

# Happy 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Cleveland

*Slovenians are significant part of the city's history*

Let Not The Light  
Of Freedom  
Be Extinguished!



## AMERICAN HOME

## AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

Serving in Ohio and nationwide over 150,000 American Slovenians  
Vol. 98 — No. 27 (USPS 024100)

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JULY 4, 1996

ISSN Number: 0164-680X

50c

## From Steerage to Success

### Slovenians Became a Part of America

By Robert Dolgan

It was a great neighborhood, teeming with life, passion, laughter and heart-break. The Slovenians who lived there in the early years of the century had come over in steerage with their mothers' pictures in their packs and when they reached old St. Clair, they found it was possible to live out their lives in this new place without needing to learn a word of English.

It was as though some massive power had picked up a chunk of Slovenia and transported it intact to a city named Cleveland, in far-away America. There was no need to be lonely in this cocoon, for every street corner held the promise of an

encounter with someone you knew in Ribnica, or Dolenjsko or Primorsko.

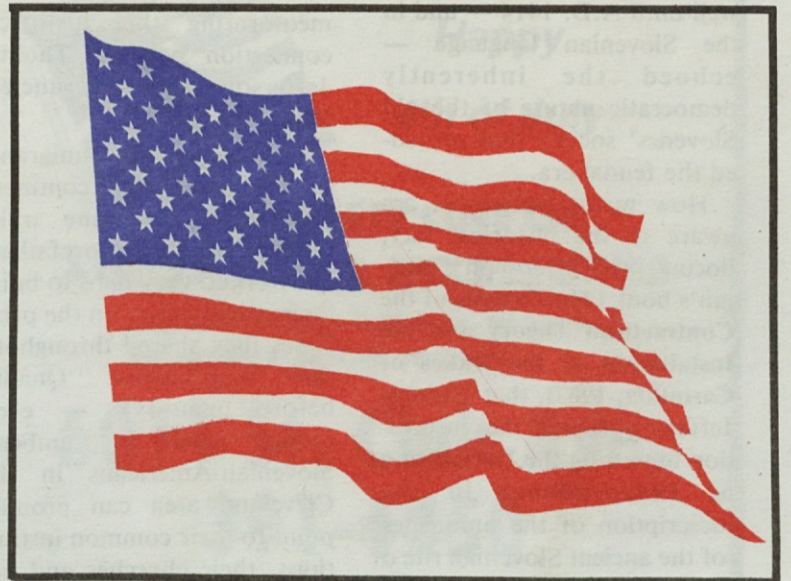
If you wanted to buy a suit, get a tooth pulled or a faucet fixed, you visited men with names like Potokar, Pintar, Gornik, Anzlovar, Kalan, Azman, Grdina, Levec, Belaj, Centa, Rogelj, Macerol, Mohar, Mervar, Opeka, Oblak, Butala, Cerne, Mally, Oman, Stampfel, Matjasic, Sorn, Mramor or Smrekar.

If you needed luck, solace or sage counsel you could go to saloons like Modic's, with its swinging doors; or Lausche's, owned by the parents of future United States senator; or Schwab's, where the whiskey was poured right out of the bar-

rels. The taverns, as bastions

of male chauvinism, didn't let women inside, but otherwise they were friendly places, offering free lunches of salami and eggs for a nickel beer.

If the saloons didn't have the answers for you, you could always hie yourself down to St. Vitus church on Norwood Road, where the legendary pastor, Monsignor B. J. Ponikvar, would chastise you, exhort you or compliment you in your own language. And you could read all about it in your own Slovene newspapers, the Enakopravnost and the Clevelandka Amerika, which later evolved into this paper, the American Home.



The people even re-christened the factories in the neighborhood. The Lake Erie Nuts and Bolts Co. became "bolcovna," the Osborne Co. was "krtačovna," and the East Ohio Gas Co. was "koksovna," with the foremen jabbering away in Slovenian.

If all this wasn't enough, you could always pretend

you were at home again by renting a room in one of the many Slovene boarding houses in the district. They were always run by energetic women who wore long black dresses and babuskas and seemed to spend their whole lives in the kitchen.

Dr. Frank Kern, one of the few survivors of that lost  
(Continued on page 10)

### Small in Members, Rich in Spirit

## Slovenian Heritage Filled with Freedom

"Slovenec sem, tako je mati d'jala"  
("I am a Slovene, so my mother told me")

The Slovenes form a numerically small nation nestled in the heart of Central Europe in the single and unique area where all three major Indo-European groups — the Germanic, Latin and Slavic — meet and mix. Thus the Slovenes have been surrounded by much stronger neighbors historically intent on overtaking the strategically important Slovenian territory by manipulating a process of gradual absorption and disappearance of the Slovenian population into the larger German, Italian and Hungarian nations. It is thus no wonder that the Slovenes' survival over some fourteen

centuries in their continuously shrinking territory is generally considered to be the "miracle in Central Europe."

Not even two millions in numbers. — but the Slovenes still survive, mostly because borderlands Slovenes make conscious decisions to remain faithful to their forefathers' heritage.

But what has made this "miracle" possible? Probably some of the same characteristic traits that have helped Slovenian immigrants and their descendants in America to not only survive but to prosper and fully participate and contribute to the social, cultural, political and economic wellbeing of their "Ameriška domovina" (American Homeland). What are these traits? Let me try to

describe them briefly as I and many others have experienced them in our lives and also observed them, in my case, over some fifty years of events both in Europe and America.

The major forces that have "molded" the Slovenian nation through its history are Christianity and an innate yearning for democracy and freedom.

**Christianity** — The Creator-Father has endowed each one of us with an immortal soul and, through His Son's suffering, has opened the gates to salvation and eternity. Being all of one God-Father makes us brothers and sisters of equal worth and the divine commandment tells us to love one another as ourselves in deep respect for each other as persons and/or groups. Two say-

ings we were frequently told by parents and elders have had a lasting impact on many:

— "Duty before pleasure" — When duties are viewed as the exercise of Christian love — duties become pleasures and other pleasures follow.

— "Quality before quantity" — The imperative of excellence was derived from the command of love and duty — and, through consistent practice, excellence becomes a pleasure also. Quality and excellence also became a necessity for survival in the competition with much stronger groups that tended to control minorities by keeping them ignorant about themselves. "Slovenes are a small nation: only through quality and excellence can we survive" was a common saying when I was

growing up in the culturally and politically stifling regime of fascist Italy.

**Democracy** — Slovenes instinctively love democracy. Perhaps they have unconsciously absorbed into their national trait an abhorrence for authoritarianisms of any kind, having suffered under them as a small group subjected to the will of more powerful neighbors-conquerors. Perhaps there is also lingering in the Slovenian national psyche a dim remembrance of the middle ages rite of installation of the Dukes of Carinthia by a Slovenian-speaking "peasant prince." This ancient rite probably symbolized a "social and political contract" through which the people entrusted  
(Continued on page 2)



# AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

6117 St. Clair Ave. - 216/431-0628 - Cleveland, OH 44103

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA (USPS 024100)

James V. Debevec - Publisher, English editor  
Dr. Rudolph M. Susel - Slovenian Editor

Ameriška Domovina Permanent Scroll of Distinguished Persons:  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Louis B. Baznik, Michael and Irma Telich,  
Frank J. Lausche, Paul Košir

Second Class Postage Paid at Cleveland, Ohio  
POSTMASTER: Send address change to American Home,  
6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103-1627

Fax (216) 361-4088 Published every Thursday

No. 27 Thursday, July 4, 1996

## Slovenians

(Continued from page 1)

sovereign authority to a just and caring ruler. This custom, observed as a legal process well until A.D. 1414 — and in the Slovenian language — echoed the inherently democratic nature of the old Slovenes' society that preceded the feudal era.

How many Americans are aware of the historical fact, documented in Joseph Felicijan's book (*The Genesis of the Contractual Theory and the Installation of the Dukes of Carinthia, 1967*), that Thomas Jefferson found the inspiration in writing the *Declaration of Independence* in the description of the uniqueness of the ancient Slovenian rite of installation contained in Jean Bodin's *Republic* (1576)? How significant and gratifying it is that some of the founding principles of the greatest democratic power on earth were influenced by the inspiring tradition of one of the smallest nations of Europe! Slovenes ought to be justly proud and aware of this extraordinary event and forever grateful to Dr. Felicijan for his persistent research and findings.

Cleveland's Slovenian community should also see to it that tourists and visitors to

Cleveland are informed, as a point of great cultural interest, about the plaque installed by the Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation on the Fountains Mall by the Convention Center commemorating this historical connection between Thomas Jefferson and the ancient Slovenian rite.

The Slovenian immigrants to the American continent maintained the same traits received from their forefathers and worked very hard to build their communities on the principles they shared throughout their long history. "Quality before quantity" — even though small in numbers, Slovenian-Americans in the Cleveland area can proudly point to their common institutions, their churches and national homes, as the expression of their tenacious character.

As one who could have been absorbed into some other stronger national group back in Europe, I am proud to echo our popular song — "Slovenec sem, tako je mati d'jala," and join in the congratulations due our Slovenian National Homes for their continuous and dedicated work for the common good of their communities: čestitam in še tako naprej!

Vladimir J. Rus

\*\*\*

Why shouldn't truth be stranger than fiction?  
Fiction, after all, has to make sense.

—Mark Twain

**We Wish A Happy 4th of July  
To All of Our Customers!**



# NOSAN'S



## Slovenian Home Bakery

*We will be closed after July 4th for Summer Vacation*

**6413 St. Clair — 361-1863**

**Our Euclid Location**

**567 E. 200**

**481-5670**

## Remember the Street Hawkers?

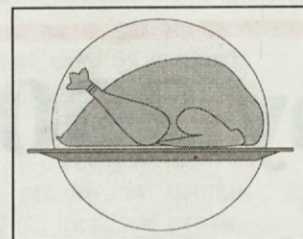
The lifestyle of the average American family today relies greatly on the automobile for mobility. It is commonplace to travel many miles daily to one's place of employment. Many millions of households require a second car for traveling to distant supermarkets and shopping malls for their essential food and clothing.

All this makes one wistfully recall that in the bygone days of 50 years ago and earlier, one didn't even have to leave his home to do his buying!

Street peddlers or hawkers, as they were sometimes called, saw to it that everyone was provided with ample food, services and even entertainment, right at their doorstep.

One such huckster was the **Fish Man** who every Friday would transverse the streets in his horse and wagon, blowing his horn with one long blast yelling, "Fish!" the housewives would scramble hurriedly from their homes and after some haggling, would purchase a pound or two of blue pike which was the most popular in those days of clean Lake Erie.

On Saturdays, the **Chicken Man** would arrive in his truck, overloaded with live poultry, alerting homemakers with toots on his horn. He would soon attract a large group of customers



who purchased struggling, squawking fowls or maybe a dozen or so of really fresh eggs.

A more frequent visitor was the **Produce Man** who hawked his vegetables and fruit every other day; most of the fair-set watched him closely and skeptically when he weighed their purchases on his scale.

The **Milk Man** is still very much in evidence today in some neighborhoods. In the early days he would pour milk into empty bottles brought to his horse and wagon by residential customers. At that time he carried the milk in the large metal cans.

For those desiring snacks in between meals, there was the **Waffles Man**. Two rings on a chime bell would be sufficient for small tots and adults to make a hasty exit from their homes to purchase hot, delicious waffles with powdered sugar.

And who will ever forget the **Chestnut and Peanut Man** with his steam-powered whistle on his push cart summoning all to purchase his roasted chestnuts and peanuts.

And the **Bakery Man** bringing with him the aroma of tantalizing baked goods such as just-baked bread, nuts, biscuits and other doughy delights. Needless to say, he was always besieged with hungry patrons.

And the **Ice Cream Man** would shout his wares at the top of his voice. On a bicycle-powered cart, he would always find that his business would flourish when the summer heat was most oppressive.

Since there were no refrigerators, just ice-boxes the **Ice Man** would be indispensable in the summer doing his route every day. A housekeeper required for her window, showing the weight desired on the bottom corner. (There were 25, 75, and 100 pound markings in each corner of the diamond shaped card, which the ice-man supplied to his customers.)

Our clothing wants usually provided by a **Goods Man**, who would cram into a suitcase, bolts of cloth, sheets, other broadcloth goods. The other suitcase he would have sundry items such as needles, thread, buttons, socks, hankies, etc. He would walk door-to-door and empty his suitcases to potential buyers. I always marveled at his patience re-packing the suitcase

(Continued on page 3)

\*\*\*\*\*

### DID YOU KNOW

*Slovenia...*

Joseph Zelle

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Janéz Gril, head of the press for the Slovenian Bishops Conference, estimated that 300,000 inhabitants of Slovenia had immediate contact with Pope John Paul II during his 3-day visit to Slovenia. National costumes of Slovenians at the Pope's meetings made a big impression on reporters, cameramen, and visitors.

*Enjoy your 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holidays*

**Homemade Rice & Blood Sausage**

**Baby Back or Spare Ribs**

**Choice Steaks & Roasts**

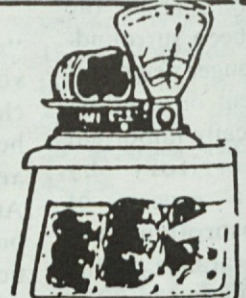
**Super Beef Hot Dogs**

**Slovenian Smoked Sausage and Zelodec**

**Fresh Polish and Italian Sausage**



Open Friday  
Till 7:00 p.m.



# RUDY'S

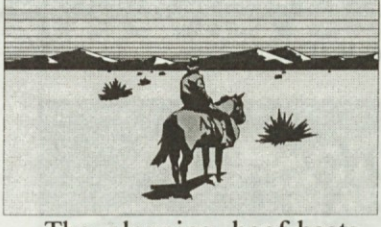
**QUALITY MEATS**

Top Quality Meats at Reasonable Prices  
31728 Vine St Willowick

(216)  
943-5490



(Continued from page 2)



The clapping hoof-beats of a Shetland pony would always herald the approach of the **Pony Photographer**. This fellow would always search out the cutest of the small fry, and reluctant moms had to give in to their youngsters, who insisted on being photographed – just so they could sit on the pony, and maybe be given a short ride (a few steps).

Should your health be failing, the **Medicine Man** with his home-concocted tonics, salves and ointments would make a quick diagnosis, and prescribe something that seemed to work a cure, or at least didn't harm you. One Dr. Zauba was especially well-known in the St. Clair community in the 20s and 30s.

For entertainment, we listened to the strolling **Street-Singer Man**. With a megaphone held to his lips and crooning a sentimental ditty, his admiring audience would drop a penny or two in his tin cup. Or it may have been an **Accordion Man** rendering a simple, folksy refrain, and he, too, was rewarded with a copper coin.

The most popular attraction was the **Organ-Grinder Man** (who always seemed to be named "Tony") and, of course, his frisky monkey, dancing while "Tony" cranked out a tune on his music box. After the musical selection was completed, the monkey would doff his tiny hat and extend his paw, seeking a donation.

There were other animal entertainers such as the **Dancing Bears** with an organ grinder, and also **Fortune-telling parrots** who would select, with their bill, a little envelope from a row of many. Upon opening the envelope, a small slip of paper would be removed, and on it would be printed one's fortune.

Then there was the **Fuller-Brush Man** offering a fine selection of toiletries.

Today, the main survivor seems to be the **Vacuum Cleaner Salesman**. The Kirby Vacuum salesman is still alive and doing well even in spite of all the sales pitches being offered on TV.

You can easily see that in those early days, it seemed the whole world came to one's doorstep. I can never recall hearing anyone complaining they were lonely – because that was impossible – they were never left alone – thanks to the (sales)men in their lives.

--F.Z.



**MARK PETRIC**  
 Certified Master Technician



**Petric's Automotive Service**

Foreign & Domestic  
 General Auto Repair

(216) 942-5130

33430 Lakeland Blvd., Eastlake, Ohio 44095 / LOCATED IN REAR

# St. Clair Auto Parts



*Happy 4th of July*

**COMPLETE LINE OF AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES**

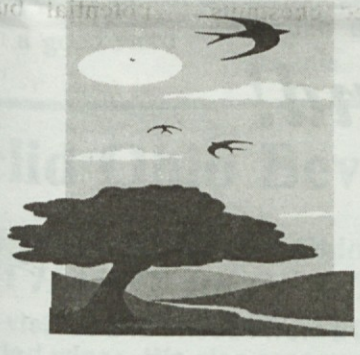
Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
 Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## 6011 St. Clair Ave.

### 391-4450

DALE LUNDER

**Al Koporc, Jr.**  
 Piano Technician  
 (216) 481-1104



— Happy 4th of July —

## FERFOLIA Funeral Home

5386 Lee Rd. at Broadway  
 Maple Heights, Ohio — 663-4222

Visit Us - or Call Us

Now: Our **SECOND** Location  
 To Serve You **BETTER!**

356 West Aurora Rd.  
 Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067  
 467-4500



Louis L. Ferfolia - Donald L. Ferfolia  
 Donald B. Ferfolia  
 Mary Ferfolia Lansky



Anton Grdina first entered the St. Clair business community in 1903. The above picture was taken in 1904, only one year after Mr. Grdina's mercantile debut.

# YANESH BROS. CONSTRUCTION CO.

29010-13 EUCLID AVENUE  
 WICKLIFFE, OHIO 44092

**SPECIALIZING IN FIRE DAMAGE REPAIR**

**24 HR. EMERGENCY SERVICE**  
 COMPLETE RESTORATION SERVICE  
 WIND STORM DAMAGE REPAIR

INDUSTRIAL  
 COMMERCIAL  
 RESIDENTIAL

**943-2020**  
**943-2026**  
 WILLIAM S. (BILL) YANESH



**FAST TEMPORARY REPAIRS**  
 TO HALT FURTHER DAMAGE



REMEMBER OUR HEROIC SERVICEMEN & WOMEN



*Happy 4th of July*



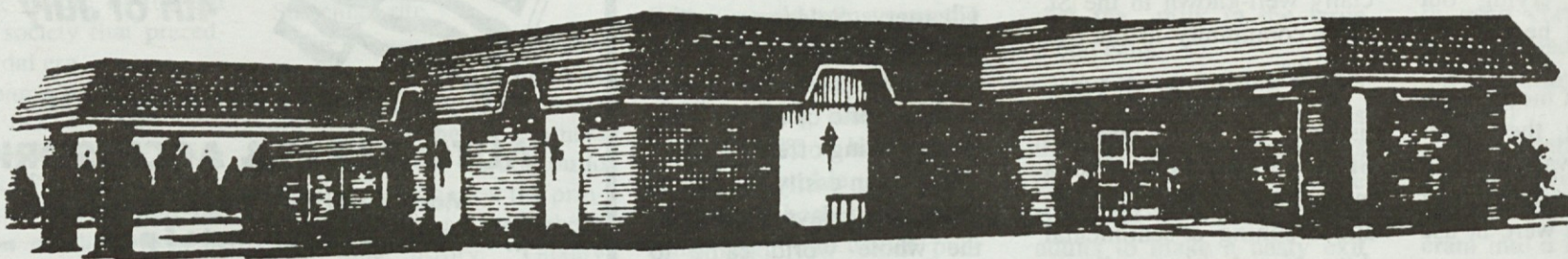
*The*  
**Dan Cosic**  
FUNERAL HOME

*Vesel državni -  
praznik*

**4. julij**

28890 Chardon Road  
Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094

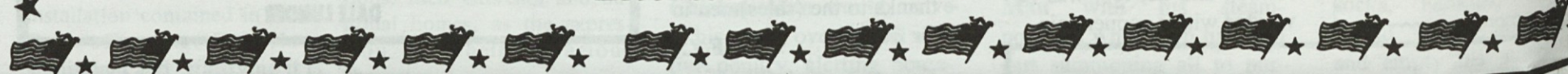
**944-8400**



Reasonable & Dignified — Luncheon & Community Rooms Available

**Dan Cosic**

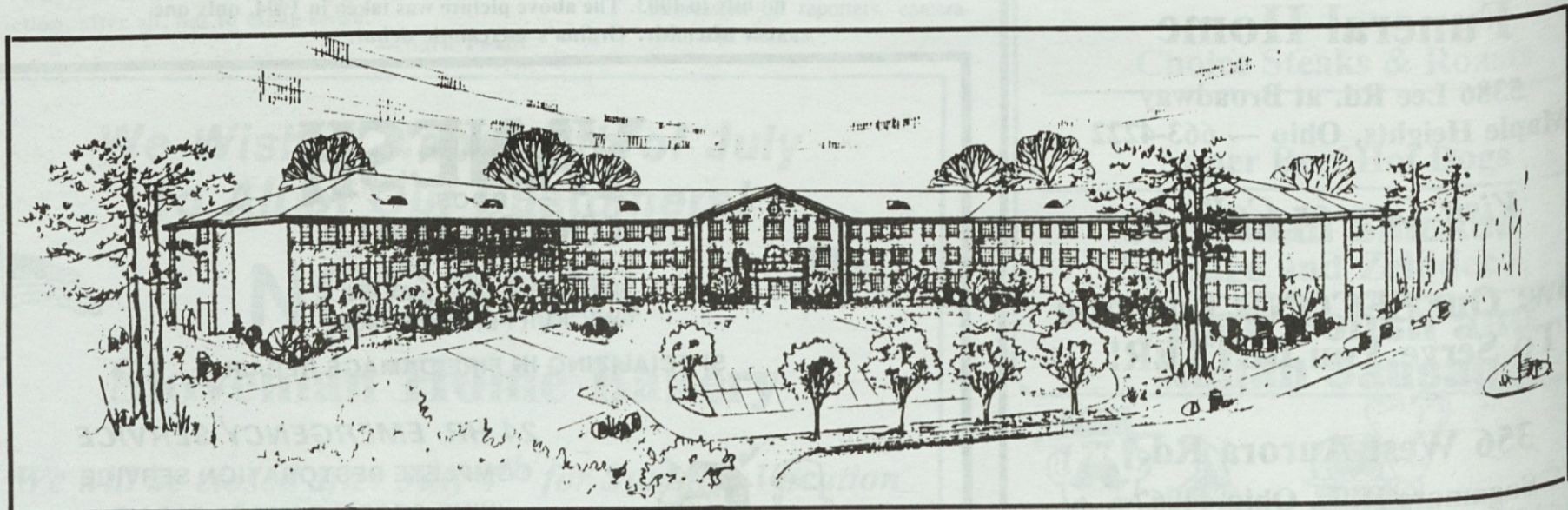
Licensed Funeral Director



*Happy Birthday, Cleveland!*  
**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!**



**GATEWAY MANOR**



The Gateway Manor is a 3-story, attractive apartment facility in the park-like setting of the Gateway community.

Its concept is for those who desire a quiet and relaxing atmosphere and convenience of many available services offered for care-free living.

Located just off East 200<sup>th</sup> Street and I-90 in Euclid, Ohio, the Gateway Manor has ready access to major freeways, shopping malls and recreational facilities.



# Jozef Turk, First Slovenian Settler

It has often been said that the Cleveland area has more Slovenians than any place outside of Slovenia, yet it was less than 115 years ago that the first Slovenian settler arrived.

Promise of a better life brought Jozef Turk to Cleveland from Zvice, Austria, (now Slovenia) in 1881. Like many immigrants, he was forced to leave his family behind.

Renting a room in the home of a Polish family in Newburgh, he went to work in the steel mills. In an accomplishment that is almost impossible today, he soon saved enough money to buy a grocery store, saloon, and three boarding houses. One by one his wife and children were able to join him.

By 1888 there were about 18 Slovenian families in Cleveland with each family taking in anywhere from eight to 15 of their fellow countrymen as boarders.

Since most of them worked in what was known as Steelburgh (Otis Steel), they persuaded Jozef to move his saloon nearer to St. Clair. Josip Sternisa took over the Newburgh spot.

The young men were often inclined to drown their homesickness in wine. Hardly a Monday passed that Josef wasn't called to court to put in a good word



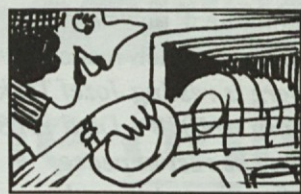
for his people. Once the young ladies began arriving from the old country, the problem decreased.

The only musician at that time was Anton Kocivar, who had brought his accordion from his homeland. Anton stood seven feet tall and when he played, everyone felt they were back in Slovenia. There was no

wedding party complete without him.

These were bright days for Josef; everything seemed to be going his way. He increased his business ventures and since he was the only Slovenian businessman in the neighborhood, there was little competition.

He trusted everyone, and while most of his customers (Continued on page 6)



Washing dishes by hand uses up, on average, 20 gallons of water—a dishwasher uses only nine to 12 gallons for the same load of dishes.

## Euclid Ohio Beverage

635 E. 200 St., Euclid, Ohio 44119  
A HAPPY 4th OF JULY!

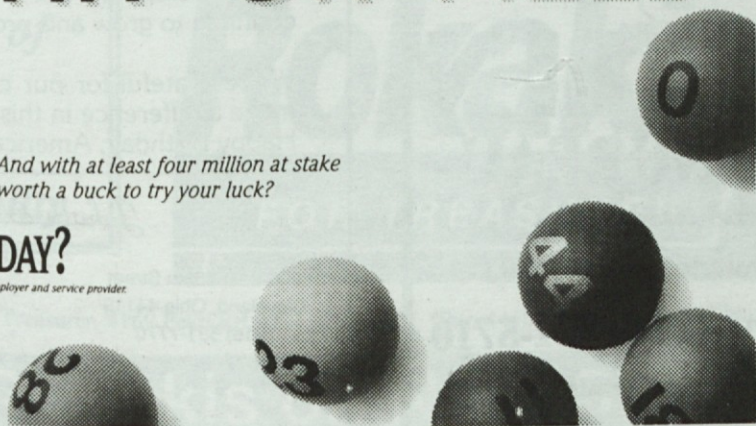
Come and visit us and choose from a large selection of imported wines. We also recommend our fine quality Ohio wines featuring Chalet Debonné of the Debevc family.

OUR GAME PAYS YOU  
M I L L I O N S  
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T  
PITCH, HIT OR FIELD

All it takes to win Super Lotto is luck! And with at least four million at stake every Wednesday and Saturday, isn't it worth a buck to try your luck?

**FEEL LUCKY TODAY?**

The Ohio Lottery Commission is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.



To all Americans especially all our clients  
HAPPY 4th OF JULY

**Dr. Zenon A. Klos**  
**531-7700**  
Emergencies

E. 185th  
AREA

Dental Insurance Accepted

Laboratory on Premises - Same Day Denture Repair  
COMPLETE DENTAL CARE FACILITY

848 E. 185 St. (between Shore Carpet & Fun Servcies)

We wish you a  
Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

## Summer Specials !!!

Available Only At: **EMBE** MAIL BOXES ETC.  
25931 Euclid  
Phone: 289-3722  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 7 pm.  
Sat 10 am - 4 pm  
Sun: 12 noon-4 pm

East-Side  
Office:  
Euclid-Richmond  
Shopping Center

## COPIES & MORE

It's Not What We Do. It's How We Do.™

**\$1.00 OFF**

UPS Ground Service

\$5.00 Minimum Order  
Authorized UPS Shipping Outlet

**EMBE** MAIL BOXES ETC.  
COUPON REQUIRED

Expires July 31, 1996 • Not Valid With Other Offers

**20% OFF**  
Laminating

Our service doesn't end when you've finished making copies. We also offer a full line of laminating services - perfect for your business proposals, presentations, or special projects. At Mail Boxes Etc., we know a copy is more than just a copy. So, our Centers are equipped with high quality, regularly maintained copy machines so your copies will be clean, crisp and clear.

**EMBE** MAIL BOXES ETC.  
COUPON REQUIRED

Expires July 31, 1996 • Not Valid With Other Offers

Quality  
Konica  
Copies

**3¢ COPIES**

Limit 500 per person  
One Side, 20# White Bond,  
8 1/2 x 11", Self Service

**EMBE** MAIL BOXES ETC.  
COUPON REQUIRED

Expires July 31, 1996 • Not Valid With Other Offers

**24 Hour Access**

We realize your copy needs don't end when our Center closes for the night. Now, it's easy to get 24 hour access to our top quality copiers.

We accept and recycle your clean, loose packaging peanuts.

## Happy Independence Day to All in Our Community



**Paul J. Hribar**  
**Joyce Ann Hribar**  
Attorneys at Law

A. M. Pena Building, Suite 500  
27801 Euclid Avenue, near I-90  
**261-0200**

Probate, Estate Planning,  
Real Estate, Trusts and  
General Civil Practice



# Jozef Turk, First Slovenian Settler

(Continued from page 5)

paid him back, there were a few who didn't. Those debts he overlooked because he didn't want the stigma of going to court to fall on any of his people.

Things were going so well that when his daughter, Jera, married Miha Skebe, he was able to give them one of his saloons as a wedding present.

One of his properties was located at what is now St. Clair and East 31<sup>st</sup> St. Included were a bar, restaurant, dry goods store and two apartments. Some time later he bought a bar across from the old market house. This he gave to his son, Janez.

Among his employees were Jurij Travnikar, Lojze Lausche, F. Sadar, Lojze Rechar, Andrej Kikal and Stefacka Gasti.

Jozef worried about the spiritual welfare of his countrymen. Most didn't want to go to the Czech priest for confession because they couldn't understand him. Jozef solved this problem by persuading a Slovenian priest in Minnesota to come to Cleveland once a year.

When there were over 50 Slovenian families in Cleveland, Jozef went to the bishop to ask for a Slovenian priest. He was told there were none available but the bishop agreed to arrange for some Slovenian seminarians to come from Europe to complete their studies here.

Among the future priests who arrived from Ljubljana was Vitus Hribar, who served as pastor of St. Mary's church in Collinwood for many years.

The time seemed appropriate to consider building a church and Jozef was named treasurer of a committee to collect contributions. In two years, he was only able to collect \$1,000.00.

Realizing that the dream of a church would be a long way off at that rate, Jozef came up with an idea.

While riding down Superior Ave. one day, he had seen a sign on a Protestant church which read: "To be sold to the highest bidder."

When the auction came up, Jozef was there, and his bid of \$300 made him the owner. He was instructed that the church either had to be moved or destroyed at once.

He signed an agreement to buy two lots across the street for \$1,400, certain that he could organize a church committee to raise the money. He planned to donate the building and have the parishioners buy the land.

To have the church moved across the street, Jozef paid an additional \$200. It was a nice church, he felt, spacious and high, with the pews covered in soft green velvet. But the parishioners decided against his plan.

There was little he could do but demolish the church and take home the wood.

Later the committee selected the site of the present St. Vitus Church on Glass Ave. Jozef worked with them but never forgot that, for the land alone, the Slovenians paid \$3,300.

Much of the Slovenian social life centered around the lodge meetings which were often very long. They usually started on Sundays at 1 p.m., and lasted until 7 in the evening.

Most of the Slovenian families were his customers, buying on credit and paying once a month as was their custom. But unemployment was spreading fast. Those who had some money left and went back home.

Those who had to stay still patronized Jozef but couldn't pay their bills. Some offered their furniture as partial payment, but furniture in those days was often not worth moving. Nevertheless, in three years Jozef's attic was full of furniture.

Later, when things got better, the Slovenians knew where to buy furniture cheaply. For \$18, newlyweds could furnish four rooms.

It wasn't long before Jozef found himself in financial difficulties. All he had left was his grocery store and that was anything

but profitable. He found it impossible to turn down customers with hungry children.

A seeming solution came when Jurij Travnikar returned from a trip west, bringing a wealthy silver miner with him. The two purchased Jozef's store but not long after announced bankruptcy. The store was Jozef's worry again.

Jozef was still treasurer of the Independent Society of St. Vitus Church. Each Monday he dutifully deposited the money he had collected the day before in an account.

One day he was notified that his credit was gone and they seized the money. In order to pay the Society, he had to sell his property he had in Europe.

Sick with humiliation and worry, Jozef moved his family to St. Clair and Nottingham Rds., which at that time was considered "country."

He made wine and sold it to Slovenians. When Browning Crame bought the acreage he moved to Nottingham where once again he opened a saloon and prospered for two years until the Village of Nottingham was proclaimed "dry" and he had to close. This was years before prohibition.

Today in St. Paul's Cemetery, Chardon Rd., in Euclid, Ohio stands a monument purchased by his children which reads:

*Here is resting Jozef Turk  
Born in 1838 - Died 1903  
May he rest in peace.  
First Slovenian settler.*

Note: This story appeared in the Scoop-Journal on Sunday, Nov. 8, 1970 from information contributed by Mrs. B. J. Hribar. It was taken from a biography of her father, written by her brother, the late Frank Turk. Although a certain John Pintar was the first Slovenian to arrive in Cleveland, he stayed only briefly and returned to his homeland.

\*

Danger and delight grow on one stalk.

--Scottish proverb



**Slovenia**  
**MIHELIN**  
**TRAVEL BUREAU**  
*"For All Your Travel Needs"*

4118 St. Clair Ave. Cleveland, Ohio 44103  
If your intentions are to visit or maybe  
bring your loved ones to the U.S.A. on a visit, Phone (216) 431-5710  
please contact us.

**Frank in Christina Mihelin**  
— owners

*We Are American - Slovenian Travel Agency*

## Perkins Restaurant

22780 Shore Center Dr.  
Euclid, Ohio 44123  
216-732-8077

Operated by Joe Foster



Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July to  
All of Our Customers!

**CEBAR'S TAVERN**

*Fish Fries Every Friday*

👏 20c Wings on Mon. and Tues. 👏

FRANK and TOM CVELBAR, Owners

Please Visit Us!

We have...

**Slovenian pickles,  
Feferoni sweet, whole peppers;  
pepper fillets, mixed salad,  
Radenska (mineral water),  
Goldham beer, famous  
Slovenian wines from Gorica,  
Ljutemer, & Vipava.**

*We also carry a large selection of  
imported beers from other countries -  
New Cookies from Other Parts of  
Europe*

**PATRIA**

World-Wide Selected Foods and Gifts

794 E. 185 St., Cleveland Ph: 531-6720  
Open Daily M-W-Th: 9-5:00, Tues, Fri, Sat: 9-5:30

## Happy Birthday, America

We're thankful for our country and the many opportunities it offers. And just as our founding fathers worked hard to establish this great United States of America, each one of us should work to help it continue to grow and prosper.



We're grateful for our chance to make a difference in this country. Happy Birthday, America.

*Jakubs & Son Funeral Home*

936 East 185th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44119  
(216) 531-7770

36000 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Eastlake, Ohio 44095-1549  
(216) 953-4600

MEMBER ORDER OF THE  
**GOLDEN RULE**



--Zarja, 1983--

After leaving Richmond Brothers in 1925, I got a job for 30c an hour at the Cleveland Public Hall on E. 6th and St. Clair where flower shows and operas were presented. The hall had a regular wood floor, and after a flower show, there were piles and piles of dirt.

We cleaning women paired off and swept the hall, filling many baskets with dirt. Then they drove a truck right into the hall and we emptied the baskets into the truck.

By the way, we scrubbed the floor with soapy water and wiped it with clear water using rags, not mops, scrubbing on our hands and knees.

One day I slipped, hitting one of the two pails each women use and broke a rib. They sent me to a doctor on E. 9th Street who bandaged me. Returning one week later, I could hardly breathe, but continued work, breaking the rib in the same place for the second time.

Let me tell you how my husband and I became United States Citizens. At that time, Mr. Hopkins (the Cleveland Airport is named after him), was Cleveland's City Manager. However, when that political issue was

to be changed, and Cleveland would change to the mayoral government, Mr. Miller announced, "I'm going to run for mayor of Cleveland; anyone who is a citizen, vote for me."

"Well, I was a citizen but *could not vote* in that mayoral election *because I was a woman*, but my husband voted.

Immigrants were encouraged to become citizens, through the efforts of Mr. Anton Grdina, one of the early Slovenian immigrants in Cleveland, who died at age 90, and published the *Nova Domovina* newspaper, when I came to America. (Mr. Louis Pirc, the next owner changed the newspaper's name to *Clevelandska Amerika*).

The editorials encouraged Slovenian men to become citizens - not the women, because they couldn't vote - only men could. My husband got his citizenship papers in 1913, during World War I. They put on the citizenship paper (which cost \$1.00) that he was a father of three; therefore, he didn't have to go to the military service. Also, his name, age, height, weight, color of eyes, along with my name, age; and that of our children, my sons,

Anthony, age 5; Louis, 3; and Fred, 3 months. I still have that citizenship paper.

Women received the right to vote in 1921, the year my youngest sister, Frances, arrived in America. I've voted ever since that time in the basement of St. Vitus Church, and still admire those suffragettes who worked so hard to establish this right for women.

There wasn't always complete agreement or good will amongst the immigrants. I recall a religious incident which developed in 1907. There was a big disagreement among some of the parishioners who wanted to dismiss Father Vitus Hribar from St. Vitus Parish because they said, "He puts everything in his pocket." Mr. Anton Grdina, fought to have him replaced.

Then Father Zakrajsek, a Franciscan priest, came from Slovenia to replace Father Hribar, but the Bishop said, "None of you will get what you want." He sent Father Zakrajsek to New York, moved Father Hribar to Akron, Ohio, and appointed a new priest, Father Bartholemew Ponikvar, who came from my former parish in Slovenia.

But, nobody wanted him! The parishioners kept fighting. Finally, the Bohemian bishop came to the house where the people were gathered and protesting loudly, "We don't want Ponikvar." The Bishop said. "He'll be okay. Help him. Don't fight him."

In the 1920s economic times began to change, and soon the depression hit. Five of us ladies were out of work. My husband who worked for 25c an hour at the bicycle factory, also lost his job. Then all the factories closed down.

We lost our house on Norwood during the depression after paying \$11,500. There were ten houses, all alike, on the one block. They were constructed in 1924, five on one side and five on the other. During the depression, all banks were closed, including the one which financed the building of our house. In the meantime, we received a government loan and bought two lots in West Park Village for \$250.00. My husband intended to construct a home there. But the city installed sewers, water and sidewalks, increasing the tax bill to \$500.00. We couldn't pay

the taxes and lost the property as well as the house.

Finally, when Roosevelt became President, the economy of the Nation started to change with new programs and the repeal of the bad ones. We voted for the repeal of prohibition, and rid ourselves of a "dry country." Then came the Social Security act in 1937, which took one penny from a person's wages and one penny from the company for Social Security benefits.

My son, just out of school, worked at Fisher body for 45c an hour. He often came home so tired he would cry.

Fraternalism was extremely important in Cleveland, and they boasted one of the largest Slovenian populations in America.

Looking back, I am glad those struggles were in America. I have experienced some beautiful memories,

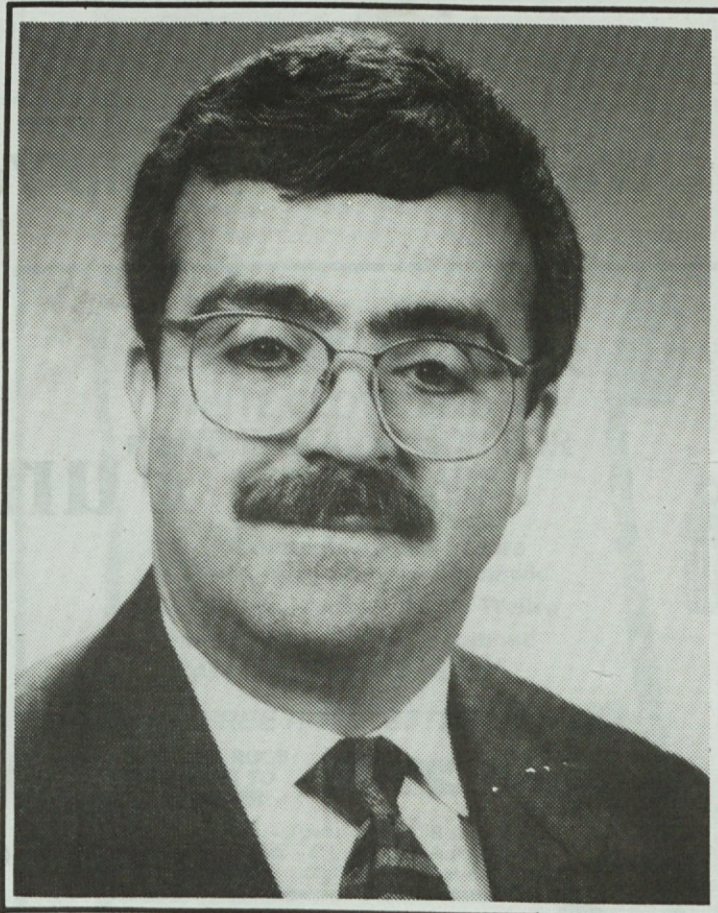
*This story was tape-recorded at the Slovene Home for the Aged in Cleveland on May 22, 1982 by Irene Jagodnik, and prepared for publication by Irene Odorizzi. Since that time Mrs. Strnisha has passed to her final reward.*

# JIM ROKAKIS: A Record and Program We Can Trust For County Treasurer

## Jim Rokakis is the only candidate with *experience* in Public Finance

- The only candidate with relevant financial experience.
- Has served as Chair of Cleveland City Council's Finance Committee since 1991.
- Updated Cleveland's cash-management and investment policies, producing better results with no added risk.
- Shaped seven consecutive balanced budgets.
- Fought successfully to keep Cleveland out of the ill-fated "SAFE investment program."

Married to the former Laurie Shafer. Jim and Laurie have three children. Graduate of Cleveland-Marshall School of Law. Graduate of Oberlin College.



*A Proven Record of Leadership and Commitment to Fiscal Responsibility*

**Jim Rokakis**  
FOR TREASURER

Paid for by Friends of Jim Rokakis for Treasurer, 4169 Pearl Rd. #311, Cleveland, Ohio 44109 Howard Kotz, Chair

**Vote Jim Rokakis on Nov. 5**

To Help Jim Rokakis, please call 459-8737



# Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



*— Family Owned and Operated  
Since 1908 —*

**Licensed Funeral Directors:**  
Richard J. Zele — Louis F. Zele,  
Sutton J. Girod — Louis E. Zele

**“Four Generations of  
THE ZELE FAMILY”**

**In Time of Need —  
We Are Here to Help You.**



## **Zele Funeral Homes, Inc.**

(Main Office)  
452 East 152nd Street — 481-3118

CLEVELAND, OHIO



# Legacy of Rudolph Bukovec

A dream began 67 years ago and was realized by determined young man with ambitions. In 1918 Rudolph Bukovec left his home in Slovenia and emigrated to America, first settling in Pennsylvania. Like many others around him, he found work in the coal mines, a dirty, dangerous, health-breaking job at best.

With painstaking regularity he saved earnings and moved to Cleveland and found work as a meat cutter for Jasbec Meat Market. There are those of you who may remember the local market on East 49th Street between Superior and St. Clair. It was here Rudolph learned the skills that would be picked up by future generations.

The year 1928 was a time of achievement and personal happiness. Rudolph and his wife, Agnes, bought the beginning of Rudy's Meat Market, and they became proud parents of their first-born child, a son, Rudy.

Rudy's Meat Market was located at 4506 Superior Avenue. Business was good and the store grew. At that time perishables were kept chilled by ice and ice coolers. Rudy's Meat Market was among the first in the city to break tradition with new technology - electrically refrigerated meat counters. This was the foundation of their reputation for the freshest, best quality product available.

Rudolph's and Agnes' family also grew to include two more sons, Anthony, born in 1933 and Chuck in 1936.

Their happiness was short-lived. Tragedy struck the hard working Slovenian family the year after little Chuck was born. Rudolph was killed in an automobile accident.

Agnes, who knew little English, found herself alone at 32 with three young children, no savings and a mortgage. In desperation she turned to her brother Steve Jaska for help. Steve helped her run the market until the boys were old enough to help. As they came of age, Rudy, Tony, and Chuck worked the store after school and weekends.



The United States is the world's largest producer of lead. It's mostly used for batteries and in construction.

Of the three sons, Rudy was termed eligible and inducted into the Armed Forces to serve. He returned home in 1955 and the family purchased a second store from the Pintar family at 6706 St. Clair Avenue. When the Fisher Food store next door shut down in 1958, the Superior Avenue location used the opportunity to expand service to include groceries.

Tragedy struck once again. Agnes fought a recurrent battle with cancer and lost. She died in 1960 at age 55. Brother Tony died in 1983. Despite these losses, the foundation was strong and the family spirit continued.

In 1963 a third location for Rudy's Quality Meats was opened at 31728 Vine Street. The Superior Avenue and St. Clair stores lost their leases and subsequently closed. The Vine Street store is now the only location of Rudy's Quality Meats.

Today the heritage is still evident at Rudy's Quality Meats. The store is primarily family owned and operated. The Bukovecs believe in quality, friendly service, customer loyalty and welcome questions from their customers. "People are afraid of looking dumb," said Chuck Bukovec. We want them to feel free to ask questions, something people aren't comfortable doing in a large market."

A family owned market in the neighborhood has its advantages. Many delicious and ethnic homemade items may be found among their stock. Each item is a specialty of the individual chef. Flavor not ordinarily found in the average grocery store may be discovered here. It is a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere to enjoy compared to the sterile feeling of large supermarket.



## Yanesh Construction expands to Most of Northern Ohio

John H. Yanesh established his Yanesh Construction Co. in 1947 in the city of Wickliffe, Ohio.

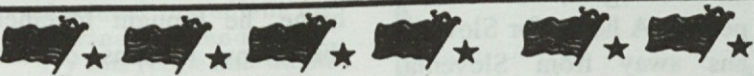
His brother, Charles J. Yanesh worked together with his brother until the time that William S. Yanesh joined them.

Bill S. Yanesh took charge of the company and is continuing the family tradition. Both sons, William S. Yanesh Jr., and Charles J. Yanesh also the son-in-law, Michael D. Fishwick work today with the Yanesh family members.

Mr. Fred Kochevar also is helping to operate the Yanesh Company. Yanesh Brothers Construction Co. is serving all of the Greater Cleveland area, but now they have included the Ashtabula County in the Eastern part of Ohio, as well as the city of Lorain to the West.

Yanesh Bros. Construction Co. wish the City of Cleveland a Happy Birthday on its 200th anniversary.

In time of need, call Yanesh Bros. Construction Co., phone 943-2020.



Business Phone 692-2099

## Our American-Slovenian FLAG HEADQUARTERS

Order Your New Slovenian Flags from Frangie's Fashions.

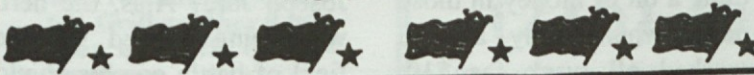
• ANY SIZE •

— We Ship Anywhere Around The World!



**Frangie's Fashions**  
475 EAST 200th STREET  
EUCLID, OHIO  
44119

HOURS: MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:00-4:00  
THURSDAY 9:00-9:00



## DEAN OF HIS BUSINESS

# Funeral Director Here Is Busy at 85

**BY ERNEST WITTENBERG**  
A cabinet maker turned funeral director through a natural course of events in 1910, Joseph Zele at 85 is the dean of his business in Greater Cleveland.

The switch in professions came naturally for in Zele's native Yugoslavia, the cabinet maker frequently was called upon to build a coffin, ready made caskets being unknown there.

Ze, whose funeral home at 452 E. 152d St. serves Cleveland's Slovenian community, has directed an estimated 5,000 funerals since his licensing.

In 1912 he introduced Cleveland's first motor-drawn hearse, a vehicle consisting of Packard twin-six engines and a chassis built by Zele. A dependable old hearse was kept handy for emergencies.

"We needed the horse plenty of times," Zele said.

Zele came to the United States in 1900 and was first employed making church organ pipes at 17 cents an hour. When the Kuhlman Car Co. set up shop near his home on the East Side in 1903 he joined the firm and began to make streetcars.

Well known in the Slovenian neighborhood as the friendly man with the horse and buggy who could be depended upon to take a sick neighbor to the doctor, the bridal party to a wedding or a mourning family to a funeral, Zele decided to switch occupations in 1910.

In those days funeral directors

were not required to have licenses, but Zele anticipated that day and attended the Worsham School of Embalming in Chicago.

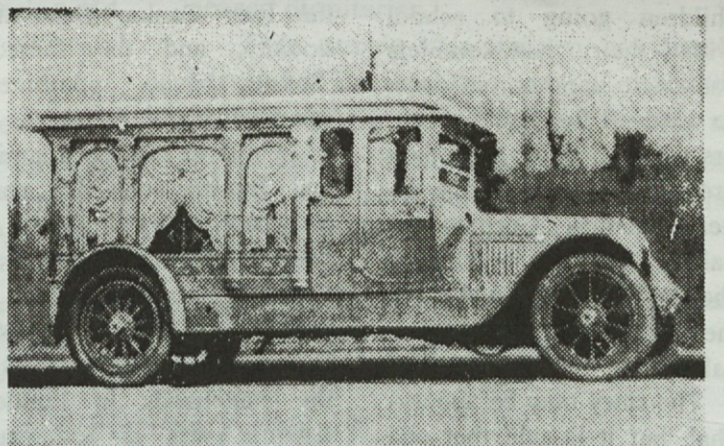
Besides his wife, who died five years ago, Zele has had the experience of burying three other members of his family, all sons. Ferdinand Zele, a World War I aviator, died in an accident during the war. The others were August, 28 and Henry, 9.

Still fully active in his work, Zele is assisted by two sons, Louis, 41, who manages the branch funeral home at 6502 St. Clair Ave., and Joseph Jr., 34, and a son-in-law, Sutton C. Girod, married to his daughter, Justine,

38. He has another daughter, Mrs. Josephine Hirter, 18315 Marcella Rd., and nine grandchildren.



JOSEPH ZELE



Cleveland's first motor-drawn hearse.

## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

## Shore Carpet

WHITE GLOVE SERVICE AND INSTALLATION FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Armstrong, Tarkett  
Mannington Vinyl Floors  
Cabin Craft - Queens - Mohawk  
Lees - Evans Black - Salem - Welco  
Philadelphia - World - Diamond  
Aladdin - Cumberland Mills  
Galaxy

FREE HOME ESTIMATES

AREA RUGS MADE TO ORDER

EXPERTS IN RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL FLOORING

Mon. - Tues. - Thurs. 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Wed. - Fri. - Sat. 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Visit Our Beautiful Showroom at 854 E. 185th St.

**531-0484**



(Continued from page 1)

legion and still going strong recalled renting a room on East 64th and Glass Avenue in 1908 for which he paid the munificent sum of \$5 a month. He was a medical student then.

Frank Cesen, 84, who went on to become the popular Stric Matic of Slovene newspapers, found that \$12 a month gave him board (two meals a day) and room in 1906. "Besides that, each boarder would have his own barrel of wine in the cellar," Cesen remembers. "You could buy one for \$9.00."

This nectar of the gods, a staple of life of many young Slovene workingmen, came in handy during the awful influenza epidemic of 1918, when 3,000 Clevelanders died. Helpless doctors often turned to whiskey as a remedy. Many an old-timer will tell you today that he was able to survive the holocaust only because he had the foresight to keep his body in a state of constant inebriation.

"I was the president of a lodge then and I was going to so many funerals I was afraid I'd get sick too," Cesen says. "So I went to a doctor and he ordered me to drink one pint of whiskey every week."

Joe Gornick, neighborhood chronicler, remembers children going to school with their handkerchiefs soaked in camphor in order to ward off the disease. Others wore garlic in little bags around their necks. The funeral homes, Gornick recalls, were so overloaded that bodies were lined up in the parlors waiting to be embalmed.

The story may be apocryphal, but it is said that one morning an undertaker was startled to find a corpse missing. It turned out that the supposed dead man was an unfortunate alcoholic who had been brought to the funeral home in a drunken stupor. It is said he woke up during the night, ran out of the funeral home in terror, and never drank again.

But there were good times, too, revolving around the music and culture that Slovenes so revered. Dances, weddings and concerts were held at the eight halls in the neighborhood. The three most popular ones were Birk's Hall, Grdina's and Knaus', all located on St. Clair, in the jumping section between East 60th and Norwood. When Matt Hoyer or Frank Butala played, the music would bounce off the walls every Saturday and Sunday until dawn.

The people could also

look forward to a parade nearly every Sunday. One of the many lodges in the neighborhood was sure to be holding one. Youngsters would sit proudly on the curbs to watch their fathers in their navy blue uniforms, marching sternly to the music of the Godba Bled brass band. They knew how to run parades in those days. You didn't see any cars diluting them.

To top it off, there were the funerals. The whole neighborhood would turn out when an important person died, or when some tragedy occurred.

When the popular youth Anton Levstek was killed in a car crash on the eve of his marriage, people jammed St. Vitus and black streetcars were hired to carry the deceased and the mourners to Calvary Cemetery. The Godba Bled brass band led the procession. The same thing happened when a beautiful 18-year-old girl named Zlindra was shot to death by a jealous suitor, who happened to be married.

The halls were also the homes of the cultural groups that flourished. The Zora singers, organized in 1893, came first. Then followed the Triglav singers (1893) and Zarja (1916).

Plays were performed by the Lunder Adamic Lodge, the Ivan Cankar Dramatic Society, and the famed Sokols, who combined gymnastics with drama.

"I was in Lunder Adamic and Triglav even if I was tone deaf," says Dr. Kern. A busy fellow, Dr. Kern also found time to publish a popular Slovene-English dictionary in 1917. One of the stagehands in Lunder Adamic was a youngster named Frank Lausche, later the senator.

"One time we were putting on a production of Shakespeare's King Lear at Grdina Hall," laughs Kern, strumming the chords of memory. "I was playing Lear and Lausche pushed the scenery and it fell on me right in the middle of the scene."

There was always plenty of entertainment. Crowds gathered on Sunday afternoons to watch Peter Zebic, the mustachioed strongman who could twist steel bars into neckties, and they were enthralled with the elegant wizardry of the magician John Grdina.

"I was Grdina's accomplice once," says Kern. "He called me up on the stage and began pulling silk scarves out of my derby hat. The audience didn't know that John had stuffed the hat

with a dozen scarves before the show."

It was a young, lusty neighborhood, but there was little trouble on the streets. Anyone could walk them without fear. About the only real trouble resulted from crimes of passion, which often took place in the saloons.

"We always knew there was trouble when we'd see the white horses pulling the ambulances out of Ziehm's," recalls Cesen. (Ziehm's funeral home was located where Zak's is today. The old Zakrajsek's was on Norwood.)

"The horses would usually head for some saloon" continues Cesen, "and often they'd pick up somebody who'd been knifed in a fight. The fights were always over girls. It was a custom brought over from the old country, when a boy from a different village faced a fight if he tried to get a girl from another village."

Some of these paragraphs might irritate old-times who like to pretend that life on St. Clair was always safe and beautiful, but we include them for historical accuracy and on the principle that the truth is always good. There never was a society that succeeded totally in amputating danger and passion. A place like that would be a fairyland.

#### Plans for Hall

Old St. Clair was no fairyland. It was a throbbing, lively place with an influential nucleus of aggressive leaders. It was their dream to build a Slovenian hall that would stand like a diamond in the center of that life. Perhaps it would even remind generations yet unborn that once there reigned here an intelligent, industrious people. A home for Slovenians away from Slovenia, where they could hold their meetings and their plays and their dances. It was a worthy vision.

#### The Start

And so the leaders among them began to organize. Their first conference was held at Grdina's Hall on August 3, 1914, with 42 lodges sending 105 delegates. The meeting lasted for two days in the steaming heat, with Joseph Kalan presiding. Two crucial decisions were made.

First, it was decided to call the proposed building "Slovenian National Home." It had a nice ring to it.

Second, it was voted that shares in the hall would be sold for \$10 each. This was quite a bit of money in those days, when many a man worked all week for \$10.



Hoyer Trio in the prime of their popularity. Left is Matt Hoyer, center is Frankie Simms, and at right is Eddie Simms. Matt Hoyer, band leader, organized the Hoyer Trio in 1919. Frankie Simms was also a professional boxer as was his brother Eddie. The latter fought Joe Louis in Cleveland but was knocked out in the first round. He then went on to Hollywood and performed in many movies.

According to the historian Janko Rogelj, the delegates collected \$40.25 to get the ball rolling.

Then the meeting broke up, and foaming flagons of beer were raised in toasts all around. The immense project was off to a good start.

It is necessary here to tell of a man name Joseph Jarc, who by most accounts almost single-handedly instigated the first meeting.

Jarc, who came to America in 1903, had quickly adapted himself to the new ways. He learned English, became a notary public, taught citizenship school and was business manager of Ameriška Domovina. Brimming with vitality, obsessed with the idea of a national home, he brought together the many factions of the naturally competitive Slovenes for the first conference.

By the time of the next important meeting, March 15, 1916, about \$10,000 in shares was already in the till. The conference adopted the bylaws and elected the first board of directors: Dr. Kern, president; Joseph Kalan, vice president; Frank Hudovernik, secretary, and Michael Setnikar, treasurer. Board members were Frank Cerne, Frank Jaksic, Matt Petrovic, Joseph Zele, Anton Kolar, Louis Pirc (editor of Ameriška Domovina), Ignac Smole, Rudolph Perdan, Zofka Birk, Primož Kogoy, and Frances Lausche.

Where, you may ask, was Joseph Jarc? Alas, the hero was being carried off the field of battle on his shield

with victory in sight. He was on his deathbed as the meeting took place and died three days later, on March 18. Only 40, he was a victim of cancer.

... The work of building the home proceeded with startling swiftness. On February 8, 1923, the first brick was laid. On April 15, with the bands playing and a huge crowd watching, the cornerstone was put down. Within the year, the building stood clean and full.

At last, on March 1, 1924, the grand celebration and opening of the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair took place...

#### Slovenian Culture

...Anton Schubel plucked from the obscurity of the New York Metropolitan Opera chorus came to Cleveland for the second time in 1940. It was then that Independent Zarja adopted the name of Glasbena Matica, with Schubel directing. Their first concert was on September 8, 1940. Soloists were Belle, Amelia Plut, Carolyn Budan, Vid Kmet, Frank Bradach and John Nosan. Vera Milavec was at the piano.

In Schubel's absence during World War II, Ivan Zorman took over the directorship of Glasbena. He held the post until 1949 when Schubel returned.

With Schubel's third arrival in Cleveland, Glasbena embarked on another splendid era. An ambitious program was undertaken and grand opera became the standard rather than the exception.

(Continued on page 11)



(Continued from page 10)  
ception on the Slovenian Home stage. Performances of LaTraviata, Rigoletto, The Marriage of Figaro, Il Trovatore, Carmen, Barber of Seville and Die Fliedermaus thrilled audiences.

June Price, from her first performance, became a crowd favorite with her beautiful alto and stage presence. Edward Kenik, the stalwart tenor, took the lead role in nearly every opera Glasbena performed.

**Dances**

Dances were held nearly every Saturday and Sunday in the hall from the 20s into the early 50s. "You could always tell when a streetcar would come in," recalls Lou Trebar, the accordionist. "We'd be up on the stage playing and all of a sudden about 50 people would come in at once."

Much of the activity revolved around the accordion players, who became celebrities in this tight little world. The first was Hoyer, the stately king of the cheesebox, who always played sitting down.

"Nobody could touch him in his time," says Trebar, "and we all patterned ourselves after him. But eventually his half brother, Eddie Simms (Simoncic) got even better. Eddie had a terrific

The gifted Eddie Simms also excelled as a prizefighter and was one of the best heavyweights Cleveland ever produced. Most people only remember him for the one-round knockout he suffered at the hand of Joe Louis in 1936, but he rebounded to win main events after that.

Other accordion virtuosos of that time were Gibbons, the favorite of the younger set and another reformed boxer; Louis Spehek, also famed for the Model T he drove for more than 20 years; Joe (Shorty) Kalister, who always played with a big chew of tobacco in his mouth; and Jackie Zorc.

In the 30s younger men like Johnny Pecon, Trebar, and showman Frank Yankovic came to the hall to advance the art even further. "Nothing but full houses in those days," said Trebar.

"There were quite a few fights," Trebar recalls. "Seemed like most of the battlers came from other neighborhoods. I used to like to stand on the stage and watch the corners. There'd be a fight going on in each one sometimes."

The dances continued to thrive through the war, when bandleaders like Pete Smnick, and Pete Sokach kept the

hall jumping for another decade after that. In the later constellation came people like Eddie Habat, Johnny Vadnal, Kenny Bass, George Cook, Art Perko and Al Tercek. Max Zelodec always seemed to be playing in the annex.

Trebar and the great Pecon, of course, joined forces long ago and transcended all the eras. In the opinion of many, theirs is the classic Slovene band.

There is still a lot of life left in the old Slovenian Home and many great nights to come. Over a hundred years ago, the first Slovenians came to Cleveland and a multitude followed. They became a significant part of the industrial and colorful history of this magnificent city.

*Bob Dolgan, the esteemed sports writer for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, wrote this article for the 50th Anniversary booklet of the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair in 1974. We have reprinted it with his kind permission.*

**A Summer Sizzler**

(NAPS)—One of summer's most enjoyable activities is barbecuing with friends and family. Each summer, "grillers" look for new recipes and special ingredients that will turn an ordinary outdoor gathering into a summer highlight.



This summer's hottest barbecue recipe features rum from Puerto Rico and is called **El Yunque Filet Mignon with Rum Butter**. The rich flavor of rum makes it the ideal ingredient for marinating tenderloin. Try this recipe and watch your guests come back for more.

- EL YUNQUE FILET MIGNON WITH RUM BUTTER**  
(makes 4 servings)  
 2/3 cup Puerto Rican dark rum  
 1 tbs. lime juice  
 4 beef tenderloin steaks  
 3 tbs. butter  
 1/4 cup minced shallots  
 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper  
 1/2 tsp. salt  
 1 tbs. minced parsley  
 Combine half of rum, shallots, lime juice and pepper in shallow dish. Add steaks. Marinate 30-60 minutes; turn once. Sprinkle with salt. Heat remaining rum, shallots, lime juice and pepper in small pan on pre-heated outdoor grill. Stir in butter a small piece at a time. Stir in parsley. Brush steaks with half of rum butter and grill 8-10 minutes. Turn; brush with remaining rum butter. Grill another 8 minutes or until desired doneness.



SLOVENIAN BRASS BAND -- Top row (left to right): Anton Vesel, Steve Bartol. Bottom row: Anton Eppih, John Filipic, Joe Bukovec, Tom Oblak Jr., Victor Videmsek, Tom Oblak Sr., Andrew Bavdek. Seated are Hocevar Jr. and Tekavec Jr. (Photo taken in July, 1924. Identified by Joe Birk and Anton Jereb).

**The Slovenian Bled Brass Band**

The year was 1916. Europe was already at war two years. Slovenians then in America were concerned about their relatives in Slovenia, Austria.

They kept themselves busy organizing cultural and fraternal organizations. Among them, many were engaged in promoting National Homes, while others, musically inclined, organized what was then known as *Slovenska Godba Bled* or Bled Brass Band.

The director was the well-known John Ivanush, who also wrote the first Slovenian Opera performed in Cleveland.

The Bled Band performed at all openings of Slovenian Homes: Holmes Ave., in August 1919; Slovenian Society Home, Recher Ave., Nov. 1919; St. Clair Ave. in March 1924; and Waterloo Rd. Workmen's Hall in January, 1927; and many others.

They began with their rehearsals in 1916 at Birks Hall, East 60th and St. Clair Ave., later moving across the street to Grdina's Hall. When Slovenian Work-

men's Home was completed, they moved to Waterloo Rd., where they also performed at many concerts and dances and played many classical numbers.

At a performance for an Independent Fraternal called *Dosluzenci*, celebrating their 10th anniversary in 1920, they played in the cold. All their instruments froze, and only the drummer was able to continue. The members of Lodge *Dosluzenci*, were mostly Veterans of the Austrian Emperors Army.

In 1917, when America was preparing for World War I, many members of Bled Band joined the Army Band in its recruiting drive for enlisting more soldiers. They performed many times in large Sokol parades, as well as funerals for deceased dignitaries.

This article was written by Jacob Strekal of Euclid, Ohio in 1976, the 200th birthday of the United States. Thanks to Ron Zele for submitting it for inclusion in this Special Edition dedicated to the early Slovenians in Cleveland.

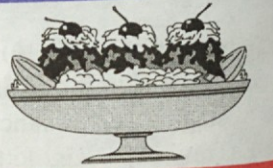
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY,**  
**AMERICA!**  
FROM:  
**Euclid Travel**  
**22078 Lake Shore Blvd, Euclid, Ohio**  
*Expand your horizons call Euclid Travel*

Creighton - Bonnie - Donna - Mary

22078 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid, OH 44123  
--Donna Lucas, Owner  
**(216) 261-1050 1-800-659-2662**



# How Sweet It Was



**By Frank Zupancic**

Disappearing almost completely from the American scene is the little neighborhood confectionery. It was more commonly referred to as the "candy store" by sweet-toothed youngsters.

If bread, milk, lunch meat and other staples were also sold, it miraculously took on the name "delicatessen. And when it happened to be located next to a theater, it was transformed into a "sweet shoppe," a more regal appellation.

No matter what the name, it was a sugary wonderland for every youngster who would rush to the candy store whenever a penny could come his way.

In our St. Clair area, regressing 40 to 50 years, nearly every street corner was blessed with a confectionery. Among them some of the more well-known were Gorenc, Stepic, Vidmar, Norwood, Saye, Krajc, Samich, Zalokar, Blatnik, Perko, Novak, Svete, Stanic, Mesojedec, Mullec, Makovec, Orazem, Dezelan, Smrekar and Snyder (Happy's).

In the thirties, during my youthful days, I would gladly exchange a one-cent coin for such treats as red or black licorice stick, jaw-breaker (a super-sized gum-ball), bubble gum, mary-janes, and holloways.

And if it was an extraordinary day when one had two cents, there was a mysterious package called "Money Talks," that contained two caramel kisses and a Japanese toy or trinket.

Sports-minded tots could always collect baseball cards that came with a flat slab of gum called "Batter-up" or "Big League." (Today these cards are collector's items and are worth hundreds of dollars.)

Of course, there were rare instances when one didn't crave sweets and would purchase instead at the candy store such diverse items as comic books, Big-Little books (both very popular and valuable today), jig-saw puzzles, airplane kits, balsa gliders, tops, marbles, yo-yo's, rubber baseballs and nickel-rocks, kites, whistles, kazoos, and propellers with spiral metal launchers.

And if you were feeling lucky you would insert a penny in the gum-ball machine. A red-striped yellow ball would guarantee a nickel candy bar, while a gold-wrapped one would entitle you to two bars of your choice. And even chocolate ice suckers might sometime have a hidden "free" imprinted on the wooden stick, and you would double your pleasure with another - courtesy of the candy store owner.

And another game of chance was a wrapped soft chocolate that would be torn on one end, and if a white dot, imbedded in the center of the dark goodie, appeared in view, a large five cent lollipop would be yours to enjoy the entire day.

Then there was the more expensive candy that was not displayed in the windows as the previously mentioned sweets. Instead such

candy as mints, rock candy, peppermint leaves, orange slices were kept in heavy square apothecary glass jars. They were usually located on a high shelf - out of the reach of less honorable moppets.

Adults seemed to be the usual purchasers of these candies, although occasionally some status-seeking youngster, trying to impress his companions would also buy some.

I always admired the patience of the store owners who sometimes would wait five to ten minutes while we selected our bon-bons from the overwhelming assort-

ment that were always displayed in the front window.

Sometimes, we would make up to ten visits a day and Stanic's and Snyder's on Norwood Ave. surely must have grown weary of our constant patronage - and waiting for us to make up our mind.

Changing economic times, inflation, and the supermarkets-discount stores were the culprits that eventually forced the little candy stores from business.

Mass-marketed, large bags of candy in plastic packaging appealed to the consumers and since virtually everyone began owning

refrigerators, ice cream was also purchased in bulk - available for eating at any time.

Thus the youngster found it unnecessary to travel to the nearby candy store - he had his sweet treats at his fingertips - either in the refrigerator - right at home.

Somehow I think the loss of these candy stores has contributed in part to the boredom of our present-day children. For us, every trip to the candy store was an adventure. We would always be alert for any small chores that would pay a few cents - so we could make another trip to our Candy Store.

## From Our Home to Your Home

**Main Corporate Office:  
Terminal Tower**

**50 Public Square, Suite 444  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2203  
(216) 348-2800**

*Our Executives, officers and branch managers  
Wish you and your family Happy Easter!*

**HOME  
BANK**  
Cleveland's hometown bank

Headquarters and Executive Offices	348-2800
Terminal Tower, 50 Public Square, Suite 444, Cleveland, Ohio 44113	
Account/Product Information	348-5650
Corporate Banking	348-8845
Human Resources	348-2827
Investment Services	348-5600

### HOME BANK BRANCHES

#### Branch Offices:

**Beachwood - 348-8807**  
3401 Richmond Rd.

**Lakewood - 348-8801**  
12222 Madison Avenue

**Mayfield Village - 348-8806**  
789 SOM Center Road  
**Mentor**  
7802 Plaza Boulevard  
Cleveland Tele. No. 348-8810  
Mentor Tele. No. 255-1011

**University Hts. - 348-8808**  
2175 Warrensville Center Road

**Westlake - 348-8804**  
30020 Detroit Road

#### In-Store Branches:

**Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10-8;  
Sat., 10-5; Sun., 12-5**

**Brooklyn Super Kmart -  
348-8802**  
7700 Brookpark Road

**Euclid Super Kmart -  
348-8809**  
1200 Babbitt Road

**Rockport Rini-Rego's  
348-8803**  
19739 Ridge Road



**Gorjanc**  
HEATING · COOLING  
Established 1963

SALES · SERVICE  
INSTALLATION  
FURNACES  
AIR CONDITIONERS  
BOILERS  
HUMIDIFIERS  
AIR CLEANERS  
SHEET METAL  
REFRIGERATION

**(216)692-2557**

Whenever you have a problem with  
water tanks, air-conditioning, furnace, or  
want installation, call on well-known, trusted  
and reliable American Slovenians from Gorjanc.

**GORJANC™**  
HEATING & COOLING  
A Name For All Seasons™

**AMERICAN  
STANDARD**  
Built To A Higher Standard.

**944-9444**  
30170 Lakeland Blvd.  
Wickliffe, Oh. 44092

FDIC Insured

**HOME  
BANK**



# St. Clair Area Proud To Be Part of Cleveland's Story

By Vince Gostilna

The City of Cleveland is celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. However, next year, the St. Clair area will mark the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary since it was annexed to the growing City of Cleveland.

It was accomplished by a popular vote of the citizens of the East Cleveland Township, that is St. Clair from E. 55<sup>th</sup> Street to Doan Brook (E. 88<sup>th</sup> St.). At that time it was a suburb of Cleveland.

Among the leading citizens of the community in 1872 were Judge Thomas Bolton, William A. Neff, W. H. Doan, Jacob Hecker, Charles Schaefer, George Lewis, John Glass, Paul Kindsvater, Michael Becker, William Spilker and many others.

This area, just before joining Cleveland, was a sleepy rural town with mostly vegetable gardens, tilled by industrious German immigrant farmers. But after 1872 much of the country meadows were subdivided into residential plots and home-building began at a booming rate.

The St. Clair area was the transportation center of Cleveland with two railroads, the Lake-Shore & Michigan Southern on the lakefront and the Lakeview & Collamer Railroad which originated at East 71<sup>st</sup> and Lockyear and ran east to Euclid, Ohio at E. 200<sup>th</sup> and Chardon Road. The later enterprise was heavily financed by John D. Rockefeller.

The only streets in existence were E. 60<sup>th</sup> (Lyon), E. 61 (Dana), E. 62<sup>nd</sup> (Gold), Addison Rd. (Garland, East Madison later), E. 61<sup>st</sup> North, (Ann) and Carry. Names in parenthesis are the

old names of the avenues at the time of the annexation.

The main thoroughfare, St. Clair Street was a plank (board) road with horse-drawn street cars and coaches traversing from downtown to E. 105<sup>th</sup> where the village of Glenville was situated.

Two elegant mansions were in the area. At E. 55<sup>th</sup> and St. Clair was the Kindsvater home and at E. 65<sup>th</sup> and St. Clair was the Diemer Mansion. The later mansion is still standing, nestled behind the Slovenian National Home (where the club room is located).

A toll house stood at Addison and St. Clair (Azman Meat Market site) where toll collectors gathered fees from horse-drawn vehicles. The money was used to maintain the plank road which existed on St. Clair Ave. All the side streets, however, were dirt roads and virtually impassable in inclement weather.

The Gidding Brook which entered the area from its origin in Warrensville, crossing at Superior and E. 67 St., Bayliss, Edna, Bonna, Carl, and on the west side of E. 63<sup>rd</sup> St., across St. Clair E. 62<sup>nd</sup>, where a bridge existed and then diagonally to E. 55<sup>th</sup> and into Lake Erie. Today, the creek is completely underground and is known as the Mayflower Culvert.

The Giddings Brook formed a huge pond at Norwood and Glass vicinity. In winter when the water froze, an ice-dealer sawed blocks of ice from the pond and stored them in an ice-house where, today the St. Vitus School is situated. The ice-house was a one-story building, 100 feet long. Inside, the ice was buried in the ground and covered with sawdust, thereby preserving it for summer sale.

There were two picnic grounds: the Germania Gardens on E. 55<sup>th</sup> near Bonna and the Bramley Orchard Grove at E. 71<sup>st</sup> and Donald. Both were very popular with the early settlers. Slovenians frequented the Germania Gardens while the Polish pioneers availed them-

## 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

History tells us that the Romans CAME SAW and CONQUERED.

What will history say about Slovenians, the people small in number but having big hearts?



Slovenians also CAME SAW and CONQUERED Slovenians came to this land of opportunity with love and devotion and made it a better new world!

**Slovenians, at the turn of the century and again in the 1950's came to "Amerika" to build homes, churches, fraternal organizations, and new businesses. They built, with strong hands and with God's help, and died in defense of their new homeland. The fruits of their labors and sacrifices will be remembered by future generations.**

**CELEBRATE U.S. AND SLOVENIA'S FREEDOM!**

selves of the Orchard Grove.

The only company on the north end of St. Clair was the Cleveland Gas and Coke Co. which originated in 1846. Artificial gas was extracted from coke and used for illumination. Today the company is known as the East Ohio Gas Co.

The first Slovenian to come to Cleveland was John Pintar in 1879 followed by the first Slovenian settler, Joseph Turk. By the early 1900s, the St. Clair area around E. 62<sup>nd</sup> began to change from predominantly German to Slovenian, and now in 1996 Slovenians are still a viable entity in the everyday life around St. Clair Avenue.



The Slapnik Building at 6102 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland looked like this in 1905. George Travnikar was the first owner and operated a tavern and wine shop where Don and Nancy Slapnik Florist is today. Frank Sakser (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), owned a travel agency and was a notary public. He arranged for passage to America for many of our pioneer Slovenian immigrants.



## Bill's Automatic Transmission Service

Automatic Transmission Specialists  
4 Speed Differential Clutch

Hydraulic — Ultramatic — Dynaflo —  
Power Glide — Power Flite — Fordomatic —  
Turbo-Glide — Jet-Away

Bill Modic, 1311 East 55th Street, Cleveland 44103  
391-9188





# Immigrating from Slovenia to Cleveland

By Frank Cesen

High in the mountains of northwestern Slovenia, live a group of people who are known as the Slovenians. Slovenia is beautiful and one of the most industrialized and progressive of the six former republics of the old Yugoslavia. The people are hospitable.

As was the case of most Europeans, greater economic opportunity was the primary cause of Slovenian migration to this country. They came as early as 1830. The majority came between 1890 and 1910.

Most of the early arrivals planned to stay awhile and earn enough money to return to their homeland and buy a little farm or pay the debt on the one they owned. But the majority of them changed their minds and stayed in America. Single boys got married and married men sent for their families.

The first Slovenes to come to Cleveland was John Pintar in 1879, but on account of homesickness he stayed here only five months. In 1881 Jozef Turk came from Zvirce, Dolenjsko. His daughter Gertrude, the first Slovene woman in Cleveland, followed him in 1884 and married Mike

Skebe. That was the first Slovenian wedding in Cleveland. Turk was born in 1838 and died in 1903. He rests in St. Paul's Cemetery.

The Slovenians began life in Cleveland as common laborers, but many soon started businesses - mainly saloons, grocery stores and meat markets. The early settlers who came here before the 18th century were mostly peasants. The immigrants who came between 1900 - 1914 were more or less industrial workers.

Life for foreigners in those days was not rosy especially for immigrants from Eastern Europe. They were discriminated against and exploited to the bones. Bosses in factories or mines were arrogant. They knew that workers didn't have labor unions to protect them as they do today. Besides, there were thousands of men looking for jobs. The Slovenians called them "staparji."

For factories, the Slovenians used their own names (Editor's Note - For the sake of history preservation, we are listing the company names and their locations along with the Slovenian "nickname):

*Bolcovna* - Lake Erie Bolt & Nut - E. 63rd, near

the railroad track.

*Ciganka* - Madison Foundry, E. 65th (Addison) and Metta

*Dratovna* - American Steel & Wire, E. 49th and Lake Side.

*Fencova* - Cyclone Fence, E. 54th and Marquette Ave.

*Fondra* - Chisolm-Moore, E. 47th and Hamilton

*Kastrolka* - Enamel Products, E. 53rd and Hamilton

*Kulmanca* - Kuhlman Streetcar Mfg., E. 140th and Deise Ave.

*Koksovna* - East Ohio Gas co., E. 62nd north

*Krtacovna* - Osborne Brush Co., 54th and Hamilton Ave.

*Lek Sur* - Lake Shore Lumber, E. 40th north.

*Pečarna* - Reliable Stove Co., E. 40th and Perkins Ave.

*Pent Shopa* - Patterson Sargent co., E. 39th North.

*Retšpiel* - H. P. Nail, E. 67th north

*Skarjanca* - Cleveland Punch & Shear, St. Clair at E. 30th

*Solina* - Union Salt (mine) at the foot of E. 65th (Addison)

*železnica* - Cleveland Hardware, East 43rd and

Hamilton.

In those days there was no safety nor pollution questions in factories. If you complained they replaced you with another man.

The wages for common labor in 1906 was low. I worked in the Lake Shore Michigan and Southern Railroad yards (now Penn Central) in the store house for 15c an hour and 60 hours a week. My monthly earnings were about \$35. The work was hard. There was no time-and-a-half for overtime or Sunday work.

Of course the board and room was only \$12 per

month, and a man's suit cost \$10 and up. But the living standard was lower than today.

Many men wore derby hats and button shoes. There was no electricity in our house on Hale Ave. For light they used a gas with mantles. For cooking and heating they had coal and wood. There was no bathing facility and the toilet was outside. All the washing was done by hand. A wooden wash tub (škaf) served as a bath tub. The men repaired their own shoes.

My aunt on my mother's  
(Continued on page 16)

## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

FROM

### Dr. Mirko Vombergar

### D.D.S.

6551 Wilson Mills Road

Mayfield Village, Ohio 44143

Call for your appointment 473-4746

Hours: Monday, Tues., & Thursday

We are open from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, Fri., & Sat., we are open from  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*We also speak SLOVENIAN!*

**\$50.00 Discount with this ad!**

## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July to All American Slovenians in the United States LBS BANK - NEW YORK

### "Global Banking with the Local Touch"

LBS Bank offers a wide range of services designed to meet all of your commercial and retail banking needs, including:

Individual/Corporate Checking Account

Savings Accounts

Money Markets/CD's/Time Deposits

Domestic/International Wire Transfers

Commercial Loans

-Working Capital Facilities

-Domestic/International Trade Financing

-Small and Medium Sized Business Loans

-Loans to Local Companies Under the Community

Reinvestment Act

## LBS BANK - NEW YORK

12 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10022

Tel. (212) 207-2200

Fax (212) 593-1967 - Telex 229976

New York State Chartered Bank - A member of FDIC

LBS Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ljubljanska banka - d.d., Ljubljana, Slovenia



**An All-American Dessert For  
An All-American Holiday**



(NAPS)—Family picnics, outdoor barbecues, parades and fireworks mark the celebration of the birth of our nation from coast to coast. And, because of the typically hot temperatures associated with Independence Day, Jell-O® Gelatin is a natural for creating refreshing star spangled desserts.

All-American Dessert, in its red, white and blue colors, is a cool trifle that is a traditional favorite. It's easy to prepare, looks elegant, yet, fits into a backyard barbecue. The recipe calls for a perfect blending of refreshing gelatin, whipped topping, luscious pound cake and fresh fruit.

**All American Dessert**

- 4 cups boiling water
  - 1 package (8-serving size) or 2 packages (4-serving size) Jell-O brand gelatin dessert, any red flavor
  - 1 package (8-serving size) or 2 packages (4-serving size) Jell-O brand berry blue flavor gelatin dessert
  - 2 cups cold water
  - 4 cups cubed pound cake
  - 1 tub (8 ounces) Cool Whip whipped topping, thawed
  - 2 cups sliced strawberries or 3 medium bananas, sliced
- Stir 2 cups of the boiling water into each flavor of gelatin in separate bowls at least 2 minutes until completely dissolved. Stir 1 cup cold water into each bowl. Pour into separate 13x19-inch pans. Refrigerate 3 hours or until firm. Cut each pan into 1/2-inch cubes.
- Place red gelatin cubes in 3 1/2-quart bowl or trifle bowl. Layer with cake cubes, 1/2 of the whipped topping and strawberries. Cover with blue gelatin cubes. Garnish with remaining whipped topping.
- Refrigerate at least 1 hour or until ready to serve. Store leftover dessert in refrigerator.  
Makes 12 to 15 servings.

**Happy Birthday, America!  
Congratulations, Cleveland on  
your 200<sup>th</sup> birthday!  
Best Wishes to Slovenia  
on the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence**



**FEDERATION  
OF SLOVENIAN  
NATIONAL  
HOMES**

**1996 Roster**

- President – Patricia Ipavec Clarke
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Anthony Mannion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Robert Hopkins
- Financial Secretary – Jean Fabian
- Recording Secretary – Helen Urbas
- Corresponding Secretary – Celeste Frolo
- Executive Secretary – Charles F. Ipavec
- Auditors: Lou Grzley, Bob Royce,  
Anna Mae Mannion
- Historians: Joe Petric, John Habat

**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!**



**Hilltop  
Village**

A RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

- Private garden apartments
- No endowment or entrance fee
- 24-Hour Emergency Response
- Planned activities
- Free transportation
- 24 hour Emergency Pull Cord
- Free Laundry Facilities
- Nutritious Meals

Call Today for a Brief Tour and Free Lunch  
25900 Euclid Avenue • Euclid, Ohio 44132  
(216) 261-8383

**A  
Very  
Nice  
Place  
to  
Live!**



## Immigrating from Slovenia to Cleveland

(Continued from page 14)

side (A.P.) had 10 to 12 boarders and she did not have any help except her husband who helped with the dishes. The poor woman was down and out in the evenings. The only comfort for her and her husband was the thought that some day they would have an easier life by saving a little money with the boarders and then go back to Europe.

Grocery and meat was delivered once a week with horse and wagon. Grocery bills were paid every first day of the month (na bukvice) because the men in factories were paid at the end of each month. Many thrifty women went for grocery and meats to central market downtown.

The majority of the streets were not paved and the mud was terrible, but street peddlers sold fruits and vegetables. Many streets didn't have sidewalks or had wooden ones. There were no lights on side streets. But there was little crime.

Since the boarders were comparatively young and healthy, the doctor was very seldom called, as my aunt knew all kinds of home remedies which they passed down to each other.

However, when Dr. James Seliskar and Dr. F. J. Kern came walking down the street with their black bags, everyone was in deep concern.

The life of boarders was monotonous except on Sundays. Before supper they chipped in nickels for buckets of beer which was very cheap and strong in those days. They then played cards almost every evening. Some of them wrote letters to their families in the old country and some patched their work clothes. In order to save money, they cut each other's hair in their rooms instead of going to the barber.

On Saturdays the young ones went to saloons and had a good time. They drank and danced with the girls. All the Slovenian saloons had accordion players. In some saloons the customers got free lunch provided they bought a glass of beer which cost only a nickel.

Payday was a semi-holiday. After the boys paid their board, the landlord brought a gallon of Ohio wine from the basement to drink to good health. Everybody had a good time. Soon they started to sing - which is characteristic for Slovenian people.

Then a Jewish peddler dropped in with different merchandise from needles to underwear. He usually made a good business because he was willing to bargain. The saloon-keeper next door also got his share. So, everybody was happy for a couple of days.

On Sunday mornings most of the boys had hangers, but my aunt (who was very religious) called us to go to church. That was a must. In order to avoid arguments we all got up. Some went to church and some went to saloons.

Wedding receptions (ohcet) took place in private houses. There was plenty to eat and drink. There were also some uninvited guests - especially boys who sometimes created trouble. The accordion was for dancing. And for big weddings the Hoyer trio - the only Slovenian orchestra at that time, played.

The trio played polkas and waltzes including folk dances and "povštertanc" (pillow dance) after midnight. At midnight the bridesmaid (tovarišica) took the veil (krancel) off the bride's head and the guests sang "Venček na glavise" and "Sinoči je pela."

The Slovenes are progressive and ambitious people. They started to organize fraternal societies to help them in case of sickness and death. The first one in Cleveland, "Slovenija," was organized in 1895.

The first singing society was "Zora" established in 1897, and the first dramatic society was "Triglav" organized in 1903. In 1904 Jerney Knaus built the first Slovenian hall with a stage on St. Clair Ave. but, this is another chapter in our history.

— Mr. Cesen passed away June 11, 1983.

Happy 4th of July!



## GRABOWSKI Super Market

6405 Fleet Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio

— 883-9549 —

John and Linda Turk

Happy 4th of July

## SHELIGA DRUG, INC.

Your Full Service Pharmacy

6025 St. Clair Avenue 431-1035 431-4644 FAX

WE ACCEPT: We bill most major insurance plans

- American Express
- Discover
- MasterCard
- Visa

Tom Sršen — Manager

- WIC - Food Stamps
- Manufacturers Coupons

- Photo Finishing
- Package & Mailing Center
- FAX Service
- Keys Made
- Layaways
- Contact Lens Replacement

Visit Us!

Happy 4th of July!



## SIMS BROS. BUICK, INC.

21601 Euclid Ave.

481-8800

## SIMS CHRYSLER PLYMOUTH, INC.

20941 Euclid Ave.

692-3900



## GABRIEL Insurance Agency



Professional Insurance Management  
Remember — If It's Insurance — We Sell It!

Auto • Homeowners • Business • Bonds

Life • Annuities • Hospitalization

We wish you a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

Call BILL GABRIEL 731-6888 Fax: 729-2840

8251 Mayfield Road - Suite 208 Chesterland, O 44026



# Interurban had comfort, speed

By Frank Zupancic  
 "Rdeca Kara," or "Red Car" was a common expression in vogue among the Slovenians of northern Ohio prior to 1926.

Of course, what they were referring to were the marvelous crimson-colored Interurban Trolleys, specifically those of the C.P. and E. (Cleveland, Painesville and Eastern System).

The trolleys were electrically powered much like a streetcar, but in general appearance they had the heavy look of a train car. These trolleys were able to attain a maximum speed of 80 miles per hour but the authorized limit was regulated at 60 miles in the open countryside.

Prior to 1926, there were five inter-urban companies, all radiating from downtown Cleveland in different directions. In this article, however, only one, the C.P. & E. will be described.

This line operated on

two separate sets of tracks to Willoughby, Ohio. One was called the Main Line (originated 1896) and traveled chiefly on Euclid Ave. (Rte. 20). The other was the "Shore Line" branch (originated 1898) that ran on St. Clair Ave. to Willoughby. There the two merged into one set of tracks and proceeded to Painesville, ending the trip at Ashtabula.

It took little more than an hour and a half to reach Painesville from the center of Cleveland. The final leg of the journey from Painesville to Ashtabula (30 miles) consumed only one hour.

Farmers in the outlying areas often employed the "Red Car" for freight purposes shipping milk, meat vegetables, etc. into the Forest City. On the return trip the farmers received needed agricultural equipment, hardware supplies and other essentials.

Many old-timers concur that the old interurban was a wonderful way to travel. Many would take the Shore Line trolley to Geneva, Ohio. The trip was made in style, plush red or green seats, with the first four being reserved for smoking, provided a most comfortable journey.

Fares were determined by distance traveled. The Geneva trip charge was 60 cents one way. There were also special excursions to amusement parks such as Luna Park, White City, Euclid Beach, and Willoughby Beach.

(Continued on page 18)

*To All Our Customers  
or Friends —  
Happy 4th of July*



## SMREKAR HARDWARE

6112-14 St. Clair Ave.      431-5479  
Cleveland, Ohio

1987 Release — a few cassettes available  
 Perfect for Cleveland's Bicentennial






## Joey Tomsick "Proud of Cleveland"

Side A	Side B	
Proud of Cleveland	St. Joe's Polka	Avsenik's Waltz
Tomsick's Polka	Oom-Pah Polka	Tower City Waltz
Northcoast Polka	Pause for Pecon	Lakeside Waltz
		Naturally Novak

When I'm 70 Waltz  
 Collinwood Polka

Joey Tomsick, 21271 Chardon Rd., Euclid, OH 44117 1-216-531-2745  
 Album or Cassette \$8.00 plus \$1.00 postage  
 Please include your name, address, state and phone number

## Happy 4th of July!

The Republic of Slovenia

202-667-5363      216-589-9220  
 Embassy, Washington, D.C.      Honorary Consulate, Cleveland, Ohio  
 Dr. Ernest Petrič, Ambassador      Dr. Karl B. Bonutti, Honorary Consul

**MAJOR & MINOR AUTO REPAIRS  
 FOREIGN & DOMESTIC  
 STATE EMISSIONS INSPECTIONS**

 **DIESEL ENGINE REPAIRS  
 4 WHEEL & FRONT WHEEL DRIVES  
 COMPLETE DRIVE-TRAIN SERVICE  
 FRONT END ALIGNMENT** 

## EUCLID SUNOCO SERVICE

222ND STREET      200TH STREET  
 940 East 222nd Street      470 East 200th Street  
 261-9544      481-5822

APPROVED  
 AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR  
**Joe Zigman, owner**



# Papa Joe's

## SUBS & PASTA

OPEN: MONDAY thru THURSDAY 10 A.M. TO 12 MIDNIGHT • FRIDAY & SATURDAY 10 AM TO 1 AM • SUNDAY 11 AM TO 11 PM

**OPEN**      7 DAYS A WEEK      **564 East 200th • 692-1068**



# Interurban had comfort, speed

(Continued from previous page)

It was even possible to charter a black electric trolley for a funeral trip to any of the distant cemeteries. A total of 55 mourners could be seated during the sad trip.

Since most of our more mature readers may have forgotten the exact route of the Shore Line inter-urban, we will detail the entire journey to Ashtabula. We hope it will bring back many pleasant memories.

The Shore Line (Red Car) began its run from across the street from the old Stone Church on Ontario St. in downtown Cleveland. It then proceeded on St. Clair east and alongside the New York Central Tracks to E. 140th St. It ran down Aspinwall to Saranac Rd. and rejoined the E. 152nd branch of the St. Clair line to Waterloo Road. It continued east on that road, crossed Nottingham Rd. (and car barns) and turned left on E. 185th St.

Then the Red Car traveled north of the east side of E. 185th St. until it reached Lake Shore Blvd. Then it headed east to Vine St. turning on vine to Euclid Ave. in Willoughby where it merged into one line with the Main line.

From there it continued on to Painesville and completed the trip at the end of the line - Ashtabula.

Alas, however, with the advent of the automobile and competing bus lines, the Inter-urban's days were numbered.

Steadily declining revenues and ridership in the early 1920s forced the C.P. and E. to go into financial bankruptcy. May 20, 1926 marked the sad day of the

final run of the Red Car.

Within 13 years of that day, all of the other interurbans disappeared completely from northeast Ohio.

It is ironic that today, more than a half century later our city transit planners are promising that within a few years, it will be possible to journey via rapid-transit to Euclid.

Another experiment is the "rail-bus" that is running from Mentor, Ohio to downtown Cleveland, but no final conclusions have been made public about the suc-

cess or failure of this trial run.

And just consider that almost a century ago, one could travel via inter-urban to Ashtabula, Columbus, Toledo, Detroit, Cedar Point and all the way to Boston, Mass. by transferring cars at the state lines!

Now it is hoped that with our modern technology we will again have an Inter-urban System similar to that of the 1890s, but how long it will take is anybody's guess.

These are the puzzling paths of progress in our age of modern achievements.

**Happy 4th of July!**

**To All Our Customers and Friends**

## Slovenian Workmen's Home Auxiliary

15335 Waterloo Road  
Phone: 531-5378

**Fish Fry Every Friday  
HALLS AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL**

## Brickman & Sons, Inc., Funeral Home

21900 Euclid Avenue, Euclid

**481-5277**

**Serving Families With Dignity and  
Respect for over 83 years.**

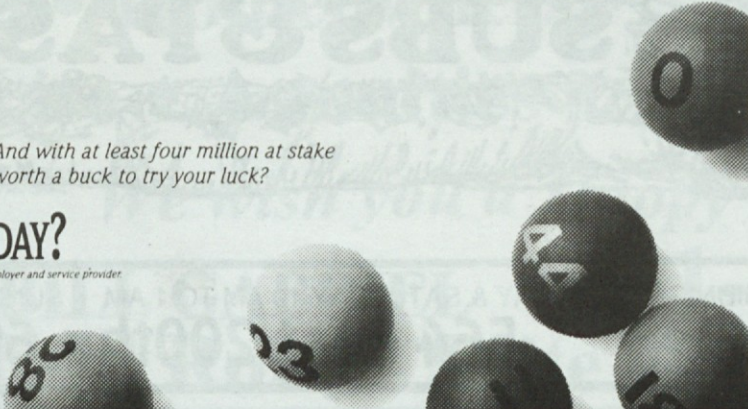
**OUR GAME PAYS YOU  
M I L L I O N S  
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T  
PITCH, HIT OR FIELD**

All it takes to win Super Lotto is luck! And with at least four million at stake every Wednesday and Saturday, isn't it worth a buck to try your luck?



**FEEL LUCKY TODAY?**

The Ohio Lottery Commission is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.



*In*

**Recognition  
of those who  
served our country.**

from  
**The Board of Directors,  
Lodge Officers,  
and  
All Members of the**

# AMERICAN MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION



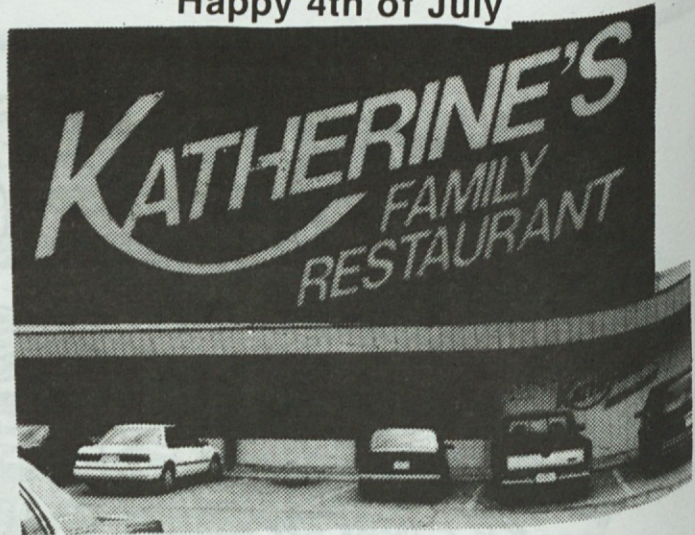
19424 South Waterloo Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44119 - 325  
Phone: 216- 531-1900 Fax: 216- 531- 8123

## Cleveland Accounting Service

6218 St. Clair Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

881-5158

— Visit Us Soon —  
Happy 4th of July



**Mary Vesel Family  
Phone: 243-7373**

7533 Pearl Rd., Middleburg Hts, Ohio  
*Obiščite nas kmalu...*



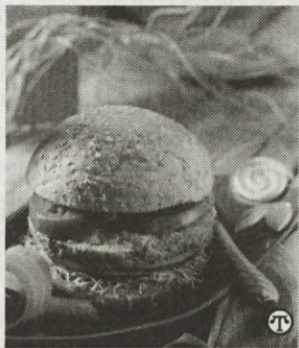
**Going Meatless Gradually  
Beginning With Burgers**

(NAPS)—According to Yankelevich Partners, a leading polling and trends analysis organization, most vegetarians say they switched to a plant-based diet for health reasons, mainly to reduce saturated fat in their food in order to control cholesterol. Yankelevich also reports that 52 percent of vegetarians say that their switch to meatless eating was gradual and that they phased in the diet over time.

If you've considered a meatless way of life but aren't sure how to start, today you're in luck: As vegetarianism in the U.S. has grown—estimates set the total at 12.4 million Americans—so has the proliferation of prepared vegetarian foods. That means you don't have to learn a new way to cook to begin going veggie.

Some of the tastiest meatless products on the market now are mainstream items, such as vegetarian pizza, lasagna and burgers. One of the most popular meatless burgers is the Gardenburger®, a delicious grain, mushroom and mozzarella cheese-based patty that can be found in the freezer section of your local natural foods store or supermarket.

Whether toasted or grilled, the Gardenburger, produced by Wholesome and Hearty Foods, Inc. of Portland, Oregon, is a satisfying and delicious alternative to meat. Each patty comes fully cooked and ready to use. You can serve the veggie burger just as you would a hamburger—with "the works"—safe in



the knowledge that this burger will be lower in cholesterol and saturated fat, and higher in fiber than its meat counterparts.

**GARDENBURGER WITH THE WORKS**

- 1 Gardenburger patty
- 1 whole grain bun
- 1 tablespoon lowfat mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard, optional
- 1/4 cup alfalfa sprouts
- 1 thin slice red onion
- 2 slices medium tomato
- Carrot curls

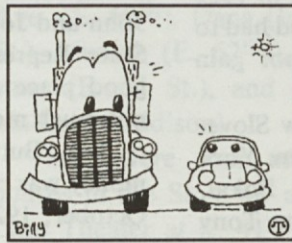
Heat Gardenburger according to your favorite method. Spread cut sides of whole grain bun with mayonnaise and mustard. Cover cut side of bottom half of bun with sprouts. Top with onion, heated Gardenburger, tomato and top half of bun. Garnish dish with carrot curls. Makes 1 serving.

**Nutritional Analysis Per Serving:** 300 Cal., 12.5 g pro., 7.2 g fat (19% Cal. from fat), 45.8 g carb., 7 mg chol., 6.8 g fiber and 534 mg sodium.

**newsworthy trends**

**Safety Tips From Truck Drivers**

(NAPS)—Some of the nation's top truck drivers with more than 100 million accident-free miles among them are offering useful safety tips to help motorists and truckers share the road.



Staying clear of a truck's blind spots and keeping a safe distance between your automobile and a truck are two safety tips worth remembering.

Staying clear of a truck's "blind spots" and keeping a safe distance between your automobile and a truck are just two of several safe driving tips suggested by a select group of truck drivers to make the nation's highways safer.

- These were the most frequently given suggestions:
- Avoid tailgating.
  - Stay out of blind spots to the sides and the rear of trucks. This is known as the "No-Zone."
  - Do not exceed speed limits.
  - Use turn signals.
  - Maintain speed when passing a truck.
  - Do not pull in front of a truck unless it is visible in your rear-view mirror.

An informative brochure about the No-Zone and safely sharing the road with trucks is available free by calling the No-Zone hotline at 800-644-1744.

**PATIO DEN AND FIREPLACE**

IMITATED BUT NEVER EQUALED

JOSEPH M. BALISH  
Sales  
216/255-4141 • 951-8713

Manufacturer of  
Casual Furniture,  
Custom Cushions &  
Fireplace Accessories

8000 Plaza Blvd.  
Mentor, OH 44060  
Fax: 216/255-6165



STOP IN AT

**BRONKO'S**

**Drive-In Beverage**

510 East 200th St  
Euclid, Ohio 44119

DMH Corp.  
531-8844

**Imported Slovenian Wines**

Imported Slovenian Wines  
Radenska Mineral Water. Various soft drinks, pretzels, popcorn. UPS service — We have Ohio Lottery and Instant Ohio Lottery tickets —

Open Mon. - Thur. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Sunday (No wines sold) 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Domestic and Imported Beer & Wine

— Owner - David Heuer

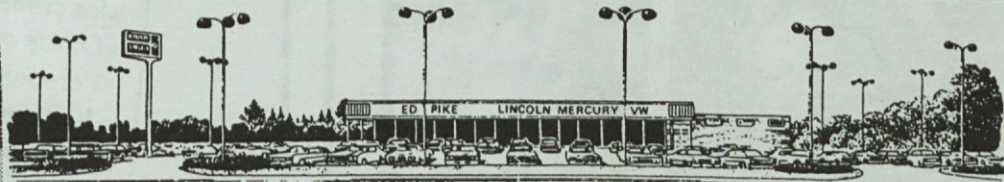


**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July to All Our Customers**

**-The PIKE FAMILY**



A Family That Works Together... Ed Pike, center, owner of Ed Pike Lincoln Mercury, 9647 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio invites all his fellow Slovenians to come to his showroom



**ED PIKE**

HYUNDAI SUZUKI  
LINCOLN MERCURY  
VOLKSWAGEN

9647 MENTOR AVE., MENTOR, OHIO

Quality Service - Sales - Body Shop

ON MENTOR-PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP LINE ROUTE 20

PHONE LAKE COUNTY 357-7533 — PHONE CUYAHOGA 942-3191

Daily Car Rental - Lease - Long or Short Term on All Lincoln - Mercury - Volkswagen

**ED PIKE**





# Railroads Provided Jobs for Immigrants

By Joe Ferra

In early 1908 and after, many of our Slovenian pioneers from old Austria came to the Collinwood area seeking better jobs and more money. Most of them came from farm country with no trade and were willing to accept any type of job.

The New York Central Railroad in Collinwood was the place where our settlers got the job. They were called "Greenhorns" or "Greeners" in Slovenian. But the workers didn't care what they were called as long as they had a job to make a living for themselves and their family. Most of

them had to start as laborers with only a 20¢ an hour pay. They were also called greasemonkeys because of all the oil they got on themselves oiling engines and cars.

But one thing was for sure you would not get laid off; you had a steady job. The only problems occurred in 1911 with a strike and a worse one in 1922 where they broke the union and had to go back to work and did not gain anything.

Here are the names of a few Slovenians who worked for the New York Central, now Conrail: Tony Bokal, Tony Anzlovar, Mike Anzlin, Tony

Zupancic, Andy Petelinkar, his son, August, John and Peter Uerlich, Baragar brothers (five of them), Frankar brothers (four of them), Frank Brear, Paul Tomazic, Louis Zupancic, Joe Novak, Matt Kastelic, and 100 others. Also Charley Tercek worked in the office, his father worked in the lumber yard. Two others were John and Joe Suster, the father of our State Representative, Ron. It was a good place to work, although it was not much money, and heavy and a dirty job. But it was steady, and the money was clean. I worked there from October, 1924 until June, 1966.

In 1918 a group of Slovenians got together. They were hard workers and began building the first Slovenian Home in Collinwood. It was finished in 1919.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Ferra wrote this article for the August 17, 1984 edition of American Home dedicated to the Collinwood Slovenian Home. Mr. Ferra has led an interesting life having emigrated to the United States as a young man. He was well-known in fraternal circles. He has since passed on to his eternal reward.

## A Flower Grows in Collinwood

A small satchel, a bundle of meager possessions, and a packet of identification papers were all the material goods immigrants brought to this country. They left behind their tiny homelands to come here to start again, to build anew. And build they did: a variety of organizations, buildings, and communities. Ultimately, they built a great and prosperous nation.

It was not the tangible items the immigrants brought which fashioned these United States.

Rather the intangibles—a heart filled with courage, a soul yearning for freedom, a character unafraid of hard work—created the lush and colorful tapestry which is America.

Our Slovenian predecessors exhibited these characteristics. The wave of Slovenian immigration barely rolled over these shores when it began to build and cultivate. In the Collinwood area of Cleveland, it built a Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue and cultivated the seed of a flourish-

ing flower, the drama society Lilija.

The needs and desires for a drama group were many and varied. The new immigrants wanted to preserve their beautiful Slovenian language, to pay tribute to the rich Slovenian culture, to foster unity among the immigrants in a new and sometimes strange land, and, of course, to have a good time.

So it was that on August 18, 1919, one week before the grand opening of the Collinwood Slovenian Home, a group of young people gathered to organize a drama society. They elected 20-year-old Louis Jerkic as president and named themselves *drumatsko društvo* "Lilija." Some of those organizing members were France and Joze Matoh, Henrik Batic, Bostjan Trampus, Krist Stokel, and Joze Glinsek.

Martin Nagode, to fill the ranks of Collinwood's drama society. Among the new Lilija members were Rudi Knez, Ivan Jakomin, Anton Nemec, and Julka Zalar.

Lilija's first post-war production was presented on February 24, 1952. Since then, Lilija has staged an unbroken line of comedies and dramas, as well as presenting Mardi dances, ballets, and testimonials.

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
ANGELA'S

Family Restaurant

Breakfast Served from 5 a.m. on...

Sundays 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lunch and Dinner features

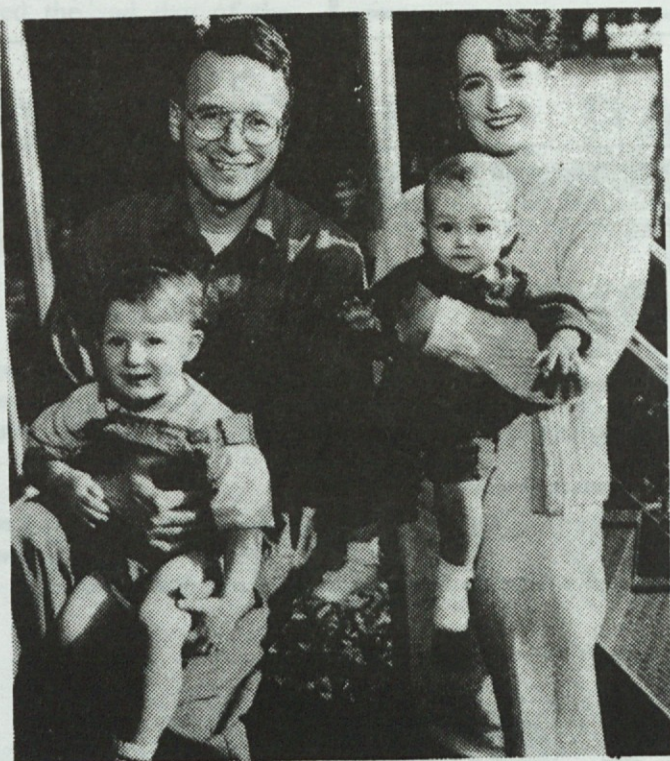
**DELICIOUS HOME-COOKED MEALS**

7121 St. Clair Avenue - Cleveland

-- 881-2342 --

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July

FROM



The Jerse Family

Ed, Shannon, Teddy  
and Mairin Anne Jerse

## We Wish You a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



**INDOORS & OUT**  
WE HAVE MORE...

**BIRTHDAY PARTY FUN THAN ANYONE!**

**INDOORS**

YOU GET...

- Great Pizza (2 slices per person)
  - Ice cream
  - Choice of soft drinks
  - Personalized birthday cake
  - 10 game tokens per person
  - Party decorations, hats & balloons
  - Professional table service
  - The "birthday song"
  - Special surprise for the birthday person
- And we clean up the mess!

**4.59**  
per person



Deluxe Birthday Parties start at

**6.99**  
per person

call or ask for more information.

**OUTDOORS**

YOU GET...

Get **everything** included with the indoor package plus... enjoy the outdoor activities for 1/2 price!  
Mini Golf \$2.00, Go Karts \$2.00

with \$4.59 Birthday Party.

Ask about our **GROUP** and **OVERNIGHT PARTIES**, too!

6770 Brookpark Rd.  
Between Pearl and Ridge Rds.

**351-1910**

**OPEN**  
11am - 11pm  
EVERYDAY

Prices effective 7/1/95





Reading through these articles by the early Slovenian pioneers we can easily see how they came to this country filled with hope, determination to overcome all obstacles to succeed; preservation to keep the customs of their motherland (Slovenia) alive; adaptability - to the manners and formalities, and demands of their new country; and to enhance the culture of their new country by displaying their own brand of folk customs and relieving their tensions through boisterous singing and the playing of the accordion.

The accordion was small and therefore portable and afforded a quick supply of pleasant entertainment. The numbers could be happy for occasions such as a wedding, a birthday or anniversary party, -- sad for a funeral or longing for the mountains, farms or rivers and sea of their homeland so far away, not only in miles, but in life-style.

Those who could entertain with the accordion were accorded the highest social positions among the immigrants, and that pattern has held to a large degree to this very day.

The American-Slovenian is happiest when in the presence of good singing, or lively tunes played by a band featuring the tunes of an accordion.

I am presently reading a new book "Accordion

Crimes" by E. Annie Proulx. It is centered around an old accordion.

The novel begins with the accordion maker who assembled it in Italy and took it with him to New Orleans. From there it traveled from person to person across America at the hands of varied good and amoral characters. Brooke Allen, writing in the *Wall Street Journal* says about the book, "One of the gifts this book accords its readers is the opportunity to look at the past and to see, for a moment, what America meant to our not-so-distant forebears... The most striking feature of this America is its harshness and the life of back-breaking labor it almost invariably offered. Even the more "successful" immigrants... worked harder than we can even conceive of, only 100 years later."

That is the life the pioneers Slovenians lived in America, and that is the story of this newspaper dedicated to Cleveland, and most of all -- to us... the beneficiaries of our staunch, wonderful trailblazers who gave up so much, did so much so we can enjoy the fruit of their magnificent dream which they fought for with muscles, tears, and unbridled determination.

## Not Much Money; But People Had Good Time 21

By Joe Gornick

I remember the St. Clair area where I was born, on E. 63rd, north, called Oxford (prior to 1905).

Some other names of streets in those days were Wilson (E. 55th), Lyons Ave. (E. 60th), Dana (E. 61 St.), Munich (E. 62nd), Diemer (E. 64 St.), and East Madison (Addison).

There were four movie houses in the St. Clair area: Case Theater at E. 41st and St. Clair; Chic, E. 58th St.; Wilson at E. 55th south of St. Clair; Addison E. 65th (where Society was a few years ago). The movie houses featured cowboy and Indian pictures. There was high unemployment and times were hard. -- *You were admitted to the Addison theater for 2 potatoes or any other vegetable.*

I remember when my father worked at the Union Salt Co. (Solina as Slovenians called it). the salt mine was on E. 65th where a trucking company was, and now WJW-TV, Channel 8.

The hourly rate for unskilled labor at that time was 7 to 10 cents an hour. Tradesmen received higher wages; there were no unions. It was mostly manual labor and no modern machinery.

Sausages, rice and blood, would last thru the winter. After smoking with hickory wood they would hang the meat sausages on the rafters in the attic.

People did not have too much money, but they had a lot of fun. They were days of togetherness, and cooperation, and everyone gave you a helping hand. Brotherly love, which is lacking today.

For entertainment, the game "Dominoes" was played, or listen to a crystal set if you had one, bake potatoes in the oven or pop

corn on top of the big old stove in the kitchen. Everyone enjoyed it. there was no television.

The St. Clair Recreation Center, E. 63rd was occupied by Shaw's Livery Stable. You could rent a horse and wagon for moving sand or household goods.

Black street cars were used to take the deceased to the cemetery.

Louis Pirc, editor of the American Home, held citizenship classes at the public library on E. 55th and St.

(Continued on page 23)

*To All Americans - We Wish a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday*

*Greetings from the Members of*

## St. Clair Business Association

6220 St. Clair Ave.

Cleveland, O. 44103

The St. Clair Business Association was established to provide the businessmen of the community a forum for the mutual exchange of ideas. It further dedicates itself to motivate the effective cooperation and communication necessary for the instilling of pride, the establishment of confidence, resulting in the creation of a more wholesome community atmosphere.

**Support Your Member Merchants**

*We Wish You a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July*

## RICHMOND

*Restaurant*

25911 Euclid Ave.

Euclid, Ohio 44143

Phone: 261-5430



One of Anton Grdina's early funerals in 1908. This historic St. Clair Avenue photo shows the stores that were operated by our Slovenian pioneers. The stores owners are, left to right, 6105 John Gornik- Tailor-Haberdasher; 6107 Frank Suhadolnik, Shoes; 6111 John Grdina, Dry Goods; 6113 Joseph Gornik, Tailor; 6117 Frank Gornik, Shoes; 6119,

Ameriška Domovina (then called Cleveland's Amerika); 6121 Frances Lavse (Lausche Tavern); 6127 Anton Grdina, Funeral Director and Furniture; 6129 Jerry Knaus, Dry Goods.

Thanks to Mr. Stanley Frank for this valuable pictorial relic of the early 1900s.



## The colorful story of Collinwood Home

"Hi, stranger, where do you hail from?" Frogsville was the reply. Yes, the section now known as "5 Points" was settled by a Pennsylvania farmer about 1810. The area was very swampy. Despite the many wild animals that ventured to and from a swamp in its midst, the swamp was inundated with frogs, hence the name Frogsville.

The village prospered gradually. In 1852 the arrival of the Cleveland, Painesville and Ashtabula Railroad gave the town their first look at something called a locomotive.

The next 25 years Frogsville became a booming settlement.

A railroad repair shop, a roundhouse, and a post office materialized. By 1890 more than 100 buildings had been erected.

In 1868, the name of Frogsville was changed to Collinsville after a Railroad engineer by the name of Charles Collins of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad. In 1875 Collins committed suicide and the name was again changed, this time to Collinwood.

Soon after the civil war, a man by the name of Spencer Dilly opened up a coal and lumber yard on the site that later became the Collinwood Shale and Brick Company.

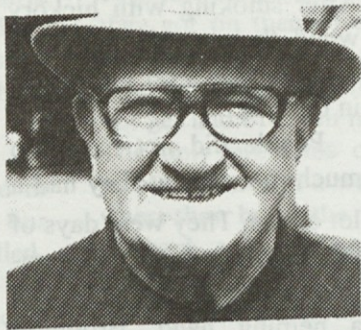
His son Spencer Jr. operated the business for many years. It was eventually sold to a Mr. Moatz.

In 1905, a young lad of 13 years, Anton Vidmar was hired to do various light jobs. In 1910 the manufacture of brick was started. A few years later, Anton Vidmar was promoted to Superintendent of the brick operation.

The greatest influx to Collinwood of Slovenian and Croatian immigrants came from 1910 until 1930. They settled north off St. Clair, west to E. 140th, and east to Nottingham. The section was largely occupied by German and Irish families. They looked down on the newcomers, calling them Polocks and Hunkies. Through hard work and their friendly disposition, the immigrants soon earned the respect of the so-called Americans.

In 1916 and 1917, there was talk of building a Slovenian Home. After many months of meetings, the committee finally resolved the financial and other construction problems. The main contract was given to Mr. Rozman, a local builder.

During the construction of the Home, many neighbors helped the unloading and carried the bricks and mortar to the brick layers. It was reported that for every thousand bricks purchased, the Collinwood Shale donated an equal amount. What a grand gesture of the Collinwood Shale Company.



Stan Erzen

The original Collinwood Shale still exists on Saranac Road. However, the main office has been moved to Garfield Hts. The company went into the concrete business in 1937. The brick manufacturing was phased out in 1964.

The concrete operation was taken over by the Strohm Family in 1967.

In retrospect, two of the business avenues in the predominantly Slovenian neighborhood were Holmes and Saranac. In the 20's, there were 34 business establishments. The depression in the 30's played havoc with the neighborhood. Of the original businesses, only four remain on each street. The longest continuous establishment is the Wallands Saloon, which has been in the family since 1912.

The Holmes Slovenian Home was finally completed in 1919. In August, after the toil, frustration and some minor headaches, the goal was achieved. On August the 24th, the grand opening of the Holmes Avenue Hall was celebrated.

What a grand opening it was. I was 14 years old at the time, it was a bright sunny day and the affair was full of music, singing and other merriment.

The outlook for the Holmes Slovenian Home is very bright. The halls have been renovated, the parking lot enlarged to easily accommodate large crowds. The edifice is in good shape. The management of the Holmes Slovenian Hall is in good hands and progressing very well.

I have just touched some of the highlights of the history about Collinwood and the Holmes Slovenian Home.

I feel very grateful to be chosen one of the honorees in the reclining years of my life.

I am the oldest club room member in age and attendance from 1919 to 1996 -- ? and beyond.

—Stan J. Erzen

## Ohio Folklife Festival set at Ohio State Fair

The 1996 Ohio State Fair will feature multicultural and ethnic performing groups from across the state during the celebration of the Ohio Folklife Festival and Multicultural Day.

Performers will be showcased at the State Fair in the Celeste Center on opening day, August 2, during the taping of the Ohio Lottery's Cash Explosion Show, which is rated No. 1 in all nine television markets in the state covering over 1.5 million viewers.

Multicultural and ethnic performing groups will also perform during the observance of Multicultural Day, which is scheduled for Sunday, August 11, at the Ohio Stage located just north of the Cox Fine Arts Center.

Entertainment at the Ohio Stage begins at 11 a.m. and continues throughout the day.

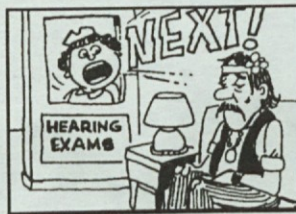
"Janet and I are looking forward to these special days of multicultural programming at the Ohio 'State Fair,'" said Governor Voinovich. "These activities offer a tremendous opportunity for Ohio's many multicultural and ethnic performing groups to share their talents with all Ohioans and visitors to our state. We encourage everyone to join us for what promises to be quality, fun-filled family entertainment for Ohioans of all ages, and an opportunity to see the great Ohio State Fair with family and friends."

"Multicultural Day is an important event for the Ohio State Fair and fits the Governor's lifelong commitment to promote our nationality and ethnic communities and performing artists," said August B. Pust, Special Assistant to the Governor for Multicultural Affairs and International Relations. "Some groups will be performing for the first time at the Fair. We are expecting a number of groups to participate."

For further information regarding the Ohio Folklife Festival or Multicultural Day, contact August B. Pust or Mark A. Ozanick in the Governor's Office at (614) 644-0896.



Always a brilliant orator, Lausche drew crowds at the drop of a hat when he was Mayor of Cleveland in the early '40s.



Doctors say prolonged exposure to noises over 90 decibels can lead to hearing loss. A typical rock concert is about 100 decibels, a jet engine 800 feet away around 110.

### INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

1560 on Your A.M. Dial on WATJ

Your Host Mario Kavcic

American and International Selections

Saturdays at Noon . . .

1560 WATJ • Box 776 • Chardon, Ohio 44024

(216) 286-1560 • 1-800-946-1560

Fax (216) 286-2727



## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July

FROM

**Michael  
Polensek  
and Family**

**Councilman  
Ward 11**

**Cleveland, Ohio**



(Continued from page 21)

Clair. Anton Grdina and James Debevec succeeded Mr. Pirc as editors of the American Home. They helped many people with their problems. Not only with their time, but with their money. And those "lawyers" didn't charge a dime.

### Fun Facts About Fireworks

(NAPS)—This summer, millions of people will turn out for some of the season's most exciting spectator events—fireworks displays.

Here are some fun and fascinating facts that will help you appreciate the spectacular display you see this year.

Fireworks operate by controlled combustion. How the pyrotechnician wants a particular firework to perform determines which substances are used and how they are packed into the firework casing.

Black powder, or old-fashioned gunpowder, is the basic ingredient used in fireworks.

When it is ignited, it creates volumes of gas which can hurl an aerial "shell" hundreds of feet in the air or push a pinwheel around in circles.

To make the loud "booms," a material called flash powder is used. This substance is the prime ingredient in firecrackers and the somewhat larger salutes (the noise-making cylinders often included in aerial fireworks).

To launch aerial shells, a close-fitting mortar (a tube closed at one end) must be lowered into the ground to act as a cannon. In this way, the pressure of the explosion and the expanding gasses trapped behind the shell thrusts it high into the sky.

Chemicals which burn easily and give off bright, distinct colors provide the spectacular visual effects associated with fireworks.

Charcoal or iron burn with a brilliant orange, strontium salts produce a beautiful red and barium nitrate gives off a bright green. Blue is the most difficult color to make, and the search for a chemical compound which will produce a better, darker hue continues even now.

Perhaps one of the most memorable fireworks displays was the "Statue of Liberty Centennial Fireworks Spectacular," a dazzling display created to honor the

You never left a partially filled glass of beer unattended; it would soon disappear. A couple of guys would sit around watching the bar and the beer glasses. They were called "Barflys."

No women were allowed in the saloons. They would

get beer for their hard-working husbands by the back door with a pail under their aprons.

Who owned automobiles? Businessmen only — and very few of them. The same goes for household appliances, washboards were

used, and irons were heated on the coal and wood-burning stoves.

Toilets were not in the house. Children took turns taking a bath, in a wooden tub, near the kitchen stove.

In 1917 newspapers sold for a penny.

I attended St. Vitus school. We were taught Slovenian and German.

When school let out around June 15 most boys went barefooted and got a baldheaded haircut.

Our breakfast consisted of "zgonce" — corn meal mush every morning.



statue's 100th anniversary in 1986.

The production required an estimated 220 miles of wires; approximately 22,000 aerial fireworks; 777,000 pounds of mortar tubes (through which sky rockets and aerial bombs were launched); 30,000 pounds of equipment; and a staff of at least 100 pyrotechnicians on the site to produce the displays.

The invention of the first fireworks is traditionally credited to the Chinese, who discovered gunpowder more than a thousand years ago. The powder—still used today—was rolled in paper tubes or bamboo cases and ignited. The Chinese were convinced the noise from the explosion would scare away evil spirits.

Fireworks made their way to Europe in the 13th century, and over the next several hundred years their popularity grew and grew. The displays became more and more extravagant as the years passed, but the technology remained basically the same. To this day, the same principles apply.

The earliest settlers brought their love of fireworks to this country. The fascination with the noise and color of fireworks did not weaken with the passage of time. By the time of the American Revolution, fireworks had long played a part in celebrating important events. It was natural, then, that John Adams should think of fireworks when independence was declared. He wrote in a letter to his wife that this most memorable day ought to be celebrated with "illuminations" from this time forward forevermore.

Happy Independence Day!  
to our customers, relatives, friends



## Somrak Kitchens

CUSTOM CABINET DESIGN CENTER



Somrak adds his personal touch

... to all of his custom kitchen designs.

At SOMRAK'S, we take the time to listen to your needs and expectations so you will have the most efficient working room in your home.

From design to installation your satisfaction is ensured.

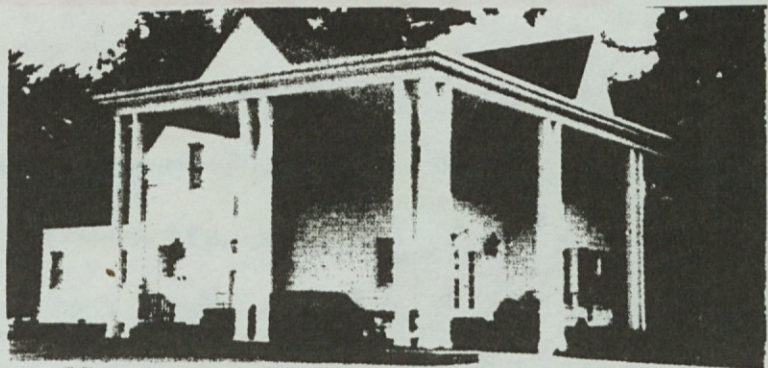
26201 Richmond Road  
HOURS M-F 9-5 - SAT 9-1

Visit Our Showroom  
464-6500

Bedford Heights, Ohio  
EVENING BY APPOINTMENT



Let's Remember Our  
Loved Ones!



## Crobaugh Funeral Home

22595 Lake Shore Blvd.  
Euclid, Ohio

Telephone (216) 731-4259

Gregory M. Danaher  
Embalmer and Funeral Director

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
to All!

## Maple Heights Catering

17330 Broadway  
Maple Heights, Ohio

Andy Hocevar in Sinovi  
— lastniki

Tel.: v trgovini 663-7733



---

# In Memory of Senator Frank J. Lausche



November 14, 1895

April 21, 1990

*America's Greatest Slovenian*

**Cleveland's First Ethnic Mayor; --  
and Ohio's First Ethnic Governor, and Senator**



**The Frances and Jane S. Lausche  
Foundation**

---