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AMERICAN HOME  
SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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## Slovenian Artists Wanted for Exhibition

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia, Zvone Žigon, is organizing an exhibition of paintings, sculpture and artistic photography by Slovenian artists living in the Greater Cleveland area. The exhibit will take place during the month of February, -- Slovenian Cultural Month.

Slovenian artists, sculptors and photographers are invited to a meeting on Monday evening, January 29 at which they will have an opportunity to present the work they intend to show. The duration and location of the exhibit will be determined by the size and quality of works presented at the meeting.

Also welcome to attend are representatives from Slovenian organizations and any other Slovenian persons who wish to contribute their organizational talents to this exhibit.

RSVP immediately, and no later than January 18 by sending an email to [Johanna.Bajc@gov.si](mailto:Johanna.Bajc@gov.si) or by calling the Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia at (216) 589-9220. All participants will be notified of the hour and location of the meeting after Jan. 18. The meeting hour and location will be determined by the responses received.

## Visiting Slovenia Offers Pleasing, Variety Vacation

Campers looking for an alternative to the South of France for their annual trip can try somewhere different as Eurocamp now offers holidays to Slovenia new for 2007.

From beaches and mountains to vineyards and castles, Slovenia has lots to offer and won't break the bank either.

With only a short flight time from the UK, it's ideal for a weekend break. And, now that the country has just joined the Euro, you can also use spending money left over from other holidays in Europe.

A must see is the capital Ljubljana with its pretty churches, old city walls and lively café society.

Why not try a glass of locally made wine or head to

the wine warehouse in Provin, just a 10 minute taxi ride north of Ljubljana — where you can choose from 800 varieties and sample a selection for free. Slovenia is actually quite famous for wine, but not much of it finds its way to Britain.

Eurocamp's new Ljubljana park is located by the Sava River, only four miles from the city. This modern well-equipped park boasts an impressive pool complex, poolside bars, restaurant, gym and even a *feng shui* area.

Three nights in May in a mobile home at Ljubljana costs £310 for two adults sharing a Deauville mobile home — accommodation only. Low cost flights are available from the UK to Ljubljana with Easyjet and Wizz.

—Phil Hrvatin

## Slovenian School Lunch

St. Mary's Slovenian School will host its annual lunch on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Mary's Parish Hall on Holmes Avenue in Collinwood. The menu will include pork and chicken. Serving will start at 11 a.m. Prices are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Take out orders are available.

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

## Pristavska Noč Banquet

Traditional Pristavska noč banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 27 in the Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland. Starting time is 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 o'clock. Entertainment by Veseli Godci.

For reservations call Elizabeth Zalik at (440) 537-1941 or Metka Zalar at (440) 943-3844.

Members and friends are invited.



On December 18, 2006 over 50 family and friends joined Kenny Yuko as he was sworn in for his second term as an Ohio State Representative. Kenny took a few minutes to talk about the successes and challenges that he faces heading into 2007.

Kenny's wife, Pam, held the bible as fellow state representative Lance Mason, left, District 8, delivered the oath of office. Kenny serves as Ohio State Representative in District 7, which covers Euclid, South Euclid, Richmond Heights, and parts of Ward 11, which is the Collinwood area of Cleveland, Ohio.

(Photo and text by PHIL HRVATIN.)

## Democracy Has Its Roots in Slovenia

### The First Democracy in Europe

The ancestors of the present day Slovenians had their own well established state called Carantania. Early and unmistakable evidence of the people occupying the territory of what became recognized as Slovenian Carantania is made in the year 611 AD by the historical Paolus Diaconus.

It is from this time that we have records of the unique ceremony centered on the Duke's Stone and the Investiture of the Duke of Carantania. It took place on the Field of Gospa Sveta (Maria Saal) near the Krn castle in Carinthia (Koroska/Kaemten) which is now part of Austria.

The ceremony was regarded as so extraordinary that it became a model for political theorists who were looking for alternative forms of government. In the sixteenth century the French political theorist Bodin examined the investiture ceremony in detail in his *Les six livres de la Republique* (1576). Thomas Jefferson

used this work when he wrote the American Declaration of Independence.

After the death of the ruling duke, council of noblemen and *kosezi* (members of lower landed nobility or freeholders) elected a new duke and in the presence of the people, granted him authority.

This took place with a festive inauguration on the Duke's Stone, which stood in the fortified courtyard of Krn Castle. After the ceremony the duke and his escort crossed the field to the cathedral of Gospa Sveta. Following the church ceremony and the blessing of the duke by the bishop, the company proceeded to the Ducal Throne — a two-seat stone throne standing not far from the church. The eastern seat is occupied by the duke who performs the first duties as the leader of his people, pronouncing judgments and rendering justice. He also bestows fiefs and privileges associated with the lands and properties.

The western seat is occupied by the Count Palatine,

the king's representative. His duty is supplementary; he resolves problems that were not concluded by the duke.

The investiture ceremony continued to be conducted in the Slovenian language long after Carantania became part of the Hapsburg Empire. The ceremony of the Duke's Stone was last performed in 1414. After that it was conducted at the Ducal Throne until the year 1615, still in the Slovenian language.

From then it was continued until 1728 in the State House in Celovec (Klagenfurt), when *institutio Slavenica* was incorporated into the Austrian Constitution.

The Duke's Stone is now held in the State Museum of Carinthia in Austria. The Ducal Throne remains in its original place, on the Field of Gospa Sveta.

The enthronement of Carantanian dukes was a sovereign act on the level of the nation and has no comparison. It is regarded by many as a milestone in the development of Western democracy.

The moment you have in your heart this extraordinary thing called love, and feel the depth, the delight, the ecstasy of it, you will discover that for you the world is transformed. —Rudy Flis

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No. 3

January 18, 2007

## My Chauffeur – Carolyn

by RUDY FLIS

I set out early this morning for Columbus, Ohio to call on five of my customers and be home tonight. My daughter Carolyn, the new grandma, asked if I would like her along to take over some of the driving chores. Practice for next week when she and her husband drive back from Texas after loading their furniture on a van that will bring their belongings back home.

One of my customers is The Columbus Dispatch. I deal with a fellow Slovenian Jim O'Block, who places orders with my company. I told him my daughter was to be my co-pilot with me in Columbus. He insisted I bring her in to the pressroom and he gave her a royal tour of the printing facilities. She enjoyed it almost as much as her lunch, which she ate just before the tour. We did Italian today, because Carolyn likes Italian or any other nationality with succulent food. She eats quite well for being our smallest daughter.

The next call was in a rough part of town, and I brought Carolyn into the lobby to sit and wait for me. The receptionist and her hit it off quite well. It was difficult to end their conversation

as it was getting late for my last call. I guess it was a break from boredom for each. Can you just imagine how boring it is spending hours in the car with your dad? I'm lucky she loves driving my car, as she did drive all the way to Columbus and all the way back this evening.

My last call I demonstrated a new piece of equipment and talked about a few other subjects pertaining to my company. I had something in my car I had to get and the receptionist asked if I needed help (I must look frail). I told her my daughter was in the car if I needed help. She said, "Bring her in and I'll give her a tour of our plant." I said, she has already had a tour of the Columbus Dispatch. "Bring her in and I'll give her a tour of a real printing plant." They have a clean, modern efficiently run plant with true craftsmen running the presses and other up to date graphics equipment.

It was a great day that started with and ended with a most relaxing car ride with chauffeur Carolyn. All I had to do was feed her, as long as it was anything but my beloved hot dogs. Can you imagine an offspring of mine not liking hot dogs?

## Slovenian euro causing price increases

After one week, many Slovenians are complaining about soaring costs

Slovenia is an enthusiastic member of the European Union, but a technically smooth entry to the euro (money system) has also been marked by anxiety and regret.

Price rises and the demise of the Slovenian tolar – a trusted symbol of the country's independence from communist Yugoslavia in 1991 – are making it hard for the people to love Europe's single currency.

Sunday morning finds Breda Kutin, like many Slovenians, sipping a cup of coffee in one of Ljubljana's many kavarna, the charming cafes for which the capital is famed. But Mrs. Kutin, the president of the Slovene Consumers' Association, is finding that her kava has a bitter taste.

"The price of this cappuccino has increased by 28 per cent over last week," she said. "This increase of prices is worrying since the change-over to the euro does not increase the revenues of citizens."

Slovenian consumers are up in arms and Mrs. Kutin says complaints are pouring in at a rate of 175 per day – representing a major consumer rebellion in the country of two million people.

Price rises are keenly felt in Slovenia where the net monthly salary is 800 euros. Many people fear more increases in the cost of living in June when a price freeze on major retailers ends and receipts stop showing prices in both the tolar and the euro.

Teja Boovi, a 22-year-old student working her way through university, says the price increases are a talking point among her friends because they have hit people's lifestyles.

"The good things in life, entertainment, movies, going out, have gone up. My student wages always seems to be going down," she said.

Slovenia's experience is not unique. Official EU polling this autumn found that 93% of euro-zone citizens "stated the euro has added to the increase of prices" in the five years after its introduction.

Price inflation has been blamed for the surveys that indicate those who find the euro "advantageous" have become a minority of 48%.

Eric Kersevan, 32, a professor of administrative law at the University of Ljubljana, admits that enthusiasm for the euro is thinning. "The euro is already established. There is no surprise, not a lot of enthusiasm or skepticism. We look at the euro pragmatically," he said.

But 20-year-old Eva Menart, drinking in Ljubljana's popular Maek kavarna, fears that Slovenia is losing more than its currency.

"It is not only about losing the tolar. The EU does not impress me," she said. "We tried so hard to be independent – now we want to be part of something bigger again. It does not make sense."

This news came from Philip J. Hrvatin.

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## 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina (johnmercina@oh.rr.com)

## SLOVENIA /SLOVENIANS ON "YouTube.com"

If you never visited above site on the internet, make it one of your 2007 resolutions to do so. Anyone can do it, including this old man. Go to "YouTube.com", type in "SLOVENIA" in the search column and be in for a big surprise. The Slovenian flag video was the first on the list. Map of Slovenia, gay (as in happy) cow parade, tourism in Ljubljana (in German language), EURO 2004, my cousins in Slovenia, Postojna Caves, "Žive jaslice v Postojnski Jami (live nativity scene in the Postojna Caves), summer in Slovenia. Piran, Maribor, Rakov Škocjan, Postojna castle, Domobranci (but only referring to the Croatians and not Slovenians), Slovenia vs Croatia (a great video)---they are all on the YouTube. For a hearty laugh, check out "Glupi Slovenci" and "Mali Kekec" as well as "Croat Fisherman" flashing Slovenians. Yours truly enjoys eating crusty bread baked in an old-fashioned Slovenian stove and "Breadmaster" filled the slot. There was even a short video of dancing at a "Silvestrovjanje na pristavi" in Madison, Ohio. Numerous videos of Tito, Partizani, Yugoslav history, Croatia and Serbia. Don't miss "Something hot and tasty" and pretend that the video represents baking of potica. When you are surfing on the "YouTube" and find an interesting site relating to Slovenia, send the info to the e-mail listed above so that the rest of us can enjoy it. How about videos of Pristava, St. Vitus, Slovenski Domobranci, Slovenian taverns, Slovenian homes, picnics, Korotan, Fantje na Vasi, visits in Slovenia—interesting "stuff". Use your God-given imagination and have a laugh as presented on "YouTube.com" and share the fun.

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# This and that from Emilee

by EMILEE JENKO



Emilee

I received a note (unsigned) regarding a segment of my last article about Jerome Brentar, a "Croatian," not a Slovenian as I wrote. So sorry. I apologize.

Also about the La Salle Theater building. My parents were the custodians of the La Salle for many years. The owner was Paul Gusdanovic, who also owned the Ezella Theater on Superior, the Norwood Show on St. Clair, and the Yale on St. Clair. The manager was his son-in-law, Francis X. Busher. I was 3-years-old when I toddled around the theater. My childhood friend was Ethel Rallis, whose uncle Frank Panages was the proprietor of the Sweet Shop next door to the movie theater. He made delicious candy (chocolate). I remember Jerry Bohinc of the appliance store on the corner of Kildeer and East 185<sup>th</sup> Street, before George Knaus established his Real Estate business there. I remained in the area for 30 years. In fact when I was 14, I sold movie tickets at the La Salle on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. I loved it. My memories are very precious to me.

Get well wishes to Anne Kern, Tony and Albina Pozelnik, Gwen Washington, and Tony Grdina who had his appendix removed a few days after Christmas in Florida. Tony, an American Home photographer, is feeling better and is driving again. Says the weather in Fla. is beautiful.

Belated birthday wishes to Lou Shenk who was 91-years-young on Dec. 26. He is a resident of Mt. St. Joseph Nursing Home, Room 230 at 21800 Chardon Rd., Euclid, OH 44117. Congratulations to you from all your friends.

Reminders:

Annual Meeting of SNH St. Clair on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m.

Annual Meeting of Recher Avenue Slovenian Home in Euclid on Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. See you there.

Condolences to two sisters: Mary Kirshner and Dorothy Ljubi in the passing of their sister Anne Marie Rusick. Rest in peace.

A big birthday wish Feb. 10 to Bob Mills from wife, Marcie, and family, and a whole bunch of friends on St. Clair Avenue and the St. Clair Pensioners.

More birthday wishes to Diane Phillips of Cleveland Accounting Services, Ed Karnak, Rose Cimperman, Aggie Koporc, Marie Urban, Lois Ann Drobic (resident of Cape Coral, Fla.), Fr. Jersey, Alenka Banco, and yours

Polka Time with his friend Gene Kovack. We met this past summer at SNPJ at the SWUA festival. Did you read the article by Dick Feagler on Jan. 14 in the Plain Dealer about Bill Azman's smokies up in space?

A few hellos to people I haven't seen or heard about for quite awhile: George Dietz, Fran and Millie Viant, Art Perko, Polka Millie, Frank and Terrie Mulec. Hope all is fine with you.

More to come next time, God willing.

My thought for today: You will find as you look back upon your life that the moments when you have really lived are the moments when you have done things in the spirit of love.

Luv ya! Til next time.

truly. But who's counting.

Thanks to all for the many Christmas cards received. I still have them displayed. They are too beautiful to cast away. Bless you all for the remembrances.

Happy birthday to Lil Kryswicki from all your food bank volunteers and all your friends in the St. Clair area. Bless you.

Congratulations to Joe Avsec who celebrated another birthday. He is one of the Mass singers at the Slovenian Home for the Aged. I understand his family threw a shindig for him. It was quite a gathering. Sophie Mazi was the caterer. Joe is such a jokester. I'm sure it was a fun time.

You should make it a date to spend an hour at the SHA for Mass every Saturday at 2:30 p.m. Very inspiring to the residents and to you. You will find it very fulfilling and the singers are so good. Just sing along with them. See you there.

Just had a long distance call from Cape Coral, Florida from Gene Drobnič and her guest Danny Reiger. Weather is great and they both send their hellos.

I was a guest of Dr. Zigon and Joe Cimperman, Ward 13 Councilman at a gathering at the Ukrainian Museum Archives at 1202 Kenilworth Avenue in the Tremont Area. Mr. Andrew Fedynsky is Director of the museum. Their mission is to preserve and share Ukrainian culture and immigration experiences. Johanna Bajc, Executive Secretary to Dr. Zigon, greeted the guests.

The group was invited to see the archives and the development and the future success of the museum with a thought that the Slovenians should do the same thing.

Federation of Slovenian National Homes banquet is on Saturday, March 24. Congratulations to all honorees. My personal congratulations to Joe Gabrosek of Barberton since I watch him on ECTV Time Warner

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## Benefit Dinner Served in St. Vitus Auditorium

Christmas has come and gone but the start of a new year does not lessen the need to help others.

A benefit dinner will be held on Sunday, Jan. 21 in St. Vitus Parish Auditorium, 6111 Lausche Avenue, Cleveland from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Ignatius High School Marching Band and Holy Family Home along with St. Vitus Parish are the sponsors of this event. The benefit dinner is the first of many planned events to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee (75<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary) of the completion and dedication of St. Vitus Church.

The benefit dinner will consist of boneless breaded chicken, roast beef, home style Slovenian soup, potatoes, home style Slovenian salad, a side dish, rolls and butter, and home made pastry. Cost is \$12 (adult) and \$6 (child 12 years old or younger). Both sit-down and take-out dinners will be available. The St. Ignatius High School Jazz Combo will provide entertainment.

Tickets may be purchased from Kathy Tomick, president, Band Boosters (440) 526-0769, Peggy Rossi Hasel, director of marketing, Holy Family (440) 6043, or Stane Kuhar, St. Vitus parish finance director (216) 361-1444. Net proceeds are to be shared by the marching band and Holy Family Home.

Holy Family Home, formerly known as Holy Family Cancer Home, is located at 6707 State Road in Parma, Ohio. While the facility changed its name and opened its doors to all terminally ill patients, the mission remains the same. For 50 years patients have come to Holy Family to find peace and comfort during the final stages of their illness.

Holy Family is run by St. Augustine Manor, part of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland. Holy Family still operates with private donations and receives no money from Catholic Charities or the Diocese.

## Newspaper Schedule

The American Home will continue to be printed three times a week in February, March and April.

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

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

In April the American Home will be printed on April 5, 12 and 19.

## Membership Certificate Holders Annual Meeting

### Slovenian Society Home

20713 Recher Avenue  
Euclid, OH 44119

**Sunday, February 11, 2007  
2:00 p.m.**

We invite all certificate holders and Lodge and Club representatives to attend

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# Mlakar Walks Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

Well, Ray is back. Slow, but surely the flu bug is leaving, thanks to the good medication that the doctor prescribed. If I know him, he is still waiting for my call to say, "Go ahead and book me for the hospital to have the water pumped out of my lungs," but he will have to wait a while for that call.

I did get a few calls from my readers saying how lucky I was after they read my last column in which I revealed that I got my choo-choo train for Christmas. Yes, without a doubt, God has blessed me with new friends I found in Stan and Denise Krulc from Kirtland, Ohio for finding me and bringing me and Happy Harry arms full of gifts. God has certainly looked out for us and also proves that believing in Santa is more than half the battle.

Speaking of the choo-choo train and Harry, just last week when I let Harry out to check out the back "forty," when he came in, he stood on the landing looking down the staircase into the basement and the recreation room and he spotted the choo-choo train in front of the fireplace. He stood there barking at it, hoping that his woofing would get the train going again. I sat on the steps and talked to him, sometimes I talk to him in Slovenian and sometimes in American. I said, "Harry if you want me to carry you downstairs to watch the choo-choo train go round and round again, I'll make a deal with you. I take you down, put you in the wash tub, give you a good shampoo, and a hot air blow dry and clip some of your hairs. I'll even make you a goose liver sandwich and we will play down there for an hour after the bath."

Needless to say he scooted from my lap and ran under the bed and I hadn't seen him for two hours. For some reason he and bath water do not mix, and I am hoping that one of these days he will give in to my suggestion. He wants to see the train go around, likes to put his paws on the track to stop the choo-choo train and will walk a block for a goose liver sandwich, but not with the conditions that I have tied to it. Once again, I want to thank the Krulc's for the surprise of my life and their extreme generosity.

Last week I was able to talk to Donna Ohman by phone. She has come home from an extended stay at the hospital and am glad to say she is doing a lot better. Fortunately God has seen to it that her personal guardian



**Happy Harry**

angel, her daughter, "Connie," is right there to insure she gets plenty of "TLC." She did state that she will be going back for her third steroid injection which should put her well back on the road to a good recovery as long as she does not overdo it. The Good Lord always looks over those who honor and love him in return.

Up until now we have enjoyed a fairly mild weather and has kept our heating bills down, but the weatherman feels that is about to change, but then winter is not yet half over and so we can expect anything from here on out. Bundle up well for those flu bugs are out there and whatever you do — Do Not Shovel the snow. The good Lord brought it and you can be rest assured he will take it away, too.

Before I forget, congratulations are in order for my fellow writer Rudy Flis who became a great grandpa. I guess all good things come to those who wait patiently. Was glad to hear that the "Mother and Daughter" are doing well.

This past week I was sent a story by a woman friend of Josephine's who writes to me from time to time and I guess she must have a feeling when I am down in the dumps for without a doubt the story she sends always goes to prove that there is a God and from time to time God tries to get the message across to "Treat others as you would like to be treated." It is a heart-warming story which will tear at your heart. Without a doubt if that message could be practiced, this truly would be a peaceful world to live in. It is too lengthy to start now, but here is hoping we can get it in this paper soon.

Well come on Ray, where is this week's jokes? I even found one more marriage joke. They say that marriage is made in heaven... But so is a blizzard.

Well, here is the real joke. A Jewish grandmother (God

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bless the Jewish grandmothers), anyway she takes her favorite grandson to the beach. She puts a little hat on him and gives him a pail and shovel. Then she lies down and falls asleep. She wakes up and realizes the beach is deserted. She sees the kid had been dragged into the ocean. She is beside herself. 'Oy gevalt? Oh, woe. Somebody save my child,' she wails. The kid goes down for the third time and she looks up to heaven and says, 'Creator of the Universe, please save my grandchild,' and she promises she'll return to the righteous path and give generously to her synagogue. Sure enough the little boy is deposited on the shore. She runs up, puts her head in his chest and finds the boy is breathing. She looks around and gets this frown on her face. She points her finger to heaven. "But where is the hat he was wearing?"

With that, I'll sign off wishing the Good Lord watches over all of you and keeps you in his loving care.

## Bells of St. Mary's Movie

The classic Bing Crosby movie "Bells of St. Mary's" will be shown in St. Mary's (Coll.) school cafeteria on Saturday evening, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. This event is co-sponsored by St. Mary Court Catholic Order of Foresters and the Altar Society. Donation is \$2.

**Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.**

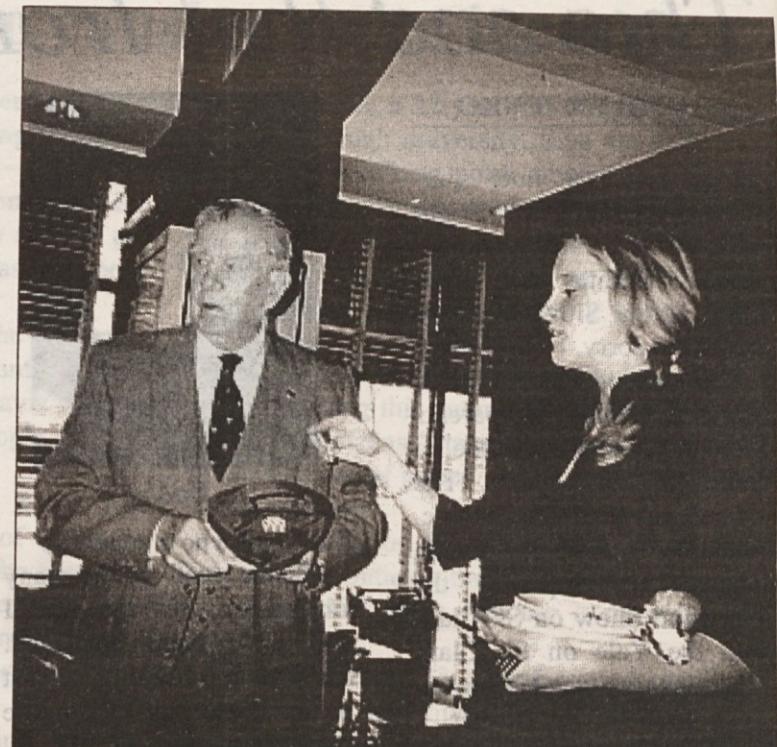
—Henry Louis Mencken

## Ohio Boychoir Auditions

Auditions are now being held for the Ohio Boychoir 2007 season for its Concert Choir and Training Choir programs. Membership is open to boys ages 9 to voice change for the concert choir and to boys ages 7 and 8 for the training choir.

Contact Music Directors Michael and Becky Seredick at 216-556-2222 for more information or visit us at [www.ohioboychoir.org](http://www.ohioboychoir.org).

The Ohio Boychoir has been training boys to develop an appreciation for music, the arts and vocal quality for over 33 years. This internationally renowned choir has performed for 5 US Presidents, has won numerous awards, and has toured several countries. Membership in the Ohio Boychoir is open to boys regardless of race, creed or economic status. No previous choral experience is necessary.



Our waitress pulls a door prize ticket from Telich's cap.



David W. Wray had served as Financial Vice President and Board Member of Sun Life Financial (left). Ken Bodle (back row center) had served as Branch Secretary in Cleveland, and has now retired.

## Telich Mission of Thanks

Near Thanksgiving, John Telich Sr., CLU, hosted a luncheon for key employees of Sun Life Financial in Wellesley Hills, MA. The invited guests were representatives of Sun Life who have given and continue to give exemplary service in underwriting, premium service, proposal production, loan calculations, and status generation.

Telich wished to "touch base" and personally meet this group.

Telich has 57 years of service and is now within 10 years of his father Michael's

record, finalized at his death in 1988. The father, son team record of 124 years of continuous service with one company is believed to be unparalleled in the history of the Life Insurance Industry.

This one day mission was capped off by Telich giving a young doctor, who was applying for a job at the Cleveland Clinic, a ride from the airport to the facility. True PR for Cleveland.

Returning home at 12:15 a.m., Telich said to himself, "You have had a busy and fulfilling day."

## Certificate Holders

## ANNUAL MEETING

## Slovenian National Home

6417 St. Clair Avenue — Cleveland, Ohio 44103  
Eddie Kenik Room (annex) Rear Entrance

Sunday, February 4, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

We invite all Certificate Holders and Lodge representatives to attend.

--The Board of Directors

# Highlights on Beautiful Dolenjska (Lower Carniola)

We continue with our series of articles on the Regions of Slovenia. These regional highlights were prepared as one-page summaries for the "Visit Slovenia — The Regions of Slovenia Program" at St. Mary's Parish in Cleveland, Ohio, on October 22, 2006, by Prof. Edward Gobetz.

Just as Gorenjska is named after "gora," so also Dolenjska (in English Lower Carniola which is a translation from German Unterkraint) is named after "dolina." For it is the valleys, together with gently rolling hills and hillocks, that characterize the region of Dolenjska.

Lower Carniola is located in southeastern Slovenia, south of Upper Carniola and Styria, east of Notranjska and north of Bela Krajina and Croatia. While the major Slovenian river Sava separates northeastern Dolenjska from Upper Carniola and Styria and Kolpa flows on the extreme south of Lower Carniola and Bela Krajina, the green Krka River, on which one can always see people happily fishing or kayaking, belongs entirely to Lower Carniola.

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia lists the following major towns of Lower Carniola, together with their 2005 population: Novo mesto, 61,689; Grosuplje, 34,470; Krško, 28,091; Brežice, 24,419; Litija, 19,951; Trebnje, 18,814; Kočevje, 17,936; and Ribnica, 13,404.

Novo mesto which was established in 1365 by the Habsburg Duke Rudolph IV and has since then been named Rudolfswert after him in German, remains also today the main city of Dolenjska and her cultural, political and economic center, long known also for its Franciscan Monastery, Library and Gymnasium and more recently for its internationally prominent Krka pharmaceutical company and the Revoz automobile industry. Since 2006 when Pope Benedict XVI established the Diocese of Novo mesto and appointed Msgr. Andrej Glavan its first bishop, it is also the ecclesiastical center of Lower Carniola.

Another prominent religious center is Stična where, in 1139 the Cistercian monastery was established. The monks there live according to their rule "ora et labora" (pray and work). They have for centuries been a highly significant factor in Slovenia's religious and cultural life, as confirmed by such milestones as the precious Manuscripts of Stična, dated around 1428, and the well-attended Slovenian Youth Days, which have been organized at Stična in recent years.

Ribnica is another historic town to which Emperor Frederic granted the so-called "peddler permit" in 1492, allowing its craftsmen to peddle their utilitarian and artistic wooden products throughout the Empire. Thus, the "ribnichani," who have long been known for their wit, were freely "discovering" various lands of Europe since the very same year when Columbus discovered America.

Lower Carniolans also look with a mixture of pride and sadness at the castle of Turjak. It was Count Andrej of Turjak under whose capable command the joint Slovenian and Croatian armies decisively defeated the pillaging Turk armies at the Croatian city of Sisak in 1593. This was one of the most significant victories of Christian Europe over the invading Moslem Turks who with their unpredictable murderous and plundering raids terrorized Croatia, Slovenia, and a number of other Christian countries. Unfortunately, Slovenians have also a bitter memory of Turjak and nearby Grčarice where fanatical communist revolutionaries, concentrating on establishing their totalitarian power

over Slovenia, in 1943 had, with the decisive help of Fascist Italian artillery, defeated the Slovenian Chetniks and Home Guard (domobranci). Most of the surviving prisoners, even the wounded ones, were mercilessly slaughtered in total disregard of the promised amnesty. This horrible event foreshadowed the greatest tragedy in Slovenian history, the wholesale slaughter of some 14,000 Home Guard and other groups, including many civilians, without any court trials, immediately after the communist "liberation" in 1945, in the murdering spree at Kočevski Rog and scores of other locations where actual or potential Slovenian opponents of the Yugoslav communist totalitarian rule were mercilessly eliminated.

Kostanjevica on the Krka River, with its exceptionally rich art galleries, as well as the "forma viva" permanent wooden sculpture display outside the castle; the ancient monastery of Pleterje; the historic island castle Otočec; Dolenjske and Čateške Toplice spas; Grosuplje, first mentioned in historic sources in 1136 (and also the hometown of Janez Janša, once an imprisoned dissident and now prime minister of Slovenia), the magnificent castle of Brežice, with its Knights Hall and baroque-painted walls; and Krško, with its atomic energy power plant — these are but a few milestones of the historically rich and highly diverse region of Lower Carniola.

This beautiful region of tiny Slovenia also gave Slovenia and the world many prominent individuals. We can here list but a few of them: Primož Trubar (1508-1586), from Rašica near Velike Lašče, who published in Slovenian language several books, beginning with *Catechism* and *Abecedarium* in 1550, in a period when Latin and German were favored; Jacobus Petelin Gallus (1550-1591), from Ribnica, an internationally prominent composer; Janez Vajkard Valvasor (1641-1693) who, while born in Ljubljana, spent much of his life in his castle near Litija in Lower Carniola where he worked on his many research projects and a number of prominent publications and was elected a member of the prestigious British Royal Society in 1687 "for his contributions to the world of knowledge"; Frederic Baraga (1797-1868), from Dobrič, Trebnje, who became a prominent missionary, author of many books in Indian and other languages, as well as the first bishop of Marquette, Michigan; and Anton Skola, born in 1805 in Novo mesto, who became a Franciscan missionary in America, known also for his paintings and drawings of missionary churches and for playing the Slovenian melodies on his accordion which often accompanied him on his missionary trips.

And the list continues with Ignacij Knoblehar (1819-1858), from Škocjan, who was a leading missionary in Africa, an authority on the Bari language, and a prominent, internationally quoted explorer of the Upper Nile river where he came closer to its source than any other explorer of that period; Dr. Janez Evangelist Krek (1865-1917), born at St. Gregor, Sodražica, a priest, sociologist and prolific writer, an indefatigable leader of the Christian cooperative movement, a member of the Austrian parliament, and Slovenia's foremost politician in the decades preceding the First World War. Let us here also mention the influential Slovenian American writer Louis Adamic (1899-1951), an immigrant from the village of Blato; the internationally famous ballet dancer, choreographer and professor Pino Mlakar (1907-2006) from Novo mesto; and the fact the parents of the leading Slovenian politician in America, the "miracle working" mayor of Cleveland, five-term Ohio governor and two-term U.S. senator, Ohio's Lincoln Frank J Lausche, were natives of villages near Hinje and Ribnica. Frank, who was born in Cleveland in 1885, spoke fluent Slovenian in the characteristic Lower Carniolan Ribnica dialect.

And, yes, Harvey Gregory Prusheck (1887-1940), whom American sources called the best of "the modernistic painters of Chicago in the 1920s"; and sculptor and painter France Gorše (1897-1986) whose impressive art is deservedly admired in America, Canada, the Vatican, Slovenia and Austria, were both born in the Sodražica area of Lower

Carniola.

And how could we ever forget that famous Lower Carniolan wine, called "dolenjski cviček?" (dolenski tsveecheck)

—Edward Gobetz

## Thought for the Day

In case we find ourselves starting to believe all the anti-American sentiment and negativity, we should remember England Prime Minister Tony Blair's words.

When asked by one of his Parliament members why he believes so much in America, he said,

"A simple way to take measure of a country is to look at how many people want in.. And how many want out." Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you:

1. — Jesus Christ.
  2. — The American G.I.
- One died for your soul, the other for your freedom.

Thanks to Ivan Hauptman for this thought.

## Old Quiz, New Quiz

by James V. Debevec II

**OLD QUIZ:** What is supposed to happen on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2029?

**ANSWER:** Asteroid 2004 MN4 is expected to pass very near earth. For a while scientists thought it would hit earth. The asteroid is about 320 meters wide, big enough to punch through earth's atmosphere, devastating a region the size of say, Texas, or causing widespread tsunamis if it hit an ocean. But it will be an eye-popping close encounter.

Thanks to Stan Zakelj of Broadview Heights, Ohio and Anne Dular Lawson of Kentucky who e-mailed the correct answer.

**NEW QUIZ:** What Slovenian athlete had a part in the Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis movie, "Sailor Beware?"

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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## 6 Italy Sees Great Harmony with Slovenia

LJUBLJANA, 10 Jan. – Italy's foreign minister, Massimo D'Alema, said on Wednesday, - the second day of a visit to neighboring Slovenia, that the border region between the two countries was the scene of bloody battles in both world wars and tensions in the cold war era. "Thus, seeking historical truth is a basis for our common future," D'Alema said.

D'Alema said Slovenia will have an important role to play in that respect in 2008 when it presides over the European Union. He said Slovenia can count on Italy's support.

"Slovenia has lately achieved great successes,

therefore Italy sees it as a partner, and our common goal is expansion of the EU and NATO to the western Balkans," D'Alema said. Slovenian Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel said the Italian minority in Slovenia and Slovenians in Italy play a great role in building bridges between the two countries and "enriching our lives."

Slovenia was the only one of the former Yugoslav republics to be in the first wave of candidates for membership in the European Union. It joined in May, 2004.

A group of deputies in the Slovenian parliament presented D'Alema with a peti-

tion for the return of art works taken away by the Italian occupying forces in World War Two.

D'Alema said the relations between the two countries have intensified since the government of Romano Prodi came to power and termed his visit as "exceptional moment in our polity."

He proposed a tripartite meeting between Italian, Slovenian and Croatian presidents as an "introduction of a new era of political cooperation" between the three neighboring countries.

This news came from Philip J. Hrvatin.

## Voinovich Writes to Bush About Visa Waiver

The following is a letter to President Bush from Senator George V. Voinovich (R-OH), a member of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, asking him to work together to expand the Visa Waiver Program to include countries that are helping us fight the War on terror.:

Dear Mr. President:

On November 28, 2006, you made history as the first American President to visit Estonia. During your visit to Tallinn preceding the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Summit, you announced your intention to work with Congress to expand the Visa Waiver Program. I was very pleased to hear your thoughtful statement on the need to permit visa-free travel privileges to more of our nation's allies. I wholeheartedly agree, and look forward to working with your Administration to accomplish this goal.

Last December, I introduced legislation to expand the Visa Waiver Program, *The Secure Travel and Counter-terrorism Partnership Act of 2006*, along with Senators Lugar, Akaka, Mikulski, and Santorum. I believe this legislation will accomplish your goals, and is closely aligned with the policy initiative outlined by Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff. I hope to have your support when I reintroduce this legislation later this month.

Through my work on both the Senate Foreign Relations and the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committees, I have studied the Visa Waiver Program closely and

believe the United States can enhance bilateral cooperation on critical counter-terrorism and information sharing initiatives, enhance long-term economic competitiveness, and strengthen relationships with key allies by extending visa-free travel privileges to foreign countries who are supportive of our efforts in the fight against terrorism. I feel strongly that this legislation will be beneficial in advancing immediate and long-term U.S. national security interests...

These countries have a unique understanding of what it means to reconcile a difficult past and fight for a better future. They are naturally suited to help the people in Iraq and Afghanistan as they struggle toward democracy. Yet, despite their commitments to the principles of freedom and democracy, these countries are still paying a price that our other international friends do not pay. For example, citizens of Portugal, the United Kingdom, and Spain can travel easily to the U.S., while citizens of Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia are still given second-class treatment at our consular offices and airports.

I believe my legislation presents an opportunity to change course on this issue and send a profound and lasting message to our allies. We can expand the Visa Waiver Program in a way that will promote our own national security, interests and improve control of our borders.

--George V. Voinovich  
United States Senator

## Dates Changed for City Music at St. Vitus

City Music Cleveland, a professional 32 piece chamber orchestra residing and performing in Northeast Ohio for the past three years, is tentatively planning four concert performances in historic St. Vitus Church for 2007-2008. The previous dates of Feb., April, October, and December have been revised to October and December, 2007, and February and April 2008. The performances by City Music Cleveland are without charge, with free-will offering allowed. Its mission is to present quality performances of classical repertoire through eliminating twin barriers of high ticket prices and unfamiliar venue.

The performances in St. Vitus Church will be the second urban setting by City Music Cleveland and the first in the St. Clair neighborhood. Funding has been secured by the generosity of St. Joseph #169 Foundation, KSKJ Cultural Grant, KSKJ Home Office Grant, The Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation, City of Cleveland, Ward 13, Councilman Joseph M. Cimperman, and the Gund Foundation.

James Gaffigan is the music director of City Music Cleveland.

Two local private foundations presented checks to St. Vitus Parish to continue work toward upgrading the interior of the parish auditorium kitchen. The Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation presented a check for \$4,000 and The Richman Brothers Foundations provided a check for \$5,000 toward purchase of items such as replacement of current third oven (50 years old), stainless steel sinks, ice maker, soup maker and other similar items.

The upgrading of these items will help parish benefit dinners and social events as well as assist the breakfast and lunch programs for St. Martin de Porres High School, a local high school leasing the parish elementary school and auditorium buildings.

Thank you to the trustees of both The Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation and The Richman Brothers Foundation for your continued support of St. Vitus Parish.

## Coming Events...

**Friday, Jan. 19**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Frank Moravcik.

**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.

**Sunday, Jan. 21**

Benefit dinner for St. Ignatius Marching Band and Holy Family Home in St. Vitus Auditorium. For tickets (\$12 adults) call Stane Kuhar at St. Vitus rectory (216) 361-1444.

**Friday, Jan. 26**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Wayne Tomsic.

**Saturday, Jan. 27**

Pristavska noč banquet (Veseli Godci orchestra), Slovenian National Home, St. Clair, beginning at 6 p.m., dinner served at 7. Reservations call (440) 537-1941 or (440) 943-3844. Members and friends invited.

**Friday, Feb. 2**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Joey Tomsick.

**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. 4, 2007**

Annual stockholders meeting of Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., starting at 1 p.m.

**Friday, Feb. 9**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Ed Rodick.

**Sunday, Feb. 11**

Judge Ted Klammer speaks in St. Vitus Auditorium after 9 a.m. Mass. Free.

**Friday, Feb. 16**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Wayne Tomsic.

**Saturday, Feb. 17**

Florida Baraga Day in Holiday, FL in church of St. Vincent de Paul, 11:30 a.m., followed by luncheon and program at Knights of Columbus Hall. Lunch reservations call (727-376-2743). Special guest: Bishop Garland from Marquette.

**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.

**Friday, Feb. 23**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Al Battistelli

**Sunday, Feb. 25**

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

**Friday, March 2**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Bob Kravos.

**Friday, March 9**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Ray Polantz.

**Friday, March 16**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Stan Mejac.

**Sun., March 18 – March 25**

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

**Friday, March 23**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Jeff Pecon.

**Saturday, March 24**

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

**Friday, March 30**

Dance from 7:30 – 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Al Battistelli.

**Tuesday, April 3**

Author Bob Dolgan talks about his book, "America's Polka King" The Real Story of Frankie Yankovic and His Music" at Euclid Public Library, E. 222 St., at 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 25**

Author James E. Odenkirk discusses his book "Frank J. Lausche: Ohio's Great Political Maverick" at 7 p.m. in Euclid Public Library.

**Saturday, April 28**

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

**Saturday, April 28**

Zarja concert "Spring Fling" at Slovenian Society Home, Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio.

These days come and go, but they say nothing, and if we do not use the gifts they bring, they carry them as silently away.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson



# 8 Earth's secrets revealed in Slovenia

Throughout the centuries Slovenian territory had been settled by various peoples who left traces of their presence. Since 1994, extensive systematic excavations have been taking place around the entire country in the framework of the National Program of Motorway Construction. In more than a decade, experts have unearthed more than 100 new archaeological sites, with remains from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages.

Before these excavations, archaeologists were convinced that Slovenian territory was archaeologically well known. It turned out that many sites brought to light the remains of a culture or a period little known, or even unknown.

#### Palaeolithic

Let us first consider the oldest period in human history, the Palaeolithic. About 200,000 years ago the first Neanderthals appeared, the first people to live on Slovenian territory. From the severe cold they sought shelter in caves that they shared with larger carnivores, above all – bears.

The cave bear was the main prey of Neanderthals. The Divje Babe cave above the Idrija River near Cerkno is a Palaeolithic site with the most cave bear bones.

More than 10 years ago a pierced bone of a young cave bear at an Ice Age site was found. It turned out to be the oldest musical instrument in the world 45,000 years old, and definitely belonging to the Neanderthal period. In the opinion of archaeologists, the flute proves that Neanderthals had a developed sense of music. The first human being was therefore capable of abstract thinking – the flute is proof of this humanity.

#### The Eneolithic

The Stone Age was succeeded by the Eneolithic, when the first metallurgists from the East came to Europe. Ore was very rare at the time. "In the fourth and third millennia BC there was a shallow lake where the Ljubljana Marshes are today, and on its fringes several pile-dwellings were erected," says Dr. Anton Velušček.

These were Eneolithic people, who carried their loads in carts, as indicated by the find of the oldest wooden wheel in the world, found in Stare Gmajne, near Vrhnika. It was radio carbon dated to 3350 to 3100 BC, the experts taking only a small piece of organic matter to determine the object's age.

The cart found in the Ljubljana Marshes was made of two of the hardest types of wood, ash and oak. It is a

two-wheeled ox-cart. But above all, the question arises of how the pile-dwellers managed to make such a cart using mainly stone tools.

Putting together a wheel is quite complicated, since they used a system of pressing panels by wedges standing opposite each other and in the form of a 'swallow tail.' Experts say that even today it would be difficult to make such a wheel.

Archaeologists have abandoned the idea of making the wheel themselves by using only stone tools. Two-wheeled carts from the period were also found in Southwest Germany and Switzerland. Clay carts placed in graves as grave goods were also widespread.

#### Prehistoric Art

Not only were prehistoric people remarkably skilful and adapted well to natural surroundings, they also sought in nature inspiration for creativity. They created wonderful images in situla art.

Prehistoric masters of foeretics hammered or engraved the desired images into soft bronze plate with metal points and small chisels. In addition to situla, bronze vessel, they also decorated belt buckles, sheaths, earrings, etc. There is a question of where to search for the origins of an art that appeared at the same time over such a wide area. According to the experts it was the Phoenicians who brought Near Eastern art to the whole Mediterranean.

Situla art is the oldest mass figural representation in Slovenia, dating to the late Iron Age, Hallstatt, and originating from the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC. The real gem of this art is the Vače situla, with its scenes of the noblemen of Hallstatt society, their feasts, and the battles that brought them to the top of the Iron Age community.

The Dolenjsko Hallstatt flourished in Vače, Magdalenska gora, Stična, and Novo mesto.

Rich burial mounds and extensive fortified upland settlements indicate the prestige of the period's noblemen. They gained power and reputation by possessing iron ore, and they traded their products – arms as well as tools – with faraway lands.

The masters of toreutics, who at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC created the masterpieces in Dolenjska. The situla scenes offer an insight into Hallstatt society and shed light on those aspects of life that would otherwise have remained secret.

The images indicate the



society was differentiated and extraordinarily complex. One can see this already from the different quality of arms and apparel, which is distinguished by different head-coverings, etc. But the question remains as to what in these scenes is myth and what is a reflection of reality.

#### Roman Period

The roman occupation left a considerable mark. In Antiquity there were four Roman cities in Slovenian territory. Emona (Ljubljana), Celela (Celje), Poetovio (Ptuj), and Neviodunum (Drnovo near Krško). Among the extraordinary finds from Roman times there are examples of sepulchral art, tombstones, with figural decorations and made of the local marble. According to the researcher Dr. Bojan Djurič, "There is a tomb complex in Šempeter in the Savinjska Valley which is the main reference for all research of such production in Sustria and Slovenian territory.

It is significant because it shows important art production, providing its products and having a great influence in the area of Pannonia, Upper and Lower Moesia, and as far as the Black Sea." These are images of the family members of Celesa's ruling families and many mythological scenes are represented on the tombs.

#### Decline of Antiquity

After the decline of Antiquity, during the period of the great migration, Kranj took over the main role, the flourishing Roman cities in Slovenian territory having already fallen into decay.

In the past, the discoveries of two extraordinarily large Old Slavic necropolises were also important. In the past 20 years excavations in the old city center have been running parallel to construction works. The 2005 discovery was quite a sensation. While

doing research on the city walls at the Kieselstein castle in Kranj walls dating to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries, preserved to a height of 4 meters were discovered. There was a building attached to the Late Roman city walls. In the pavement two lamellar suits of armor and a characteristic Frankish pellum, an *ango*, were found. It is a unique find because it proves a Frankish presence in this area as early as the 6<sup>th</sup> century.

The excavation director, Milan Sagadin, adds, "From the Carpathians in the direction of Western Europe there are 130 known sites where such suits of armor were found. There is only one case of a completely preserved suit of armor. And now there are two completely preserved suits of armor in one place right here in Kranj. In fact there is no case of two suits of armor being found

together. These date to the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries."

Milan Sagadin says that the *ango* was the main evidence supporting the thesis that we are dealing with Franks. The armor could also be Germanic, Avarian, or Byzantine. The Frankish presence in Kranj is also supported by written sources.

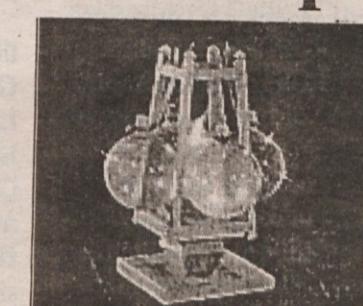
Sagadin adds they named the site the Frankish fort. "We can imagine this place, for example, as a medieval knight's hall, with a special sort of furnishing, weapons that is. These two suits of armor lay right against the wall; there was an iron pin next to them. So it would seem they hung on the wall, and obviously the traces we found indicate the fort or building was destroyed suddenly by an attack. One does not leave behind such valuable equipment just like that."

(To Be Continued)

## The Cobbler's Lamp

In the days of the Dark Ages, the only light available came from the tallow candles, oil lamps and torches. All these lighting devices give poor and uncertain light for the exacting and precise work of the cobbler's craft.

Slovenian cobbler's solved the problem by capturing the light with a system of glass globes filled with water. These distributed and balanced the light in the manner of lenses which could be lifted or lowered to provide



direct light to a particular surface. The placing and the number of the globes varied according to the technical demands of various craft tasks.

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# The State Liquor Store

by JOE GLINSEK

In the middle of the block, near the bank, the Ohio State Liquor Store looked like a well-secured luxury jail. Their stock of bottled spirits was out of sight, in a rear cellblock. Like hostages of varied importance and value, they could be released upon payment of designated ransoms listed on wall charts, but only during visiting hours. Except for posted times, they were locked away. Black iron bars and plate glass striped with silver alarm tape would thwart any but the most determined intruder.

Being a curious kid, I peered through the glass and watched men shuffling sideways past the charts, as if browsing for a library book. Others would study just one section, head and eyes moving side to side. Another might stride from the door directly to a spot on the chart, merely refreshing his memory before reaching for a pencil.

They wrote their selection on small printed forms, randomly stacked on a narrow ledge under the charts. It reminded me of filling out a slip at the Cleveland Trust bank, a near neighbor. The liquor store's

slip, paired with cash-money, was presented to the man in a barred cage. After this transaction, the slip was handed to a guard who fetched your selection from the back of the room. Both he and the cashier were behind a long steel counter that further protected valuable hostages from thirsty visitors who might be unwilling to pay.

The requested inmate (booze) was searched out, taken from his cell, hurriedly dressed in a free suit of brown paper, and handed over to his benefactor. Carefully tucked under a protective arm, the prisoner was free to go.

Selling liquor was a fail-proof business and, like funeral homes or banks, never wanted for customers. It was a rare day when the pair of state-employed attendants had time to stand around and chat. The Ohio liquor stores of that time were a far cry from today's mini-marts here in Florida. Their stock, a vast assortment of clear or tawny fluids in bottles of many shapes and sizes, is displayed in self-service aisles where customers use shopping carts and pay at check-out.

Love is blind, and marriage is the eye opener.

## SPRING SPECIALS

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### Irish Joke

Sean was terribly overweight, so his doctor put him on a diet.

"I want you to eat regularly for two days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for three weeks."

When Sean returned, he shocked the doctor by having lost nearly 40 pounds. "Why, that's amazing," the doctor said. "Did you follow my instructions?"

"Yes," Sean answered. "I'll tell you though, I almost dropped dead the 3rd day."

"From hunger?"

"No, from exhaustion from skipping all day long."

Thanks to Emma Pogacar from Toronto for this wee bit of humor.

The person who falls down gets up a lot faster than the one who lies down.

The only falsehood allowed on an income tax form is for a husband to declare himself the head of the household.

## Fortuna

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Mary Ann (Fortuna) Trzaska

## Euclid Slovenian Home Friday

### Meals

Serving 12 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 216-531-8348 for take out orders. Featuring deep fried Canadian pike and baked cod dinners, breaded pork chops, beef goulash, four-cheese macaroni and cheese and Slovenian Home fries, polenta, hand-cut French fries, coleslaw and assorted desserts. 10 & under children's menu available. Every Friday will feature a different dinner

Tony's...

### Old World Plaza

### Barber Shop

Haircuts \$7.00

664 E. 185 St.

at Abby Ave., and Windward Rd.

### HOURS:

7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. M-F

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sat.

We love the Slovenian people. We want more of them as our customers.

# Judge Klammer Speaks in St. Vitus Auditorium

The Honorable Judge Ted Klammer, Lake County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division, will be the guest speaker on Sunday, Feb. 11 in St. Vitus Parish Auditorium after the 9 a.m. Mass in St. Vitus Church.

St. Vitus auditorium is located at 6111 Lausche Avenue, one block south of East 62nd Street and St. Clair.

Judge Klammer will speak on topics related to the process of probate and estates, and other every day realities involving the probate process, a process often misunderstood and may be unclear to the average person.

Ted Klammer is the son of Rudi and Julka Klammer, Slovenian immigrants who fled the Republic of Slovenia after World War II due to the imposition of Communism in Slovenia. The Klammer family settled in the city of Cleveland in the St. Clair

Avenue neighborhood and eventually settled on the former Glass Avenue (renamed in 2001 as Lausche Avenue.)

While residing there Ted attended St. Vitus Elementary School. The family eventually settled in Lake County. Ted was graduated from St. Joseph High School

and Bowling Green University; and then was graduated from Cleveland John Marshall College of Law where he received a *Juris Doctor* degree.

Judge Klammer has more than 32 years of law practice in federal and state courts.

He was a former assistant Lake County prosecutor, Madison Township solicitor,

law director for Painesville, and acting judge for Painesville Municipal Court. He also has been a member and chairperson for the Lake County Metroparks and was the chairperson and hospital trustee of Lake Regional Health Care Corp. He has also volunteered for United Way Lake County.

Judge Klammer resides in Concord Township with his wife of over 34 years, Betty. Judge and Betty Klammer have two grown children, Joseph and Lisa.

Light pastry and refreshments will be provided on Feb. 11. The talk is open to the public. There is no admission charge. Parking is available across the street from St. Vitus Church as well as in surrounding parish parking lots.

--Stane Kuhar

## RHUBARB CAKE

1½ cup brown sugar  
2/3 cup oil  
One egg  
1 cup sour cream  
1 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. vanilla  
2½ cups flour regular  
1½ cup rhubarb "cut up"

Mix all together and sprinkle topping on cake mixture

**TOPPING:**  
½ cup white sugar  
½ tsp. cinnamon  
1 Tble. butter  
½ cup chopped nuts (optional)

Bake at 350 degrees for approximately 1 hour in 9 x 13 pan or 2 loaf break pans.

--Emilee Jenko  
Euclid, Ohio

All mankind is divided into three classes: Those who are immovable, those who are movable, -- and those who move.

## Annual Stockholders Meeting Collinwood Slovenian Home

15810 Holmes Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44110

Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007

Starting at 1:00 p.m.

All Stockholders are invited to attend the meeting.

Your attendance will be greatly appreciated.

--Evelyn Pipoly, President

## 10. Common Cancer Hazards

1. - No plastic containers in microwave.
2. - No plastic water bottles in freezer.
3. - No plastic wrap in microwave.

Johns Hopkins has recently included this in its newsletters. This information is being circulated at Walter Reed Army Medical Center as well.

Dioxin chemicals causes cancer, especially breast cancer.

Dioxins are highly poisonous to the cells of our bodies. Don't freeze your plastic water-filled bottles as this releases dioxins from the plastic.

We should not be heating our food in the microwave using plastic containers. This especially applies to foods that contain fat. The combination of fat, high heat, and plastics releases dioxin into the food and ultimately into the cells of the body. Instead, use glass, such as Corning

Ware, Pyrex or ceramic containers for heating food.

Such things as TV dinners, instant ramen and soups, etc., should be removed from the container and heated in something else. Paper isn't bad but you don't know what is in the paper. It is safer to use tempered glass, Corning Ware, etc.

Fast food restaurants moved away from the foam containers to paper. The dioxin problem is one of the reasons.

Plastic wrap, such as Saran, is just as dangerous when placed over foods to be cooked in the microwave. As the food is nuked, the high heat causes poisonous toxins to actually melt out of the plastic wrap and drip into the food.

Cover food with a paper towel instead.

Thanks to Emma Pogacar of Toronto for this information.

## EU Protects Alpine Area

The European Union's transport ministers have voted to ratify the Alpine Convention protocol aimed at protecting the Alps from increasing road traffic. After years of negotiations, all nine parties to the treaty have signed on, but four countries – including Switzerland – have yet to decide on ratification.

The ministerial decision on Thursday in Luxembourg now means the EU is committed to a sustainable transport policy within the Alpine area. This involves not building new multilane roads through the Alps, more cost

effective transport and less pollution.

Thursday's agreement means all nine parties (the eight Alpine countries from Monaco to Slovenia plus the EU) have signed the treaty, but only Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Slovenia and France have so far ratified it.

Switzerland, which has consistently demanded a regional policy for sustainable Alpine traffic, has not yet gotten around to ratification, despite signing the convention six years ago.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this information.

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Ware, Pyrex or ceramic containers for heating food.

Such things as TV dinners, instant ramen and soups, etc., should be removed from the container and heated in something else. Paper isn't bad but you don't know what is in the paper. It is safer to use tempered glass, Corning Ware, etc.

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Cover food with a paper towel instead.

Thanks to Emma Pogacar of Toronto for this information.



In the article "Story of Pioneer John Lokar published on Nov. 16, 2006 we printed a photo of The Loška Dolina Singing Club outing in Madison, Ohio. Since that time Nancy Slapnik, owner of Louis Slapnik Florist Shop on St. Clair at E. 61<sup>st</sup> St., in Cleveland has identified one of the persons in the photo who was not named, that being John Gerbec who is in the front row, second from the right, her father. Those names we have so far are: Top row, left to right, Joe Russ (next three ?), John Lokar, Frank Znidarsic, John Mlakar, and Frank Turek. Bottom row, left to right, Frank Baraga, John Platt, John Gerbec, and ?

### Shrine Activities

The following events are scheduled for Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, 21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid, Ohio:

**Feb. 4** – French Toast Breakfast (8:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

**Feb. 21** – Fish Dinner (4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

**March 2** – Fish Dinner (4:30 – 7 p.m.)

**March 4** – French Toast Breakfast (8:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

**March 23** – Fish Dinner (4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

Action speaks louder than words, but not nearly as often. –Mark Twain

### Slovenian Citizens Must Register

The Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington, D.C., and The Consulates General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland and New York, would like to inform all Slovenian citizens who currently live in the USA, that they are required to register their current residence address with the Government of Slovenia, if they have not already done so.

Participants will also be required to complete a voter registration form, if they have not already done so. Slovenian citizens who do not participate, will not be entered in the voter registry and will not receive voting information, and hence, will not be able to exercise their right to vote.

Forms for these procedures can be obtained and submitted at any of the aforementioned offices.

## CAN YOU SOLVE THESE PUZZLES?

1. – A Slovenian carpenter was in a terrible hurry. He had to work as quickly as possible to cut a very heavy 10 foot plank into 10 equal sections. If it takes 1 minute per cut, how long will it take him to get the 10 equal pieces?

2. – Why are 1898 silver dollars worth more than 1897 silver dollars?

3. – What English word can have 4 of its 5 letters removed and still retain its original pronunciation?

4. – Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named October. The second child was named November. What was the third child's name?

5. – In your sock drawer, you have a ratio of 5 pairs of blue socks, 4 pairs of brown

socks, and 6 pairs of black socks. In complete darkness (after the First Energy blackout), how many socks would you need to pull out of the drawer to get a matching pair of the same color?

#### ANSWERS:

1. – 9 minutes. It only takes 9 cuts to get 10 equal sections.

2. – \$1,898 is one more silver dollar than 1,897 silver dollars.

3. – Queue.

4. – Johnny.

5. – 4. – If you don't agree, try it yourself.

These puzzles and their answers were submitted by none other than Phil Hrvatin of Wachovia Securities.

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Justice



# AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

## AMERICAN HOME

AMERICAN IN SPIRIT  
FOREIGN IN LANGUAGE ONLY

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

(USPS 024100) Thursday, January 18, 2007

SLOVENIAN  
MORNING NEWSPAPER

## – Vesti iz Slovenije –

### Slovenija dosegla znen uspeh v pogajanjih z Rusijo o poplačilu dolga

Slovenski pogajalci so se z ruskimi kolegi dogovorili o poplačilu ruskega kliničkega dolga. Ruska federacija bo v treh letih Sloveniji v opremi in storitvah povrnila okoli 130 milijonov ameriških dolarjev. Ruska federacija je namreč pred leti prevzela klinički dolg nekdanje Sovjetske zveze do prav tako nekdanje Jugoslavije. Leta 2001 so naslednike nekdanje SFRJ bile dosegle t. i. dunajski sporazum, po katerem pripada Sloveniji 16 odstotkov kliničkih dolarjev. Celoten tak dolg SZ do SFRJ je znašal 1,29 milijarde dolarjev, tako Sloveniji pripada okoli 130 milijonov le-teh.

Ministra za finance in za gospodarstvo Andreja Bajuka in Andreja Vizjaka sta pred koncem leta poročila, da sta slovenska in ruska stran parafrirali sporazum o vračanju ruskega kliničkega dolga. Sporazum predvidela povračilo v treh letih, in sicer v blagu in storitvah. Sporazum določa tudi, da ga bo morala Rusija, če ga ne bo vrnila v treh letih, poplačati v gotovini skupaj z obrestmi.

Gospodarska menjava med Slovenijo in Rusijo je lani znašala okoli milijardo 400 milijonov dolarjev, tako da je 129 milijonov dolarjev približno enomesečna menjava. Poplačilo dolga bi tudi pomembno pripomoglo k povečanju menjave med državama. Upoštevati pri vsem tem je tudi dejstvo, da je Rusija v zadnjih letih gospodarsko in še posebej finančno veliko pridobila zaradi zelo velikega dviga cen za nafto in zemeljski plin, kajti je ena pomembnejših izvajalk teh energij. Tudi Slovenija kupuje zemeljski plin iz Rusije.

### Priprav na slovensko predsedovanje Evropski uniji potekajo intenzivno

Državni sekretar za evropske zadeve Janez Lenarčič je predstavil slovenski program za prvo polovico leta 2008, ko bo Slovenija za šest mesecev predsedovala celotni Evropski uniji. Poudariti velja, da bo s tem Slovenija prva od novih članic EU (vseh skupaj jih je sedaj dvanašt), ki bo dosegla to vlogo. Slovenija bo poudarjala med svojim predsedovanjem tri glavne cilje, je pojasnil Lenarčič, in te bodo sprejem še novih članic EU (kar je sicer za kar mnoge sedanje članice sporno in so nekatere države enostavno proti temu), zahodni del Balkana, in medkulturni dialog, tu predvsem med krščanstvom in islamom. Slovenija se bo tudi zanimala za razvoj energetske politike, kajti je problem energetskih virov in odvisnosti od uvoza postal rastoči problem za EU.

Slovenija pri vsem tem sodeluje aktivno z dvema drugima državama, ki bosta v naslednjih 18 mesecih predsedovali EU. To sta Nemčija in Portugalska.

### Slovenski bataljon se pripravlja na odhod na Kosovo v mesecu marcu

Pripadniki Slovenske vojske sodelujejo v mednarodni mirovni misiji na Kosovu vse od januarja 2000. Misija se imenuje KFOR in v njej sodelujejo med drugimi državami tudi ameriški vojaki. Trenutno ima Slovenija v Kosovu 214 vojakov, v marcu pa se bo na Kosovo odpravil 10. motorizirani bataljon Slovenske vojske. Obrambni minister Karl Erjavec je pred nedavnim obiskal slovenske vojake na Kosovu, ki so nastanjeni v mestu Peća. Ti so mu povedali, da so jih lokalni Albanci sprejeli prijateljsko.



### JOŽE PLEČNIKOVA CERKEV SV. FRANCIŠKA ASIŠKEGA V LJUBLJANI

Letos v Sloveniji praznujejo 50. obletnico smrti Jožeta Plečnika, največjega slovenskega arhitekta in enega največjih umetnikov sploh. Plečnik se je rodil leta 1872 v Ljubljani in v istem mestu tudi umrl, 6. januarja 1957. Kot uvod v Plečnikovo leto 2007 je Canarjeva založba izdala razkošno monografijo o njem in njegovem delu *Jože Plečnik, Dunaj, Praga, Ljubljana*. Knjiga je bila pred kratkim na ljubljanskem knjižnem sejmu razglašena za najlepšo knjigo, ki je v Sloveniji izšla v zadnjem letu. V knjigi je bogat izbor najpomembnejših stavb iz vseh obdobij Plečnikovega ustvarjanja (kakor fotografirana šišenska cerkev sv. Frančiška Asiškega), vključena je tudi obsežna kronologija njegovih znanih del, poleg vsega pa še s slikami opremljen življenjepis.

## Iz Cleveland in okolice

### Kosilo Slovenske šole pri Marije Vnebovzetju

Kosilo bo to nedeljo, 21. januarja, v novi župnijski dvorani. Serviranje se bo pričelo ob 11. dop. in bo trajalo do 1. pop. Servirali bodo svinjske zarebrnice in govedino. Dar je \$12 za odrasle in \$6 za otroke. Nakaznice boste dobili pri vodu v dvorano. Pridite!

### Pristavska noč 2007—

Ta bo v soboto, 27. januarja, v SND na St. Clairju. Začetek bo ob 6h zv., večerja bo servirana ob 7h. Igrali bodo Veseli godci. Za rezervacijo, poklicite ali Elizabeto Žalik na 440-537-1941 ali Metko Zalar na 440-943-3844.

### Kosilo pri Sv. Vidu—

To nedeljo bo kosilo tudi pri Sv. Vidu, v avditoriju. Kosilo bo koristilo godbo više šole sv. Ignacija in Holy Family Cancer Home. Nakaznice so po \$12 za odraslo osebo, po \$6 za otroke. Serviranje bo od 11. dop. do 2. pop. Za nakaznice in več informacij, kličite župnijo: 216-361-1444.

### Upokojenci Slov. pristave—

Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave ima svojo redno mesečno sejo v sredo, 31. januarja, ob 1.30 pop., v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Članstvo lepo vabljeno!

### Za člane KSKJ št. 25—

Člani so vabljeni na letno kosilo, ki bo 4. februarja, približno ob 12. uri v dvorani šole pri Sv. Vidu. Naprošeni so, da obvestijo tajnika Johna C. Turek, če bodo prišli in koliko jih bo. Vabljeni so tudi člani KSKJ društva št. 172. Na kosilu bodo počaščeni vsi novi 50-letni člani.

### Naslednjič čez dva tedna—

Naš list bo zopet izšel čez dva tedna, torej 1. februarja. Številke v februarju bodo tako 1., 8. in 15. februarja.

### Podpora našemu listu—

G. Greg in ga. Kristina (Lah) O'Brien, Chagrin Falls, O., sta darovala \$150 v podporo Am. Domovini. G. Anton Vogel, Euclid, O., je daroval \$15, v spomin Mary Vogel. G. Tony Petkovsek je daroval \$100, v imenu Cleveland-Slovenian Radio kluba. Ga. Jennie Arko, Richmond Hts., O., je darovala \$15, v spomin staršev Johna in Jennie Rutar. G. in ga. Frank Kotze iz Willoughbyja sta darovala \$25. Ga. Silvija Klopčič iz Parme, O., je darovala \$50 v spomin moža Johna Klopčič in sina Johna Yessenko. Pevski zbor Korotan je ob božičnih praznikih daroval \$50. Štefanija Cigale je darovala \$30, v spomin sestre Tončke Cigale. Vsem darovalcem najlepša hvala za podporo!

### Lillian Videtic

Umrla je 87 let stara Lillian Videtic iz Willowicka, rojena Bone, vdova po Edwardu, mati Edwarda, Roberta in Jamesa, 9-krat stara mati, 12-krat prastara mati, 1-krat praprastara mati. sestra Betty Jane Gulish in Mafalde Bone, 6 bratov in sestra je že pok. Pogreb je bil 16. januarja v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Marije Magdalene in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

### Hermina Balazic

Umrla je Hermina Balazic, žena Josepha, mati Marie, Emily, Anthonyja, Josepha in Matthewa, 11-krat stara mati, 3-krat prastara mati, sestra Albine in Mariane. Pogreb je bil 13. januarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Marije Magdalene in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

(DALJE na str. 16)

## Baragov dan na Floridi je letos 17. februarja

BRADENTON, Fla. - Datum za današnji zimski Baragov dan je določen za soboto, 17. februarja, v mestu Holiday, Fla., kakor že nekaj let zaporedoma. Sv. maša bo ob pol dvanajstih dopoldne v cerkvi St. Vincent de Paul. Glavni mašnik tokrat bo upokojeni škof-ordinarij marquetttske škofije, Most Rev. James H. Garland.

Za kosilo, ki bo pripravljeno v dvorani Kolumbovih vitezov, je treba mesto vnaprej rezervirati. V angleškem delu najdete telefonske številke in tudi elektronski naslov, ki jih uporabite, da to napravite.

Prijatelji našega svetniškega škofa Friderika Barrage ste iskreno vabljeni, da se udeležite tega praznovanja, če je le mogoče. Če si čas za svoje

zimske počitnice vzamete po svoji izbiri, vam polagan na srce, da si izberete čas tako, da boste vključili obisk v Holiday, Fla., v soboto, 17. februarja, tudi če bo to morda zahtevalo nekoliko daljše potovanje. Saj veste, da ima Florida odlične velečeste, ki povezujejo tudi najbolj oddaljene dele s Tampo in okolic.

Srečanje z mnogimi slovenskimi rojaki morebiti dodaten razlog, da se odločite za obisk Barragovega dneva na Floridi. Podpisani vas vse osebno pričakujem in se veselim našega srečanja.

Želim vam srečno in veselo leto 2007!

Vdani upokojeni župnik Sv. Križa v Brideportu, Connecticut,

Alojzij Hribšek

## 13. zimska šola slovenskega jezika

Drage rojakinje in rojaki,

Center za slovenščino kot drugi/tuji jezik na Filozofski fakulteti v Ljubljani prireja 13. zimsko šolo slovenskega jezika, ki bo potekala dva tedna, od 22. januarja do 2. februarja 2007.

Zimska šola je intenzivni jezikovni program, kjer lahko udeleženci izbirajo med štirimi ali šestimi urami tečaja slovenščine na dan. Namenjena je vsem, ki se zaradi časovnih omejitev ne morejo udeležiti daljših jezikovnih tečajev. Ker zagotavlja tečaje na vseh ravneh znanja, je primerna tako za tiste, ki bi se radi naučili šele osnovnega sporazumevanja v slovenščini, kot za tiste, ki bi radi utrdili, osvežili ali izpopolnili svoje znanje na višjih ravneh. Ob jezikovnem tečaju zimska šola ponuja tudi pester spremovalni program, v katerem sta udeležencem predstavljeni slovenska kultura in družba v najširšem smislu.

V 2. semestru študijskega leta 2006/7, ki se bo začel 12. februarja 2007, bodo ponovno vpisovali tudi v jutranje in popoldanske tečaje slovenščine na vseh ravneh znanja. Več informacij o tem je na voljo na Centrovi spletni strani [www.centerslo.net/tecaji](http://www.centerslo.net/tecaji), informativno gradivo pa lahko pošljejo po pošti ali ga dobite na generalnem konzulatu v Clevelandu.

Naslov generalnega konzulata je:

The Consulate General of the Rep. of Slovenia  
55 Public Square, Suite 945  
Cleveland, OH 44113  
Phone: 216-589-9220

Fax: 216-589-9210

## Ekipa študentov iz Ljubljane premagala cvet svetovnih univerz

Šentvid-Ljubljana - Ne zgoditi se prav pogosto, da Slovenci na kakšnem področju dosežejo prvo mesto v svetovnem merilu. Zato vrnitev športnih zmagovalcev v Slovenijo ne mine neopaženo; tako že pri večernih poročilih slovenske televizije vidimo sprejem, ki se začne največkrat na brniškem letališču.

Toda kaj je pravzaprav vrhunski šport? Ko tekač izboljša rezultat iz desetih sekund na devet in pol, je trdo garanje za športnika poplačano; vsaj moralni del, za materialnega poskrbijo sponzorji.

Priznati pa moramo, da razen potešitve navijaškega zadovoljstva človeštvo nima kaj dosti od tega. Morda le država, iz katere športnik ali ekipa prihaja, saj je to izvrstna promocija v mednarodnem merilu.

V nasprotju s tem garanjem in uspehi pa se od predanosti znanstvenemu delu lahko nadejamo koristi za vse. Odkritja in izumi slej ko prej v novih napravah ali postopkih izboljšujejo kvaliteto našega vsakdana.

Navkljub temu pa ekipa študentov ljubljanske univerze ni bila deležna sprejema, ki pritiče svetovnim prvakom. In v kakšni konkurenči ter na katerem področju se je tako izkazala, da bi zaslužila (vsaj) pozornost, ki so jo deležni športniki?

V začetku novembra se je na univerzi MIT (tj. Massachusetts Institute of Technology) v Cambridgu v državi Massachusetts zbralo skoraj 400 študentov iz 37 univerz; projekte jih je sicer predsta-



Poleg v članku že omenjenih mentorjev, so na sliki tudi študenti: Monika Ciglič, Ota Fekonja, Jernej Kovac, Alja Oblak, Jelka Pohar, Matej Skočaj in Rok Tkavc ter inštruktorica (mlada raziskovalka) Gabriela Panter. Slika je bila posneta po prejemu nagrade na tekmovanju iGEM. (Foto posredoval mag. Tine Golež)

vilo 33.

Približno polovica univerzitetnih ekip je bila iz ZDA, ostale iz drugih koncev sveta (Evropa, Azija, Latinska Amerika).

Če naštejemo njihova imena (MIT, Princeton, ETH-Zürich, Edinburgh, Imperial College...), je razvidno, da gre za najodličnejšo svetovno konkurenco; omenjene univerze najdemo po vseh ocenjevanjih prav na vrhu.

Tekmovanje iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition) poteka na področju sintezne biologije. Ta veja biologije skuša najti rešitve, na področju tehologije, ekologije in medicine.

To je bilo šele tretje mednarodno tekmovanje, saj je področje raziskav dokaj novo. Gre za interdisciplinarni pristop – v sintezni biologiji združujejo znanje in ideje biokemija, molekularna bio-

logija, mikrobiologija in biotehnologija. Sodelujejo tudi vede brez predpone bio; tu je še računalništvo, robotika in še nekatere vplive bi lahko našli.

Naloga, ki so jo imeli ekipi, je dovoljevala zelo različne zamisli. V načelu so morale ekipi ustvariti celice, ki bi bile sposobne opravljati nekaj koristnega.

Tako spremenjene celice naj bi delovale kot stroji ali kot detektorji, lahko bi le proizvajale všečne vonjave, skratka, domišljiji je bila odprta prosta pot.

Slovensko ekipa sta vodila prof. dr. Roman Jerala s Kemijskega inštituta in doc. dr. Marko Dolinar s Fakultete za kemijo in kemijsko tehnologijo Univerze v Ljubljani, študenti pa prihajajo z Biotehniške fakultete (študij mikrobiologije, od koder jih prihaja večina).

(DALJE na str. 13)

## Državljanom Republike Slovenije, ki živijo v Združenih državah:

Veleposlaništvo Republike Slovenije v Washingtonu, D.C., Generalni konzulat RS v Clevelandu in Generalni konzulat RS v New Yorku prosijo vse slovenske državljane, ki trenutno živijo v ZDA, naj pri slovenskih oblasteh prijavijo svoje začasno ali stalno bivališče v ZDA – če tega niso že storili.

Hkrati bo potrebno urediti tudi registracijo v evidevce volilne pravice – če tega niste že storili. Tisti, ki v volilnem imenu Republike Slovenije ne bodo registrirani kot volilni upravičenci, ne bodo mogli sodelovati na naslednjih volitvah, saj jim Republiška volilna komisija ne bo mogla poslati volilnega gradiva. (Pripomba ur. AD: To je pomembno npr., ker bodo letos v Sloveniji volitve za predsednika države.)

Potrebno dokumentacijo za obe zadevi dobite na omenjenih diplomatsko-konzularnih predstavnosti.



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## Dr. Milanu Pavlovčiču za 90-letnico

Dočkal si let  
že devetkrat deset,  
nasprotnik rdeče zablode.

Odločni klicar  
vse dal na oltar  
si naše slovenske svobode.

Kaj vse si prestal,  
kaj vse žrtvoval  
za vero in domovino!

Pokončno si stal,  
v težavah obstal,  
rojakom lajšal tujino.

**Pesmi zaklad**  
in slovensko pomlad  
v domove si naše prinašal,  
utrujen, zgaran  
iz dneva se v dan  
na radiu zvesto oglašal.

Da vera je luč,  
materinščina ključ,  
da sinovi smo matere Slave,  
si klical na glas,  
za brate, za nas,  
za zmago slovenske države!

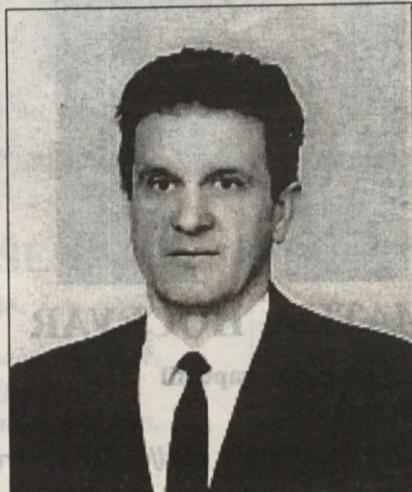
S pogumom v očeh,  
sovragu v posmeh,  
oral si slovensko ledino!

Ti kdo je enak,  
Ti naš narodnjak,  
v žrtvah za domovino?

**Zahvaljen za vse,**  
Ti kliče srce,  
v hvaležnosti venček Ti spletla,  
Čuj, pesem doni  
in molitev kipi:  
Bog živi na mnoga Te leta!

Žena Barbara in sin Mitja z družino,  
Slovenska radijska družina  
in hvaležni slovenski rojaki

## Ivan Berkopec – 80. letnik



CLEVELAND – Danes, 18. januarja, praznuje svoj 80. rojstni dan IVAN BERKOPEC. K visokemu življenskemu jubileju mu čestitajo in želijo še mnogo, mnogo zdravih in veselih let  
hčerka LINDA z družino, sestri Francka in Pepca, brata Lojze in Tone, z družinami

## Zmaga ekipe študentov

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

Fakultete za matematiko in fiziko ter Fakultete za kemijo in kemijsko tehnologijo.

Pri izvedbi projekta so kot mentorji sodelovali še raziskovalci Laboratorija za biotehnologijo Kemijskega inštituta.

Kot po pravilu se večina ekip loteva bakterij (*E. coli* je bila največkrat uporabljena) ali kvasovk. Morda je prav zato bilo večmesečno raziskovalno delo slovenske ekipe tako opazno. Preučevali so namreč celice sesalcev; očitno so dovolj uspešno spremenili lastnost odziva celic na bakterijsko infekcijo, da je bilo njihovo delo vredno "grand prize" nagrade.

Tekmovanje te vrste ocenjuje različne vidike predstavljenega dela. Na spletni strani <http://www.igem2006.com/results.htm>

lahko bralci preberejo, kdo je dobil nagrado za najboljšo predstavitev, kdo za najboljšo dokumentacijo itn.

V finale so se uvrstile tri ekipe, poleg slovenske še Imperial College, ki je zasedel drugo mesto, in ekipa univerze Princeton, ki je osvojila tretje mesto. Komisijo je pač najbolj navdušila slovenska ekipa.

Brez najmanjšega droma upam zapisati, da bomo o teh nadarjenih, trenutno še dodiplomskih študentih, v naslednjih letih še kaj slišali in brali.

Mag. Tine Golež

**(Ur. AD:** Ta zanimiv članek je g. Golež poslal po pošti. Po priloženi vizitki se vidi, da je profesor na Zavodu sv. Stanislava, ki je škofjelska klasična gimnazija. Najlepše se mu zahvaljujem za ta prispevek. Dodal bi, da je tudi teknik "Demokracija" v Ljubljani pisal o tem uspehu, v članku pa omenil, da so vsaj nekateri slovenski študenti iz omenjene ekipe že prejeli ponudbe za nadaljnje šolanje na ameriških univerzah.)

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IZDAJAMO TUDI ZDRAVILA  
ZA RĀCUN POMOČI  
DRŽAVE OHIO – AID FOR  
THE AGED PRESCRIPTIONS

## Slovenski kulturni center v Chicagu/Lemontu

WESTMONT, Ill. – V našem SKC oz. "Domu" se vedno kaj dogaja. Največkrat so ti dogodki vesele narave, vmes pa skupno žalujemo za kakšnega dobrega člana, ki ga Bog pokliče. Vendar smo vsi kot ena velika družina v tem Domu, lepo vodenega z nežnostjo in poštenostjo predsednika Martina Hozjana.

Sv. Miklavž nas je obiskal 3. decembra s polnim spremstvom angelov in parkljev. Najmajši iz Slomškove slovenske šole so uprizorili prisrčne jaslice. Srednji so pa poskrbeli za božične pesmi in recitacije ob jaslicah. Sv. Miklavž je nato lepo nagovoril in obdaril vse otroke, pa še kaj pridnih odraslih. Ni nam manjkalo dobrega kosila in peciva ob tem praznovanju.

Novo leto 2007 smo pričakali v lepem številu ob glasbi Ogladic Trio iz Slovenije. Vsi smo se lepo zabavali tja do polnoči. Takrat nam je pa še dimnikar podaril šampanjca za "na zdravje".

6. januarja smo tarokisti poizkusili svojo srečo na tarok turnirju. Prihajamo skupaj že kar 17 let. Bilo nas je 27, celo nekaj mlajših članov je prišlo zraven letos, to prvkrat. Igrali smo v štirih, ker se nam pač to zdi bolj zanimivo kot v treh. Lepo smo se imeli celo popoldne pa še zvečer, in Franci Puc je na koncu le vse premagal.

Če bi se nam kdo od bralcev teh vrstic rad pri-

družil za naslednji turnir (verjetno 10. marca), lahko pokličete podpisano na 630-963-4540. Veseli vas bomo!

7. januarja smo se v Domu poslovili od Jaka Praprotnika, ki se vrne nazaj v Slovenijo. Zelo ga bomo pogrešali, kajti kamor pogledamo okoli Domu ali cerkev, je Jakov vpliv. Jaka, mizar, je bil res človek umetnosti. Pripravljal je kulise za oder, slovenske grbe izrezljal. Prešerna in druge pesničke je kar čez noč narisal tako, kot bi nas prav oni gledali iz okvirov. V cerkvi je naredil stranski Slomškov oltar.

S svojim vedno nasmejanim obrazom je pomagal, kjer je mogel in znal, zato smo mu iz srca hvaležni. Ko smo potočili nekaj solzic, se je oglasila harmonika in ženske smo se zvrstile za ples z Jakom. Veseli smo zanj, da se lahko vrne nazaj na svojo Gorjenjsko, med svojo družino.

V nedeljo, 28. januarja, bomo na naši redni Kulturni uri proslavili 100-letnico smrti pesnika Simona Gregorčiča. 4. februarja bo pa naš kulturni praznik posvečen pesniku Francetu Prešernu.

11. februarja se bomo pa veselili ob kolinah, to zopet kot ena velika družina!

Vsem bralcem želim srečno in blagoslova polno leto 2007!

Nandi Puc



Na fotografiji so nekateri udeleženci tarok turnirja, ki je bil 6. januarja letos v prostorih Slovenskega kulturnega centra v Lemontu in je opisan v dopisu zgoraj.

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Dr. LJUBO SIRC

## Postkomunistična sodišča

Predsednik vlade Janez Janša in profesor Peter Jambrek sta nedavno ugotovila, da so slovenska sodišča pristranska, ker so zasedena s kadri komunističnega izvora. Tretja veja oblasti v Sloveniji ne deluje, saj se še naprej drži navodila, ki ga je Kardelj razglasil 4. decembra 1945. Tedaj je namreč dejal, da "sodišča morajo soditi, kakor hoče partija".

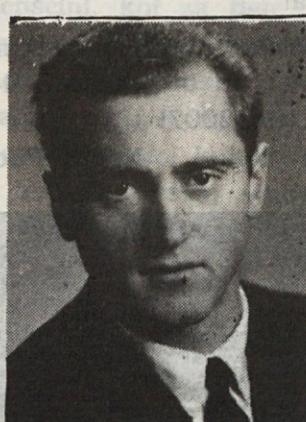
Vendarle je po skrajnem neuspehu komunizma smešno, če njegovi dediči vztrajajo pri tem, da je njihova volja nekaj posebnega. Poraz komunizma je očiten, vendar se tej sodbi še zmerom sramežljivo izmikamo. Vendar tudi za Slovenijo, čeprav je med komunističnimi državami najboljša. Slovenija je leta 1940 dosegla 80 odstotkov avstrijskega dohodka na osebo, medtem ko so danes slovenske plače nekako 30 odstotkov avstrijskih.

Kljub vsej hvali smo Slovenci danes le malo nad predvojno gospodarsko ravnijo. Dohitevamo Grčijo, ki je bila pred drugo svetovno vojno na polovici naših dosežkov.

Druge komunistične države so še bolj zaostale, če ne celo propadle, saj je bila Češka na ravni Nemčije, medtem ko sedaj ostaja na 65 odstotkih evropskega povprečja.

**V ljubeč  
in nepozaben spomin**

Ob 33. obletnici



### IVAN CUGELJ

Umrl 21. januarja 1974

Na nebu noč zvezde priže,  
v vetru vrhovi smrek zašume,  
v grobu temačnem naš Att  
leži,  
v srcih pa naših zanj lučka  
gori.

Večno samo Tvoji žalujoči:  
Žena Minka Cugelj  
rojena Blatnik

Sin Ivan in žena Debbie  
Hčerka Marija z družino  
V Sloveniji bratje in sestre  
ter ostalo sorodstvo.

Cleveland, Ohio, 18. januarja 2007.

## Nezlomljivo Prekmurje

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

Neverjetno je, da si ob takih rezultatih nasledniki komunistov upajo govoriti o svoji posebni vlogi in da se jim ob takem govorjenju ljudje ne smejo.

Vendar so pri tem skrajno spretni: kot da so bili uspešni pri večanju blaginje – ne pa da so vse države pod njihovo diktaturo zaostale –, še vedno silijo v ospredje. V Sloveniji si sicer niso upali vztrajati pri svoji diktaturi, toda načrtovali so, da bodo kljub "sestopu" s popolne oblasti še naprej vodilna sila v nekakšni ljudski fronti, podobni medvojni OF.

Forum 21 je različica na to temo. Objavljena razlaga njegove vloge pojasnjuje, da bo forum kot "civilna družba" vplival ne samo na komunistične nasledstvene stranke, temveč na vse, ker njegovi voditelji pač vedo, kako je treba voditi državo, stranke pa ne. Občinske volitve so v neki meri pokazale, kako je novi pristop zamišljen.

Da bi take vrste "nadstrankarstvo" uspelo, ga je treba podpreti s kapitalom. Dediči komunistov že vedo, kako je "družbeni kapital" v njihovih rokah zagotavljal neizpodbitno oblast partije, potem ko je z nasiljem prišla na vrh. Ker zaradi neuspehov popolno podržavljenje kapitala ni več mogoče, gre pač za to, da "zasebni" kapital pride v roke članom Forum 21.

Denacionalizaciji bi se člani foruma z veseljem izognili, toda ni šlo. Sprejet je bil zakon, ki je določal vračanje premoženja zakonitim lastnikom v naravi, ali če to ni mogoče, odškodnino "ob upoštevanju sedanje vrednosti".

Sprejeto je bilo navdilo, kako izračunati tako odškodnino ob izhanjanju iz cene 1 m2 kmetijskega zemljišča. Rečeno je tudi, naj pristojno

od 4. razreda dalje govoriti in pisati madžarsko. Ta prizadevanja so na srečo le delno uspela in Prekmurje (in do neke mere tudi Porabje ob reki Rabi na Madžarskem) je ohranilo slovensko zavest in kulturo.

Slovenstvo Prekmurja je prišlo do veličastnega izraza po prekmurski osvoboditvi izpod Madžarov 17. avgusta 1919, ki jo je nad 20.000 udeležencev navdušeno proslavljalo na narodnem taboru v ravensko-dolinskem kraju Beltinci. Dne 17. in 18. avgusta 2006 pa so spet prav v Beltincih s sv. mašo in pridigo slovenskega kardinala dr. Franceta Rodeta in z govorom predsednika slovenske vlade Janeza Janše veličastno proslavljali praznik priključitve Prekmurja k rodni Sloveniji. (Priklučitev je bila formalno potrjena 4. julija 1920 s podpisom Trianonske mirovne pogodbe.) Vsi Slovenci smo seveda zelo veseli, da je Prekmurje res slovensko in da se tudi mnogo Porabcev pod Madžarsko s slovenskim šolstvom, prosvetnim delom, obiski Prekmurja in ostale Slovenije, s slovenskim radijskim programom v Monoštru in izdajanju lista *Porabje* in *Slovenskega koledarja* (pod zmožnim uredništvom Marijane Sukič), zelo trudi, da bi ohranilo svoj slovenski značaj.

Poleg prekmurskega središča Murske Sobote, ki je v letu 2005 štela 28.868 prebivalcev in Lendave, s 24.579 prebivalci, je v Prekmurju mnogo manjših, versko in narodno zelo zavednih krajev, med njimi Beltinci, Turnišče, Dobrovnik, Črešnovci in Moravske Toplice. Slednje so med najboljšimi in najbolj modernimi toplicami nele v Sloveniji, ampak v vsej Evropi.

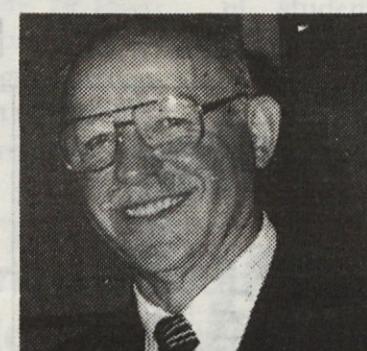
Prekmurje je leta 2006 dobilo tudi svojo škofijo, s sedežem v Murski Soboti, pod prvim škofom dr. Marjanom Turnškom. Veliko pozornost izkazuje prekmurskim in porabskim Slovencem tudi prekmurski rojak iz Bogojine, mariborski pomožni škof dr. Jožef Smej, ki je tudi odličen poznavalec zgodovine in književnosti teh pokrajin. Zvesto sledi vzorom velikih duhovniških verskih in narodnih buditeljev, kot sta bila npr. Franc Ivanoc (1857-1913), eden najbolj izobraženih Slovencev, znan kot prekmurski Slomšek, in njegov mlajši sod-

(SE NADALJUJE NA STR. 16)

## V BLAG SPOMIN

ob osmi obletnici smrti

našega ljubega moža, očeta, starega očeta, brata, svaka in strica



### MATIJA HOČVAR

ki nas je prezgodaj zapustil  
29. januarja 1999.

Dragi mož in ata, rahla zemlja naj Te krije,  
luč nebeška naj Ti sije.  
Saj Jezus nas tako uči, da vid'mo se nad zvezdami,  
kjer skupaj bomo srečni vekomaj!

Zalujoči:

Marija, žena

Nena in Marjanca, hčeri

Toni in David, sinova

Livia, snaha

Richard Trivisonno, zet

Tonč, Edi, Anton, Kristopher, Andreja in Richard,  
vnuki, brat, sestre in ostalo sorodstvo  
v Ameriki, Kanadi in Sloveniji.

(DALJE na str. 15)

Sprememba vremena tudi v Sloveniji ...

## Nenavadno topla jesen

Letošnja jesen v Sloveniji je bila ena najtoplejših v tem stoletju. Tako prijazna jesen je bila v Ljubljani nazadnje daljnega leta 1926, podobno tolo pa je bilo tudi pred šestimi leti.

ALEŠ KOCJAN  
DEMOKRACIJA  
(21. dec. 2006)

Ljubljana – Podobno pravzaprav velja za celotno srednjo Evropo, kjer tako tople jeseni ni bilo zadnjih 100 let. Povprečna temperatura je bila namreč med začetkom septembra in koncem novembra kar dobre tri stopinje višja od dolgoletnega povprečja, še večje odstopanje pa je bilo v prvi tretjini decembra. V prestolnici je bila povprečna temperatura v letošnji meteorološki jeseni 13,3 stopinje C, medtem ko je dolgoletno povprečje za Ljubljano 10,1 stopinje C.

Trend zviševanja povprečnih temperatur je značilen zlasti za obdobje zadnjih tridesetih let. Meteorologi ga v večini primerov povezujejo s toplogrednimi plini, napovedi, kaj vse utegne nadaljnje zviševanje temperatur po-

Seznanjajte naše  
bralce z aktivnostmi  
vaših društev

## V BLAG SPOMIN

Ob 17. obletnici smrti  
naše ljubljene žene,  
mame in sestre



### MARY ŠEMEN

ki je umrla 24. jan. 1990.

Preteklo sedemnajst let je že, ko hladna zemlja krije Te. Sedaj vse prazno je pri nas, Tvoj se več ne sliši glas.

Oh, greno je spoznanje to, da Te med nami več ne bo; čeprav v hladnem grobu spiš, v srcih naših še živiš.

Žalujoči:

Janez, mož  
Dori in Janez Tominc,  
Maria in Barbara, hčerke  
Janez sin; Maryann, snaha  
Vinko, brat,  
ter ostalo sorodstvo  
v Clevelandu in Sloveniji

## SODIŠČA

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

so komunisti morili tako brezobzirno kot v Sloveniji.

Zgodovinar Norman Davies piše v svoji novi knjigi Vojna v Evropi na strani 319, da Titovega maščevanja nad nasprotniki ob koncu vojne ni mogoče označiti drugače kot z besedo "sadistično".

Ne vem, ali je to pravi izraz. Daviesova teza je, da druga svetovna vojna ni bila boj med dobrimi zavezniki in hudobnimi nacisti, marveč predvsem med dvema zloma – fašizmom in komunizmom.

Glavna teža boja proti fašistom resda ni padla na zahodne zaveznike, temveč na Sovjetsko zvezzo, toda Stalinova država ni bila nič manj nenormalna kot Hitlerjev rajh. Zaradi nesmiselnosti se je leta 1990 zrušila sama vase.

Slovenski komunisti so bili prav tako boljševiško zli, čeprav so se bojevali, kolikor so se, proti nacizmu.

Mednarodne pogodbe vsako ideološko ubijanje kriminalizirajo, toda slovenska sodišča tega ne želijo vzeti na znanje. Tudi nacistična sodišča niso preganjala nacističnih krvolokov. ■

tura v prvi tretjini decembra izrazito nad povprečjem, v večjem delu oziroma med 7 in 9 stopinj C," so o zadnjem letošnjem mesecu zapisali na spletnih straneh Agencije Republike Slovenije za okolje (ARSO).

Manj kot 6 stopinj topleje je bilo po njihovih podatkih v zahodni Sloveniji, več kot 8 stopinj topleje kot običajno pa je bilo na območju Ljubljane in okolice, na Dolenskem in Celjskem.

V primerjalni analizi, ki jo je naredila agencija, je bilo ugotovljeno, da je v večini slovenskih krajev temperatura v tem času že peto leto višja od dolgoletnega povprečja (obravnavano obdobje je 1961–1990).

Najpogostejša razloga globalnega segrevanja ozračja so podnebne spremembe, povezane z naraščanjem koncentracije toplogrednih plinov v ozračju. Na to nas opozarjajo tajanje lednikov pa tudi ekstremni vremenski pojni, kot so denimo pogostejše katastrofalne suše, poplave, toča, vročinski valovi in vetrovi z rušilno močjo. Glavno mesto Velike Britanije London je nedavno prenenetil celo tornado, kar je za tamkajšnje območje res edinstven primer.

### Pesimistične napovedi

Podnebje naj bi se po trditvah meteorologov spremenjalo celo hitreje, kot so sprva pričakovali. Če so še konec prejšnjega stoletja napovedovali, da se bo ozračje za dve stopinji Celzija segrela do leta 2100, zadnje meritve kažejo, naj bi se to zgodilo že čez 20 let. To pa bi pomenilo, da bi bila naša tri obmorska mesta Koper, Izola in Piran leta 2025 pod vodo.

Višanje koncentracije toplogrednih plinov pa naj ne bi bil edini razlog za segrevanje ozračja, čeprav je zelo evidenten. Mednarodna javnost si z raznimi projektmi, kakršen je denimo Kjotski protokol, prizadeva omejiti naraščanje teh snovi, vendar si nekatere države za izpolnjevanje njegovih meril prizadevajo bolj kot druge. Tako so denimo države Evropske unije na tem področju zagotovo vodilne, nekatere druge, med njimi ZDA, pa se sporazumu iz leta 1997 nočajo pridružiti.

Zmanjšanje izpustov toplogrednih plinov v ozračje po merilih Kjotskega protokola, ki je začel veljati lani, pa ne bo pomnilo tudi zmanjšanja koncentracije toplogrednih plinov v ozračju, ampak bo le omejilo njihovo naraščanje.

Znanstveniki Mednarodnega odbora za podnebne spremembe zato opozarjajo ne le na možnost dviga morske gladine, pač pa tudi na morebitne bolezni, ki se prenašajo z vodo, s hrano ali z žuželkami.

V Sredozemlju naj bi

bila pogostejša tudi daljša sušna obdobja, kakršnega smo na tem območju denimo doživeli poleti leta 2003.

Napovedi okoljskih znanstvenikov torej niso optimistične in marsikdo jim kar nočje verjeti. Nekoliko bolj verjamemo meteorologom, le da njihove napovedi niso tako dolgoročne. Kdor je misil, da bo na tem mestu izvedel, kakšna bo letošnja zima, se je torej uštel.

### Napoved za 7 dni

Tehnološke izboljšave tudi meteorološki znaniosti omogočajo, da so napovedi čedalje bolj natančne in dolgoročne. Vendarle pa lahko vreme napovedujejo le za okoli 7 dni nparej, pa še tedaj je natančnost odvisna od mnogih različnih dejavnikov. Kot je zapisano na spletnih straneh ARSO, so ti povezani zlasti s "kaotično naravo procesov v atmosferi".

Veliko področij človekovega delovanja je odvisnih od vremena, prav tako pa tudi od čedalje izrazitejših podnebnih sprememb. ■

## Sprememba naslova

Ko se selite, trajno ali začasno, ste lepo naprošeni, da naši pisarni posredujete tako Vaš novi naslov kakor sedanji oz. stari. To omogoča, da boste brez prekinite dobivali naš list.

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# SLOVENIJA v letu 2006

## Pregled dogodkov

V letu 2006 je Slovenija doživela vrsto pomembnih dogodkov, najbolj pa so leto zaznamovali zapleti s predsednikom republike Janezom Drnovškom, spopadi znotraj LDS, težave z romsko družino Strojan in lokalne volitve



**(Ur. AD:** Ta pregled je pripravil tednik "Demokracija" v svoji prvi letosnji številki /4. jan. 2007/. Pri tem je treba upoštevati, da je ta tednik predvsem naklonjen vladajoči stranki SDS, ki ji predseduje sam predsednik vlade Janez Janša. Kljub temu bo ta pregled gotovo zanimal mnoge bralce, med drugim zato, ker obravnava določene stvari, ki jih v AD tekom leta 2006 nismo vključili v našem sprotinem poročanju.)

### JANUAR

#### Drnovškova preobrazba

Minulo leto se je začelo s pismi predsednika države Janeza Drnovškega, med katerimi je izstopal poziv mednarodni skupnosti k reševanju humanitarne katastrofe v sudanski pokrajini Darfur.

Predsednikovo preobrazbo (pred tem je že ponudil svoj predlog rešitve kosovskega vprašanja), je javnost sprva sprejela z naklonjenostjo, saj se še niso kazali njeni protislowni vidiki. Vendar je Drnovšek konec meseca spet ponudil teme za razpravo, ko je za hrvaški tednik priznal, da se kljub diagnosticiranim metastazam že leto dni ne zdravi več po metodah uradne medicine.

Drnovškova napoved o izstopu iz LDS (njegovo članstvo je bilo dotedaj zamrznjeno) in ustanovitvi Gibanja za pravičnost in razvoj je sprožila ugibanja, ali bo šlo za civilnodružbeno organizacijo ali konkurenco političnim strankam.

Medtem je s prvim januarjem začela veljati nova zakona o javnih uslužencih, ki je ob glasnenem neodobravanju sindikatov javnega sektorja vendarle omogočila izenacitev javnega sektorja z gospodarskim v smislu lažje odpovedi delovnega razmerja v primeru sla-

tega dela in zlorab.

Z imenovanjem članov programskega sveta RTV Slovenija se je začelo novo obdobje večje transparentnosti v javnem zavodu, čeprav je opozicija še naprej poudarjala, da je vpliv politike na imenovanja članov sveta prevelik. Še isti mesec je bil za predsednika omenjenega sveta izbran zgodovinar dr. Stane Granda.

#### Oficir in džentelman

Javnost je razburil spor med pravosodnim ministrom Lovrom Šturmom in predsednikom ljubljanskega okrožnega sodišča Alešem Zalarjem, ker minister ni potrdil Zalarjevega imenovanja.

Šturmov razlog je bil v Zalarjevi neizkušenosti pri vodenju glavnih obravnav, kar bi lahko škodljivo vplivalo na izvajanje nekaj tednov prej predstavljenega projekta Lukenda za zmanjšanje sodnih zaostankov.

V parlamentu je največ prahu dvignila odločitev vlade o napotitvi štirih vojaških inštruktorjev v Irak, pri čemer je prišlo na dan, da je nekdanji premier Anton Rop že leta 2003 razmišljal o vključitvi slovenskih vojakov v dansi kontingent, namenjen na to srednjevhodno krizno žarišče.

Parlament se je v nasprotju s SNS poenotil pri sprejetju zakona, ki bi preprečil preoblikovanje Vzajemne v delniško družbo, s čimer bi, kot so se bali mnogi, utegnili opehariti zavarovance.

Z referendumom smo dobili 12 novih občin, pri tem pa je padla vodo možnost razpolovitve mestne občine Koper.

### FEBRUAR

#### Ptičja gripa

Pravo nočno moro je predstavljalo februarsko odkritje labodov, okuženih z virusom ptičje gri-

# Nezlomljivo Prekmurje

(NADALJEVANJE S STR. 14)

elavec Jožef Klekl (1874-1948), oba neločljivo povezana s Tišino. Časovno še bliže pa nam je Lojze Kozar (1910-1999), rojen v Martinju na Goričkem, ki je kot župnik v Odrancih začel z gradnjo izredno lepe cerkve Svete Trojice, bil pa je tudi vodilni kulturnik, prizadeven pisatelj, ljubiteljski slikar in razgledan zeliščar.

Dodajmo še, da je od leta 2006 tudi drugi mariborski pomožni škof dr. Peter Štrumpf Prekmurec, saj se je, kot poroča rojak, profesor in pisatelj Jože Zadravec v *Družini*, "rodil pred 44 leti v Beltincih, v župniji sv. Ladislava, ki je dala Cerkvi na Slovenskem 64 duhovnikov, 60 redovnic, sedem redovnih bratov in štiri diplomirane teologinje."

Vpliv prekmurskih duhovnikov je segel tudi daleč v svet, saj je npr. Jožef Kerec, rojen leta 1892 v Prosečki vasi, v letu 1939 postal apostolski administrator ogromne škofije Chao-Tung na Kitajskem. Omenimo še sestro Marijo Sreš iz Beltincev, ki zelo uspešno deluje med staroselkami v Indiji, kjer je dobila tudi visoka priznanja za svoja literarna dela. V Beltincih je bil leta 1906 rojen tudi etnolog in literarni zgodovinar dr. Vilko Novak, dolgoletni univerzitetni profesor v Ljubljani, ploden sodelavec Narodnopravnega inštituta in avtor številnih dragocenih del, kot *Ljudska prehrana v Prekmurju*, *Struktura slovenske kulture*, *Izbor prekmurskega slovenstva*, *Ljudsko izročilo Prekmurja* in *Slovar starejše knjižne prekmurščine*.

Nemogoče je obiskati Prekmurje, ne da bi človek poleg lepih cerkva občudoval tudi izredno številne kapele, ki so navadno dosti večje kot drugod v Sloveniji. Značilne za pokrajino so tudi štoklje, ki mnogokrat gnezdi na dimnikih, pa drevoredi vitkih topolov, plavajoči mlini na Muri, prekmurski pirhi in še posebej prekmurska gibanica, izdelana iz testa v več plasteh, obogatena z nadevi kot skuto, orehi, jabolki, makom in rozinami.

Za razliko od jezer z ledeniškim nastankom, ki so značilna za Gorenjsko in Koroško, so prekmurska jezera navadno rečna (to je, razširjene reke), kot npr. Petičevsko jezero, Muriša in Potkova na Muri.

pe, tudi v Sloveniji. Ob širjenju območij karantenne in nerodnem komuniciranju z javnostjo se je postavilo pod vprašaj delo Veterinarske uprave RS oziroma njegove direktorce Vide Čadonič-Špelič.

Tudi v drugem mesecu je s svojo protislovnostjo presenečal predsednik države, saj je pomilostil razvpitega nekdanjega prvega moža Hita Danila Kovačiča, potem ko je ta odsedel le nekaj dni od skoraj štiriletne kazni.

Najpomembnejša politična poteza meseca in morda leta je bila predstavitev pobude premierja Janeza Janše o t. i. Partnerstvu za razvoj, s katerim bi slovenska politika pri vprašanjih nujnih gospodarskih in socialnih reform ter tudi v luči mednarodnih izzivov (v prvi vrsti predsedovanje Evropski uniji leta

Prekmurje je znano po skrbno obdelanih poljih, živinoreji, sadjarstvu, mesni industriji, lončarski obrti in po nad 80 let stari tekstilni tovarni Mura, ki se skuša zdaj vse bolj uveljaviti tudi kot evropsko modno središče.

Zraven verskih skupnosti, kjer je tudi evengeličanska manjšina, zaslubi pozornost tudi v manjših krajih razvejana prosveta in seveda Pokrajinski muzej, Pokrajinska in študijska knjižnica, gimnazija, Soboško jezero z deskanjem in ribolovom in Park miru v Murski Soboti, ki je najbolj ravninsko mesto v Sloveniji, ležeče ob reki Ledavi, pritoku Mure. Tisti ki prištevajo Prlekijo k Prekmurju (slednja je danes v murskosoboški škofiji), bi seveda lahko oklicali za Prekmurca tudi prvega slovenskega kardinala, Prleka Jakoba Missio, rojenega leta 1838 v Križevcih pri Ljutomeru, umrlega pa v letu 1902 daleč od Prlekije in Prekmurja v Gorici in pokopanega na Sveti Gori.

Prekmurca sta pa prav gotovo dva dobro znana brata duhovnika, salezijanec dr. Jože Sraka, soavtor knjige *Prekmurci in Prekmurje* (1984) in jezuit p. Janez Sraka, voditev slovenske radijske oddaje v Vatikanu. Ameriški Slovenci razmeroma dobro poznamo prekmurska duhovnika Jožefa Vargo in Jožefa Godino in izredno zaslužno prekmursko ameriško rojakinjo Gizelo Hozjan, pa seveda Martina Hozjana (nič v sorodu z Gizelo), zelo uspešnega tovarnarja in dolgoletnega predsednika Slovenskega kulturnega centra v Lemontu.

Posebno močna prekmurska naselja so tudi v Bridgeportu in okolici v državi Connecticut, v Bethlehemu v državi Pennsylvania, in v Hamiltonu, Kanadi.

Čeprav so bili Prekmurci skozi stoletja nasilno ločeni od večjih slovenskih pokrajin in mnogokrat prisiljeni hoditi na sezonsko delo v tujino, so z dušo in srcem ostali dobrí zavedni Slovenci. Veseli smo jih in hvaležni smo jim!

Edi Gobec

# Slovenia

2008) presegla strankarske delitve.

S partnerstvom so načelno soglašale vse parlamentarne stranke in poslanca narodnih manjšin, izjema je bila le LDS, ki je projekta očitala nedrečenosti.

#### Novo vodstvo RTV

Drugo poglavje so bili premiki na medijskem področju. Prav na zadnji februarski dan je RTV dobila novega direktorja Antona Guzeja, ki so mu nekateri očitali laičnost na medijskem področju.

Hkrati je prišlo do premika v največjem dnevničnem časopisu Delo, kjer je kljub nezaupnici kolektiva novinarjev nadzorni svet vendarle potrdil Petra Jančiča za novega odgovornega urednika.

Upravičeno ponosni pa smo Slovenci postali ob novici, da bo nekdanjega

ljubljanskega nadškofa in prefekta kongregacije ustavnov posvečenega življenja Franca Rodeta papež Benedikt XVI. poviljal v kardinala.

(SE NADALJUJE)

# Novi grobovi

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

#### Margaret E. Pugel

Umrla je 92 let stara Margaret E. Pugel iz kraja Venice, Fla., prej živeča v Willoughbyju, Mentorju in Clevelandu, rojena Slopko, vdova po Albertu, mati Alberta in Charlesa, 5-krat stara mati, 8-krat prastara mati, sestra Anne Perko, Mary Uzman, Freida Miller, Rudolpha in Ralpa (vsi že pok.). Pogreb je bil 15. januarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Marije v Mentorju in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.