

*Za Boha a Národ*



*For God and Nation*

# Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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## Scenes of the Slovak Disco Party - Disco Zabava hosted by Assembly 182 St. John Nepomucene Social Hall + New York City + Saturday, April 22



Vice President Jozef Bodo, seated, chairperson of the Disco Party, with Assembly 182 officers including Honorary Supreme Officer, Dr. Mary Z. Gasparik, Anna and Jozef Korcak and members of the committee.

Featuring the artistry of  
DJ “Rado Lesay”



## From the desk of the Supreme Secretary

### A Busy and beautiful Month

by Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.

"God is light; in him is no darkness at all." 1 John 1:5

As the month of May is well underway, I am sure that most of us would agree that it is one of the most beautiful months of the year. The weather finally starts to cooperate and the colors of the different flowers are in full view. The month of May is also a time when we start putting our summer schedules together as the outdoor activities begin in full force.



I hope that many of our Members took the time to celebrate Join Hands Day on Saturday, May 6th. It is a national day of volunteering sponsored by America's fraternal benefit societies. It is a day of community service that specifically targets and develops relationships between young people and adults through neighborhood volunteering. Many communities across the world use this day as a building block to start the communication process between the young and old. With the mix of our young adults and our "wise and experienced" members, the Slovak Catholic Sokol can be a shining example of this special day. I urge our local Assembly and Wreath leaders to schedule a community service event and let the rest of our membership know about it through our Falcon. Remember, Join Hands Day should not only be celebrated one day a year. This is what we do and who we are as fraternalists.

Probably the most important day of the month of May happened a couple days ago on Sunday, May 14th. That wonderful day was, of course, Mother's Day. Anna Jarvis is recognized as the Founder of Mother's Day in the United States. She developed the inspiration of celebrating Mother's Day from her own mother, Mrs. Anna Marie Reeves Jarvis, in her childhood. As an activist and social worker, the elder Mrs. Jarvis used to express her desire that we should honor all mothers and pay tribute to the contributions made by them. Following her mother's death, Anna wrote letters to people in positions of power lobbying for the official declaration of Mother's day. The hard work paid off and on May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a Joint Resolution designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. I would like to wish all our Sokol Mothers out there a Happy Mother's Day! And I would especially like to wish my Mother, Annie, and my wife, Maggie (a soon to be Mommy!), a Happy Mother's Day! I remind everyone, once again, that celebrating our beautiful Mothers should not only be a one day event, but an everyday occurrence.

In our next issue of the Falcon, our members will also have the opportunity to see the smiling faces of our 2016-2017 Scholarship Recipients. Our scholarship grants are awarded to those on the college, high school, and grade school levels. This year will mark the 44th Anniversary of our generous scholarship program and we are proud of the fact that we have supported over 2,100 students with over \$1.5 million in scholarship grants. Our children are our future and we need to continue to support them!

The month of May also brings about many wonderful celebrations such as First Holy Communions, Confirmations, and Graduations. I cannot think of a better gift to give your Child or Grandchild than a Slovak Catholic Sokol Life Insurance Policy. And with our SOKOL LEGACY CAMPAIGN currently going on, there is no better time than now. Take a look at the fraternal benefit being offered on our premium rates and think about all the future benefits your child can reap with a Sokol policy, such as the above mentioned Scholarship Grants. If you have any questions regarding the SOKOL LEGACY CAMPAIGN or our array of life and annuity products, please contact our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. at (412) 381-5431 or give me a call at the Home Office at (800) 886-7656, and we would be glad to assist you.

Until next time, have a wonderful month of May, good health to all, and peace be with you! Zdar Boh!

### OUR NEXT ISSUE IS MAY 31ST

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, May 31st. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, May 25th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: [www.slovakcatholicsokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org). Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!

- Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor

## Lodge Jottings

### CLIFTON, NJ Assembly 162

The next monthly meeting of our lodge under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius is scheduled for Sunday, June 11 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Avenue beginning at 12:30 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

On our meeting agenda will be a recap of our members' participation in the 71st International Bowling Tournament held in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., May 19-20 as well as plans for our participation in the upcoming International Softball tournament scheduled for Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in June the International Slet in Brockport, N.Y. in July and the International Golf Tournament in DuBois, Pa. in August as well as any other lodge business that needs to be discussed. At this meeting our annual benefit raffle drawing will take place.

Wishing all an enjoyable summer season ahead and looking forward to seeing a good turnout at our meeting, we remain

Zdar Boh!  
John D. Pogorelec, Jr.,  
President  
David Bulwin  
Recording Secretary

### SEZ YOU... Letters to the Editor

Dear President Horvath and Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol:

The Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sisters Cities (YSC) would like to thank you for the donation of \$200 which will help pay expenses of Nova Ves Mayor Jan Volny's visit to Youngstown in June.

Although the main reason for his visit is for the presentation of wooden plaques of the Nova Ves crest and the Youngstown seal to Mayor John McNally at City Hall and attendance at the annual Simply Slavic Fest downtown on June 17, we have scheduled some interesting visits for him (Niagara Falls and area Amish sites) as well.

On June 21, we will be taking him to the national offices of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association with lunch at the latter. Another day, after a trip to the Slovak Department, Pitt University, our president, Jim Bench, will take him to the National Slovak Society to see the wood carved mechanical display of Bethlehem. If the offices of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union were closer, we would show them your facilities as well.

The Mayor is bringing a staff member who will serve as interpreter. I am the only YSC Board member who speaks Slovak so you can be assured I will mention your name when we praise the five Slovak fraternalists who provide 95 percent of our financial support.

After the event, I will do a feature story with photos for the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Thanks again for helping us out. Zdar Boh!

Bernie Demechko, YSC secretary

## Recalling the legacy of one of Slovakia's most revered sons, General Milan R. Stefanik



On May 4, we commemorated the 98th anniversary of the tragic death of General Milan Rastislav Stefanik, noted Slovak personality and co-founder of the first republic of Czechoslovakia. The son of a Lutheran pastor, he was born on July 21, 1880 in Kosiarisko located in the Trenčin region of western Slovakia. In school, he got into difficulty with the Magyar authorities because of his pro-Slovak sentiments. His brilliance in mathematics led to his being sent to the Institute of Technology at Prague. He continued his studies at Charles University where he received his doctorate in 1904. He then pursued the study of astronomy, first at Paris and later at Zurich and Milan. He became a well-known astronomer, educator and world traveler. He was a member of the French Academy as well as the British Royal Society.

A resident of Paris, and a naturalized French citizen, Stefanik entered the French military, rising to the rank of general, following France's entry in World War I in 1914. His winning personality and readiness to assume responsibility gave him the opportunity of doing what he had never dreamed of in his most ambitious plans - that of leading a military movement for the liberation of all the Slav peoples in Austria-Hungary. He recruited three armies, one in France, one in Italy and one in Russia for this purpose.

In June 1917, exactly a century ago, he came to the United States to seek the support of the administration of President Woodrow Wilson and the Slovak League of America which sought the liberation of the Slovaks at home. The United States gave full support to Stefanik and following the U.S. entry into World War I, actively promoted the liberation of the Slovaks and Czechs and the establishment of the first Republic of Czechoslovakia through President Wilson's Fourteen Points in 1918.

With the arrival of Memorial Day, May 29, 2017, it would be well to remember that in this day's observance we are celebrating death...

Of course days set aside to honor the dead are not new to humankind. For example, the Greeks performed Zoai rites at each new grave, the Romans honored their ancestors with a Parentalia festival, and most Oriental peoples took offerings of food to the graves of their ancestors on specified days.

America's Memorial Day began in the aftermath of the Civil War. Families in the South spread flowers on the graves of Confederate and Union soldiers alike. But a day was not set aside officially until General John Logan, Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued an order that May 30, 1868 be "for the purpose of strewn with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country

He was anxious to get back to the Slovakia he had made free, he planned to make the trip home by plane. After inspecting his army in Milan, Italy on the morning of May 4, 1919, he departed Padua for Bratislava where a huge welcome had been planned. As his Caproni plane appeared over the village of Vajnory, within sight of Bratislava, it was then seen suddenly to burst into flames and crash to the ground. The exact cause of the crash, in which Stefanik and the two Italian officers accompanying him were killed instantly, was never officially determined. Thousands were present to welcome him, including his aged mother.

Stefanik's absence in the early years of Czecho-Slovakia led to the internal disagreement about the status of Slovakia in the union of the Slovak and Czech peoples. His input would no doubt have led to a more defined understanding and the establishment of Slovak autonomy, something which had been guaranteed at the creation of the first republic.

General Milan R. Stefanik was truly a renaissance man and one of Slovakia's greatest sons. Let us reverence his legacy and may his memory be eternal!

## We Remember Them

during the late rebellion and whose bodies lie in almost every city, village, or hamlet churchyard in the land."

Many state legislatures and then the U.S. Congress enacted Memorial Day (originally called Decoration Day) into law.

Let us remember that we do more than celebrate death, for mortals die easily. We honor all the men and women who showed in the most tangible way possible their love and belief in America's democratic ideals and their willingness to die in defense of them. We honor those who died as well as those who lived and still live to carry on.





## Sokol Calendar

### SUN.MAY 21

■ 4th annual Slovak Children's Folk Fest hosted by the Slovak American Cultural Center of New York in the St. John Nepomucene Social Hall, 406 East 67th St., New York, N.Y. beginning at 1 p.m., refreshments will be available.

### JUNE 2-4

■ Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion Weekend at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort, Flintstone, Md. open to all members; for information email Supreme Assistant Physical Director Katie Swift at [Katie70@aol.com](mailto:Katie70@aol.com).

### MON.JUNE 5

■ Lecture "Eastern Slovak Village Culture and Traditions" by Emma Moser at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m., free of charge.

■ Assembly 16 executive meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 6 p.m.; no general membership meetings for the summer months of June, July and August.

### SUN.JUNE 11

■ Semi-annual meeting of Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka" at Hoss's Sea and Steak House, Finley Road, Belle Vernon, Pa. 15012 beginning at 1:15 p.m., for reservations call Group 6 President Anna Mae Warrick at 724 736-4032; deadline for reservations is June 4.

■ Annual picnic hosted by the Slovak American Society of Washington at Fort Hunt Park, off the George Washington Memorial Highway, Alexandria, Va. from 12 noon to 5 p.m., \$15 for individuals, \$20 for a family; contact Raymond Luca 703 475-8356.

■ Assembly 162 meeting in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning at 12:30 p.m.

### SAT.JUNE 17

■ 6th annual Simply Slavic Fest,

celebrating the heritage, culture and cuisine, of the family of Slavic nations, in downtown Youngstown, Oh. from 12 noon to 6 p.m., for information call Loretta Ekoniak at 330 549-3760.

### JUNE 22-25

■ 24th Slet and Festival hosted by The American Sokol, Iowa Sports Center, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for information tel. 708 255-5397, [www.american-sokol.org](http://www.american-sokol.org).

### JUNE 23-24

■ Quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

### JUNE 23-25

■ 30th S.C.S. International Softball Tournament at Kirby Park Fields, with participants housed at the Best Western Genetti Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., for information, call James C. Matlon at 973 647-8551.

### SUN.JUNE 25

■ Slovak Heritage Association of the Laurel Highlands meeting in the social hall of Christ the Saviour Cathedral, Johnstown, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m.

■ Assembly 163 semi-annual meeting at Dorothy's Place in Donora, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., light refreshments will be served during the meeting; for information call Financial Secretary Theresa Gardner at 724 263-7289.

■ Annual Slovak Day Picnic hosted by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club at the Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Rd., between State and Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, Oh., 12 noon to 8 p.m., Slovak culinary specialties, imported Slovak beer, homemade pastries and music for dancing and listening pleasure, admission \$4.00 at the gate; for information contact Milan Kobulsky at 330 239-2256.

### SAT.JULY 8

■ 44th annual Summer Festival hosted by the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius at their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, Pa. beginning at 10:30 a.m.

## Make plans now to participate

## All is in readiness for this year's exciting 30th annual International Softball Tournament at Kirby Park Fields in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

by James C. Matlon

Supreme Director of Sports & Athletics

Spring is in the air and it is time to go outside and play some softball! Our 30th annual International Softball Tournament is scheduled for the weekend of June 23rd through the 25th. The site for the event will be Kirby Park Fields located at 280 Market Street, Kingston, Pa and the tournament headquarters will be at the Best Western Genetti Hotel in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., located just minutes from the fields.

The new, co-ed format was very successful last year and hopefully we will add additional teams for the 2017 softball tournament. The co-ed rules are very simple: a minimum of three females must play on each co-ed team.

Competition will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 24th and will continue throughout the day.



We will utilize up to three fields for play during the day with the semi-final and final games scheduled for Saturday afternoon, or if necessary, in the early evening.

Depending on the number of teams we will guarantee three games in a round robin or double elimination format.

Rooms have been reserved at the Best Western Genetti Hotel; however, you must contact me at (973) 647-8551 to secure your team's lodging before June 2nd. The hotel is located at 77 Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701. The telephone number at the hotel is (570) 825-6477.

Our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic will celebrate Mass on Saturday afternoon at Pavilion #3 at Kirby Park. After Mass, a picnic style buffet dinner will be served to participants and

guests at Kirby Park.

More information can be found on the Slovak Catholic Sokol website. All tournament entry forms must be mailed to me with the entry fee per team, no later than June 2nd. Please make your checks payable to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol  
- Sports Account  
6 Academy Drive East  
Whippany, NJ 07981

This year the cost of each team's entry is \$400.00 before the deadline date, and \$450.00 per team after the June 2nd date. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call or text me at (973) 647-8551.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Wilkes-Barre!

Zdar Boh!

concluding with Mass at 5 p.m. to satisfy the Sunday obligation in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius; handcrafted items, flea market, homemade baked goods, ethnic food, entertainment for children, for information call Sister Barbara Sable at tel. 570 275-3581, ext.302.

### JULY 12-16

■ 48th International Slet at the State University of New York at Brockport, N.Y.

### THURS.JULY 20

■ 94th annual American Slovak Day of Western Pennsylvania at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pa. beginning at 12:30 p.m. with children's games and treats; Mass at 4 p.m., Slovak folk entertainment at 5 p.m.; for information contact Sue Ondrejco at [sue.ndrejco@gmail.com](mailto:sue.ndrejco@gmail.com) or tel. 412 421-1204.

### SUN.JULY 30

■ 87th annual Milwaukee Slovak American Day at Croatian Park, 9140 South 76th St., Franklin, Wis. beginning with Mass at 12 noon; cultural program at 2:30 p.m. featuring our Group 4 Slovak Catholic Sokol drillers and the Tatra Slovak Dancers; traditional Slovak culinary favorites along with American picnic favorites; homemade bakery; for information call Betty Valent at 414 425-6137.

### SUN.AUG.13

■ Annual Marian Slovak Day Pil-

grimage hosted by New York-New Jersey area Slovak societies at the Salesian Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians, Filors Lane, West Haverstraw, N.Y., confessions at 10 a.m., concelebrated Slovak liturgy at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon and Marian devotions beginning at 2:30 p.m.

### AUG.25-27

■ 27th annual Slovak Festival hosted by SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish, 41233 Ryan Rd., Sterling Heights, Mich. 48314, Friday: 6-11 p.m., Saturday: 12 noon - 11 p.m., Sunday: 12 noon - 9 p.m. for additional information call 586 726-6911 or [www.adoremymlord.com](http://www.adoremymlord.com).

### SEPT.7-9

■ 131st annual meeting of the

American Fraternal Alliance at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass, Phoenix, Ariz.

### SAT.SEPT.9

■ 42nd annual Sokol Golf Open benefit hosted by Assembly 28 at Blissful Meadows Golf Course, East Douglas, Mass.

### SEPT.15-17

■ Group Presidents meeting in Cleveland, Oh.

### SEPT.17-19

■ 59th national convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation in Youngstown, Oh. beginning with a concelebrated Mass celebrated in the Cathedral of St. Columba followed by the convention banquet at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

## Follow Us On Twitter and Instagram

Many of you are already following Slovak Catholic Sokol on Facebook, but did you know we are now on Twitter and Instagram?

You can follow us for daily updates on upcoming activities and events, as well as pictures of your favorite Sokols. Feel free to forward pictures of your group activities to: [kathyw323@gmail.com](mailto:kathyw323@gmail.com) so that we can tweet them!

We are looking forward to gaining MANY new followers!

If you are new to Twitter and Instagram, here are some basics on how to sign up:

### TWITTER

- \* Upload the Twitter app on your phone or go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)
- \* Click "Sign up for Twitter."
- \* Provide basic information about yourself. ...
- \* Choose your username. ...
- \* Click "Create my account."
- \* Search physicalfitnessboard and click follow



### INSTAGRAM

- \* Upload the Instagram app on your phone or go to [www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com)
- \* Click "Sign up" and enter your e-mail
- \* Create a username and password
- \* Provide basic information about yourself. ...
- \* Click "Create my account"
- \* Search physicalfitnessboard and click follow



Zdar Boh!

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board



Supreme Vice President Edward D. Moeller is shown above with the United States Ambassador to Slovakia, the Hon. Adam Sterling at a recent cultural event in Pittsburgh hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association. Brother Moeller serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association which hosts a number of cultural activities in western Pennsylvania.

## HOME OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSING

In observance of Memorial Day, the home office will be closed for business on Monday, May 29. The home office will reopen for business on Tuesday, May 30. Regular business hours are Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. An enjoyable and safe Memorial Day weekend to all. Zdar Boh!



## REFLECTOR...

### Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

#### Whiting, Ind. Slovak church to be shuttered

The Diocese of Gary, Ind. has recently decided to close the Parish of the Immaculate Conception in Whiting, Ind. Serious damage to the structure as a result of recent broken pipes as well as a diminishing number of worshippers has necessitated the decision. The structure, a church-school will soon be raised.

Immaculate Conception Parish has enjoyed a vibrant faith history since its founding in June 1921. The Rev. Michael Kosko was appointed as the first pastor. Land for the new church was purchased for \$25,000 in 1923 from Henry Schrage, Sr. Plans for a church and school combination were made with the idea that later it would be used entirely as a school and a separate church would be constructed. On June 1, 1924 the cornerstone of the structure was blessed. The first liturgy celebrated in the new church by Father Kosko was the Midnight Mass of 1924. With the departure of Father Kosko, the parish welcomed its second pastor, in the person of the Rev. John J. Lach. A native of Hibernia, N.J., he was born there in 1896 of Slovak immigrant parents, Joseph Lach and the former Mary Rakucka. The need for Slovak speaking priests in the Fort Wayne, Ind. diocese, led young John Lach to begin studies for the priesthood at the former St. Procopius Seminary in Lisle, Ill. He was ordained a priest in 1922. Following brief assignments after ordination, in 1926, he was appointed pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish. The completed church and school was solemnly blessed by Bishop John F. Noll in June 1926. Father Lach invited the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius of Danville, Pa. to staff the new school which opened in September 1926. A total of 376 pupils were welcomed in grades 1-8. In 1940, a short-lived junior high school program was inaugurated, affiliated with Catholic Central High School. Its first class of 21 graduated in June 1942. After 59 years of quality Catholic education, Immaculate Conception School closed in 1985.

Knowing the love for music which was inherent in the Slovak people, Father Lach was determined to organize a Slovak Symphonic Band. With much of his time and effort and in spite of the fact that he encountered great difficulties, Father Lach finally organized the band which was a 70-member ensemble. The band traveled extensively throughout the country in the early 1930s. The band promoted the good name of the American Slovak community including a historic concert at the White House for President Herbert Hoover on August 25, 1931. In 1937, Father Lach's

Band left for its history-making European tour. Father Lach and the 70-member Boys Symphonic Band left Whiting, Ind. on June 14 on the first leg of their historic tour. Enroute to New York, the band performed at several Slovak parishes. On June 19, 1937, the group sailed from New York to France on the French liner Ile de France. In Europe, the band performed in concerts in France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Yugoslavia as well as Czechoslovakia. On August 21, 1937, the band arrived back in New York. On their return to Whiting, the band gave concerts in Slovak parishes in New York City, Yonkers and Binghamton, N.Y.; Bridgeport, Conn., Perth Amboy and Trenton, N.J.; Bethlehem and Philadelphia, Pa., Cleveland, Oh., Erie, Pa. and other parishes returning back to Whiting on Sept. 5, 1937. A wonderful new 400-page book on Father Lach's band was recently published by CareyWorks, Inc. Our faithful Whiting Sokolka, Josie Bolek, president of Wreath 81 was kind enough to send a copy of this fascinating book to our home office. We thank her for her kindness.

In 1957, the new Diocese of Gary was established with our own Slovak American Bishop Andrew G. Grutka as its first ordinary. Father Lach and the parish of the Immaculate Conception became part of this new diocese. Father Lach remained an active pastor until his untimely death in May 1960. Bishop Grutka presided over the funeral rites of Father Lach, the first priest of the Gary Diocese to be laid to rest.

In June 1960, the parish welcomed the Rev. Fred Bach as its new pastor. He remained as pastor until his retirement in 1983. From 1983 to 2000, the Rev. Anthony Ficko served as pastor. The Rev. Stanley Dominik succeed him as administrator and the beginning of the merging of Whiting parishes.

Immaculate Conception Parish was a hub of Slovak fraternal activity over the years. Many of the members were active Sokolky in our Wreath 81. Other members belonged to St. John the Baptist Parish, Whiting's second Slovak parish in what was the Robertsdale section of the city. Branches of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union were also active. The parish actively supported the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation and generously supported the annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal. The parish was also a strong supporter of the annual Slovak Day observance of the Diocese of Gary.

While we lament the closing of yet another Slovak church, we are sustained in our belief that the Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith which was an important part of the fabric of parish life at Immaculate Conception, has been nurtured among generations who today reside through northwest Indiana.

#### 44th Summer Festival set for July 8 in Danville, Pa.

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius will host their 44th annual Summer Festival on Saturday, July 8 on the spacious grounds of their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pa. Activities begin at 10:30 a.m. The festival will feature a large Flea Market, a silent auction, home-made baked goods, handcrafted items, a book store and religious and Slovak articles. There will be a variety of ethnic foods such as Holupky, Halusky and Potato Pancakes as well as traditional American picnic favorites such as hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, ice cream and much more. There will be a variety of games for children and adults plus special attractions like a petting zoo, raffles and bingo.

(Continued on page 14)



## The Word of God...

### Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 21st

Jn 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

*"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*

*And I will ask the Father,*

*and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him.*

*But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you.*

*I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*

*In a little while the world will no longer see me,*

*but you will see me, because I live and you will live.*

*On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you.*

*Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me.*

*And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Gospel for the Seventh Sunday of Easter - May 28th

Jn 17:1-11a

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said,

*"Father, the hour has come.*

*Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you,*

*just as you gave him authority over all people,*

*so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him.*

*Now this is eternal life,*

*that they should know you, the only true God,*

*and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.*

*I glorified you on earth*

*by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do.*

*Now glorify me, Father, with you,*

*with the glory that I had with you before the world began.*

*"I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world.*

*They belonged to you, and you gave them to me,*

*and they have kept your word.*

*Now they know that everything you gave me is from you,*

*because the words you gave to me I have given to them,*

*and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you,*

*and they have believed that you sent me.*

*I pray for them.*

*I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me,*

*because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours*

*and everything of yours is mine,*

*and I have been glorified in them.*

*And now I will no longer be in the world,*

*but they are in the world, while I am coming to you."*

The Gospel of the Lord.



## IMPORTANT 2017 INTERNATIONAL SLET INFORMATION

Slet information is now accessible on our website at [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org) under Sports Programs

You can access general rules and regulations, qualification times and distances for track, track records, volleyball information, gymnastics qualifiers, hotel info, pin trading information and much more!

You can also access videos of the drills at [sscdrills@gmail.com](mailto:sscdrills@gmail.com)  
password: sokoldrills



# 71st International Slovak Catholic Sokol Bowling Tournament Schedule

Chacko's Family Bowling Center + 195 North Wilkes-Barre Boulevard + Wilkes-Barre, Pa. + May 19-20

NAME	AVE	HDCP.	DIVISION	TEAM EVENT TIME	LANE	DOUBLES EVENT	LANE	SINGLES EVENT	LANE
Anderson, Cindy	149	43	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	15	Saturday, May 20-9 am	16
Anderson-MacGillis, Mary	150	42	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	18	Saturday, May 20-9 am	17
Anderson-Messer, Laura	141	50	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	18	Saturday, May 20-9 am	17
Asmonga, Milly	135	55	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	15
Backus, Mary	145	46	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	22			Saturday, May 20-9 am	11
Bakalar, Dorothy	146	45	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	14
Bakita, Karen	148	44	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	11	Saturday, May 20-9 am	12
Bakita, Rose	93	90	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	14	Saturday, May 20-9 am	13
Basl, Melanie	185	12	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	18
Cassisi, Nancy	132	57	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	12
Catanzante, Evie	145	46	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	12
Cibulka, Sandy	163	31	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	14
Davis, Michelle	187	11	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	28	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	16
Degnan-Blasco, Amy	143	48	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	7
Deska, Cathy	146	45	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	22	Saturday, May 20-9 am	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	10
Dietz, Marguerite	108	78	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	21				
Dietz, Martha	139	51	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	10
Dubitsky, Coleen	141	50	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	22				
Evans, Colleen	129	60	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-9 am	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	10
Fischetti, Patricia	148	44	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	14
Goetz, Judy	133	56	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	10	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	9
Hoppey, Margaret	120	68	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	22				
Horvath, Heather	119	68	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8
Hrinyak, Veronica	132	57	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	10
Jacob, Bernadette	155	38	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	7
Johnson, Phyllis	136	54	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	15	Saturday, May 20-9 am	16
Kallenborn, Evelyn	120	68	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	15
Karaffa, Jean	179	17	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	16	Saturday, May 20-9 am	15
Karaman, Maryann	149	43	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	18
Kaufman, Karen	132	57	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8
Kaufman, Kimberly	111	75	Women			Saturday, May 20-1 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	10
Keagy, Colleen	145	46	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	12
Keil, Gina	133	56	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-9 am	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	10
Kumpun, Janet	138	52	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	14
Kuzma, Anna Marie	127	62	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	14
Lynch, Rosemarie	161	33	Women			Saturday, May 20-9 am	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	10
Macko, Carol	143	48	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	11	Saturday, May 20-9 am	12
Marks, Maria	183	14	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	28	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	16
Matesic, Darlene	121	67	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	28	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	16
Mathewson, Annette	117	70	Women			Saturday, May 20-1 pm	10	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	9
Micieli, Amanda	104	81	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	22	Saturday, May 20-9 am	12		
Micieli, Linda	140	51	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	22	Saturday, May 20-9 am	12	Saturday, May 20-9 am	11
Miller, Irene	140	51	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	21				
Minarish, Helen	130	59	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8
Moyer, Janice	130	59	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	22				
Mozuras, Joanne	133	56	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	10
Myers, Tracy	161	33	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	13
Nalli, Marianne	145	46	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-9 am	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	9
Niskach, Patty	129	60	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	18
Plachanis, Kelly	137	53	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	8
Pollock, Geri	138	52	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	12
Rohrbach, Agnes	134	56	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	22				
Romanek, Debbie	156	37	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	14
Rushe, Barbara	123	65	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	28	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	16
Seech, Martha	156	37	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	15		
Shierly, Daria	139	51	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	14
Simon, Kami	148	44	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	11
Simpson, Diana	152	40	Women	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	16	Saturday, May 20-9 am	15
Sofranko, Chris	132	57	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-9 am	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	9
Wahal, Barbara M.	177	19	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	18
Yuschak, Marlene	147	45	Women	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	14
Asmonga, James A.	212	23	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	24
Asmonga, James J.	218	18	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	24
Backus, John	204	30	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	31	Saturday, May 20-9 am	32
Bakalar, Robert C.	195	38	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-9 am	23	Saturday, May 20-9 am	24
Bakalar, Robert J.	163	65	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-9 am	23	Saturday, May 20-9 am	24
Bart, James	163	65	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	5	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	33	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	34
Basl, Matt	142	83	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-9 am	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	22
Blasko, Gary	165	63	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	39	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	40
Brooks, Mark	214	22	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	31	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	32
Cassisi, Nicholas	168	61	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	5	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	34	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	33
Cato, Clay	164	64	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	30	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	29
Check, Dave	172	57	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	38	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	37
Checton, Clarence	194	39	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-9 am	32	Saturday, May 20-9 am	31
Cornish, Bill	147	79	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	31	Saturday, May 20-9 am	32
Cruty, Steve	183	48	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-9 am	22	Saturday, May 20-9 am	21
Degnan, Marty	186	45	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	38	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	37
Deska, Rich	219	17	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	31	Saturday, May 20-9 am	32
Dietz, Paul	171	58	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	22
Elnikar, Ed	172	57	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-9 am	32	Saturday, May 20-9 am	31
Francis, Justin	140	85	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	12				

(Continued on page 8)

## Places to stay for parents and friends during the 48th Slet in the SUNY Brockport area

by Julie A. Laury  
Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

As you are making your plans for attending this year's 2017 Slet at SUNY Brockport University in New York make sure that you book your rooms now. The rooms are ready for you to reserve for 4 days and 4 nights – July 12-15 at the beautiful Hampton Inn Brockport. It is so easy to reserve your room. Just call 1-585-391-6747 (Hampton Inn Brockport) and tell them you would like to reserve your room with the Slovak Catholic Sokols. There are only 30 rooms so book early. Here is some information on the **Hampton Inn Brockport**.

\*Hotel rating: a wonderful 9.1

\*Phone number: 1-585-391-6747

\*Address: Hampton Inn Brockport, 4873 Lake Road, Brockport, NY, 14420, USA

\*Rate: \$109 plus tax for Wednesday/Thursday nights AND \$125 plus tax for Friday/Saturday nights.

\*Book rooms until April 11th. After April 11th the rooms will be released.

\*Rooms come with a king bed or 2 double beds – first come first serve with the 2 double beds.

\*FREE: breakfast, WiFi, toiletries, cable TV, cancellation-no repayment needed, parking

\*The hotel has: an indoor pool, fitness center, 24 hour business center

\*It is only minutes away from SUNY Brockport University

**Things to do around the Hampton Inn Brockport**

\*It is 22 minutes drive from Greater Rochester International Airport.

\*It is approximately 13 miles from Hamlin Beach State Park on Lake Ontario.

\*It is a 20 minute drive from the hotel to downtown Rochester (shopping and dining)

\*It is 19 miles away from the National Museum of Play

\*Minutes away from the Victorian Village on the Erie Canal

\*Minutes away from the Brockport Community Museum – Museum without walls

\*Visit the Sweden Town Park for a great place to have a picnic, play a pick up baseball or soccer game, or just walk the walking trails. Included are skate park, playground, pavilion and restrooms.

There are also two other hotels within the same area. Rooms are not locked in so if you choose to use either of these hotels, please call early for room availabilities, pricing, and amenities. Here are the names and phone numbers of the other hotels that are in close proximity to the SUNY Brockport University as well.

**\*Econo Lodge Brockport:**

Hotel rating 6.3 Pleasant  
6575 4th Section Rd., Brockport, NY 14420

\*29 rooms held under Slovak Catholic Sokol until June 1. You must call to make reservations

\*minutes away from Brockport University

\*no pool, free breakfast and WiFi, non-smoking rooms  
phone number: 585-637-3157

Pricing: 2 beds \$108.30 per night, \$379.96 per 4 nights, 1 bed \$97.00 per night, \$387.56 per 4 nights

**\*Dollinger's Inn & Suites:**

Hotel rating 9.3 Wonderful  
4908 Lake Rd. S, Brockport, NY 14420

phone number: 585-391-8147  
Pricing: All rooms reserved have 2 double beds \$102 per night, \$480 per 4 nights

Wed/Thurs \$110 per night, Fri/Sat \$130 per night

\*minutes away from Brockport University

\*no pool, free breakfast and WiFi, non-smoking rooms, pet friendly, small fitness, refrigerator, microwave

\*Only 20 rooms will be held under Slovak Catholic Sokols until June 12. You must call to make reservations.

This is a fantastic event that you won't want to miss. Everyone enjoys watching their child, as well as his/her teammates, compete for the International Slet Flag. There are so many memories that are made throughout the course of the week. Don't miss out. Book your rooms early and enjoy your vacation. Thank you and Zdar Boh!

## Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion Weekend!!

Let's celebrate friendship and our Sokol family by getting together for a fun filled weekend.

**When: June 2-4, 2017**

**Where: Rocky Gap Casino and Resort  
Flintstone, MD**

We will start the weekend off with a pool side social on Friday evening at 8:00.

Saturday can be filled with as much or as little activity as you prefer. The resort offers rentals of Kayaks, Canoes, and Paddle Boards. They also have a Spa and a beach area.

A special Golf Rate has been reserved at the Jack Nicklaus Signature Course for \$65 (includes cart) Saturday evening we will be having a social cocktail hour with Hors d'oeuvres. Come enjoy your time together. It is for sure guaranteed to be a blast!

Double Occupancy Rooms are reserved at a group rate of \$129/night

Call 1800-724-0828

Rates are good until April 30, 2017

Be sure to ask for the Slovak Catholic Sokol rate

When finished reserving your room, please email Katie Swift at Katie70@aol.com

## Caring and Sharing Project of Our 48th International Slet

In just a few months, we will gather together to enjoy our organization's 48th International Slet at SUNY Brockport, N.Y. In the best traditions of fraternal outreach, the Supreme Physical Fitness Board decided to participate in a philanthropic project or a 'good deed.' We would like the youngsters who will compete at the Slet to participate. Sometimes it is difficult to get them involved by bringing canned goods for a local food pantry. Because canned goods can be difficult to pack, we have decided to pursue a different route. This year, we have decided to participate in an organization known as the Crayon Initiative. This an organization that takes used, unused, broken and old crayons and melts them down to become new crayons. They are then donated to children's hospitals.

We encourage all our Slet participants to bring along all the crayons they have laying around the house. This is an opportunity to put those old crayons to new use. Complete details of this project may be found on this page. We thank our Slet participants in advance as we promote fraternal outreach.

Zdar Boh!

Katie Swift

Supreme Assistant Physical Directress

RECYCLING UNWANTED CRAYONS INTO UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES



**DO YOU HAVE USED, BROKEN CRAYONS  
THAT ARE HEADED FOR THE TRASH?  
WE CAN DO SOMETHING GREAT WITH THEM!**

Color us excited about our partnership with The Crayon Initiative. The Crayon Initiative is a unique charitable organization that takes unwanted or used crayons and remanufactures them to donate to children's hospitals. Drop off your crayons and donations at Camp Argo to support this great cause.

*How does it work?*



*Give us your crayons and give back!*

Learn more at [www.thecrayoninitiative.org](http://www.thecrayoninitiative.org)  
or email us at [campargorachel@gmail.com](mailto:campargorachel@gmail.com)



## Watch Your Blood Pressure

May is National High Blood Pressure Education Month: a time to increase specific actions to prevent and control hypertension:

\* Use less salt on your food. Share low salt recipes.

\* Flavor food with herbs and spices instead of salt.

\* Be physically active. Walk. Take the stairs whenever possible.

\* Quit smoking, get a friend to quit, or both.

\* Lose weight if you need to - 1 pound a week can make a difference.

\* Get your blood pressure measured.

\* Limit your intake of alcohol, including beer and wine.

## On the Level

Level spelled backwards is level. And that's why it's important to read every of this paper - your paper.

Never can tell what you will learn next....

For instance, do you know what bees do with their honey?

Don't know, do you?

Well, they cell it!

You wouldn't have wanted to miss that gem.



## Maros Bango in Concert at New York Slovak Parish



New York City's United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John the Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini City hosted a unique concert and luncheon on May 7 in the parish social hall. Maros Bango was featured in a concert titled "Tribute to Humanity" in which the Slovak born performer who has been called "The Andrea Bocelli of Slovakia," performed an array of works in several languages. Maros who is blind, along with his wife Alexandra who is also blind, challenge the public perceptions about what handicap artists can do. Despite their own personal challenges, they have attained artistic excellence and reach out to others in need of support. The couple presented an inspiring and entertaining concert. The pastor of the parish, Father Richard D. Baker, himself an accomplished musician, was pleased to host the concert and luncheon. Father Baker and Father Martin Kertys who assists at the parish are shown in the top photo with Maros and Alexandra Bango, seated, along with local Slovak fraternal leaders of the St. Stephen's Society, Branch 716 of the Jednota and Assembly 182 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. In the lower photo, Father Baker is also shown with members of our Sokol Assembly 182 as well as Branch 45 of the Jednota who enjoyed the concert and luncheon. Maros Bango, a native of Trnava and his wife, a native of eastern Slovakia are currently on tour in the United States with appearances in several Slovak American communities.

## Lajcak in Washington: Slovakia remains reliable ally for the USA

Slovakia remains a reliable ally for the United States within NATO and an important partner in the latter's efforts to boost political stability and economic prosperity in Europe, Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak and US Vice President Mike Pence's National Security Advisor Andrea Thompson concurred at a meeting in Washington on May 9.

According to the Slovak Foreign and European Affairs press department, Lajcak confirmed Slovakia's interest in intensifying practical co-operation with the US, noting that Slovakia is a reliable ally for the US not only in Europe, as it has demonstrated by joining the US-led operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Slovak minister also reported on the content of his recent talks with

Ukrainian officials in Kiev, presenting the Ukrainian views of how the Minsk Agreements are being implemented and on activities of the Normandy Group.

When it came to the situation in the Western Balkans, Lajcak expressed concerns about recent developments in the region, calling on closer coordination of activities performed by the EU and the USA in the area.

"We're witnessing a weakening of pro-European forces in the Western Balkans. We must step up our influence and engagement. If we don't do it, other players will boost their activities in the area we'll have abandoned, as we've already been witnessing. Meanwhile, it's obvious that there's no better alternative for the region than European prospects,"

said Lajcak, appreciating Thompson's decision to attend the Globsec international security conference in Bratislava later this month.

At talks with White House senior director for Russia and Europe Fiona Hill, Lajcak discussed mainly Russia and its policies towards neighboring countries, with a special focus on Ukraine. Lajcak pointed out that there's a need to relaunch the Minsk process and look for a political solution to the situation in south-eastern Ukraine.

"Despite the existing differences in our and Russia's views of the world, we must keep open communication channels. We've set principles and platform for such communication on NATO soil but, unfortunately, we're lacking this on the EU soil," added Lajcak.

## Sokol Birthdays

### MAY 21

**Scott W. Athey**, West Windsor, N.J., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

**Lubica Benca**, New York, N.Y., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Mass.

**Cory Dikos**, New Lenox, Ill., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

**Joan P. Santangelo**, Erie, Pa., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

### MAY 22

**Alexis Eckenrode**, Lilly, Pa., a member of Assembly 79 in Lilly, Pa.

**Karen Ann Mesaros**, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlo, Pa.

### MAY 23

**Joseph S. Gasperec**, New York, N.Y., a member of Assembly 48, Philadelphia, Pa.

**Nicole Krzysik**, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Courtney Michelle Macurak**, Kennesaw, Ga., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### MAY 24

**Alexis R. Gordulic**, Youngstown, Oh., a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

**Anna Kanta**, Joliet, Ill., a member of Assembly 257, Chicago, Ill.

**Jon-Henry Kubej**, Renton, Wash., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

**Matthew Kudlacik, Jr.**, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Jennifer A. Masi**, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York, N.Y.

**Diana K. Vanderheyden**, Winthrop Harbor, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

**Felicia Zalesny**, Cortlandt Manor, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### MAY 25

**Jozef Jurasi**, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York, N.Y.

**Andy Martin Matuschak**, Saint Louis, Mo., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

**Loretta L. Pogorelec**, Wayne, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

### MAY 27

**Daniel M. Dorich**, Mississauga, Canada, a member of Assembly 227, Toronto, Canada.

**Lara Elise Gogolak**, McLean, Va., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**Luby O. Masi**, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 282, Passaic, N.J.

### MAY 28

**Vivian Marnelli**, Reading, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

### MAY 29

**Morgan Macurak**, Acworth, Ga., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### MAY 30

**Martha Iskra**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Mary Ann Kalafut**, Solana Beach, CA, a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

**Catherine E. Megill**, Mountain View, CA, a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

**Matthew J. Pyo**, Lilly, Pa., a member of Assembly 79, Lilly, Pa.

**Rosanne Urban**, Nanticoke, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

### MAY 31

**Dr. Mikulas Halko**, Mt. Kisco, N.Y., vice-president of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### JUNE 1

**Rev. Richard D. Baker**, New York City, Chaplain of Group 1 and a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**Nathan Vargoshe**, Shelton, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

### JUNE 2

**Hope Anne Egan**, Los Angeles, California, a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

### JUNE 3

**Susan M. Evans**, Erie, Pa., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

**Tess Tombros Vallance**, Trumbull, Conn., a member of Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

### JUNE 4

**Justin Graham**, Hudson, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Clotty Iovanut**, Bartlett, Ill., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

### JUNE 5

**Rev. Richard A. Cirba**, chaplain of Group 7 and a member of Wreath 147, Larksville, Pa.

**Michael Garver**, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

**Kathy Trifiletti**, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

### JUNE 6

**Joseph A. Kostolansky**, Donora, Pa., a member of Assembly 25, Perryopolis, Pa.

### JUNE 8

**Donald Bolek**, Calumet City, Ill., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

**Jaime Matthews**, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

## Adjust Eyes to Dark

The glow of a spark on a dark night is visible three fourths of a mile. The flare of a match can be seen for one mile. Light from a flashlight is visible a mile and a half, and light from a 100-watt lamp can be seen for twelve and a half miles. Automobile headlights are visible twenty miles.

If you must go out on a dark

night, close your eyes for two or three minutes, when you open them again you will be amazed at the way your vision has been adjusted. This is a "built-in" gift of nature.

## Win With Words

Monuments crumble, houses decay, presidents and kings and emperors pass on. What, then remains? Only the written word.

# 71st International Slovak Catholic Sokol Bowling Tournament Schedule

(Continued from page 5)

NAME	AVE	HDCP.	DIVISION	TEAM EVENT TIME	LANE	DOUBLES EVENT	LANE	SINGLES EVENT	LANE
Glodava, Anthony	149	77	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	27	Saturday, May 20-9 am	28
Goberish, John	171	58	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	4	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	32	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	31
Goetz, Curt	141	84	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	30
Haller, Rob	224	13	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	23
Hempel, Leonard	132	91	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	6	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	30
Hoenninger, Matt	188	44	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	28
Hoenninger, Tom	210	25	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	28	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	27
Holloman, Rudy	185	46	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	23	Saturday, May 20-9 am	24
Hoppey, John	123	99	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	2	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	26
Horvath, Mike	170	59	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	7	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	39	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	40
Hrinyak, Matthew	208	27	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	22	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	21
Hvozdic Jr, Joseph	228	10	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	33	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	34
Iskra Jr., Dave	150	76	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	37	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	38
Iskra Sr., Dave	210	25	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	40	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	39
Jacobs, Jeff	204	30	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	37	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	38
Johnson, Charles H.	183	48	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	30	Saturday, May 20-9 am	29
Johnson, Frank	200	34	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	30	Saturday, May 20-9 am	29
Juba, George	147	79	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	24	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	23
Karaffa, Michael W.	198	35	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	26
Kazmierczak, Bill	183	48	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-9 am	28	Saturday, May 20-9 am	27
Kazmierczak, George	187	45	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-9 am	27	Saturday, May 20-9 am	28
Kazmierczak, Walt	161	67	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-9 am	28	Saturday, May 20-9 am	27
Keagy, Alan	146	79	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	4	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	31	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	32
Keebler, Ryan	175	55	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-9 am	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	25
Keegy, Nathan	140	85	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	4	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	31	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	32
Kislock, Ryan	182	49	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	3	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	19	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	20
Komishock, Paul J.	181	50	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	2	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	25	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	26
Kosko, Chad	229	9	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	24
Krack, Thomas	202	32	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	34	Saturday, May 20-9 am	33
Kudlacik, Marc	149	77	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	26
Kutzfara, Dan	141	84	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	3	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	19	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	20
Latshaw, Robert	184	47	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-9 am	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	30
Lax, Ryan	221	16	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	11	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	23	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	24
Lebanik, Mike	201	33	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-9 am	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	22
Lindner, Terry	170	59	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	2	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	25
Lopata, George	145	80	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	3	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	19	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	20
Macko, Robert	175	55	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	23	Saturday, May 20-9 am	24
Mantsch, Mike	183	48	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	31	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	32
Mathewson, Christopher D.	184	47	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	6	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	30
Matras, Mark	181	50	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-9 am	27	Saturday, May 20-9 am	28
Matras, Mike C.	168	61	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-9 am	27	Saturday, May 20-9 am	28
Matras, Mike T.	148	78	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-9 am	26	Saturday, May 20-9 am	25
Matty, Dave	182	49	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-9 am	33	Saturday, May 20-9 am	34
Micieli, Michael	157	70	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-9 am	31	Saturday, May 20-9 am	32
Miller Jr, John F.	216	20	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	17	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	30	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	29
Miller, Bud	206	28	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	25		
Minarish, John L.	174	56	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	6	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	30
Minarish, John P.	184	47	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	6	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	29	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	30
Mosloski, Robert	197	36	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	26
Moyer, John	149	77	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	2	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	26	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	25
Mozuras, Gary S.	194	39	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	30
Muldoon, Thomas	170	59	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	5	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	34	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	33
Newmyer, Wayne	180	51	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	20	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	19
Niskach, John W.	219	17	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-9 am	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	22
Novotney, AJ	199	34	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	24	Saturday, May 20-9 am	23
Palchanis Jr, Robert	152	74	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	36	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	35
Papcun, Don	175	55	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	28
Papcun, John	175	55	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	28
Papuga, Ryan	179	51	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	27	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	28
Patak, Michael B.	200	34	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	14	Saturday, May 20-9 am	21	Saturday, May 20-9 am	22
Pavlica, Frank	173	56	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	34	Saturday, May 20-9 am	33
Pitman, Scott	179	51	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	26
Pompiano, Frank M.	182	49	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	9	Saturday, May 20-9 am	29	Saturday, May 20-9 am	30
Pugh, Bob	209	26	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	22
Rasimas, Tony	216	20	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	40	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	39
Ribarchak, Donald	170	59	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	3	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	19	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	20
Risko, Brian	216	20	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	35	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	36
Risko, Francis	192	40	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	35	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	36
Risko, Gary	211	24	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	35	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	36
Romanchak, George	182	49	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	20	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	19
Romanchak, Steven	233	5	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	12	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	22
Salmanowitz, Don	185	46	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	10	Saturday, May 20-9 am	25	Saturday, May 20-9 am	26
Seruga, Bernie	198	35	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	15	Saturday, May 20-9 am	33	Saturday, May 20-9 am	34
Shedlock, Corey	163	65	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	18	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	35	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	36
Shutack, John	181	50	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	21	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	22
Simon, Doug	206	28	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	4	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	32	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	31
Smith, John	165	63	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	5	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	33	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	34
Suffita, Bob	163	65	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	8	Saturday, May 20-9 am	22	Saturday, May 20-9 am	21
Todd, Mike	197	36	Men	Friday, May 19-8:30 pm	13	Saturday, May 20-9 am	24	Saturday, May 20-9 am	23
Tokach, Charles	192	40	Men	Friday, May 19-5:30 pm	16	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	33	Saturday, May 20-1 pm	34



## Scenes of the Annual Spaghetti Supper hosted by Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krasula"

SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall + Clifton, N.J. + Sunday, April 2





## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### More than 30,000 locations suffer power blackout due to snow

More than 30,000 locations have experienced power blackouts for more than three minutes in the wake of heavy snowstorms hitting the north of central Slovakia, TASR learned from Gabriel Beer of electricity utility Stredoslovenska Energetika-Distribucia (SEE-D) Zilina's press department on April 18.

By 3 p.m. on April 18, the number of consumers cut off from grid supply had been whittled down to 1,500.

"An hour after midnight, calls reporting power failures started to accumulate, mostly due to trees falling on power lines. The number of consumers who experienced blackouts lasting more than three minutes swelled to more than 30,000 by the morning. We managed to address the bulk of failures by rerouting electricity and supplying consumers via undamaged branches of the distribution grid," said Beer.

Despatched crews managed to restore supplies of electricity across almost the entire affected region, with fewer than 1,500 consumers still cut off at 3 p.m.

### Bratislava Council votes down land lease for United States embassy again

Bratislava will not lease an area of 1,300 square feet of the city's land outside the embassy building in the center of Bratislava to the US Embassy to Slovakia, according to a decision made by the Bratislava City Council at a session on April 26.

The area has been used by the embassy since 2005 as a security zone and is enclosed by a security fence, steel posts, barrier flower containers and a retractable car barrier.

Council members had already voted down the request on two other occasions - two months ago and in September 2016.

City Hall was seeking to lease the land to the embassy until August 15, 2019 at a cost of \$500,000 annually. The embassy had a two-year option on renewing the lease contract and was supposed to pay one euro per square metre per day. However, if the embassy could have produced a valid construction permit for a new building, this would have slashed the sum all the way down to 3 euro cents per square metre per day.

Under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, a security zone is part of an embassy regardless of its ownership, said City Hall. A land lease contract would provide a legal arrangement vis-a-vis the use of the security zone until the time that the embassy relocates. City coffers could have at least benefited from extra funding until that time, said City Hall.

City Council Member Martin Borgula, who has been a vocal critic of the security fence outside of the embassy, was elated at the council's decision. "We made it clear to the Americans that we don't want a fence on Bratislava's most beautiful square," he said.

Borgula, who believes that the embassy's security could also be ensured even in the absence of a fence, has called for a meeting with the US Embassy with the aim of finding a compromise.

Bratislava deputy mayor Iveta Plsekova weighed in by saying that the council was supposed to decide on a land lease, not the fence as such. "A decision concerning the fence should be made by the Old Town (borough) Construction Office... What we were supposed to do was to decide on leasing the land on which the US Embassy is effectively operating," she said.

Meanwhile, the embassy told TASR in February that it's made progress in its plans to relocate from Hviezdoslav Square and that it's found a suitable site for this purpose. The new facility is supposed to meet all security requirements and

to blend in with its surroundings.

### Kiska: Slovakia is undiscovered land for Austrians

Slovakia is an undiscovered land for the people of Austria, even though Bratislava and Vienna are situated close to each other, stated Slovak President Andrej Kiska on April 26, with his Austrian counterpart Alexander Van der Bellen, who is paying an official visit to Slovakia, agreeing with this opinion.

"Let's intensify our relationship even more, chiefly in the field of tourism and culture so that Slovaks and Austrians will get to know each other better," said Kiska.

"I must admit that I don't know Slovakia very well, although I've already visited Bratislava a couple of times," said Van der Bellen, adding that he would be glad if Austrians came to Slovakia more often.

Kiska claimed to have many things in common with Van der Bellen in terms of values. "Values such as tolerance, humanity and solidarity are close to me as well," he said. Kiska views this as a weapon against populism, extremism and xenophobia. He thinks that both politicians and ordinary people lack optimism, but he's found it in Van der Bellen. "Optimism needs to be returned to the EU. We must show that we're able to cope with any crisis if we are united," he said. The European Union isn't a problem, but a solution, stated Kiska, stressing the need to hold a dialogue and to be empathic.

"I've found a man who's briefly summed up the essence of the EU," said Van der Bellen in reaction to Kiska's speech. The Austrian president is glad that the opinion that growth in nationalist power can't be halted is no longer as strong among the public. "It's already over," he stated. The results of the Dutch elections attest to this, and Van der Bellen believes that the result of the French elections will do the same.

Van der Bellen confirmed that the two presidents found accord on most issues. However, their opinions on some areas differed, admitted the Austrian president, namely nuclear energy as an example. "We (Austrians) don't see the technology of the future in it," she said.

Kiska reiterated that in the case of a multi-speed EU, Slovakia is interested in being at its core as well, stressed Van der Bellen, who personally doesn't incline towards several speeds, however. "I hope that there won't be any differentiation," he added.

The Austrian president is also scheduled to meet Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD), participate in a discussion with students of Comenius University in Bratislava and deliver an address at a Slovak-Austrian economic forum.

Slovakia is the first central and eastern European country that the Austrian president has visited since assuming office.

Austria is one of the biggest investors in Slovakia, with around 2,000 Austrian firms active in the country.

### Lajcak: deal on guidelines for Brexit talks in line with Slovak interests

The foreign affairs ministers of 27 member countries of the EU have agreed on a joint approach to guidelines for Brexit talks, and this agreement suits Slovakia's interests well, said Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak after a special meeting of the EU General Affairs Council in Luxembourg on April 27, which was de-

voted to Article 50 of the Treaty of Lisbon.

"The member countries came to an agreement fairly quickly, and all that Slovakia regards as important has been included. Most importantly, this includes the interest of our citizens and also the need for the United Kingdom to observe its financial commitments towards the EU. The supervisory role of member countries was also highlighted," said the Slovak official.

More specifically, Slovakia has two priorities vis-a-vis Brexit - maintaining the current status of the 80,000 Slovak nationals living in the UK and ensuring that the UK delivers on its financial commitments before the end of the present program period; that is, by the end of 2020, said Lajcak.

The unity of the EU27 was the overriding principle in the talks on April 27, "Indeed, the talks today confirmed this unity. We all pledged our unity to last during the Brexit negotiations," said Lajcak.

Even if a possible deal on collaboration between the EU and the UK is hammered out, mutual relations will never

(Continued on page 11)



Parks have played an integral role in the lifestyles of Slovaks for centuries. One of the oldest public parks in Europe, the Janko Kral Orchard is located in the northern part of the city of Bratislava - Petržalka. The park is bordered by the Danube River, the Old Bridge (Stary most), an access road; the New Bridge (Novy most) an access road; and the main road. The Janko Kral Orchard was established in 1774 -1776 to create a public park for the local inhabitants. Since it was under the influence of Baroque classicism, the walks were set up in the shape of an eight-pointed star. The park is filled with a variety of trees. Each alley is named for the corresponding species of trees there. The prominent architectural structure of the park is the Gothic tower which dates from the early 15th century. Following extensive damage to the tower after an earthquake in 1897, the tower was rebuilt in the neo-Gothic style. The statue of Janko Kral, a noted Slovak poet 1822-1876, is situated prominently in the heart of the park. The park is a popular destination for locals as well as tourists.



## Cyrilites select Jessica Pastuszek as Mission Advancement Director

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius are pleased to announce that Jessica Owens Pastuszek has been selected as Director of Mission Advancement at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pa.

Pastuszek had been serving as Museum Director and Corporate Communications Coordinator at Albright Care Services, Lewisburg, Pa., where she supported the fund development and marketing teams. As Director of Slifer House Museum, she developed public programming and events, solicited donations, wrote grant requests, maintained the museum collection, developed a college internship program and oversaw a team of volunteers. In her communications role, she planned and assisted in overseeing corporate events, maintained social media sites and wrote press releases and content for publications.

As Director of Mission Advancement, Pastuszek has a dual role to develop funding for the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius and Maria Joseph Continuing Care Community in Danville. Some of her responsibilities include developing



a long-range plan and annual goals to support the mission to provide compassionate care for the elderly and youth, working with leadership to establish a benevolent fund, directing the gift stewardship process, planning major events and managing the production of the annual report.

We assure Ms. Pastuszek of our continued interest, support and cooperation of the mission of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, a community founded in 1909 by our organization's second supreme chaplain, Father Matthew Jankola.

## Youngstown Sister Cities to host Slovak mayor

In honor of the 25th anniversary of the Youngstown, Ohio - Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities, the mayor of Nova Ves in Slovakia, Dr. Jan Volny, will be the guest of the Youngstown Sister Cities on his visit to Youngstown, June 15-22.

During his stay, there will be a presentation to Youngstown Mayor John McNally of two handcarved wooden plaques to be hung in City Hall. They have been carved by an artisan in Slovakia and represent the crest of the city of Nova Ves and the seal of the Youngstown city skyline.

On Saturday, June 17, Mayor Volny will be in the entertainment tent at this year's Simply Slavic Fest, scheduled for downtown Youngstown from noon to closing. He will be available to meet and visit with people attending this year's fest.

## Pa. Fraternal Alliance Fraternalist of the Year

The Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance, which represents members of fraternal organizations in the Keystone State, will again accept nominations for its 2017 Fraternalist of the Year program. Nominations for the award are due by September 1, 2017.

Any member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol residing in Pennsylvania may be nominated for the award. An individual member, who through his or her example and accomplishment, provides volun-

teer service may be considered for the award. The individual selected for the award will be honored during the 2017 annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance scheduled for October 22-24 at Seven Springs Resort. The recipient will receive two complimentary luncheon tickets for Oct. 23rd and \$250 to help defray the cost of travel. A nomination form is available by contacting Editor Daniel F. Tanzone at the home office at tel. 800 886-7656.

## Annual picnic set for June 11 in Alexandria, Va.

The Slovak American Society of Washington, D.C. (SASW) will host its annual Slovak Day Picnic on Sunday, June 11 at Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria, Va. Fort Hunt is a national park located just off the George Washington Memorial Highway. This Slovak-style picnic with food and drinks (beer, wine and soft drinks) begins at 12 noon and will continue until 5 p.m. Members and guests are welcome to attend. To celebrate a very successful 2016, the SASW has reduced the cost of attendance.

Cost for members is \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a family, non-members pay \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. Reservations are required by June 5 by sending a check to: SASW, P.O. Box 2502, Springfield, VA 22152-2502.

Directions from Alexandria, take the GW Memorial Parkway for about 12 miles, turn right onto Fort Hunt Park and continue to the park. The picnic pavilion is C-002. Area Sokol members are cordially invited to spend an enjoyable afternoon of Slovak fellowship at this year's picnic.

## May - Blood Pressure Month

What are the most common symptoms of high blood pressure? There are none. But, some people mistakenly think that high blood pressure produces symptoms, such as headaches, dizziness or anxiety.

Because they have no symptoms, some people who have high blood pressure make another mistake and stop taking their medication. Feelings aren't reliable indicators of high blood pressure. These people should continue to take their medicine and follow their doctor's advice.

## A Success is Who?

That person is a success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much;

who has gained the respect of intelligent people, and the love of children;

who has filled a unique niche and accomplished his or her task;

who leaves the world better than before, whether by a perfect poem or a rescued soul;

who never lacked appreciation of the earth's beauty or failed to express it;

who looked for the best in others and gave the best he or she had.

- Adapted from the work of Robert Louis Stevenson

## News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued from page 10)

match those seen before Brexit, he noted. Admittedly, the status of Slovak citizens and entrepreneurs in the UK is likely to worsen somewhat, but the EU is committed to minimizing the changes, he added.

The guidelines await approval at an extraordinary summit of the EU27 heads of state or government on May 6. On May 22, the foreign affairs ministers are expected to meet again and okay concrete negotiating principles.

Lajcak believes that the snap election due in the UK in June shouldn't hinder the Brexit negotiations.

## Fico: good economic results needed to be reflected in living standards

Details concerning more significant growth in the minimum wage and higher bonuses for nighttime and weekend work will be presented by the governing Smer-SD party in Nitra on May 1, TASR learned on April 28.

The measures are aimed at increasing living standards. The changes should chiefly be carried out via the Labor Code. "I'm absolutely positive that people deserve to be treated like this. If an economy is doing well, we must adopt measures that people will feel in their wallets," Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD) told a news conference on April 28.

Fico pointed to the fact that Slovakia reported one of the lowest unemployment rates this year and that both the public debt and deficit are falling as well. "If an economy is flourishing, the state needs to reflect these results in higher living standards for people. We want to go further so that we don't threaten public finances," said the prime minister.

According to Fico, the minimum wage should reach 60 percent of average earnings. Bonuses for nighttime or weekend work should also be more generous. "There are no rules favoring these employees at the moment. If people who sit at home during a public holiday receive normal pay for that day, those going to work should earn twice as much. This applies to Sundays and Saturdays as well. We aren't in any crisis. Let's show people that we appreciate their weekend work," stated the prime minister.

## Fico pays tribute to Stefanik, refers to him as one of top three Slovaks

The best way for Slovaks to get to know the giants of their history is to visit commemorative sites, like the location of the tragic death of the statesman, Milan Rastislav Stefanik in Ivanka pri Dunaji on May 4, 1919, Prime Minister Robert Fico stated at the site near Bratislava on May 4.

"It's going to be 100 years in May 2019 since the death of one of the most noted Slovaks. I don't want to make a chart on who's been the first, second and third - which place is occupied by (national revivalist) Ludovít Štúr, Stefanik and (communist reformist leader) Alexander Dubcek. Stefanik is a hugely inspiring individual for me," said Fico, adding that he's always been motivated by Stefanik's motto: "I'll fight my way through, because I want to break through."

Widely regarded as one of the most significant figures of Slovakia's modern history, Stefanik was born in 1880 in Kosariska (Trencin region) and died in a plane crash at Ivanka pri Dunaji in 1919. He was an outstanding astronomer, military pilot, French military general and one of the first Slovaks who several times ascended Mont Blanc. Most notably, he was instrumental in establishing Czechoslovakia in 1918 along with the country's first president, Tomas Garrigue Masaryk and its second president, Edvard Benes.

## Tajani: Europe will combat terrorism together

The summit of the EU's national parliaments in Bratislava on April 24 is sending out a signal that Europe will fight against terrorism together, European Parliament President Antonio Tajani stated at the event, commenting on the setting up of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) for Europol.

Tajani also urged the secret services from individual member countries to cooperate more closely, "because terrorism doesn't know any borders."

Stating that Europe is living in difficult times, including Brexit, security threats, the unemployment of mainly the young and migration as the chief causes of concern, Tajani said that people expect solutions from the EU's bodies.

Nonetheless, people tend to believe that the EU isn't able to react flexibly enough to their concerns. "This pours oil on the flames of populism," said Tajani, adding that populists are attempting to create the appearance of a discrepancy between the European project and national interests.

"The EU has done a lot for its people, but these results from the past aren't enough for securing a future for the European project as well," said Tajani, adding that more needs to be done. At the same time he stressed that tangible results should be the best response to populism.



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**Slovak Catholic Sokol**



**Held in Reading, Pa.****Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 12, "Rev. Anton Bernolak"**

Vice President Bob Leso opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of officers was taken. Absent the Sports Director Tom Cengeri and Physical Director Chris Antosy Jr.

Delegates in attendance: Chris Antosy Sr., Liz Milaneck, Greg Milaneck, Johanna Leso, Frank Macey, Kathleen Smolkowicz, and Anne Leso.

President Joe Harak welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes from our 2015 meeting were read. A motion was made by Greg Milaneck to approve the minutes seconded by Kathleen Smolkowicz.

**Officers Reports:**

President Joe Harak:

- I am active in Assembly 261. One of our main fund raisers is the Eastern European Food Festival. I am also active with our Home Association volunteering with the bingo program.

- I congratulate our Sokol scholarship winners:

Zachary Griffith – attending Albright College  
Vance Holthenrich – attending Pennsylvania State University  
Georgia R. Holthenrich – attending Notre Dame High School

- At the International Convention in 2015 Group 12 made a request to host the 2019 International Convention at Valley Forge Convention Center.

Vice President Bob Leso:

- We still attend St. Agnes Church but since the death of our Pastor, Father Francis G. Lendacky, there is only one Mass on the weekend and that is Sunday at 9:30. Also, access to the school hall is not as acceptable as it was in the past.

- Along with myself, Johanna, Lare and Anne, we have been involved with the Philadelphia Fraternal Organization, which consist of roughly 14 different fraternal organizations.

- We volunteered with the Hands Across America Day where we prepared meals for the "Meals on Wheels" program. Also, prepared meals for the Flag Day Ceremony and Aids for Friends Organization.

- Our Assembly supports the Sisters of Danville with a monetary donation each year.

Treasurer Lare Leso:

- In 2016 we had little expense activity. Our expenses consisted of meeting expenses, officer salaries, and donations.

- Income activity were the assessments from Headquarters.

- I recommend moving some of our funds to the Sokol Secure Fund due to the interest given and easy access to the funds.

Kathleen Smolkowicz made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Johanna Leso seconded the report.

Greg Milaneck made a motion to

transfer \$5000.00 from our money market into the Sokol Secure Fund. Before a second to the motion Treasurer Leso wanted us to determine our annual projected expenses for the following year. After the discussion, the motion made by Greg to transfer \$5000.00 from our money market into the Sokol Secure Fund stays. Motion seconded by Johanna Leso.

**Sports:****Bowling:**

At the International Bowling Tournament held in May of 2016 at The Airport Lanes in Buffalo, NY we had 2 men's teams participate. Congratulations to our winners:

Men's Doubles: 7th Place Bill and George Kazmierczak

Men's Signals: 11th Place George Kazmierczak

Men's All Events: 10th Place George Kazmierczak

**Golf:**

At the International Golf Tournament held in August at Treasure Lake in Dubois, PA, we had 2 golfers participate, Bob and Kathy Harak.

**Donations:**

- A motion made by Frank Macey to donate \$100.00 to the Slovak Catholic Federation seconded by Kathi Smolkowicz.

- A motion made by Kathi Smolkowicz to donate \$100.00 to "Walt the K Polka Show" on WRAW Radio Station 1340 Reading, PA, seconded by Joann Antosy.
- A motion made by Joe Harak to donate \$100.00 to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Fund in memory of our Group 12 Chaplain Father Francis G. Lendacky, seconded by Liz Milaneck.

- A motion made by Kathi Smolkowicz to donate annually \$200.00 to the Eastern European Food Festival, seconded by Greg Milaneck.

**Old Business:**

- We will continue to support our Slovak churches within our Assemblies and Wreaths.

- We will continue to represent the Slovak Catholic Sokol in the Philadelphia Fraternal Organization.

**New Business:**

- A motion made by Greg Milaneck for all salaries to remain the same. Suhlas

- We had a discussion on the open officer positions and the need to fill those positions.

- At the International Convention in 2015 Group 12 made a request to host the 2019 International Convention at Valley Forge Convention Center. Kathi Smolkowicz submitted an information packet to Home Office on the convention center. We are still waiting to hear from Headquarters if they have selected our request.

- President Harak express the

**IN MEMORIAM**

Slovak Catholic Sokol extends sincere sympathy to the bereaved families of deceased members

**FEBRUARY 2017**

Assembly/Wreath	Member	Age	Date of Death
Assembly 9	Michael Krackowsky, Bridgeport, CT	89	February 5, 2010
Assembly 36	Frances M. Anderson, Detroit, MI	88	February 16, 2017
Assembly 48	Rev. Francis G. Lendacky, Philadelphia, PA	82	June 26, 2016
Assembly 48	Marilyn M. Demchick, Philadelphia, PA	77	February 4, 2017
Assembly 48	David W. Coughlin, Philadelphia, PA	85	January 5, 2017
Assembly 48	Agnes Viscusi, Philadelphia, PA	86	January 18, 2015
Assembly 54	Mary Therese Fischer, Lyndora, PA	59	August 9, 2016
Assembly 59	Eleanore Waskie, Wilkes-Barre, PA	89	February 8, 2017
Assembly 59	Marion Boris, Wilkes-Barre, PA	85	February 13, 2017
Assembly 59	Rosemary Warren, Wilkes-Barre, PA	79	January 9, 2017
Assembly 59	Emily DeAngelis, Wilkes-Barre, PA	96	January 26, 2017
Assembly 64	Eleanor J. Barry, Erie, PA	92	October 18, 2016
Assembly 69	Josef Brisuda, Smock, PA	93	February 2, 2017
Assembly 71	Ruth Bendick, Edwardsville, PA	87	January 22, 2017
Assembly 78	Anna Cmorey, Bethlehem, PA	96	January 10, 2017
Assembly 78	Stephen Pecsek, Bethlehem, PA	65	January 15, 2017
Assembly 86	Stephen Loyack Jr., Port Griffith, PA	76	January 28, 2017
Assembly 108	Bernadette Machuzak, Youngstown, OH	85	January 18, 2017
Assembly 108	Michael P. Chizmar, Youngstown, OH	96	February 8, 2017
Assembly 110	Frances Sherry, St. Clair, PA	95	February 6, 2017
Assembly 162	Robert H. Vlack, Clifton, NJ	88	February 12, 2017
Assembly 162	Sophie M. Mladenetz, Clifton, NJ	94	January 1, 2017
Assembly 167	Marc D. Underation, Barberton, OH	37	January 3, 2017
Assembly 214	Vincenta E. Tiberio, Rossford, OH	88	December 22, 2016
Assembly 219	Sister M. Mercedes Voytko, Danville, PA	85	September 8, 2016
Assembly 261	Rev. Francis P. Straka, Reading, PA	60	January 4, 2017
Assembly 313	Mary A. Snyder, Winter Park, FL	91	February 16, 2017
Wreath 1	Diane L. Buda, Bridgeport, CT	70	January 20, 2017
Wreath 14	Anna Mellot, Johnstown, PA	98	June 22, 2015
Wreath 14	Lucille Hines, Johnstown, PA	85	December 21, 2016
Wreath 22	Helen M. Klimchak, Pittsburgh, PA	94	February 2, 2017
Wreath 22	Sue A. Wells, Pittsburgh, PA	76	November 25, 2016
Wreath 81	James B. Polak, Whiting, IN	79	January 17, 2017
Wreath 81	Margaret Conley, Whiting, IN	87	January 24, 2017
Wreath 85	Virginia Lee Geriak, McKees Rocks, PA	73	October 27, 2016
Wreath 93	Wang Ying Xiong, Milwaukee, WI	70	February 22, 2017
Wreath 107	Theresa M. Sepesy, Youngstown, OH	88	December 12, 2016
Wreath 111	Betty Ann Burns, Lorain, OH	85	January 11, 2017
Wreath 153	Theodore Bytsura, Parma, OH	95	January 16, 2017
Wreath 157	Anna Besek, Nesquehoning, PA	90	February 14, 2017

**Held in Douglas, Mass.****Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak"**

Group 3 held their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 2, 2016 at the Sokol Hall, Douglas, MA. Coffee and Danish were served.

Group 3's President, Kevin Conway called the meeting to order at 10:20 am. Brother Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer. Brother Larry Bombara then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Christine Manyak took roll call. There were 11 members present

representing Assemblies 28 and Wreath 18.

Secretary Christine Manyak reviewed the minutes of the Group 3 Annual meeting held on Sunday, October 16, 2016. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Larry Bombara; seconded by Joe Bolte.

Brother Kevin welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending. He understands everyone has a busy schedule and he appreciates our participation. We had several new attendees so Brother Kevin reviewed the meeting process.

Treasurer Ralph Quinn was unable to attend therefore the treasurer's report was read by Brother Kevin. After review and discussion it was accepted on a motion by Joe Bolte, 2nd Judy Manyak.

As this is the semi-annual meeting the Physical Director and Directress do not have an official report. Sister Judy reported that the Jr girls and Sr Women have started drill practice. Jaque Manyak and Makenzie Cyr will be her assistants again this year. They have 5 Jr girls and 17 Sr Women. The Jr Boys and Sr Men, 4 & 12 participants respectively will be starting their practice today.

Brother Roger Manyak provided an update as Sports Director. The

International Bowling tournament will be held 5/19-21/17. The International Softball tournament is to be held 6/23-25/17 at Kirby park in Wilkes-Barre, PA, we will try to send 1 men's and 1 women's team. The 48th International Slet will be in Brockport, NY from 7/12-16/17. The Golf tournament will be held in Dubois, PA 8/18-20/17.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Group 3 will hold a Slovak Polish Buffet on Saturday April 29, 2017 at the Sokol Hall, Rt 16 Douglas, MA. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Children 10 & under are free. Serving time is 5-8 pm.

- Locally a Golf Tournament fund raiser will be held on 5/6/17. It will be held at Blackstone National Golf course. There will be a dinner after. This event is limited to 40 Golfers.

- The Sokol Open will again be held the first Saturday after Labor Day, on 9/9/17 at Blissful Meadows Golf Club.

- As mentioned above the 48th International Slet will be held from 7/12-16/17 in Brockport, NY. Discussion ensued to educate/inform the parents of new participants what to expect for their children and for them as spectators.

A motion to adjourn was made by Christine Manyak, seconded by Joe Brody, accepted. Brother Kevin concluded the meeting with a closing prayer. Suhlas.

Joann Antosy  
Group 12 Secretary





## Obituaries...

### John P. Fialkovich, Yonkers, N.Y. fraternal activist, laid to rest at 90

John P. Fialkovich passed away peacefully at his home in Yonkers, N.Y. on April 13 with his family at his side. He was 90.



A native of Youngstown, Oh., John was born there February 27, 1927, son of the late Paul Fialkovich and the former Elizabeth Kostelansky. He was taken

to Slovakia as a child and was raised and educated in a village outside Kosice. In 1948, he came to the United States first settling in Passaic, N.J. He then moved to Yonkers, N.Y. where he married the former Mary Chorey on May 27, 1950 at St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church. His wife survives.

For the past 67 years, Brother Fialkovich has been a pillar of the Yonkers, N.Y. Slovak community. He was active all his married life at the former Most Holy Trinity Slovak Parish there. He was an active Slovak fraternalist and cultural leader. He has been a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol since 1948 in Passaic,

N.J. and was active in dramatic clubs at St. Mary of the Assumption Slovak Parish there. Over the years, he participated in many Sokol events. At the time of his death, he was a member of Assembly 219.

He has been active in the First Catholic Slovak Union since joining in 1950. He was a regular at the national conventions and was active in the Msgr. Stephen Krasula District. He served as president of Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41 for 40 years. This lodge, founded in 1891, the oldest Slovak society in the state of New York established Most Holy Trinity Parish in 1895. Brother John was a mover and shaker at the parish serving in various capacities. With the introduction of the vernacular Slovak liturgy following the Second Vatican Council, he served as a faithful lector for many years. He served on various parish committees, most recently the 120th anniversary of the parish and final closing in 2015. He was a member of the Catholic Slovak Club and also supported the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Brother John shared his love for the Church and our Slovak organizations with his

family. His wife, son, daughters and their families remained active in the Yonkers parish until its closing.

Brother John was a superintendent at St. Mary's Cemetery from 1968 until his retirement. Previously, he was a foreman at Anaconda Wire and Cable in Hastings on Hudson, N.Y.

In addition to his wife, Mary, Brother Fialkovich is survived by a son Paul Fialkovich (LT YFD) and his wife, Joanne of Yonkers; and two daughters, Christine Slattery and her husband, Michael and Susan Fialkovich, all of Yonkers. He is also survived by five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother and sister, Alojs and Olga.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their respects to Brother Fialkovich at the Whalen & Ball Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on April 18 at St. Anthony's Church with the pastor, the Rev. Arthur Mastrolia, officiating. Interment followed at St. Mary's Cemetery.

May our Brother John, so strong in physical stature and devotion to his family and community, may he now rest in peace. He beautifully mirrored the very best of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. He was a patriotic American, proud Slovak and wonderful Catholic gentleman. Blessed with long-life and happiness, he left a legacy for all to imitate. He will be sorely missed. *Vecnaja pamyat!*

### Joseph F. Kleya, Jr. passes away peacefully at 87 in Conover, N.C.

Joseph "Joe" F. Kleya, Jr. of Conover, N.C. passed away on Sunday, April 9 at Catawba Valley Medical Center. He was 87.

A native of East Douglas, Mass., he was born there May 22, 1929 to the late Joseph Francis Kleya, Sr. and the former Anna Manyak. He was a life-long Sokol of Assembly 28 in East Douglas where he was educated.

Brother Joseph started his Army career in 1947 and was in the 82nd Airborne division. He enjoyed his military career and performed 39 jumps out of perfectly good airplanes. In 1953, he married the love of his life, the former Zelda McDaniel who survives. They started their family with the birth of a daughter, Debra in 1955, a son Darrell in 1956, and daughters, Patricia in 1958 and Pamela in 1961.

A Sokol since birth, Brother Joseph was an active participant in various Sokol gymnastic and sporting activities as a youth. He served as the Physical Director of Assembly 28 and inaugurated the lodge's men's basketball program in the early 1970s.

Never one to lie around, he kept busy whenever he was able to. Even in his 70s, he was able to give his time to keeping the grounds at St. Paul's Lutheran Church neat and trim. He and his wife Zelda enjoyed cruising the oceans. After moving to North Carolina, he satisfied his deep competitive streak by taking on others in the Colonial Lanes bowling league. He brought so much joy to others. Having the gift of gab, everyone who met him

immediately made a connection. He believed the best blessing bestowed upon him were his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Simply spending time with them was all he needed to make his day.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Annie Bouvier and one granddaughter, Jacqueline Harris.

In addition to his wife of 63 years, Zelda, Brother Joe is survived by a son, Darrell and spouse Teresa of Southbridge, Mass.; daughters, Patricia Skeens and spouse, Barry of Oak Island, N.C., Debra Harris and spouse, Wayne of Conover, N.C., Pamela Louis and spouse, Brian of Ponce Inlet, Fla.; a brother, Johnny Kleya of Grafton, Mass.; sisters, Janice Colorio of Sutton, Mass., Alice Larson and spouse, Jim of East Douglas, Mass., Elaine Sughrie and spouse, Jack of Whitinsville, Mass. and grandchildren, Daniel Harris, Bethany Dominico, Derek Louis, Adam Guilmet, Zach Guilmet, Cody Louis, Lindsay Kleya, Jarrod Kleya; and great-grandchildren, Carson Caldwell, Marcus, Kyle, Nicole Mumford, Emily Harris, and Ryder Dominico.

A memorial service to celebrate Brother Joseph's life was held on April 13 at Sandy Ridge Wesleyan Church followed by full military honors. Interment followed at Salisbury National Cemetery.

May our Brother Sokol, who so beautifully mirrored our fraternal way of life, now rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to the Kleya family.

### Sister Teresa Urda, SS.C.M. buried in Danville, Pa.

Sister Teresa Urda (Sister M. Jonathan) passed away peacefully at Maria Hall in Danville, Pa. on Sunday, April 2, 2017. She was 74.

A native of Torrington, Conn.,



**Sister Teresa Urda, SS.C.M.  
1942-2017, R.I.P.**

Sister Teresa was born there on October 15, 1942, one of five children born to Andrew Urda and the former Helen Vasko. She was raised in Sacred Heart Slovak Parish there and attended the parish school. After completing her freshman year at Torrington High School, she transferred to St. Cyril Academy in Dan-

ville, Pa. where she was a member of the graduating class of 1960.

Sister Teresa entered the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pa. on September 9, 1961, and was received as a novice on August 13, 1962. She made her first profession of vows on August 13, 1964.

On the elementary level, Sister Teresa taught seventh grade at Blessed Sacrament School, Charleston, S.C., eighth grade at Holy Name of Jesus School, Stratford, Conn. and St. Francis of Assisi School, Torrington, Conn. Sister taught English at Pius X High School, Pottstown, Pa., English and Psychology at Andrean High School, Merrillville, Ind. and English at Lebanon Catholic High School, Lebanon, Pa. During her years in secondary education she served as moderator of the yearbook, the Mission Club, the Student Council and the sophomore and junior classes.

For 11 years, Sister Teresa was Director of Maintenance at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Sister was particularly interested in environmental concerns. She was a volunteer at the House of Care at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, for many years. Sister Teresa had a gift for writing and editing. Each week she sent out the Focus which ap-

praised the Sisters of the Congregation's activities and achievements. She did the publicity for the activities of the St. Cyril Spiritual Center, one of the congregation's ministries located in Danville. As moderator of the St. Cyril Academy Alumnae Association, she compiled news for The Challenge, the newsletter of the organization. Her most important achievement was writing the history of the first hundred years of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

Sister Teresa is survived by a sister, Mrs. Helen Borkowsk, Harwinton, Conn., a brother, Cyril, Torrington, Conn. and several nieces and nephews.

Transferral and recitation of the Rosary took place on April 7 at Maria Hall followed by a Wake Service. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Maria Hall by Maria Hall chaplain, Rev. Gerard Heintzelman with the Rev. Patrick Devine concelebrating. Interment followed in the Sisters' cemetery. May Sister Teresa who so beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith as a vowed religious, now rest in peace.

Donations in memory of Sister Teresa can be made to the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821.



### Announcing the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

*In Memory of...*

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 newly developed Memorial Scholarship fund? Your donation will assure that an annual scholarship be given out to a college age student who best exemplifies the meaning of fraternalism and volunteerism. Here's how it works:

Send a check or money order to the Memorial Scholarship Fund clearly indicating the name to be memorialized. You can find a donation form on line at

<http://slovakcatholicssokol.org/members/memorialfrmframe.htm> or simply send your donation to:

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

- ♦ Your bequest will be recognized in the *Falcon* as well as permanently added to the Memorial Scholarship Donation Log which will be kept at the Sokol Museum.
- ♦ Depending on the amount of funds collected, we will be able to award at least two \$1,000 scholarships annually. The hope is that the donated funds will begin a self-perpetuating interest bearing scholarship account.

Have you recently lost a loved one? You might consider earmarking donations to this fund in their memory. Keep the spirit of your fellow Sokol alive by investing in a way that their fraternal dedication will not be forgotten.

## 87th Annual Milwaukee Slovak Day set for July 30 at the Croatian Park

The Milwaukee area will host its traditional American Slovak Day observance on Sunday, July 30 at Croatian Park, 9140 South 76th Street in Franklin, Wis. Hosted by the Federated Slovak Societies of Milwaukee, this year's event marks its 87th anniversary, ranking then as one of the oldest Slovak Day observances in the country.

Continuing its long-standing tradition, Slovak Day begins with an outdoor Mass celebrated at 12 noon in the scenic and spacious park. Celebrant of the liturgy will be the Rev. John J. Jamnický, pastor of St. Raphael the Archangel Parish in Old Mill Creek, Ill. This parish which borders Wisconsin is the most northerly parish in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Father Jamnický is a popular and well-known priest in the area's Slovak community.

The cultural program begins at 2:30 p.m. and features an array of entertainment for every member of the family. The program will feature our Group 4 Sokol drillers from Milwaukee's Wreath 93 and the Tatra Slovak Dancers who

will present the music, song and dance traditions of the various regions of Slovakia. Live music for dancing and listening pleasure will be enjoyed until 6 p.m. Children's games and activities will be available throughout the afternoon.

Traditional Slovak culinary specialties along with popular American picnic favorites will be available throughout the day. Homemade Slovak pastries as well as imported beer from Slovakia will be featured. Imported handmade ornaments, jewelry and crafts from Slovakia and the Czech Republic will be available for sale. There is free admission and plenty of parking available. Complimentary golf cart transportation is available at the park for the "Young at Heart." For additional information on this year's American Slovak Day Picnic, call our Wreath 93 Sokolka, Betty Valent at tel. 414 425-6137. We hope that many Group 4 members will celebrate our rich heritage at this year's American Slovak Day. An enjoyable afternoon is assured.

## 44th Summer Festival set for July 8 in Danville, Pa.

(Continued on page 4)

Bus parking is available. The festival will take place rain or shine, and will close with Mass celebrated at 5 p.m. to satisfy the Sunday obligation. Tours of the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius will also be available. The revered Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, containing the largest collection of Slovákiana in the U.S., is located here. For additional information on this year's festival, please call: Sister Barbara Sable at: 570 275-3581, Ext. 302. We hope that many of our members will avail themselves of the opportunity to celebrate an enjoyable summer afternoon here.

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius were founded in 1909 in Scranton, Pa. by the Rev. Matthew Jankola, who served as the second supreme chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Generations of Sokol members were taught by the Sisters in parochial school located in the northeast and the midwest.

## 94th Pittsburgh Slovak Day set for July 20 at Kennywood Park

Those of Slovak ancestry in western Pennsylvania will gather once again on Thursday, July 20, as generations have before them, at Kennywood Park to celebrate heritage and tradition at this year's 94th annual American Slovak Day. The Pittsburgh Slovak Day is the oldest such gathering of its kind in the United States. Slovak Day observances were the result of the early generation of Slovak immigrants wanting to demonstrate their American patriotism while sharing the heritage and traditions of their ancestral homeland of Slovakia with the American public. In communities across the northeast and midwest, Slovak Day observances became a popular summer gathering. The Pittsburgh Slovak Day was the first. From their earliest years, Slovak Day celebrations were supported and sustained by our Slovak fraternal societies.

This year's American Slovak Day, like the first one in 1923, will be held at the popular Kennywood Park in West Mifflin. The day's activities begin with children's games and treats at 12:30 p.m. The Slovak kitchen featuring Slovak culinary delights will open at 12:30 p.m. providing refreshments throughout the day. At 2 p.m., the presentation of children's folk dancing will feature the talent and artistry of the Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks as well as the Junior PAS - Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble. The brief speakers program featuring special guests will take place at the Main Pavilion at 3 p.m. Throughout the day, special exhibits and displays will feature the history of the Pittsburgh area Slovak community as well as traditional folk arts and kroj from the various regions of Slovakia. These exhibits are held at Pavilion #3 and Pavilion #5.

A highlight of the day will be a concelebrated Mass in Slovak at the Main Pavilion directly behind "Garfield's Revenge" at 4 p.m. The Eucharistic liturgy will be celebrated by Catholic priests of Slovak ancestry from the Dioceses of Pittsburgh, Greensburg and Altoona-Johnstown.

Immediately following the Mass, the vibrant repertoire of traditional Slovak music, song and dance will be presented by the Pittsburgh Slovaks and the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble - PAS.

Everyone age 3 and older must have a ticket to enter the park. Tickets may be used on any other weekday beside July 20 with no extra charge. Super Senior (age 70 and older) tickets will also be available from the committee. For additional information on this year's Slovak Day, contact the cochairman and our Sokolka of Wreath 22, Sue Ondrejko at tel. 412 421-1204 or at sue.ondrejko@gmail.com.

### 'LEST WE FORGET'

GOD, I AM TRAVELING OUT TO DEATH'S SEA,  
I, WHO EXULTED IN SUNSHINE AND LAUGHTER,  
THOUGHT NOT DYING - DEATH IS SUCH WASTE OF ME!  
GRANT ME ONE PRAYER: DOOM NOT THE HEREAFTER  
OF MANKIND TO WAR, AS THOUGH I HAD DIED NOT -  
I, WHO IN BATTLE, MY COMRADE'S ARM LINKING,  
SHOUTED AND SANG - LIFE IN MY PULSES HOT,  
THROBBING AND DANCING! LET NOT MY SINKING  
IN DARK BE FOR NAUGHT, MY DEATH A VAIN THING!  
GOD, LET ME KNOW IT THE END OF MAN'S FEVER!  
MAKE MY LAST BREATH A BUGLE CALL, CARRYING  
PEACE O'er THE VALLEYS AND COLD HILLS FOREVER!  
FOR IN THE END, ONLY DEATH TRIUMPHS.



As we observe Memorial Day on Monday, May 29, let us remember the generations of Sokol members who have championed the cause of freedom and democracy in defense of our American way of life. We especially reverence the memory of those who have made the Supreme Sacrifice. Eternal is their memory. The above artistic rendition is the work of the late Steven J. Sroba, a gifted artist and well-known fraternalist. For many years, his art work has graced the pages of our official publication as well as other souvenir books. He was a long-time and devoted member of Assembly 48 in Philadelphia, Pa. and a participant in Sokol fraternal and sports activities all his life. He passed away in 1995.

*Za Boha a Národ*  *For God and Nation*  
**Slovak Catholic Falcon**  
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Horná časť hradu Devín, jednej z najvýznamnejších kultúrnych pamiatok v Bratislave, je po deviatich rokoch opäť prístupná verejnosti. V rámci rekonštrukcie obnovili exteriér horného hradu, strednú a hornú terasu a prístupovú terasu zo stredného hradu na citadelu. Z terasy na hornom hrade je nádherný výhľad.

- Foto: Matej Kalina

## Pre zákon o občianstve prišlo o slovenský pas takmer dvetisíc ľudí

Zákon o štátnom občianstve pripravil doteraz (od 17. júna 2010 do 28. apríla 2017) o slovenský pas 1766 ľudí. Najčastejšie stratili slovenské občianstvo prijatím českého (464). Vyplýva to zo štatistik Ministerstva vnútra (MV) SR.

O slovenský pas prišli aj osoby, ktoré prijali občianstvo nemecké (422), rakúske (253), britské (164), maďarské (91), americké (74), nórské (41), holandské (36), švajčiarske (33), írské (30), austrálske (29), belgické (28), talianske (23), kanadské (22), fínske (12), švédské (11), francúzske (desať), luxemburské (štyri), čínske, ruské (obe po tri), dánske, islandské, poľské a ukrajinské (všetky po dve), novozeľandské, izraelské, španielske, srbské a singapurské (všetky po jednej).

Slovenský pas strácajú ľudia na základe zákona o štátnom občianstve, ktorý prijala prvá vláda Roberta Fica (Smer).

Niekdajší kabinet reagoval právnou normou v roku 2010 na maďarský zákon, ktorý od roku 2011 zjednodušuje udeľovanie dvojakeho občianstva zahraničným Maďarom. Na základe

súčasného zákona prichádzajú o slovenský pas tí, ktorí prijali občianstvo iného štátu.

Od prijatia zákona sa objavili viaceré pokusy o zmiernenie tejto právnej normy, avšak ani jeden z nich nebol úspešný. Súčasnou právnou normou sa zaoberal aj Ústavný súd SR, ktorý nedokázal povedať, či je protiústavná, alebo nie je. Ministerstvo vnútra avizovanú zmenu zákona nepredložilo.

Od februára 2015 je účinné nariadenie rezortu o udeľovaní štátneho občianstva SR z osobitných dôvodov. Umožňuje, aby bývalí štátni občania SR, ktorí stratili slovenské občianstvo po 1. januári 1993, mohli požiadať o jeho udeľenie.

Pri rozhodovaní o žiadosti sa prihliada aj na skutočnosti, ktoré boli dôvodom straty štátneho občianstva Slovenskej republiky, na spôsob a podmienky, akými žiadateľ cudzí pas nadobudol. "Najmä na existenciu podmienky povoleného, evidovaného alebo registrovaného pobytu v cudzom štáte v čase nadobudnutia cudzieho štátneho občianstva," uviedlo ministerstvo. - Zdroj: sme.sk

## Opotrebované veci, ktoré môžete použiť vo vašej zákrade

Zaplniť si domácnosť vecami, ktoré už nepotrebujeme, je zbytočné. Na druhej strane, niektoré sa dajú použiť ako špeciálne pomôcky do záhrady a na balkóny.

**Kávové filtre** môžete použiť v záhrade a pri presádzaní izbových rastlín. Na dno črepníka najprv položte kávový filter a keď nastane čas, že rastlinka z črepníka vyrásta a potrebuje väčší, budete mať omnoho ľahšiu prácu. Hlina sa totiž nebude trúsiť po celom stole. Navyše, na tento účel ani nemusíte používať nové filtre. Kávová sedlina je výborné hnojivo aj prostriedok proti škodcom.

**Kôš na bielizeň** použite na sadenie jahôd. Ak má veľa otvorov, vložte doňho najprv pevné igelitové vreće, nasypte hlinu a ostrým nožom vyrežte otvory len tam, kde sa vám hodia.

**Obrátená fľaša** je lacným riešením na zavlažovanie. Môžete použiť plastové fľaše alebo odolnejšie sklenené. Fľaše naplnené vodou zastoknete do črepníkov. Treba ich však zabezpečiť, aby ich nezhodil vietor.

**Pokazené dažďníky alebo staré slnečníky** sú ideálnou pomôckou pre popínavé rastliny. Rúčku zapichnete do zeme, otvorte dažďník a natiahajte špagatiku alebo drôťku tak, aby sa po nich mohla vinúť rastlina.

**Prázdne krabíčky z Tic-tac cukríkov** môžeme použiť na odkladanie semiačok na nasledujúci rok. Prázdne a označené krabíčky sa dajú ukladať jednu vedľa druhej a môžete si vytvoriť semiačkový archív. Vrchniaky môžete nechať otvorené, aby semiačka nesplesnivali.

## ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

Budte trendy! - pravda.sk  
Toto odkázala všetkým hejterom! - emma.sk

Najhoršie beauty tutoriály... Nevýhodou nasledujúcich beauty blogeriek je to, že sú všetky ich faily zaznamenané... - viralne.sk  
...diskusia o sociálnom dumpingu... - pravda.sk  
Čím sa totálne zahanbila v talk-show... - pluska.sk

Máte rady sneakersky? 4 outfity, s ktorými ich posuniete na vyšší level - FashionMia  
Slovenské daňové prostredie je pre start-upy najhoršie... - sme.sk  
Slovenské agentúry sa dostali na shortlist - trend.sk

Cookies s ružovými lúpeňmi... - dobrejedlo.sk  
...dnes je na líderskej pozícii... - sme.sk

Bratislava môže spustiť bikesharing už túto jeseň. - sme.sk

## Miroslav Lajčák rokoval s ministrom USA Rexom Tillersonom

(Pokračovanie zo str. 16)

25 rokov od nadviazania diplomatických vzťahov oboch krajín a 100 rokov od založenia prvého spoločného štátu Čechov a Slovákov, na ktorého vzniku mal svoj veľký podiel aj vtedajší americký prezident Woodrow Wilson.

V súčasnosti je Slovensko spoľahlivým partnerom USA v NATO. M. Lajčák v rozhovore potvrdil, že Slovenská republika naplní svoj záväzok daný na summite NATO vo Walese zvýšiť úroveň výdavkov na obranu na úroveň 1,6 percenta HDP v súlade s modernizačnými plánmi Ozbroyených síl SR.

Bavili sa aj o Rusku a Ukrajine

Pri téme Ruska a Ukrajiny šéf slovenskej diplomacie konštatoval, že čas nie je na našej strane. "Situácia na východe Ukrajiny hrozí vytvorením zamrznutého konfliktu. Politický proces sa nehybe z miesta, nevidíme dostatočný pokrok. Napriek tomu by bolo kontraproduktívne zmraziť našu komunikáciu s Ruskom. Naopak, musíme ponechať otvorené kanály na aktívny dialóg," povedal M. Lajčák.

Pokiaľ ide o vzájomnú spoluprácu medzi Slovenskom a USA, slovenský minister poukázal

na fakt, že sme spojenkami v NATO, realizujeme spoločné aktivity v regiónoch, ktoré sú prioritné pre našu zahraničnú politiku - na Ukrajine i západnom Balkáne -, a máme zhodné pozície v kľúčových záujmových oblastiach, ako sú energetika, bezpečnosť či boj proti terorizmu. "Slovensko je pripravené zintenzívniť spoluprácu s USA a ostatnými spojenkami v NATO s cieľom poraziť tzv. Islamský štát a posilniť pravidelné iracké sily. Slovenská vláda sa hlási k tomu, že boj proti terorizmu patrí medzi jej priority a potvrdí to v najbližších dňoch schválením balíčka pomoci pre Irak," uviedol M. Lajčák.

Ministrov program v hlavnom meste USA pokračuje v utorok a v stredu účasťou na konferencii tzv. MSC Core Group, expertnom podujatí na vysokej úrovni o regionálnych i medzinárodných bezpečnostných otázkach. M. Lajčák má vo Washingtone naplánované aj stretnutia s niektorými ďalšími vysokými predstaviteľmi americkej administratívy a zahraničnopolitických think-tankov.

TASR o tom informoval hovorca programu Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Peter Susko.

## Spomienka na M.R. Štefánika

(Pokračovanie zo str. 16)

Výrazne sa zaslúžil o vznik medzivojnovej Československej republiky. Jeho závažnú a úspešnú životnú cestu ukončila 4. mája 1919 tragická letecká nehoda pri pristávaní na rodnom území súčasného Slovenska.

Už počas študentských rokov sa výrazne spoločensky angažoval. V roku 1898 začal študovať stavebné inžinierstvo a vstúpil do spolku Detvan.

V roku 1900 prestúpil na Karlovu univerzitu v Prahe, kde navštevoval prednášky z astronómie, fyziky, optiky a matematiky. Štúdium ukončil dizertáciou z astronómie v roku 1904.

Pracoval v meudonskom observatóriu neďaleko Paríža s francúzskym astronómom a fyzikom, profesorom Pierrom Julesom Césarom Janssenom (1824-1907). Počas svojich astronomických výskumných ciest navštívil strednú Áziu, Alžírsko, Tahiti, Nový Zéland, USA i Južnú Ameriku.

Francúzskym občanom sa stal v roku 1912 a o dva roky ho za jeho činnosť vymenovali za rytiera Čestnej légie.

Cez vojnu spolupracoval s T. G. Masarykom a E. Benešom a cieľavedome sa usiloval realizovať

spolu s nimi víziu spoločného československého štátu. Štefánik trval na československej jednote vzhľadom na vtedajšiu situáciu Slovákov v Uhorsku a na vojnové ciele veľmoci. To však ešte neurčovalo vnútorné usporiadanie budúceho československého štátu.

Štefánik uvažoval o spojení Čiech, Moravy, Sliezska a Slovenska, pričom každé z týchto území, teda i Slovensko, malo mať vlastný krajinský (zemský) snem. Tieto zatiaľ málo konkretizované predstavy neboli vzdialené od úmyslov niektorých slovenských politikov.

Po príchode zo Sibíri sa Štefánik počas mierovej konferencie v Paríži v marci 1919 kriticky vyjadril o malom počte Slovákov vo vláde, ale aj o Pittsburskej dohode a niektorých Benešových krokoch v oblasti zahraničnej politiky.

Minister vojny ČSR M. R. Štefánik 4. mája 1919 odletel z talianskeho mesta Udine do Bratislavy na dvojposádnicu Caproni Ca 33 spolu s dvoma talianskymi letcami a mechanikom. Zomrel pri leteckej nehode v Ivanke pri Dunaji, ktorú neprežil ani jeden z členov posádky.



Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation

# Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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**Daniel F. Tanzone, redaktor**  
Telefónne číslo: (973) 777-4010

Všetky články, príspevky a správy treba poslať na adresu:  
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# Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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### Povodne na Slovensku si vyžiadali tri životy

Katastrofálne povodne, ktoré 20. apríla zasiahli Žilinský kraj, si vyžiadali tri ľudské životy.

O život prišiel poľský turista, ktorý raftoval na rozbúrenej rieke Váh, pád do rieky neprežil. Štyridsaťpäťročného muža záchranári vylovili v Liptovskom Hrádku. Záchranári po 30 minútach neúspešnej resuscitácie skonštatovali smrť.

Ďalšou obeťou je 56-ročný muž z okresu Bytča, ktorý sa utopil v rozbúrenom potoku v obci Hvozdnica. Napriek snahe záchranárov sa ho už nepodarilo oživiť.

Rozbúrená rieka v Ochodnici strhla 60-ročného muža, ktorý vošiel do rieky v čase záplav s terénnym autom Suzuki aj s ďalším mužom. Preto tak muži spravili nie je známe, podľa obyvateľov Ochodnice mali nešťastný nápad, umyť vozidlo zašpinené od blata. Rieka však auto aj s mužmi strhla a to sa prevrátilo. Obaja sa dostali von z vozidla, kým mladšiemu sa podarilo zachytiť stromu pri brehu, starší zmizol pod vodou. Vtedy sa začal boj o jeho život, ktorý trval dlhé hodiny. Napriek

enormnej snahe sa v rozbúrenej rieke nepodarilo muža nájsť. Hasiči aj tak neprestávali hľadať až do polnoci. Ráno v pátraní pokračovali. Telo muža sa podarilo nájsť až potom, ako hladina rieky opadla a zrážky ustali. Muža našli zachyteného asi 250 metrov od vraku vozidla.

#### Kritická situácia

Kritická situácia bola v celom Žilinskom kraji. Hasiči zasahovali počas celého dňa. Celkovo zasahovalo viac ako dvesto hasičov. Žilinským hasičom prišli na pomoc aj ich kolegovia z rôznych kútov Slovenska, z Humenného, Malaciek aj z Trnavy, ktorí stavali protipovodňové bariéry.

V Dolnom Kubíne, Tvrdošíne a Námestove sa zosunula na cestu rozmočená zemina. Mimoriadna situácia spočívala v tom, že voda vyčíňava v celom Žilinskom kraji, nie iba lokálne, ako to býva inokedy. Voda narobila poriadne problémy aj v Čadci, rieka Kysuca sa vyliala priamo v centre a dosahovala na niektorých miestach až dva metre. Zatopilo aj železničný podchod.

### Spomienka na M.R. Štefánika

Slovensko si 4. mája na Košariskách, v Ivanke pri Dunaji, Bratislave, Brezovej pod Bradlom



a na ďalších miestach pripomenulo tragické úmrtie generála Milana Rastislava Štefánika - jednej z najvýznamnejších osobností slovenských novodobých dejín.

Milan Rastislav Štefánik sa stal významným astronómom, vojenským pilotom, francúzskym generálom a jedným z prvých Slovákov, ktorí viackrát vystúpili na najvyšší vrch Alp a západnej Európy Mont Blanc.

(Pokračovanie na str. 15)

### Krátke správy zo Slovenska



□ Výstavba nového závodu japonského koncernu Minea-Mitsumi, ktorý vyrastie pri košickom letisku, sa začala 5. mája. Symbolického výkopu sa zúčastnil aj premiér Fico. Celková výška investície Japoncov do košického závodu má dosiahnuť 60 miliónov eur a počet zamestnancov by mal predstavovať 1100 ľudí. Z toho 100 by sa malo zaoberať výskumom a vývojom.

□ Nových prípadov HIV infekcie na Slovensku pribúda. Stúpajúci trend pozoruje Úrad verejného zdravotníctva od začiatku 21. storočia. Minulý rok lekári zaznamenali doteraz najvyšší počet prípadov v jednom kalendárnom roku (87), zomreli traja pacienti.

□ Najviac infikovaných žije vo väčších mestách, najvyšší výskyt je v Bratislavskom kraji. "Slovensko však naďalej patrí k členským štátom Európskej únie s najnižším počtom prípadov HIV infekcie," píše úrad v najnovšej správe. Výskyt HIV či AIDS začali úrady na Slovensku sledovať od roku 1985. Do konca minulého roka ich zaznamenali u 898 ľudí, z toho Slovákov bolo 756 a zvyšok cudzinci. Asi u 100 Slovákov prešla HIV infekcia do štádia AIDS, zomrelo 62 HIV infikovaných ľudí, z toho 48 v štádiu AIDS.

□ Výroba áut na Slovensku by tento rok mala znova prekročiť miliónovú hranicu, informoval o tom vo štvrtok tamojší zväz automobilového priemyslu. Vlani z výrobných liniek troch automobiliek vyšlo rekordných 1,04 milióna áut, čím si Slovensko udržalo v prepočte na obyvateľa pozíciu svetovej jednotky v produkcii vozidiel.

□ Slovensko sa už veľa krát stalo miestom, kde sa točili scénky Hollywoodských filmov. Výnimkou nie je ani najnovší film Red Sparrow, v ktorom

hlavnú úlohu stvárňuje známa americká herečka Jennifer Lawrence. Scénku koncom apríla natáčali v bratislavskej Petržalke pred panelákmi na sídlisku. Okrem Jennifer Lawrence sa ukázal aj herec Jeremy Irons, ktorý si zahral Alfreda vo filme Batman v Superman.

□ Objem investícií do komerčných nehnuteľností na Slovensku sa medziročne takmer zdvojnásobil a mal by ďalej rásť. Väčšina investícií má pritom zahraničný pôvod. Upozornila na to realitno-poradenská spoločnosť CBRE Slovensko, podľa ktorej sa Slovensko stáva čoraz väčším lákadlom pre investorov z celého sveta.

□ Zatiaľ čo v roku 2015 sa na slovenskom trhu komerčných nehnuteľností investovalo 446 miliónov eur, vlani to bolo už 855 miliónov eur. Až 79 % týchto investícií malo zahraničný pôvod. Peniaze, ktoré boli investované na Slovensku minulý rok, pochádzali hlavne z Ázie, Austrálie, Južnej Afriky, Rakúska, Českej republiky a Nemecka.

□ Cez Slovensko sa 12. mája presúvali spojeneckí vojaci na medzinárodné vojenské cvičenia, plánovacie porady, konferencie a ďalšie aktivity. Početne najväčší bol tranzit vozidiel a materiálu Armády USA.

□ Americká spoločnosť Amazon spustila nábor zamestnancov do svojho logistického centra pri Sereďi. Frima ponúka platy výše 900 eur. Do októbra by mali vytvoriť pracovné miesta pre tisíc zamestnancov a pred Vianocami a do budúcich rokov sa má toto číslo až zdvojnásobiť.

□ Materskú dávku počas starostlivosti o dieťa poberá na Slovensku čoraz viac mužov. Kým v roku 2015 si materskú dávku uplatnilo 1 731 mužov, vlani to už bolo 3 076 mužov.

### Miroslav Lajčák rokoval s ministrom USA Rexom Tillersonom

WASHINGTON - Stretnutie so šéfom americkej diplomacie Rexom Tillersonom bolo 8. mája ústredným bodom programu ministra zahraničných

vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslava Lajčáka vo Washingtone, D.C. Išlo o vôbec prvé bilaterálne rokovanie člena vlády SR s vysokým predstaviteľom

americkej administratívy.

Takmer hodinovému rozhovoru dominovali témy boja proti terorizmu a príspevku Slovenskej republiky k boji proti tzv. Islamskému štátu, naplnenia záväzkov zo summitu NATO vo Walese, ale tiež situácia na Ukrajine, vzťahy s Ruskom, vývoj na západnom Balkáne a situácia v Sýrii.

Rex Tillerson ocenil konštruktívnosť slovenskej zahraničnej politiky opierajúcej sa o predvídateľnosť, stabilitu a silné transatlantické väzby, pričom sa s M. Lajčákom zhodli, že vzájomné väzby SR a USA sú dlhodobé a trvajúce: v roku 2018 uplynie

(Pokračovanie na str. 15)



Miroslav Lajčák (vľavo) a Rex Tillerson. (Zdroj: TASR/AP)