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# AMERICAN

# AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

## SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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## PM Jansa says Slovenia is Strong and Stable

Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša on the second anniversary of his cabinet's tenure, says the republic's economic and political situation is solid and stable. He also says the economy is better than ever.

He says Slovenia has met the stringent Maastricht criteria, which many other new member states have failed to achieved. It has 5% economic growth, which is 2.5% points better than the average in the Eurozone, which Slovenia is to enter next year. "Today Slovenia has the most favorable ratio between economic growth, inflation and employment in its his-

tory," said the PM, stressing that Slovenia will be the only new member state to adopt the common European currency next year.

"The Slovenian economy will thereby operate in a substantially more stable macro-economic environment, and business and individual transactions will be simplified, while Slovenia will definitely be more attractive to foreign investment."

Janša said, "We have introduced tax benefits for research and development, thereby encouraging companies to invest more abundantly in research and achieve higher added value."

## Consul General Žigon Reflects on First Year

Dear Friends,

Can you believe that I, along with my wife, Irena, have been among you, here in Cleveland, for over one year now? No? Neither can we. As I look back and recollect all that has happened since August 25, 2005, when we first arrived in Cleveland, it seems that our time here feels longer than it has been.

First, following the eight month absence of a Consul General, the Consulate General had to get re-established and stand on its own feet. We had to set in motion a functional consular office, only to move the office to another location and begin again. During the past 15 months, I have visited eight of 10 states under my jurisdiction. We organized a concert of classical

music and various tours of musical groups and hosted other visitors from Slovenia. Together with the Slovenian community, we organized Cleveland Slovenian Days, a five week long series of events, celebrating the Fifteen Year Anniversary of Slovenian Independence. Our collaborative work with you, the community, was acknowledged by various reports in the Slovenian and American media. The celebratory atmosphere in Cleveland was even enjoyed by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia, Janez Janša, during his visit here.

Many contacts have also been made with various American establishments. One primary goal remains to establish relationships that would eventually lead to the opening of a Slovenian language lecture program in the United States, which would host lecturers from Slovenia.

Almost exactly a year ago, in a similar letter, I had characterized December as the month in which we realize the meaning of light, of the victory of light over darkness, and, with this, understand new beginnings. Just as nature, with each renewal, sets forth a new cycle of life, the new year brings to Slovenia many



St. Mary's pastor, Rev. John Kumse, left, is happy to have The Most Rev. Metod Pirih, Bishop of Koper, Slovenia at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of St. Mary of the Assumption parish in the Collinwood section of Cleveland on Sunday, Nov. 5. Behind Fr. Kumse is deacon The Rev. Mr. Robert Lester. At right is The Most Rev. A. Edward Pevec, Retired Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland. Four bishops concelebrated the Mass. (Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)



There was plenty of food for the 530 people who bought tickets for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet celebrated Nov. 5 in St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) new auditorium. Left to right are Ann Kurbos, Milka Krulc, and Mary Celestina. (Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)



Dr. Zvone Zigon

new challenges. Sixteen years ago, in unified proclamation, we declared our path to independence. This is why on December 26, we celebrate Slovenian Independence and Unity Day. (In a question on the National Referendum, "Should Slovenia become an independent country?", with 93.2% of voter participation, approximately 95% (88.5% of all voters) voted affirmative. The official results were

published on December 26, 1990.)

With January 1, 2007 and the new year, comes the introduction of the Euro, the new monetary currency in Slovenia, and with January 1, 2008, Slovenia's chairmanship of the European Union. It would be difficult to even consider these upcoming significant challenges without our strong and unified stance of independence and mutual understanding.

During Cleveland Slovenian Days, Slovenians in Cleveland demonstrated to themselves and to their countrymen in Slovenia that compromise and cooperation are possible with a common goal or vision. For this, and for all that you have done for Slovenia and for the promotion and preservation of Slovenian Culture in past years, I again, heart-fully thank you.

—Dr. Zvone Zigon  
Consul General  
with my wife, Irena



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No. 36

December 14, 2006

## CAN YOU SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS?

1. – How can a woman living in New Jersey, legally marry 3 men, without ever getting a divorce, be widowed, or becoming legally separated?

2. – A woman goes into a hardware store to buy something for her house. When asked the price, the clerk replies, "The price of one is 12 cents, the price of 44 is 24 cents, and the price of 144 is 36 cents. What does the woman want to buy?"

3. – If there are 5 apples on the counter and you take away 2, how many do you have.

4. – If, having only one

match, on a freezing winter day, you entered a room which contained a lamp, a kerosene heater, and a wood burning stove, which should you light first?

## ANSWERS:

1. -- -- It's her job; she's a Justice of the Peace or a Minister.

2. – House numbers.

3. – You have 2 apples. There are 3 left on the counter, but you have two.

4. – The match.

Once again we thank Phil Hrvatin of Wachovia Securities for these puzzles.



The Kres Folk Dancers pose for a picture in front of and on top of the peč located in St. Mary's "Slovenian Room" adjacent to the Lausche Atrium. They entertained during the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet in St. Mary's new hall on Nov. 5. (Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

## Quiz Answer, Another Quiz

by James V. Debevec II

### OLD QUIZ:

What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backwards?

The answer is Niagara Falls. Congratulations to Stan Zakelj of Broadview Heights, Ohio, Joseph Rigler of Kirtland, Ohio, and Nick Kosir of Wooster, Ohio who submitted the correct answer.

Quick Quiz: What kind of bird can write:

Answer: pen-guin.

NEW QUIZ: Who is Canada's head of state?

Send your answer to [ahp@buckeyeweb.net](mailto:ahp@buckeyeweb.net) or regular mail to: James' Quiz, c/o American Home, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103-1627.

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## 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

## DEAR SANTA...

It's that time of the year again and yours truly, together with millions of other kids of all ages, is asking you for gifts. Please don't misunderstand me. There is nothing that I personally need or want exclusively for me. Instead I beg you and pray for the deliverance of special gifts to others.

- For the U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, serving in far-away places around the globe, a season of peace and a quick return to their loved ones.
- For a newly discovered Arab friend, who recently lost his loving wife in a car crash, a special blessing from the God that he worships.
- For an old friend, whose wife of thirty years walked out on him and their four children a short time ago, that she may return in time for a joyous Christmas celebration.
- For a young Amish girl in Holmes County, Ohio, whose recent accident left her scalped, a miracle to let her heal emotionally and physically.
- For dear friends, whose loved ones were recalled by the Almighty to heavenly glory since last Christmas, that happiness may flow from their sorrow.
- For the many older friends and relatives that we know, that their golden years may prove to be blessed with love.



# This and that from Emilee



Emilee

woman. Bless you all.

I will end with this thought: I am a big believer in the "Mirror test." All that matters is if you can look in the mirror and honestly tell the person you see there is that you've done your best.

Happy Holidays and bless you all.

Love you,  
--Emilee

## SHA Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following residents of the Slovene Home for the Aged who were born in the month of December.

12-01 - Norbert Torer, 76, born in Cleveland.

12-02 - Louise Kozely, 94, born in Penna.

12-04 - Rose Calzone, 96, born in Pittsburgh, PA

12-04 - Frances Hocevar, 87, born in Yugoslavia.

12-05 - Agnes Jaras, 93, born in Wisconsin

12-09 - Sharon Rychbacki, 58, born in Cleveland

12-12 - Helen Kostainschek, 83, born in Germany

12-13 - Lucille Hennessy, 86, born in Cleveland

12-19 - Frank Ujcic, 87, born in Davis, W.VA

12-21 - Stefanija Rozman, 96, born in Slovenia

12-25 - Valentine Klodetsky, 88, born in Russia

12-25 - Jennie Phillips, 94, born in Warsaw, Poland

12-29 - Emma Jurcak, 86, born in Illinois

12-31 - Rose Seifert, 93, born in Cleveland

## St. Mary Slovenian School Dinner

St. Mary's (Coll.) Slovenian School will host its annual lunch on Sunday, January 21 at St. Mary's Parish Center on Holmes Avenue.

On the menu will be pork and chicken. Serving will start at 11 a.m. Prices are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Take-out orders will be available.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance from St. Mary's Slovenian School students and faculty.

ful green, black and white afghan and a bottle of wine. What a lovely present. No name, don't know who was so loving and generous. Thank you. God bless you. Lepa hvala.

A blessed holiday season to all the SWU #50 board and President Rosemary Toth for the invitation. Food was excellent and my dinner companions were Tony Petkovsek and Jean Krizman, Bert Drobnic, Ken Tomsick and two lovely ladies. We were all very lucky for all the gifts. Our table was very well rewarded. Thanks to all.

Our St. Anne Lodge #4 AMLA Christmas party was held in the Slovenian Room in St. Vitus Village. In our midst were Father Joseph Boznar, Father Victor Cimperman, and Father John Kumse. So glad they accepted our invitation. Dinner was brought in by Stane Kuhar from Kiseljak Restaurant (the old Baraga Dom building), and Marge Kuhar did all the magic on the dining room tables. Thanks a bunch. It was beautiful. The cassata cake was made by Anne Tomsick (the cake magician). We had quite a group. Four children were guests with family and were beautifully dressed very appropriately for the season. Thanks to Rudy Sterk for all his help this past year. What would we do without him?

Frank Kuhel, resident of St. Vitus Village, passed away last week. Our deepest sympathy to wife and family and friends. God be with you.

Condolences to the family of Jerome Brentar, prominent Slovenian in our area. Our thoughts and prayers to the family. Rest in peace.

Sunday, Dec. 10 I was on the cookie brigade at AMLA's children's Christmas Party held at the Slovenian National Home.

As I read the American Home I noticed a death notice of Margaret Kondrich, a long-time friend of the family. She was at one time owner of the Ivanhoe Restaurant on Ivanhoe and Euclid Avenue. Deepest sympathy to the family, especially Margie and husband, Jerry. So sorry to hear of Margaret's passing. She was such a lovely and giving

## Newspaper Schedule

In December the last issue of American Home will be dated Dec. 21.

In January, the American Home will be printed on Jan. 4, 11, and 18.

In February, the American Home will be printed on Feb. 1, 8, and 15.

## Attention SWU #25 Members

There will be no Christmas Party Dec. 17 as decided at our last meeting. We will celebrate Christmas after the New Year. You will be notified by postcard.

**BEWARE.** A bill is being circulated by BUZZ TELE-

COM. It appears to be a telephone bill. I checked with the BBB and AT&T and there is no such company listed in their files. This phony telephone bill was mailed to Emilee Jenko, gal about town.

A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle.

-Bob Hopkins

## My Eye on the Lemon Pie

by RUDY FLIS

A few weeks ago, just before the big Ohio State - Michigan football game I was in Columbus for a few days. When I arrived home, late in the afternoon, there on the kitchen counter was a warm, freshly baked lemon meringue pie, my favorite.

Therese laces the filling with a little extra lemon, so it not only looks yellow, but tastes yellow. There is always a little filling left over that Therese puts in a small bowl, that I'm able to consume immediately. It is always, and I mean always, tangy like lemon is supposed to be. I often wonder if lemon and vinegar aren't at least distantly related. If they are, they're great relatives to my way of thinking.

The pie lasted two days, cause I eat slow, and Therese will make lemon pie, but not eat it. Don't I have it made? The lemon meringue pie hangs out in the frig, when not serving me.

Learned a lesson this week. Went to R & D Sausage Co., 15714 Waterloo Road, where Joe and Carol

Zuzak make all that good eating smoked meat, and they are across from Beechland Ballroom, the old Croatian Home, and I purchased five pounds of delicious smoked klobase. I was going to take it to my daughter's home to enjoy during the Ohio State - Michigan football game. The game and klobase were what dreams are made of.

Now, back to my story, Saturday morning I put the last piece of lemon meringue pie on my plate, close to my coffee, so I don't drip too much on the table. Oh, I still have my teeth, but dunking flavors my coffee, softens stale donuts and makes me more active at the table during breakfast.

I don't dunk the lemon or meringue in my coffee, cause those two are like a duck in water, no absorption. But the crust sucks up coffee real nice, and has great flavor, except if it spent the night with some klobase in the refrigerator. I never dunked klobase in my coffee. Lemon and pie crust and klobase - incompatible.

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# Fairport Slovenians Meet the Amish

by STAN MODIC

The harsh winds of winter will be softened for Fairport's American-Slovenian Club members by memories of good times enjoyed during a summer and fall of special events.

The most recent was a bus trip by some 30 of the members in October to Holmes County Amish Country which was led by Steve Zalar, Club president. The group visited Lehman's Hardware where they would find everything from nuts and bolts to wood-burning stoves to exotic items no longer found on the open market. They also stopped at two cheese markets where members stocked up on various kinds of goodies made fresh by the Amish proprietors.

A highlight was a visit to an Amish family on its 50-acre farm where members were treated to an Amish buggy ride and a home-cooked meal.

The bus trip followed an earlier Hawaiian Party where several members showed up in traditional grass skirts and a summer of balinca competition where 20 teams battled it out five nights a week for the 2006 championship. The season ended with a banquet in which the team of Steve and

Judy Hogya, Dave and Chris Burrier and Doug Schmidt was crowned champion.

That summer league was followed by an abbreviated Fall league. In October the traditional Membership Party was held which kicked off the 2007 membership drive. And then there are the bar-b-que steak and pork chop dinners served from 5:30 to 7:30 to members and friends of the Club on the last Saturday of every month, except in December. And the button-box jam session is held every other Friday under the tutelage of Frank Sajn, club co-manager.

You can keep up with the club's activities by listening to Tony Petkovsek (WELW 1330). Tony now lives on the lake in Fairport and considers the Fairport Slovenian Club his "home" club.

The club is now accepting dues payments from members, both regular and social, and taking applications for new memberships. Interested parties are invited to stop in at the clubrooms at 617 Third St., in Fairport to pick up an application form.

In December the Club's Christmas party will feature good food and entertainment by the area's favorite string-strumming / singing Ron Sluga.



## Cellphones affect drivers' brains

by Marilyn Elias,  
USA Today

Talking on a cellphone while driving sharply reduces brain activity needed to keep track of road conditions and leads drivers to gaze at things without their brains actually seeing them, according to a psychologist at the University of Utah.

Hands-free phones pose the same safety hazards as handheld phones, says psychologist David Strayer, who presented his findings at the American Psychological Association in New Orleans. His findings were based on lab studies using driving machines with about 500 adults. Among the key findings:

- Conversations with passengers reduce a driver's attention, but they aren't as unsafe as talking on a phone. "Passengers tend to help the driver if they see something hazardous. They might point it out or at least stop talking," Strayer says.
- Studies show that talking on a cellphone cuts a driver's brain activity in half in a key area of the brain needed for noticing traffic conditions.
- Eye-tracking studies show that when drivers see objects on a road, they're

much less likely to recall seeing something if they're on the phone at the same time. "They're as blind to dumpsters along the road as to a child running across the street," Strayer says.

The brain has limited capacity for attention, so whatever is siphoned off by a phone conversation is subtracted from attention for driving, he says.

In Strayer's lab studies, adults on cellphones drive and react more slowly. "Twenty-somethings on a cellphone have the same reaction time as 70-year-olds, and older drivers are super-slow," he says. Strayer thinks the widespread use of cellphones is slowing traffic and increasing commute times.

Emotional conversations, particularly those on unhappy topics, are most likely to divert attention needed by drivers, suggest studies by University of Kansas psychologist Paul Atchly, who also reported at the APA meeting.

But rational decision-making falters too, according to Strayer's research. His experiments show adults make poorer decisions when they're on the phone and

driving. "Some people try to work from their cars, and I wonder about their decisions," he says.

About 8% of drivers are on cellphones at any given time, according to a 2005 study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. But the number is believed to be rising, "and it doesn't include those using other electronic devices like Blackberrys and Palm Pilots," says Rae Ryson of NHTSA.

### Places that say hands off

The District of Columbia and three states prohibit the use of handheld phones while driving:

- Connecticut
- New Jersey
- New York

More than two dozen local communities also bar drivers from using handheld phones, but many aren't enforcing the law due to court decisions or state legislation. Among local areas with such laws:

- Chicago
- Santa Fe
- North Olmsted, OH.

## New Subscription Campaign

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Be sure to include the recipient's name and address.  
Best wishes for Happy Holidays.

## Fly Hunting Joke

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" she asked.

"Killing flies," he said.

"Get any?"

"Yes, three miles, two females," he replied.

"How can you tell them apart?" she asked.

"Three were on a beer can," he said, "and two were on the phone."

—Emma Pogacar  
Toronto

We often repent of what we have said, but never, never, of that which we have not.

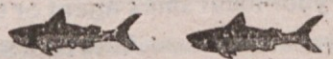
—Thomas Jefferson

"Somehow not only for Christmas but all the long year through, the joy that you give others is the joy that comes back to you." — John G. Whittier

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# English is Really Crazy

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins were not invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies, while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write, but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce, and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth?

If teachers taught, why don't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

Why do people recite at a play, and play at a recital?

Ship by car, and send cargo by ship. We have noses that run and feet that smell. We park on driveways and drive on parkways.

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same? And a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

When a house burns up, it burns down. You fill in a form by filling it out. An alarm clock goes off by going on.

When the stars are out they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

Any, when I wind up my watch, I start it; but when I wind up this essay, I end it?

These questions are asked by **Phil Hrvatin**.

### Joke

What is the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary alphabet?

The Christmas alphabet has no L (Noel).

### Happy New Year Merry Christmas and

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## Glasbena Matica Christmas Concert set for December 16

With the holidays fast approaching, members of the Glasbena Matica Singing Society are busily rehearsing their songs for an evening of joyous Christmas music scheduled for Saturday, December 16th. The event will take place at the Slovenian National Home on St.Clair Avenue in Cleveland.

The singing group will offer Christmas holiday favorites in Slovenian, English and Latin. Selections include such songs as *Hitite, Kristijani; Božji Nam Je Rojen Sin; O Magnum Mysterium; the Messiah Suite; O Holy Night; Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, and many more.

Glasbena's singers are very pleased to welcome back their music director Julie Tragon who now has a new last name. Julie

was married to Matthew Parrotta in October.

Michael Cercek, Glasbena's accompanist, is also a newly wed; he married the former Jaime Mock in August.

The theme for this year's concert is "Christmas with Glasbena Matica." Doors will open at 5:30 PM, and the concert will begin at 7:00 PM.

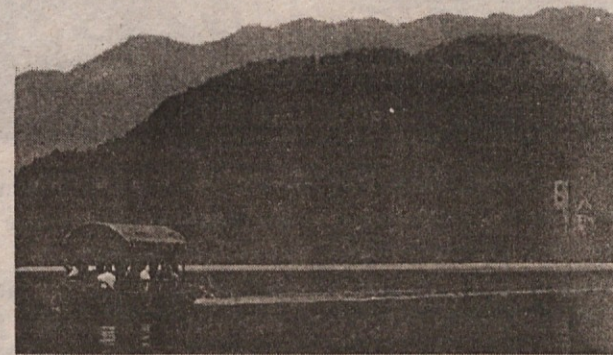
Dinners, sandwiches and beverages will be available for purchase. Wayne Tomsic's orchestra will offer dance music immediately after the concert.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children age 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased by calling Lori Sierputowski at (440) 449-5643. They may also be purchased at the Polka Hall of Fame, 605 East 222nd Street, Euclid, or at the door. -- **Dan Hrvatin, Pres.**

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Street Address and City

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## Your Name

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6117 St. Clair Ave.  
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Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ for a  
(circle one) \$50.00 ad; \$35.00 ad; \$25.00

Christmas ad to appear in the Ameriška Domovina.

My name \_\_\_\_\_

My address \_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_





Slovenian-American NASA astronaut Sunita Williams is part of the STS-116 crew who blasted into space on Sunday, Dec. 10 on the Space Shuttle Discovery.

Williams will remain on board the Space Station when the STS-116 crew return to earth. She will join Expedition 14 as Flight Engineer 2, replacing ESA astronaut Thomas Reiter who will return with STS-116 after a six-month stay on the Station.

Thanks to Prof. Edi Gobetz for this notice from NASA. More next week.

Just for a few hours on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day... we permit ourselves to live according to untrammelled common sense, the unconquerable efficiency of good will.  
--Christopher Morley

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## "I Feel Slovenia" New Tourist Slogan

"I Feel Slovenia (with "love" in bold) is the new tourist slogan that a special government commission has selected for Slovenia along with a new logo that combines Mount Triglav, linden leaf and heart.

The slogan is the work of the agency Nuit, which got the idea from the Donna Summer song, "I Feel Love."

Slovenia has thus been highlighted as the only country in the world with the word love in its name, Gregor Krajc, head of the Government PR and Media Office, told the press on Friday, Nov. 10.

The slogan, the work of the design studio Luks, is a blue, red and white combination of Mount Triglav, Slovenia's highest mountain, and a stylized heart-shaped linden leaf. The linden tree is considered a symbol of Slovenian culture.

Boris Balant of the studio Luks said that Triglav and the linden leaf have been the most enduring symbols of Slovenian culture throughout history.

"We added the heart as a symbol of love to say that we

are entering a period of kindness and cooperation," he said.

The commission in charge of the slogan, which chose among 250 proposals, consisted of four cabinet members, a designer, and ethnographer and two businessmen.

When the public call for bids for the slogan was published in July, designers cried foul, claiming the competition was amateurish and arbitrary.

Fundacija Brumen, an association of graphic designers, was especially bothered by the fact that the slogan and logo were being selected separately.

They also claimed that the prize money (SIT 700.000 / EUR 2,921) was insufficient to attract top designers.

Slovenia's previous tourist logo was a set of flowers, but even that was replaced with the Slovenian flag in a spot that was aired on CNN.

Source: Slovene Press Agency STA

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this information.

There seem to me to be very few facts, at least ascertainable facts, in politics.  
--John Mercina

## Christmas with Glasbena Matica

**Saturday, December 16, 2006**  
Slovenian National Home, 6417 St. Clair Avenue

Doors open 5:30 PM Concert at 7:00 PM

Dinners, Sandwiches and Beverages Available for Purchase

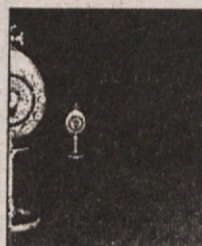
Dancing to the Wayne Tomsic Orchestra

Adults: \$12.00. Children age 12 and under: \$6.

For Tickets Call Lori Sierputowski (440) 449-5643

(Tickets also at the Polka Hall of Fame or at the Door)

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### Plečnik's Treasures

200 color photos of master architect Jože Plečnik's gorgeous sacramental chalices and vessels. Sale price - \$60



### Slovenian Calligraphy: The Sitticum Collection

Beautifully illuminated manuscripts from the Cistercian monastery of Sticna, the ancient Sitticum, in Slovenia. 235 illustrations. Sale price - \$60



### Roadmap of Slovenia

Standard accordion-fold road map of Slovenia and bordering areas. Sale price - \$7.50



### Wines of Slovenia

Translated into English, this new book covers 386 vineyards, a remarkable number for such a small country. Presented by region, the wines are rated in a four star system and paired to food recommendations. Authored by ethnologist Dr. Janez Bogataj and viniculturalist Dr. Julij Nemanic. Sale price - \$48.75



### Slovene-English Dictionary

At 935 pages, this hardcover edition is intended for most translation tasks. At the condensed size of 5-1/2" x 3-1/4" x 1-3/4", the dictionary is great for travelers. Sale price - \$44.25



### National Atlas of Slovenia

"It is indeed impressive when a country that is smaller than Lake Ontario and has about two million people - fewer than many U.S. cities - can put out a national atlas as well presented as this one."

The Library Journal

Sale Price - Hardback - \$56.25

(Also available in Slovenian - \$25.00)



### Slovenia Pocket Guide

112-page booklet presents Slovenia's diverse charms, its history and many attractions. 150 color photographs and a map of Slovenia. Sale price - \$9

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the Slovenian heritage

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## Death Notices

### DOROTHY DEBEVEC

Dorothy Ann Debevec (nee Fox), 86, formerly of Euclid, Ohio, beloved wife of the late Edward M. Debevec; loving mother of Dolores (Richard) Mervar (deceased), Mary (Bruce) Kastelic, Edward M. (Rose) Debevec (both deceased), Ann (Greg) Mihalek, Margaret (Scott) Weber and Charles (Annette) Debevec; dear grandmother of 21; great grandmother of 28; sister of Helen Shea, Richard Fox, Ed Fox, and the late Steve, Eli, William and Charles Fox.

Died Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2006.

A memorial Mass was held Saturday, Dec. 9, 2006 at 10 a.m. at St. Barnabas Catholic Church, 9451 Brandywine Road, Northfield Center, Ohio.

Friends were received for a memorial gathering at Johnson-Romito, a Golden Rule Funeral Home, Northfield Center, Ohio on Friday, Dec. 8 from 6-8 p.m. Burial at Gulf Pines Memorial Park, Englewood, Florida.

### VERONICA PERME

Veronica Vivian Perme (nee Baculik), age 88, died on Sunday, Nov. 19, 2006 in Richmond Heights, Ohio.

Beloved wife for 48 years of the late Michael; dear mother of Michael R. Perme, Kathleen V. (David) McGraw and Charles A. (Barbara) Perme; loving grandmother of David J. McGraw, J. Alicia Knize and Laura P., Michael J., Rachel E., Daniel and Stephen Perme; great-grandmother of Paul David McGraw; cherished sister of Carolyn Johnson, Jack Baculik, Rose Marie Ferguson and the late Steve Baculik, Anthony Baculik, Irene Strancar, Julia Sekerek, Marie Krupinski and Pauline Fox.

Veronica was a member of Zarja, KSKJ and SNPJ.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25 in St. Paul Church (E. 200 St. and Chardon Rd.).

Friends were received at the Brickman-DiDonato Funeral Home, 21900 Euclid Ave., on Friday, Nov. 24 from 4-8 p.m. Interment in All Souls Cemetery.

### ALICE R. KAPLAN

Alice R. Kaplan (nee Blatnik), age 97.

Beloved wife of the late John. Loving mother of Edward J. (Lois), Donald J. (Patricia) and John J. (Alena). Grandmother of Mark, Kathleen Perlewitz, Thomas and Karen Leheney. Great-grandmother of six. Daughter of Dominic and Mary, sister of Raymond, Richard and the following deceased: Lawrence, Mary Barle, Edward and Dominic. Dear aunt and great-aunt.

Funeral Monday, Dec. 4 at 9 a.m. at the Fortuna Funeral Home, 5316 Fleet Ave. Services at St. Lawrence Church at 9:30 a.m. Interment in Calvary Cemetery.

### JOHN RIDINGER

John "Hans" Ridinger, age 96, passed away Friday, Nov. 24, 2006.

Beloved husband of the late Gertrude (nee Lutsch) and the late Marie (nee Kirste); loving father of John C. (wife June); dear grandfather of John M. (Kandy), James (Amy), Jeffrey (fiancée Cindy) and Julie McFadden (Mark); great grandfather of John N., Kayla, Taylor, Michael, Jimmy, Kaitlyn, and Erin; uncle and great uncle of many.

Funeral service in the funeral home on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 12 noon. Interment Whitehaven Cemetery.

Friends called at the Brickman-DiDonato Funeral Home, 21900 Euclid Ave., from 5-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Joseph and Flora Jenko** of Euclid, Ohio who renewed their subscription and added a \$20.00 donation in memory of their parents.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Angela Zabjek** of Willoughby, Ohio who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Tom Zabjek**.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Amalija Gregorc** of Richmond Heights, Ohio who donated \$20.00 in memory of her husband, **Anton Gregorc**.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Frances Mauric** of Cleveland, Ohio who donated \$20.00 in memory of her husband, **John Mauric**.

## Donations

Thanks to the following for their donations to the Ameriška Domovina:

**Victor T. Nemec**, Euclid, OH -- \$10.00

**Barbi Rihtar**, Painesville, OH -- \$15.00

**John Sodja**, Syracuse, NY -- \$15.00

**Walter and Jean Smrekar**, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$15.00

**Helen Kolosov**, Northbrook, IL -- \$10.00

**David S. and Marie J. Kushner**, Mentor, OH -- \$15.00

**Frank Mejac**, Milwaukee, WI -- \$10.00

**Tone Ovsenik**, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$15.00

**Felix and Anna Kurboš**, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

**Mirko Hrovat**, Chesterland, OH -- \$15.00

**Alice Kuhar**, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

**Bernie Sajovec**, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

**Ann Marie Zak**, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

**Anne M. Ciccio**, Willoughby, OH -- \$5.00

**Daniel and Maria Kranjc**, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$15.00

**Silvester Rabic**, Foster City, CT -- \$15.00

**Joseph Slokar**, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

**Josef Klicek**, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

**Ivana Cerar**, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

**Hinko and Maria Zupancic**, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

### In Memory

Thanks to **Julia Zalar** of Richmond Heights, Ohio who donated \$20.00 in memory of her husband, **Frank Zalar**.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Mary Znidarsic** of Kirtland, OH who donated \$15.00 in memory of her husband, **Stan Zalar**.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Frances, Kurilich Reichelderfer** of Los Angeles, California who donated \$300.00 in memory of her mother **Jean Kurilich**.

She writes, "I just had the nicest conversation with the lady who answered the phone (Madeline). I am including a short biography of my mother who recently died. She is the last one of her siblings to pass away. Although she and my dad moved us to California, her ties with Ohio, especially Cleveland, have always remained strong."

### In Memory

Thanks to **Olga Dorchak** of Sagamore Hills, Ohio who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of her dear mother **Jennie Gerck** who taught her the Slovenian heritage.

## Remembering Peter J. Sterk

Peter Joseph Sterk was born on Feb. 2, 1941. He grew up in Cleveland, Ohio with his eight brothers and sisters. As a young boy, Peter often enjoyed going to his grandmother's farm with his siblings. With his brother John, Peter would help his uncle Rudy till the fields, plant and harvest the crops. In the evenings, after working in the fields, Peter would often sit and listen to his uncle Rudy play the accordion. It was during these many visits to the farm that Peter developed a love for the accordion.

As a young man, Peter was active in the church. At St. Vitus, he served as an altar boy, was involved in the Holy Name Society, and was very active in the young adult club. While there he played leading roles in various musicals that took place in the St. Vitus theater.

Peter attended Catholic schools all his life. He went to St. Vitus Elementary School, St. Joseph High School and John Carroll University where he obtained his Bachelors degree in Physics. He also acquired a strong interest in mathematics. Throughout his life, Peter continued his studies particularly in math and science in order to enhance his knowledge and career. He enjoyed reading both educational and spiritual books.

Peter's education and passion for learning led him down many career paths. he started out as a Math instruc-

tor at Catholic Central High School. Later, he moved to Seattle to be close to his sister Barbara who moved there a few years earlier to start a family. It was in Seattle that Peter became an Electrical Engineer for the Boeing Aircraft Company. He later joined the Army for three years and was stationed in Germany as a Radar Technician. After completing his assignment in Germany, he returned to Seattle and took up employment at Seattle City Light Company, where he remained until he passed away. Peter was a hard worker and very dedicated to his church and family.

Peter was a devoted son, brother, uncle, and mentor. He was loved by many, even those who only had the pleasure of spending a short time with him. He touched many people with his quick wit, generous nature, and knowledge.

Peter was a very devoted Catholic and donated generously to a variety of charities. Peter gathered his strength through his belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. His strong beliefs provided him with a great moral foundation. He believed in focusing on the positive things in life and never dwelled on the negative. Peter strived to instill in his family and friends true Christian values and wished that all of us would cherish life to the fullest, much as he did.

He will be missed.

### Donation

Thanks to **Mary Urbancic** of Euclid, Ohio for the \$50.00 donation.

### Donation

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Perme** of Euclid, Ohio for the \$20.00 donation.

### Donation

Thanks to **The Family of Dusan and Stansa Zitnik** of Cleveland who donated \$100.00 to the American Home newspaper.

### Donation

Thanks to **St. Vitus Slovenian School** for the \$100.00 donation. They write, "Thanks for your support."

### Donation

Thanks to the **American Slovene Club** for their \$50.00 donation.

### Donation

Thanks to the **Primorski Club** for their \$100.00 donation.

### Krofe Sale

A krofe Sale sponsored by St. Mary (Holmes Ave.) Altar Society will be held on Friday (later afternoon), Dec. 15 and Saturday morning, Dec. 16 in the parish hall.

### Great Paper

**Elsie Lawrence** of Mayfield Heights, Ohio renewed her subscription and wrote, "I look forward to Fridays when I receive the Domovina. Great paper."

### Good Health

**Frances Ogoreuc** of Euclid, Ohio writes, "Happy Holidays to all the staff at American Home Publishing Co. Good health and happiness always. I enjoy the newspaper very much."

### Enjoys paper

Thanks to **Agnes Flanders** of Yukon, PA who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation. She writes, "Still enjoy the American Home newspaper more than ever. Keep up the good work."

## Zelev Funeral Home

### MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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Each snowflake in an avalanche pleads not guilty.



# Church of St. Mary of the Assumption

15519 Holmes Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44110

## CHRISTMAS 2006

## BOŽIČ 2006

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

These remaining days of Advent are a time of stark contrast: light and darkness, anticipation and fulfillment, watchfulness and heavenly peace. The Dawn from on high breaks upon us and the clouds drop down the dew of grace from heaven. Earth is touched by heaven in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The events of two thousand years ago continue to touch our lives and fill our hearts with the peace, joy and hope of the infant of Bethlehem in this most wonderful time of the year.

We invite you to open up your hearts to receive the grace of Christ's reconciliation and peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. What better gift can we give to the Christ Child and to ourselves than the gift of a pure heart.

We invite you to join us in welcoming the Messiah who is Christ the Lord in our Christmas Masses. Come together with us to welcome the newborn King, He alone who is the peace, the hope, the joy of our very troubled world.

May Christ, the Word made Flesh dwell in your hearts throughout these days of Christmas and in the New Year of our Lord 2007.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Fr. John Kumse - Pastor

Dragi farani in prijatelji,

Zadnji dnevi Adventa so čas skrajnega nasprotja: luč in tema, pričakovanje in dovršenost, čuječnost in nebeški mir. Zarja z višave sije na nas in oblaki sipljejo roso milosti z nebes, Nebo se je dotaknilo zemlje z rojstvom našega Odrešenika, Jezusa Kristusa. Dogotki pred dva tisoč leti se še nadalje dotikajo našega življenja in polnijo naša srca z mirom, radostjo in upanjem betlehemskega Deteta v tem svetem in veselem času.

Vabimo vas, odprite vaša srca in prejmite Kristusovo spravo in mir v zakramentu spovedi. Kaj je lepši dar, kot da podarimo božjemu Detetu in nam samim, dar čistega srca.

Vabimo vas, pridite da skupaj sprejmemo Mesija, ki je Kristus, Gospod pri božičnih sv. mašah. Pridite, da z nami pozdravite novorojenega Kralja. Samo On je mir, upanje in radost našemu zelo zmedenemu svetu.

Naj Kristus, Beseda, ki je meso postala biva v vaših srcih v teh božičnih dneh in v Novem letu Gospodovem 2007.

Vam v Kristusu vdani,  
g. Janez Kumše



### MASSSES - SV. MAŠE

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - ČETRTRA ADVENTNA

Saturday, December 23

NEDELJA

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 24

8:00 a.m. English Mass - angleška maša

10:00 a.m. Slovenian Mass - slovenska maša

12:00 noon English Mass - angleška maša

#### CHRISTMAS EVE - SVETI VEČER

Sunday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Children's Mass - Otroška maša

11:30 p.m. Christmas Prelude Music - božične pesmi

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass - Polnočnica

#### CHRISTMAS DAY - SVETI DAN

Monday, December 25

8:00 a.m. English Mass - angleška maša

10:00 a.m. Slovenian Mass - slovenska maša

12:00 noon English Mass - angleška maša

Wednesday, December 27

7:00 p.m. St. Vitus Christmas Choir

#### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - PRAZNIK SV. DRUŽINE

Sunday, December 31, 2007

Ordinary Sunday Mass Schedule - Običajen nedeljski urnik

5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil, 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon

11:00 a.m. Sung Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Pete litanije Matere božje z blagoslovom

#### NEW YEAR'S DAY - 2007 - NOVEGA LETA DAN - 2007

Sunday, December 31, 2007 - New Year's Eve

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass - angleška maša

Monday, January 1, 2007

10:00 a.m. Parish Mass - farna maša

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION ZAKRAMENT SV. SPOVEDI

MONDAY, December 18, 2006

ponedeljek, 18. decembra

Communal Penance Service at Holy Redeemer  
7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, December 21, 2006

četrtek, 21. decembra

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, December 22, 2006

petek, 22. decembra

7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.

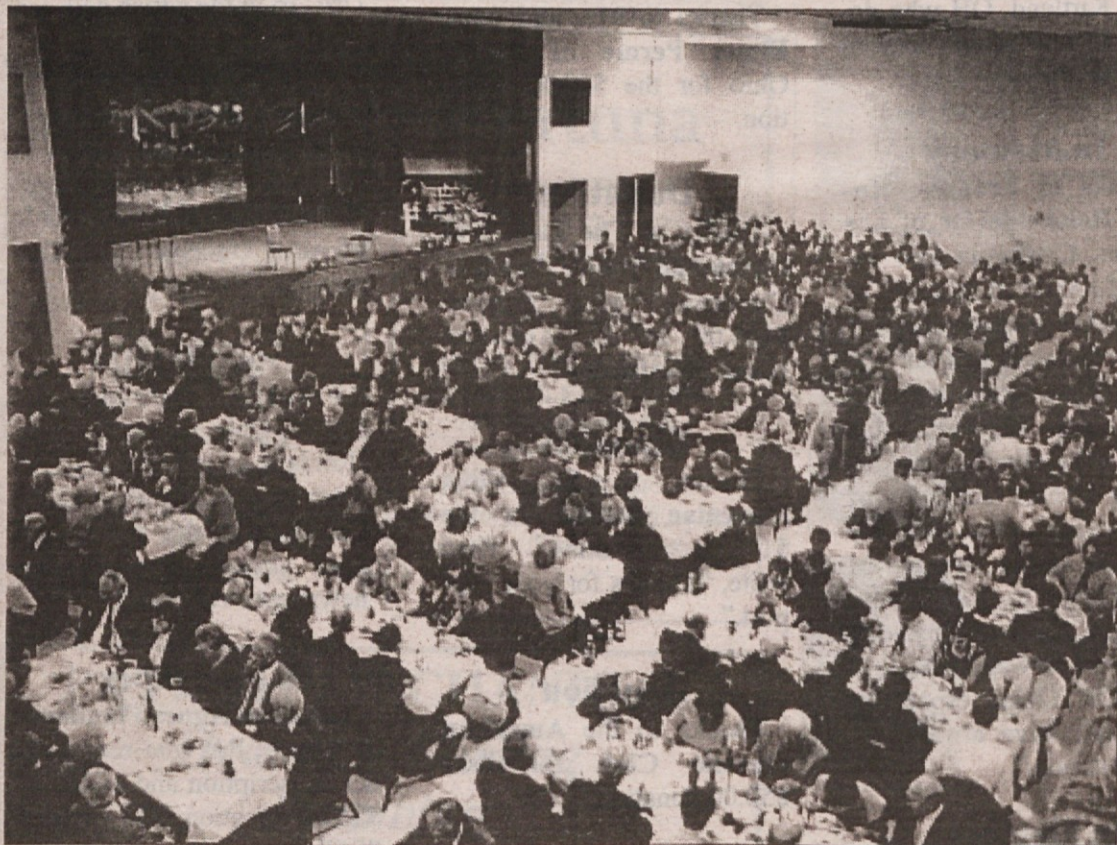
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, December 23, 2006

sobota, 23. decembra

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.



530 people attended the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet of St. Mary's parish on Nov. 5





## In Memory of Florence Mirtel

Florence Mary was born to Paula and Mike Vicic. Dorothy Stark, Anamae Bizily (dec.) and Walter (Mike) (dec.) rounded out the family.

After settling on Prince Ave. in the early 1940s, the Vicic family became active in affairs at Prince Hall, which was close to the Slovenian National Home on E. 80<sup>th</sup> Street, where, at age 15 she met her future husband, Joseph Mirtel. They married in June, 1945 at St. Lawrence Church.

Three years later they became proud parents of Rose Marie and in two years, Joe Jr. Her husband was an operating engineer and she started her own career at Cleveland Cap Screw Co. She returned on a part-time basis to various office positions when the children were in school.

In 1968 she accepted a full-time position with the Joseph & Feiss Co., working for 10 years in the sales service department. Florence retired in 1989 and was recognized by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers for eight year service as a steward and union president of the office unit.

After retirement, Florence enrolled in the travel and tourism program at Lakeland College. She completed all the required courses and made the Dean's List in 1992. She worked in the

travel industry, with Five Star Travel until her second retirement in 1995.

Then Florence became active with the Slovenian National Home as she was elected to the Board of Directors. She spent many long days volunteering her time setting up and selling at the rummage sales, selling tickets, decorating the hall, organizing the Annual Wine & Cheese Festival, and coordinating other helpers to keep up the Nash. She thoroughly enjoyed performing these labors of love.

She was a lifelong member of AMLA Lodge Mir 10. She was an officer of the Slovenian Women's Union.

Florence was blessed with five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Florence was a companion of Paul Grill, who accompanied her at various dance halls all over the Greater Cleveland area. They were both in the St. Lawrence Choir, and members of the Newburgh-Maple Heights Seniors Club, and enjoyed travel, good times and volunteering.

Florence was a great lady, always willing to help and always smiling. She was an inspiration to her friends and family. She will be missed. We pray that she will rest eternally in God's holy peace.

--Joseph T. Snyder

## Lilija Bowling

Lilija will begin its bowling league on Sunday, January 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in bowling with Lilija should call Frank Zalar at (440) 943-3844 no later than Dec. 15.

## Joke

What do elves learn in school?  
The elf-abet.

## Lemont Annual Ski Trip

Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont, Illinois is having their annual Ski Trip to Mt. La Crosse, Wis. departing the center on Friday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. They leave Mt. La Crosse on Sunday, Jan. 14 at 5 p.m.

Skiers and guests will stay at the Radisson Hotel La Crosse in deluxe guestrooms

for 2 nights. Included are two-day lift tickets and two-day breakfast buffet, two day grill lunch and Saturday dinner buffet at the Radison.

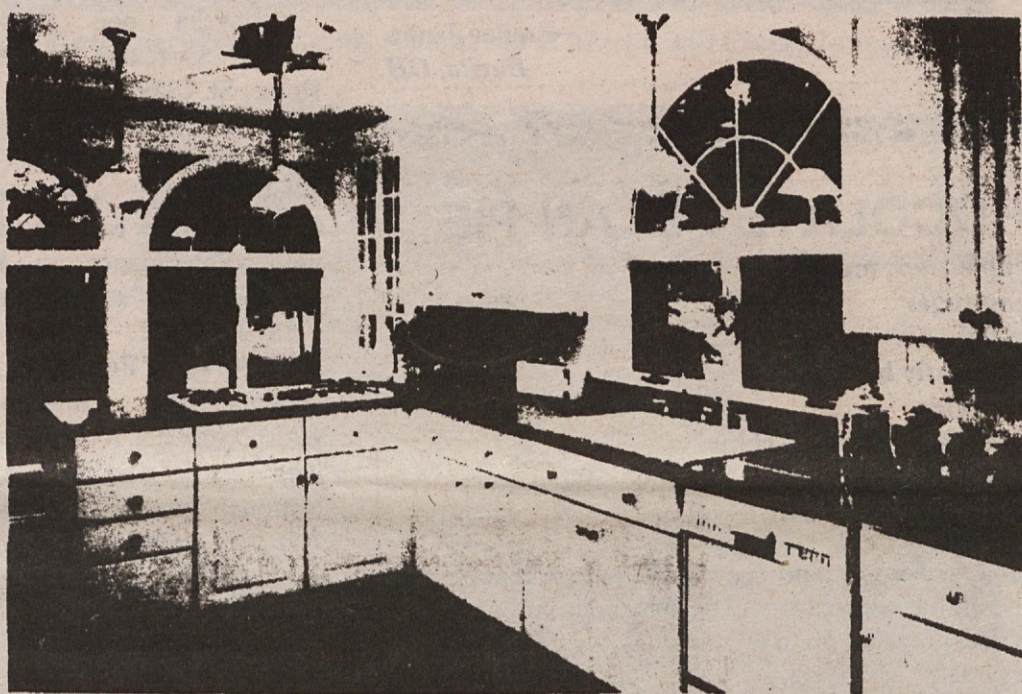
Single occupancy \$469. Double: \$299.

Contact: Rob Hozjan or Rob Zizek 708-656-1826 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or p i v O@yahoo.com

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Somrak Kitchens

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## Slovenian Homes Name Honorees

CLEVELAND, OH -- The Federation of Slovenian National Homes has announced its 2006 man and woman of the year and persons of the year for eight Northeast Ohio Slovenian homes. They will be honored at a banquet on March 24.

Robert J. Dolgan is the man of the year while the woman of the year is Geraldine Trebets. Both

Dolgan and Trebets reside in Willoughby Hills.

Individual home persons of the year are Stanley Baucher, Fairport; Joseph Gabrosek and Edward Sega, Barberton; Philip Hrvatin, West Park; Charles T. Ipavec, St. Clair; Adolph Kocin, Holmes Avenue; Frank J. Korelec, Recher; Anthony J. Peskar, East 80<sup>th</sup> Street, and Richard J. Zele, Waterloo.

## Raisin Pudding Cake

One pkg. yellow cake mix  
One pkg. instant lemon pudding  
4 eggs whole  
One cup sour cream  
1/3 cup oil  
1 cup raisins light or dark

Mix well and bake in 350° oven for one hour.  
Tube or loaf pan.

--Emilee Jenko  
Euclid, OH

## CHOCOLATE PECAN PIE

2/3 cup butter, melted  
2/3 cup sugar  
1 cup light corn syrup  
4 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 - 6 oz. pkg. chocolate chips  
1 cup pecan pieces  
9 inch unbaked pie shell

Mix together butter and sugar. Add syrup, then stir in eggs. Add vanilla, chocolate, and pecans. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 375 degrees for 50 to 60 minutes.  
Serves 6 to 8.

--M.D.D.

## BUTTER BALLS

Madeline says this is a delicious Christmas cookie and she has made many of them throughout the years.

1/2 lb. butter  
4 egg yolks  
2 3/4 cups flour  
3/4 cup powdered sugar

Cream butter, add yolks, one at a time. Add sugar and flour. Put in ice box (refrigerator) overnight.

Form into small balls. Flatten between your palms. Roll in unbeaten egg whites and then in chopped nuts which have been dredged in powdered sugar. Bake on greased tins 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until golden brown.

Our Favorite Recipes  
--American Slovene Club

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## Coming Events

Saturday, Dec. 16

Glasbena Matica Christmas Concert at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland at 7 p.m. Tickets \$12 adults, \$6 for children 12 and under. For tickets call (440) 449-5643 or visit Polka Hall of Fame on E. 222 St., Euclid.

Saturday, Jan. 6

Cleveland Slovenian Ski Club bus trip to Holiday Valley, NY. Further information call (216) 280-0617 or (440) 585-4501.

Sunday, Jan. 21

St. Mary's (Coll.) Slovenian School annual lunch featuring pork and chicken, beginning at 11 a.m. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children. Take-outs available.

Saturday, Jan. 27

Pristavska noč (Veseli Godci), Slovenian National Home, St. Clair.

Feb. 2, 3, 4

SlovenSKI weekend in Windham, NY with giant slalom friendly race on Sat., with dinner/dance in the evening. Call John Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Immaculate Conception parish, Superior Ave., Cleveland, Social at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Feb. 17 - 24

Slovenian Ski Trip to Val Gardena, Italy. Call John Kamin 718 424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 25

St. Vitus Slovenian School annual benefit dinner between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 25

City Music Cleveland Concert at St. Vitus Church.

Sun., March 18 - March 25

Slovenian Ski Trip to Steamboat, Colorado. For info call John Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Saturday, March 24

Federation of Slovenian National Homes Man & Woman of Year at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Sunday, April 1

City Music Cleveland Concert at St. Vitus Church.

Saturday, April 28

Korotan Concert, Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland.

## Euclid Fish Fries

The Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio is serving fish fries and other meals every Friday.

What Christmas Carol is a favorite of parents?  
Silent Night.

Why does Santa have 3 gardens?  
So he can ho, ho, ho.



## Book Review

## The Yankovic Saga

The life of polka musician Frank Yankovic is told in the book "America's Polka King - the Real Story of Frankie Yankovic and his music," by Bob Dolgan.

If you grew up listening to the music of Frank Yankovic or saw him perform on stage, or are a polka enthusiast, you will enjoy this paperback book. Greater Clevelanders will recognize the hundreds of names that Dolgan mentions in this well-researched chronicle. Some of the world's greatest polka musicians grew up in the Collinwood area of Cleveland. And most of them had some connection with Yankovic, either playing in his band or they were influenced to some degree by the "polka king."

Dolgan emphasizes throughout the book that Yankovic was not a "great" musician, but was a great showman. He had a nice voice, but his pronunciation was atrocious. When he performed, people paid attention and had a good time which is the purpose of polka music. Watching Yankovic and his musicians jump around the stage was a lot of fun. Previously, polka musicians sat in front of the audience. Other polka musicians may have been more talented than

Yankovic, but his ability to entertain was unsurpassed.

Dolgan's book points out the strenuous lifestyle of Yankovic, his spending over 300 days a year on the road doing "one nighters," moving from town to town on an old bus, yet demanding and getting top dollar each place he went. Far-flung audiences could not get enough of the polka music coming from the Yankovic ensembles.

Yankovic made it to the top, but during the climb he met tragedy, sorrow, and pain. Yet Yankovic persevered, bringing his own style of music into listeners hearts. There is gossip, there are facts, there are interesting anecdotes in this entertaining book.

The paperback starts off like a John Grisham novel in the first chapter when the author goes to the Slovene Home for the Aged to interview banjo virtuoso Georgie Cook who was with "Yankee" during the recordings of "Just Because," and "Blue Skirt Waltz," the only million record sellers Yankovic had.

The polka king is dead, but his music will live a long time as the younger generations continues in the great showman's footsteps.

Jim Debeyer

Mario's  
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Saturdays - 3 to 5 p.m.



# Bishop Pirih Visits San Francisco

The Slovenian community in San Francisco Bay Area celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reopening of the Church of the Nativity of Our Lord on November 12<sup>th</sup>. We were very fortunate and honored to have as special guests for this occasion Bishop Pirih of Koper and Msgr. Franci Petric, the editor of *Druzina*, from the Ljubljana Archdiocese.

Bishop Pirih is well known in our community. He first visited here in 1989. Only four years as Bishop, he had been given the position of the spiritual care of all Slovenians around the world. He returned in 1996 to meet with then Archbishop William Levada, now Cardinal and Prefect for the Congregation of the Faith, who assured him that the closed Nativity church would reopen that year – on Christmas Day – combining the Slovenian, Croatian, and Polish worshippers. The parish remains the religious and social center for the Slovenian community.

The Sunday festivities included a High Mass celebrated by Bishop Pirih, with Msgr. Franci Petric and the present Polish Pastor, Fr. Julian Kaczowka, S. Ch. It was accompanied by beautiful singing of the Slovenian church choir under the direction of the longtime organist Ales Simenc. A highlight of the ceremony was the baptism of the new parishioner Frank Junkar, son of Martin and Chuan Junkar. Martin is a very active member of the parish and the choir, and the Slovenian community in general. During this ceremony, Bishop Pirih commented that this was a very good sign for the future of the parish. If it will have young ones it will be able to continue. A summary translation of the Bishop's sermon in Slovenian is as follows:

*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. My warmest greetings to all of you who are gathered here today to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reopening of this church, and to all Slovenian and Croatian members of this parish who were unable to join us today, and to your current pastor, Father Julian. An especial welcome to Frank Junkar, who was baptized today and thus, became the newest member of your parish and family in Christ.*

*I would like to thank you for your dedicated hard work during the past 10 years. For your faith in the mission of this parish, for your endurance, cooperation and mutual understanding of what it takes to make it flourish.*

*Allow me to say a few words about the meaning of "parish.." The parish unites parishioners in three ways: as human children, as children of faith, and as children of God.*

*The parish united us as human children, as people. We are social beings and fully complete ourselves in social groups. As parishioners, we socialize as residents of a certain locality, as members of a certain social group, and as the faithful speaking the same language.*

*The parish unites us as believers and members of the Catholic Church. For Islamic and Jewish believers, it is known that they tend to observe their faith chiefly in private, at home, within the family. Although we Christians also observe our faith in private, we especially observe it as a parish community, in a parish church. There are many and various kinds of members of the parish. To be viable members of this mysterious body of Christ each one of us must be responsible to the best of our ability for its spiritual and material welfare.*

*Christ lives in all of us, is the same in all of us, be it in Slovenia or here in San Francisco. He is forever the same. We ask that He will continue to have us all in his care. We pray that He will continue to be the power, the wisdom, the beauty and light of this parish. May He always be in your lives.*

After the Mass, parishioners went to the Slovenian Hall, for a warm welcome for our guests. Both Bishop Pirih and Msgr. Petric enjoyed mixing with all those present, giving time to each, and for each a special word of comfort and thanks.

A wonderful array of foods was prepared and donated by Peter Pecavar, owner of the Fountain Café and Grill in San Francisco. The ladies of the parish, as usual, provided many homemade delicacies.

After the meal, the Bishop addressed the gathering and encouraged everyone to remain strong and keep working for our Slovenian community and to share the enthusiasm with the next generations so that as each of us gets older, there will be a replacement. That will ensure that such wonderful celebrations will continue.

We are very grateful to Bishop Pirih and Msgr. Petric for all they have done for the Slovenian community in the San Francisco area.

--Tony Ravnik



Baptism of new parishioner Frank Junkar, son of Martin and Chuan Junkar.



The dedicated Ravnik family of Nativity of Our Lord parish introduces Bishop Pirih.

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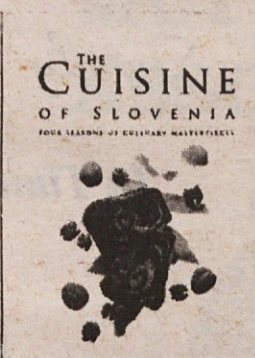
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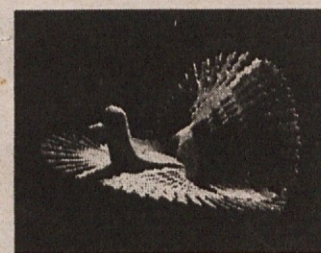
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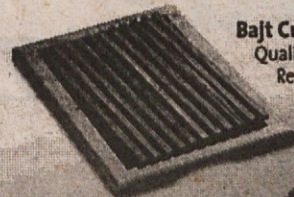
**The Cuisine of Slovenia: Four Seasons of Culinary Masterpieces**  
A stunning new hardcover cookbook showcases Slovenia's food and culture in the menus and recipes of a Master Chef. Artistic and elegant – for the kitchen or coffee table.



**Country Pendulum Clock**  
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## Holmes Avenue Pensioners (HAPpy) News ☺

Very nice crowd gathered for Nov. 8 meeting. Charles Penko also brought a guest, Joseph Kozlevcar (no relation to John). Hope he had a nice afternoon! We'll put him on the W-list...

A moment of silent prayer was offered for our departed members Louis Gliha, and Louise Jagodnik, who died this past month. May they rest in God's peace. Deepest sympathy to the families on their loss.

Our ever-cheerful Sunshine Lady, Ann Eichler, sent cards to Marion Bocian, Mildred Budnar, Ann Cooke, Vida Hoffert, Pauline Krall, Pat Tomsick, and Eleanor Zernic. Heard that Annie herself was under the weather; should have sent herself a card, too. Glad you are feeling fine now, Ann!

Nominating Committee Chairman Hank Pugel presented a slate of officers for the 2007-08 term. Previous board was asked to run again, and all accepted the task. There were no opponents, so secretary Jennie Tuma cast an unanimous vote to re-elect the entire board, amid loud applause. Hey, we know a good thing when we see it: don't mess with success! The HAP officers are: John Kozlevchar, President; Matt Zabukovec, Vice-President; Jennie Tuma, Secretary; Bill Zabukovec, Treasurer; Ann Beckert, Asst. Treasurer; and Fran Kajfez, Sergeant-At-Arms. Hip-hip-

hooray!!!!

Congratulations to Al Pestotnik, who was named "Life Time Achiever" by Polka Hall of Fame. He was among various honorees from surrounding area, and elsewhere, being honored at the big

Thanksgiving Polka Party, presented by Tony Petkovsek at the Marriott Hotel downtown. 'TP', as he is affectionately called by his many friends, is truly a big promoter of all things Slovenian, not just polka music. Congratulations to him for 45 yrs of broadcasting; and a big hand to ALL the honorees!

Warm Thank-you to Myra Jerkic, and helper-of-the-month Betty Lovsin, for conducting another fine 50/50 raffle. The club gets half; and lots of smiling winners share the rest. A win-win situation, any way you look... Many thanks also to Ruth and Ed Morel in the kitchen; and Ruth and Frank Korelec at the bar, for keeping us "well-fed and watered".

Pastry "chefs" did themselves proud this month! There were goodies galore.... THANK YOU!

Fran Kajfez was helping her daughter move this month. Only a mother can understand... Helen Kozlevchar reported in her stead: 197 in attendance, 133 honorary, and 20 on waiting list. Matt Kajfez collected \$7.50; very nice! Lobster

for lunch coming up? I wish....

Oglebay trip is all systems go; hope the weather stays decent,,, Windsor trip was grrrrreat, Thanks, Fran and Helen, for a great trip.

Our Christmas buffet December 13 is all set. Doors open at 12 noon; dinner at 1 pm. Tray runners are needed, to help our frailer members with their food, same as last year. Cut-off for tickets is December 6; cook Linda Plecnik needs final count by then. Al Battistelli will play for our listening and dancing pleasure from 2 - 4 pm.

"Happy Birthday" was sung to 10 members; and "Happy Anniversary" to Theresa and Ed Petric, 52 yrs; and Lillian and Henry Pugel, 58 yrs. Many more happy, healthy years to all!

Mark your calendars : guest speaker at our January 10, 2007 meeting is renowned, now retired Plain Dealer sports columnist Bob Dolgan. He also wrote several books; the latest about life and loves of Frankie Yankovic. Should be very interesting...

Best wishes for a truly Blessed, Joyful Christmas, and a Healthy, Happy New Year 2007 to all! ( and to all a good night...)

Baba Lou.



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## 'Illogical' rules make Slovenians feel like Europe's second-class citizens

Tiny Slovenia, the former Yugoslav state, joins the eurozone and the rest of Europe quakes. It might seem an unlikely scenario, but from a Slovenian workers' perspective it appears to be true.

In a few weeks Slovenia will become the 13<sup>th</sup> member of the eurozone. But members of the currency block, including Germany and Austria, will maintain restrictions on labor entering from the small state on the European Union's southeastern fringes that has a population of just 2 million.

It is as if an unemployed worker from Arizona were unable to seek employment in California.

"Do we have one EU? Or an EU with a second-class level of members," asks Marjan Kramar, chief executive of NLB, Slovenia's largest finance house. Others are equally indignant. Mitja Gaspari, central bank governor, describes the rules as "illogical." Jean-Claude Trichet, European Central Bank president, has called for "all remaining barriers to be removed."

Unwittingly, Slovenia, where the scenery runs from Alpine landscapes to the Adriatic seaside, highlights

the holes that remain in the EU's internal market, where the principles of free movement of people, goods, services and capital are written into its founding Treaty of Rome almost 50 years ago.

"The European single market still has characteristics of national markets."

Welfare systems also vary substantially. Professor Senjur points out, and his list is easily extended into the financial services and other sections. Such barriers may be inevitable when the EU continues to have powerful national governments. But for economists, imposing labor restrictions on countries sharing a single currency is simply perverse.

Visit Ljubljana's student support office, however, and it is hard to see what all the fuss is about. The long queues are not for pamphlets on overseas employment opportunities but for food coupons. "From our experience working with students it is clear that there is no particular urge to go abroad to work," says Klemen Miklavic, a policy adviser. His work is focused on encouraging foreign students to come to Ljubljana.

Ljubljana's 60,000 students are just one example of

how Slovenia is not a good illustration of the problems of government-imposed labor market restrictions. Instead it demonstrates the natural immobility of European workers.

Joining the EU in 2004 was about symbolism and the country's arrival as a European state, says Mr. Miklavic. "That I will be able to go to work in France, that is not high on the list of benefits," he says.

It is a similar story at the Slovenian employment service in Ljubljana, where less skilled workers might go in search of jobs abroad. "Many people think about this as one of their options but in the end they start to think about family, or if they own a home, then they don't want to go," says Valerija Okorn, responsible for EU job moves.

The service does not keep statistics on numbers leaving Slovenia but Ms. Okorn says, "We don't have a problem with a brain drain; not yet."

Staying at home makes sense economically. Living standards are high, especially compared with the rest of Europe.



Only one mountain peak on the North American continent is over 20,000 feet. The southern peak of Alaska's Mount McKinley reaches 20,320 feet.

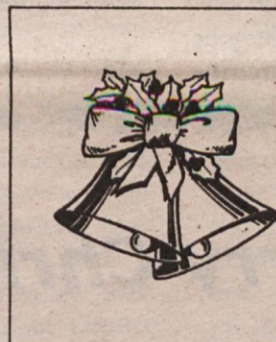
## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

To All Our Members and  
Friends and to All  
American Slovenians



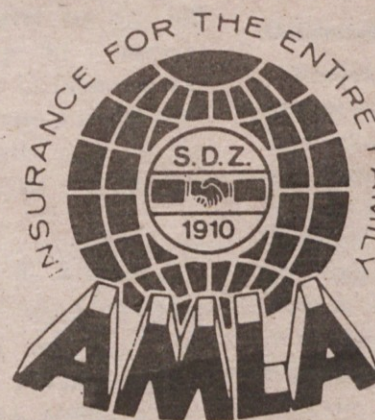
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Like elsewhere, Christmas in Slovenia is the most popular religious and family holiday. It boasts a long tradition, but quite understandably, its celebration has become quite different of late. Keeping pace with global trends, it is being increasingly dominated by shopping and spending.

December is a merry month, full of celebration, expectation and happiness that culminate in Christmas. Children are probably even merrier than others, especially Slovenian kids who have more gift-bearers than children in the rest of Europe.

They get presents from three good men: St. Nicholas, Santa Claus and Grandfather Frost. In socialist times, Grandfather Frost was the most popular persona alongside St. Nicholas, but Santa Claus is now increasingly assuming the role of chief gift-giver. In some parts of Slovenia, they still have the custom that dates back to Austro-Hungarian times – gifts being brought by baby Jesus.

One of the most enduring Christmas traditions is the Christmas tree, the decoration of which has undergone many changes. Actually, the

Christmas tree that we know today only came to Slovenia after the First World War. Before that, people in cities and the countryside used to embellish the trees with chains, flowers and wreaths made of colored paper. Added to this were apples, walnuts and hazelnuts.

In the corner of the living room, they also hung straw braids decorated with produce such as beans and corn. Today, homemade decorations are a rarity.

Decorations may be an integral part of the celebration, yet Christmas time is foremost a time of gift giving. All sorts of presents must be under the Christmas tree, often demanding numerous trips to shopping centers, which are even more jam-packed than usual. It is almost needless to say that store sales go up significantly this time of year.

Interestingly, gift giving in Slovenia has a tradition that is less than seven decades old, and even that mostly in urban areas. In the countryside, they only gave symbolic gifts such as walnuts or hazelnuts. However, giving presents ultimately is not as important as spending time with people we love.

**Dr. Marko Kerševan,**  
**sociologist of religion:**

Christmas in Slovenia is a season of customs that are an integral part of popular religious heritage and its secularized version. One of them is the traditional giving of gifts to children. The older, Catholic gift bringer, St. Nicholas, was joined in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by two more: the red, bearded Santa Claus and Father Frost, dressed in more traditional white sheep skin and covered with a dormouse hat.

Since the former came from the largely protestant Anglo-Saxon world, with the help of film and TV, and the latter was introduced by socialist organizations based on the Soviet model, there were recurring tensions between them and their sponsors. Eventually, and to the satisfaction of children who love them all, the three were reconciled and each found their place in public and in families. First comes St. Nicholas, followed around Christmas by Santa Claus and last, around New Years, comes Father Frost.

Anyway, all three – as the famous anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss established after similarly heated debates in France, have

joined roots in the old “pagan” desire of adults to give gifts to children.

**Damjan J. Ovsec,**  
**ethnologist:**

There are so many customs, beliefs, superstitions, traditions and magic related to Christmas in Slovenia that they would barely fit into a thick book. Christmas is the most popular religious and family holiday, its celebration having a long tradition.

Slovenians are still keen makers of Christmas decorations. Archaic decorations include the marking of “god’s corner,” and the hanging of green wreaths (made of evergreens, box tree, ivy and mistletoe), branches or paper wreaths from ceilings or walls. Crafted doves hang from the ceiling to represent the Holy Ghost, as well as crowns and “chandeliers” made of paper and straw.

Later, the hugely popular nativity scenes appeared. In Ljubljana and elsewhere, exhibitions of the most beautiful nativity scenes are staged each year. In the Postojna Caves, one of the most famous karst caves in the world, we have a live nativity scene accompanied by baroque music.

Not only are Christmas decorations – and naturally the Christmas tree – characteristic of Christmas in Slo-

venia, food is very important, too. Pigs are typically slaughtered before Christmas, so pork dishes are often on the table.

There are also special Christmas breads and pies, with many different fillings. One cannot miss mentioning the most typical of Slovenian dishes, potica. This nut roll can be sweet or salty, round with a hole in the middle like in the old days, or a single long roll. There are over 50 different types of classical potica, but people’s imagination has increased their number so there are currently about 110 kinds of potica.

## Korotan DVD

DVD Pozdravljena Zemlja is recommended as a precious Christmas gift. We are especially happy to offer as a Christmas bonus an English translation of the Slovenian speeches on the DVD.

This will make the commemoration more meaningful to those who would like to fully participate in the events on the DVD. We are now grateful to Pavle Borstnik for his work in translating this work.

You can order the above by calling 440-256-8993 or e-mail

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--Mira Kosem

# Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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## – Vesti iz Slovenije –

### Drobničeva razrešitev udarec za vladajočo koalicijo, ki bo pa zadevo preživela

Premier Janez Janša je naletel na precejšnjo podporo glede njegove zahteve za odhod ministra za delo, družine in socialne zadeve Janeza Drobniča, sicer člana koalicijske partnerice NSi. Potezo so podprle druge koalicijske stranke in tudi v NSi je menda bilo tako, da so bili nekateri zadovoljni ali vsaj ne ogorčeni. Nekateri so v zadevi notranjega nesoglasja spomnili na usodo prve demokratične vlade Demosa, vendar splošno mnenje je, da bo sedanja štiristrankarska Janševa vlada prebolela zadevo Drobnič in nadaljevala s sorazmerno precej uspešnim delovanjem.

### Romska problematika še ni našla prave rešitve – Napetost najhujša v Ambrusu

Proti koncu novembra je prišlo do izbruhov nemirov v Suhi krajini, sicer med Romi in lokalnimi prebivalci. Tik pred tem se je bil premier Janez Janša v Lenartu sešel s predsednikom Romske skupnosti Jožkom Horvatom Mucem. Beseda je tekla predvsem o predlaganem novem zakonu, ki naj bi reguliral položaj te skupnosti v Sloveniji. Med težavami je tudi ta, da so Romi sami notranje sperti, kar zadevo otežuje. "Tako ni vprašanje le sožitje in strpnost med Romi in Slovenci, ampak tudi med Romi samimi," je dejal Janša. Muc je pa rekel, da "moramo stopiti skupaj in živeti v sožitju."

Glede incidenta med Romi in prebivalci Ambrusa je spregovoril tudi škof dr. Anton

Stres, sicer predsednik komisije Pravičnost in mir: "Do napetosti je prišlo, ker oblast ob očitnih nezakonitih in nasilnih dejanjih ni ustrezno ukrepala. Nesprejemljivo je, da se morajo v državi, ki hoče veljati za pravno, ljudje sami organizirati in si zagotoviti varnost. To ne prispeva k ustreznemu reševanju nastalih težav. Komisija zato poziva k razumnosti in strpnemu iskanju pravičnih rešitev ..."

### Liberalno demokratska stranka se menda bliža novemu vodstvu – Zelo slabi rezultati na nedavnih lokalnih volitvah

Precej kaže, da bo LDS, največja opozicijska politična stranka v Sloveniji, dokaj kmalu dobila novo vodstvo, kajti je nezadovoljstvo do vodenja sedanjega predsednika Jelka Kacina močno, še posebej po porazu, ki so ga predstavljale nedavne lokalne volitve. Stranka se pripravlja na kongres, ki bo že januarja, ni pa še jasno, kdo med vodilnimi v LDS ima najboljšo možnost za najvišje mesto v stranki, niti ne, kakšen program naj bi zastopal.

### Slovenska vojska z vedno večjim sodelovanjem z enotami NATA

V novembru je SV sodelovala v dveh večjih mednarodnih vojaških vajah. Največja je bila na Madžarskem, v njej je sodelovalo kakih 1000 vojakov, druga pa je potekala v Beneški Sloveniji. Kmalu se bo za šest mesecev na Kosovo odpravilo kar 670 pripadnikov SV, večina iz 10. Motoriziranega bataljona.

## Iz Clevelanda in okolice

### Zadnja možnost—

Pisarna bo sprejemala božične oglase le do ponedeljka, 18. decembra, da lahko pripravimo številko za 21. dec. in jo dostavimo na pošto za dostavo pred božičem. Najboljše je, če uporabite obrazec, ki ga najdete v današnji številki.

### Krofi—

Oltarno društvo župnije Marije Vnebovzete bo imela prodajo krofov ta petek pozno popoldne in v soboto dopoldne, v župnijski dvorani. Pravi čas za božične praznike!

### Božični koncert—

Pevski zbor Glasbena Matica vabi na svoj koncert božičnih in drugih pesmi to soboto zvečer ob 7h v SND na St. Clairju. Dar je \$12.

### Slovenska astronautka—

Pred dnevi je bila v posadki NASA, ki je bila izstreljena v vesolje, tudi Suni Williams, ki ima slovenske korenine in te prav iz Euclida. O njej obširneje poroča na str. 16 prof. dr. Edi Gobec s fotografijo vred. Na Mednarodni vesoljski postaji namerava Williamsova ostati polnih šest mesecev.

### Za nove naročnike—

Še vedno poteka kampaanja za nove naročnike, ki na ta način dobijo posebno ugodnost pri enoletni naročnini (le \$15). To je tudi lepa priložnost za podaritev AD ali sorodniku ali prijatelju. Podrobnosti v angleškem delu.

### Korotanov DVD za božič—

DVD zbora Korotan "Pozdravljena zemlja" je zelo priporočljivo kot božično darilo. Še posebej, ker je zdaj pripravljen dodatek in sicer prevod govorov, ki so na DVD. S tem bo vsem razumljiv pomen komemoracije. Prevod je pripravil in ga podaril Korotanov slovenski dobrotnik g. Pavle Borštnik. Oboje lahko naročite, če pokličete 440-256-8993 ali pa z e-mailom na [marionkosem@yahoo.com](mailto:marionkosem@yahoo.com).

### Krasen uspeh—

Preteklo nedeljo je bratska organizacija AMLA priredila letno božičnico za svoje mlado članstvo, to v obeh dvoranah SND na St. Clairju. Ob sicer kar lepem vremenu se je božičnice udeležilo več kot 700 otrokov in skoro toliko odraslih. Bil je za vse lep dan.

### Dobrotniki AD—

Podprli so naš list s svojimi darovi v zadnjem času: prof. dr. Jože Velikonja, Bellevue, Wash. (\$100), Sv. Ana št. 4 AMLA (\$125), Slovenski ameriški Primorski klub (\$100), American Slovene Club (\$50), Dušan in Staniša Žitnik družina iz Clevelanda (\$100), Carl J. Debevec iz Vacaville, Kalif. (\$50), Marianne Rudolph v spomin Berthe M. Jerina (\$60), Frank Blatnik iz Sandown MH (\$65), Polde in Fani Omahen z Richmond Hts., O. (\$25). Hvala za naklonjenost!

## Novi grobovi

### Dorothy Ann Debevec

Dne 6. decembra je umrla 86 let stara Dorothy Ann Debevec s Floride, prej živeča v Euclidu, vdova po Edwardu, mati Dolores Mervar, Mary Kastelic, Ann Mihalek, Margaret Weber, Charlesa in že pok. Edwarda, 21-krat stara mati, 28-krat prastara mati, sestra Helen Shea, Richarda, Eda ter že pok. Steve-a, Elija, Williama in Charlesa. spominska sv. maša je bila 9. decembra v cerkvi sv. Barnabasa v Northfield Centru, O., pokopana je bila na Gulf Pines pokopališču v Englewoodu, Fla.

### Jeroma A. Brentar

Umrli je 84 let stari Jerome A. Brentar, mož Dore, roj. Culina, oče Carolyn "Suzi" Mušič (Boris), Mary Ann Drazina (Tomislav), že pok. Jeromea, Johna in Dore Bourgaule, 5-krat stari oče, brat Josepha, Johna, Franka in že pok. Georgea, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski, lastnik do upokojitve Europa Travel na E. 185 St. Pogreb je bil 7. decembra v oskrbi Golubovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi (hrvaški) sv. Pavla na E. 40 St. s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

### Ingrid F. Kraker

Umrli je Ingrid F. Kraker, hčerka Antonije, roj. Konig, in Jožefa Kraker (oba že pok.), rojena v Sloveniji, zanjo žalujejo Mario ter vsi njeni prijatelji in znanci. Preminula je na svojem domu dne 22. novembra, pogrebni obredi so bili na pokopališču Knollwood.



"SLOVENIJO ČUTIM" oz. "I FEEL SLOVENIA" – Urad vlade za informiranje je nedavno predstavil nov logotip in reklamno geslo Slovenije, ki bosta svetovni javnosti v prihodnje predstavljala državo. Turizem je z novima znakoma zadovoljen, stroka pa je nad njima zgrožena. Nov logotip (na fotografiji zgoraj) je kombinacija slovenskih simbolov lipovega lista, Triglava in srca. Slovenija torej odslej ne bo več "moja dežela" niti "zeleni košček v Evropi" in "idealen pobeg" ter "dežela na sončni strani Alp". Nekateri so sprejeli logotip in reklamno geslo pozitivno, spet drugi pa ne. Ti pravijo med drugim, da je znak vsebinsko prazen, reklamno geslo pa otročje. Glede logotipa je bilo na primer rečeno, da je težko verjeti, da bodo ljudje ali doma ali na tujem v novem slovenskem znaku prepoznavali omenjene tri simbole. Prej da bi ga imeli za znak kakšnega gasilskega društva. Baje je bilo uradu za informiranje poslanih več kot 400 predlogov. V državni komisiji so sodelovali tudi trije vladni ministri: Dimitrij Rupel (zunanje zadeve), Vasko Simoniti (kultura) in Andrej Vizjak (gospodarstvo), to poleg več državnih sekretarjev itd.



Generalni konzul RSlovenije v Clevelandu  
dr. ZVONE ŽIGON

## BOŽIČNO VOŠČILO

Drage rojakinje in rojaki!

Ali verjamete, da sva s soprogo Ireno med vami če več kot leto dni? Ne, tudi midva ne. A ko se ozrem nazaj in v mislih preletim vse, kar se je zgodilo od tistega 25. avgusta 2005, ko sva priletela v Cleveland, se zdi to obdobje celo še daljše.

Generalni konzulat se je najprej moral "postaviti na noge", po osmih mesecih odsotnosti (prejšnjega) generalnega konzula spet začeti z normalnim delovanjem, preseliti pisarno v nove prostore in podobno. Obiskal sem osem (od desetih) zveznih držav pod mojo pristojnostjo, organizirali smo koncert klasične glasbe, več turnej glasbenikov in drugih obiskovalcev iz Slovenije, v sodelovanju s slovensko skupnostjo pet tednov trajajoče "Slovenske dneve v Clevelandu" in 15-letnico slovenske državnosti. Naše skupno delo je bilo opaženo, saj so o njem poročali različni mediji v Sloveniji in v ZDA, delček prazničnega vzdušja pa je lahko zaznal celo predsednik Vlade RS Janez Janša med svojim obiskom v Clevelandu.

Seveda je bilo navezanih kar nekaj stikov z ameriški mi ustanovami, predvsem bi si želeli povezav, ki bi nemara lahko nekoč botrovale odprtju lektorata slovenskega jezika z lektorjem iz Slovenije.

Pred skoraj natančno letom dni sem v podobnem pismu razglabljal o decembru kot mesecu, v katerem, se zavemo pomena svetlobe, o zmagi luči nad temo in s tem povezanimi novimi začetki.

In tako kot se narava vsakič znova poda v nov življenjski cikel, tudi Slovenijo čakajo v novem letu novi izzivi. Pred 16 leti smo enotno izglasovali neodvisno ot, zato 26. decembra praznujemo Dan samostojnosti in enotnosti.\* A že s 1. januarjem 2007 bo nov začetek, tokrat na primer z uvedbo novega denarja - Evra. In 1. januarja 2008 s predsedovanjem Evropski uniji...

Ob tako pomembnih izzivih nam bo brez tako opevane in zelene enotnosti in razumevanja trda predla.

Slovenci v Clevelandu smo ob poletnih "Slovenskih dneh" sebi ter rojakom v izseljenstvu in domovini dokazali, da je sodelovanje in usklajevanje mogoče, če le imamo isti cilj ali pot. Za to in za vse, kar ste storili za Slovenijo in za ohranjanje slovenstva v preteklih letih se vam še enkrat iskreno zahvaljujem.

Obenem vam čestitam ob Dnevu samostojnosti in enotnosti Republike Slovenije, ob prihajajočih božičnih in novoletnih praznikih pa vam želim veliko zdravja in odprtosti do drugih, še posebej rojakov, s katerimi delimo skupne korenine in prihodnost slovenstva v Ameriki!

Dr. Zvone Žigon,

Generalni konzul v Clevelandu,  
s soprogo Ireno

\* Na plebiscitarno vprašanje "Ali naj Slovenija postane samostojna in neodvisna država?" je od 93,2 odstotka udeleženi volivci in volivcev okoli 90 odstotkov (88,5 odstotka vseh volivcev) odgovorilo pritrdilno. Uradna razglasitev rezultatov pa je bila 26. decembra 1990.

Trije slovenski vesoljski podvigi:

## Astronavtka Suni Williams

Bo na Mednarodni vesoljski postaji dišalo po kranjskih klobasah?

WILLOUGHBY HILLS, O.

- Po uspešnih vesoljskih poletih slovenskih ameriških astronautov dr. Ronalda Šege in dr. Jerryja Linengerja se mnogo Slovencev zdaj veseli vesoljskega poleta Suni (ali Sunite) Williams, prve ženske astronautke slovenskih korenin.

Kot je po našem poročilu o prvi slovenski ameriški ženski zvezni senatorki Amy Klobuchar pravilno opozoril slovenski urednik *Ameriške domovine* dr. Rudolph Susel, bomo od januarja 2007 dalje imeli Slovenci v ameriškem senatu kar tri odstotke vseh senatorjev, čeprav nas je v Ameriki mnogo manj (po naših računih manj kot dve desetini enega odstotka!).

Podobno sorazmerno izjemno močno kot v senatu smo zastopani od 9. decembra 2006 dalje, ko je poletela v vesolje Suni, tudi med približno sto ameriški astronauti.

Astronavtka Suni preseneča. Že zakon njenih staršev je nenavaden, saj se je mati Bonnie, Slovenka iz mesta Euclida na obrobju Clevelanda, Ohio, po izselitvi v državo Massachusetts v službi na radiološkem oddelku spoznala in poročila s priseljencem iz Indije, zdravnikom, harvardskim raziskovalcem in profesorjem dr. Deepak Pandyo.

Le kdo bi mogel slutiti, da se za deklinskim priimkom Pandya in poročnim imenom Williams skriva ameriška Slovenka?

A prav na dan sv. Miklavža smo to izvedeli iz ameriškega dnevnika *The News Herald*, kjer so predstavili tudi sestro astronautkinine mame, Marijo Ano Zalokar, poročeno Okicki. Povedala je, da bo nesla svoji nečakinji astronautki nekaj domačih dobrot, ki naj bi jih vzela s sabo v vesolje, pa si jih morda na Mednarodni vesoljski postaji privoščila letos za božične praznike. V ta namen je v Ažmanovi mesariji kupila slovenske kranjske klobase. Če jih bo astronautka res lahko vzela s sabo v vesolje, bo nekega dne na vesoljskem plovilu



zdišalo po kranjskih klobasah.

Kot lahko čitamo v slovenskem prevodu dr. Linengerjeve kot roman napete knjige *V vesolju* (Založba Družina 2002), je tudi ta formalno najvišje izobraženi ameriški vesoljec na željo pisca tega poročila leta 1997 ponesel v vesolje nekaj izrazito slovenskega, namreč slovensko zastavico kot simbol slovenske narodne identitete in sliko Marije Pomagaj, kot slovenski verski simbol. Oboje si je danes mogoče ogledati v muzeju na Brezjah. Zdaj pa čakajo na vesoljsko priznanje še slovenske kranjske klobase!

Suni se je po končani srednji šoli v manjšem mestecu Needham, neda leč od Harvardske univerze, najprej zanimala za veterinarstvo, a ko je njen brat graduiral na Mornarski akademiji v Annapolisu, Marylandu, se je odločila, da bo šla tudi sama študirat na to elitno državno akademijo.

Tam je leta 1987 dokončala študij fizike, leta 1995 pa na Tehnološkem inštitutu v Floridi dosegla še magisterij iz inženirske uprave.

Postala je poskusni pilot več vrst helikopterjev in letal, v pomorskem letalstvu pa dosegla čin "commander" (le dve stopnji nižji od kontraadmirala).

A po naključnem srečanju z legendarnim astronautom Johnom Youngom (dobrim prijateljem dr. Linengerja) si je zaželela postati astronautka. Njen

prvi poskus, da bi jo sprejeli med astronave, kot v večini drugih slučajev ni uspel. A Suni se je vztrajno izpopolnjevala in bila leta 1998 res sprejeta na astronautsko vežbanje v okviru NASA, najprej v Ameriki, potem pa (podobno kot njuna slovenska predhodnika) še v Rusiji.

V prvih dneh decembra smo jo lahko videli na televizijskih zaslonih vso nasmejeno med šestimi drugimi astronauti posadke STS-116, pripravljeno na polet na rakteoplanu Discovery iz Kennedy Space Center v Floridi v neskončnost vesolja.

Medtem ko raketoplan prevažajo gradbeni material in življenjske potrebščine na ogromno Mednarodno vesoljsko postajo, ki je trenutno okrog 60 odstotkov dograjena in odvažajo iz iste vračajoče se astronave in razno dosluženo gradivo, bo Suni edina od 9. decembra izstreljene posadke ostala na Mednarodni vesoljski postaji kar šest mesecev.

Kot plovni inženir bo sodelovala pri zamenjavi sončnih plošč za zbiranje energije in napeljava novega stalnega električnega sistema. Odgovorna pa bo tudi za sodelovanje pri znanstvenih raziskovanjih človeških organizmov v breztežnem prostoru, zlasti še analizi krvi in merjenju izgube mišic in

(DALJE na str. 17)

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## Občni zbor Slovenske pristave – Odbor SP za leto 2006/2007

CLEVELAND, O – Dne 29. oktobra smo imeli v prostorih Slovenske pristave letni občni zbor. Bilo nas je okrog sedemdeset članov. Sestanek je potekal po pravilniku naše organizacije. Poslušali smo poročila predsednika, tajnice in finančna poročila. Naši računovodje so pregledali blagajniško knjigo in so našli vse v najboljšem redu. Med letom ni bilo nobenih posebnih problemov ali pritožb, bodisi od članov ali strank. Ko smo prišli na izbor novega odbora, je bil članom predstavljen seznam odbornikov za prihodnje leto. Prisotni so soglasno potrdili novi odbor.

### Upravni odbor za leto 2006/2007

Predsednik: Milan Ribič  
Tajnica – rezervacije: Metka Zalar  
Pomožna tajnica – kamp: Ani Sterle  
Pomožni tajnik – Edi Sedmak  
Blagajnik: Marjan Perčič  
Zapisnikarica: MaryAnn Vogel  
Nadzorni odbor:  
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Janez Sršen  
Frank Zalar ml.  
Razsodišče:  
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Tom Štepec  
Frank Urankar  
Odbornik/Odbornice:  
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Tony Cerer  
Tony Cerer ml.  
Tony Champa  
Peter Domanko ml.  
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Gregor Frank  
Larry Frank  
Jože Grčar  
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Valentin Ribič  
Mike Rus  
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Kristjan Sedmak  
Vid Slemc  
Tom Štepec  
Martin Tominc  
Edi Veider  
Tony Vogel ml.  
Vinko Vrnovnik  
Frank Zalar ml.  
Elizabeta Žalik  
Tomaž Žnidaršič  
Joe Žnidaršič  
Ivan Zupančič

## Astronavtka Sun Williams

(nadaljevanje s str. 16)

redčenja in slabenja kosti ter ugotavljanju vpliva potrebnih protiukrepov (zlasti rednih telesnih vaj in prehrane) na zmanjševanju negativnih posledic dolgotrajnega bivanja v vesolju.

Ker je Suni po očetu napol Indijka, je zanimivo, da je ta drugi največji narod na svetu, ki predstavlja petino vsega človeštva, zelo ponosen na svojo *indijsko* astronavtko. Ker je po materi tudi napol Slovenka, to je članica (s prebivalci Republike Slovenije, zamejci in izseljenci vred) manj kot trimilijonskega naroda, gotovo smemo biti številčno majhni Slovenci toliko bolj ponosni na bogastvo svojih izrednih dosežkov, med njimi na *slovensko* astronavtko Suni.

Edi Gobec

## V Sloveniji že 50 tisoč ljudi ozdravelo za rakom

Ljubljana – Rak postaja mnogo manj skrb vzbujajoča bolezen, kot je bila še pred nekaj leti. V Sloveniji je za rakom preživel in ozdravelo že več kot 50.000 ljudi. To je zasluga pravočasnega, to je zgodnjega zdravstvenega pregleda in odkritja bolezni, pa tudi čedalje bolj uspešnih in učinkovitih metod zdravljenja in seveda zmeraj bolj učinkovitih zdravil.

To je ob prosvetljevalnih akcijah zoper raka, ki potekajo v Sloveniji, poudarila primarijka dr. Marija Vegelj, predsednica društva onkoloških bolnikov Slovenije.

Seveda pa je še zmeraj potrebna budnost zoper bolezni, ki se širi v vsa okolja. V Sloveniji vsako leto na novo oboli okoli 10.000 ljudi. Po podatkih centralnega registra raka je pri ženskah najpogostejši rak dojk, pri moških pa pljučni rak. Med najpogostejše sodita še kožni rak in rak debelega črevesja.

Novi glas, Trst, 16.11.2006

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in srečno Novo leto!*

**PAVLE M. LAVRISHA**

A note of thanks for all your calls during  
this past year.

Have a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!



# Trdoživa Dolenjska

Nadaljujemo z opisom slovenskih pokrajin, pripravljenim za program o Sloveniji 22. oktobra 2006 pri Mariji Vnebovzeti v Clevelandu. Danes je na vrsti predstavitev nekaj važnih značilnosti Dolenjske.

WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OH.- Kakor se Gorenjska imenuje po gorah, tako je Dolenjska povzela svoje ime po dolinah, ki skupaj z valovitimi hribi in griči prevladujejo v tej lepi slovenski pokrajini. Nahaja se v jugovzhodni Sloveniji, južno od Gorenjske in Štajerske, vzhodno od Notranjske in severno od Bele krajine in Hrvaške. Medtem ko Sava predstavlja severno in severnovzhodno mejo med Dolenjsko in delom Gorenjske in Štajerske in Kolpa teče na skrajnem jugu Dolenjske in po Beli Krajini, je zelena Krka, kjer nikdar ne manjka ribičev, čolnarjev in kajakašev, izrazilo dolenjska reka.

Statistični urad Republike Slovenije nam predstavi naslednja dolenjska mesta in njih prebivalstvo v letu 2005: Novo mesto, 61.689; Grosuplje, 34.470; Krško, 28.091; Brežice, 24.419; Litija ob Savi, 19.915; Trebnje, 18.814; Kočevje, 17.936; in Ribnica, 13.404.

Novo mesto, ki ga je leta 1385 ustanovil habsburški vojvoda Rudolf IV in se je tako skozi stoletja v nemščini po njem imenovalo Rudolfswert, je glavno mesto Dolenjske in njeno kulturno, politično in gospodarsko središče. Od leta 2006, ko je papež Benedikt

XVI ustanovil tudi novomeško škofijo in imenoval za njenega škofa msgr. Andreja Glavana, pa je tu tudi cerkveno središče Dolenjske.

Močno versko redovniško središče pa je tudi v Stični, ki se od davnega leta 1136 dalje ponaša s cistercijskim samostanom, kjer menihi živijo po pravilu "ora et labora" (moli in delaj) in so preko Stiškega rokopisa (1428) do današnjih "dnevov mladih" v Stični izredno pomemben verski in kulturni dejavnik ne le za Dolenjsko, ampak za vso Slovenijo.

Globoko v zgodovino in v svet sega tudi Ribnica, ki ji je sam cesar Friderik leta 1492 izdal dovoljenje za trženje z ribniško suho robo po vsem cesarstvu. Tako so ribniški krošnarji začeli odkrivati večji del Evrope prav v letu, ko je Kolumb začel odkrivati Ameriko.

Dolenjska slovi tudi po zgodovinskem gradu Turjaku. Pod poveljstvom grofa Andreja Turjaškega je leta 1593 na dan sv. Ahaca združena slovenska in hrvaška vojska v bitki pri Sisku odločilno premagala Turke, kar je bil eden najpomembnejših krščanskih uspehov proti terorističnim, roparskim turškim napadom. Turjak, z bližnjimi Grčaricami, pa je žal nepozabno povezan tudi s porazom slovenskih protikomunističnih sil leta 1943, ki mu je sledilo neusmiljeno pobijanje številnih poražencev, med njimi tudi ranjencev. Tako predstavlja mejnik in predokus množičnih komunističnih umorov brez vsake sodne obravnave na tisoče domobrancev in drugih žrtev po že končani vojni v letu 1945 v Kočevskem Rogu in na drugih moriščih, kjer je dosegla svoj fanatični nečloveški vrhunec komunistična revolucija na Slovenskem.

Kostanjevica na Krki, s svojimi bogatimi galerijami in "formo vivo" na prostem, staroslavni samostan Pleterje, grad in hotel Otočec; Dolenjske, Čateške in druge toplice;

(DALJE na str. 19)

## Rojaki v San Franciscu ob 10. obletnici svoje župnije

msgr. FRANCI PETRIČ  
Ljubljana



"Župnija vas povezuje kot ljudi, kot vernike in kot božje otroke." To je bilo središčno sporočilo škofa Metoda Piriha, ki je v nedeljo, 12. novembra, obiskal slovenske rojake v San Franciscu.

"V župnijo se vključujemo po različnih službah, ki jih opravljam kot zvesti verniki: katehisti, člani župnijskih svetov, pevci, pevovodje, karitativni delavci, mašni pomočniki, izredni delivci obhajila, bralci božje besede, ministranti, krasilci, cerkovniki, cerkveni uradniki, člani molitvenih skupin, gibanj... V cerkvi je vedno dovolj dela za vse."

To je dejal našim rojakom pri slovesni maši, ki jo je daroval ob navzočnosti domačega župnika Juliana Kaczowka in urednika Družine Francija Petriča, ko je nagovoril lepo število Slovencev in Hrvatov, ki redno prihajajo k nedeljski maši.

Škof Metod je z rojaki v San Franciscu posebej povezan že dolgo. Prvič jih je obiskal že leta 1989, ko je opravljal službo škofa za Slovence po svetu. Zopet je prišel sem, ko je tedanji škof Quinn zaprl to župnijo in je po njihovem prizadevanju, prošnjah Slovenske škofovske konference in prijateljev v Rimu in v ZDA dosegel, da so župnijo Gospodovega rojstva zopet odprli.

Kar dve leti in pol so naši rojaki vsako nedeljo na stopnicah pred cerkvijo molili rožni venec in ob obisku škofa Metoda pri tedanjem nadškofu Levadi, sedaj kardinalu in prefektu Kongregacije za nauk vere, dosigli, da je bila župnija in cerkev zopet odprta za Slovence in Hrvate in za Poljake. Od takrat poljski duhovniki skrbijo tudi za naše ljudi.

V zahvalo za to so ob deseti obletnici odprtja rojaki v San Franciscu povabili škofa Metoda, da pride mednje. Župnija je namreč tudi danes središče njihovega verskega, pa tudi kulturnega in narodnega življenja. Tu prirejajo različne prireditve, ki so zelo uspešne.

Nedeljsko praznovanje je zaznamovalo petje domačega slovenskega mešanega pevskega zbora pod vodstvom maestra Aleša Šimenca. Poseben pečat je dal tudi obred krsta novega župljana Franka Junkerja, sinu slovenskega očeta, ki je član te župnije. To je, kot je poudaril, tudi dobro znamenje za prihodnost župnije. Če bodo v njej mladi, bo živela še naprej.

Po slovesni maši so rojaki pripravili prisrčen sprejem v slovenskem narodnem domu na znanem "Kranjskem hribu", kjer so zopet potrdili tradicionalno slovensko gostoljubnost in družabnost. ■

## V SPOMIN IN ZAHVALO ANTONA LAVRIŠA

ki je 27. junija tekočega leta odšel v večna bivališča in še dočakal 94 let svojega življenja. Rojen je bil v Horjulu pri Ljubljani, bil interniranec na Rabu in v Trevisu. V domačem kraju je bil domobranec, odšel 8. maja 1945. leta na Koroško v begunstvo v taborišču DP Spittal a. Dragu. Tam je živel 4 leta, nato je emigriral v Združene države, kjer je bil lepo sprejet od Plestenjakove družine. V Duluthu, Minnesota je bil poročen in se naselil v Clevelandu. Z veseljem je zidal, a življenje ni bilo lahko, ko se je družina hitro množila in je večkrat prišla kaka pikra beseda. A Nebeški Oče je usmiljen, vedno rad odpusti, tako moramo tudi mi radi odpustiti, če hočemo priti v nebeško Kraljestvo.

Družina pokojnega Antona se iskreno zahvaljuje dr. Ireni Družina, ki je skrbela za njegovo zdravje in mu lajšala prehod v večnost. Hvala našemu g. župniku za obiske, ko je pet tednov preživel v Clevelandski kliniki in nekaj dni tudi v Euclid bolnici, od koder je tudi odšel v večnost. Hvala za vso pomoč ge. Francki Kristanc, ge. Mariji Štepec in g. Davidu Carlson. Hvala vsem za vse pastoralne obiske, tudi g. Davidu Woost.

Hvala Vam vsem, ki ste v tako velikem številu prišli po zadnje slovo v Želetov pogrebni zavod od druge do desete ure. Hvala vsem za vse darovano, tako za sv. maše, za misijone, za stavbni sklad Sv. Marije Vnebovzete, katere župljan je bil od prvega dne, pa tudi za cvetje, še posebej g. Jimmyju Slapniku. Hvala sorodnikom, ki so prišlo iz Kanade k pogrebnim svečanostim. Hvala pevcem Korotana, Fantom na vasi za petje in molitev v pogrebnem zavodu, kot tudi članom Pristavskih upokojencev, Društvu Najsvetejšega Imena in KSKJ Sv. Jožefa št. 169. Hvala pogrebniemu zavodu Žele za vso postrežbo in oskrbo v teh težkih dneh slovesa.

Hvala vsem, ki ste se udeležili sv. maše, tako g. župniku Kumšetu, g. Božnarju, g. Henry in g. Jerše. Hvala našemu cerkvenemu pevskeemu zboru, kot tudi Svetovidskemu, Korotanu, Fantom na vasi pod taktirko g. Janeza Sršena in g. Ferrazzolija pri orgljanju. Bilo je mogočno petje v spomin pokojnega!

Hvala Julki za pripravo kosila po pogrebu in vsem njenim pomočnicam ter tudi vsem gospodinjam za prineseno pecivo.

Verjetno smo koga pomotoma izpustili z našo zahvalno kartico, kar naj tu velja naša iskrena zahvala in Bog povrni vsem za vso dobroto v teh dneh!

Ti ljubi mož, oče, stari oče, brat, stric, boter pa počivaj v božjem miru, Ti žele:

žena: Marica

otroci: Bernard, Toni in Meti, Pavle, Marija in Mirko, Franci in Majdi, Marko in Lisa, Terezka in Joh, Martina in Luan, Peter in Joann ter 13 vnukov in 6 vnukinj in ostalo sorodstvo.

Seznajte naše  
bralce z aktivnostmi  
vaših društev

**BRALCI**  
AMERIŠKE DOMOVINE  
Priporočajte naš list!

## ZAHVALA

V 95. letu nas je zapustila draga mama,  
stara mama in prastara mama

**ANA HROVATIČ**

Roj. KUMAR

Ob smrti naše drage mame se vsem prijateljem in znancem, ki ste jo poznali in spoštovali ter se skupaj z nami poslovili od nje, zahvaljujemo se za izrečena sožalja in tolažilne besede, za darovano cvetje in za prispevke za svete maše. Zahvala tudi gospodu župniku Jožetu Božnarju za lepo opravljen cerkveni obred v cerkvi Sv. Vida, nosilcem krste in pogrebniemu zavodu Cosič - Jožetu Zevniku, za opravljene storitve.

Hčerka Jera Ana Prelog z družino  
Sin Jože Hrovatič z družino



# Trdoživa Dolenjska

(nadaljevanje s str. 18)

Grosuplje, ki ga zgodovinski viri prvič omenjajo že leta 1136 in od koder je doma sedanjí predsednik vlade Republike Slovenije Janez Janša; in grad Brežice z največjo baročno poslikano steno v knežji dvorani; ter Krško z edino slovensko-hrvaško nuklearno elektrarno – to je le nekaj mejnikov bogate in pestre dolenjske pokrajine. Vrh dolenjske in slovenske industrije pa predstavljajo velika svetovno znana farmacevtska tvrdka Krka in avtomobilske tovarne Revoz v Novem mestu.

Dolenjska je darovala Sloveniji in svetu mnogo znamenitih rojakov. Med slednjimi so: Primož Trubar (1508-1586) iz Rašice pri Velikih Laščah, ki je počenši s katekizmom in abecednikom (1550) izdal prve tiskane knjige v slovenskem jeziku, njegovo delo pa sta nadaljevala Adam Bohorič, rojen okrog 1520, verjetno v okolici Rajhenburga-Brestanice, ki je leta 1584 obelodanil prvo slovnico slovenskega jezika, in prevajalec svetega pisma Jurij Dalmatin (1547-1589), doma iz Krškega. Iz obilice zaslužnih Dolenjcev omenimo v Spodnjih Retjah pri Velikih Laščah rojenega pisatelja, dramatika in narodnega buditelja Frana Levstika (1831-1887) in Josipa Jurčiča (1844-1881) iz Muljave, ki je bil eden najbolj priljubljenih in prevajanih slovenskih pisateljev. Hrovače pri Ribnici so nam podarile duhovnika, nabožnega pisatelja, jezikoslovca in slovničarja Stanislava Škrabca (1844-1918), medtem ko je bil vodilni slovenski ameriški pisatelj Louis Adamic (1898-1951) rojen v vasi Blato v občini Grosuplje.

Med dolenjskimi velikani so še: Jakob Petelin Gallus (1550-1591), najverjetneje iz Ribnice, svetovno znani slovenski sklađatelj; Janez Vajkard Valvasor (1641-1693), utemeljitelj slovenske znanstvene književnosti in član Britanske kraljevske družbe, ki je bil sicer rojen v Ljubljani, a je deloval na Dolenjskem, največ v svojem gradu Bogenšperku pri Litiji. Zaradi vlaganja svojega denarja za raziskovanja in tisk dragocenih knjig o Sloveniji pa je povsem ubojožan umrl v Krškem.

Dolenjec je tudi največji slovenski ameriški indijanski misijonar, jezikoslovec in svetniški kandidat Friderik Baraga (1797-1868), doma iz župnije Dobrníč pri Trebnjem, ki je umrl kot prvi škof škofije Marquette v Michiganu. Preko oceana mu je med drugimi sledil Anton Škola, rojen leta 1805 v Novem mestu, prvi znani slovenski frančiškanski misijonar v Ameriki, kamor je prišel leta 1841. Med drugim se je izkazal za dobrega slikarja (narisal je več Baragovih cerkva), na njegovih misijonskih poteh pa ga je navadno spremljala tudi harmonika, kar je doslej prva nam znana omemba slovenske diatonične harmonike v Ameriki. (O poznejšem pojavu slednje v Maksimilianovi Mehiki sem pisal v minnesotski *Tribune Press* 8. novembra 1988.)

Ignacij Knoblehar (1819-1858) iz Škocjana je kjub mnogo prerani smrti postal eden najbolj plodovitih slovenskih misijonarjev na svetu: bil je apostolski provikar za misijonske pokrajine Osrednje Afrike, eden najboljših poznavalcev jezika Bari in mednarodno priznani raziskovalec v Afriki, saj je dotlej od vseh Evropejcev prodril najdalje proti izviru reke Nil.

Med številnimi slovenskimi cerkvenimi dostojanstveniki je profesor (tri leta je poučeval kanonsko pravo tudi v Moskvi in napisal več učenih knjig) in dolgoletni vatikanski diplomat, nadškof dr. Ivan Jurkovič, ki se je leta 1952 rodil v Banjaloki pri Kočevju in zdaj zaseda odgovorno mesto apostloskega nuncijsa v Kijevu, Ukrajini.

Dr. Ivan Šušteršič (1863-1925) iz Ribnice in dr. Janez Evangelist Krek (1865-1917) od Sv. Gregorja nad Sodražico sta bila poleg mlajšega Štajerca dr. Antona Korošca (1872-1940) najvažnejša slovenska politika svoje dobe. Omenili smo že bivšega oporečnika in sedanjega ministrskega predsednika Janeza Janšo iz občine Grosuplje; tu pa samo še podčrtajmo, da je bil po padcu komunistične diktature v prvih najtežjih in prelomnih letih slovenske samostojnosti predsednik slovenske vlade Lojze Peterle, sedanji evropski poslanec in podpredsednik Evropske zveze krščanskih demokratov, ki se je rodil leta 1948 v Čužnji vasi pri Trebnjem.

Dodajmo še Hinje, v bližini Kočevja, in Dvorsko vas, med Ribnico in Velikimi Laščami, rojstna kraja očeta in matere v Clevelandu leta 1885 rojenega Franka Lauscheta (Lovšeta), clevelandskega sodnika, "čudodelnega župana" mesta Cleveland, petkratnega guvernerja države Ohio in dvakrat izvoljenega zveznega senatorja, ki je ponosno govoril slovensko v dolenjskem narečju in je gotovo doslej največji politik slovenskega rodu v Ameriki, znan tudi kot Ohijski Lincoln. Tudi prva slovenska ameriška ženska zvezna senatorka Amy Klobuchar ima svoje slovenske korenine na Dolenjskem, saj je njena prababica Roza prišla v minnesotsko rudarsko naselbino Ely iz Ribnice.

Iz Sodražice je doma slikar Gregor Perušek (Harvey Gregory Prusheck, 1887-1940), ki so ga ameriški viri imenovali "najboljšega modernističnega slikarja v mestu Chicage v 1920ih"; v bližnjem Zamostecu pa se je rodil mednarodno priznani kipar, slikar in ilustrator France Gorše (1897-1986). Dolenjska je tudi dom več izredno zmožnih rezbarjev, kot sta npr. še živeča Drago Košir in Stane Jarm.

Zelo dolga je vrsta dolenjskih mučencev (Alojz Grozde, družina Mavsar, stiški pater Placid in več tisoč drugih); dolenjskih duhovnikov (med njimi sta tudi Baragova rojaka iz župnije Dobrníč, upokojeni ljubljanski nadškof dr. Alojzij Šuštar in profesor dr. Jožef Gole iz Milwaukeeja); redovnikov, glasbenikov (Slovenec v Ameriki je še posebej znan Lojze Slak), pisateljev, umetnikov in drugih pomembnih Slovencev. In kaj vse bi se dalo in moralo napisati o dolenjskih šegah in navadah, o Trdinovih bajkah, o lovu na polhe in o skrivnostnih Gorjancih, o domači obrti in razvejanem rezbarstvu ter lepo razviti industriji, od zgodnjega jeklarstva do predilnic in današnje farmacevtske in avtomobilske industrije!

Pa še nekaj! Le kdo in kako bi mogel pozabiti žlahtni dolenjski cviček?

Še na mnoga zdrava, srečna leta, naša trdoživa Dolenjska!

Edi Gobec

## Ljubljana dobi nov klinični center

Ljubljana – Minister za zdravstvo dr. Andrej Bručan je slovensko javnost obvestil, da bodo v Ljubljani zgradili nov Klinični center, namenjen t. i. sekundarnemu zdravljenju pacientov iz vse Slovenije. Sedanji Klinični center bodo spremenili v splošno bolnišnico za potrebe Ljubljane.

Nova osrednja zdravstvena ustanova sodi v okvir resolucije o razvojnih programih Slovenije, ki naj bi jo uresničevali med leti 2007-2023. *Novi list*, Trst, 16. 11. 2006

## "Zgovorni" dokumenti

### Razstava arhivskih fotografij iz povojnih begunskih taborišč

Od 14. do 24. novembra je bila v Galeriji Družina v Ljubljani odprta dokumentarna razstava fotografij o življenju Slovencev po drugi svetovni vojni v begunskih taboriščih na Koroškem od leta 1945 do 1949.

Razstavo je pripravila Rafaelova družba, njen ravnatelj Janez Rihar pa je pred odprtjem povedal nekaj zanimivosti o izboru motivov, o vsebini in sporočilnosti razstave.

Pogovor vodila Ksenija Hočevnar v Družini  
19. nov. 2006



Prek dvajset tisoč posnetkov imate shranjenih iz tega časa. Kako ste prišli do njih?

Neprecenljiv zaklad fotografij je Rafaelovi družbi pred leti prinesel sin "taboriščnega" fotografa Hočevnarja. Ko so pospravljali podstrešje, je našel veliko škatlo, polno fotografij in negativov. Ko si je ogledal razstavo o taboriščnem tisku, je pomislil, da bi ti motivi, ki jih je posnel njegov oče v taborišču v Špitalu, morda koga zanimali.

Leta 1993 smo približno štiristo teh fotografij skupaj s Studia Slovenica razstavili v še neobnovljenem Zvodu sv. Stanislava; to je bilo kmalu potem, ko je ven odkorkala jugoslovanska armada.

Razstava je bila zelo odmevna – ne le, da so mnogi na njih razpoznali sebe, svoje domače, sorodnike, odmevna je bila tudi zato, ker smo s to razstavo pomnožili vire.

saj so nam še drugi poslali svoje fotografije, ki so jih do takrat hranili doma.

Poleg tega so obiskovalci v posebno knjigo ob fotografijah napisali dragocene komentarje, identificirali so osebe, dogajanja. Pri Rafaelovi družbi smo vse fotografije skrbno shranili v digitalno obliko in na razstavi, ki jo odpiramo ob stoletnici Družbe, jih bomo pokazali dobrih petsto.

Kako je mogoče, da je v tistih časih nastalo toliko fotografij?

Zares je to fenomen. In to niso le dokumentarne fotografije, mnoge med njimi so umetniške, ki kar kličejo, da jih kdaj pripravimo za razstavo "izbor umetniških fotografij".

Še tehnična zanimivost: fotograf Hočevnar je posnel tudi okrog dvesto barvnih diapozitivov, kar samo kaže na njegovo razgledanost in sledenje novostim v fotografskem svetu, saj je barvna tehnika prišla ven šele tik pred drugo svetovno vojno.

Po kakšnem ključu ste naredili izbor za razstavo?

Da bo čimbolj pregledna, smo jo razdelili po (DALJE na str. 20)

## V BLAG SPOMIN

NAŠEGA MOŽA, ATA  
IN STAREGA ATA  
Petnajsta obletnica smrti



**MILAN DOLINAR**  
ki je umrl 14. decembra 1991

Petnajst let Te zemlja krije,  
v temnem grobu mirno spiš;  
Srce Tvoje več ne bŕje,  
bolečin več ne trpiš;  
Nam pa žalost srca trga,  
solze rosijo nam oči;  
Dom je prazen in otožen,  
odkar Te več med nami ni.

Žalujoči ostali:

Pavla — žena

Rozi, Milena — hčerki, in zeta

Miran, Gregor — sinova,

in snahi

vnuke in vnučkinji

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## Razkrita temna loška preteklost: Lovrenška grapa pri Škofji Loki

**Komisija za evidentiranje in urejanje prikritih grobišč v Škofji Loki in ministrstvo za delo, družino in socialne zadeve sta opravila izkopavanje prikritih grobišč v Lovrenški grapi pri Škofji Loki**

**ALEŠ KOCJAN**

*(Demokracija)*

12. november 2006/



**Izkop** je bil opravljen proti koncu oktobra in v začetku novembra, najdena okostja so prenesli v škofjeloško grobnico.

Član komisije Jože Peter Kranjc je povedal, da so se delavci podjetja Magelan, ki so bili pod vodstvom samostojnega arheologa Draška Josipoviča, opravili izkop, najprej lotili manjšega grobišča, ki leži ob poti iz Zminca pri Škofji Loki na Lubnik, nato pa še večjega grobišča, ki leži le nekaj metrov stran.

V manjšem so našli ostanke sedmih okostij, v večjem pa naj bi jih bilo 47. Po Kranjčevih besedah naj bi bil v večjem grobišču ostanki pobitih in nato prekopanih domobrancev, v manjšem pa ostanki sedmih nemških vojakov, ki so izvedli prekop.



**Jože Kristanc**

1919 – 2203

V blag spomin ob tretji obletnici smrti, ko si nas zapustil 18. december 2003.

*Odšel si in Te ni več nazaj.  
K sinu v večnost tudi mi  
bomo odšli, kadar Bog  
pokliče nas.*

Ob tretji žalostni obletnici smrti dragega moža, ata in starega ata, tvoji žalujoči:  
žena Francka,  
sin Mirko,  
hčerke Fanika, Jožica  
in Marjetka z družinami  
ter ostalimi sorodniki.

Kot so ugotovili na podlagi pričevanj domačinov in človeka, ki se je s pobegom rešil smrti, grobišča izvirajo iz časa po drugi svetovni vojni, ko so pripadniki Varnostno-obveščevalne službe (VOS) 30. maja 1945 iz bližnjega loškega gradu, kjer so bili po vojni zaprti domobranci in nemški vojaki, odpeljali dve skupini (eno v Lovrenško, drugo pa v Bodoveljsko grapo, ki leži ne daleč stran) in vse pobili.

Ker je bila skupina, ki je bila odpeljana v Lovrenško grapo, zakopana preblizu vodnega zajetja, je sanitarni inšpektor leto pozneje odredil prekop trupel na kraj, kjer so jih zdaj izkopali. Prekopali naj bi jih bili ujeti nemški vojaki (mogoče je tudi, da so to storili slovenski ujetniki, oblečeni v nemške uniforme), po končanem delu pa so tudi te pobili.

### Ugotovili identiteto žrtev

Da je šlo res za prekop, je mogoče razbrati iz trupel, saj ležijo drugo poleg drugega in drugo na drugem. Po besedah Draška Josipoviča še ni bilo mogoče reči, kako so bile žrtve pobite, je pa po njegovih besedah zelo verjetno, da so jih ustrelili.

"Na lobanjih ni videti, da je šlo za klasično usmrnitev s strelom v tilnik, zato domnevamo, da so bile žrtve ubite s stre-

ljanjem v telo."

Po besedah antropologinje Petre Leban Seljak, ki identificira okostja, je iz sedmih okostij nemških vojakov, ki so jih izkopali, mogoče razbrati, da je bila ena oseba stara okoli 19 let, pet naj bi jih bilo starih med 21 in 30 let, ena pa je bila najverjetneje starejša, vendar bo treba za natančnejše podatke počakati na analizo DNK.

Po besedah Jožeta Kranjca bodo identiteto pobitih poskušali ugotoviti z analizo DNK, ki je že dala rezultate pri žrtvah iz Bodoveljske grape, kjer so uspešno identificirali sedem žrtev.

Po analizi bodo lahko svojci okostja tistih, ki jih bodo z analizo prepoznali, vzeli in jih pokop-

pali v domače grobove, vsa druga okostja pa bodo prenesli v skupno škofjeloško grobnico, ki jo že pripravljajo.

S tem se bo delo komisije, ki je bila imenovana pred nekaj manj kot štirimi leti, končalo, vendar pa Kranjc upa, da bo nova občinska oblast imenovalo novo komisijo.

"Naše delo še zdaleč ni končano. Do zdaj smo na škofjeloškem območju evidentirali 22 grobišč, od katerih smo posmrtno ostanke odkopali samo v dveh primerih – v Lovrenški in lani v Bodoveljski grapi. Radi bi izkopali še vsa druga grobišča, v katerih je po najbolj optimističnih ocenah okoli 1.000 okostij," je dejal Kranjc. ■

## "Zgovorni" dokumenti

(nadaljevanje s str. 19)

dejavnostih. Na primer ob verskem življenju smo prikazali, kako so v taborišču praznovali cerkveno leto: jaslice, veliko-nočna procesija; ali podeljevanje zakramentov: obhajila, birme, poroke.

Posebna sklopa sta družinsko in družabno življenje na trgu, med barakami: pevski zbori, gledališka dejavnost, miklavževanje.

Pretrasejo motivi preživetja, kako so organizirano hodili h kotlu po hrano ...

Že od maja 1945 so Slovenci na vetrinjskem polju pod vodstvom ravnatelja Bajuka nadaljevali šolsko dejavnost – na fotografijah vidimo, kako so bili iznajdljivi, kako so vsakdanje stvari znali uporabiti kot učne pripomočke.

Zelo razvito so imeli skavtsko dejavnost, pa

učne in obrtne delavnice ... V skrajnih razmerah so se organizirali in ustvarili v taborišču vse osnovne strukture.

Med fotografijami je veliko osebnih portretov, ki so jih potrebovali za dokumente. Pretresljivi so posnetki odhajanja iz taborišča, posneti v letih 1948 in 1949 – posnetki kovčkov, roke v pozdrav ... Ko smo v teh dneh pregledovali in izbirali fotografije, sem bil ganjen, kako so ti ljudje živeli, kako so bili povezani.

**Na razstavi obiskovalci lahko na neki način tudi sodelujejo ...**

Fotografije so oštevilčene, poleg pa je knjiga, kjer lahko vpišejo komentarje ali razpoznane osebe, dogodke. Na prvi razstavi se je zgodovinar dr. Andrej Vovko našel kot dojenček v maminem

naročju, sam sem na fotografijah razpoznal svojega očeta in še veliko veliko je podobnih zgodb.

To so dragoceni komentarji, kajti čedalje manj je še živčih ljudi, ki bodo o teh ljudeh, o življenju in dogodkih znali kaj povedati. Na odprtju razstave je govoril Kajetan Gantar, ki je bil v taborišču šolar.

**Koga torej vabite na razstavo?**

Vsakega, ki ga tematika zanima, in tudi tiste, ki jih ne zanima, ker ga bo začelo zanimati (smeh). Ena sama fotografija lahko sproži polno razmišljanje ali konkretnih dejanj. Motivi so zanimivi za literate, za filmarje ... Fotografija je "zgovoren" dokument, en sam motiv lahko pove več kot sto strani v leksikonu.

**Odprtje razstave je uvod v praznovanje stoletnice Rafaelove družbe. Kakšno mesto oziroma vlogo opravlja Rafaelova družba?**

Njen zavetnik je sv. Rafael, ki ga častimo potem, ker je spremljal Tobijo daleč v tujino, ga varoval in srečno prepeljal domov. Rafaelova družba je imela ob ustanovitvi poslanstvo spremljati begunce in jim v tuji deželi pomagati pri integraciji.

Leta 1945 je bila ukinjena oziroma onemogočena, nekaj mesecev pred osamosvojitvijo leta 1991 a je bila z odlokom Slovenske škofovske konference spet obujena.

Danes ima Rafaelova družba vlogo ozaveščanja Slovencev doma, da razvijejo čut do izseljencev, ki je bila desetletja zanemarjen ali uničevan, ter pomagati izseljencem pri vračanju v domovino. ■



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