roger has ranked among the top recommenders of new membership. He has ranked among the top winners of numerous membership campaigns over the years. In addition, as a fraternalist, he has represented our organization at gatherings of the New England Fraternal Congress, now known as the New

England Fraternal Alliance.

In his retirement years, Brother Roger continues to provide outstanding leadership for a flourishing East Douglas, Mass. Sokol community, which owes much of its recent growth and expansion to his hard work and dedication.

Brother Manyak is known and respected by our members throughout the country. He has been an outstanding fraternalist, proud Sokol activist, Catholic gentleman and a proud son of the American Slovak community. He is certainly deserving of our 2014 Fraternalist of the Year Award. In the fall, he will receive a plaque along with a check for \$200 as a small token of our gratitude. In addition, Brother Roger will be submitted as our organization's candidate for the 2014 Fraternalist of the Year program of the American Fraternal Alliance. The winner along with two runners up will be announced during the 128th annual meeting of the American Fraternal Alliance scheduled for Austin, Tex., September 4-6. Since 1985, our organization has participated in this annual Fraternalist of the Year program saluting our fraternal leadership.

Again, our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Brother Roger J. Manyak who beautifully mirrors the highest ideals of the fraternal benefit system in general and the Slovak Catholic Sokol in particular. Zdar Boh!

Did you fill out that application correctly?

The first step in buying life insurance is the completion and signing of a written application. The application will ask you questions about your current health and your health history, what doctors you have seen, and what illnesses and injuries you have had. Your health status is critical to our ability to evaluate the risk and the completed application is the most important tool that we have.



Underwriting is intended to ensure that you, as an applicant for insurance, are treated fairly based on your health history and that you are charged an appropriate premium for the coverage being offered. One of the basic principles of insurance is that each individual insured pays a premium proportionate to the amount of risk the insurance company assumes for that person.

My primary responsibility at the Home Office is to evaluate your mortality depending on the type of coverage for which you have applied, to determine whether to approve you for coverage, and if so, on what terms. The main way of coming to these decisions is the review of the completed application. We rely heavily on the truthfulness of your answers.

While filling out the application, you may question whether to include a certain item. If you have any doubt, insist on including more information rather than less. For example, if you are asked whether you have been treated or counseled for alcohol or drug use in the past 5 years and you have 4 years ago, you should report that on the application, even though you feel it is a non-issue now.

If you fail to disclose all information requested on the application, and the policy is issued based on the information given, the omission may later be discovered in connection with the claim submitted. Then, while extremely rare, your policy may be cancelled. Such action is based on our determination that if the information had been truthfully disclosed at the time of application, the policy would not have been issued. So, please, fill out everything thoroughly and truthfully.

If you have any questions while filling out your application, feel free to call me at the Home Office at (800-886-7656) and I would be glad to assist you. Happy Father's Day to all the Dads out there and Zdar Boh!

Scott Pogorelec
Underwriter

Slovak Catholic Sokol Children's Camp Schedule, August 14-17

CAMP FITCH

12600 Abels Road + North Springfield, Pa. + tel. 877-863-4824

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:00		sleep ☺	sleep ☺	sleep ☺	sleep ☺
7:30			Wake up! Polar Bear (optional)	Wake up! Polar Bear (optional)	Wake up! Polar Bear (optional)
8:00		Camper Check In	get ready for breakfast/day	get ready for breakfast/day	get ready for breakfast/day
8:30		Health Screening Swim Screening	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00			Announcements	Announcements	Check Out
9:15			Activity Period BBs	Activity Period BBs	
9:30			Archery	Archery	
9:45			Gaga	Gaga	
10:00			Crafts	Crafts	
10:30			Riflery	Riflery	
10:45			Travel Time	Travel Time	
11:00	Arrival of Supreme Physical Fitness Board	Meeting with all participants	Activity Period Trail Rides Safari Range Rock Climbing	Activity Period Trail Rides Safari Range Rock Climbing	
11:30					
12:00		get ready for lunch	get ready for lunch	get ready for lunch	
12:30		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1:00	Work Detail	Announcements	Announcements	Announcements	
1:15		Activity Period Lake Erie (Swimming, Big Banana, Tubing)	Activity Period Lake MVIMA Fishing	Activity Period Lake Erie (Swimming, Big Banana, Tubing)	
1:30					
2:45		Travel Time	Travel Time	Travel Time	
3:00		Activity Period Hemp Crafts Nature Indoor Rock Climbing Candle Making	Activity Period Hemp Crafts Nature Indoor Rock Climbing Candle Making	Activity Period Hemp Crafts Nature Indoor Rock Climbing Candle Making	
4:00		Travel Time	Travel Time	Travel Time	
4:10		Activity Period Pool Crafts Soccer Basketball Mountain Boarding	Activity Period Pool Crafts Soccer Basketball Mountain Boarding	Activity Period Pool Crafts Soccer Basketball Mountain Boarding	
4:30		get ready for dinner	get ready for dinner	get ready for dinner	
5:10		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
5:30					
6:00	Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting				
6:30		Group Photo	Activity Time BBs Archery Gaga Crafts Riflery	Activity Time BBs Archery Gaga Crafts Riflery	
7:00			Evening Program	Mass	
7:30				Exhibition of Drills	
8:00			Creek Hike	Field Games	
8:30					
9:00					
10:00		Taps	Taps	Taps	

We are only a few short weeks away from this new first-ever, Slovak Catholic Sokol venture for our young people. There are many fun and exciting activities for our campers. Each morning before breakfast, early risers can enjoy swimming at the pool (the Polar Bear). After breakfast each day, there will be a plethora of activities from morning until evening. In the next few weeks, all campers will receive a packing list, medical release form and schedule. We are looking forward to seeing you all at Camp Fitch.

Zdar Boh!
Kathleen S. Watkins
Supreme Physical Fitness Board



Thoughts on Fraternalism

(Continued from page 3)

Brother Steven M. Pogorelec for their leadership and contribution with respect to leading this tremendous transformation for our society.

To conclude, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to our 2014 recipient of the Fraternalist of the Year award for the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Brother Roger J. Manyak from East Douglas, MA. He has been a dedicated, committed and hardworking member of our society and has demonstrated his fraternal

spirit and passion for many years. He is a good friend and someone I admire and respect because he measures his contribution to his community, his Church and quality of life based on what's important to his family and friends. I look forward to recognizing his accomplishments when he receives his well-deserved award.

On behalf of my entire family, I would like to wish all of you a safe and enjoyable July and I look forward to seeing you soon.

May God bless all of you!

Sunday
July 20th, 2014

Hosted by
Assembly 78

2:00 PM

Free for
Members!



At the new
Revolutions
on Rte 378
in Bethlehem!

Open to Members
21 years of age
and over

Pizza and Soda Provided,
Free Shoes and Balls Available

Contact Fran Blanar by July 1st
at 610-866-8381 to sign up.

Come join us for
an afternoon of bowling!

Lodge Jottings

BETHLEHEM, PA Assembly 78

We are pleased to announce that our Assembly will host its annual bowling fest on Sunday, July 20 at the new Revolutions bowling center located on Route 378 in Bethlehem. Action on the lanes will begin at 2 p.m.

Following the competition on the lanes, we will enjoy pizza and soft drinks. Free shoes and balls will be available. This fraternal event is free of charge for all our members. Come join us for an enjoyable afternoon of bowling and fraternal fellowship.

In order to make the necessary arrangements, those planning to participate are asked to contact Fran Blanar by July 1st at tel. (610)866-8381 to sign up. Since our founding in 1910, our Assembly has been a center of traditional Sokol good sportsmanship and fellowship. Come join us as we continue to celebrate Sokol fraternalism in the Lehigh Valley.

Zdar Boh!
Susan Knoblauch
Recording Secretary

WHITING, IND. Wreath 81

Continuing in our long-standing fraternal tradition, the officers are planning our annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, August 3rd at the Sacred Heart Rose Room located at 1723 Laporte Avenue beginning at 12 noon. Members will be free of charge. Guests are welcome at a charge of \$5.00 each. We are asking those planning to attend to contact Judy Strisko at tel. (219)659-6743 so that the necessary arrangements may be made. Deadline for reservations is Monday, July 28th. We are hoping for a good turnout, as an enjoyable afternoon is assured.

Just a reminder that we will be collecting monetary donations for our local food pantry. Any and all donations are welcome and appreciated in support of our wreath's community outreach project.

The officers send best wishes for a safe and restful summer to all our wreath members, especially those who are ill or homebound. We miss your presence and do remember each of you, with prayer at our meetings and fraternal functions.

Keep in mind and mark your calendars for our upcoming meeting set for Sunday, October 12 which will be held at Sacred Heart beginning at 1 p.m. Wishing all a pleasant and restful summer, may I remain

Zdar Boh!
Judy Strisko
Recording Secretary



59th International Golf Tournament August 1-3 in West Middlesex, Pa.

by Edward D. Moeller

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

The warm summer weather brings the golf season into full swing, so we must now begin to prepare ourselves for the Slovak Catholic Sokol's 59th International Golf Tournament to be held August 1st – 3rd at Tam-O-Shanter and Oaktree golf courses.

We are looking forward to hosting a wonderful weekend of fraternalism and sportsmanship in August. The Slovak Catholic Sokol's 59th International Golf Tournament will be held August 1st – 3rd at the Park Inn by Radisson and the Tam-O-Shanter and Oaktree golf courses located in West Middlesex, PA. Over the years, many upgrades have been incorporated into these fine establishments. It will serve our members extremely well.



This golf course facility is located just minutes off of Interstate I-80 at exit 4B. The Park Inn by Radisson is located directly off of this exit.

Over the years this event has evolved to become much more than a few simple rounds of golf but rather a true fraternal family affair in the spirit of friendship and good sportsmanship. Many of our Sokol members now attend the tournament accompanied with their respective families, which has added to the richness of the event and true Sokol camaraderie.

The tournament is shaping up to have a tremendous turnout of golfers and guests. **The actual tournament deadline is (post-marked) July 1st**, so do not delay in returning your application forms to my attention as soon as possible. You can mail them to my home address at: 2821 Waterman Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15227. If you have any questions pertaining to the event, please contact me directly at my home telephone number (412) 881-3506.

The cost for this year's event is \$285.00 for golfers which includes your three (3) full rounds of golf with carts, two nights lodging at the Park Inn by Radisson (double occupancy), two (2) breakfasts, (Saturday and Sunday mornings), one (1) hospitality evening (Friday night), one (1) wonderful dinner, (Saturday night), a complimentary host bar on Saturday night, your tournament entry fee and prize money. (All taxes and gratuities are included)

The non-golf weekend package rate is \$140.00 (inclusive), which includes meals and lodging. Finally, for our local members who may not require the entire hotel and meal package, there is a golf only package for \$145.00, which includes entry and tournament expense fees. (No meals) These are outstanding packages for the service, quality of meals and golfing that one will enjoy throughout the weekend.

As has been requested, we are attempting to accommodate our Senior Members by offering a new choice this year. A Half Golf Package will be offered at the cost of \$215.00 This will include two rounds of golf (9 holes on Saturday and Sunday no Practice Round) the lodging and meals. Also, a Half Golf Only Package will be available for \$75 which would include just the nine holes of golfing on Saturday and Sunday along with the entry fee and prize money.

As in the past, you must make your own hotel arrangements by contacting the Park Inn by Radisson directly and leaving a credit card for all incidentals. This year a block of 45 rooms have been reserved per night at the hotel, on behalf of the organization. The telephone number to make hotel reservations is (724) 528-2501. Golf reservations for the practice round must be placed at the Oaktree Golf Course pro shop **only** at (724) 528-9984.

The 2014 prize money entry fee will be \$15.00 per golfer (in the above package) and the board of directors of the Supreme Assembly has recommended providing \$20.00 per golfer towards the tournament prize money. All monies will be distributed to the golfers and the allocation will be based on the number of golf entries per flight.

All breakfast meals, the Friday Hospitality and the Saturday night victory banquet are being held at the Park Inn by Radisson. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for those members that would like to purchase additional banquet tickets for Saturday night only. The banquet will feature a wonderful Steak Fry meal with host bar. All of this is part of your golf or non-golf package. Holy Mass of obligation will take place shortly before dinner at approximated 5:30 pm followed by a cocktail hour. A short program will follow dinner including the announcement of our tournament leaders and a welcome from our keynote speaker. Our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec will once again present the 2014 Frank Petruff Memorial Sports award. The evening will conclude with a few hours of hospitality and shared sokol fraternalism.

This will be a great fraternal golf event, so we hope to see all of you in the beautiful scenic community of West Middlesex, PA this August. Zdar Boh!

Za Boha a Národ  For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

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Slovak Hockey Legend Retires

(Continued from page 2)

some well-deserved rest. At present, he cannot even imagine life without hockey, never having had the experience; since childhood to this day, hockey has been a large part of his life. "I hope to do some catching up with my family - makin up for what I missed during the last six weeks, since I stared preparing for these world championships. My daughter, Victoria asks me every day, when I will be finally back at home," he added.

Miroslav Satan was born November 12, 1974 in Topolcany where he grew up playing hockey. At 18 years of age, he joined Dukla Trencin with whom he won the Slovak Championship in 1994. Since then, he has won two more national titles while wearing the Bratislava Slovan jersey(2005 and 2012). He was drafted 111th by the Edmonton Oilers in 1993. He went on to play for five NHL franchises; in addition to Edmonton, he played for the Buffalo, New York Islanders, the Pittsburgh Penguins(with whom he won the Stanley Cup in 2009), and the Boston Bruins. He amassed an impressive 363 goals and 372 assists in 1050 NHL

games. He played six games for Dynamo Moscow of the KHL in the 2010-2011 season. Since 2011, he has been playing for Slovan Bratislava.

In international play, he has played at four Olympics(1994, 2002, 2006 and 2010) and twelve IHF World Championships. He was a member of the Slovak teams that won the gold medal in 2002, the silver in 2000 and 2012, and a bronze in 2003. Satan has played in 183 international matches, scoring 86 goals. He was the top scorer(9 goals) at the Olympic Games in 1994. He was also the top scorer at the World Championships in 2002. He was awarded the Golden Puck three times(2000, 2001 and 2004) as Slovakia's Hockey Player of the Year.

"I cherish getting the gold medal from the Worlds in 2002 and winning the Stanley Cup with Pittsburgh in 2009 as the greatest achievements of my career," Satan said. - Tichomir Miko

...Vacation is a period of time when you are both too active and too tired on your own time.

4th European Beer Tasting Party set

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA) will host its 4th annual European Beer Tasting party on Saturday, October 11 at the Sonoma Grill located at 947 Penn Avenue in Pittsburgh, Pa. The grill is located in the heart of the city's downtown cultural district. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and continue until 4 p.m. This event has become one of the most popular offered by the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association. This year's program will again feature samples of some of Europe's greatest beers, including those from Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Poland. Refreshments will be served.

This event is an opportunity for those of Slovak ancestry to meet with good friends, good food and the wonderful beer tradition which has deep roots in central Europe. The price of the afternoon is \$25.00 for members of the WPSCA and \$30.00 for non member. Attendance is limited to just 50, so early reservations are recommended. For reservations, call Joe at (412)531-2990 or Albina (412)343-5031. An enjoyable afternoon is assured.

Fico: Slovakia is fifth EU country to see partnership agreement okayed

Slovakia has become the fifth EU-member country to see its Partnership Agreement for 2014-20 approved by the European Commission, said Slovak prime Minister Robert Fico at a press conference following a meeting with Commissioner for Regional Policy Johannes Hahn on June 24.

The Commission on June 20 okayed the fundamental strategic document on priorities and conditions for Slovakia in carrying out investments from structural and investment funds for the next few years to the tune of \$18 billion.

"Our goal was to create and adopt a document that would represent a consensus of all social partners, representatives of the regions and the broader civil society," said Fico at the press conference at the Government Office, adding that the agreement will provide conditions for Slovakia to achieve prosperity and growth in the upcoming period.

According to Fico, the use of European funds will be focused on supporting economic growth and employment. Other priorities

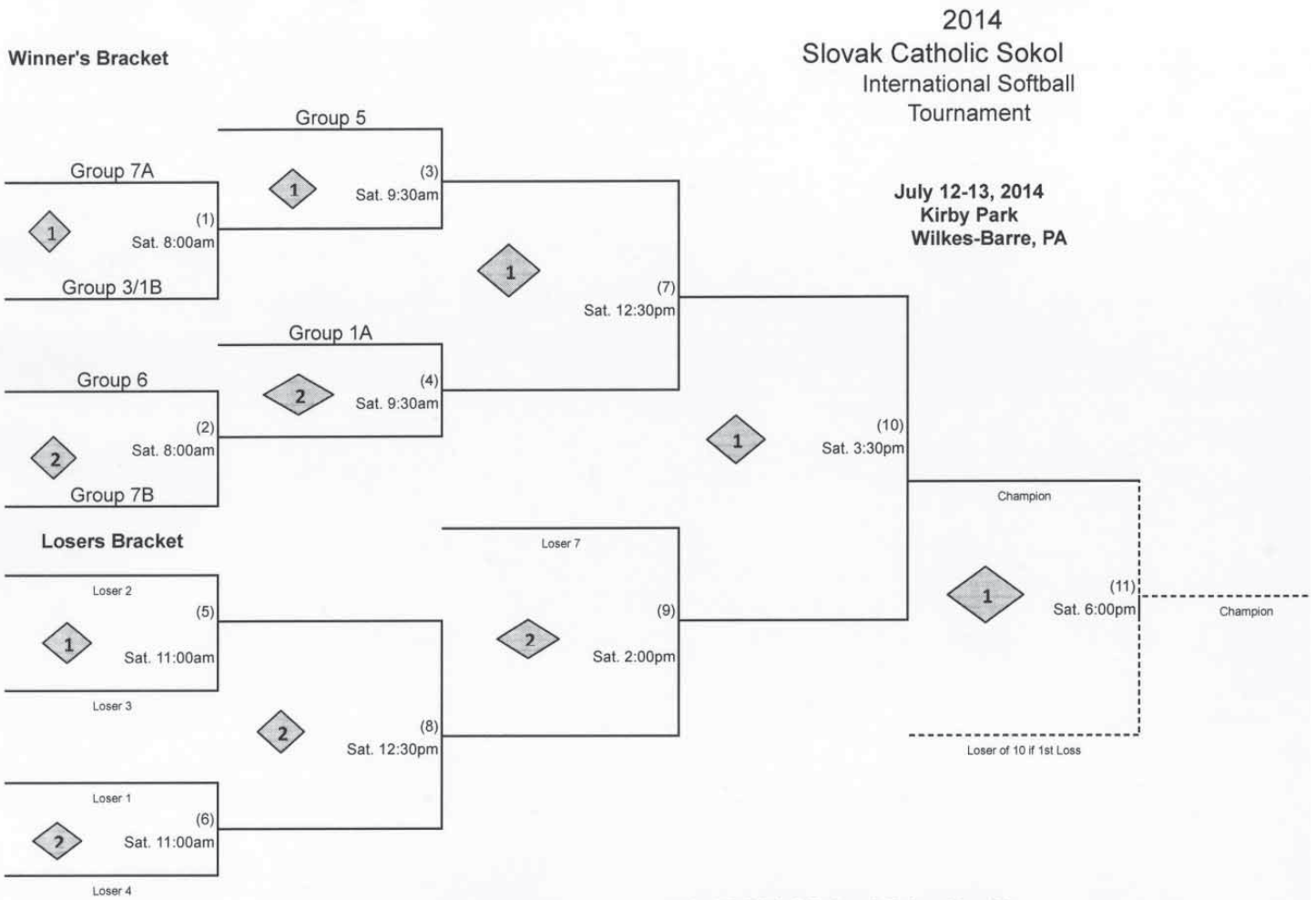
include investments in research, development and innovation, the digital agenda, energy efficiency, renewable energy resources, transport and environmental infrastructure, social inclusion, education, the fight against poverty, support for small and medium-sized enterprises and boosting the efficiency of public administration.

"In the sphere of transport infrastructure, we've modernized 40 miles of railways and constructed 45 miles of new roads," said Fico.

Hahn, who was also present at the press conference, praised Fico for his personal engagement in drawing up the Partnership Agreement and the inclusion of the social partners.

"The Slovak Government was also very successful compared to other member states in negotiating the conditions and the volume of funds. Even though the overall volume of EU funds has been reduced in the EU as a whole, the allocation for Slovakia has risen by 13 percent compared to the previous program period," said Hahn.

MEN'S TEAMS



Pittston, Pa. parish to host annual Bazaar

St. John the Evangelist Parish located at Church and Broad Streets in Pittston, Pa. will host its 15th annual summer Bazaar the weekend of August 7-9. The event will take place on the parish grounds as well as in Seton Auditorium. Slovak culinary specialties along with traditional American picnic favorites will be featured throughout the weekend event. There will be a variety of booths, bountiful baskets, homemade quilts, bingo, crafts, children's games, baked goods, a jewelry booth, a book sale, as well as a giant flea market. In short, there's something for everyone.

Proceeds of the 15th annual bazaar will help run health clinics (adult and pediatric), a food pantry to assist the needy in the community, a clothes closet as well as family and youth min-

istry. Bazaar hours are daily 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live music supplied by the popular Sweet Pepper and the Long Hots on Thursday, August 7, the Hillbilly D'Lux on Friday, August 8 and Flaxy Morgan on Sunday, August 9. In addition, Pat Ward the clown will make an appearance on Saturday.

Monsignor John J. Bendik, our well-known Sokol, pastor of the parish, along with the parochial vicar, Father Peter Tomczak, extend a cordial invitation to Group 7 Sokol members and their friends to come out and spend an enjoyable summer evening at the bazaar, knowing that funds raised aid many important community outreach projects. An enjoyable time is assured.

Zdar Boh!
Stephen Vitek
 for the committee

Minneapolis parish picnic on August 17

SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Minneapolis, Minn. will host its annual Summer Festival on Sunday, August 17 on the parish grounds, located at 1315 Second Street, N.E. The festival begins with Mass celebrated in church at 10:30 a.m. Festivities continue throughout the day, concluding at 5 p.m. with the traditional cash raffle drawing.

There will be Slovak and Spanish culinary specialties along with traditional American picnic favorites available throughout the afternoon. There will be games for children, cake walk, pull-tabs, refreshments and door prizes available. An enjoyable summer afternoon is assured.

All Sokol members of both Assembly 34 and Wreath 47 are invited to participate. In the best traditions of fraternal outreach, members will be volunteering at the food and game

booths. Members are invited to register at the Big Raffle Booth for a free cash raffle entry and a food/refreshment ticket, compliments of our Sokol lodges. This activity replaces our annual family picnic.

Founded in 1891, the Minneapolis parish is the oldest existing Slovak parish in the United States under the patronage of the Apostles of the Slavs, SS. Cyril and Methodius. Since 1910, our Sokol lodges have been active in the parish. Father Edison Galarza, O.C.S.S.S. is administrator of the parish.

We look forward to seeing a great turnout of Sokols and Sokolky at this year's Summer Festival.

Zdar Boh!

James T. Genosky
Financial Secretary
 Assembly 34

Slovak Day Picnic in Broadview Heights, Oh.

Continuing in a time-honored tradition spanning many decades, the American Slovak Zemplin Club of Cleveland will host its annual Slovak Day Picnic on Sunday, July 20 at the Slovak Sokol Camp located at 2069 Royalwood Road, between State and Broadview Roads, in Broadview Heights, Oh. Festivities begin at 12 noon and continue until 8 p.m.

Traditional Slovak culinary specialties along with popular American picnic favorites will be available throughout the day. Home-baked pastries and kolace will be available for sale. The popular imported Slovak beer Zlaty Bazant will also be available. Music for dancing and

listen pleasure will be provided by the ever-popular Johnny Pastirik Band. There will be 50/50 raffles along with other activities to please young and old alike. An enjoyable summer afternoon is assured.

We extend a cordial invitation to area Group 5 Sokols and Sokolky to join us as we celebrate our Slovak heritage at this annual event. Come with family and friends. Help us preserve our rich Slovak culture and heritage. For additional information on this year's Slovak Day Picnic call (440)885-5702.

Zdar Boh!
George Carny
 President

Slovak language classes to begin in Pittsburgh

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will again offer Slovak language instruction in the fall. These classes are held every Tuesday beginning on September 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and concluding on October 28. The classes are held at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library located at 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard in Pittsburgh, Pa. Instructor for the classes will be Bozena Hilko. There is free tuition and text books are available.

To reserve a place at these classes call Albina Senko at tel. (412)343-5031 during the day or Joe at (412) 956-6000.

Group 16 annual meeting set for Saturday, Sept. 20

Group 16, "Rev. Ferdin Juriga" will host its annual meeting on Saturday, September 20 in Sterling Heights, Mich. The meeting will be held in SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, located at 41233 Ryan Road (north of 18 Mile Road) in Sterling Heights, Mich. Hosting this year's annual meeting will be Assembly 34 of Detroit. Our program will begin with the officers and delegates attending the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass in church. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 16 by our chaplain and pastor of the parish, Father Benjamin Kosnac. Following the Mass, our meeting will be called to order in the Heritage Room in the parish building.

We have enjoyed a busy fraternal year and we look forward to continued activity in the year ahead. We hope to see all our officers in attendance. We extend a cordial invitation to all our members to attend.

Zdar Boh!
Andrea Ames Papcun
 President

37th New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival

(Continued from page 4)

ancestors, some brought to this country when they emigrated to the United States more than a century ago. Individuals and folk ensembles will be featured celebrating the rich music and dance traditions of the various regions of Slovakia. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will continue until 6 p.m. with the artistry of the Joseph Jurasi Band.

In addition, during the afternoon an array of rides and games will be featured for children. The traditional soccer competition will take place throughout the af-

ternoon. The tournament will feature soccer teams from communities in New Jersey and New York. There's something for everyone at this year's festival. With plenty of free parking and free admission, mark your calendars and plan to participate in an enjoyable day as we celebrate Slovak pride in the Garden State. A large committee, under the direction of festival co-chairpersons and well-known Garden State Slovak activists, Nina Holy and Attorney John G. Duch, are laboring to make this year's festival one of the best to date.

Keep Your Slovak Catholic Sokol Home Office Numbers Handy

TOLL FREE NUMBER	- 1-800-886-7656
HOME OFFICE	- (973) 777-2605 or 777-2606
DIRECTOR OF SALES	- 1-888-381-5431 or (412) 381-5431
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WEB SITE	- www.slovakcatholicokol.org

SLOVAK FESTIVAL

Saturday, August 23, 2014: 2:00—11:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 24, 2014: 12:00—8:00 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 22, 6 to 11 p.m.

- ◆ Parish Talent Show Competition
- ◆ Family Night "Karaoke"

(Note: No Slovak food, Children's Area, or other entertainment on Friday.)

Delicious Slovak and American Food

Klobása * Palacinky (Crepes) * Stuffed Cabbage * Pirohy
 Guláš (Goulash) * Hot Dogs & Fries * Fish & Chips
 Bake Sale * Imported Beer and Liquor * and More!



Great Entertainment

- ◆ Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensembles (Detroit)
- ◆ Lúčna Slovak Folk Ensemble (Cleveland)
- ◆ Slovak Domovina Dancers (Windsor, ON)
- ◆ Tri-City Plus Band (Saturday)
- ◆ Hank Haller Ensemble (Sunday)

—Public Dancing Both Days—



Raffles

- ◆ Parish Raffle — \$5,000 top prize!
- ◆ 50/50 Raffle



No Entrance Fee
 Free Parking

Children's Area

Game Tent, Face Painting, Sand Boxes, Inflatables, Rock Climbing Wall, and Bungee Jumping



24th Annual Parish Slovak Festival

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church
 41233 Ryan Rd. (north of 18 Mile Rd.)
 Sterling Heights, MI 48314

586-726-6911

www.saintcyriels.org/festival.htm

Slovak Mass at
 11:30 a.m. on
 Sunday



Scenes of the Eastern European Food Festival Hosted by Wreath 155 & Assembly 261

Slovak Catholic Sokol Club + Reading, Pa. + Saturday, May 31

A very unique and successful celebration of Slovak and Eastern European culinary specialties took place on Saturday, May 31 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club in Reading, Pa. The event was hosted by Wreath 155 and Assembly 261. The Eastern European Food Festival featured an array of authentic Slovak, Polish and Ukrainian specialties enjoyed by all who participated.

In addition, a traditional beer garden featured an array of imported Slovak and other eastern European brews. The day-long event attracted a great number of individuals interested in the cuisine, brews and traditions of central and eastern Europe. The event enjoyed great success. Sokols and Sokolky of both lodges labored to make the event a huge success. Veteran Sokol activists,

including Honorary Supreme Officer Frank E. Macey, Honorary Supreme Officer J. Gregory Milanek, Group 12 President Joseph A. Harak along with Wreath 155 president Kathi Smolkowicz, Assembly 261 president Joseph N. Oros, and the officers and members of both lodges labored long and hard to insure the success of this unique fraternal project. An enjoyable time was had by all.



Cardinal Jozef Tomko Leads Marian Pilgrimage to Levoca

(Continued from page 1)

grimages as a bishop. Since then, he has participated in several of these pilgrimages, including the historic one in July 1995 when Pope St. John Paul II participated with more than 600,000 pilgrims in attendance.

A warm welcome at the liturgy was extended by Msgr. Frantisek Dlugos, local Dean and rector of the Basilica of Our Lady of Levoca. Heading the Slovak hierarchy in attendance was the Most Rev. Stanislav Zvolensky, Archbishop of Bratislava and president of the Bishops Conference of Slovakia. Also participating were Archbishop Bernard Bober of Kosice, Bishop Stefan Secka of Spis, Bishop Frantisek Rabek, the military vicar; Bishop Andrej Imrich, auxiliary of Spis and Bishop Stanislav Stolarik, auxiliary of Kosice. A special guest at this year's pilgrimage was the Archbishop of Bucharest, the Most Rev. Joana Robu. Archbishop Robu participated with hundreds of pilgrims from Romania.

Pilgrims traveled from all parts of Slovakia, many on foot, to participate in the pilgrimage honoring Our Lady of Levoca. The pilgrimage tradition has been popular in Levoca for almost 500 years. The pilgrimage opened on Saturday morning, July 5 with an outdoor liturgy celebrated in the presence of about 200,000

pilgrims, many of whom had spent the night on the expansive Marian Hill. The numbers of pilgrims steadily grew to over 300,000 for the Sunday liturgy. The tradition of pilgrimage has been a time-honored faith tradition of the Slovak people for centuries. Our Lady of Levoca, pray for us!



Cardinal Jozef Tomko celebrated the principal pilgrimage liturgy at the Shrine of Our Lady of Levoca in eastern Slovakia on July 6 before a crowd of more than 300,000 pilgrims.

Scenes of the Diamond Jubilee Observance of Religious Profession of Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, SS.C.M. Basilica of Saints Cyril & Methodius + Villa Sacred Heart + Danville, Pa. + Sunday, June 29

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius hosted their Jubilee Day observance on the great feast of SS. Peter and Paul, Sunday, June 29 honoring members of the congregation celebrating noteworthy milestones in their religious lives. Among this year's honorees was Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, SS.C.M., former General Superior, who observed her 60th or Diamond Jubilee of religious profession.



The celebration opened with a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving at 11 a.m. in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius, the only basilica in the world dedicated to the Apostles of the Slavs. Principal celebrant of the liturgy was the Rev. Msgr. Thomas R. Kelly. Concelebrants included the Rev. Francis G. Lendacky, pastor of St. Agnes-St. John Nepomucene Parish in Philadelphia, Pa. and the Rev. Gerald Heintzelman, chaplain of Maria Hall. Assisting was Deacon Thomas Baranowski. The homily was offered by Father Lendacky, whose sister, Sister M. Paulette was observing the 65th anniversary of her profession. In his homily, he recalled the great witness of Christ rendered by these great women of faith. He noted that this year's jubilarians collectively rendered a total of 1,050 years of service to the Church and the community as professed religious.

Following the Profession of Faith, the jubilarians along with all the members of the congregation in attendance, renewed their vows of Chastity, Poverty and Obedience

in the Congregation of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. The congregation was founded by the Rev. Matthew Jankola and received papal approbation by Pope St. Pius X in 1909. Father Jankola served as the second Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The members of the congregation are currently engaged in the ministry of education, evangelization, ecumenism and eldercare. The festive liturgy concluded with the singing of the hymn to Our Lady, Salve Regina followed by the hymn to SS. Cyril and Methodius. After the liturgy, the family, friends and guests of the jubilarians enjoyed a festive lunch.

In addition to Sister M. John Vianney and Sister M. Paulette, jubilarians celebrating their anniversary of religious profession included: Sister M. Georgene Luther, and Sister M. Susan Polchin, 65 years; Sister M. Marilyn Pitonak, Sister M. Rosanne Kmetz, Sister Irene Rose Kmetz, 60 years; Sister M. Marguerite Hruby, Sister Maria Theresa Hronec and Sister M. Joseph Therese Pohorenc, 55 years; Sister M. Philothea Fabian, Sister M. Thomas More Dzumak, Sister Teresa Urda, Sister Margaret Mary Fest and Sister Cynthia Marie Gazdo, 50 years; Sister Mary Beth Makuch, Sister Suzanne Duzen, Sister Sara Swayze and Sister Michael Ann Orlik, 45 years; and Sister M. Judy Therese Holler, 20 years.

Sister M. John Vianney is a Chicago native. She was raised in St. Simon the Apostle Slovak Parish there. She was graduated from St. Simon's School where her teachers were the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. She

also was graduated from the former Marian High School and then entered the Congregation of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. She professed her vows on August 11, 1954. She received both undergraduate and graduate degrees in education and taught in a number of schools conducted by the Sisters. From 1976 to 1984, Sister served as Second Councilor of the congregation. Sister was elected as the General Superior in 1988. She served in this capacity until 1992. Sister has been active in the American Slovak community throughout her religious life. She served for many years on the national board of directors of the Slovak Catholic Federation, serving as chairperson of its Committee on Evangelization. She has visited Slovakia on numerous occasions. Sister has been a regular contributor to the American Slovak press and in particular to our Slovak Catholic Falcon.

A large number of Sister's family and friends traveled from Chicago to observe the celebration with her. Also participating were well-known Chicago Sokol members, including Assembly 11 president Fred Olszowka, treasurer and recording secretary Therese M. Buc and Sister's classmate, Sister Grace Ann Kalafut, S.S.C. Sister Grace Ann's late aunt, Veronica Kalafut served for many years as a Supreme Auditor of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

We join Sister M. John Vianney's many friends and admirers in extending prayers and warm wishes as she celebrates this milestone in her very fruitful ministry among us. God bless you Sister and Zdar Boh!



Sister M. John Vianney is surrounded by members of her family who traveled from Chicago to join in her Jubilee Day celebration.



Our jubilarian is shown with Cynthia M. Maleski, national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and Sister Jana Polakova, a sister from Slovakia who has been residing at Villa Sacred Heart during the past year. She is a Sister of SS. Cyril and Methodius, a community founded in Slovakia and the Czech Republic in the 1920s.



Our jubilarian, Sister M. John Vianney, seated, is shown with some of the Sokol members who attended her celebration, including, standing, l-r, Fred Olszowka and Therese M. Buc, president and treasurer and recording secretary, respectively of Assembly 11 in Chicago; Cynthia M. Maleski, president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Irene M. Kaschak, financial secretary of Wreath 147 in Larksville, Pa. and Editor Daniel F. Tanzone.



Sister M. John Vianney is surrounded by, from the left, her high school classmate, Sister M. Grace Ann Kalafut, S.S.C., Sister M. Mercedes Voytko, SS.C.M. former director of Jankola Library and Therese M. Buc, treasurer and recording secretary of Assembly 11 in Chicago.

Highlights of the 68th International Bowling Tournament Held in Canton, Michigan

Super Bowl Lanes + The Holiday Inn + The Fellows Creek Golf Club + May 16-18



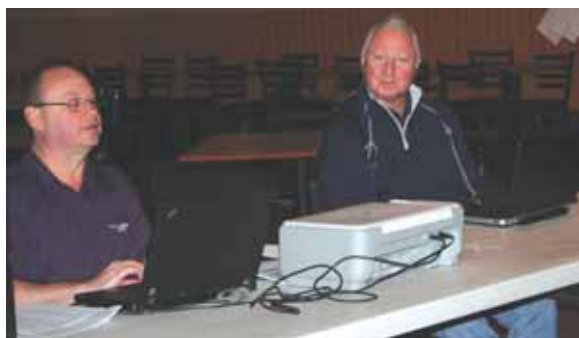
Bowlers from Michigan included, l-r, Group 16 members Andrea Ames Papcun, Annette Witte, LaVerne Eland and Janice Matlon, a member of Group 1 who currently resides in Michigan.



All smiles from tournament officials, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller and a first-timer, Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Jennifer A. Romine.



All smiles from Group 1 activists, Eric Topczij and Joseph Krzysik, Jr.



Checking the team scores are Supreme Sports Director Edward D. Moeller with Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh looking on.



Milwaukee's Tricia Radtke exhibits great form.



All smiles from Pittsburgh keglers, Aaron Werner and his dad, Larry Werner.



All smiles from well-known Pittsburgh Sokol activists, Mary Ann Naple and Chris Chervenak who were members of the 1st place women's championship team.



Rose Bakita of Group 5.



Group 16 activist, LaVerne Eland served as a lector at the Mass celebrated for the bowlers.



Well-known Reading, Pa. keglers enjoying the victory banquet included, from the left, George Kazmierczak, Walt Kazmierczak, Bill Kazmierczak and Gene Sedoti.



Bowlers from Wreath 93 in Milwaukee enjoying the banquet included, l-r, Kristy Peterson, Lisa Hoeck and Bill Gemoll.

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Fico: our EU membership has been outstandingly successful

Slovakia's membership in the European Union has been outstandingly successful and has provided the country with great prospects, Prime Minister Robert Fico stated at an international conference in Bratislava on June 23.

"We've managed to get to the core of European integration, and we want to maintain our position by all means," said Fico at the conference, which was entitled "Ten Years in the EU: Opportunities for Business Competitiveness and Growth and" was organized by the American Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia.

Fico went on to claim that Slovakia has made the best use of its membership when compared with the nine other countries that joined the EU in 2004. He added that the benefits emerging from EU membership have also been shown by various statistics.

"The performance of Slovakia's economy between 2004-2012 went up from a level of 54 percent to 75 percent of the EU average. As many as 85 percent of the country's exports are directed to member states. Furthermore, nearly 90 percent of direct foreign investment in Slovakia comes from EU-member countries. Technically, 80 percent of all public investments in Slovakia is covered from EU funds," asserted Fico.

Fico at the same time praised the approach of the European Union, which has begun to impose more stringent sanctions on member states that fail to observe the rules for economic management. He also pointed to what he called the impossibility of observing the EU's requirement for individual member states to reduce public expenditures while providing a guarantee of economic growth in the given country. "It's not possible to expect a country to observe the strict consolidation regulations while constantly reducing its deficit, and at the same time presume that this country would be able to invest in projects that translate into economic growth and new jobs," cautioned the premier.

Fico went on to suggest that it's vital to discuss in this context whether certain expenditures of member states related to reforms couldn't be deducted from the country's deficit. To illustrate the issue, Fico used the example of the government-sponsored plan to cut payroll deductions for people with low incomes. "This reform will cost the state \$200 million, but despite the fact that it's a reform, as it will facilitate further job opportunities and maybe will secure higher incomes for these people, it will be viewed as a form of punishment for the country.

Lajcak: Slovakia interested in post 2014 NATO training in Afghanistan

Slovakia is interested in participating in the new NATO training mission in Afghanistan after 2014, Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak stated on June 26 after talks between NATO-member foreign ministers in Brussels.

"As long as we have legal guarantees, we're ready to be a part of this mission, and we've also discussed it today," said Lajcak.

The current ISAF military operation is drawing to its end, with most NATO forces to be withdrawn from Afghanistan by the end of this year. Further involvement of foreign troops in Afghanistan after 2014 isn't certain, as relevant security agreements haven't been signed to this effect following the refusal of outgoing Afghan President Hamid Karzai to sign the contracts.

Karzai wants to leave the decision to his successor, who will emerge based on the results of the recent presi-

dential election run-off that took place on June 14. Both candidates for the post- Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani - have previously stated that they would sign the long-postponed bilateral security agreement with the United States. The agreement would facilitate a post-2014 mission with nearly 10,000 soldiers present in the country for a period of two years.

"We expect that a president will be sworn in as soon as possible and that agreements that would allow for further cooperation between the Alliance and Afghanistan after 2014 aimed at assisting Afghan security forces will be signed," added Lajcak.

Turning to another topic, Lajcak told the journalists that Slovakia is set to unveil a package of measures aimed at achieving a more effective defense of the whole transatlantic grouping at NATO's summit in Wales in September. This should involve boosting the country's expenditures on defense. Slovakia currently allocates only approximately 1 percent of its GDP to this purpose, whereas NATO is demanding 2 percent of the GDP.

"We've been talking about the issue at home very intensively, and in Wales we'll be able to present our package of measures," said Lajcak, declining to provide any details pertaining to the budget.

Lajcak further disclosed that the ministerial meeting also examined relations between NATO and Russia. According to the minister, the officials concurred that the Alliance should continue to communicate with Moscow only at the level of ambassadors and above. "The situation hasn't improved, so the conditions that would facilitate the transfer to normal full-fledged communication have not been met. The Alliance has agreed in unison that a state of suspended communication at the political level has to remain in place. However, we'll welcome any form of communication at the working level, at the level of ambassadors, as there are topics that need to be discussed," explained Lajcak.

Fico: Slovakia wants strong economic portfolio in new commission

Slovakia has an interest in getting a strong economic portfolio in the new European Commission(EC), Prime Minister Robert Fico said at a session of the Parliamentary Committee for EU Affairs on June 25 - adding that he has already started diplomatic negotiations in this regard.

Slovakia's official candidate for member of the new European Commission(EC) for the 2014-19 period is Maros Sefcovic, who has served as a member of the Commission for Intergovernmental Relations and Administration since 2009. "We expect that Maros Sefcovic will at least become Vice-chairman of the European Commission again. He could get some strong economic portfolio in the new Commission," said Fico.

The nominations for the posts in the new EC will be addressed at a session of the European Council in Brussels this month. The new head of the EC should, according to Fico, become Luxembourg's former prime minister Jean-Claude Juncker, 59.

In addition to nominations, the European Council should also address the situation in Ukraine. Fico reminded committee members that the political part of the association agreement between the EU and Kiev has been signed - and that signing the economic part is expected to follow. Fico thinks that if this happens, "the European Union will fulfill its historic role."

Fico added that the EC has been working very in-

Selected stories are provided by TASR-Slovakia, the Slovak Republic's official News Agency.

tensely on possible new sanctions against Russia, which could be imposed if Russia crosses another red line. Therefore Fico expects that there will be a debate in Brussels this week about whether Russia has already crossed that line. Only after that, according to him, will the discussion on possible sanctions ensue.

At the same time, in regard to the situation in Ukraine, Fico noted that while many other countries continue doing their business, Slovakia is perhaps the only country that has so far demonstrated actual solidarity with Ukraine. "By

(Continued on page 13)



The Spa tradition has been popular all across central Europe over the centuries. Slovakia, in particular enjoys a wonderful spa history. It's most popular Health Spa is located in Piestany in western Slovakia, conveniently located about an hour's drive from the capital of Bratislava. Written record concerning the wonders of the thermal waters of Piestany dates from 1549. In 1682, the Emperor Leopold I took Piestany under his protection. With its healing waters, Piestany soon became a popular tourist attraction for the noble classes from across Europe. Many illnesses are treated at the expansive facility of the Slovak Health Spa Piestany, Inc. Piestany is considered among the most important European spas. The spa concentrates its treatment of locomotive apparatus illnesses. Over the years, the spa has expanded to include many new modern buildings, extensive gardens and parks. Cultural presentations are offered seasonally and affords a unique experience. Today, Piestany attracts visitors and patients from across Europe, the Middle East and the United States.

News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued from page 12)

making the reverse flow of gas possible, we're waiting to see what interest there is on the Ukrainian side," said Fico.

A 2030 framework for climate and energy should be also addressed at this week's session of the European Council. According to Fico, Slovakia doesn't agree with some of the targets set in this framework. "In no way can we agree with a mandatory target for bringing renewable energy up to 27 percent of the total final consumption (by that time)," said Fico, who also doesn't agree with the plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent. He considers it too ambitious a goal.

Celebration in Nitra honors SS. Cyril and Methodius

Slovakia hosted its national celebration in honor of the 1,151st anniversary of the arrival of SS. Cyril and Methodius on its territory. Thousands participated in the celebration held in the city of Nitra, the center of Cyrilo-Methodian traditions. The celebration took place on July 5, when the feast day of the brother saints is observed in Slovakia. The observance is a national holiday.

The celebration was organized under the auspices of Prime Minister Robert Fico. The highlight of the celebration was the outdoor concelebrated Mass on Svatopluk Square, the city's principal square. Principal celebrant of the liturgy was the Most Rev. Stanislaw Budzik, metropolitan Archbishop of Lublin in Poland. Concelebrating were bishops from western Slovakia. In attendance was the Papal Nuncio to Slovakia, Archbishop Mario Giordana, who brought a message and Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis. In his homily, Archbishop Budzik emphasized the importance of the mission of SS. Cyril and Methodius for the whole of Europe. St. John Paul II named them patrons of all of Europe in 1980. "SS. Cyril and Methodius became the apostles of the family of Slavic nations, bringing the gospel message of Christ. They laid the foundation of Slavic culture, bringing to all Slavs hope that enables people to survive any hardship that they might encounter during their life's journey," said Archbishop Budzik.

At the conclusion of the liturgy, a message from Slovakia's new President, Andrej Kiska was read.

Slovakia's V4 presidency to focus on economic growth and tax fraud

Beginning on July 1, Slovakia began its year-long presidency of the Visegrad Four(V4) grouping(Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia). It is the fourth time that Slovakia heads the grouping since its inception in 1994. The agenda of the Slovak presidency is included in its slogan "A Dynamic Visegrad for Europe and the World," according to Slovak Foreign and European Affairs

Minister Miroslav Lajcak.

"The agenda of the Slovak presidency is aimed at consolidating public finances, stimulating economic growth, and reducing tax evasion and tax fraud within the V4 countries," specified Lajcak.

The minister added that during its presidency, Slovakia also wants to direct its attention at boosting the coordinating mechanisms of the V4 grouping within the European Union. "After the European Parliament election and in line with the subsequent changes in posts in the European Commission, it will be our task to set up the communication channels of the V4 grouping with the new EU bodies," said Lajcak.

According to Lajcak, the Visegrad Four Group is enjoying one of the most productive and dynamic periods in its history, and more than twenty years since it was set up it's viewed as a respectable partner. "Slovakia wants to continue to use the V4 Group as a preferred format for regional cooperation in Central Europe. We're delighted that this cooperation is being directed ever more at practical issues and at projects that are beneficial for our countries and all the people in the V4 region," added the minister.

The V4 presidency is a rotating one, with the chairmanship handed over to another member country on a annual basis(July 1 to June 30). Slovakia takes over the presidency from Hungary.

Lajcak: Slovakia must play more active role in forming Europe

Slovakia must play a more active role in forming Europe, Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak stated at the beginning of a three-day meeting of Slovak ambassadors on July 1.

The meeting is organized by the ministry every two years to provide scope for discussion on principal issues of Slovakia's foreign policy and analyses of achieved results.

"I view deepening of creativity and innovation and the need to play a more active role in forming the shape of Europe as the key challenges for the upcoming period," stated Lajcak.

The meeting was also attended by Prime Minister Robert Fico and the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton.

The British baroness in her address touched on issues that currently keep her office busy, including Ukraine, Iran, Syria and the Western Balkans. She added that the EU currently boasts an excellent image abroad. Countries that are near the Union want to enter it, while those that are far away want to imitate it, she said.

On July 2, the Dutch Foreign Affairs Minister Frans Timmermans addressed the ambassadors.

President appoints new Education and Economy Ministers

On July 3, President Andrej Kiska accepted the resignations of the Education Minister Dusan Caplovic and the Economy Minister Tomas Malatinsky. At the same time, he appointed their successors. Former Finance Ministry state secretary Peter Pellegrini was named the new Education Minister and the former Economy Ministry state secretary Pavol Pavlis was named the new Economy Minister.

The two newly appointed ministers had been formally dismissed by the government from their old posts earlier on July 3. The former ministers - Caplovic and Malatinsky - resigned their positions on July 2 after reaching an agreement with Prime Minister Robert Fico.

China seeks investment opportunities in Slovakia

Support for Chinese firms and investors in Slovakia was the main issue discussed at the two-day 'Shandon Business Days in Slovakia' trade-investment forum, organized on July 2-3 in Bratislava by the Slovak-Chinese Trade Chamber(SCOK) along with the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade(CCPIT).

The event culminated with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding.


"Chinese companies are having trouble breaking into the European market, as the majority of projects are carried out through public procurement processes in which Chinese companies stand only a minimal chance of success. Therefore, they seek partnership firms in Slovakia to cooperate on joint projects," SCOK chairman Boris Paulen told TASR. "We've defined together mutual areas for long-term cooperation, mainly dealing with support or Chinese firms and investors in Slovakia. Based on this, the Chinese presented (to the Slovak representatives) ten investment opportunities," he claimed, adding that China represents a trade partner of major significance for Slovakia.

"China has the world's largest foreign exchange reserves and gold reserves. It has free capital at its disposal and seeks appropriate investment environments. In this context, it likes Slovakia very much and there are realistic odds of launching some projects - more or less medium-sized projects with investment volume worth dozens of millions of dollars," said Paulen. Despite the paucity of Chinese investments in Slovakia at the moment, China finds Slovakia attractive in terms of its automobile, energy and rubber-making industries as well as electrical engineering, he added.

Chinese firms are interested in concluding partnerships with Slovak producers of sewage treatment plants or in the sphere of emissions, said Paulen. "Specific talks on trade and investment cooperation occurred already and were attended by a hundred Slovak companies.

The next meeting is to take place on Chinese soil in the province of Shandong on the east coast of China.

Why not join your fellow Sokol physical fitness activists who promote our organization's ageless slogan of "A Sound Mind in a Sound Body" and participate in our Sokol Walking Program in 2014. Just clip the walking box found on this page and start walking to good health!

2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol Walking Program														
Name _____	DATE (dd/mm/yy)	LOCATION	DISTANCE	INITIALS	DATE (dd/mm/yy)	LOCATION	DISTANCE	INITIALS	DATE (dd/mm/yy)	LOCATION	DISTANCE	INITIALS		
Address _____														
City _____														
State _____ Zip _____														
Date of birth _____														
Group _____ Assembly/Wreath _____														
Date _____														
Signature _____														
														
SUBTOTAL					SUBTOTAL					SUBTOTAL				

Slovak Catholic Sokol Introduces the Irrevocable Burial Trust Agreement

Protection of assets at any age is important, but especially so when faced with the need for nursing home services, Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. One option that may help preserve eligibility for services, while at the same time protecting assets from the reach of creditors, is to place your Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement.

Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy. The benefit of naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust as Owner is that it may help the insured qualify for Medicaid and Social Security Income benefits by preventing the value of the policy from being considered a resource of Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income eligibility.

A further benefit is that the policy proceeds, to the extent they are applied to end of life needs, would in most cases be protected from claims made by creditors, including the state and federal government. Any proceeds unnecessary for burial or funeral expense would be paid to the insured's estate and would then be available to creditor's claims.

Because the policy proceeds are to be applied to the end-of-life needs, the benefits avoid the cost and delay probate, and because they constitute the life insurance proceeds, they are tax free upon death of.

The Irrevocable Burial Trust

An Irrevocable Burial Trust is a valuable option that protects your assets that you want to designate for your final expenses. Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy.

Types of expenses that qualify for payment from the Irrevocable Burial Trust *

- Funeral home personnel
- Embalming/cosmetology
- Casket and/or other containers
- Clergy honorarium
- Transportation of deceased
- Cremation
- Obituary notices
- Musicians and flowers
- Death certificates
- Other legitimate funeral and burial expenses

* Burial insurance funding should be within the limits of actual funeral costs. Excess proceeds not spent on funeral costs must go back to the estate. Funeral trust burial insurance plans should be used to fund funerals, and not to pass additional money to heirs.

Reasons to choose an Irrevocable Burial Trust rather than a Pre-paid Funeral through a Funeral Home

- If the funeral home goes out of

business you might not be able to recover your money

- The funeral home might be sold or merge with another, less-personal funeral home that you would not want handling your final arrangements, and they might not grant you a refund

- What if you move, making your pre-paid funeral in a certain locality impractical or obsolete?

- A funeral trust allows your arrangements to be handled by anyone you wish, such as your personal representative, a relative, friend, or funeral home – anywhere – at the time of your passing

Simple to establish and no extra charges

Purchase a Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy and we will create your irrevocable burial trust at no charge. The paperwork is simple to complete and we are here to help.

The best time to protect your burial funds is now ** Purchasing an irrevocable burial trust life insurance policy protects your burial funds.

- The Trust is the owner of the policy and the primary beneficiary
- When a claim is paid, the funeral home is paid first
- Any remaining funds are placed into the estate of the insured.

** *The representations included herein are not guarantees and do not constitute legal or tax advice. In addition, they do not ensure that the product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product, we recommend that the client seek the advice of an attorney and accountant.*

Protection provided by the Irrevocable Burial Trust

By irrevocably assigning your life insurance policy to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Burial Trust, you receive:

- The ability to exclude your policy as an asset in order to qualify for government assistance programs, Medicaid or Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI). ***
- Policy proceeds are paid to the trust, which then pays your funeral expenses.
- Funds used for funeral expenses are protected from creditors, such as nursing homes, hospital, etc.
- Death benefits used for funeral expenses will avoid probate costs and delays.
- Benefits paid are income tax free. IRV Code Section 101(a)

*** *Medicaid (Title 19) rules and laws governing these issues differ by state and change without notice. Before taking any action, we recommend consulting an elder law attorney or professional in your state for advice on your situation*

Being Sure

Having the right amount of life insurance or putting money aside to cover your final expenses is the right step. But it's only a first step. You need one more, easy step to protect your burial funds, the Irrevocable Burial Trust through the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

	Stocks, Mutual Funds, Annuity	Slovak Catholic Sokol	Saving, CD Money Market
Benefits Paid Direct for Final	No	Yes	No
Benefits Protected from Creditors	No	Yes	No
Excludes Benefits to Qualify for SSI, VA, Medicaid	No	Yes	No

Completing the Irrevocable Trust Agreement is a Simple Process:

- The Grantor must be both the Insured and the Owner of the policy.
- Only Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policies are eligible.
- The total face amount of the policy or policies in the Trust are limited in amount in most jurisdictions, which allows them to be excluded as a resource in determining eligibility for certain governmental service programs, such as those mentioned above. These limitations vary depending on the state in which you reside and frequently change from time to time, but a \$10,000 limitation is quite common. It is your responsibility to

determine the limitation that would be applicable to you.

- The Contingent beneficiary of the policy or policies placed in the Trust must be the estate of the insured.
- It is important to act quickly, because under IRS rules, death proceeds of life insurance policy given away within three years of the insured's death are automatically included in the insured's gross estate. The accuracy of the representation stated within are not guaranteed by the Slovak Catholic Sokol and are not meant to constitute either legal or tax advice, nor do they insure that this product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product or creating an Irrevocable Trust, the

client should seek the advice of an attorney or a qualified tax advisor. Laws vary from state to state and are subject to change at any time, which may result in the treatment of this product as being negative to the client's situation.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement is available on new and/or existing Whole Life Policies. If you would like more information regarding this useful option, you can contact your Authorized Slovak Catholic Sokol Agent, the Home Office (800) 886-7656 or the Sales and Marketing Office (888) 381-5431.

A tradition of providing sound financial protection and benefits to our members.

DO YOU KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF THESE PEOPLE? PLEASE CALL US AT 1-800-886-7656

UNPAID ENDOWMENTS BY STATE

Name	Lodge	Name	Lodge
ILLINOIS		Melissa Ann McFadden	S-239
Robert Zubel	S-011	Caara Madeline Shopa	V-013
Jo Ann Vermette	S-011	Kristen Lynn Shevetz	V-029
MASSACHUSETTS		Jacqueline Dolores Byrne	V-032
Brian D. Richard	S-028	Patricia Pedone	S-189
John T. Nieviedgal, III	S-028	Bradley Roy Webb	S-082
NEW JERSEY		Christopher Plaviak	S-059
Steven Michael Grivalsky	S-024	Howard Andrew Kiesel	S-016
Mellissa Greffe	V-006	William John Shupp Byrne	S-078
Joseph Andrew Gallo	S-288	Dennis Francis Keller	S-048
Roseanne Crocitto	S-162	Phyllis J. Graham	S-206
Nina Kvartek	S-162	Jeffrey Michael Lippert	S-016
NEW YORK		Matthew Stephen Tomko	S-048
Kevin Michael Killoran	S-185	Brien Leigh Fraser	S-056
Eric John Killoran	S-185	Amber Rose Nemchik	V-032
Alexandra Ilona Rodriguez	V-025	Joanne Kuchta	V-022
OHIO		Laura Plaviak	S-059
Michael J. Pavelek	S-039	Norman Charles Farland	S-206
Joseph John Cassese	S-026	Elizabeth M. Kassell	S-206
James Anthony Campana	S-026	Derek Matthew Husar	S-048
Justine Pezzone Bissell	S-026	Theresa Marie Keller	S-048
Charles S. Motosko	S-108	Jamie R. (Smith) Johns	S-239
Joyce H. Motosko	V-054	David John Husar	S-048
Jessa Aron Matt	V-034	Vanessa Rose Schaefer	S-189
Ciara J. Ganoe	S-108	Devon Elizabeth Husar	S-048
PENNSYLVANIA		Rosemary Finkel	V-022
Edward Albert Kassak	S-189	CANADA	
Lynn Butczynski	S-059	Patricia Lynn Oliva	S-227
Karen Marie Kaminski	S-083	Cynthia Veronica Raytek	S-227
Mark Edward Kaminski	S-083	James Edward Siman	S-227
Stephen James Markley	S-032	Kathy Raytek	S-227
Kiley Beth Shevetz	V-029	Paul Raytek	S-227
Lynn Kassak	S-189	Jimmie Gmaz	S-227
Anastasia Roditis	V-013	Greg Grys	S-227
		Caroline Gmaz	S-227
		Tim Turosky	S-227
		Susan Ann Babinchak	S-227
		FLORIDA	
		Matthew G. Mensching	S-313

Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar on September 21 in Whiting, Ind.

All is in readiness for the 2014 Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar, under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, scheduled for Sunday, September 21. The annual event will be held at the Calumet College of St. Joseph, located at 2400 New York Avenue in Whiting, Ind. The program begins with a delicious luncheon catered by Steve's Lounge of Hegwisch at 1 p.m. Following the luncheon, Monsignor Joseph P. Semancik, Ph.D. will offer a presentation on the life and legacy of the Most Reverend Andrew G. Grutka, the first Bishop of Gary, Ind. Bishop Grutka, who was very proud of his Slovak heritage, was an important figure in the life of the American Slovak community. The Joliet, Ill. native headed the Gary Diocese from 1957 until his retirement in 1984. Following his retirement, Bishop Grutka continued his interest and activity within the world-wide Slovak community. He passed away in November 1993.

The presenter, Monsignor Semancik is a well-known retired priest of the Diocese of Gary. He is the retired pastor of the former Sacred Heart Slovak parish in East Chicago, Ind. and served for many years as director of Catholic Charities in the Gary Diocese. In addition, he also served as chairman of the board of Catholic Charities, U.S.A., the largest charitable non-profit outreach institution in the country.

Following the presentation, seminar participants will have the opportunity to tour the Bishop Grutka Memorial Museum located at the college. The interesting and colorful museum, dedicated in February 2013, chronicles the life and times of Bishop Grutka. Cost of the seminar and luncheon is \$20.00 per person. Reservations are necessary. For information and reservations call John Jurcenko at (773)763-0810 or Geri Hletko at (708)387-7812. These annual seminars offer a wonderful opportunity for those interested in their Slovak heritage and faith traditions to come together to celebrate their pride and enjoy one another's company. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. We look forward to seeing many midwest Sokols and Sokolky at this year's pastoral seminar.

Zdar Boh!
Robert TabakMagruder
Seminar Publicist

41st Gary Slovak Day on July 20 in Merrillville, Ind.

The 41st annual Slovak Day observance of the Diocese of Gary, Ind. is set for Sunday, July 20 at the Saviorian Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa located at 5755 Pennsylvania Street in Merrillville, Ind. Festivities begin with a celebrated Mass at 10:30 a.m. in the shrine chapel. Monsignor Joseph P. Semancik, Ph.D. will be the principal celebrant of the liturgy.

Following the Mass, a luncheon featuring an array of Slovak culinary specialties will be available. A cultural program featuring Slovak

music and dance will be featured beginning at 2 p.m. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. For additional information, call the committee chairperson, Betty Yurechko at tel. (219)795-1518.

The Slovak Day was established in 1963 during the ministry of the late Bishop Andrew G. Grutka, the first ordinary of the Gary Diocese. Each year, those of Slovak ancestry from across northwest Indiana and Chicagoland gather to celebrate pride in their heritage and culture.

Annual Pierogi-Pirohy Fest in Whiting, Ind., July 25-27

The Whiting Pierogi-Pirohy Fest is a three-day "street festival" in Whiting, Ind., located about 20 minutes from Chicago, Ill. It is presented by the Whiting Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce and attracts almost 200,000 visitors each year. This year's fest is scheduled for the weekend of July 25-27, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The weekend fest is jam packed with street vendors selling ethnic specialties, drinks and fun novelty items such as t-shirts and imported folk items from Eastern Europe. The fest also features events like the Polka Dance Off, judged by Mr. Pierogi and Ms. Paczki.

Not only can you tap your toes to the live and pulsating music of polka bands each day, but you

can sit and watch the beautifully costumed young men and women from various folk ensembles. Among the Slovak dance troupes at this year's fest are the Lucina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, Oh. under the direction of Tom Ivanec; the Sarisan Slovak Folk Ensemble from Detroit, Mich. under the direction of Milan Straka; the Veselica Slovak Folk Ensemble of Chicago, Ill and the Vychodna Slovak Dancers from Mississauga, Ontario, Canada under the direction of Executive Vice President and our Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich. The Slovak ensembles perform on Saturday, July 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. and on Sunday, July 27 from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

For additional information, visit the official Pierogi Fest website: www.pierogifest.net or call toll free 1-800-659-0292.

VANTAGE 1 ANNUITY – ENHANCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

For a number of years the investment climate has had its ups and downs. Everyone is waiting and expecting the interest earning rates to increase, it just has not happened. Without a crystal ball or being able to predict the future no one is sure when these changes will occur. Our current short-term annuity plans the Vantage 1, Vantage 2 and Vantage 3 are designed for this purpose. These plans are for the individual looking for a solid short-term investment alternative that affords them the flexibility to make financial decisions without a long term commitment and crediting an excellent interest rate.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is making a change to further enhance the Vantage 1 Annuity, it is designed and tailored primarily for the individual that is not quite sure what investment vehicle is right during these low interest rate times, is undecided what length of time they want to invest, waiting for the stock market to take-off, or looking for a good short-term investment alternative with numerous options and flexibilities.

With this in mind, the enhanced version of the Vantage 1 Annuity now includes a "30-Day Window", which starts on the anniversary date of the annuity certificate. During this period the annuitant/owner can exercise a number of options that meets their investment needs. Annually prior to the certificate anniversary date, a notice is sent to the annuitant/owner that presents each of the available options, which consists of the following: 1) continue as a Vantage 1 earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; 2) withdrawing a portion of the certificate amount and continuing

the certificate earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; or 3) transfer all or specified portion of the total deposit to a new annuity contract with the Slovak Catholic Sokol or another financial institution.

Not only will you find the Vantage 1 Annuity Plan competitive, but also it outperforms the current short-term market offerings and is tax deferred. The Vantage 1 is currently earning a yield of 1.25% APY.

Vantage 1 Features:

The Vantage 1 Annuity is tax-deferred annuity, with a minimum guaranteed interest rate of 1%. What makes this annuity special is a unique feature, the "30 Day Window", that allows the certificate holder to notify the Slovak Catholic Sokol of their intentions to withdraw their deposit and interest earned, penalty free, at the end of each certificate anniversary date. This option is available for the life of the annuity certificate. Any withdrawal made outside the timeframe of the "30-Day Window" and exceeds the annual 10% annual withdrawal will result in a penalty charge as follows:

During	1st year –	6%
	2nd year –	5%
	3rd year –	4%
	4th year –	3%
	5th year –	2%

As with our entire Vantage Collection of Annuity Plans the Slovak Catholic Sokol allows a 10% penalty free withdrawal, annually after the first year. However, the 10% free withdrawal may be subject to IRS penalty.

Vantage Annuity Plans Features

Tax-Deferred Earnings
 Earnings grow tax-free until a

withdrawal occurs. Due to the power of compound tax-deferred growth, your retirement savings will accumulate quicker compared to a fully taxable account.

Cost

With all of our Annuity plans your investment can grow rapidly since there are no initial service, contract, transaction or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premiums goes directly into your annuity's cash value and earns interest immediately.

Safety

Your annuity deposits are protected by the total resources of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Information regarding the solvency can be readily verified by our financial statements filed with the New Jersey Insurance Department. These financial statements are accompanied by the required Actuarial Certification and Opinion of an independent Certified Public Accountant.

Early Withdrawal

Each of the Vantage Collection of Annuity Products has a 10% penalty free withdrawal feature after the first anniversary year.

Guaranteed Income Option

Each of the Vantage Plans has an option that allows the Annuitant at any time to settle/annuitize the contract. When the annuity contract is settled/annuitized a guaranteed payment is established pays a specified periodic distribution or for a lifetime of income.

The settlement options available are: • Life Only, • Specified Period, • Life and Period Certain and • Payments for Life for both situations on a single individual or as a joint and survivor.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ANNUITY RATES

EFFECTIVE SINCE: JULY 1, 2012

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
VANTAGE 1	1.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 2	1.50%	1.00%
VANTAGE 3	2.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 5	3.25%	2.00%
VANTAGE 7	3.50%	2.00%

SINGLE PREMIUM IMMEDIATE ANNUITY

SPIA

5 THROUGH 9 YEARS	2.75%
10 YEARS OR MORE	3.50%

NO LONGER OFFERED
 EFFECTIVE: AUGUST 31, 2011

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
FLEXIBLE	3.00%	3.00%
SINGLE PREMIUM	3.00%	3.00%



2014 Slovak Catholic Federation Mid-Year Annual Appeal Report

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, Appeal Director

Since 1978 the Slovak Catholic Federation has been conducting the SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal which begins each year in the month of



February during the closest weekend to the Feast of SS. Cyril & Methodius. To date I wish to report that \$13,069.41 has been collected, roughly \$2,000.00 short

from last year's mid-year report. In its 36th year, this appeal has primarily been taken up in parishes in the United States of Slovak heritage. As we are all very much aware, the days of "ethnic parishes" are becoming a thing of the past. More and more Slovaks reside in different parts of the country and no longer claim to belong to a parish of Slovak heritage. For this reason may Slovaks may not have the opportunity to hear about, let alone participate in this Annual Appeal. If it were not for the Slovak Catholic Fraternal Societies and their publications, communication to American and Canadian Slovaks would not be possible. In recent years we have seen an increase in individual donations apart from the parish collections. Also most of the Slovak Fraternal Societies have also been making contributions to this collection from their National Board of Directors, along with a number of local branches, wreaths, assemblies, and lodges. The appeal continues during the entire calendar year 2014.

This appeal assists the Church in Slovakia by supporting the training mission of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril & Methodius in Rome, Italy (formally known as the Slovak Institute or Ustav). As you know, the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius was built through the generosity of the American Slovak Catholic community a half century ago. Our own Slovak Catholic Sokol was among the major contributors to this project. Since then, our members have generously supported its mission. In addition, funds are distributed to those Religious Communities of both men and women which share a counterpart which belongs to the Slovak Conference of Religious. These Communities being: Vincentian Sisters of Charity (Ruzomberok); Dominican Sisters (Dunajska Luzna); School Sisters of St. Francis (Zilina); Daughters of St. Francis Bratislava-Prievoz); Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great Secove and Presov); Franciscan Friars Minor (Bratislava); and House of St. Benedict (Bacurov).

As various groups will be holding summer picnics along with several Fraternal National Conventions, I ask that consideration be given to kindly taking up a collection in support of the Slovak Catholic Federation Appeal. All donations are tax deductible. In 2013 this Annual Appeal totaled \$39,678.41.

Since the inception of the SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal our Sokol Groups, Assemblies, Wreaths as well

as individual members have supported this effort, for which I am very grateful. Last year, a total of six of our Groups as well as seven lodges contributed to the appeal. As Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I am grateful to them for their generosity. I hope that many more of our Sokol lodges and Groups will consider supporting this year's drive.

Individuals, Groups, picnics, etc are all welcome to make a donation to this appeal, make all checks payable to: Slovak Catholic Federation and send directly to Dolores Evanko, National Secretary-Treasurer, 173

Berner Ave., Hazleton, PA 18201.

I pray that Almighty God reward all of us who participate in the support of the Church in Slovakia through the Slovak Catholic Federation 36th Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal.



Foreign Ministry welcomes agreements of three countries with the EU

The Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Ministry has welcomed the signing of Association Agreements between the European Union, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine that took place on June 27.

In Ukraine's case, the remaining parts related to economic integration have been sealed. The first part of the agreement associated with political issues was signed on March 21.

The signing of the association agreements completes five years of intensive talks between the Union and the three countries in question concerning their further political accession and economic integration in the EU.

Slovakia is ready to continue to

provide political support to Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine in their efforts aimed at EU integration, the ministry stated.

Meanwhile, the association agreements don't automatically mean the launch of EU-integration processes. Moldova, for its part, would like to be granted the status of a candidate country as soon as of next year, however. The agreements envisage a series of reforms in key areas such as public administration, justice, police forces, economic revival and growth. Also expected are reforms in the energy industry, transport, environment, industrial development, social development, education and culture.

LIFE LESSONSSM

The Day the Music Ended

Music filled the LaBarge household. Roger would choose from his vast collection of "vinyl" and play songs from the '60s and '70s, creating an ongoing soundtrack for life with his family—wife, Janet, and sons, Shane and Brett.

His family reveled in his music and the relaxed vibe that Roger, a photographer by profession, brought to family life in the suburbs of Pittsburgh. All that ended, however, when Roger died of a heart attack brought on by undiagnosed heart disease at age 56.

A family that had once enjoyed a comfortable middle-class life was suddenly faced with mounting financial worries. Calls of sympathy from family and friends were replaced by calls from the mortgage lender, credit agencies and utility companies.

Sadly, Roger died with no life insurance. That meant Janet, who was out on permanent disability at the time, had to struggle to make ends meet for herself and Brett, who was in junior high. Shane, who had just started college, was forced to rethink his plans. He worked an internship and a part-time job at a retail store so he continue to afford his studies.



Janet LaBarge with her two sons, (from left) Shane and Brett

In the two years since Roger died, the family has managed to keep the home they lived in, but continue to be challenged by their financial obligations.

Shane is determined to finish college and to move on to law school. He's also passionate about sharing what happened to his family. His advice to other families who are unsure about needing life insurance: "We were just like you. This happens to people like you every day—just as it did for us. You don't want your family to have to live with the consequences of not getting life insurance." ■

Do I Really Need Life Insurance?

Many people think, "I'm young. I'm not going to die." Statistically they may be right. However, they could end up being one of the statistics. You just don't know—that's the problem. The solution is life insurance.

Get started today:



Download the free guide **What You Need to Know About Life Insurance** at www.lifehappens.org/lifeinsuranceguide.



Calculate how much coverage you might need using the easy online **Life Insurance Needs Calculator** at www.lifehappens.org/howmuch.



When you're ready, reach out to an agent who will walk you through your options at no cost.



The Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping consumers take personal financial responsibility through the ownership of life insurance and related products. ©2013 LIFE. All rights reserved.

The Mixing Bowl

CARAMEL PECAN SQUARES

10 caramels-light
3 tbsp. water
2 eggs
3/4 cup sugar
1/3 cup melted butter
or margarine
3/4 cup sifted all purpose flour
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup chopped pecans

Place caramels and water in saucepan. Medium heat, cook until caramels are melted and sauce is smooth. Cool. Beat eggs, add sugar. Beat until light and fluffy. Combine butter or margarine with caramel sauce. Add to sugar egg mixture. Beat until thoroughly blended. Add flour which has been sifted with baking powder and salt. Add vanilla and nuts. Bake in 9-inch square pan greased in 350DegreesF oven 30-35 minutes. Cool. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar - cut - 16 squares.

BUTKY(NUT ROLLS)

1 cake yeast
6 cups flour
1 tsp. salt
1/2 cup butter or shortening
1/2 cup sugar
3 eggs
2 cups milk
1 tsp. vanilla or lemon extract

Raise yeast in 1/2 cup warm milk with 1/4 teaspoon sugar for 10 minutes. Sift flour, measure, sift again with 1 teaspoon salt. Cream butter, add sugar and cream very well. Beat in 3 eggs. When yeast is raised, add to creamed mixture and mix. Add flour alternately with remaining milk(1 1/2 cups) then add 1 teaspoon vanilla or lemon extract. Let raise about 2 hours, until doubled in bulk. Divide dough into 3 or

4 balls. Roll(one at a time) each ball into about 1/4 inch thickness. Fill each with prepared filling, roll like a jelly roll, place on long, greased pan(not too close as they raise quite large) and let raise again for about 30 minutes. Place in 350DegreesF oven for about 20 minutes, or until brown.

Filling for Butky

1/2 lb. ground walnut meats
4 tbsp. sugar
1/2 cup milk
2 tbsp. melted butter
1/2 tsp. cinnamon.

Mix the above ingredients together. It is enough for 2 rolls.

PINEAPPLE COOKIES

1 cup butter
1 cup white sugar
1 cup brown sugar
Cream together the above ingredients and add:
2 well-beaten eggs
9-ounce can crushed pineapple, including juice
1 tsp. vanilla
3/4 cup chopped nuts
1 tsp. soda
4 cups sifted flour

Drop by teaspoonfuls on greased cookie sheet. Bake in 375DegreesF oven 10-14 minutes. Makes six dozen.

Want a healthy snack for that next hike or camping trip? Or just to munch on when the hungries grab you at home or office? Try this mix suggested by the American Heart Association:

FRUIT-NUT SNACK MIX

1/2 cup dried apricots, cut in quarters
1/2 cup dates, cut in half
1/4 cup raisins
1/2 cup whole almonds
1/2 cup walnut halves
1/2 cup unsalted peanuts

1/4 cup unsalted sunflower seeds

Toss ingredients together in a large bowl. Store in a tightly covered container. Makes 12, 1/4 cup servings.

The ancient Chinese were well aware of the magic of summer. Each year, they marked the advent of this special time with the Festival of Light. This celebration meant a renewal of their closeness to nature and included a hearty feast.

In America, the arrival of summer means moving outdoors to enjoy nature, and that means a barbecue. Actually, the barbecue itself can be traced back to ancient China. Hungry hunters returned from the fields with a day's kill, placed their metal shields over an open fire to make a "grill," and barbecued the fresh meat.

Try this barbecued chicken recipe on your outdoor patio grill or at your local picnic grounds.

SWEET & SOUR

BARBECUED CHICKEN

1, 10 oz. jar sweet & sour sauce
1/4 cup soy sauce
2 tbsp. vegetable oil
1 tsp. ground ginger
1 tbs. garlic powder
1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper
1 1/2 lbs. chicken pieces

In small bowl, combine all ingredients except chicken. In glass baking dish, place chicken and pour marinade over. Marinate 4 hours or overnight in refrigerator. Grill 6 to 8 inches from heat source for 20 to 30 minutes per side. Makes 2 to 4 servings.

How it began - U.S. style

Women's Rights Convention: One July 19 and 20, 1848, over 300 women and men assembled at the Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, N.Y. for the first Women's Rights Convention. This first "Convention to discuss the social, civil and religious condition and rights of woman" was the formal beginning of the women's rights movement still in progress in America today.

The Convention was called because five courageous women - Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Jane Hunt, Mary Ann McClintock, and Martha Wright - felt the need to publicly address the grievances of women. Many factors contributed to the success of the Convention including the industrial revolution, the prevalent spirit of reform, and the movement west.

Declaration of Sentiments: The five women met at the home of Mary Ann McClintock to draft their grievances into a Declaration of Sentiment modeled after the Declaration of Independence. It called, *outrageously*, for the right of women to vote and for 17 additional rights. It declared that "all men and women were created equal" and was signed by 68 women and 32 men at the Convention. Many of the participants, however, refused to approve a document so extreme as to ask for the right of women to vote.

Women's Rights National Historical Park: The history of the women's rights movement and the

Sokol Birthdays

JULY 21

Lubomir Marsik, Old Bridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

Dr. Pamela K. Maskara-Honohan, Fairfield, Conn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

JULY 22

Roman Hrdlicka, Roslindale, Ma., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Ma.

Michael J. Knies, Lansford, Pa., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

Ladislav Kolozi, New Foundland, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Albert M. Kollesar Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a members of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

JULY 23

Carol Cmar Fleming, West Mifflin, Pa., president of Assembly 295, Duquesne, Pa.

Bernard Skurka, Highland, Ind., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

Michael J. Stroka, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Adeline Vatavuk, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

JULY 24

Stephen J. Knoblock, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

JULY 25

Kelly Connolly, Jensen Beach, Fla., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tamara Ann Kaplan, Hopewell Junction, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

JULY 26

Kim Graham, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Rev. Placid F. Pientek, O.S.B., Cleveland, Oh., a member of Assembly 303, Cleveland, Oh.

Roseann Rakovan, Chardon, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Joseph P. Sroba, Trevoise, Pa., a member of Assembly 48, Philadelphia, Pa.

JULY 27

Julia Cernak, Windsor, Me., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

J. Kevin Conway, Douglas, Mass., financial secretary of Assembly 28, Douglas, Mass.

Alaina Mondik, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Martha Sipka Parry, Poway, Cal., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y. Happy 96th birthday!

JULY 28

Judith Ann Glogovsky, Flushing, N.Y., a member of Wreath 168, New York City.

Albert J. Suess, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa., President and Financial Secretary of Assembly 16, Pittsburgh, Pa.

JULY 29

Leonard Malshefski, Nanticoke, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

James G. Papcun, Livonia, Twp., Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

Anna M. Rollman, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

JULY 30

Andrew G. Buck, Poland, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

Pamela Ann Hess, Cedar Grove, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

John Janetka, Philadelphia, Pa., a member of Assembly 48, Philadelphia, Pa.

John Yonkoski, Sr., Dunlo, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlo, Pa.

JULY 31

Bradley A. Schostok, Libertyville, Ill., a member of Assembly 257, Chicago, Ill.

Barbara Zalesny, Shickhinny, Pa., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Remember the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

Have you found yourself looking for a way to memorialize a lost loved one or fellow Group/Wreath/Assembly member? Why not make a donation in their honor to the Memorial Scholarship fund? Donations made payable to: SCS Memorial Scholarship Fund may be sent to:

Dennis J. Zifcak
SCS Museum Treasurer
33 Pinecrest Rd.
Uxbridge, MA 01569

or

Julie Ann Dobbs
SCS Museum Chairperson
5314 Agatha Turn,
Racine, WI 53402

history of its founders is the focus of the Women's Rights National Historical Park. Legislation establishing the Park was signed on December 28, 1980. The Park is located in Seneca Falls and Wateloo.

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton home at 32 Washington Street is

restored and open to the public. The Wesleyan Chapel at Fall and Mynders Streets was purchased by the National Park Service in 1985. In Waterloo, the Hunt house is at 401 East Main Street, and the McClintock house is at 16 East Williams Street.

(Editor's note: We have noticed a number of returned copies of our Falcon due to incorrect addresses of our members. We ask that when individuals move, that they complete the form below for a change of address or call the home office. We thank you for your continued cooperation)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REQUEST FOR SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON
P.O. BOX 899 • 205 MADISON STREET
PASSAIC, N.J. 07055

NEW CHANGE CANCELLATION

Certificate No. _____

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Old Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**Members of the Board of Directors
at their Quarterly Meeting
held on Friday, July 11 at the Hilton
Garden Hotel in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.**



Celebrating 238 Years of Freedom

How was the first Independence Day celebrated? Independence was declared on July 4, 1776 and read to the ecstatically joyful citizens of Philadelphia Pa. twice that day. John Adams wrote an account of the occasion to his family: The next day, President Washington and I and other members of Congress went on board the ship Delaware, where we were saluted with a 13-gun salute. When the President returned to the shore, he was saluted with 3 cheers, from every ship, galley, and boat in the river.



At 3 p.m., we went to dinner, and were entertained with fine music from a band of Hessians taken at Trenton. Toasts were made in honor of our country and the heroes who had fallen in their pious efforts to defend her.

After this, two troops of light-horse, raised in Maryland paraded through Second Street; after them, artillery and then one thousand infantry from North Carolina. All marched into the common, where

they went through their firings and maneuvers.

In the evening, I was surprised to find the whole city lighting up their candles at the windows. It was the most splendid illumination I ever saw. Considering the lateness of the celebration's design and the suddenness of the execution, I was amazed at the universal joy and alacrity and at the brilliancy and splendor of every part of every part of this joyful exhibition, the ringing of bells all day and evening, bonfires in the streets, and fireworks played off. - **John Adams**, reprinted from Adams Family Correspondence

ones.

6. Don't strain yourself and your heart by underestimating the effects of age or overestimating your own strength.

7. Dress for summer work or play with absorbent, loose-fitting clothing.

8. Pay attention to warning signals - shortness of breath, tired muscles, dizziness, or fatigue. They are the body's way of telling you to slow down.

9. When it's hot, eat lighter meals with fewer spicy, heavy, or fat foods. Go easy on iced drinks; often they just make you feel hotter.

Put Best Foot Forward

Appearances count!
Just ask any salesperson.

The well-groomed, sharp-looking individual who speaks properly gets the attention of his or her superiors as certainly as the cleverly packaged grocery item catches the shopper's eye.

A pleasing appearance produces that instant first impression, and it remains favorable until the individual destroys it by something he or she says or does.

Make sure that first impression of you counts.

'Mind Your Business'

The first coin specifically authorized for issuance in the United States was the Fugio cent of 1787. It bore a terse warning that was typically American: Mind Your Business.

Guess there weren't too many taxes in 1787.

AMERICAN SLOVAK ZEMPLIN CLUB
SPONSOR



SLOVAK 

PICNIC 

SUNDAY JULY, 20, 2014
Noon until 8 PM

SLOVAK SOKOL CAMP
2069 ROYALWOOD ROAD
(BETWEEN STATE AND BROADVIEW RD.)
BROADVIEW HTS.

SLOVAK FOOD, BEER-PIVO, PASTRIES and DANCING

Music by **JOHNNY PASTIRIK BAND**

INFORMATION: 440/885-5702 440/888-7028 440/238-4177
440/934-5482 330/239-2256 440/843-2305
440/237-9012 216 / 721-5300 - ext. 213

Admission : \$ 4.00 (At the gate)

Listen to Speak/Listen

Communication takes place when the listener understands the speaker.

But there are many reasons why real communications seems often to be short-circuited.

- 1 - Persons don't always feel free to say what they really mean.
- 2 - Some words have different

meanings to different people.

3 - Sometimes people hear only what they want to hear with the result that the meaning intended by the speaker is distorted.

4 - Often people don't listen to a speaker's words. Much of the time they are too busy thinking of what to say next.

Howcommunicative are you?

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Letné podujatia

PŮT DO WEST HAVERSTRAW, NY

PŮt do Mariánskej svätyně vo Haverstraw, NY, ktorú každý rok usporiadajú slovenské farnosti v newyorkskej arcidiecéze, bude v nedeľu 10. augusta. O 10.00 hodine bude spoveď. Svätá omša začne o 11.00 hodine. Služiť ju bude O. Štefan Chanas. Po omši bude obed a o 2.30 hodine bude nasledovať modlitba Sv. Ruženca.

Záujemcovia, ktorí chcú ísť na pŮt autobusom, ktorý bude odchádzať od kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku, na 66th Street a First Avenue, sa môžu skontaktovať s Máriou Božek, tel.č.: 347-612-1934. Bližšie informácie o pŮti záujemcom podá Jozef Bilik, tel. č.: 718-463-2084.

SLOVENSKÝ FESTIVAL V STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

V sobotu 23. augusta a v nedeľu 24. augusta bude na pozemkoch farnosti sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 41233 Rzan Rd. v Sterling Heights, MI 24. Slovenský festival. V sobotu bude od 2.00 hod. popoludní do 11.00 hod. večer a v nedeľu od 12.00 hod. naobed do 8.00 hod. večer.

Na predaj budú slovenské a americké jedlá, koláče a slovenské pivo. V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia folklórne súbory Šarišan z Detroitu, MI, Lúčina z Clevelandu, OH, Domovina z Windsor, Ontario a hudobné skupiny Tri-City Plus Band (v sobotu) a Hank Haller Ensemble (v nedeľu). Usporiadatelia pripravili rôzne hry pre deti. V piatok 22. augusta bude od 6.00 hod. do 11.00 hodiny večer Talent Show Competition a Family Night "Karaoke". Jedlo sa predávať nebude. Vstupné a parkovanie budú bezplatné.

FESTIVAL SLOVENSKÉHO DEDIČTVA V HOLMDEL, NJ BUDE 28. SEPTEMBRA

37. Festival slovenského dedičtva bude v nedeľu 28. septembra v PNC Bank Center v Holmdel, NJ. Začiatok bude o 10.00 hodine dopoludnia. Svätá omša bude o 11.00 hodine. O 2.00 hodine začne kultúrny program, v ktorom je zahrnutá aj tradičná prehliadka krojov. Počas dňa bude futbalový turnaj. Na predaj budú rôzne slovenské výrobky a jedlá.

Mladí fyzici zo SR skončili na súťaži vo Veľkej Británii druhí

Slovenskí mladí fyzici bodovali na medzinárodnej súťaži. Päťčlenný tím zo Slovenska na turnaji v konkurencii 28 krajín skončil v absolútnom poradí druhý. Turnaj sa konal od 3. do 10. júla v meste Shrewsbury vo Veľkej Británii, informuje Martin Hílek z IUVENTY - Slovenského inštitútu mládeže.

Turnaj mladých fyzikov je tímová súťaž pre stredoškolských študentov v riešení fyzikálnych problémov. Päťčlenné družstvá riešia počas celého školského roka 17 vopred známych náročných problémov, ktoré neskôr pre-

zentujú a obhajujú pred inými družstvami a odbornou porotou. Ďalej postupujú tí najlepší študenti, ktorí prešli regionálnymi a celoštátnym kolom súťaže a uspeli na výberovom sústredení. Slovensko a Singapur boli na tohtoročnej súťaži jediné dve družstvá, ktoré dokázali vyhrať všetkých päť výberových kôl.

Slovenskí stredoškólcami museli vyriešiť niekoľko neľahkých fyzikálnych problémov. Mali napríklad navrhnuť sviečkovú elektrárňu, ktorá premení teplo z plameňa sviečky na elektrickú energiu.

V Británii zverejnili vynesené dokumenty KGB o Pražskej jari

Univerzita v Cambridgei 7. júla zverejnila dokumenty, ktoré v roku 1992 vynesol z Ruska bývalý vysoký predstaviteľ sovietskej tajnej služby Vasilij Mitrochin a označujú ich za jeden z najväčších spravodajských únikov v dejinách.

Bývalý archívár Výboru štátnej bezpečnosti (KGB) si vyše desať rokov nosil záznamy tajne domov, kde ich prepisoval a zoradil, a po rozpade Sovietskeho zväzu ich poskytol Britom. Úkrytom pre listiny opisujúce sabotážne plány, spôsoby získavania špiónov na Západe v období studenej vojny, ale aj snahy potlačiť takzvanú Pražskú jar v roku 1968 bola údajne Mitrochinova chata na vidieku, kde čast' z nich zakopal do zeme v kanvici na mlieko.

Podľa britského historika Christophera Andrewa „utajený disident“ naskôr oslovil veľvyslanectvo USA v jednom z pobaltských štátov, kde ho však odmietli. Úspešný bol až u Britov, kde ho jeden z diplomatov usadil a ponúkol mu „šálku čaju“.

Rozsiahly súbor listín zverejnený Churchillovým archívom centrom Univerzity v Cambridgei špecialista na históriu spravodajských služieb označil za „vôbec najdôležitejší zdroj“ informácií o Rusoch pre britské i americké orgány.

Zložky obsahujú okrem iného aj zoznam tajných agentov vyslaných v roku 1968 do Československa s úlohou infiltrovať sa medzi disidentov stojacich za vtedajším predemokratickým hnutím. Cieľom inej skupiny bol kruh okolo poľského duchovného Karola Wojtyly, ktorý sa stal neskôr pápežom a KGB mu vyčítal „mimoriadne protikomunistické názory“.

Samotný Mitrochin údajne strávil zvyšok života v Británii, kde dostal falošné meno a policajnú ochranu a v roku 2004 zomrel vo veku 81 rokov. Svet sa o ňom dozvedel ešte v roku 1999, keď Andrew vydal knihu vychádzajúcu z jeho zápisok.

- SITA

USA dali SR najlepšiu známku

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

partnerských mimovládnych organizácií Program podpory a ochrany obetí obchodovania s ľuďmi.

Minulý rok zaradili do programu 30 osôb, ktorým poskytli komplexnú pomoc. Išlo o 21 ženských obetí a deväť mužských.

Od roku 2008 do roku 2013 cez program pomohli 151 osobám, ktoré prejavili záujem o vstup do programu.

V Šelpiciach odhalili pamätne tabule don Heribanovi a don Nádaskému



Dňa 5. júla 2014 na slávnosti sv. Cyrila a Metoda sa konala v Šelpiciach pri Trnave milá slávnosť. Z iniciatívy miestneho obecného a farského úradu boli slávnostne odhalené a požehnané pamätne tabule dvom rodákom, významným osobnostiam, saleziánom – don Heribanovi a don Nádaskému. Svätú omšu celebroid miestny správca farnosti vdp. František Mrkva a koncelebroval i kázal bývalý provinciál saleziánov don Karol Maník. Predstavil tieto dve osobnosti a ich nasadenie pri ohlasovaní Krista, šírení kresťanstva a prínos pre vedu a kultúru.

Po svätej omši nasledovalo požehnanie tabúl, ktoré sú umiestnené na priechelí kostola.

Jozef Heriban, biblista a vedec svetového mena, sa narodil 7. mája 1925. V roku 1943 vstúpil do saleziánskeho noviciátu v Hronskom Svätom Beňadiku, kde o rok zložil prvé rehoľné sľuby. V roku 1950, po zlikvidovaní kláštorov komunistickým režimom, sa mu podarilo ujsť do zahraničia, kde potom študoval teológiu a bol vysvätený za kňaza v Turíne 1. júla 1955.

Pokračoval v štúdiu biblických vied v Ríme, odkiaľ ho potom predstavení poslali vyučovať biblické vedy do Japonska, kde horlivo pôsobil ako misionár takmer 20 rokov. V roku 1976 sa vrátil do Ríma a začal pôsobiť na Pápežskej saleziánskej univerzite. Obhájil doktorskú prácu, prednášal a publikoval.

Zomrel v Ríme 16. apríla 2009. Jeho telesné ostatky boli prevezené na Slovensko a pochovaný bol v rodnej obci.

Činnosť don Heribana v odbore biblických vied významne ocenili v r. 1989, keď ho v Dubline zvolili za člena medzinárodnej organizácie Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas, v ktorej sa združujú významní bádatelia v odbore Nového zákona.

Meno prof. Heribana sa uvádza aj v knihe uverejňujúcej informácie o najznámejších odborníkoch a bádateľoch v odbore

biblických vied a archeológie, ktorú vydali r. 1993 vo Washington. Ako hostujúci profesor prednášal biblické vedy na viacerých univerzitách vo svete a zúčastnil sa na viacerých medzinárodných kongresoch biblistov.

Prezident Slovenskej republiky Ivan Gašparovič mu 1. januára 2005 udelil za významné zásluhy o kultúrno-duchovný rozvoj Slovenskej republiky Pribinov kríž III. triedy. 12. decembra 2005 mu Trnavská univerzita udelila čestný doktorát a 5. marca 2006 Štefan Bošnják, primátor mesta Trnava, ho poctil čestným občianstvom tohto mesta.

Augustín Nádaský, pedagóg a jeden z najväčších odborníkov na slovenskú literatúru, sa narodil 2. októbra 1930. Do saleziánskeho noviciátu vstúpil v roku 1946. Prvé rehoľné sľuby zložil 9. augusta 1947. Po zatvorení kláštorov aj on ušiel v roku 1952 cez Moravu a Rakúsko do Talianska, kde pokračoval v štúdiu teológie a 1. júla 1959 bol vysvätený za kňaza. Pôsobil v Turíne a v San Begnino Canavesse. Odtiaľ odišiel do Ríma, kde pomáhal založiť Slovenský Ústav sv. Cyrila a Metoda a hlavne Slovenské gymnázium Antona Bernoláka, na ktorom bol 12 rokov školským radcom (od roku 1964) a počnúc rokom 1976 dvadsaťpäť rokov jeho riaditeľom. Vyučoval slovenčinu, nemeckú literatúru, dejepis, zemepis, taliančinu a filmológiu. Ako uviedol jeden z odchovancov tohto gymnázia – „don Nádaský bol salezián a pedagóg, čo do nás vlieval lásku ku Slovensku, k slovenským dejinám a k slovenskej literatúre.“

Okrem toho pripravoval vo Vatikánskom rozhlasе slovenské vysielanie.

Na Slovensko, do Šaštína sa vrátil v roku 1991, kde pomáhal založiť Gymnázium sv. Jána Boska, ktorého bol istý čas aj riaditeľom. Až do svojej smrti, 6. augusta 2008, pôsobil v Šaštíne, kde je aj pochovaný.

- don Kartol Maník

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation
Slovenský Katolícky Sokol
Slovak Catholic Sokol

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VOLUME CIII

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ČÍSLO 5021

Púť na Mariánsku horu v Levoči



Levoča 6. júla (TK KBS) – Tohtoročná Levočská púť sa zaradila medzi historicky prelomové nielen kvôli výročným jubileám, ale najmä vďaka hlbokej, úprimnej a vrúnej zbožnosti, s akou prichádzali státisíce pútnikov na Mariánsku horu a prežívali chvíle stíšeného meditovania i kresťanskej súdržnosti v pútnickom stúpolčenstve. Rok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, patrónky Slovenska, a tridsiate výročie erigovania baziliky menšej na levočskej hore dominovali nielen v nedelnej slávnosti, ale počas celého odpustového týždňa.

Slávnostnú pontifikálnu svätú omšu celebraval kardinál Jozef Tomko. Mons. František Dluhoš v úvodnom príhovore k vzácnemu hosťovi vyjadril potešenie nad splnenou túžbou otca kardinála, ktorý chcel svoje životné aj kňazské jubileum osláviť práve: „...pri nohách levočskej Božej Matky a so svojimi pútnikmi.“ Levočský dekan, farár a rektor baziliky Navštívenia Panny Márie privítal arcibiskupa Bukurešti Joana Robu so sprievodom, v ktorom bolo dvanásť kňazov a takmer šesťsto rumunských pútnikov. Mons. Stanislava Zvolenského, bratislavského metropolitu metropolitu, košického arcibiskupa metropolitu Mons. Bernarda Bobera, ordinára Ozbrojených síl a ozbrojených zborov SR Mons. Františka Rábeka, spišského biskupa Mons. Štefana Sečku,

košického pomocného biskupa Mons. Stanislava Stolárika, spišského pomocného biskupa Mons. Andreja Imricha, cirkevných hodnostárov, predstaviteľov štátnej správy a samosprávy.

Kardinál Tomko sa vo svojej homílii sústredil na presah vzoru svätosti Panny Márie do našich dní, ľudských osudov i každodenných problémov. Nabádal rodičov, aby svojim deťom súmerne poskytovali dostatok existenčného zázemia, ale aj duchovných, mravných, kresťanských hodnôt. Varoval, že nemožno výchovu mladého pokolenia zveriť televízii. Povzbudil státisícový zástup pútnikov, aby nestrácali dôveru v milosťplnosť Sedembolestnej patrónky národa a čerpali neutíchajúcu nádej práve v levočskej mariánskej svätyni.

Noc zo soboty na nedeľu bola rekordnou v počte účastníkov púte a najmä vo vysluhovaní svätosti zmierenia. Veriaci sa spovedali nepretržite od ôsmej hodiny v sobotu ráno až do skončenia slávnostnej odpustovej svätej omše. Mons. F. Dluhoš celebraval v sobotu svoju 25. otváraciu svätú omšu na Mariánskej hore pred vyše 200 tisícovými zhromaždením pútnikov. V nedeľu prišlo k levočskej Božej Matke a jej vemému synovi kardinálovi J. Tomkovi zhromaždením 300 tisíc mariánskych ctiteľov.

- TK KBS

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

□ Práce na odstraňovaní pilierov starého mosta v Bratislave budú niekoľko týždňov pozastavené, nakoľko je podozrenie, že na dne Dunaja by mohli byť nevybuchnuté bomby z druhej svetovej vojny. Podľa vyjadrenia bratislavského primátora Milana Ftáčnika o pomoc požiadať ženistov Ministerstva obrany SR.

□ Prezident Andrej Kiska prijal 4. júla demisiu ministra školstva Dušana Čaploviča a ministra hospodárstva Tomáša Malatinského. Do funkcie ministra školstva zároveň na návrh premiéra Roberta Fica vymenoval bývalého štátneho tajomníka ministerstva financií Petra Pellegriniho. Ministrom hospodárstva sa stal Pavol Pavlis, bývalý štátny tajomník rezortu.

□ 4. júla dopravili na Slovensko jedného z údajných bossov martinského podsvetia, 59-ročného Dušana Kečkéša, ktorý ušiel slovenskej polícii pred päťástimi rokmi a v apríli ho zadržala thajská polícia pre podvody. Slovenskej polícii ho odovzdali na rakúskom hraničnom priechode Kittsee. Informoval o tom portál TVnoviny.sk, podľa ktorého bol Kečkéš najdlhšie hľadaným Slovákom.

□ Vlni bolo rizikom chudoby ohrozených 12,8 % obyvateľov Slovenska, čo je takmer 695 tisíc osôb. V porovnaní s predchádzajúcim rokom nastal mierny pokles o 0,4 percenta, čo predstavuje približne 22 tisíc ľudí. Vyplyva to z výsledkov štatistického zisťovania o príjmoch a životných podmienkach domácností EU SILC 2013, ktoré prezentoval Štatistický úrad SR.

□ Hranica rizika chudoby bola podľa posledných údajov zisťovania 4 042 eur na rok, čo v prípade jednočlennej domácnosti predstavuje približne 337 eur na mesiac. Medziročný pokles v porovnaní s rokom 2012 bol približne 9 eur na mesiac.

USA dali SR najlepšiu známku za boj proti obchodovaniu s ľuďmi

V najnovšej správe amerického rezortu diplomacie Slovensko obhájilo hodnotenie jedna, ktoré ho radí do skupiny štátov najlepšie bojujúcich proti obchodovaniu s ľuďmi. Informovalo o tom americké ministerstvo zahraničných vecí na svojom webe.

Najvyššie hodnotenie má Slo-vensko od roku 2011. Americká diplomacia vydáva správu o obchodovaní s ľuďmi každoročne.

Slovensko je podľa dokumentu zdrojová, tranzitná aj cieľová krajina pre mužov, ženy a deti, s ktorými sa ob-

choduje pre sex a nútenú prácu.

Správa hovorí aj o slovenských Rómoch, ktoré bývali najmä v Británii obeťmi nútených sobášov s občanmi tretích krajín, ktorí sa zväzkom s obľankou Európskej únie chcú vyhnúť vyhosteniu.

Na druhej strane dokument konštatuje, že muži a ženy z Ukrajiny, Moldavska, Bulharska, Rumunska a Vietnamu bý-vajú zneužívaní na nútené práce na Slovensku.

Na Slovensku funguje spoluprácou ministerstva vnútra a

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

Košice - ôsme najpôsobiliejšie mesto sveta!

Košíciam - metropole východného Slovenska po tom, ako ju prestížny cestovateľský web zaradil medzi slovenské Top turistické lokality, bolo udelené ďalšie ocenenie. Boli ohodnotené ako ôsme najpôsobiliejšie mesto sveta.

Zaradila ich tam americká nezávislá mediálna spoločnosť Matador, ktorá sa zaoberá kultúrou a cestovaním. Ide o najväčší cestovateľský online magazín. Na svojej webovej stránke spoločnosť zverejnila zoznam štyridsiatich najpôsobiliejších „druhých miest“ sveta. Označenie znamená, že ide o druhé najväčšie mesto krajiny. Košice sa umiestnili

na ôsmej priečke Ocitli sa tak v spoločnosti Ria de Janeiro či Krakova.

Metropola východu zaujala projektom Košice Interface 2013, vďaka ktorému získala na rok titul Európske hlavné mesto kultúry.

Najpôsobiliejšie mestá

1. Jokohama, Japonsko
2. Cork, Írsko
3. Gothenburg, Švédsko
4. Ankara, Turecko
5. Bergen, Nórsko
6. Rio de Janeiro, Brazília
7. Rotterdam, Holandsko
8. Košice, Slovensko
9. Busan, Južná Kórea
10. Porto, Portugalsko

