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# Tee it up! Canceled for 2020, the annual CAL Open Golf returns to the schedule in May

by RICK GORJUP (158)  
CAL President

**CLEVELAND** — This past year has been something more than unbelievable. The Coronavirus has been devastating, especially given all of the lives that have been lost. But now the vaccines are helping and our lives seem to be returning to a “new” normal.

The 56th CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament is back in 2021! Plan to join in on Saturday, May 29, at the Rolling Greens Golf Course in Huntsburg, Ohio. As in the past, we

will have a 9 a.m. shotgun start. Please arrive by 8:15 a.m. to sign in, then get ready for a day of fun! The entry fee this year is \$80 for adults; \$72 for youth golfers.

Hot dogs will be available at the turn, and a dinner will be served after play is completed. Water, pop and beer will be provided on the course.

Most of all, we will try maintain protocol concerning Covid with the use of masks where required, social distancing if possible, and cleanliness. Playing outdoors helps with

the social distancing. As far as the lunch and dinner are concerned, tables will be separated as much as possible.

We hope to see you at the outing, and we’re looking forward to having a fun day! If we plan accordingly and play smart, we all can have a great day.

The tournament entry form is available online on [snpj.org](http://snpj.org), and is also included on page 6 of this *PROSVETA* issue. Get your entry in early as we may have to limit the number of entries.

## briefly

### Home Office closed for the Society anniversary

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — The SNPJ Home Office will be closed Monday, April 5, in observance of the Society’s 117th anniversary, which we celebrate each year on April 6. Normal office hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., will resume Tuesday, April 6.

### Society sympathies for Audit Committee Chmn.

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — The SNPJ Home Office has been notified of the March 12, 2021, passing of Bro. Stan J. Repos, chairman of the SNPJ National Board Audit Committee and club manager at SNPJ Lodge 106 in Imperial.

On behalf of the entire Society, the members of the Executive Committee and Home Office staff extend their condolences to Bro. Repos’ family and friends on their loss. A complete obituary will appear in a future issue.

### Sygan Lodge 6 electing officers at April meeting

**SYGAN, Pa.** — SNPJ Lodge 6 will hold a meeting on Monday, April 12, starting at 7 p.m. in the upstairs hall. At this meeting we will hold the nominations, elections and installations of all Lodge officers.

We will also be electing young adult delegates to the SNPJ Young Adult Conference or Zoom meeting that will be held Aug. 6-8. If you are interested in serving as a delegate to this conference, please e-mail me at [kpintar@snpj.com](mailto:kpintar@snpj.com) stating your interest.

Masks are required to be worn and social distancing protocols will be in effect.

**KAREN A. PINTAR**  
Lodge 6 President

## THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are May 3 and June 1. All material must be received by noon on Monday, April 19, for the May 3 issue, and by Monday, May 10, for the June 1 issue. If you’re concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to [prosveta@snpj.com](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com) or submit your material via the publications area of our website, [snpj.org](http://snpj.org).



Members of St. Marys Lodge 581 and the North Central Pa. Polka Boosters baked poticas to raise money for a local food bank. Pictured [from left]: **JOHN TROHA, MARCIA BLEGGI, DON BLEGGI, PAT MOORE, JOHN MOORE** and Cly Horning.

## With potica, St. Marys Lodge 581 raises funds for a local food bank

by MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI  
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

**ST. MARYS, Pa.** — Members of Lodge 581 held a potica baking day to teach baking skills, and later raffled off the poticas during the North Central Slovenian Polka Boosters dance held March 14. Eight poticas were presented to the lucky winners, raising of total of \$282 which was donated to the Christian Food Bank.

More than 70 people attended the dance, many dancing and some just enjoying the great music. Upcoming Polka Boosters dances are scheduled April 11 and April 25. Check our Facebook page for exact time and location.

Lodge 581 members mourn the passing of Sis. Anna Drasler, a resident of Forest City, Pa., who lived to the age of 107. Anna was a member of the former SNPJ Lodge 124 for many years; the Lodge merged with Lodge 581. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

Lodge 581 is planning more activities, including a co-sponsored summer picnic on Aug. 22. For more information about Lodge 581, contact Marcia Klancer Bleggi by e-mailing [marcia.and.don@gmail.com](mailto:marcia.and.don@gmail.com) or visiting our Facebook page at *St. Marys SNPJ Lodge 581*.



While preparing the poticas, Lodge 581 members **JOHN TROHA** rolled the dough and **JOHN MOORE** spread the filling.

## Spartans Lodge 576 planning for annual picnic, casino trip in 2021

by TONI THOMEY  
Lodge 576 Recording Secretary

**CLEVELAND** — Who can believe it’s been over a year since our world has been shut down due to the Coronavirus? With the new year, my hope is that we are beginning to turn a corner. Many of you have received the vaccine or are in line to receive one. I certainly pray that we can all gather soon and bring life back to normal!

Spartans Lodge 576 members held their first meeting of 2021 at Dino’s Restaurant in Wickliffe, Ohio, on March 15. It was so nice to see everyone who was able to attend.

At this meeting, we spoke of ways to engage our members this year while still following CDC guidelines and safety protocols. We will still be holding our drawing to raise money for the balina courts at the SNPJ Farm; however,

due to unforeseen technical difficulties with our square site, we were unable to run this virtually/electronically in January and have postponed the drawing until further notice. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please stay tuned and look to future articles or postings regarding this fundraiser.

If the health and safety of our friends and family continue a positive course, we do still have some activities planned for 2021. Our next Lodge meeting will be held April 19 at Urban Vintner starting at 6 p.m. Please reach out to Toni Thomey at (216) 744-4710 or Karen Novak at (216) 965-3181 if you are able to attend.

We have also scheduled our next few meetings for May 17, June 21 and July 19. Please

SEE SPARTANS LODGE  
ON PAGE 2

## Dinner meeting on the Lodge 31 agenda in April

by BARB BOGOLIN  
Lodge 31 Secretary/Treasurer

**SHARON, Pa.** — SNPJ Lodge 31 members are invited to a dinner meeting on Sunday, April 18, at Combine Brothers, 2376 S. Hermitage Rd., Hermitage, PA 16148. Their phone number is (724) 983-1057. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. Members will order from the menu and the Lodge will pay for the cost of the meals.

Regular Lodge business and Lodge charitable contributions for 2021 will be discussed during the meeting. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP by April 16 by phoning Barb Bogolin at (724) 347-1197 before 10 p.m.

## Virtual meeting date in April for Fontana Lodge 723

by JULIANNE WOOD  
Lodge 723

**FONTANA, Calif.** — SNPJ Lodge 723 in Fontana will hold their regular Lodge meeting virtually on Thursday, April 15, starting at 6:30 p.m. on Google Meet. Members can join in via computer with internet access, a camera and microphone; or via cell phone or landline.

Lodge 723 members can contact Julianne Wood to receive the Google Meet Lodge meeting information and meeting agenda. Julianne is also offering a tutorial on accessing Google Meet and e-mail. For additional information, contact Julianne by e-mailing [JulianneWood@SNPJLodge723.org](mailto:JulianneWood@SNPJLodge723.org) or phoning (951) 300-3592.



### • August Jaymes Progar Born Oct. 16, 2019 Strabane, Pa., Lodge 138

August Jaymes Progar is the newest member of Strabane Lodge 138. Auggie, a fifth-generation SNPJ member, is the son of Jaymes and Emma Progar, grandson of Jim “Hoagie” and Monica Progar, nephew of Anna and Eric Granata (a new member too), all members of Strabane Lodge 138; great-grandson of the late Joe and Amelia Progar; and great-great-grandson of the late Josip Progar, a charter member of Lodge 138. We welcome Auggie to the SNPJ and extend best wishes to his entire family.



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Have something for  
**Up-and-Coming?**

Lodge/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Event \_\_\_\_\_

Site \_\_\_\_\_

If a concert or dance, who is  
performing? \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Who to contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and return to:  
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# Loyalites Lodge teaming up to host SLO-ISH Bowl in May

by DANIELLA VOLPE  
Lodge 158

**EUCLID, Ohio** — Hello, everyone. We apologize for our long absence, but to be honest there truly hasn't been much to write about. Nevertheless, we hope everyone is doing well and staying safe and healthy. We understand just how difficult these times have been and hope that the end is in sight.

With that being said, there are still lots of things to celebrate, like birthdays! We have quite a few to celebrate, even though we are doing so after the fact. First up is Danny Elam on March 14, then Colleen Frank on the very fitting St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

We also have some of our favorite couples celebrating. Loyalites Lodge President Don Srnick and Sue (the lady who keeps an eye on him for us) celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary on March 26; our two new lovebirds (well, new to marriage, but not to love or the Loyalites), Colleen and Jim Kuhn, celebrated their

second anniversary; and finally, our very own Karen O'Donnell and her husband Tim will celebrate their 47th anniversary on April 5.

Something else to celebrate is the addition of (hopefully) new little Loyalites members! Huge congratulations are in order for Katie and Brian O'Boyle on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Ava; and to Mike and Ashley Brately who welcomed their little one, Mike Jr., into the world.

We were sorry to have had to cancel the Loyalites annual Christmas party, but fret not – we plan to make up for it this year!

The first item we have on the Loyalites Lodge agenda is the SLO-ISH Bowling Tournament. Previously run independently, Lodge 158, along with the Celtic Nations Society of Northern Ohio, have decided to take it on and help – which makes sense, since the two tournament founders just happened to be Loyalites members.

The tournament is scheduled Saturday, May 1, starting at 1 p.m. at Wickliffe Lanes in Wickliffe, Ohio.

The cost per bowler is \$20 for adults (\$40 per two-person team), \$15 for youth bowlers, and \$5 for non-bowlers who just want to enjoy the food. A meal will be provided at the lanes, and a post-tournament celebration is planned at the American Legion located at 570 E. 328th St. in Eastlake, Ohio.

For more information or to register, contact Colleen Kuhn at (216) 347-3205. Payments may also be sent through Venmo; just be sure to include your name, your partner's name and "SLO-ISH" in the memo.

Looking ahead to May, the Loyalites are helping to support the SNPJ Farm in an effort to bring people together after a year of separation.

The Farm will be hosting a Music Festival and Craft Show on Saturday, May 22. There will be lots of live music (seriously – so much music that we don't know where they're going to put all the musicians!), as well as lots of amazing vendors selling everything from handmade fabric items to items found only in the magical wizarding

world of Harry Potter. If you would like to be a vendor, please get in touch with Don Srnick.

We hope to see you all there for a day that is sure to be filled with lots of love, music and, of course, food!

Oh, did you think we were done? The Loyalites are coming out swinging this year because we cannot forget about our annual picnic, which was yet another thing that was taken from us last year.

We will be hosting our picnic on June 27, and although we don't have a theme, we want to take the time to celebrate any and all who we lost over this gruesome year. We encourage everyone to bring a photo, a collage – anything that reminds you of someone you may have lost this year so we can all celebrate their lives together.

The next Loyalites Lodge meeting will be held April 8 at Recher Hall in Euclid starting at 7 p.m. As always, we send our thoughts and prayers to all of our ailing members and their families during this difficult time.

## Lodge 665 member partners for second book addressing risk communication methods

by ANTHONY J. SADAR  
Lodge 665

**PITTSBURGH** — Bro. Anthony J. "Tony" Sadar, a member of SNPJ Lodge 665 in Pittsburgh, is co-author of a book recently released by an academic publisher, "Environmental Risk Communication: Principles and Practices for Industry" (CRC Press, February 2021).

This new release is the second edition of Tony's book by the same title published in September 1999. The primary author of the new book is Susan Zummo Forney, a longtime environmental consultant and risk communication trainer.

Tony, founder of Environmental Science Communication, LLC, retired earlier this year as an Air Pollu-

tion Administrator for the Allegheny County (Pa.) Health Department, Air Quality Program, in Pittsburgh. He is a Certified Consulting Meteorologist, a distinction conferred by the American Meteorological Society, with more than 40 years of experience in air pollution meteorology and science education.

Besides his former employment with Allegheny County, Tony taught for many years at colleges and universities in western Pennsylvania and is currently an adjunct associate professor at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa. He has also worked in private consulting, investigating a variety of high-profile industrial air pollution issues and emergency release situations.



Bro. **ANTHONY J. "Tony" SADAR** and **Susan Zummo Forney** co-authored the recently released second version of Bro. Sadar's book "Environmental Risk Communication: Principles and Practices for Industry."



As part of his work, Tony has presented air monitoring and modeling results before general public audiences, some quite hostile. He learned from theory and practice some of the best techniques to address highly-charged issues, and has trained industry and government staff to successfully manage chal-

lenging public meetings.

Tony and Susan plan to use "Environmental Risk Communication" as a training manual to guide industry supervisors and technical staff in principled methods for building relationships and engaging in constructive dialogue with stakeholders.

## Spartans Lodge sets the stage for 2021

**SPARTANS LODGE**  
FROM PAGE 1

look to future articles and e-mails for times and sites. We hope to be able to gather outside for these meetings in the warmer months.

We're also hoping, with so many of our members being vaccinated, that we can hold our annual picnic and our bus trip this year. As of now, we have been told to save the date of July 25 for our picnic and have booked our own Patty C & The Guys as our entertainment. We also hope to have our bus trip to Presque Isle Downs & Casino on Nov. 20. Stay tuned...

Finally, calling all young adult members ages 18-30! If you are interested in serving as a Young Adult Conference delegate, it has been announced that the Young Adult Conference is scheduled in August this year. Please contact Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Linda Gorjup at (216) 650-1279 by April 30 if you are interested in serving as a delegate. We need to let the Home Office know by June 15.

On a sad note, I would like to extend my

deepest sympathies on the passing of our dear sister, Marion Slejko. I had recently heard of her passing, and I remember her so fondly.

I always enjoyed spending time with Marion in the kitchen at Lodge picnics, on bus trips, and during Lodge meetings. My favorite memories are of sitting around at the SNPJ Farm peeling potatoes and hearing all the gossip. Our Lodge and my family will miss her so much. I know that she is enjoying some great music and slivo with the "Doctor," Lou, himself.

In addition to our sweet Marion, the Society lost a great friend, Kevin Richards. Kevin was such a pillar in the SNPJ community. We all knew his name from youth activities and tournaments, along with events held at the SNPJ Recreation Center. Personally, I will miss his sense of humor and his ability to break out his guitar and sing my favorite Garth song around the campfire.

On behalf of my family and Lodge 576, I offer our deepest sympathies to both the Slejko and Richards families.

## best wishes to our Outlived Members Lodge 604 member had Fed government career



**CLEVELAND** — Sis. Catherine Angela (Pavlick) Weir, a member of Lodge 604 in Cleveland, outlived her SNPJ life insurance policy in January and has now joined the ranks of the Society's Honorary Members.

Sis. Weir, who currently resides in Westlake, Ohio, was born Oct. 3, 1924, in Anaconda, Mont., to Mary and Tom Pavlick. Catherine grew up with a love of ice skating and with a sense of adventure. She has two sisters, Ann (Pavlick) Walker, who now resides in California, and the late Mary (Pavlick) Bosanatz.

At the young age of 17, wanting to contribute to the war effort, Catherine and her high school best friend, Mary, boarded a train bound for Washington, D.C., to work for the Navy, ordering equipment and supplies for the troops. It was in Washington that Catherine met her husband, Richard J. Weir, who worked for the Bureau of Weights and Measures. They later married and relocated to West Virginia, raising three children, Tom, Mary and Connie, before moving to Ohio in 1965.

Catherine has always stated that what she missed most during those times was seeing her parents and sisters, who were so far away, and wishing everyone could have been closer.

Catherine was an excellent seamstress and made everything from baby doll clothes for her daughters at Christmas to professional-looking suits and coats. Her professional career not only involved working for the Federal government, she also worked for many years in the insurance industry.

Catherine now has three grandchildren and one great-grandchild, with another great-grandchild on the way.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 604 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend best wishes to Sis. Weir for continued health and happiness.



**Sisters Put Some Spring in Your (Dance) Step**

Ahh, the sounds of spring! What could be more delightful than dancing to a polka or waltz performed by an all-female orchestra – and all sisters, no less. The caption for this photo, published in the April 27, 1938, *PROSVETA* issue, reads, "The well-known Bergant Sisters of Lisbon, Ohio, members of SNPJ, currently appearing at many SNPJ affairs in Northeastern Ohio and Western Penna."

According to the obituary of Elizabeth Bergant Kertel, the last surviving member of the band who passed away in March 2018 at the age of 93, she and her four sisters – Frances Bergant Hoffman, Mary Bergant Mellon, Josephine Bergant Pukalski and Virginia Bergant Eberly – formed the Bergant Sisters band "under the musical direction and tutelage of their father," Jacob Bergant.





DAVID C. ELY, CPIA  
SNPJ Sales Director

# Spring Ahead!

Throughout our lives we are influenced and inspired by many people. When I was in high school, I met a teacher named Dr. Rex Gatto. Decades later, Dr. Gatto is still influencing and inspiring. I asked Dr. Gatto if I could share a recent article he wrote, and his response was, “Feel free – the goal is to help people.” Enjoy!

**5 Tips to Spring Ahead and Not Fall Back**  
by Rex Gatto. Ph.D., NCC, LPC, BCC  
Industrial and Organizational Psychologist,  
Executive Coach, Physician Coach at Gatto Associates, LLC

We begin a new season of spring filled with hope that the vaccines and the inoculated have a renewed path to an interactive life. What do we need to do to find our new path toward “Springing Ahead?” While the season is changing, we also need to change our mindset to remembering our past year while leaving it emotionally behind; to remember the thoughts of fear we felt and still feel, but replace them with the success of science in launching our pathway forward.

There are many questions that need to now be addressed. Will we return to our office workplace or work remotely? Will we again celebrate as a family? Will our favorite bar/restaurant return? Will the divided society heal? Will leaders emerge who unite rather than divide? Will the ability to vote be sustained? Will renters find ways to pay their rent? These questions, all or in part, identify some of the many struggles that people face.

Following are five tips to expand a mindset to “Spring Ahead and Not Fall Back”:

**1. Give yourself credit for being resilient.** Being able to conquer the fear of the pandemic is possible for all. What did you learn about yourself during the pandemic? Did you learn you are disciplined and concerned about yourself, family, and friends? Did you replace your negative thoughts about how bad last year was to positive thoughts of a new resilient future? Renewed thoughts of a bright future equal the leaf-filled trees of spring. The chirping songbirds will return, along with a renewed spirit of conquering a virus. Accept your emotions; don’t push against them. Emotions are part of the human process. Reflect; think about the positive future you can create.

**2. Analyze your present situation.** Don’t wallow in “this should not have happened to me.” You can control your future by planning and positively looking for realistic possibilities. Don’t think about being stuck; think about what you can do. That doesn’t mean it is going to be easy, but it does mean you are willing to take action and move forward. Don’t label yourself “I am just a...”. Identify your talents, put energy into becoming what you choose to be. Take responsibility for yourself to move forward and stop looking in the rearview mirror. Nothing is easy. Everything takes effort and mental fortitude. Even eating dessert takes mental fortitude and effort: get up, buy it or make it, get a dish and utensils, and take the time to eat a bite at a time. What is going on now in your life?

**3. Dealing with loss.** We all define loss in different ways: Loss of a loved one or friend due to a disease or virus, loss of a job, loss of our home or apartment, loss of our favorite restaurant, loss of an educational school year, loss of friendship. How do we deal with loss? Write a letter to yourself about your loss. The letter is for you to express in detail your feelings of loss. Express your emotions in a way with which you are comfortable and feel safe. Give yourself time to heal from loss; there is no quick fix. Grief is an emotion dealing with suffering, and it is painful. There is a process that accompanies loss and grief. Accept your grieving process, but engage in life. Talk with others with whom you feel comfortable and safe in discussing your thoughts of loss. Reading about loss and the grieving process can also be helpful. Understand the last stage of the grief process is being at peace with your loss. You are on your own timetable to arrive at peace.

**4. Choose the right attitude that will support happiness in your life.** Your attitude is your choice. Yes, negative and bad things happen to both good and bad people. What attitude do you want and do you choose? It is your responsibility to choose your own direction, your path forward, and the emotional attitude that will travel with you. Are your emotions a supportive travel partner or a negative enemy that you are fighting each step of the way? Your thoughts will be with you each moment and each step you take. You can choose negative thoughts, such as this should not have happened, everything is lost, my future is going to be a disaster. Or you can say, “O.K., bad things did happen, but what can I now do? What job can I now take? How can I prepare for and acquire a new future for myself?

**5. Write a plan for success.** Don’t think about a plan; write a plan! First, sit down and write it. Analyze your present situation in detail: family situation, residence (where you are living), health, money, schooling, education, work, mood, friends, general well-being, and general comments. Second, describe in detail the desired future you want to attain. What do you want in your future? Be realistic while dreaming of a creative, unrealistic future. Be very specific as to what you want as your desired future. Be practical and be truthful. “I want to be president of a corporation. I don’t work for a corporation. I have never worked in a corporation. But I want to be president of a corporation.” How realistic is this? A daydream with no substance is certainly unrealistic. However, do remember that many great people who were great successes were rejected for lack of talent or innovation. Follow your spirit to become who you believe you are and can be. Third: write the actions you need to take or implement to achieve your dream of your desired future in a step-by-step approach.

The above successive steps can support you in achieving the future you want and desire. Be compassionate and positive about yourself and the future. Show kindness and care for others. Put forth energy in the right way and at the right time to meet and surpass your own dreams.

What action do you need to take NOW? Support yourself to make your future what you want.



## New map plots seismic hazards in Slovenia

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — In March, Slovenia’s National Seismology Office presented a new seismic hazard map, taking into account the latest seismic and geo-tectonic data. The upgraded threat levels and risk assessments are based on new information compiled over the past two decades.

The old seismic hazard map dates back to 2001, and the new one will enter into force when changes to the earthquake-resistant construction legislation are passed. Based on the new earthquake risk assessment, engineers will establish whether national building codes currently standardized with the Eurocode 8 seismic hazard zoning need to be changed.

The new map shows peak ground acceleration, as well as spectral acceleration. Seismic hazard levels are assessed for firm ground sites utilizing earthquake source probability assessments and taking into account the expected lifespan of average buildings. The list of earthquakes in Slovenia and in the vicinity has been updated as well.

Active faults or ground breaks and their sources, defined by the Geological Survey of Slovenia, have also been included in the map for the first time, meaning risk levels will now be assessed not only on the basis of previous quakes, but also on potential fault hotspots.

Areas presenting the greatest earthquake hazard in Slovenia include the Posavje region in the east, the Novo Mesto area in the southeast, and Ljubljana and certain areas in the northwest and west of the country, particularly the areas around Kobarid, Bovec and Idrija. At the opposite end of the spectrum, the Slovenian coast, the Maribor area, and Slovenia’s northeast pose the least hazard.

## Children doubled their online time in lockdown

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — During the Coronavirus lockdown in the spring of 2020, Slovenian children spent 6.69 hours per day in front of computer monitors and video screens during an average school day, of which classwork accounted for 3.85 hours, according to the results of a recent international survey. This amount of screen time is much higher than the 2018 European average of 2.6 hours per day for all activities combined.

The survey on the experience of children and youth with online risks during the 2020 lockdown was presented by Bojana Lobe, a representative from the Ljubljana Faculty of Social Sciences. Lobe noted that the survey had been conducted between June and August 2020 among children between the ages of 10 and 18, along with their parents, in a total of 11 countries, including Slovenia.

In Slovenia, 43 percent of parents said that they were concerned about the excessive use of technology more than prior to the lockdown. Some 54 percent of the children surveyed in Slovenia said they were more concerned about their increased use of technology.

Among all 11 countries, the number of children who said they had more issues due to the use of technology, for example skipping meals or having trouble sleeping, was fewest in Slovenia (17 percent). Some children indicated that they actively tried to change their patterns of internet use, and almost a third said they weren’t successful in their attempts to reduce the amount of time spent using digital technologies.

## Partner project upgrades EuroVelo 13 bike trails

**MURSKA SOBOTA (STA)** — A cross-border partnership between Slovenia and Hungary recently completed an upgrade to the network of 344 kilometers (214 miles) of bike trails as part of the Iron Curtain Cycling project, a EUR 2.3 million (\$2.75 million) project designed to boost cycling tourism in the border area.

Partner organizations on both sides of the border spent three and a half years setting up the network of bike paths along EuroVelo 13, a bike route running along the Iron Curtain. The project was co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

“Apart from marking the bike paths, the project partners helped develop cycling-friendly services and cross-



border cycling packages for tourists,” representatives from the Murska Sobota Institute for Culture, Tourism and Sport announced in a press release.

A mobile app and cycling maps in four languages have been developed, and a number of events have been organized. In addition, local tourism establishments and guides have participated in specialized training and workshops.

The area now boasts 21 cycling centers on both sides of the border, featuring rest stops and bike rental services offering 59 conventional bikes and 19 electric bikes, as well as accommodations for travelers.

## Slovenia boasts two Tree Cities of the World

**KOČEVJE/LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Slovenia’s capital, Ljubljana, and the city of Kočevje have been recognized as Tree Cities of the World, according to the Arbor Day Foundation and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Both Slovenian cities made the cut for the 2020 list among 120 cities in 63 countries.

Representatives from the Kočevje municipality said that the title recognized its efforts regarding green infrastructure and tree management. Some 45 trees are planted on average every year in Kočevje public areas. A competition for the best urban tree will be held this year for the first time as a special feature of the city’s green efforts.

Receiving the honor for the second year in a row, Ljubljana representatives said the recognition reaffirmed its position of a green capital in the Tree Cities of the World network. Ljubljana arranges to plant 300 to 600 trees every year. The capital’s current Tree of the Year is the weeping beech on Vodnikova Road.

“Ljubljana’s commitment to effective urban forest management plays an important role in ensuring a better future for all citizens,” the organizers of the Global List of Tree Cities wrote.

Both cities have highlighted the importance of green urban areas, listing benefits such as keeping cities cooler in summer, providing oxygen and shelter from the wind, reducing noise, and improving the quality of urban life.

## Slovenian group designs an electric wheelbarrow

**KANAL (STA)** — The Ljubljana-based start-up Blockhapp has developed and manufactured an innovative electric wheelbarrow. The product, dubbed “Karjola,” features 15 technological innovations that have already been patented. The company is now awaiting a certificate to launch sales on the European market.

The development and production of the electric wheelbarrow took place in the Lypast company facilities located in the village of Levpa in the Kanal ob Soči municipality. The head of the project, Marko Makarovič, attracted company staff, along with young local engineers and students, to take part in the project.

In order to create a wheelbarrow that makes transporting loads easier for the user, the team first had to make adjustments to the framework, where all the electric components are contained. They then programmed the steering unit that controls the electric motor through sensors. The speed of the wheelbarrow is adjusted on its handle, using just one finger.

The electric motors help the user raise the load, while also slowing down when lowering. The energy created in this manner helps charge the battery.

The wheelbarrow’s maximum speed is 12 kilometers per hour (7.5 mph) in forward and 4 kph (2.5 mph) in reverse. Its lithium battery should be sufficient for 10 hours of use per charge. The maximum load is 100 kilograms (220 pounds).

## Slovenian nominated for Dublin Literary Award

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — Slovenian author Sebastijan Pregelj has been nominated for the 2021 International Dublin Literary Award for his novel “Kronika

Pozabljanja.” The English translation of Pregelj’s novel, “A Chronicle of Forgetting,” was listed along with 48 other books.

The Dublin Literary Award offers a prize of EUR 100,000 (\$121,000) and is awarded to works written in or translated into English. The nominees are proposed by libraries around the world. If the winning entry is a translated book, the author and the translator share the prize money.

Pregelj’s novel was released in Slovenian in 2014, and the English translation came out in 2020, published as part of the Litterae Slovenicae DSP series and translated by Rawley Grau, an American translator who has been living in Slovenia since the early 2000s.

When nominating the book, the Ljubljana City Library described “A Chronicle of Forgetting” as “a moving, well-written and well-translated novel about pursuing purpose, facing the transience of life, losing memories and leaving traces.”

The book tells the story of an old man with dementia whose tales of love and suspense could be real or a mere figment of his hallucinations, according to a synopsis on the publisher’s website.

## NUK displaying original Prešeren satirical ballad

**LJUBLJANA (STA)** — The National and University Library (NUK) in Ljubljana has obtained a manuscript of France Prešeren’s poem “Sveti Senanus” (St. Senanus). The acquisition is the first original and authentic manuscript of a poem by Slovenia’s greatest poet that is now housed at the library.

The manuscript is a priceless addition to the NUK collection of Prešeren manuscripts and is written in the Bohorič alphabet [the alphabet used in Slovenia between the 16th and 19th centuries]. The poet’s typical handwriting and his signature in Gaj’s Latin alphabet [Latin script used for writing Serbo-Croatian] are on full display. The manuscript is available in digital form on the Slovenian Digital Library website, according to the NUK.

The poem is a satirical ballad, telling the story of monk Senan who seeks relief on a remote island to avoid temptation. Being unsuccessful in his attempts, he returns to civilization. The source of inspiration for the witty poem was Thomas Moore’s poem “St. Senanus and the Lady” and mythology. Prešeren then made the story his own and dedicated it to his friend Gašper Crobath p. Benvenut, a poet and Franciscan priest.

Prešeren’s friend received the ballad on May 24, 1846. The poem was then first released in 1848, and was thus one of the last works published by Prešeren prior to his death. Since day one, the ballad has given rise to debates, exchanges and controversies, including Benvenut’s responses which are also in verse.

## Two Slovenians make the TIME 100 Next list

**NEW YORK (STA)** — Two Slovenians, NBA star Luka Dončić and sport climber Janja Garnbret, have made the TIME magazine list of 100 rising stars for 2021, “TIME 100 Next.” The 22-year-olds are featured in the Phenoms category of rising sports stars.

Dončić, who plays for the Dallas Mavericks, was presented to TIME readers by his Serbian teammate, Boban Marjanović. “With Luka Dončić on the court, you can’t relax. Even if you’re not open, he can make ‘Luka magic’ at any moment – throwing a perfect pass that somehow lands in your hands. He debuts a new move every game. It’s crazy,” Marjanović said.

“He’s just 22, but he has already made an All-NBA First Team and is set to earn many more honors,” Marjanović added.

Sport climber Janja Garnbret is labeled a favorite for a gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics, where competitive climbing will make its debut.

Garnbret hopes this will take the sport to new heights at a time when climbing gyms around the world were forced to close because of the COVID-19 pandemic. “I have a responsibility to show the sport to the world, and to set a good example,” she told a TIME reporter.

However, Garnbret hopes not only to win gold, but to also have fun: “I’m the kind of person who, if I’m not having fun, then I definitely won’t have a good result.”

*The articles comprising this feature have been reprinted with permission from the Slovenian Press Agency (STA).*



## SNPJ fraternal sympathies

### BRO. JOSEPH JURICICH • LODGE 87 • SNPJ RECREATION CENTER COMMITTEE

**HERMINIE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 87 sadly report the Jan. 10, 2021, passing of Bro. Joseph “Papa Joe” Juricich, 96, of North Versailles, Pa.

Bro. Juricich was born April 5, 1924, the son of the late Joseph and Katherine Juricich. He was a property developer and home builder, along with his father and his son, Joe (J&J Builders).

A 75-year SNPJ member, Joe served on the SNPJ Recreation Center Committee from 1997-2007, and as an Honorary Committee member since 2007. He and his wife Connie had a trailer at the Recreation Center for many years.

Bro. Juricich was an invaluable member of the committee, and the Recreation Center benefited from his many years of business and construction experience and expertise. Utilizing his masonry skills, and with a lot of hard work and sweat equity, Joe, with assistance from Connie, shored up the foundation of the Recreation Center’s historic red barn. His effort likely saved the barn and extended its life for years to come.

This was just one of the many projects on which Joe shared his knowledge and skills to ensure the future of the Recreation Center facilities. He was a kind, generous and humble person, and he contributed greatly to the Society through his fraternal service on the Recreation Center Committee.

In addition to the SNPJ Recreation Center Committee, he was also a member of Bricklayers Union Local 9, and a 55-year member of the Norwin Elks.

Joe was the beloved husband of the late Constance “Connie” Juricich; loving father of Karen (Don) Elko, Joey P. (Barb) Juricich, Michael Juricich, Pamela (Doug) McGinnis, and the late Jeffrey Juricich; and brother of the late Irene Rosa. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two stepchildren, Barb (Jim) Romanovich and Butch (Karen) Wilson; and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Bro. Juricich on Jan. 14 in St. Angela Merici Church, White Oak, Pa. Burial followed in New St. Joseph’s Cemetery, North Versailles.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 87 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our sympathies to Bro.

Juricich’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

### SIS. HARRIET M. SENKINC • LODGE 138 •

**STRABANE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report the Feb. 6, 2021, passing of Sis. Harriet Senkinc, 82, of Houston, Pa., in the Masonic Village at Sewickley after a long battle with dementia.

Sis. Senkinc was born May 19, 1938, in Canonsburg, Pa., a daughter of James and Roseina Fallows Finney.

A 60-year SNPJ Lodge 138 member, she was also a member of Central Assembly of God Church and was very active in the Order of the Eastern Star. She enjoyed reading, and especially spending time with her family.

On May 7, 1960, she married her husband, Frank Senkinc. He preceded her in death on Oct. 7, 1997.

Surviving are her daughter, Cheryl (Paul) Skiviat of Hickory, Pa.; a son, Frank (Leah) Senkinc of Marshfield, Mo.; her sister, Cheryl Burkett of Canonsburg; three grandchildren, Kayla (Cameron) Shelton, Sean (Season) Litzenberger, and Sarah (Jordan) Morgan; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Jack Miller.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all services were private.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Senkinc’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

### BRO. ANDREW J. SLUCIAK • LODGE 138 •

**STRABANE, Pa.** — The members of Lodge 138 sadly report a second recent loss with the Feb. 16, 2021, passing of Bro. Andrew James Sluciak, 81, of Canonsburg, Pa. Andrew celebrated his 60-year SNPJ membership anniversary in February.

Bro. Sluciak was born Sept. 26, 1939, in Canonsburg, a son of the late Joseph and Helen Pochiba Sluciak. Prior to his retirement he worked as a farm manager for Woodville State Hospital. He enjoyed his work, and in his spare time he enjoyed working on projects and fixing things.

On Aug. 3, 1957, he married Jean Marie LaJevic Sluciak; she preceded him in death on

Dec. 14, 1992.

Surviving are his sons, Andrew (Jeanine) Sluciak of Henderson, Nev., and Thomas (Donna) Sluciak of Strabane; a daughter, Tracy (Steve) Rossa of Canonsburg; his brother, Dennis Sluciak of Canonsburg; a sister, Darlene (Alan) Barni of Canonsburg; six grandchildren, Jeremy (Zeidy) Sluciak, Jenna (Cameron) Farally, Jaclyn (Mark) Pracel, Thomas (Chelsie Barringer) Sluciak Jr., Stephen Rossa II and Jeannie Rossa; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Bro. Sluciak’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.



Sis. BLANCHE K. TRAVNIK (564)

### SIS. BLANCHE K. TRAVNIK • LODGE 564 •

**DETROIT** — The members of Young Americans Lodge 564 sadly report the Feb. 23, 2021, passing of Sis. Blanche Kathleen Travnik, 82, of Rochester, Mich. She was a 62-year SNPJ Lodge 564 member.

Sis. Travnik was the loving wife of William “Bill” Travnik; beloved mother of Deborah (Christopher) Iapalucci, William Jr. (Kimberly) Travnik, James Travnik, and the late Kathleen Pasque; dear mother-in-law of Ronald (Mary) Pasque; cherished grandmother of 10; great-grandmother of four, with one great-grandchild on the way; and sister of Rosann “Mitzi” (the late Russell) Mitchell, Susan (the late Jerome) Vida, the late Daniel Kuzmanov, and the late Sylvia “Bobbie” Anderson.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated for Sis. Travnik on March 1 at St. Mary of the Hills Catholic Church, Rochester Hills, Mich. Interment followed in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, Mich.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 564 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our condolences to Sis.

Travnik’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

### SIS. ALDENE THOMAS • LODGE 689 •

**HELPER, Utah** — The members of Lodge 689 sadly report the March 1, 2021, passing of Sis. Aldene Thomas at the age of 101. Sis. Thomas was an SNPJ Honorary Member, outliving her SNPJ life insurance policy in December 2020.

Sis. Aldene Cadez Thomas was born Dec. 3, 1919, in Lark, Utah, a daughter of Joseph and Sophie Subic Cadez, both emigrants from Slovenia. Aldene grew up in the Spring Canyon coal camps of Rains and Standardville. She started school at the age of 5 and graduated from Carbon High School. She served for a time as Postmistress at the Spring Canyon, Utah, Post Office.

She met and married Melvin Thomas in the spring of 1937, and in 1945 she and Melvin moved into a home in Carbonville, Utah, where she remained until her passing.

Aldene graduated from the nursing program at the College of Eastern Utah in 1958 and worked as a nurse at the Carbon Hospital for many years until she retired to care for her aging mother.

Embarking on a second career, she spent 25 years as a volunteer at the Western Mining and Railroad Museum in Helper. She was recently honored by the museum with the dedication of a permanent exhibit that features excerpts from her life’s story as a means of describing what life in the area was like during that period of time. The printed version of her life story, which is written in her own words, is on display in the exhibit.

Aldene has received several honors and commendations for her volunteer work, including those from the Helper City mayor and from the governor of Utah.

Aldene had a clear view of changes during her lifetime. She witnessed the first radios and telephones in Spring Canyon, man’s first walk on the moon, the advent of the computer age, and self-driving cars. Achieving centenarian status, she wondered what changes the world would see in the next 100 years.

Aldene attributed her good health and longevity to good genes, clean living and healthy eating habits. She had been active all of her life, and she loved to participate in yoga and line dancing at a local senior center two or three times a week until a leg surgery sidelined her at



Sis. ALDENE THOMAS (689)

the age of 99.

The opening lines of her life story best summarize her life: “I am thankful for the hard times, as they made me appreciate the good times; for the worries along the way, as they made me pray more; for the good health that I have had; for the many friends I’ve made along the way; and for having

caring relatives. But most of all I am thankful for my wonderful family.”

Aldene will be greatly missed by her family and by the many friends she “made along the way.”

Sis. Thomas is survived by two sons, Lynn (Nancy) of Spring Glen and Max (Linda) of Spring Branch, Texas; eight grandsons and one granddaughter; and two step-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin V. Thomas; a sister, Sylvia Cadez of Helper; and two brothers, Stanley and Max Cadez, both of Price, Utah.

Graveside services for Sis. Thomas were held March 5 at the Price City Cemetery.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 689 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our sympathies to Sis. Thomas’ family, relatives and friends on their loss.

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF CARL A. FLISEK



DIED APRIL 3, 2001  
OAKMONT, PA

WE LOVE YOU  
AND MISS YOU,  
DAD AND GRANDPAP.

CARL, BOB, KAREN,  
KEN AND MARY ANNE,  
THEIR SPOUSES,  
CHILDREN AND  
GRANDCHILDREN.

In loving memory of our beloved mother,  
grandmother and great-grandmother

*It has been 19 years since you left us...*

## MARY LIPOVEC GLAD

February 12, 1904 - April 21, 2002

\* \* \*

*Sadly missed by her family*

*Mary Lou Videgar;*

*Frank, Gretchen, Anna & Ivan;  
and Lisa, Keith & Mia.*



## IN LOVING MEMORY of our dear brother and friend



TONY (“SONNY”) KREN

June 14, 1940 — April 11, 2011

*We Miss You*

Girard, Ohio, Lodge 643

# PROSVETA 2021 Publication Dates

## JANUARY 2021

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## NOVEMBER 2021

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## DECEMBER 2021

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Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the dates circled above. Submissions may be mailed to PROSVETA, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126; faxed to (724) 695-1555; e-mailed to [prosveta@snpj.com](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com); or submitted via the Publications section of the SNPJ website, [snpj.org](http://snpj.org).

## DEATHS REPORTED

For the month of February 2021

LODGE	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY, STATE
A01	Mary Alice Fohr	01-01-2021	Pittsburgh, Pa.
A01	Edward J. Pino	12-22-2020	Avonmore, Pa.
6	Delores J. Chambola	01-12-2021	Bethel Park, Pa.
6	Robert H. Fritsch	01-13-2021	Landisville, Pa.
6	Genevieve Wagner	01-14-2021	Bridgeville, Pa.
6	Raymond P. Baselj	01-22-2021	Pittsburgh, Pa.
6	Dorothy Rodetsky	12-20-2020	Fairmont, W.Va.
87	Rose Shoben	01-07-2021	Hudson, Fla.
87	Roxanne Tepke	01-15-2021	Greensburg, Pa.
87	Wilma J. Lavenets	12-03-2020	Melbourne, Fla.
89	Ronald J. Tasz	10-27-2020	McDonald, Pa.
106	John F. Fisher	01-14-2021	Imperial, Pa.
106	Kevin S. Richards	12-09-2020	Clinton, Pa.
106	Constance L. Chernik	12-11-2020	Oakdale, Pa.
138	Leroy C. Lyons	01-20-2021	Canonsburg, Pa.
138	Alice A. Borza	11-07-2020	Corvallis, Ore.
138	Frances Z. Peternel	12-27-2020	Bethel Park, Pa.
142	Elsie Lowery	01-05-2021	Cleveland, Ohio
153	Pauline Farmer	01-21-2021	Youngstown, Ohio
158	Audrey M. DiVito	12-20-2020	Novelty, Ohio
207	Carol Welling	01-25-2021	Missoula, Mont.
218	Frank J. Milavec	01-01-2021	Pueblo, Colo.
218	John Klovas Jr.	12-01-2020	Pueblo, Colo.
254	Gloria J. Smith	01-06-2021	Durham, N.C.
254	Cecilia A. Pribish	01-17-2021	Johnstown, Pa.
564	Mary M. Kiefer	12-07-2020	Rochester Hills, Mich.
576	Wilma Severinac	12-28-2020	Willowick, Ohio
577	Elsie E. Pierce	12-20-2020	Canyon City, Colo.
581	J. Nancy Haberberger	12-02-2020	Kane, Pa.
614	Edmund J. Gazelle	01-11-2021	Ocala, Fla.
715	Gregory J. Gretz	11-08-2020	New Alexandria, Pa.
721	Ronnie J. White	12-28-2020	New Brighton, Pa.
723	Jennie Tow	01-05-2021	La Habra Heights, Calif.
729	Mildred M. Magatz	01-02-2021	Monessen, Pa.
776	Claire E. Barber	12-19-2020	Carmel, Ind.
782	Shirley Troutman	12-11-2020	Gowanda, N.Y.
786	Frances Ambrozich	01-07-2021	Huntington Beach, Calif.

KAREN A. PINTAR  
National Secretary/COO



# SNPJ FRATERNAL HONOREES

Members celebrating 50, 60, 70 and 80 years with the Slovene National Benefit Society

by JOSEPH C. EVANISH  
SNPJ National President/CEO

Of the 2,000 life insurance companies and fraternal benefit societies operating in the United States, fewer than 100 have been in existence as long as the SNPJ. As a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society, we have successfully provided life insurance to our members since 1904, along with a full package of social, athletic and cultural programs, scholarships, community service projects, and much more. SNPJ also offers annuities that can be used for IRAs and Roth IRAs.

Our more than 115 years of longevity and success have been made possible by the loyalty and dedication of our members. The SNPJ's engine may have been built and its direction set by its founders and subsequent leaders, but its path has been traveled, cleared and paved by our dedicated members.

As a way to show respect and appreciation to our longtime and loyal members, we recognize

membership milestones with a custom gift. The years of membership are counted in terms of adult membership years, not including youth enrollment years. These milestones of recognition include 50, 60, 70 and 80 years of adult membership.

We ask our Fraternal Honorees, once they have received their awards from the Society, to submit a short report on their past and present lifestyle, including their Lodge affiliation, hobbies and any other information that might be of interest to our readers.

In acknowledging these dedicated members, it is our privilege to show respect for these honorees by offering our thanks and appreciation for the loyalty they have shown the SNPJ for so many years. In this small way, through our official SNPJ publication, we can etch their names even deeper into the archives of the Slovene National Benefit Society.

On behalf of the entire membership, we extend our congratulations to those members reaching these anniversary milestones.

• **Loyalites Lodge 158 member**  
**Sis. GAIL F. PRICE** celebrated her 60th year of SNPJ membership in February.

Gail Nachtigal Price was selected as Miss SNPJ 1962. She studied at the Cleveland Institute of Art and Ohio University, and received her master's degree at Boise State University.

Her work has been profiled in the *American Artist* and *Southwest* magazines, as well as the volume "Contemporary Western Artists."

Gail has over 29 DVD art programs published through Crystal Productions in Aspen, Colo., which focus on drawing and painting principles, including art projects for junior and senior high schools throughout the United States and abroad.

She now resides in Aspen, where her artwork focuses on both her paintings and ceramics.

Gail feels blessed to be a part of SNPJ, and the college scholarship she had received launched her into her teaching profession.

**Sis. GAIL F. PRICE**  
Euclid, Ohio, Lodge 158  
Aspen, CO

• **Sis. PATRICIA A. GOLUBICH**, a member of Lodge 31 in Sharon, Pa., was recognized as a 70-year SNPJ member in December 2020. In her note of appreciation addressed to SNPJ National President/CEO Joseph C. Evanish, she writes:

"I was honored to receive the beautiful plush blanket for my 70-year membership in the SNPJ. The blanket will warm my body in these cold winter months, and the lovely SNPJ logo on it will warm my heart at the same time, as I have wonderful memories of all the pleasure I have received throughout my 70 years in SNPJ.

"As a teenager, we were so blessed to have a great director for our Juvenile Circle, Frances Novak Nespov, who kept us active with camping trips, and performances at our Slovenian Home and at many neighboring Slovenian Homes where we met many members and became pen pals, developing new friendships.

"My parents, Frank and Johanna O'Korn, were very dedicated members. My father helped build the Slovenian Home in Sharon, and I grew up across the street from it.

"My husband, Jim, and I enjoyed 67 years together, many of which were spent at Slovenian activities. For 15 years we spent the winter months in Florida, where we found Slovenian Homes in Spring Hill and Samsula and again met new friends.

"Our son, Jim, also enjoyed our Lodge activities as a youth. He now lives in Seattle where he has visited some of the activities and met the people there.

"We took a most memorable trip to Slovenia where we had at least 40 relatives, many more than we have here in the United States,

**Sis. PATRICIA GOLUBICH**  
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN

and they treated us royally. Tony Klepec was our tour guide, and he showed us all the highlights of Slovenia. His family entertained us, as did he on his accordion.

"One day, Tony led us up a hill on foot, playing his accordion as we sang, where a wonderful buffet awaited us at the top of the hill, outdoors, where we ate and drank wine overlooking the acres of beautiful vineyards below us. What great memories!

"Our Lodge 31 is now directed by Barb Bogolin, who is doing a great job continuing the future of the Lodge. She invited all who were honored by the SNPJ to a lovely dinner and gave us gifts.

"We are also fortunate to live within a half-hour drive to the SNPJ Campsite in Enon Valley, Pa., and enjoyed the many functions they provided my husband and me, and countless others from everywhere.

"I could go on and on and can't say enough about all the benefits I have received from the SNPJ, and can't thank all of you enough for all your dedicated work in providing these benefits for us."

**Sis. PATRICIA A. GOLUBICH**  
Sharon, Pa., Lodge 31  
Farrell, PA

• **Badger Lodge 584 member**  
**Sis. FLORENCE R. TELICH** celebrated her 80th year of SNPJ membership in February. In a note addressed to SNPJ National President/CEO Joseph C. Evanish, Florence's daughter, Jo Ann Erickson, writes:

"I am writing this thank you note for my 97-year-old mother, Florence Telich, who you recently congratulated on becoming an 80-year member of the SNPJ.

"My mother was very excited to get your letter and the beautiful SNPJ custom afghan blanket. The gift now sits on her couch in her apartment at the assisted living facility here in Ely, Minn., where she now lives.

"My mother is now legally blind, walks with a four-wheeled cart and is not very mobile. She contracted the COVID-19 virus this fall, but with her determination and good genes had very light symptoms and recovered. The worse part of the illness were the aftereffects of more short-term memory loss and a problem finding the words to communicate.

"My mother was born Florence Rose Zitko in 1923 in Cleveland. Her mother was an immigrant from Yugoslavia who had come to the USA as a young woman with no formal education or family, but had the street smarts to survive. And that she did. She raised a large family, my mother being the youngest child. My mom's father died in 1931, and once my mother graduated from eighth grade, she had to leave school to provide for her mother, who at the time was taking in boarders.

"The story continues, and is one that is very common of

that time period as it created a population with a 'strong' sense of determination and grit in which they blossomed and succeeded. "My mother always embraced her Slovenian heritage and took joy in continuing to pass that on to me, her only child. My husband and I took both my parents (a Telich, my father was also Slovenian) to Yugoslavia in 1997 and we visited the house where my mom's mother was born, and also visited with some cousins that my mother had kept in touch with.

"My mother wanted to make sure that you were duly thanked, and both of us appreciate you remembering her."

**Sis. FLORENCE R. TELICH**  
Milwaukee Lodge 584  
Ely, MN

• **Strabane, Pa., Lodge 138 member**  
**Bro. JOHN D. "DON" VERHOLTZ** celebrated his 70th year of SNPJ membership in December 2020. He writes:

"Many thanks for the cozy blanket to commemorate my 70-year SNPJ Lodge 138 membership.

"I did not meet my late wife, Celie, at the SNPJ; however, we were engaged in the Grill Room after she finished a Tuesday Night Ladies bowling session. It caused quite a stir with the other ladies that night. Celie had her bridal shower and I had my bachelor party there.

"Our wedding reception was held in the upstairs ballroom. The Gene Casciola Band provided the music. Our mothers, aunts and friends prepared all the food for our reception, including mouth-watering fried chicken from the chickens I bought at 84 Auction. We were also surprised with a 25th wedding anniversary party in the SNPJ ballroom in 1975.

"I have many fond memories of polka dances, weeks at the SNPJ Campsite, Lodge 138 golf, 200 Club dinners, Miss SNPJ weekends and Duck Races, to name a few. A highlight for me was when our Lodge hosted National Bowling Tournaments and other big tournaments that my friends – Jim Cadez, Joe Mals, Mirt Yarkosky, Rich Yarkosky, Matt Vehar – and I bartended. We had the greatest time and so much fun meeting members from other SNPJ Lodges.

"In the 1970s, Paul Podboy, Mirko Tomsic, Joe Mals and I replaced the Lodge 138 bowling alley roof and afterward drank a few beers. The company I worked for, HH Robertson Co., supplied the roofing materials.

"I retired as a structural steel erection supervisor from Robertson after 40 years of service. The company specialized in metal decking for companies such as PPG, U.S. Steel, Dravo and Comstock. It used mainly union workers from district Ironworker locals.

"As a proud Slovenian, I have been to Slovenia twice and was



Sis. GAIL F. PRICE (158)



Sis. PATRICIA A. GOLUBICH (31)



Bro. JOHN D. "DON" VERHOLTZ (138)



Sis. LOIS J. ROBERTS (715)

**Bro. DON VERHOLTZ**  
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN

fortunate to have traveled extensively and have great experiences with my lady friend, Mary Krese, who is also a Lodge 138 member.

"I am blessed with four wonderful children, Barbara, Donna (Dave), Patti and J.D. I have six incredible grandchildren, Patrick, Brandon (Melanie), Christopher (Angie), Lauren, Dylan and Matthew; and one great-granddaughter, Angela, who lights up my life every time I see her.

"My wish is that SNPJ continues to be an important part of our community and that fellow Slovenians explore their rich heritage."

**Bro. JOHN D. "DON" VERHOLTZ**  
Strabane, Pa., Lodge 138  
Canonsburg, PA

• **Sis. LOIS J. ROBERTS**, a member of Lodge 715 in Universal, Pa., celebrated her 60-year SNPJ membership in February.

While living in Pittsburgh, Lois (formerly, Lois Jane Svoboda) was awarded the title of Miss Talent 1964 in the Miss SNPJ Pageant, and was a soloist in church music and musical theater productions. She was also a private voice teacher, a choral director, and a stage director.

Lois taught voice and directed musical theater productions at Allegheny Community College. In the community she directed "The Muses" singing group.

In 1981, Lois and her husband moved to San Francisco where she continued her professional teaching, singing and directing. In 2012, one of Lois' students won a U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Award, and Lois received her Teacher Recognition Award in Washington, D.C., from the U.S. Department of Education.

Now retired, Lois and her husband reside in Rocklin, Calif. She truly appreciates the acknowledgement and the beautiful pen, and is proud to be a 60-year SNPJ member.

**Sis. LOIS J. ROBERTS**  
Universal, Pa., Lodge 715  
Rocklin, CA

• **Bro. WILLIAM G. DEDIC**, a member of Lodge 559 in Chicago, celebrated his 60th anniversary as an SNPJ member in February. He writes:

"Thanks so much for the gift and the recognition of being an SNPJ member of Chicago Pioneer Lodge 559 for 60 years.

"I was born in Chicago and lived with my parents, Mary and Bill, and sister, Mary Lee. My mother was active with the Pioneers Lodge throughout her life. I remember attending many activities as a child at the Slovene Center near 24th and Lawndale.

"Our family moved to the Chi-



Bro. WILLIAM G. DEDIC (559)

**Bro. WILLIAM DEDIC**  
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN

cago suburbs in the early 1950s. I received a degree at Southern Illinois University, where I met my wife, Judy. We were married in 1968, and recently celebrated our 52nd anniversary. We have three sons and six grandchildren.

"My work career was varied. I worked at a radio station in downstate Illinois; at two manufacturers in Chicago and Cicero, Ill.; and finally for 32 years at an insurance company in downtown Chicago.

"We attended many Pioneer Lodge activities at the Slovene Center on 31st Street in Cicero. Judy and I have fond memories of joining other members at many of the activities, including Friday night dinners, Christmas parties, and making apple strudels in the autumn. We were in the dough-stretching and apple-peeling crew.

"Both Judy and I are retired, and we like to travel; we have visited all 50 states, and many countries in Europe. We visited a second cousin in Slovenia in 1971, and revisited him and his family in 2013.

"Thanks again for the recognition."

**Bro. WILLIAM G. DEDIC**  
Chicago Lodge 559  
Downers Grove, IL



celebrating  
your SNPJ  
membership  
anniversary?

If you would like to share your 50-, 60-, 70-, or 80-year biography with PROSVETA, be sure to address your material to SNPJ National President Joseph C. Evanish at 247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126

**Sis. PATRICIA GOLUBICH**  
CONTINUES NEXT COLUMN

**Sis. FLORENCE TELICH**  
CONTINUES NEXT COLUMN

**Bro. DON VERHOLTZ**  
CONTINUES NEXT COLUMN

**Bro. WILLIAM DEDIC**  
CONTINUES NEXT COLUMN



# Support the Rec Center Cabin Renovation Project



by JOSEPH C. EVANISH  
SNPJ National President/CEO

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — For many years, SNPJ members have enjoyed the unique and truly remarkable facility that is the SNPJ Recreation Center. The experiences and countless memories that have been made there are treasured by thousands. The Recreation Center is now more than 50 years old and, as with so many things, time, along with wear and tear, have taken their toll.

The large upper cabins, situated opposite the lake along Martin Road, are some of the first structures that were built on the property. Cabins #1 and #2 have already been completed. The budgeted cost to complete one cabin was \$28,000. There are a total of 24 large cabins and 12 motel units as part of this project. It will take a significant amount of capital to finish this project, and will likely take years to complete. The more donations we receive, the quicker we can complete the project. Since this is not a cultural or educational

(scholarship) cause, but rather, recreational in nature, contributions are not considered tax deductible.

We encourage Lodges, Federations, members, friends and other organizations to contribute. Several have already contributed. While we do offer “Club Level” recognition, all donations will be listed in *PROSVETA*.

Donors at the following Club Levels will receive their name on a plaque inside the corresponding cabin: Bronze Level, \$1,000; Silver Level, \$5,000; Gold Level, \$10,000; and Platinum Level, \$25,000.

Donation checks can be made payable to “SNPJ.” Please indicate “Cabin Renovation” in the memo area. Provide your name and address, and the acknowledgment name and address if the donation is made in memory of someone.

Send your donation to Slovene National Benefit Society, 247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!

## Rec Center Cabin Renovation Donations for the month of February 2021

Frank S. Mahne (355), Queensbury, N.Y. .... \$100	Ken & Karen Pintar (6), Bridgeville, Pa. .... \$100	Debbie (106) & Tim Heinz, Oakdale, Pa. .... \$25
<i>The following donations were made in memory of SNPJ Recreation Center Director Bro. Kevin S. Richards:</i>	Jamie & Patti Evanish (715), Oakdale, Pa. .... \$100	Jim & Gail Buchman (A02), Pittsburgh ..... \$25
SNPJ Slovene Federation of Western Pa. .... \$300	Joe, Carly (106) and Jack (138) Evanish, Oakdale, Pa. .... \$100	Nancy Koutoulakis (721), Aliquippa, Pa. .... \$25
SNPJ Home Office Employees ..... \$280	Diane & Thomas H. Campbell, Decatur, Ga. .... \$50	James & Monica Progar (138), Washington, Pa. .... \$20

## PROSVETA Crossword CIVIL WAR (#0321) solution

C	H	A	P	S		P	R	E			K	A	L	E
H	E	L	L	O		O	E	R		W	I	N	O	S
A	R	B	O	R		M	B	A		H	E	T	U	P
	B	A	T	T	L	E		S	L	A	V	E	R	Y
		S	O	L		H	E	A	L					
U	S	A		F	A	C	E		B	E	L	O	N	G
N	U	D	E		M	O	M	S		R	I	G	O	R
I	C	O	N		A	L	L	E	Y		V	I	S	A
O	R	B	I	T		D	I	R	E		E	V	E	N
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L	I	N	C	O	L	N		B	A	R	T	O	N	
A	L	O	O	F		A	L	A		A	U	D	I	T
P	I	L	A	F		R	E	S		P	I	E	C	E
P	A	L	L			E	E	K		E	S	S	E	N

### information at your fingertips

Looking for information on your SNPJ life insurance and annuity policies? Visit [snpj.org](http://snpj.org), click the “PolicyView Login” link, then follow the step-by-step instructions.

## SNPJ Loyalty Annuities

Your loyalty with SNPJ is now being rewarded! Contact the SNPJ Home Office at 1-800-843-7675 and open your new SNPJ Loyalty Annuity TODAY!

<b>Loyalty 8 Annuity</b> 8-year surrender period 3.25% first-year <i>guarantee</i> rate for new money 2.75% in years two through eight 2.50% in year nine and after 3.75% first-year <i>guarantee</i> rate for conversions of existing SNPJ annuities	<b>Loyalty 5 Annuity</b> 5-year surrender period 2.75% first-year <i>guarantee</i> rate for new money 2.50% in year two and after 3.25% first-year <i>guarantee</i> rate for conversions of existing SNPJ annuities
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\* No fees attached to either Loyalty Annuity  
\* Rates not guaranteed after the first year  
\* 2.0% guaranteed minimum  
\* IRAs/Roth IRA/non-qualified eligible

**Slovene National Benefit Society**  
247 West Allegheny Road • Imperial, PA • 15126  
1-800-843-7675 • [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org)



## SNPJ Membership Anniversaries April 2021

### 70-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
6	Leona R. Petach	218	Lottie M. Valencich
87	Anna M. Moore	518	Josephine F. Almas
158	Norma Hrvatin	576	Ann V. Stricker
174	Madeline J. Manarelli	721	Diana Yanchik

### 60-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Jack Penca	138	Gary J. Kosem
5	Jacqueline M. Lunder	321	Margaret M. Vivoda
8	Beverly M. Fredericks	459	George R. Stimac
31	Irene J. Bicek	559	Lee R. Kotrbaty
89	Eileen M. Kramer	576	Mary A. Bircher
106	Rudy E. Pleskovich	584	David J. Zlimer
107	Salvador P. Rios	721	Edward M. Stripay
120	Jannat E. Davis	776	Karen L. Jordan
138	Dorothy L. Domitrovic		

### 50-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
1	Lawrence R. Hartenian	158	Richard L. Summers
2	Thomas J. DeBord	158	Rick Gorjup
3	Daniel W. Gorentz	174	Linda M. Costello
5	Dennis E. Dorsch	174	David J. Kovalsky
6	Jay R. Slabe	225	Wendy L. May
6	Donna A. Macek	254	Larry A. Utnik
6	Sherwood K. Stevenson	254	Eva A. Ulle
8	Carl J. Coduto	274	Janet E. Fitzgerald
87	Sharon B. Ustazewski	277	Mary A. Elias
87	Fred Burkett	459	Sue A. Shields
87	Alan Lazar	518	Darlene Ledesma
87	Judith L. Bartelt	559	Judith M. Dedic
87	Patricia A. Bobnar	562	Jerome Chiplinski
89	Victor Lescovitz	564	Rick D. Kisovic
89	Gene C. Moellmann	577	Cynthia A. Cunico
106	Gary R. DeSantis	581	Irvin V. Saler
107	Ricky A. Loncaric	604	Michael P. Metroka
126	Margaret Schreiner	643	Jerome J. Dunn
126	Barbara A. Antosh	677	George W. Morehouse
138	Paul A. Tershel	715	John A. Colnar
138	Tessie Radosy	721	Robert N. Popovich
138	Marcia A. Martincic	723	Kurt W. Taubert
138	Kenneth F. DuBois	729	Barbara A. Kovachick
142	Andrew P. Kristan	770	Jeanna L. Hepler
158	Ethel P. Barbish	782	Robert C. Hayes
158	Mary T. Zdesar	782	Ronald W. Smith

## 56<sup>th</sup> CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament May 29, 2021

at Rolling Green Golf Course, Huntsburg, OH  
9 a.m. Shotgun Start

Check Entry:  
Men ☐ Ladies ☐ Youth ☐

	Name	Lodge	Phone	Hdcp.
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Contact name: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The \$80 entry fee covers greens fees, cart, prizes, dinner, and sandwich and beverage at the turn. Youth entry fee is \$72. Return this form, along with entry fees, to:  
Rick Gorjup  
7180 Kory Ct., Concord, OH 44077-2221  
Phone: (440) 354-5001 [Home] or (440) 773-3233 [Cell]  
Make checks payable to  
**SNPJ Cleveland Athletic League (CAL)**  
ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 23, 2021

The Home Office will verify all memberships. Complete tournament rules are available by contacting the SNPJ Fraternal Department, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126.

## PROSVETA Crossword Candy (#0421) by StatePoint Media

- ACROSS**  
1. Unfathomably deep chasm  
6. Lawyer group  
9. Factoid  
13. Non-flat area  
14. Loquacious person's gift  
15. Member of clergy  
16. Kitty sounds  
17. Mesozoic one  
18. All thumbs  
19. \*Who's Pieces?  
21. \*Life \_\_\_\_  
23. Comic book cry  
24. Evening in Roma  
25. Boar's mate  
28. Bank deposit  
30. Actress Ali or singer Tim  
35. Flying saucers  
37. Yeahs' opposers  
39. One of the Muses  
40. Ancient region of western Europe  
41. \*Sweet bear  
43. In a little while, old-fashioned  
44. Like a neon sign  
46. Fashion's "New Look" inventor  
47. Weasel's cousin  
48. Cash in credit card points, e.g.  
50. "Good grief!"  
52. The Old Man's turf
53. Tucked in  
55. Sine \_\_\_\_ non  
57. \*\*"Gimme a break" bar  
60. \*Egg with a surprise  
63. Southwestern hut  
64. Step on it  
66. Small Asian ungulate  
68. What radiology and biology have in common  
69. Chihuahua's cry  
70. a.k.a. Ernest?  
71. Japanese money, pl.  
72. Blitzed  
73. Industrious
- DOWN**  
1. Similar to an adder  
2. View from a moving train  
3. Yesteryear  
4. Shopping \_\_\_\_  
5. Creates disorder  
6. Forever and a day  
7. \*Hershey made the first American milk chocolate one  
8. Belittle  
9. Have supper  
10. Tennis serving whiz  
11. Memorial Day solo  
12. "The \_\_\_\_ of Racing in the Rain"  
15. Fast and lively
20. Increasing  
22. Location of ulna  
24. Hindered  
25. \*Principal candy ingredient  
26. Allowed into a bar, e.g.  
27. Past tense of will  
29. Glorify  
31. SI unit of mass  
32. Raja's wife, pl.  
33. Do penance  
34. \*Famous fictional bar  
36. \_\_\_\_ gin  
38. Smoke plus fog  
42. Baghdad resident  
45. Not strongly  
49. CEO's deg.  
51. Fertilized  
54. C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>  
56. "J" \_\_\_\_" by #46 Across  
57. Green superfood  
58. Desktop picture  
59. Facebook photo links  
60. Not disregarded, as in a promise  
61. Marine eagle  
62. Surprise at a speakeasy  
63. \*Almond-induced state  
65. Cardinal 3  
67. Bovine hangout

The solution to puzzle #0421 will run in the May 3 issue.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
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	57	58	59					60			61	62		
63						64	65			66			67	
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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