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# AMERICAN HOME

## AMERIŠKA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

American Home  
over 100 years  
of  
serving  
American-  
Slovenians

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, MAY 18, 2006

Phone: (216) 431-0628  
e-mail: ah@buckeyeweb.com

70¢

MARIAN McMAHON  
3933 OHIO STREET  
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Julie Zalar, center, and associate cooks, plus waitresses, get ready to serve a sumptuous meal on March 25 at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave., in Cleveland (Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

## Dr. Zigon Speaks at Heritage Function

The Slovenian American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the third talk in their 2006 lecture series. The Foundation is extremely pleased that Dr. Zvone Zigon, the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia, will provide an update on current events in Slovenia.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Tuesday, May 23 at 7 p.m., in the Lower Hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio. A coffee and strudel social will follow the lecture.

In his presentation, Dr. Zigon will review the consular-diplomatic work of his office and provide an update on recent events in Slovenia. Specifically, he will discuss Slovenia's role in the European Union and the resolution of border disputes with neighboring Croatia.

Dr. Zvone Zigon was named the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland in June of 2005.

Prior to this appointment, Dr. Zigon was a consular to the Slovenian government in the Office for Slovenians Abroad at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this position he was responsible for matters concerning Slovenians in all countries and continents with the exception of the countries bordering Slovenia.

Dr. Zigon's educational background includes an undergraduate degree in Journalism (1993), a master's degree in Socio-Cultural Anthropology (1995) and a doctorate in Political Anthropology (2000) from the University of Ljubljana. Several of his scientific monographs on the subject of Slovenian emigration have been published.

From 1990 to 2005, Dr. Zigon was the manager of the prestigious mixed chamber choir Ave. In 2000 he was the manager of the world-famous Slovenski oktet male vocal group during its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.

### Reminder

The American Home (Ameriška Domovina) will be printed the first three Thursdays of each month ONLY. NOT every week.

There will be NO American Home on Thursday, May 25.

The next issue will be dated Thursday, June 1.

### NEW QUIZ

by James V. Debevec II

What is the only mammal that can fly?

Thanks to **Ruth Abbott** who correctly identified the "bat" as the only mammal that can fly.

New quiz:  
What animals aside from humans can get leprosy?

Send answers to Jim ah@buckeyeweb.com or mail to Jim, American Home, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

A Slovenian wearing a glove has a lot of love.

## Devotional to Our Lady of Brezje

On Tuesday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m., all are invited to meet at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine on Chardon Road in Euclid, Ohio, for the annual May devotions in honor of Our Lady of Brezje, Patroness of Slovenia. The Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges is sponsoring this devotional. Rev. John Kumse, Pastor of St. Mary Church, is planning the liturgical program. It is

anticipated that various Slovenian clergy will be joining him to participate in the devotional.

The prayer service will include recitation of the Rosary in conjunction with a candlelight procession, benediction, and the singing of Slovenian litanies to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

--Joseph V. Hocevar  
Federation President

## Pristava Opening Day

A year went by and we are again ready for more good times at Slovenska Pristava. The building of the new hall is in full swing, and on Sunday, June 4, everybody can see the progress.

The first "veselica" will start with a Mass celebrated by Rev. Father Janez Kumše at 12:30. After Mass one can have a dinner by getting a ticket from Elizabeth Zalik 440-537-1941, or Breda Ribic at 440-943-0621.

After 3 p.m. Veseli Godci will entertain everybody, dancers, and spectators.

Members and friends of Slovenska Pristava, please come and enjoy good food, music and friendship.

Milan Ribic

Be courteous to all, but intimate with few, and let those few be well tried before you give them your confidence. True friendship is a part of slow growth, and must undergo and withstand the shocks of adversity before it is entitled to the appellation. --George Washington

# AMERICAN HOME AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103-1692  
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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA (USPS 024100)

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Dr. Rudolph M. Susel - Slovenian Editor

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Frank J. Lausche, Paul Kosir

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May 18, 2006

## Polka Mass at Shrine

by RUDY FLIS

It is almost time for our annual "Mass of Christian Joy," a Slavic folk liturgy - polka Mass, celebrated by the "Polka Priest," Father George Balasko, with the Wayne Tomsic Combo's beautiful music accompanying us during Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Euclid, Ohio.

On Wednesday, June 14 the Mass will begin at 6 p.m. But before Mass at 4 p.m., until 8 p.m., the Sisters will prepare a "Chicken Paprikash Dinner" for those who pray the Mass best on a full stomach. The donation for dinner, all its trimmings and dessert, is \$8. Dinners will be served after Mass until 8 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine is tucked away on a hillside, as peace and tranquility are partners with nature's beauty, making a visit to Mary's shrine for a Mass, with the music of our heritage a soul warming experience. At times, I do wonder what my mom and dad would have felt or experience at a Polka Mass. On

Sunday morning, at weddings and when my brother Mickey practiced on his accordion were the only times my parents could enjoy their music.

As I prepare myself for Mass, I can not be ready for the overwhelming feeling that swallows my soul when the music to praise Our Lord starts, and is a polka or waltz melody, so familiar to me. All during the Mass my mom and dad, my brothers and sisters, all of them are with me. A powerful prayer, the Mass, seems even more powerful to this soul, when it is a Polka Mass, like a family reunion.

I will be at the Polka Mass at the Shrine on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. I will eat and enjoy the blessings of God. Then I will pray the Mass, receive Jesus in Holy Communion, and will sing all through Mass. It will be a joyous time for me. Last year, this year, and next year, God willing, as we remember those O'Ja, old friends of Father George, who rest in peace and the popular band members who also rest in peace.

## Various Local Events Help Slovenia Celebrate 15<sup>th</sup> Year of Independence

Northeast Ohio's large Slovenian community will celebrate its rich heritage and mark 15 years of independence for its homeland of Slovenia, with a big series of events.

Fifteen years of independence begins Monday, June 5 as Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson dedicates a special exhibit in the Rotunda of City Hall, featuring the art and culture, and valuable contributions of Slovenian Americans to life in Greater Cleveland.

Other events include unveiling of an historic plaque, a wine tasting, a film festival, a Cleveland City Club speech by Slovenia's Ambassador to the United States, and a special day of concerts and religious observances on Sunday, June 25.

Slovenia's Consul General in Cleveland, Dr. Zvone Žigon, predicts all of Northeast Ohio will share his enthusiasm for Slovenian Days. "I've known for the last 20 years that Cleveland is the largest Slovenian city outside of Slovenia, Dr. Žigon said. "I always took this to be romantic legend. Now, after only eight months into my appointment here, I take it as a fact."

Greater Cleveland is home to more than 80,000 residents of Slovenian descent. Since the first Slovenian immigrants arrived in the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Northeast Ohio Slovenians have been instrumental in all

aspects of the region's growth, development, and leadership.

Some special events:

**May 27** - 7 p.m. - Igor in Zlati Zvonki from Slovenia in St. Mary's Parish Center.

**June 1** - 6 p.m. Slovenian Polka Night at Lake County Captains baseball game at Classic Park. First pitch by Consul General Dr. Zvone Žigon.

**June 5** - 4:30 - 7 p.m. Opening Ceremonies of Slovenian Days at Cleveland City Hall.

**June 23** - Raising of Slovenian flag at Ohio State Capital in Columbus.

**June 24** - 12 noon - Slovenski Dan at Slovenska Pristava. Members free; \$4 non-members. - 3 p.m. Steak Dinner; 4 p.m. - Dance with Stan Mejac orchestra.

**June 25**, 12:30 p.m. - Slovenian Mass in St. Vitus church with Most Rev. Bishop Ed Pevec, Rev. Joseph Božnar, and Rev. John Kumš

1:30 - 3 p.m. - Refreshments at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair

3 p.m. - Official celebration of 15 years of independence. Cleveland singing groups Korotan, Fantje na Vasi, Slovenian Junior Chorus, Glasbena Matica, Melodija, Zarja; Cleveland dancing group Kres., etc.

**July 7** - Ambassador Zbogar addresses City Club Forum.

--Johanna Bajc

## Rode is Slovenia's First Cardinal

When Pope Benedict XVI announced during a general audience that Slovenian Archbishop Franc Rode was to be one of the 15 dignitaries to be made cardinal at a consistory on 24 March, Rode headed the Slovenian Roman Catholic Church for seven years as archbishop of Ljubljana and Slovenian metropolitan before he was summoned to the Vatican in the spring of 2004 to become prefect of the congregation for religious orders.

His naming as cardinal was hailed by the Slovenian Bishops' Conference as a sign of the pope's trust in the Slovenian church and the nation of Slovenia. Congratulations were sent to Rode, the highest ranking Slovenian in the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church, by all Slovenian top officials as well as by the Muslim community in Slovenia.

Rode is actually the first Slovenian cardinal, but the third of Slovenian descent in the history of the Slovenian Roman Catholic Church. The first Slovenian to become cardinal was Gorica Archbishop Jakob Missia in 1899, followed by Toronto Archbishop Alojzij Ambrožič 99 years later.

--SINFO

### Strudels

St. Mary's parish (Holmes Ave.) is offering homemade apple, cherry and cheese strudels for sale. Donation is \$7.50 for apple and cherry, and \$8 for cheese.

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# This and that from Emilee

by EMILEE JENKO

*Dober dan.* Love is made in heaven and maintained on earth.

Congratulations to the newlyweds Gordon Luce and Florence Unetich. April 29 was "the" day. St. Mary's Church in Collinwood was "the" place. Officiating was pastor, Fr. John Kumše. Off to Slovenia and Italy on their honeymoon. Wishing them God's blessings.

Spied Pete and Mary Jo Rom at the last Holmes Avenue Slovenian Home raffle. Both looked fine and very fit. Don't know if their pockets were full or empty after the raffle.

April 30<sup>th</sup> was the Slovene Home for the Aged volunteers luncheon at Sterle's Slovenian Country House restaurant. Many good people volunteer for the residents of the Home. Jeffery Sas is the administrator. Elaine Mlakar is the activities director who does a magnificent job keeping the residents happy with crafts, music and religious moments. The Champa group entertains them, and bingo is handled in increments by PSWA Circles 3 and 7, and the Ladies Auxiliary. Entertainment is by the Croatian Sons Tamburitians, Euclid Squeeze Boxers, Novinc and Friends, the Mass singers, and last but not least, the Birthday Party Singers. Isn't that quite a line-up? Who

could ask for anything more? The residents love it, even the one or two who nod off for a short nap.

The volunteers were given a small back-pack and a lovely dinner as always prepared by the Sterle crew. My dinner companions were Dan Reiger, Bill and Jo Klein, Stani and Matt Grdadolnik. We thank the "home" for the treat. We love doing it.

Chatted with Emma DeLach, Mimi Stibil, Tony and Dolores Mihelich, Dorothy Lamm and friend, Marilyn Vidmar, Julia Kraysek, Alice Cech, Olga Klancher and President Bob Klancher, Rosemary Marn, Joey Samsa, Joe and Ann Zgonc, Dick and Fran Tavenier, Paul Yancher, Elsie Zivich, and Agnes Turk.

The top ten award winning volunteers were Mitzi Urbanic, Frank Koenig, Janice Weyer, Dorothy Elersich, Frances Kovac, Betty Sperling, Louise Troglia, Tony Pryatel, Betty Novak, and Joe Mihelich. Zivio. You are wonderful. A big hand was given to all the winners. We all departed fulfilled and happy.

Happy 86<sup>th</sup> birthday to Lou Trebar, May 1<sup>st</sup>. All your

friends all over the world wish you the best, and happy days ahead.

Belated Happy Anniversary to Lloyd and Emma DeLach. Good health and happiness.

I was one of the unfortunate ones to be working as a judge at the voting polls. Nothing was ready in working order. The machines were faulty and the paper work was horrendous. The setup for the electronic devices was a nightmare. 'Nuff said. You've seen it on TV and heard about it on radio. We need to clean up the act.

Belated Get Well wishes to Jimmy Slapnik. I'm sure June delivered all the TLC. He is up and around now and back at the flower shop.

The Slovene Home for the Aged Auxiliary had been granted a donation of \$1,000 from The Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation for the summer socials. Many, many thanks from myself and all of my volunteers. Bless you.

Bumped into Fred Bisbee at the election polls at St. Martin de Porres. Long time no see; don't be a stranger.

Birthday greetings to Norbert Novak on his 80<sup>th</sup> from brother Ray, and Lil Novak, and all the AMLA St. Anne #4 members. Enjoy.

Taylor Bierce, granddaughter of Marie and Bill Azman made her Communion on April 27 in Green Bay, Wis., where she resides with mom, Gina Skorich McGinnis. Brother Bryan shared in the festivities. Marie Azman flew there to also join the happy occasion. God bless all.

Marie and Bill's other granddaughter Mackenzie, daughter of Angelique Skorich, made her Communion on May 7 at Lake Shore Christian Church. Reception after the celebration. God be with you.

Hello to Julie Florea who was in Rehab at the Slovene Home for the Aged and is now recuperating at "The Village." Speedy recovery.

Visitors from Venice, Fla., were Ernie and Gladys Luzar. They always meet friends at the SWH on Waterloo. Everyone is always glad to see you, especially yours truly.

Happy Birthday celebration... 92-years young: Joe Petrich and George Knaus. Help them celebrate on May 18 at Recher Hall in Euclid. It'll be a blast. Those Happy Recycled Teenagers (Thanks, Matt Z.)

Caroline Brush and Rose Brady. Congratulations from all the West Side Slovenian Home members and all your friends on being feted for all

your good work. Zivio.

Thank you R. Stelzken for your "Slovenian Home" mention in your "Happy News" in the last issue of AH. Sure do appreciate it.

Left out one group as organizers of the St. Vitus benefit dinner on Palm Sunday: The Holy Name Society. Apologies.

We had a wonderful day during our excursion to the "Millionaires Row." Sixteen members of the SANAG (Slovenian American National Art Guild) group enjoyed luncheon at Sterle's and chatting on a one-to-one basis with friends. I hope we can do something similar again real soon. Thank you SANAG for the treat. Very much appreciated.

A look at the past: I received a call from a lady who wanted information about Anton Hibler who operated a jewelry store on E. 67<sup>th</sup> and St. Clair many, many moons ago. If you know of this man, please contact me at (216) 261-3427.

Deepest sympathies to the family of Victoria Spelic, brother Fred Spelic. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

I thoroughly enjoyed Eddie Adamic's article in last week's AH. I feel as though I know him. All the fellows he wrote about were also in my life one way or another. Thanks, Eddie; it was great you put your thoughts into words. I enjoyed it very much.

I want to again say how much I enjoyed our conversation at St. Mary's Raffle. I hadn't seen Dan Nagode since he was a young boy.

His dad and mom were good friends of mine many years ago. Dad has passed away and Dan now lives with mom in Mentor. I'm so happy you approached me. We talked about many things and it was so very nice. Keep in touch, Danny. Say hello to all the family in California.

John Manning Jr. completed his schooling at Cleveland State and received a Master's Degree. He is the son of John and Judy.

Grandmother is Agnes Mary Briscar. Congratulations and the best in your future.

Gotta go... hope I eased your day with my chit-chat.

Till we meet again, I will leave you with this thought:

Making friends takes a moment.

Being a friend takes a lifetime.

Luv ya,  
Se vedmo.

--Emilee

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# WWI Slovenian Slaughter Area

Bovec and its surrounding area has a special place in the history of war. Many objects from World War I can still be found in the area and are a reminder of the dreadful events that took place on one of the central battlefields of the Great War.

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Italy joined the alliance of Germany and Austria, but left it just before the beginning of the World War I.

In May 1915 Italian troops attacked Austria. The Soča Front was of extraordinary proportions even for World War I and is considered to be the biggest mountainous field of battle in the history of mankind.

After 11 offensives along the Soča river, the Italians conquered only a small part of Slovenian territory. The combined Austro-Hungarian and German army eventually broke through the Italian line and caught the Italian de-

fense by surprise. The Central Powers carried out one of the greatest breakthroughs in the history of WWI and is in fact the first example of a blitzkrieg in history. This tactic was then used 20 years later in WWII.

The Italians declared war with the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1915. They considered the area around the Soča river the easiest way of invading the empire. But the battles on this front turned out to be among the most frightful and claimed heavy losses. Historians believe that more than 300,000 soldiers lost their lives in three years of battle, but rumor has it that the real figure was over a million.

The battle left behind destroyed homes, countless military graveyards, many bones, but also long military roads, stairways built in the rocks, barbed wire, helmets and guns.

Ervin Rommel, also known as the Desert Fox, was one of the most famous WWII generals. But as a young officer he excelled himself on the Soča Front and later wrote a book on the Kobarid breakthrough.

Another book which describes the horrors of fighting along the Soča river, is "Farewell to Arms." In the book the then 18-year-old Ernest Hemingway recalls his memories of the Kobarid battle of 1917 when the front moved west to the river of Piave before the war ended the following year.

Each year tourists and residents come across the remains of the battle, such as unexploded bombs and grenades and almost 90 years later the Soča Front sometimes still takes its toll.

--The Slovenian Times

Keep in mind that neither success nor failure is ever final. --Robert W. Babson

## New Subscriber Campaign

Put a NEW subscription to the American Home (Ameriška Domovina) newspaper on your spring "to do" list. Our usual anonymous donor will pay \$15.00 for each NEW subscriber to American Home (up to 35). This paper will kick in \$5.00 which means it will cost only \$15.00 for each NEW one year subscription.

Read all about your Slovenian heritage, plus activities in the Slovenian communities in the United States and Canada. This also makes an excellent gift because the recipient will remember your thoughtfulness each time this paper arrives.

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GREAT-GRANDFATHER

**Joseph Zele Sr.**

Born March 8, 1867  
Died May 22, 1953

BROTHER

**Henry Zele**

Born June 23, 1910  
Died Oct. 22, 1918

BROTHER

**Ferdinand Zele**

Born May 30, 1896  
Died Feb. 15, 1919

HUSBAND, FATHER  
GRANDFATHER,  
BROTHER

**Joseph Zele Jr.**

Born Nov. 11, 1917  
Died Jan. 19, 1974

MOTHER,  
GRANDMOTHER, GREAT-  
GRANDMOTHER

**Theresa Zele**

Born Oct. 15, 1884  
Died Apr. 27, 1947

BROTHER

**August Zele**

Born Aug. 11, 1906  
Died July 12, 1934

WIFE, MOTHER,  
GRANDMOTHER, SISTER

**Josephine Hirter**

Born March 2, 1912  
Died Feb. 20, 1982

HUSBAND, FATHER  
GRANDFATHER,  
BROTHER

**Louis Zele**

Born June 10, 1908  
Died Apr. 18, 1964

IN LOVING MEMORY

# Bernarda Fink, Renowned Mezzo-Soprano

At first glance she appears so fragile and petite that no one would guess her incredible inner strength. The pure sounds of her voice that the mezzo-soprano Bernarda Fink is able to produce have attracted audiences to the most prestigious concert halls in the world. Recently, this Slovenian woman, who calls the world her home, has received an important award from the Austrian Government, the Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Art.

Her life story is just as colorful as the stories she so convincingly sings on stage. She has loved music ever since she was born to patriotic parents in Buenos Aires, Argentina on 29 August, 1955. Her sister Veronika, who has, among other venues, also performed at the Ljubljana Opera House, and brother Marko, who lives in Slovenia and is a world famous tenor, have also dedicated their lives to music.

Bernarda, who can be more than proud of the fact she speaks seven foreign languages, received her musical education in Argentina, where she studied solo singing at the renowned Higher Institute for Arts, Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires. Her parents also passed on their love of literature to their children at a very early age.

After winning the first prize at the New Lyrical Voices competition in 1985,

Bernarda moved to Europe, where she has performed with some of the most renowned symphony orchestras of the old continent, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Czech Philharmonic, the Berlin Philharmonic, the London Philharmonic, the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the Il Giardino Armonico Ensemble, the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, the leading Paris orchestras, the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra, the Residentie Orchestra of The Hague, and the New Japanese Philharmonic.

While traveling extensively, she met diplomat Valentin Inzko in Geneva. He is a member of the Slovenian minority in the southern Austrian province of Carinthia. They quickly found they had a lot in common, married and are today the proud parents of two children.

Bernarda has thus proved she is indeed an extraordinary woman who has no trouble mixing the two biggest responsibilities in life, which are family and career. Her son Simon and daughter Valentina are being brought up in a patriotic spirit, and her love for the Slovenian language has been passed on to them.

Bernarda Fink is an opera and concert diva, and music critics have called her the most successful Slovenian

singer. She has collaborated with the most well-known orchestras and conductors in the world, such as Sir Neville Mariner, Nikolaus Harnoncourt to name just a few. They all have only offered praise for her.

After Bernarda Fink's performance in Bach's Christmas Oratory last year, just before Christmas when she excelled over other performers and won over the audience, one of the critics tried to express how convincing her interpretation of the alto recital and arias was with the following words, "The mezzo-soprano Bernarda Fink's performance is outstanding, deep, and emotionally powerful, reaching its peak when it comfortably reminds us of a lullaby."

It is therefore not surprising that the top Slovenian artist is regularly invited to the most prestigious festivals.

Bernarda has published more than 50 recordings featuring her interpretations, among which Monteverdi has a special place in her heart, although she also likes singing Mozart, Rossini, Handel, and Bach, as well as others. Besides the Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Art, she has also received a number of other awards including a Grammy.

--Andreja Comino, Sinfo

# Why Old Geezers Are Easy to Spot

At sporting events, during the playing of the National Anthem, Old Geezers hold their caps over their hearts and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.

Old Geezers remember World War I, the Depression, World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy, Battle of the Bulge, and Iwo Jima. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, the Cold War, the Jet Age, and the Moon Landing, and Vietnam.

If you bump into an Old Geezer on the sidewalk, he will apologize. If you pass an Old Geezer on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old Geezers trust strangers and are courtly to women.

Old Geezers hold the door for the next person and al-

ways, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.

Old Geezers get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth on TV or in the movies. Old Geezers have moral courage. They seldom brag unless it's about their grandchildren.

It's the Old Geezers who know our great country is protected, not by politicians or police, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.

This country needs Old Geezers with their decent values. We need them now more than ever. Thank God for Old Geezers!

Submitted by an observant young man, Phil Hrvatin.

## Low Fat Meatloaf

1 lb. ground beef (or ground turkey)  
 ½ cup skim milk  
 3 slices bread  
 1 egg  
 ½ cup chopped onion  
 1 Tbls. mustard  
 1 Tbls. Worcestershire sauce  
 1 tsp. each salt and pepper catsup

Break bread into small pieces and soak in milk for 5 minutes. Add all other ingredients (except catsup) and mix together. Shape, pour catsup over the top. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 ¼ hours.

Half the interest of a garden is the constant exercise of the imagination. -Ray Mlakar

## St. Mary's Slovenian School Mother's Day Celebration

The St. Mary's (Coll.) Slovenian School invites all mothers to their annual Mother's Day program. It will start shortly after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 21 in the St. Mary's Parish Hall.

As usual, the fathers of the Slovenian school will serve a delicious breakfast for everyone after the program.

## A NEW BIOGRAPHY ABOUT AMERICA'S GREATEST SLOVENIAN POLITICIAN

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What would men be without women?  
Scarce, sir... mighty scarce. -Mark Twain



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## 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS by John Mercina

### "ŠMARNICE" (LILIES OF THE VALLEY)

The month of May, in the life of the Slovenian Catholic church, is dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus. In the years past, on every one of the 31 days of May, a special devotion, named "šmarnice" was held in the church to honor Mary. The name "šmarnice" was taken from the name of the flower blooming in May - šmarnica. The first devotion of "šmarnice" was held in Ljubljana in 1851 and then spread throughout Slovenia. Blessed Anton Slomšek is said to have started this devotion in Slovenia. The daily "šmarnice" devotion involved a short sermon as well as beautiful singing of songs dedicated to Mary. Devotion involved whole families but stressed children's involvement in a procession and gathering of flowers for her altar. Check your church's calendar for the month of May and see what devotions to Mary, to include a possible "May crowning" of Mary may take place.



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# 6 Mlakar Walks Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

I know, you probably thought I wasn't coming back and so did a lot of folks, but then I am like a bad penny, I always show up. I know for a fact that Sister Bernadette hoped I would have never shown up, but ready or not, I'm here.

Want to thank Eda Garsteck, Mimi Stibil, Donna Ohman for keeping tabs on me. Sorry, I did not return your calls but then I did not even return the "Undertaker's Call." I am not out of the woods yet and this week will be seeing two doctors for as you can see, I like to keep good company. The one doctor I will see Wednesday is a new dude, a specialist, but then when it comes to me, let's face it, this cool cat needs all the specialists he can get. This doctor will figure out how to get the water that has accumulated in and around my lungs, for the other doctors for-warned him that I was not a good swimmer. And to tell the truth, at my age, I can't even float any more. He'll probably think I am nuts when I bring an air-filled inner tube to his office. I lost some 18 pounds, but then when you just live on antibiotics, your desire for food just goes away. You might say I get filled up on pills. You can't find much food in my ice box, but the kitchen table looks like a pharmacy.

I have to admit that last week's paper was great for there were a lot of new writ-

ers and a lot of good stories which had me in stitches. I enjoyed Rudy Flis' article, almost like an Immaculate Conception. Just goes to show you that sometimes you hit the jackpot even when you are not trying.

I also liked Rudy Pivik's article and his trip to Slovenia for I feel that just around the corner in the next installment, he will say "I do." Those who know Rudy and Maria, know that those two were made for each other. Speaking of those two, they are the two that make the West Park Slovenian National Home click. They make it a success with the endless hours they devote to the National Home.

I also enjoyed the article, jokes by Emma Pogacar and in particular her story on "20 years of marriage." Here is hoping we hear from Emma often. Needless to say, all of us old timers enjoyed Joe Glinsek's article on "Slovenian Religious Customs" for we can relate to it. The second submission by Emma, "My Practical Mother" was most touching.

I have said it in other articles that perhaps the two words we forget most is "Thank you." We get too accustomed to everything, never thinking to stop to say thanks whether it is to mom and dad, or above all, God. They send a lot of good things our way and we take a lot for granted.

I am a little late, because this poem should have been in last week's edition, in time for Mother's Day. But

then Ray was down and out. So even though it is a week late, you know my heart is in the right place. I am sure if we all think back, when growing up, when we wanted something special, whom did we ask? If we think back to our Blessed Mother, how often did we go to Mary and ask her to intercede for a special favor. We always turn to our mothers for the impossible tasks.

Moms, everywhere we thank you from the bottom of our hearts and will forever be grateful to you for all you have done in our behalf.

## At My Mother's

### Knee

I have worshiped in churches and chapels

I have prayed in the busy street

I have sought my God and have found him

Where the waves of the ocean beat.

Have knelt in silent forest, In the shade of some ancient tree.

But the dearest of all my altars

Was raised at my Mother's knee..."

Well, Ray, you tried to pay your homage and time to close with a few thoughts to ponder:

Every wonder about those people who spend \$3 on those little bottles of Evian Water? Spell it backwards and you get "Naïve."

If 4 out of 5 people suffer from diarrhea, does that mean that 1 out of 5 enjoys it?

Okay, one more. If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes.

Uh, oh; my water is sloshing about. Time to see the doctor. In closing May the good Lord bless and watch over all of you. Thanks to all moms for all the undying love you showed us throughout our life.

The Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation for the grant of \$2,000 the St. Vitus Slovenian school received in October, 2005, which allowed Saint Nicholas to be so generous. Once again the foundation has allowed an area Slovenian organization to obtain needed and attractive items. The angels who help Sveti Miklavž are sometimes also found here on earth.

--Mojca Slak,  
Principal

## Coming Attractions

Friday, May 19

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Wayne Tomsic.

Saturday, May 20

Revive the "Nash," Reverse Raffle \$1,500 grand prize. \$50 per couple, \$35 single. Doors open at 6, dinner at 7. Music by Wayne Tomsic.

Sunday, May 21

Breakfast at Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave. Includes eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, toast, coffee. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donation \$6.

Sunday, May 21

St. Mary's Slovenian School Mothers Day program after 10 a.m. Mass in parish hall. Fathers will serve delicious breakfast.

Tuesday, May 23

Devotional to Our Lady of Brezje at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Chardon Rd., Euclid, Ohio, sponsored by Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges.

Friday, May 26

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Frank Moravick.

Saturday, May 27

Igor and Ansambel Zlati Zvonski performs in St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) church hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. Donation \$10. Food and refreshments available.

Sunday, May 28

61<sup>st</sup> anniversary Memorial Mass for all Victims of Communism and Nazism sponsored by DSPB Cleveland, noon at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, 21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid, OH

Sunday, May 28

Slovenian Memorial Service at All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, OH, 3:30 p.m. All are invited to both events.

Thursday, June 1

Slovenian night at the Captains baseball game in Eastlake, Ohio at 7 p.m. Tickets \$8 at Polka Hall of Fame (216) 261-3263.

Friday, June 2

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Wayne Tomsic.

Sunday, June 4

Slovenska Pristava opens with Mass at 12:30. Dinner follows. For dinner tickets call (440) 537-1941 or (440) 943-0621. Veseli Godci orchestra at 3 p.m.

Friday, June 9

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Fred Ziwich.

Sunday, June 11

St. Mary's Slovenian School picnic at Slovenska Pristava (Veseli godci).

Friday, June 16

Pork, sauerkraut and dumpling dinner 5 - 7:30 at Newburgh, Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80 St., Cleveland. Music by Joe Novak & Friends. Donation \$8. Reservations (216) 341-6136.

Friday, June 16

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Stan Mejac.

Saturday, June 17

SPD Tabor - Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, June 18

SPD Tabor, celebration and dinner at Slovenska Pristava.

Friday, June 23

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music Eric Noltkamper.

Saturday, June 24

Slovenian Day - celebrating 15 years of independence of Slovenia and 45 years of Slovenska Pristava (Stan Mejac Ansambel) at Slovenska Pristava.

Saturday, July 1

Pristava Campers picnic / steak roast at Slovenska Pristava.

Thursday, July 7

St. Vitus Alumni meet in St. Vitus Village, 7 p.m.

Sunday, July 9

Catholic Mission Aid picnic (MZA) at Slovenska Pristava.

Wednesday, July 12

Holmes Ave. Pensioners Picnic at Eagles, 37299 Euclid Ave., Willoughby from noon to 6 p.m. Free admission. All invited. Music by Fred Ziwich. Food and refreshments available.

Saturday, July 15

Moonlight Bowling, 6:30 p.m. at Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80<sup>th</sup> St. \$25 per couple includes bowling, prizes and meal. Call Tony at 440-243-4062.

Sunday, July 16

St. Vitus Parish Summer Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Monday, July 17

Camp Pristava until Sunday morning 7/23 (Slov. schools & Pristava children) at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, July 23

St. Vitus Slovenian School picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Wednesday, Aug. 2

50-50 Raffle, 7 p.m. at Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80 St.. \$10 admits two. Includes sandwiches, chips and pop.

Sunday, Aug. 6

Primorski Club picnic (Tramontana) at Slovenska Pristava.

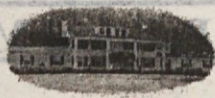
Saturday, Aug. 12

Pristava Picnic (Tramon-

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## St. Vitus Slovenian School Make Good Use of Gifts

On Dec. 5, 2005, Saint Nicholas made his annual visit to the students of St. Vitus Slovenian Language School. His generosity to the children of the school was especially noteworthy this year. Each child received a lovely polo shirt embroidered with the school name. In addition, each family received a paperback Slovenian-English dictionary.

The students have worn their polo shirts on two occasions already. The first was at our annual visit to the Slovene Home for the Aged on

Neff Road on Saturday, Feb. 11. The students looked quite attractive.

The second occasion was our dinner on Feb. 26. So many of our guests commented on the appearance of the students as they participated in the Mass before the dinner and as they helped at the dinner. Of course, the dictionaries have been used in the classrooms and at home to complete homework assignments.

The Faculty and Parent Board would like to thank

## Death Notices

### JOSEPH SOJER

Joseph Sojer, age 86, beloved son of the late Marija (nee Kusar) and Janez Sojer; brother of the following deceased: Ivan, France, Jernej, Mici and Ancka; cherished uncle of Marija Lovse and many others, all of Slovenia.

Mr. Sojer was born in Podgorica, Slovenia and resided in Euclid, Ohio.

Mr. Sojer was a member of Slovenska Pristava Pensioners and Balinca Clubs, KSKJ Sacred Heart of Jesus Lodge, and Tabor.

Family received friends at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH on Thursday, May 18 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

Memorial contributions in his name can be made to the St. Vitus Church Building Fund, 6019 Lausche Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Friday, May 19 in St. Vitus Church. Burial will take place in Slovenia.

### JOSEPH ZUPANCIC

Joseph Zupancic, 91, of Gary New Duluth, Minn., died Tuesday, May 9, 2006 in St. Mary's medical Center.

Mr. Zupancic was born in Tisovec, Slovenia on March 14, 1915, to John and Johana (Turk) Zupancic.

Joe had emigrated to America, coming to Duluth, in 1949. He had worked at St. Mary's Hospital as a Maintenance Engineer for 31 years.

Joe was a member of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, where he had been an usher for many years, KSKJ Lodge 171, the KSKJ singer's group, the St. Elizabeth Men's Club, Gary New Duluth Senior Citizen's, Local 36 International Operating Engineer's, AARP, and the Anti-Communist organization of Toledo, Ohio.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents; son, Joseph Jr., in 1982; wife, Kristina in November of 2004; brothers John, Louie; sisters Johanna Skull, Josefina Klun, Marija Miklič, and Angela Vidmar.

Visitation was from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, with a 6:30 p.m. Wake Service in the Foley Chapel.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 10 a.m. Friday in St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church Burial in Oneota Cemetery.

### MARIA MLINAR

Maria Mlinar, age 88. Beloved daughter of Lojze and Katarina (both deceased); loving sister of Katarina (deceased), Franc (deceased) (Dorothy (nee March) (deceased) (Antonia nee Rozman) of Chicago, IL, Janez (deceased), Jernej (deceased), Cecilija (Franc (deceased)) Oblak of Slovenia, and Mary Ann (deceased); aunt of Franc Oblak, Marija Pagon, and Anica Kumer; cherished friend of Harriett, Sharon and Tim Hughes, Frank and Bernice Praizner, and Lovro and Ivanka Rozman.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152<sup>nd</sup> St., Monday 4-7 p.m., where services were held Tuesday at 8:45 a.m. and St. Mary Church (Holmes Ave.) at 9:30 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

Donations to The Catholic Mission Aid Inc., 17826 Brian Ave., Cleveland, OH 44119 in her memory would be deeply appreciated by the family.

### VICTORIA SPELIC

Victoria Spelic, age 89. Sister of Albina (John) Michael (both deceased) and Fred (Fran, nee Plavan) Spelic. Dear aunt of Janet (Tom) McNamara and Robert Spelic (deceased); great aunt of Kelley, Megan, Kathie and Bryan; great-great aunt of three.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., Friday from 3-6 p.m., where services were held Saturday at 10 a.m. Interment Calvary Cemetery.

Donations to the charity of your choice in her memory would be deeply appreciated by the family.

### In Memory

Thanks to Christine Molek who donated \$60.00 in memory of parents, Joseph and Kristina Zupancic of Duluth, MN.

### In Memory

Thanks to Maria Povsic of Boca Raton, FL who submitted a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, Frank.

### In Memory

Thanks to Joseph J. and Ivy T. Monahon of Aiken, SC who sent in a \$20.00 donation in memory of Ella Samanich, and their relatives.

### In Memory

Thanks to Ivana Voljcak of Willoughby, OH who submitted a \$39.00 donation in memory of her husband, Joseph Voljcak.

### In Memory

Thanks to Margaret Dejak of Euclid, OH who submitted a \$20.00 donation in memory of France Dejak.

### In Memory

Thanks to Stephanie M. Segulin of Cleveland, OH who submitted a \$5.00 donation in memory of parents, Steffie and Joseph Koncilja.

### In Memory

Thanks to Frank J. Fende Sr., of Richmond Heights, OH who sent in a \$15.00 donation in memory of his wife, Doris Fende.

### In Memory

Thanks to Anne Doles of Richmond Heights, OH who renewed her subscription and enclosed a \$15.00 donation in memory of her husband, Frank, and grandson, Kenny. She writes, "I enjoy reading the paper and pass it on to others. You are doing a good job; keep it up."

### In Memory

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Globokar, Sr. of Concord, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$25.00 donation in memory of Stanley Batis and his daughter Janet Batis.

### Donation

Thanks to Jack LaVriha of Lorain, OH who submitted a \$15.00 donation in memory of Mary Kure LaVriha.

### In Honor

Thanks to Laverne Hughes of Long Beach, Indiana who sent in a contribution of \$25.00 in honor of the 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of her dear cousins, Olga and Ed Glicker of Euclid, OH whose big day was May 11<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations!



### In Loving Memory

Of the 35<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary of the death of



**Joseph Mihelich**  
died May 20, 1971

35 years have gone by since you were at our side. Remembered, how rough things were. Now, I understand what they were. In my heart you still live in all the things I do. Now mom's at your side. I hope it's a pleasant ride.

Sadly missed by  
Son, Joseph  
and Family

### Large Donation

Thanks to Barbara Zawarewicz of Eastlake, Ohio who sent in a \$100.00 donation in memory of her wonderful parents, Joseph J. and Frances A. Nemanich.

### Donation

Thanks to Louis and Caterina Burjes of Wickliffe, OH who submitted a \$25.00 donation.

*In Loving Memory*  
of the 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the death of



**Caroline**  
**Mihelich**

Died May 17, 1997

A light is from our household gone,  
A voice we loved is stilled,  
A place is vacant in our home,  
Which never can be filled.

We have to mourn the loss of one  
We did our best to save,  
Beloved on earth, regretted still,  
Remembered in the grave.

T'was hard to part with one so dear,  
little thought the time was near,  
Farewell, dear one, life is past,  
Our love for you till the end will last.

Sadly missed by  
son, Joseph,  
sister Pauline Sasa  
brother-in-law Steve Sasa

### In Loving Memory of



**Stephanie**  
**Rahne**

nee Dezelan

Who was born Dec. 26,  
1917  
and died May 21, 1998

The depths of sorrow we cannot tell,  
Of the loss of one we loved so well.  
And while she sleeps a peaceful sleep,  
Her memory we shall always keep.

Sadly missed by:  
Brothers Joseph and Louis Dezelan  
and many nieces, nephews, and friends.  
Cleveland, OH May 18, 2006

## In Loving Memory

and with

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**Josephine Kovac**

Born 1898, died April 15, 1995

**Joze Kovac**

Born 1899, died May 20, 1956

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*May God give them peace and may Eternal Light shine upon them.*

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# The life and times of Joseph Mihevc



## 1940 - 1945 My Apprenticeship and After

(Continued)

After a day or two at home, the anti-communists (domobranci) army mobilized me as a volunteer. About a week later, during the night, the next town of Grahovo was attacked by communists. When they killed any opposition they could find, they burned the church and a well-known guesthouse, and also burned people alive. The dead totaled around 50. I stayed home the next day and hid in the neighbor's barn overnight. There was a special corner where I could hide. It was after midnight, when through a crack in the door, I saw a member of the communist "liberation army" set fire to the school.

My refugee status started the next day, when I left my

hometown and went to the railroad station in Rakek. The German army was stationed there, protecting the town from communist attack. I picked up the daily newspaper and noticed an advertisement for mechanics in the railroad locomotive shop in Ljubljana. I responded with an application and went to Postojna, where I got a job in a small shop, to wait for a reply. In this shop, a communist man anxious to hear my thoughts on various issues interrogated me. I was unaware at the time of possible consequences. Fortunately, the railroad shop in Ljubljana accepted me.

In order to move about, one had to have a permit issued by the occupying German army. On my second visit, I received this permit along with a receipt authorizing me to work in the railroad shop upon payment of a small fee. I left on Feb. 3, 1944. I had barely any clothes and had no idea where I was going to sleep or what I would eat. I had to secretly bypass my home, because the partisans (communists), who were in control of Cerknica, my hometown, were ever watchful for conscripts to their army or for anything that looked sus-

picious. One never knew who one's friends were and one could be arrested under any pretence, including false accusation. Many people, under these circumstances, would just disappear.

Before boarding the train, each passenger was checked. There was another inspection during the ride and then another when one disembarked. The stations were all guarded. When I arrived in Ljubljana, I stored my meager possessions in a locker in the railroad station and went to seek room and board. I had the address and some unclear directions, but I was fortunately able to locate the apprentice's residence. There were over 100 apprentices from different professions, some other students and also some refugees like myself boarding there. A priest and some nuns were in charge.

After settling in at the residence, I went to the railroad shop office with my permits and authorization and I started to work immediately with a group responsible for various repair and maintenance jobs. My coworkers were a secretive group and did not say much. Once, our job was to disconnect the locomotive from the coal and water wagon. It was

close to quitting time and my coworkers disappeared and left me on my own. The next day, each member of the group was told to report to the office to explain why the job had not been completed. The others presented all kinds of excuses. My turn was last and I explained how I was left alone to do the job. Unable to find anyone to assist me and unable to complete the job on my own, I had no choice but to leave the job undone. They asked me if I would have stayed if I could have completed the job on my own. I answered yes. When it was payday, everyone in the group received a reduced pay except me. The group members were not too happy to learn that I was the only one who had received my full pay.

Fortunately, soon after that incident, I was transferred to another group. Two others and I were in charge of the steam-operated air compressors on the locomotive and the associated equipment for air supply for the whole train. The compressors had been built by Westinghouse and were quite complex. Late one afternoon, we received an order to repair the leak in the steam locomotive and I was offered two hours

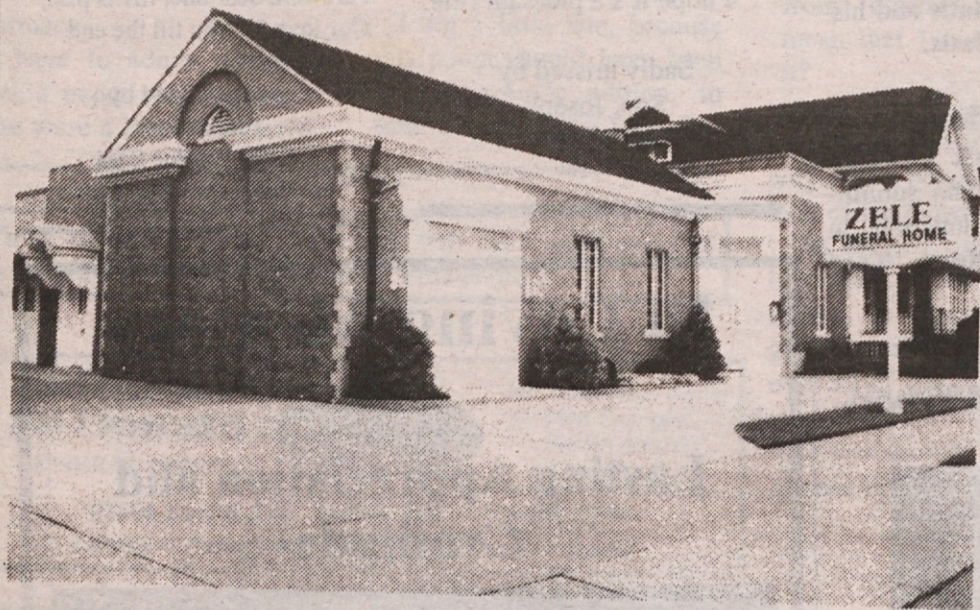
overtime to stay after hours to complete this job. I quickly and efficiently repaired the leak before the group leader left. When he learned that I had completed it so quickly, he said nothing, but the promised two hours overtime pay was reduced by about half.

Whenever there were air attack alarms, everyone in the shop boarded the special train that stood on the spare track for that purpose, and the train took us to the outskirts of the city. Once, when we were moving to the outskirts of the city on that train, there was an ammunition train on the spare track. This train could not move ahead because of track damage, and the German army guarded it. Anyone caught looking at that train was slapped in the face with a tree branch by the guard. I was one of the unlucky ones to get a slap.

(To Be Continued)

If you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete everyone will respect you.

--Will Rogers



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# Story of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who died in our nation's service.

There are many stories as to its actual beginning, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day.

There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War: a hymn published in 1867 "kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet carried the dedication "To the Ladies of the South who are Decorating the Graves of the Confederate Dead."

While Waterloo, N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May, 1986. It is hard to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowl-

edge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any way.)

Memorial Day is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, although several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: Jan. 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and

Tennessee. Moina Michael conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need.

Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women.



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# Reflections on the Life of Conrad Mejac

by Conrad P. Mejac PhD

My name is Conrad Peter Mejac and I am now 83 years old. I have been blessed with a long and productive life, and have survived important threats to my life. I have a wonderful wife whom I love very much, very accomplished children with spouses and children whom I also love very much. I am also proud to have been born a Slovenian. Of even greater importance, however, is that I have had my Catholic faith. This brief history of my life is my gift to my family, and particularly my grandchildren, and potentially great-grandchildren, whom I may not live to know. Hopefully, those who read it will develop a greater measure of knowledge about me, as well as their Slovenian heritage, that may assist them in some way in their lives.

## Early History

I was born in the village of Savna pec in Slovenia. The Latin and Greek scholar Anton Sovre, was also born in Savna pec. At the time of my birth Slovenia was a republic of the former country of Yugoslavia. Slovenia became an independent country in 1991. The area in which my village is located was rich in coal, and during his early working years, my father was a miner. After leaving the mines he devoted full time to farming.

My family included my parents Peter and Leopoldina (Bajda), two younger brothers, Ciril and Peter, and three younger sisters, Pavla (Potočkar), Cirila (Novak), and Zofka (Orožen). My parents have died, however, as I write this all my brothers and sisters are alive. With the exception of Ciril, who lives in Silver Spring, MD, all my siblings, and several nephews and nieces reside in Slovenia.

As a grammar school student I traveled eight kilometers (five miles) one way, to the town of Zidani most to the public elementary school to which I was assigned. I was fortunate to attend an academic high school in a large city an hour or so by train to the north, in the city of Maribor. The Slovene term for this type of school was gymnasium. Such schools focused on classical education. While I was there, World War II spread to Yugoslavia. The country was occupied by the German and Italian military, and a demarcation line was drawn within Slovenia that created sectors of respective responsibility. In their sector, which included Maribor, the Ger-

schools. As a consequence, I returned home. I was of draft age and I feared that both the Germans, and the indigenous insurgents, the Communist-affiliated Partisans, would seek to enlist me. I fled to the Slovene Capitol city, Ljubljana (lube-li-Yan-a) hoping that I would be able to finish my studies. I received help and support from Catholic Church officials for doing so. The city was in the sector occupied by the Italians, and they were thought to be less cruel than the Germans. After finishing high school, also with support from Church officials, I matriculated to the University of Ljubljana, and studied languages.

In about 1944, during my third year at the university, I was awoken at 5 a.m. one morning by Italian military officials, hastily escorted from my room, and placed on a train headed for a concentration camp located in northeastern Italy, near the town of Gonads. I was never informed why those of us on the train had been selected for imprisonment. My presumption is that our connection with the Church and our status as university students marked us as potential dangers to the occupiers.

Conditions in the camp were very difficult. Food was very limited and of poor quality, and at times we survived by eating grass that grew in the prison yard, and donations smuggled into the camp by sympathetic local Slovenian farmers. While the camp was within Italy, many people who lived in that area were of Slovenian heritage.

After about a year I was removed from the camp and, again without explanation, placed on a train and returned to Ljubljana. During my time in the camp the Germans had assumed control of the former Italian-controlled sector that included Ljubljana. Fearing that university students would be judged a potential threat, the Germans dealt with us accordingly. I fled on foot, initially to Austria, and then to Rome. Italy was under German control, however, Rome was afforded the status of a sanctuary, and life there proceeded much like normal.

I sought help from the Jesuits and was given shelter. I located a position with the United Nations food agency and was paid a modest salary. Within a short time of working there I discovered that 90% of the money the agency received for purchase of food was being consumed by administrative costs. I advised my

situation, my conscience would not permit me to continue working there. He asked me to think about the matter for a week before arriving at a final decision. I followed his request, but at the end of the week, I resigned.

With the help of Jesuit friends, an audience was arranged for me with Pope Pius XII. He offered me a position with the Foreign Department of the Pontifical Aid Commission in Rome. I accepted and, with great personal satisfaction, worked there until 1950. During my time in Rome I continued my university studies of languages and received a doctoral degree. I was able to assist my brother Ciril who had also escaped from Slovenia, to travel to Madrid, Spain, where he resumed university studies.

After the Axis was defeated, Yugoslavia came under the control of another group of oppressors, the Communists. Because of my university education and my connections with the Catholic Church, I feared that if I returned to Slovenia, I would be judged a threat to the Communists and targeted for death. The United States recognized the plight of the millions of persons who had been displaced from their homes during World War II, and opened its doors to them. I met the criteria as a displaced person ("DP") and applied for immigration to

America. I was accepted, and in 1950, with my passage paid by the US Government, I prepared to leave Italy. I had saved some money and decided to host a farewell party for my Slovenian friends who lived in Rome. The party consumed all but a small amount of my savings.

## Life in America

When I arrived in New York City, I sought out a Slovenian priest, Father Ambrosia, whose name had been provided to me. He was the pastor of a local parish, and generously offered to provide me room and board. I had previously applied to some universities and was blessed to receive admission and scholarship offers from Yale, Harvard and St. John's College (New York). As a poor student among wealthy students at Yale or Harvard, I feared I would become a ward of their charity and would carry that stigma throughout my life. Therefore, I chose the offer from St. John's, and completed masters degrees in both economics and sociology, while also working a full time job. My most noteworthy job was with the large British firm, Standard Marine Insurance.

While living in New York City, I met a lovely American-born lady, Mary ("Mimi") Grill. She lived in the area and was the daughter of Slovene immigrants. We married while I was working for the British insurance firm. I wanted to

productively apply my training and knowledge of the Balkans, and concluded that working for the U.S. Government would best permit me to do so. I applied to the US State Department and was accepted for a position as a foreign service officer. While my wife did not wish to spend her life hopping scotch-ing around the world, she agreed to the move to Washington, DC.

Shortly after arriving for duty, I was invited to transfer to the US Information Agency (USIA), Voice of America (VOA), as a broadcaster with its Slovenian Radio Service. USIA management believed that my knowledge of Slovenia, and the Slovene language would be well suited to this assignment. I accepted the position and spent the next 37 years with that Service. In 1960, I was promoted to Chief of the Service, and held that position until my retirement in 1992.

As head of the VOA Slovene Radio Service, I and my staff were responsible for producing and broadcasting two daily programs to Slovenia. The VOA broadcasting antennas were located in the US and in friendly countries in Europe. Our broadcasts were transmitted on a "real time" basis, and received during the morning period before our listeners left for work.

(Continued on page 11)



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# Reflections on the Life of Conrad P. Mejac

(Continued from page 10)

Throughout the years of my service I began work in late afternoon in order to permit the preparation of scripts that, because of the time difference, were broadcast just before midnight, Washington, DC time. Surprisingly, the Government of Yugoslavia didn't make a serious effort to jam the broadcasts, and we had a large and appreciative audience, the size of which was estimated by the amount of correspondence we received as well as other measures that were available to us.

At the "Voice," the persons responsible for preparing scripts were under strict orders to provide a balanced picture of the events in America, including content both favorable and unfavorable to this country.

For example, in addition to sharing the news of an American walking on the moon, we also described the race riots of the 1960s. In addition to guidance from within the VOA organization, the heads of services attended seminars presented by prominent personalities in the news broadcasting field, in which they provided counsel on fair and balanced reporting. Among the memorable presenters, was the late Edward R. Murrow, whom I greatly admired.

After several years with the VOA, and as Cold War tensions eased, officials within and outside the USIA proposed reductions in the number of countries to which broadcasts were directed, including Slovenia. Based upon my knowledge of the sentiment for independence that was growing in Slovenia, and my belief that this sentiment needed to be nurtured with the aid of the VOA broadcasts, I was adamantly opposed to the proposed reduction, and began a counter offensive through my capacity as a private citizen. I communicated with members of the House of Representatives and Senate who were of Slovenian-American heritage, requesting their support in warding off the removal of Slovenian from the list of broadcast languages. I also sought the assistance of prominent Slovenian-American citizens in the private sector. I received considerable support from both sectors, and was successful in my efforts toward off the initial proposal to eliminate the language.

The 94<sup>th</sup> US Congress responded, and in the USIA Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1976, daily one-half hour broadcasts to Slovenia were mandated. In addition, in a Fiscal Year 1988 Senate

amendment to the Foreign Relations Authorization Act sponsored by Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum, the VOA was directed to continue these broadcasts. The reduction proposal resurfaced on other occasions, and I had to remount my counter offensive. Sadly, shortly after I retired, the language was dropped.

In addition to my regular duties at the VOA, I was sought out as a consultant by State Department and White House officials on matters pertaining to Slovenia and Yugoslavia, including dealing directly with Presidents Kennedy, Nixon, and Clinton. President Kennedy placed me in a particularly difficult decision situation when he asked me to be a part of the US delegation assisting and hosting an official visit of state by the then President of Yugoslavia, Jože "Tito" Broz. I had great disdain for Tito because of his deep, radical Communist convictions and his related actions. I told President Kennedy that I could not, in good conscience, be a party to treating him as an honored guest to this country. He respected my feelings, and permitted me to function in only a minor role during the visit. As a part of maintaining my knowledge of contemporary life in Slovenia, I made official visits there, traveling on a diplomatic passport.

During one of those visits I observed two men who trailed me wherever I went. At the time, the Yugoslav government operated a pervasive secret police, and abductions occurred to Slovene émigrés. I complained to the US Ambassador, and he conveyed my complaint to Yugoslav Government officials. They replied that, "Yes," I was under surveillance; however, it was for my protection.

### Slovene-Related Activities and Concluding Remarks

Outside of my work at the VOA, I was active, along with my wife, in Slovene fraternal, cultural and religious activities. I was a co-founder of the Washington, DC chapter of the American Slovenian Catholic Union (KSKJ); participated in the Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia; participated in the group that planned the construction of a Slovenian Chapel in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC; chaired the 1981 Bishop Baraga Days celebration, also in Washington, DC; and finally, was an active supporter of Slovenian cultural activities elsewhere in the country.

I feel blessed that I was able to follow my heart and my conscience in devoting my life to both the heritage of my birth, as well as to the country that adopted me, and which I adopted.

## St. Mary's Concert

On Saturday, May 27, Igor and Ansambel Zlati Zvonki will perform in the St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) parish hall.

Doors open at 6 p.m. There will be food and refreshments available throughout the evening.

Donation is \$10 per person.

Everyone welcome.

### Slovenian Society Home (Recher Hall)

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# St. Vitus Catholic War Vets

Post 1655

## Memorial Program

Mass, Sunday, May 28, St. Vitus Church, 9:00 a.m.

**8:45 a.m.** – Raising of Colors, National Anthem, and placing of wreath at the flag pole (in front of St. Vitus School entrance).

**8:55 a.m.** – Parade to St. Vitus church.

**9:00 a.m.** – Mass celebrated by Chaplain, Rev. William M. Jerse.

Commander: Robert W. Mills

Reader / Commentator: Thomas J. Kirk, Joseph S. Baskovic

Officer of the Day: Anthony J. Baznik

Flag Bearers: Albin Orehek, Daniel Reiger

Riflemen: John Kirk, Robert W. Mills, Steven Piorkowski, William Lipold.

Sound – Taps : Robert Mills Jr.

### Died in Service

- Frank Benigar
- August Bizel
- Stephen Butala
- Robert Butara
- Joseph Debelak
- Michael Dimc
- Albin Dolence
- Frank Drobnic
- Joseph Dular
- Anthony Fortuna
- Rudolph Franz
- Albert Grdanc
- Joseph Jelenic
- Frank Kapla
- Vladimir Kaucic
- Stanley Koscak
- Louis Kozar
- Edward Kuznik
- Robert Levec
- Steven Markolia
- Edmund Matjasic
- Raymond Medves
- John Petrincic
- Joseph Pozelnik
- Anthony Primc
- Frank Razborsek
- Joseph Rozman
- Sylvester Sekne (Vietnam)
- Vincent Shenk
- Anthony Silc
- John Simoncic
- John Speh
- Robert Starc
- William Staric (Korea)
- Raymond Stefe
- Edward Strauss
- Henry Streiner
- Albert Tasker
- Frederick Ubic
- John Valencic
- Rafael Zonta (Korea)
- Laddie Znidar
- Stanley Zupancic

### In Memory

- Edward Abraham
- Edward Ahlin
- Leona Alich
- Joseph Ambrosic

- Andrew Andrews
- Al Archacki
- Joseph C. Arko
- Joseph T. Arko
- Louis Arko
- Thomas Arko
- Anthony Avsec
- Edward Avsec
- Vincent Baskovic, Sr.
- Vincent Baskovic, Jr.
- Joseph Baznik
- Msgr. Louis B. Baznik
- Bernard Bedinghaus
- Frank Bizjak
- Rudolph Brancel
- Michael Brichta
- Vincent Briscar
- George Buncic
- John Burchard
- Joseph Butler
- Anthony Champa
- Anthony Cimperman
- Anthony Cizel
- Martin Cullinan
- Frank Debelak
- Frank G. Drobnic
- James V. Drobnic
- Victor A. Drobnic
- Robert F. Dulc
- Martin Fink
- Anthony Garbas
- Alphonse A. Germ
- Maximillian Germ
- Frank Glavan
- Louis J. Godec
- Edward Godic
- Frank Godic
- Stanley Godic
- Harold Golob
- Stanley Golob, Jr.
- Frank Gorsha
- John Gramc
- John J. Gramc
- Jerome Grdina
- Matt Grdina
- Edward Grum
- Dell Hanks
- Frank A. Hegler
- Donald Hocevar
- William Hraster
- Gregory Hribar
- Joseph Jakomin
- Frank M. Jaksic
- Milan Jaksic
- Richard Jaksic
- Thaddeus Janas
- Raymond Jasko
- Frank Kasic
- Joseph Kasunic
- Frank E. Kern
- John Kerzisnik
- John Kirk, Sr.
- Joseph Komat
- Albert Koporc
- Charles Knuth
- Leo Kodramaz
- Frank Komat
- John Kosan
- John Koss
- Anthony Kovach
- Louis V. Kovacic
- Anthony Krampel
- Frank Kromar
- Edward Kuhar
- Elmer Kuhar
- Albert Kurent
- Anthony Kuznik

- Richard P. Lasko
- Joseph Laurence
- Rudolph Laurich
- Frank J. Lausche
- Joseph Leben
- Edward Ljubi
- Frank Ljubi
- Joseph Likoazar
- James P. Logar,
- Mirko Longar
- Rudolph Lovko
- Ulrich Lube
- Adolph Lunder
- Charles McNeill
- Herman Marolt
- Stanley Martincic
- Joseph Masar
- Rudolph Massera
- Jean McNeil
- Albert Meglich
- Herman Meglich
- Frank Mervar
- John Milakovich
- John Miller
- Florian Mocilnikar
- Gabriel Mocilnikar
- Edward Modic
- Robert Mordas
- Rudolph Nosse
- Anthony F. Novak
- Frank Novak
- Robert A. Novak
- John Novosel
- Louis J. Novsak
- Frank Oblak
- Joseph Okorn, Sr.
- Joseph A. Okorn
- John Orehek
- John Oster, Sr.
- Anton Palcic
- Michael Paul
- Frank Perkovic
- Frank Perusek
- Joseph Peterlin
- William Plavan
- George Poprik
- Daniel Postotnik
- Victor Prebil
- Ralph Radel
- Rudolph Razinger
- Marion Rebol
- Robert Reimen
- Philip Ribarich
- Anthony Rolik
- Rudolph Rozman
- Marcel Rudzinski
- Charles V. Rumplick
- Louis Sadler
- David Samac
- Charles Saye
- Robert A. Schmuck
- Edward Sedlak
- James F. Skrab
- William Skrab
- Ludwig Snyder
- Victor Somrak
- John Spech
- Joseph Spech
- William Spech
- Joseph J. Sternad
- Martin Strauss
- Anthony Strojcin, Jr.
- Victor Subel
- William Suhadolnik
- Frank Svetonovic
- David J. Telban
- John Tetkowski

- William Tofant
- Edward Tolar
- Edward Tomc
- John Trinko
- Elmer Turk
- James Turk
- Olga Turk
- John J. Urbancich
- Anthony Valencic
- Edward Valencic
- John Verbec
- John Verhovnik
- Joseph Vesel
- Clarence Vokac
- Edward Vertovsnik
- Peter Weiperth
- Stanley Winter

- Joseph Woods
  - Stanley Zabka
  - Anthony Zadnik
  - Anton Zak
  - Theodore Zak
  - Zeno Zak
  - Andrew Zakrajsek
  - Henry Zalar
  - Frank A. Zitko
  - John Znidarsic
  - Joseph M. Zupancic
- And for all of the deceased members of the Ladies Auxiliary of St. Vitus Post 1655 of the Catholic War Veterans.



## I Am the Flag

I am a composite being of all the people of America  
 I am the union if you are united.  
 I am one and indivisible if you are undivided.  
 I am strong as the weakest link.  
 I am an emblem of your country.  
 I am a symbol of the shadow of the real.  
 I am a sign pointing to past achievements.  
 I am a promise of greater things for the future.  
 I am what you make me.  
 I am purity if you are pure.  
 I am bravery if you are brave.  
 I am loyalty if you are loyal.  
 I am honor if you are honorable.  
 I am goodness if you are good.  
 I am hope if you are hopeful.  
 I am truth if you are true.

I am the Constitution.  
 I am tolerance or intolerance as you force me to be.  
 I am liberty as you understand liberty.  
 I am as a pillar of fire by night,  
 but you must provide the fuel.  
 I march at the head of the column,  
 but you must carry me.  
 I stand for greater and more glorious  
 achievement than can be found in recorded  
 history, but you must be my inspiration.

*I am the flag.*

—St. Vitus Catholic War Veterans bulletin

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### – VESTI IZ SLOVENIJE –

#### Prva seja novega partnerskega sveta – Usklajen seznam zakonskih predlogov

V začetku preteklega tedna so se podpisniki pobude "Partnerstvo za razvoj" sešli na prvi seji partnerskega sveta, ki je v sporazumu določen kot osrednje telo partnerstva. Pobudnik partnerstva in predsednik vlade Janez Janša je po seji dejal, so na sestanku usklajali seznam več kot 50 zakonskih predlogov, o katerih se bodo usklajevali, med njimi pa bo tudi sedem zakonov, ki jih je vlada sicer že potrdila, vendar v državnem zboru še niso bili sprejeti. Za te zakone so v Socialdemokratski stranki (tj. Borut Pahotr) na sestanku predlagali, naj jih vlada umakne iz parlamentarnega postopka, a so se na koncu dogovorili, da sicer ostanejo v postopku, vendar se z njihovo obravnavo na matičnih delovnih telesih počaka.

Janša je sestanek označil kot izredno koristen in s tem zavrnil pomisleke nekaterih partnerskih strank (vse stranke sicer sodelujejo z izjemo LDS), ki so v dejstvu, da je sestanek predlagal predsednik SD Borut Pahor, videli Pahorjevo željo, da prevzame pobudo v partnerstvu.

#### Proces privatizacije v Sloveniji bo vlada pospešila, ohranila v podjetjih pa vpliv

V začetku preteklega tedna se je predsednik vlade Janez Janša sestal z vrhom koalicije, predsedniki strank in vodji poslanskih skupin koalicijskih strank. Pogovarjali so se o privatizaciji gospodarskih družb v državni lasti. Seznanili so se s konceptom lastninjenja Nove Kreditne banke Maribor (NKBM) in Telekom Slovenije in se strinjali s tem, da bo vlada predvidoma na prihodnjih dveh sejah obravnavala koncepta lastninjenja obeh družb prednostno.

Vlada bo pri umiku države iz gospodarstva upoštevala formulo, po kateri država obdrži četrtinski delež plus eno delnico, kar je premier Janša pojasnil takole:

"Tako bo vlada ohranila vpliv na strateške odločitve, poslovne odločitve pa bo prepuстила večinskim lastnikom. Na ta način bo po mojem mnenju zagotovljena primerna kombinacija med zavarovanjem t. i. nacionalnega interesa in ciljem, da so ta podjetja čim uspešnejša na trgu."

Pred tem sestankom je gospodarski kolegij pri predsedniku vlade obravnaval še zadnja dva predloga privatizacije pomembnejših podjetij v državni lasti. Gre za dokončanje lastninjenja Zavarovalnice Triglav in predlog skupine za pripravo koncepta in časovnega načrta za pregleden in postopen umik Kapitalske družbe in Slovenske odškodninske družbe iz aktivnega lastniškega upravljanja v podjetjih.

#### Slovenski železarji uspešni

Slovenska industrija jekla (SIJ), v kateri je zaposlenih nekaj več kot tri tisoč ljudi, je v letu 2005 poslovala izredno dobro. Prihodni od prodaje so se od leta 2004 povečali za 23%. Obe metalurški družbi (Acroni Jesenice in Metal Ravne) sta v letu 2005 proizvedli 441.193 ton litega jekla, kar je za odstotek več kot leto prej. Za eno odstotno točko se je povečal tudi delež izvoza, ki predstavlja 71% celotne prodaje.

SIJ je še vedno v 80-odstotni državni lasti, družbe pa bodo še letos, predvidoma junija ali septembra, objavile razpis za nakup 55-odstotnega državnega deleža.

**Prihajajoča zamenjava** – Kot kaže bo mesto načelnika generalštaba Slovenske vojske zapustil (na lastno željo) Ladislav Lipič. Postal naj bi veleposlanik na Madžarskem.

### Iz Clevelanda in okolice

#### Materinska proslava—

Slovenska šola pri M. Vnebovzeti vabi to nedeljo na Materinsko proslavo ob 11h dop. v župnijski dvorani. Po programu bodo na čast materam, očetje učencev šole postregli z zajtrkom. Vsi ste lepo vabljeni.

#### Molitve—

Slovesnost Marije Pomagaj z Brezij bo v torek, 23. maja, pri Lurški Materi božji na Chardon Rd. ob 7.30 zv. Molitve bo vodil Rev. Janez Kumše.

#### Spominska sv. maša—

Društvo SPB vabi v nedeljo, 28. maja, ob 12. uri popoldne, na spominsko sv. mašo pri Lurški Materi božji v Euclidu. Mašo bo daroval Rev. Pavel Krajnik. Vabljeni so narodne noše. Gl. dopis na str. 14. Pop. ob 3.30 bodo skupne molitve za vse pokojne na pokopališču Vernih duš pri Chardonu, Ohio.

### Novi grobovi

#### Jože Sojer

Umrli je 86 let stari Jože Sojer iz Euclida, rojen v Podgorici, Slovenija, sin Marije (r. Kušar) in Janeza Sojer, brat Ivana, Franceta, Jerneja, Mici in Ančke (vsi že pok.), stric Marije Lovše in več drugih (vsi v Sloveniji), član Kluba upokojencev Slovenske pristave, Tabora, Društva Presv. Srca Jezusovega št. 172 KSKJ in Balinarskega kluba Slovenske pristave. Pogreb bo jutri, v petek, v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na 28890 Chardon Rd. s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida dop. ob 10. uri. Pokop bo v Sloveniji. Darovi v pokojnikov spomin St. Vitus Church Building Fund, 6019 Lausche Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103 bodo s hvaležnostjo sprejeti.

#### Maria Mlinar

Umrli je 88 let stara Maria Mlinar, hčerka Lojzeta in Katarine (oba pok.), sestra Cecilije Novak (Slov.) ter že pok. Katarine, Franca, Janeza, Jerneja in Mary Ann, teta. Pogreb je bil 16. maja v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin za The Catholic Mission Aid Inc., 17826 Brian Ave., Cleveland, OH 44119.

(DALJE na str. 16)

#### Letna seja—

Jutri, 19. maja, ima Slovenske dom za ostarele letno sejo, tokrat v Laurichevi sobi v domu na 18621 Neff Rd. Registracija se prične ob 6h zv., seja pa ob 6.30.

#### Dr. Zvone Žigon—

Generalni konzul RSlovenije v Clevelandu dr. Zvone Žigon bo govoril o današnji Sloveniji v torek, 23. maja, zvečer ob 7. uri v Slovenskem društvenem domu na 20713 Recher Ave. v Euclidu. Večer sponzorira Slovenian American Heritage Foundation. Vstopnine ni in je javnost vabljena.

#### Upokojenci Slov. pristave—

Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave ima sestanek v sredo, 31. maja, popoldne ob 1.30, na Pristavi. Članstvo lepo vabljeno.

#### Krofi in pecivo—

Oltarno društvo župnije Marije Vnebovzete bo imelo prodajo krofov v petek, 26. maja, popoldne ter naslednji dan, soboto, dopoldne, to v župnijski dvorani. Pridite in pokupite!

#### Zopet čez dva tedna—

Naslednja številka našega lista bo izšla v dveh tednih, torej v četrtek, 1. junija.

#### Otvoritev Slov. pristave—

Leto je naokoli in spet bo Pristava zaživela. Gradnja dvorane je v polnem zagonu in v nedeljo, 4. junija, si boste lahko to ogledali na lastne oči. Začetek bo s sv. mašo ob 12.30 pop., po maši bo kosilo, za rezervacije pokličite Elizabeto Žalik na 440-537-1941. Po tretji uri pop. bo za ples in zabavo igral ansambel Veseli godci. Člani in prijatelji Pristave ste prisrčno vabljeni!

#### Koncert in ples—

V soboto, 27. maja, bo v župnijski dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti nastopil ansambel Igor in Zlati zvoki. Vrata bodo odprta od 6h zv. dalje. Vstopnina je \$10 za odrasle in \$5 za otroke, vstopnice dobite v župnišču.

#### Odbor—

Štajerski-Premurski klub ima sledeči odbor: predsednica, Mimi Kozina-Cupar; podpreds., John Kozina; blagajnik, John Cupar; tajnica, Majda Zorman. Odbor: Tonica Simičak, Martina Simičak, Mimi Kozina, Rezka Zelko, Kristina Ferlinc, Ančka Leben, Frank Fujs, Joe Ramšak, Paul Skale, Karl Hozjan, Majda Rožič.



**GRADITEV VZPENJAČE NA LJUBLJANSKI GRAD SE KONČUJE** – Fotografija kaže kraj nove vzpenjače, ki bo peljala turiste neposredno na Ljubljanski grad. Projekt je od vsega pričetka sporen in to predvsem v vrstah ljubljanskega mestnega sveta. Sprva je bila cena gradnje okrog pol milijarde tolarjev, kot kaže bo pa stala dobro poldrugo milijardo. Mnogi kritiki dvomijo v smiselnost in sploh rentabilnost projekta. Izvajalec je švicarski Garavent, ki ima precej težav z geološko zgradbo grajskega griča. Po zadnjih zagotovilih naj bi bila graditev končana to poletje, torej nedolgo pred lokalnimi volitvami. Več kot jasno je, da bo projekt eden osrednjih predmetov letošnjih ljubljanskih volitev, morda najbolj glasni nasprotnik vzpenjače je mestni svetnik Dimitrij Kovačič iz vrst stranke SDS. Ljubljana je sicer v rokah levičarskih strank – vsaj do jeseni.

Frank Šega:

**SPOMINSKI DAN:**

CLEVELAND, O. – Mesec maj je mesec, ko se nam pokaže narava v vsej novi naravni življenjski lepoti, ki je nam zemljanom v dar od našega Stvarnika v veselje in užitek.

Mesec maj je posvečen naši nebeški Materi, kakor tudi vsem materam, ki so z ljubeznijo, bolečino in odpovedjo darovale narodu novo življenje. Zato hvaležen poklon, čast in hvala vsem našim materam za dar življenja in ljubezni, ki smo je bili deležni v življenju.

In še posebej lep spomin in poklon našim materam mučenicam, ki so poleg izgube svojih najdražjih družinskih članov morale prestajati zaporne kazni in zaničevanja zmagovalcev komunistov.

Zato se z globoko hvaležnostjo v srcu na Spominski dan še posebej – in poklonimo spominu vsem našim pokojnim materam za vso dobroto in ljubezen, ki smo je bili deležni v življenju. Vsa čast in slava Tebi, slovenska mati! Amen!

Spominski dan, ki je letos 29. maja, je uradno proglašen narodni praznik in je dan, ko se širom Združenih držav Amerike s hvaležnostjo in velikim spoštovanjem spominjamo naših rajnih in še posebej naših padlih vojakov, ki so za svobodo in dostojanstvo človeka darovali največ, kar človek premore, to je svoja mlada življenja.

In svoja življenja so darovali v veliki meri za svobodo tujih narodov, za kar je v današnjem času na splošno vredno bore malo hvaležnosti.

Veličina ameriškega naroda je v tem, da je bil in je še vedno pripravljen na žrtve, da pribori svobodo zatiranim in to za visoko ceno tako v človeških žrtvah kakor v materialnih. Zato globok in hvaležen poklon, čast in slava Tebi, ameriški vojak! Bog blagoslovi Ameriko z blagostanjem, da bi tudi v bodoče imela odprto srce za zatiranega človeka.

**Slovenski Spominski dan**

Kot je že tradicija od 50ih let, se slovenski rojaki pod pokroviteljstvom DSPB spominjamo naših dragih rajnih rojakov, ki so pod zločinsko roko lastnih rojakov komunistov izgubili svoja življenja – in to samo zato, ker so v svojem moralnem, narodnem in verskem prepričanju odklanjali popolnoma zgrešeno, narodu tujo, lažno kriminalno in veri nasprotno ideologijo.

Požig, rop, umor – to je bilo geslo komunistične partije in njihove vrednote, po katerih so s terorjem prišli do oblasti in tako zaslužili za 45 let slovenski narod.

Če se samo za trenutek zamislimo v zločin, ki ga je napravila komunistična partija slovenskemu narodu, se mora človek zgroziti nad obsegom zločina in nepopravljivo narodno škodo, ko je toliko deset tisočev najboljših rodoljubov rojakov in talentov, ki je bil velik narodni kapital, moralo po tolikem trpljenju in mučenju umreti po morilcih komunistih širom naše nekdanje domovine.

Za nas politične emigrante je žaljivo in boleče, da še po 15 letih "demokratske", samostojne Slovenije niso vladajoči našli v sebi toliko poštenja, da bi preklicali lažne obsodbe rojakov protikomunistov, med katere prav gotovo spada ljubljanski škof Gregorij Rožman, človek, ki je vse svoje življenje posvetil

Bogu in svojemu narodu, pa je uradno še vedno kot številni drugi rodoljubi – zločinec.

Vseh žrtev komunizma, nacizma in fašizma se bomo slovenski rojaki z velikim spoštovanjem spomnili pri spominski sv. maši v nedeljo, 28. maja, ob 12. uri popoldne, ki jo bo daroval kot že dolgo v preteklosti naš prijatelj Rev. dr. Pavel Krajnik, pri Lurški Materi božji na Chardon Rd. v Euclidu, Ohio.

Odbor društva lepo vabi rojake, da se nam pridružite pri tej spominski sv. maši, da se tako skupaj poklonimo tisočim našim mučencev bratom in sestram našega naroda, ki jih ne smemo, če smo kulturni narod, nikoli pozabiti. Kot kristjani moramo več kot tragični zločin "genocida" nad slovenskim narodom "bratom" komunistom po Kristusovem naročilu odpustiti, pozabiti pa nikoli.

Lepo vabimo narodne noše, ki zelo lepo in veličastno povzdignejo našo spominsko svečanost. Lepo vabljeni vsi rojaki, da se s spoštovanjem poklonimo spominu nedolžnih žrtev komunizma, nacizma in fašizma.

Še to: Popoldan, prav tako v nedeljo, 28. maja, ob 3.30 pop., bodo – kot je že tradicija – na pokopališču Vernih duš na Chardonu molitve za naše rajne. Vsi lepo vabljeni!

Za odbor DSPB:  
Frank Šega

PRIMER MITJA RIBIČIČ ...

**Hudodelstvo nad civilisti**

*Mitja Ribičič ni več ovaden zaradi genocida, ampak zaradi hudodelstva nad civilnim prebivalstvom*

Ljubljana – (Demokracija, 4. maj 2006) – V primeru Mitje Ribičiča je končno prišlo do napredka. Naj spomnimo, da so lani zdaj 87-letnega nekdanjega visokega komunističnega funkcionarja ovadili kot krivca za genocid ob koncu druge svetovne vojne. Ribičič je bil v tistem času visok oficir Ozne za Slovenijo, komunistične politične policije torej.

Tožilstvo mu očita, da je sodeloval v zunajsodnih pobojih političnih nasprotnikov komunizma pod pavšalno oznako okupatorjevih sodelavcev. Nekateri so sicer res sodelovali z okupatorji, nekateri pa ne, skoraj nihče od pobitih ni bil deležen sodne obravnave, pobiti pa so bili na različnih skritih lokacijah po Sloveniji. Ves čas obstoja komunističnega režima se je o teh pobojih le šepetalo in tudi po spremembi oblasti se ni kaj bistveno spremenilo.

O morilcih se v glavnem govori le v skupini, torej oznovci, partizani komunisti in podobno, ni pa konkretnih imen, kdo je vodil ta dejanja ali sodeloval pri njih. Mitja Ribičič je torej eden redkih, ki so bili do sedaj ovadeni, a kar leto dni je trajalo, da so se zadeve premaknile. Del strokovne javnosti tudi opozarja, da je kategorija genocid v kazenski zakonik prišla šele leta 1948, ko so se poboji že zgodili. Morda je tudi zato preiskovalni odsek ljubljanskega okrožnega sodišča že dvakrat zavrnil zahtevo vrhovnega tožilca o uvedbi preiskave.

Pred nedavnim pa je tožilstvo vložilo zahtevo po preiskavi hudodelstva na civilnim prebivalstvom, ki prav tako ne zastara, bilo pa je omenjeno kot kaznivo dejanje v času, ko so potekali poboji. Očitno pa je, da se bo primer Ribičič še dolgo vlekel. B. S.

Komentar ...

**"Domobranci, kleriki in ostali izdajalci"**

Ljubljana (Družina, 7. maja 2006) – Nedani praznik, dan upora proti okupatorju, je znova dobera razburkal vode slovenske sedanosti in (ideološkega) razumevanja preteklosti. Skozi različna sita in cedila se je presejalo in cedilo besede teh in onih govornikov ter sodnikov o tem, kdo na zgodovinska dejstva gleda prav(overno) in kdo ne.

Znova so, kot v dobrih starih časih, ko je bilo vsem vse jasno, v visokih tonih zvenele besede o narodnih izdajalcih – vse to predvsem kot odgovor

na poskuse sedanjega državnega vrha, da bi na preteklost vendarle pogledali drugače, kotso na veke vekov želeli varuhi pridobitev revolucije.

V mislih imamo govor predsednika državnega zbora dr. Franceta Cukjatiča, ki je pri osrednji proslavi ob dnevu upora na Nanosu med drugih dejal, moramo pri obravnavi uporov "ločiti zrnje od plevela", kajti šele potem bodo upori slovenskega naroda "zablesteli v svojem prvinsko nesebičnem domoljubju".

Ni namreč "večje in bolj boleče krivice, kot je ta, če nekemu, ki je v svojih najbolj sveti ljubezni do domovine tvegaval in žrtvoval življenje, podtikamo najbolj zavržene molitve. Če torej tisočim fantom in dekletom očitamo, da so šli v partizane zato, da bi s krvavo revolucijo zmagal ko-

(DALJE na str. 15)

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## “Domobranci, kleriki in ostali izdajalci”

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 14)

munistični teror. Ali če vaškim stražam očitamo, da so prijele za puško zato, da bi zmagal naci-fašizem, za katerega se je že takrat vedelo, da hoče izruvat slovenstvo iz te dežele pod Triglavom”.

Tako dr. Cukjati. Stališče, zaradi katerega je marsikaterega nekdanjega upornika na pravi strani žalila rdečica jeze in je bila proti prvemu možu parlamenta sproženih cela serija besednih rafalov, kamor lahko mirno uvrstimo tudi govor Janeza Stanovnika, predsednika ZZB NOB, pri osrednji borčevski proslavi ob dnevu upora v Ljubljani, ko je med drugim dejal (navajamo po STA), da “se dejstva polpretekle slovenske zgodovine poptvarjajo oz. lažejo in se postavlja takšna scenografija, kakršno si današnja politika želi”. ... Stanovnik se je dotaknil tudi domobrancev, klerikov in c talih izdajalcev, ki se niso obotavljali, da so ‘vstali proti slovenskim bratom’. Omenil je tudi

škofa Rožmana, ki je v čast fašistični zmagi nad Slovenijo bral svečano mašo, kateri so prisostvovali vsi italijanski generali.”

Da ne bomo le na načelni ravni sodili o (ne)upravičenosti tovrstne kanonade, ki je znova postavila v ospredje vprašanje t. i. medvojne kolaboracije, se raje podajmo na raven konkretnih življenjskih zgodb in skušajmo iz njih potegniti kakšno modrost tudi za današnji čas.

Ob robu pogovora z lazaristom Antonom Pustom – doma je iz Mirne Peči na Dolenjskem – o letošnjih šmarnicah, ki nosijo pomenljiv naslov *Kraljica mučencev*, posvečene pa so slovenskim mučencem 20. stoletja, resničnim upornikom proti zlu katere koli politične ali ideološke barve torej, je beseda nanesa prav na pojem kolaboracije. In kakšen je bil sogovornikov odgovor?

“O kolaboraciji imam osebne izkušnje in še pridobljene podatke. Pri

nas je bilo že od začetka italijanske okupacije, še preden so se formirale protikomunistične skupine, sodelovanje med Italijan in komunisti.

V mojo rojstno vas so prišli v juniju 1942 trije aktivisti, komunisti. Dve so domačini poznali. Že pred vojno se je eden ‘šolal’ v Rusiji, da bo še drugod širil komunistično revolucijo.

Zbrali so fante in može in jih nagovarjali za ustanovitev partizanske čete Globodol. Odločno so odklonili sodelovanje s komunisti. Razšli so se s hudo groznjo. Naslednje dni so vas napadli italijanski bombniki, ki so metali mine na vas in ljudi, ki so delali na polju, ne pa na partizanske baze, ki so bile v okolici. Ob tem so bili ubiti tudi moji starši. Ljudje so takoj sklepali, da se je s tem uresničila groznja treh aktivistov.

Čez dva meseca je v avgustu vaški zaščitnik obveščal od hiše do hiše, da pridejo drugi dan italijanski vojaki in da naj ostanemo mirni, tudi može in fantje naj jih mirno pričakajo.

Italijani so res prišli, zbrali vse može in fante in jih odpeljali. Največ so jih poslali v internacijo na Rab, nekaj fantov se je pridružilo legionarjem (vaški straži), ki se je takrat formirala v Stopičah, nekaj mož pa so po zvezah izpustili.

Ljudje so vedeli, kdo je v ozadju vsega tega. To pa potrjuje tudi general Stane Potočar v svojih spominih *Zvestoba*. Italijanski komandant, rekli smo mu ‘marešalo’, je stanoval v Mirni Peči pri Potočarjevih, trije sinovi so bili pri partizanih. Med drugim je zapisal, da so partizani vse vedeli, kaj nameravajo storiti Italijani, pa tudi oni so dajali Italijanom svoje podatke. Stanetova sestra je redno prenašala medsebojna obvestila. Izogibali so se medsebojnih spopadov.

Komandant italijanske posadke Isonzo v Novem mestu Cerutti je bil velik pristaš partizanov. Dostavljal jim je orožje. Po razpadu Italije pa je izročil vso vojno opremo partizanom. Lado Ambrožič - Novljan v spominih *Po čem je zmaga* (str. 52) opisuje, kako je Cerutti reševal njegovo ženo Mico, ki so jo ujeli Itali-

jani. Podobnih dogodkov je bilo še več.”

Da, podobnih dogodkov je bilo še več – vsekakor toliko, da na preteklost res ne moramo gledati črnobelo (ali pa rdeče-črno, kot bi nas nekateri radi prepričali).

Nujno moramo na stvar pogledati iz drugačnega, pravičnejšega zornega kota. Kajti tu vendarle ne govorimo o zgolj načelnih vprašanjih, temveč znova čisto življenjskih.

Kaj imamo v mislih?

Pustovi so na pristojno ministrstvo večkrat naslovili vlogo za priznanje njihovi družini, da so vojne sirote. Dobivali so negativne odgovore, in sicer z obrazložitvijo, da oče ni bil partizan. Kaj že zgodovinar Jože Dežman pravi o povojnem partijskem rasizmu? In potem bodo še trdili, da njegove ugotovitve niso resnične?!

Da, dan upora je treba praznovati. Kajti neresnici se je treba upreti.

Bogomir Štefanič ml.

Slovenska manjšina v Italiji –

## Zmerni optimizem za Slovence

*Minule državnozborske in upravne volitve v Italiji so poleg zmage Prodijeve levosredinske koalicije na državni ravni prinesle pomemben uspeh tudi političnemu predstavništvu slovenske skupnosti v Furlaniji – Juljski krajini.*

piše MITJA VOLČANŠEK

(Demokracija, 4. maj 2006)

Ljubljana – Stranka Slovenska skupnost (SSk) je na volitvah nastopila kot del zmagovite koalicije v navezi z Marjetico oziroma Oljko, na lokalni ravni pa je marsikateri Slovenec nastopil še v drugih strankah levega političnega spektra. Pri tem je treba opozoriti na sorazmerno nazadovanje leve sredine v FJK, saj je na volitvah v obe zbornici zbrala le okoli 44 odstotkov glasov.

Posledično je levosredinska koalicija zbrala tri senatorje od sedmih in šest predstavnikov v poslanski zbornici od tri-

najstih. Med poslance se je uvrstil tudi Slovenec Miloš Budin, dosedanji senator v vrstah Levih demokratov, ki je kandidiral na listi Oljke in bil celo njen nosilec. Njegova izvolitev je bila tako že pred odhodom na volišča v bistvu zagotovljena.

**Napredek v Gorici**

Precej bolj izenačeno je bilo na upravnih volitvah za nekatere pokrajinske in občinske svete, kjer je do končnih odločitev prišlo dva tedna po parlamentarnih volitvah, saj je bil potreben drugi krog. Ta je potekal 23. in 24. aprila, za slovenske kandidate pa je bil dokaj uspešen.

V Trstu je županstvo sicer ohranil desnosredinski kandidat Giuseppe Dipiazza, ki se je v drugem krogu spopadel s kandidatom leve sredine Ettorejem Rosatom in zbral 51 odstotkov glasov proti 49 (v prvem krogu so razliko med njima šteli v desetinkah odstotka).

V 40-članskem občinskem svetu pa bodo sedeli trije Slovenci, ki so kandidirali na listah Slovenske skupnosti. Levih demokratov in Komunistične preнове. Nezamisljivo pomoč pri zmagi desnice v deželnem glavnem mestu je prispeval dosedanji predsednik vlade Silvio Berlusconi,

(DALJE na str. 16)

### V ljubeč in nepozabni spomin

ob tretji obletnici smrti, odkar nas je zapustil naš predragi mož, ata in stari ata



**France Dejak**

in odšel k Vsemogočnemu 1. junija 2003.

Tri leta so že minila,  
odkar Te več med nami ni,  
vendar Tvoj veseli nasmeh  
nas spremlja po vseh  
naših poteh.

Srce Te kliče in v  
duhu gleda tvoj  
obraz, vedno Te  
bomo ljubili kot  
si Ti ljubil nas.

Ljubil si dom in družino,  
vse ljudi in domovino.

Tvoji žalujoči:

Žena: METKA

Sinovi: FRANK

EDI

TONI

Hčerka: KRISTINA z DRUŽINAMI

V Torontu: Brata: NACE

LOJZE

Sestra: ANGELCA

Ostalo sorodstvo v Canadi  
in Sloveniji.

1. junij  
2006

## Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

### 1585. Gotovo ste že opazili v koledarju

prireditev, da bo 9. julija, na drugo nedeljo meseca, na Slovenski pristavi piknik Misijonske Znamkarske Akcije. Ko boste načrtovali vaše počitnice, pomislite na ta datum, da ne boste zamudili lepe prilike, pomagati našim misijonarjem, ki se trudijo po različnih krajih izboljšati življenjske razmere in prinesiti veselo oznanilo o božjem kraljestvu.

Prejela sem listic "Iz sončne Zambije", v katerem je opisano življenje p. Stanka Rozmana, ki deluje v Malaviju, sosedni državi. Citiram odlomke:

"Dragi prijatelji in dobrotniki!" Prav lep pozdrav iz afriškega juga. Vsak dan nas Bog razveseljuje z dežjem, ki namaka suho zemljo. Zgleda, da bo letos boljši pridelek koruze, oreška, zelenjave, kar domačini gojijo okrog svojih bornih hišic. V januarju in februarju je menda kar nekaj ljudi umrlo radi lakote, ker je bil lanski pridelek pičel.

Smo v postu, a naš post v je precej drugačen od onih v razvitih deželah. Na podružnicah imamo postna bogoslužja in voditelji nas povabijo na kosilo, ki je običajno hlebček koruzne polente, malo kuhane zelenjave in paradižnikova omaka, za boljši okus. Tako je tudi ob nedeljah in praznikih. Postni čas nas vzgaja in pripravlja na Jezusove dneve trpljenja, smrti in Vstajenja, kar je za verne ljudi dan veselja, zmage nad grehom in smrtjo. Veseli bomo zapeli vstalemu Zveličarju. Tu ne bo potic, pirhov in šunke, bo pa iskrena in globoka vera, ki ljudem daje veselje do življenja na tem od boleznih, lakote večkrat ranjenem svetu. Veseli pa bomo, če bo prišla kapljica drobtinice dobrote, ki jo radi delite z revnimi in ubogimi. Vsem želimo iz srca prav veliko veselje v tem velikonočnem času in se obenem zahvaljujemo za vašo dobroto...

Ko je p. Stanko lansko leto šel na obisk k svoji mami, ki je praznovala visok življenjski jubilej, se je hitro zvedelo o njegovi poti in so ga vabili na več krajev, da je poročal o svojem delu. Bil je tudi v Misijonski pisarni in tam so sklenili, da bodo otroci v Trikralski akciji potrkali na dobra srca, da bi pomagali popraviti in zgraditi nekaj šol za malavijske otroke, kar je uspelo. Iz tega bodo obnovili 12 šol, ki so zelo preproste. Nekaj kolov je zabitih v zemljo, pokrite pa so s travo, ki zraste do 2 m visoko. Ko je vse to povedal p. Stanko na pravem kraju, je dobil podarjeno precej zemlje okrog župnišča, da bo lahko zgradil novo stavbo.

Potrebujejo tudi sestre, da bi pomagale. Pripravljene so priti iz Blatanje Služabnice Device Marije. Pričeli so z gradnjo njihovega doma. To je šele na začetku in bo p. Stanko potreboval še veliko pomoči, da bo dom dokončal, ker bo tudi šola za najbolj revne otroke in sirote brez staršev.

Dežela trpi tudi zaradi pomanjkanje pitne vode, kar so zvedeli njegovi sobratje in sklenili uvesti maraton v Ljubljani, da so obnovili že 12 vodnjakov po njegovi župniji. Tako je p. Stanko vesel tudi športnega vključevanja za pomoč potrebnim.

V preteklem letu je polovica prebivalstva stradala tudi, ker je denar zgubil svojo veljavo. Deževje je pomagalo. Nek župljan v sušnem kraju je šel na svojo njivo, pokleknil in iskreno molil in prosil božje pomoči. Bil je uslišan. Ko se je vračal proti domu, je pričelo deževati in njegovo polje je dobro obrodilo. Prišel je p. Stankotu in ga prosil, naj gre z njim na polje, da ga bo blagoslovil v zahvalo za dež. Mnogi drugi niso bili uslišani. V tem času je prišla

pomoč tudi iz Kanade, od koder je bil poslan kontejner poln hrane in obleke. Misijonar je vse lepo razdelil na podružnicah z velikim veseljem, kar so vsi hvaležno sprejeli. Ko je potreba najhujša, je božja pomoč najbližja!

P. Stanko Rozman"

P. Stanko ima še enega sobrata, ki mu pomaga pri delu v njegovi župniji. Daj obema ljubi Bog zdravja, da bosta kos vsem nalogam, ki prihajajo naproti, in veliko blagoslova pri vsem delu, to je želja nas vseh, ki se trudimo, zbiramo in molimo za uspehe na misijonskem polju.

Prav lep misijonski pozdrav od vseh sodelujočih in

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## Zmerni optimizem

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

ki je le nekaj dni pred vnovičnim odhodom na volišča v Trstu imel svoj prvi javni nastop po porazu 10. aprila.

V tržaški in goriški pokrajini pa sta v drugem krogu zmagala kandidata leve sredine. V Trstu je Maria Teresa Bassa Poropat s slabimi 51 odstotki prehitela desnega kandidata Fabia Scocimarra, kar je bilo manjše presenečenje.

Levosredinski Enrico Gherghetta pa je v Gorici še povečal prednost iz prvega kroga pred Leonardom Zapalajem in dosegel dobrih 58 odstotkov.

Pomemben preboj so Slovenci, čeprav pod okriljem različnih strank, dosegli v tržaškem pokrajinskem svetu. Izmed 24 članov bo osem slovenskih svetnikov; štirje iz Levih demokratov, dva iz stranke Komunistična prenova, eden iz Stranke italijanskih komunistov in eden iz SSK.

Med 24 goriškimi pokrajinskimi svetniki pa bosta le dva Slovenca s skupne liste Oljke in SSK oziroma iz zelenih.

## Razpolovljena zmaga

S tem izrazom je Igor Gabrovec, tržaški pokrajinski predsednik Slovenske kulturno-gospodarske zbornice, komentiral volilni izid, pri tem pa v skladu s stališčem večine slovenskih združenj kot pravilno označil izbiro levosredinske koalicije kot strateške partnerice slovenske skupnosti. Vsaj do neke mere so slovenski volivci ravnali disciplinirano in glasovali za levo sredino, ki sta jo podprli tudi manjšinski listi na Južnem Tirolskem in v Dolini Aoste.

Po eni strani lahko razumemo skepsu Slovencev do desnosredinske opcije. Po njeno vladavino je bilo namreč udejanje leta 2001 sprejetega globalnega zaščitnega zakona dvakrat ustavljeno, nazadnje letos marca.

To se je zgodilo, ker je Rim paritetnemu odboru vrnil v vnovično presojo seznam 32 občin, kjer naj bi se zakon izvajal, z obrazložitvijo, da je treba znova preveriti tradicionalno navzočnost slovenske manjšine v nekaterih občinah.

Velja pa opozoriti, da zmaga levosredinske koalicije še ne pomeni, da se bo stanje čez noč

spremenilo, saj se to ni zgodilo niti v času petletne vladavine levosredinske koalicije med letoma 1996 in 2001. Danih je bilo veliko obljub, zdaj pa lahko le upamo, da ni šlo za kupovanje slovenskih glasov v zameno za lepote, a nevsebnske popravke. ■

## NOVI GROBOVI

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 13)

### Anthony D. Luzar

Umrli je 92 let stari Anthony D. Luzar, mož Rose, roj. Bradach, oče Roberta in Anthonyja, 3-krat stari oče, 1-krat prastari oče, brat Ann Doles, Ronnie Gerjavec, Franka, Mary Eckhart ter že pok. Jenny Paik, Josephine Brodnik, Josepha in Johna. Pogreb je bil 15. maja v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin St. Mary Church, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110 ali pa The Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119.

### Agnes Shacha

Umrli je 92 let stara Agnes Shacha, rojena Kotnik, vdova po Georgeu in po Rudolphu Gulic, mati Roberta Gulic, 3-krat stara mati, 4-krat prastara mati, sestra Mary Wolecki in že pok. Andrewa. Pogreb je bil 12. maja v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

### Victoria Spelic

Umrli je 89 let stara Victoria Spelic, rojena Plavan, sestra Albine Michael in Fred-a (oba že pok.), teta in prateta. Pogreb je bil 13. maja v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda, kjer so bili pogrebni obredi.

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PETER umrl  
28. februarja 1977



MAMA LOJZKA umrla  
31. maja 1980

Vrsto let je že minilo,  
odkar pokriva zemlja Vajino gomilo.  
Odšla sta od nas za vekomaj  
in Bog Vama večni pokoj daj.

Žaljujoči: Dréu družina  
in ostalo sorodstvo

Cleveland, Ohio, 18. maja 2006.