

Zajedničar

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54th Annual CFU Ski Festival

Meets in Western New York



By Edward W. Pazo / National President

PITTSBURGH, PA – Get ready for a fantastic adventure on the snowy slopes at Holiday Valley! After a wonderful CFU Ski Weekend last year, hosted for the first time at the scenic Holiday Valley Ski Resort in Ellicottville, NY, we are pleased to announce that the 54th Annual CFU SkiFEST will once again take place at this popular all-season resort in western New York.

Welcoming returning participants and guests, as well as more CFU members and friends planning to join us this year, the 2026 CFU SkiFEST will take place February 6-7, at Holiday Valley for all to enjoy this incredible venue.

Preparations are in place as we are ready to greet all CFU members and friends, skiers, snowboarders, and lovers of the great outdoors to Holiday Valley which is a year-round resort featuring 60 slopes and trails, 13 lifts, 3 base lodges and slope-side lodging and dining.

For this year's event, all indoor CFU SkiFest events will take place in the Fairway Room which is located on the top floor of the Holiday Valley Lodge.

The fun begins on Friday evening, February 6, when the social will start at 8 p.m. We are pleased to welcome the lively renditions of Sedma Brzina of Cleveland, Ohio whose incredible musicians will keep us dancing until 12 midnight. With their high-energy skills and talent, we know they will keep the crowds singing and dancing all evening long at both our Friday and Saturday night socials.

Throughout the evening, the T Bar will serve food and drinks and the beautiful outdoor deck will provide stunning views of the mountain slopes.

On Saturday, February 7th, the excitement continues as Race Registration will begin at 11 a.m., in the vestibule of the Holiday Valley Lodge. The CFU Races will start at 1 p.m. Signage will be posted to provide all participants and spectators with details of the event. During and after the races, everyone is invited to gather at the outdoor Cabana Bar to enjoy the perfect après-ski party which will feature games and music.

At 6 p.m., there will be a Catholic Mass, celebrated by Father Pierre Falkenhan, in the Snowledge Meeting Rooms across from Edna's restaurant.

Following Mass, at 8 p.m., the Saturday evening social will begin in the Fairway Room, where all will again enjoy the energetic mu-

sic of Sedma Brzina throughout the evening. At approximately 9 p.m., we will announce the names of all of the race winners as we congratulate them for participating in the 2026 CFU SkiFEST!

For our CFU SkiFEST weekend, please visit our website at www.cfu.org to find links for 2-day, 3-day, and 4-day stay options. Holiday Valley offers a variety of accommodations, including rooms, condos, and homes at different price points, so be sure to explore all the available options. For larger groups, we also recommend checking out VRBO and Airbnb for even more choices. With so many options, you're sure to find the perfect place to stay! We have been advised by the resort that the rooms are filling up fast, so don't wait—head to the website ASAP to secure your spot. You won't want to miss taking part in this fun-filled SkiFEST weekend.

While visiting western New York for this CFU event, take the opportunity to experience the beauty and amenities that the charming village of Ellicottville has to offer. Downtown Ellicottville is a three-minute drive from the resort and offers numerous places to dine and shop. It's a great spot to visit during your CFU Ski weekend getaway with a variety of shops, restaurants and breweries to experience.

CFU SkiFEST at Holiday Valley promises to be a great time to enjoy the winter sports while mingling with CFU members, families and friends. Come and enjoy this beautiful ski resort nestled in the foothills of the Allegany Mountains with modern lifts, slopeside lodging, and an après-ski scene that's second to none. Holiday Valley is the perfect backdrop for yet another unforgettable CFU SkiFEST where we are ready to welcome you! Dobro Nam Došli!



EXPERIENCE A FANTASTIC WINTER WONDERLAND ESCAPE in the scenic snow-capped mountains of western New York at Holiday Valley Ski Resort in Ellicottville, NY. Come and celebrate the beauty and excitement of winter sports at the 54th Annual CFU Ski Festival at Holiday Valley on February 6-7, complete with fun and competitive races, tamburitza music, dancing and socializing at this welcoming venue for CFU skiers, snowboarders and cheering spectators.

Mukwonago Lodge Plans Yearly Party and Elections

MUKWONAGO, WI - John Movrich Lodge 993 will hold its annual New Year's Celebration with a feast and election of officers on Saturday, January 17th, at 5:30 p.m. It will be held at the American Legion Hall in Mukwonago, 627 E. Veterans Way.

Please let me know if you will attend so we know how much food to prepare. Master Chef Larry Ellis will be making the main entree. We will also have a salad and potato casserole. For dessert we will enjoy the wonderful cookies made by the Milwaukee Croatian Tamburitians. Feel free to bring another dessert if you want.

At our November meeting, we voted again to support the Milwaukee Tamburitians with a monetary donation. We really appreciate all the hard work they do to promote and perpetuate our beautiful Croatian culture. Many of them also help us at our yearly Mukwonago Croatian Day Fest and we are so grateful for that.

Carol Movrich Gedde
Secretary

CFU Lodge 170 Elections and Annual Meeting

MERRILLVILLE, IN - Attention all Lodge 170 Members, our election of officers will be held on Sunday, February 1, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., at our Lodge located at 8550 Taft Street, Merrillville, IN. Only members present and in good standing are allowed to vote.

Following the closing of elections at 1 p.m., we will open our Annual Meeting. Lunch will be served at the conclusion of this meeting. Votes will be counted by appointed judges, at this time, to determine our elected Lodge Officers for 2026.

Our regular February meeting will follow where the election results will be announced.

The day's events will all take place in our back hall using the entrance located on the north side of the building. We hope to see a big turnout of our members for these important elections and meetings to insure the continued successful running of our beautiful lodge.

Also, the dates for our monthly lodge meetings for 2026 are as follows: March 15; April 19; May 17; July 19; Aug 16; Sept. 20; Oct. 18; Nov. 15; Dec. 20. All meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. Also note, there is no meeting in June due to Father's Day. Watch your **Zajedničar** for any changes to this schedule.

Michele Schmanke/Recording Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE to Zajedničar Contributors and Readers

PITTSBURGH, PA - Beginning January 14, 2026, the **Zajedničar** will be available online through our official CFU website. As part of this transition, please be aware that any personal information, lodge and organization announcements, and all literary submissions provided to our editors for publication will also appear in the online edition of our official newspaper.

We encourage all contributors to use caution when sharing personal details such as telephone numbers, email addresses and home addresses, and to submit only the information they are comfortable having accessible to the general public via the internet.

Thank you for your continued support as we move into this new chapter.

On behalf of the CFU National Board of Directors,
Edward W. Pazo/National President



Zajedničar

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...LORRAINE TURKALL

Living Up to the Hype

Stepping into a New Year, there is generally some trepidation about what the future will hold and how we will manage what each new day will bring. Many people anticipate problems before they even occur, while others take life's offerings with a more relaxed attitude. Some may have expectations that lead them to place undue burdens on their already hectic schedules and create anxiety for themselves before even beginning to sort through what is necessary to achieve their goals.

Rest assured, the New Year will present each of us with highs and lows, forcing us to navigate the daily challenges and uncertainties that need to be addressed. Consider this fact...we have the option of facing these issues with a positive approach or simply by accepting them with a defeatist attitude. The choice is up to the individual. What can help each of us in the decision-making process?

Growing up as a lifelong CFU member, fortified by

my Croatian heritage and a loving family, I am sure I am not alone when I say I can attribute my ability to face the future thanks to my family, my faith and the circle of friends who have enriched my life and who continue to bring joy to my world. What blessings we receive are gratefully accepted and piously acknowledged while the tougher life experiences we face are thankfully mitigated by our inner strength, through the firm belief in our faith and with the caring support of family and those around us.

Perhaps the year 2026 is a time for each of us, as members of the Croatian Fraternal Union, to pause to acknowledge the positive forces in our lives. As CFU members, we are fortunate to have the security of solid insurance protection and investment products to ease our family and financial concerns. Knowing that we are protecting our future through our Fraternal Society...with educational scholarships available to our children and grandchildren,

unique opportunities for cultural immersion, humanitarian integrity to care for those in need, social interaction through sports programs for all age groups, and numerous other outlets for involvement...we truly are blessed to be a part of this 132-year-old fraternal organization that is clearly living up to its hype as *"The Society That Cares"*.

Predictions for 2026 provide a wide array of positive and negative outlooks about what will occur on the global scene, leaving many people fearful about war, the economy, what will happen in the stock market, the advantages and perils of artificial intelligence, and a myriad of other concerns. In addition, throughout the year, we will inevitably encounter our own personal scenarios of disappointment, happiness, despair, joy, disillusionment and fulfillment. Keeping it all in perspective, if we understand that each day is a journey, we must find comfort in the knowledge that we are not alone on that road.

Wishing all CFU Members and Families Happiness and Peace in the New Year 2026!

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Lodge 650 and Nest 425 Annual Meeting

TORONTO, ON - All members are invited to participate in the Annual Meeting of Lodge 650, scheduled for Saturday, January 31st.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 7 PM, with the regular monthly meeting to follow.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in this important Annual Meeting, during which we will discuss programs and activities for the benefit and enjoyment of the Lodge Membership and to plan for the months ahead.

Due to various health concerns, this meeting will take place via a conference call. Lodge Members wishing to participate are asked to call the Lodge Secretary, or the Banjavcic family, for further details.

We look forward to hearing everyone at our January 31st meeting.

Frank Banjavcic/Secretary

In Memorial Tribute



By Edward W. Pazo/National President

It is with deep respect and profound sadness that we announce to our CFU membership the death of Fr. Paul Maslach, OFM. Fr. Paul was a devout priest, defender of our faith, and righteous servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We first came to know Fr. Paul through his pastoral care of Sacred Heart of Jesus Croatian Church in Milwaukee, WI, which was one of many positions that he held during his priestly ministry with the Croatian Franciscan Fathers or Franciscans of the Holy Family Custody whose home base is located in Chicago, Illinois, with Croatian parishes across the US and Canada.

His calm demeanor and often used phrase of "God Love You" provided a warmth and ease whenever in his company. He was a fixture among our Croatian Catholics in the Chicago and Milwaukee areas as well as many additional areas including Pittsburgh, the home of the Croatian Fraternal Union of America. We were very pleased to have Fr. Paul serve as spiritual chaplain to a few CFU Conventions as well as guest celebrant at CFU Tamburitza Festivals, both Junior and Adult. We recall two occasions of many in which he engaged with our membership and left lasting impressions. Our 50th Anniversary CFU Junior Cultural Federation Tamburitza Festival was held in Chicago, Illinois, in 2016 with Cardinal Blaise Cupich, then Archbishop of Chicago, celebrating Holy Mass. Fr. Paul was instrumental to the success of our liturgy for the festival and we sincerely appreciated his knowledge and abilities to coordinate the details of the event.

Additionally, during the 125th Anniversary Celebration and associated 25th Quadrennial Convention of the Croatian Fraternal Union in 2019, Fr. Paul faithfully and steadfastly served the needs of our society for prayers and thanksgiving all the while carrying a heart monitor due to health considerations. Where there was a need for ministering to God's people, Fr. Paul answered the call. That is the best characterization of his priestly ministry that we can declare.

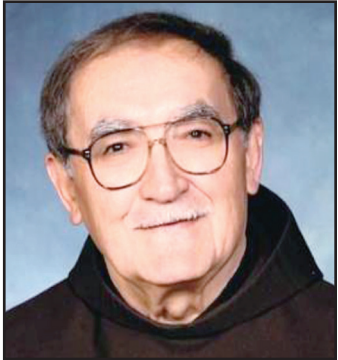
The following obituary was prepared by his brother priests in Chicago and provides additional information on his life and accomplishments. For our friend Fr. Paul, we pray that in answer to his faith, the eternal life promised by our Lord and Christ, Jesus, be his now and forever, AMEN.

Fr. Paul Maslach, OFM

CHICAGO, IL - On Saturday, January 3, 2026, strengthened by the holy sacraments, our brother and priest Fr. Paul Maslach, OFM, passed away peacefully in the Lord, in the 89th year of his life, the 70th year of his religious profession, and the 64th year of his priesthood.

Fr. Paul Maslach, a member of the Order of Friars Minor (OFM), was born on August 25, 1937, in Ljubljena - Stjepan Krst, to parents Josip Maslač and Stana, née Raguž. He was baptized on August 29, 1937, in the Parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Rotimlja, where he received the baptismal name Nikola.

In 1951, he arrived in the United States, where he began his further education and religious formation. He attended elementary school in Grotto, Italy, from 1947 to 1951. He completed his high school education at St. Joseph High School in Westmont, Illinois, from 1951 to 1954. He began his studies in philosophy and theology in Westmont (1954-1955), continued them in Rye Beach, New Hampshire (1956-1958), and completed them at Holy Name College in Washington, D.C. (1958-1962). In 1962, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Bonaventure University.



FR. PAUL MASLACH, OFM

(Continued on page 13)



Lodge 6 Celebrates Fifty-Year Members

RANKIN, PA - St. Nicholas CFU Lodge 6 held its annual 50-Year Member Banquet on Saturday, November 22, 2025, at the Rankin Croatian Home in Rankin, PA. Our 50-year honorees for 2025 were Daniel Begg, Jessica Benkovic, Christopher Carr and Jason Yuhasz.

Lodge 6 President Janet Craig opened the banquet and welcomed everyone in attendance. We were honored to have Robert Luketic, member of the CFU National Board of Trustees, in attendance who spoke on behalf of the CFU.

Music for the banquet was provided by the Stari Prijatelji Orchestra and the delicious catered dinner was prepared by Crusher's Barbeque.

The banquet was a success with many lodge and nest members in attendance along with their guests. We were also happy to welcome the Penn Sembles Adult Tamburitzens as our guests. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed an afternoon of wonderful music, good food and fraternalism.

Thank you to everyone involved in helping to make the banquet a success and congratulations to our 50-year members!

JoAnn Zidanic/Lodge 6

NEW ADDRESS?

Moving? Relocating for a new job? Forgot to update your records? We urge all CFU members to keep their addresses up to date for the Home Office files.

Having your current address on file is important in order for you to continue receiving the **Zajedničar** and other mailings from the Home Office.

It is also important to update the addresses of your beneficiaries for proper documentation.

If you are moving, or have moved, please be sure to notify the CFU Home Office at 100 Delaney Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235, phone 412.843.0380.

We don't want you to miss out on any pertinent information or benefits as a member of our Fraternal Society!

Zajedničar Publication Dates	JANUARY 2026							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
■-Publication dates are highlighted in black	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
○-All Material Deadline dates are circles	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
■-Office Closure	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31				

Submissions may be mailed to "Zajedničar", 100 Delaney Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235; faxed to 412-823-1594. If you are e-mailing material for publication, please direct them to editor@cfu.org. E-mailed articles should be sent in the body of your e-mail and not as an attachment. Only photographs should be sent as an attachment. All material must be received at least one week prior to the issue date. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated – Hvala! —Editors

Detroit Hosts Croatian Genealogy Seminar

DETROIT, MI - Have you ever wanted to learn about your family history, how your family came to America or Canada, or where they were born? Does Croatian dual-citizenship sound like an interesting option to you? If you answered yes to any of these questions, discover your Croatian ancestral roots at our Detroit area Genealogy Seminar on Saturday, February 21, 11 AM - 5 PM, or Sunday, February 22, 12 Noon - 6 PM. Our central location makes it convenient for Michiganders or nearby Canadians, as well as residents of Western Ohio, Indiana or Chicago, to take advantage of this educational and worthwhile event.

Zora Lodge 351 welcomes Mr. Robert Jerin, whose research has helped people learn about their ancestors and connect US families with their relatives in Croatia and other countries. He has done seminars all over the US, as well as to the Croatian Genealogy Society in Zagreb, Croatia.

You will learn:

- Where and how to find documents on your ancestors.
- History of Croatia and origins of Croatians.
- The journey of Croatian immigration to America and Canada.
- How to get started with your family tree.
- The do's and don'ts of genealogy.
- How to locate birth, marriage, death and census records.
- How to translate Croatian records.
- Translation of given names (with Croatian, English, Italian and Latin.)
- Meaning of surnames and categories of surnames.
- Figuring family relationships.

As part of this seminar, we will be searching for and locating original records from Croatia.

Cost for this event is \$65 per person, which includes a copy of Mr. Jerin's self-published handbook, "Searching for Your Croatian Roots".

Food will be available for purchase, throughout the day, from Lodge 351's kitchen, as well as beverages served from our bar.

Space is limited, so pre-registration and pre-payment is required. Refunds will be allowed, but only if we have a waiting list.

Please contact Kathy by phone at 248-477-7621, email katthiel@gmail.com or text 248-933-7621 by February 13 to secure your reservation on your day of preference.

We hope you can join us!
Kathy Perpich-Thiel
Lodge 351

SPOTLIGHT ON CFU PROGRAMS

A Message from the Executive Vice President
FRANJO BERTOVIĆ

A NEW BEGINNING IN 2026

The start of a new year is a great time to reflect and create resolutions for the year 2026. Reviewing your finances should be a goal for the New Year. If you are already a CFU member with life insurance protection and fraternal benefits you should resolve to review your existing coverage to make sure it's still the right fit for your needs and budget.

If employed, don't rely solely on life insurance through work. While group life insurance through your workplace is often affordable, it probably isn't enough to cover your or your loved one's needs. It is also important to remember you could lose coverage if you leave or lose your job.

Please become a CFU referrer. Call us for more details! Make sure your family and friends know that the Croatian Fraternal Union of America is helping and protecting its members for over 131 years and can help them to find coverage and protection they need. Our fraternal organization provides its members with a value not just with life insurance protection and annuity savings but with many other free benefits offered.

Our CFU Special Offer is extended until April

- **FIRST YEAR OFFER** for children and young adults. Just \$5.00 for the first-year premium for a face value of \$25,000 on the Juvenile Term To 25 plan. Issue ages are 0-23.
- **SINGLE PREMIUM ORDINARY LIFE** with saving opportunities up to \$1000! Currently, CFU is offering a 15% discount up to age 40 and 10% for ages 41+ on this lump sum premium through fraternal dividend credit. Only one premium is payable during the lifetime of the insured!
- **10 PAY LIFE** with premiums payable for 10 years. \$25,000 face amount for the first year premium of \$250, ages 0 to 25. Or, \$5 to \$10,000 face amount the first year premium of \$100 , for ages 0-50, and \$5,000 face amount the first year premium \$100 ages 51-70.
- **TAKE ADVANTAGE** of our current interest rates offered through the "Choice Two 4.5%", "9 Year Contract 4.0%" and "5 Year Contract 3.25%", all with a guaranteed minimum interest rate of 3.00%. Please note that Annuity/IRA products are available in the US only.

Take advantage of the opportunities CFU and the fraternal system have to offer. If you have any further questions, or wish to review any specific CFU products, please feel free to contact the Home Office at 412-843-0380 or visit our website at www.cfu.org

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- \$5-10,000 Face Value - \$100 first year - Ages 0-50
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Detroit Celebrates CroFest

DETROIT, MI - Detroit's Croatian community and friends gather to celebrate CroFest once again on March 14, 2026. This year, the American Polish Cultural Center will be buzzing with excitement for all. Enjoying the music, indulging in some delicious dinners, as well as Croatian drinks, and of course many performers excited to once again do what we love to do. Eat, drink, sing, dance and be merry! Until one is deprived of live Croatian gatherings full of culture, does

one realize just how much it means to us all! Croatian Folklore Ensemble "Nova Nada" is the host group for the evening. We are very excited to be celebrating our 31st year! This incredibly active group has kept going strong with folklore preservation. "Nova Nada" opens and closes this year's exciting program. Guest groups this year include The Detroit Tamburitza Orchestra, from Detroit, MI; Zumberčani Tamburitza from Cleveland, OH; Kolo

Club Marian from Steelton, PA; Kardinal Stepinac from Windsor, Ontario and others. After the concert, Zadnja Stanica from Steelton, PA promises to fill the dance floor again with their lively music old and new. Homemade cookies will be available for purchase until they run out - and they will! Our Croatian marketplace will be available for shopping fun. The very popular huge prize raffle will be held at 10:30 p.m.

An evening of great Croatian music, food, dancing, costumes, performers and many, many friends promise to lift your hearts! A Cash Bar will be serving your favorite Šljivo and Kruskovac. A Cash Kitchen will be serving traditional dinners. Tickets for adults are \$30 if purchased by March 1st. Tickets for children 12 and under are \$10. Cash, checks or payments via Zelle and Venmo are accepted. Please contact Anna Talan by phone or text at 586-214-4647 or email atalan@sbcglobal.net. Bring your favorite dancing shoes and join us on Saturday, March 14th!

Anna Talan/Lodge 351



Lodge 354 Save the Dates

COKEBURG, PA - At the Annual Meeting held by St. George Lodge 354 of Cokeburg, PA, the officers and members determined the dates of their most popular annual events for 2026. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining them this year:

- **March 22** – Spring Vendor Show

- **March 28** – Annual Fešta Tamburaša
- **April 4** – Easter Egg Hunt
- **April 25 & 26** – Annual St. George Celebration
- **August 2** – Jr. Tamburitza's Annual Golf Outing
- **September 12** – Annual Picnic
- **December 13** – Christmas Party

Watch the **Zajedničar** and listen to the Croatian Hour every Sunday afternoon between 11 am - 12:30 pm on WEDO 810 am for details as these dates near. We hope to welcome you at one or many of these events during the year. The officers and members of Lodge 354 extend their wishes to all CFU members for a happy and healthy New Year!

Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras
President

CFU 2026 Calendar of Coming Events

■ FEBRUARY	
6-7	54th Annual CFU SkiFest - Holiday Valley Ski Resort - Ellicottville, NY
■ MARCH	
28	St. George Velika Fešta Tamburaša - Croatian Home - Cokeburg, PA
■ APRIL	
25-26	76th Annual St. George's Day Celebration - Croatian Home - Cokeburg, PA
■ JULY	
4-6	58th Annual CFU Junior Tamburitza Festival - Hilton Cleveland Downtown - Cleveland, OH
■ AUGUST	
2	St. George Junior Tamburitza's Annual Golf Outing - Nemačin Country Club - Beallsville, PA
■ SEPTEMBER	
12	St. George Tamburitza's Annual Picnic - Cokeburg Community Park - Cokeburg, PA
■ NOVEMBER	
6-8	Annual CFU Adult TamFEST - Renaissance Columbus Downtown - Columbus, OH
■ DECEMBER	
13	St. George CFU Lodge 354/Nest 122 Annual Christmas Party - Croatian Home - Cokeburg, PA

CHICAGO, IL - The following literary work was written in Croatian (Bosnian dialect) and was authored by my father, Tomislav Mesić, in Salzburg, Austria probably in the mid 1950's. It was a time when Communists still occupied Croatia and religion was widely suppressed. I have translated this writing into English so that many more people are aware of it. Croatia is now an independent nation and the country formerly known by the name "Yugoslavia" no longer exists. Religion is no longer banned in Croatia.

Stan H. Mesich/Lodge 32

My Mother goes to Midnight Mass

Through our courtyard on her way to the street,
by the gateway she stood, my elderly mother.
no one else is there, everywhere the darkness of night looms,
silent is the calm of night - my mother alone
with the calling of God, - the way to church she walked.
Through the windows no lights are seen,

no silver stars are shining on pine trees,
nowhere is a song heard of the birth of the Savior
everything is still, silent, there are no voices
all is strange, foreign, - it is not as before.

The stars are hiding, as if they are shy
On the deserted streets during the night,
along the snowy path, a bent over figure plods.
this night of the birth of our Savior
my elderly mother goes to Midnight Mass.

Before the church door, like a stone figure she stood,
no one is about, -- the door is locked.
where is the elderly pastor, where Lord are our people?
The dark, strange and empty town square frightened her,
the elderly woman fell to her bare knees.

In front of the stone framed doorway she bowed her head
and prayed fervently into the long, dark night.
she envisioned the cradle, candles, churchgoers and glory.
the Heavenly Child hugged her about the head,
as she caressed his body.

She awakened in happiness, while the dark night
and icy cold wind did not subside,
she fixed her eyes on the church door
a warm gush of tears streamed down her face;
at this Midnight Mass she was not alone.

A shooting star fell over the forest on the mountain,
as my mother walked through the deserted byways,
like a shadow she passed by the rows of houses,
roosters crowed during the coming of dawn,
as her footsteps were left in the snow...

5 THINGS THAT CAN COST THE SAME (OR MORE) PER MONTH AS LIFE INSURANCE



A bottle of wine



A single subscription meal



A fitness class



A music streaming plan



One meal from a sit-down restaurant



Farrell To Host Pub Nite With Orkestar Radost

FARRELL, PA – The Croatian American Civic Club, 412 Staunton St., Farrell, PA, will hold its popular Pub Nite on January 24, 2026.

Starting at 5 p.m., music for your listening and dancing pleasure will be provided by the popular Orkestar Radost of McKeesport, PA.

The Civic Club's Croatian Kitchen will offer a full menu of ethnic foods with assorted desserts.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, January 24th! Svi nam dobro došli!

Charlotte Russo
Lodge 126

Roll and Kolo Night

CHICAGO, IL – The Sloboda Junior Tamburitians invite you to Roll and Kolo Night on Saturday, February 21, 2026.

The event will be held at Fleetwood Roller Rick, 7231 W. Archer Ave., Summit, IL 60501. Skate: 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Doors open at 4:15 p.m.

Then join us at the Croatian American Radio Club, 7036 West Archer Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Dinner and Cash Bar.

Donations benefit the Sloboda Junior Tammies. Cash or Zelle to: slobodajunio@gmail.com .

Emily Kazak/Lodge 18



CFU Lodge 170 To Host Comedy Show

MERRILLVILLE, IN - If you're reading this, we at CFU Lodge 170 hope you all had a very Happy and Prosperous Holiday Season.

But what do we do now with the holidays winding down? I know...Come out to the beautiful Croatian Center 8550 Taft St., Merrillville, Indiana on January 31st and join us for an evening of Comedy with the Tom Foolery Fun Club!

Three top notch comedians will keep you laughing all night long! Music will be provided by the Joel Justin Band.

Show time is 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cash bar, and \$5 Bronco's pizza slices will be available for your enjoyment all night long. Raffles and door prizes will also be available.

For tickets: Call Tom at: 1.219.228.0674 or go to: www-tomfooleryfunclub.com and pick out your own seat/table. Tickets: \$25 (\$30 at the door).

Tickets are going fast! Don't miss out on this evening of comedy, fun, raffles, music, food and drinks. We can all use a good laugh nowadays!

Pete Piskol/Lodge 170



DIRECTOR
KRISTIN AASEN led the Milwaukee Croatian Tamburitians in singing Christmas songs at their annual Christmas party.

JOHN GOLTZ, from Silver Strings CFU Lodge 1959, and David Krejcarek, from John Movrich Lodge 993, presented checks to Eric Aasen for the Milwaukee Croatian Tamburitians at their annual Christmas party. **Carol Movrich Gedde** Secretary



Tammies Called to Design Logo for Junior Festival

PITTSBURGH, PA - Calling all creative members of CFU Junior Cultural Federation groups! We invite you to submit your designs for this year's Junior Festival Logo Contest. The winning logo will represent the 2026 CFU Junior Festival, which will be held July 4-5-6 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Logo must contain the following requirements. Must include the words, "CFU Junior Cultural Federation Tamburitza Festival" plus the city, country, and year of the festival. The design must use only three colors: red, black, and blue on a white background. Incorporate something about the host city and a Croatian aspect of the festival. Entrant's name must appear on the back of the entry or in the body of the email. If flags are used, the U.S. flag must be above or to the left of the Canadian and Croatian flags. Computer-generated logos are also accepted.

Prizes:

- **1st Place:** \$100 and your logo featured on official festival T-shirts.
- **2nd Place:** \$50
- **3rd Place:** \$25

Submission must be received by Wednesday, March 4, 2026. Please mail or email entries to: Robert T. Keber, 110 Sunridge Dr., Freedom, PA 15042 or Email: kebe18@comcast.net. Show off your creativity and help make the 2026 Junior Festival unforgettable.

Robert Keber
Secretary/Treasurer

Detroit Tamburitza Orchestra Announces Kolo Night

DETROIT, MI - After a busy December, DTO is proud to announce its first social of the year, "Kolo Night". Great music, delicious food, and non-stop Croatian aerobics is what you can expect when you get to the American Croatian Club on Saturday night, January 31. Join us for a fun night out and be sure to bring the kids. If they are 17 and under, they are FREE. Adults are \$15 each. Food will also be available for purchase, so bring your appetite.

Doors open at 6 pm, and the DTO performance begins at 7 pm, which also means the dancing starts at 7 pm. The kolo dancing continues when DTO and Friends 'All Star' Band takes center stage. These gifted musicians donate their time and talent at this event, and we are very fortunate to have them.

Tickets may be purchased from any DTO member or by contacting Vicky Fulks, vickyfulks@yahoo.com. If you are interested in paying electronically, DTO is able to accept electronic payments via Zelle. We hope to see you there!

We had a very successful "Christmas in Croatia" and want to thank all who attended and supported the event. If you were unable to attend, you missed a packed house with a delicious banquet and lively entertainment. We hope to see you at our other events!

Special "Christmas in Croatia" appreciation goes to:

- Our vocalist, Samantha Radman
- Dragica Rudnicki who rolled the sarma, worked tirelessly in the kitchen and made our club spotless
- Nova Nada for the beautiful lighting and Croatian Christmas trees
- Marianne Rubnowski for all the kitchen help and clean-up
- All of the bakers and donations toward delicious baked goods
- All the people who supported the 50/50 and prize raffles
- Our guest orchestra, T.O. Noćne Sove from Youngstown, for the wonderful entertainment!

Thank you to everyone for your support to DTO throughout the year. We hope to see you again at "Kolo Night".

Vicky Fulks/DTO Secretary

Junior Combos Sought for Festival

PITTSBURGH, PA - The CFU Junior Cultural Federation is excited to announce the upcoming 58th Annual Junior Festival, taking place July 3-4-5 in Cleveland, Ohio. As part of the festivities, we will once again be hosting a Friday Night Social and are seeking talented Junior Group Combos to provide entertainment for all in attendance.

If your Junior Group has a combo and would like to share its musical talent with fellow Tamburitians, we want to hear from you! This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your skills and join in the celebration of our cultural heritage. Any Junior Group combo that is interested is asked to contact Mike Ricci at 412-821-5753 or E-mail michaelricci18@verizon.net.

Combo groups playing for the Friday night social will receive a donation of \$50. Don't delay, contact brother Ricci as soon as possible to sign up and join us for an unforgettable evening of music, camaraderie, and culture!

Robert Keber/Secretary/Treasurer

The Tamburitians To Perform in Monroeville in January

PITTSBURGH, PA - Take a musical world tour with The Tamburitians, now in their 89th season, when they return to Monroeville, PA on Saturday, January 24, at 3 p.m., at Gateway High School with their latest production, "The Shared Song". The ensemble of 24 talented, full-time college students presents the music, song and dances from various regions around the world including Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Ireland, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

This event is being sponsored by Frank and Erin Bozicevic, both Tamburitan alums, along with their family. The Bozicevic Family is excited to bring this year's production back to Monroeville since it is Frank's first year as the Artistic Director of the ensemble and he is also a proud Monroeville resident. Proceeds will benefit the Frank and Betty Bozicevic Memorial Fund to help provide Tamburitan scholarships to talented student performers.

Four of the current cast members hail from the eastern suburbs of Pittsburgh and are thrilled to perform for a home audience. Those cast members include Ryan Bozicevic (Monroeville), Caryn Caloiero (Plum), Nora Keleschenyi (North Versailles) and Kari Leventopoulos (Penn Township).

Tickets range in price from \$12-\$35 with a discount available for groups of 10 or more. Make your ticket purchases online by visiting The Tamburitians' website at <https://www.thetamburitians.org/events/tickets> and click on "Monroeville, PA".

Immediately following the show, patrons are invited to a reception with The Tamburitians at Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish-St. Bernadette Church, 245 Azalea Drive, Monroeville. Guests are encouraged to purchase reception tickets in advance on the website listed above (\$5 online, \$10 at the door.) Dance the night away with the Tammies as live music will be provided by Braća Balkana, The Tamburitan musicians. Delicious homemade food and drink will also be available for purchase. Proceeds from the social benefit The Tamburitians and CDS Parish.

Erin Bozicevic/Lodge 567

CFU

Guarantees Your Protection

The Croatian Fraternal Union provides its members with competitive life insurance and annuity products and fraternal benefits.

PERMANENT LIFE INSURANCE PLANS

- ★ Single Premium Ordinary Life Plan
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- ★ 10 Pay Life Plan
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- ★ 10 Year Level Plan
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- ★ Juvenile Term to Age 25 Plan

ANNUITY/IRA PRODUCTS

- ★ CFU Annuity and IRA Plans

FRATERNAL BENEFITS OFFERED BY CFU

- ★ Scholarship Foundation, Inc
- ★ Cultural Activities
- ★ Sports Programs
- ★ Complimentary Publication

There’s Much To Do With 32

CHICAGO, IL - Tuesday, Jan. 20: It's Croatian Night with the Chicago Bulls! More information and ticket ordering can be found elsewhere in this “Z”.

Saturday, Jan. 31: Croatian Sons CFU Lodge 170, 8550 Taft Street in Merrillville is hosting a Just For Fun Comedy Night at 7:30 p.m., featuring comedian Tom Foolery and others. Music by the Joel Justin Band. Tickets: \$25 (\$30 at the door). Order your tickets: www.tomfooleryfun-club.com or for more information call 219.228.0674.

Monday, Feb. 2: It's Groundhog Day! Groundhog Day is a tradition observed regionally in the United States and Canada on February 2nd every year.

Sunday, Feb. 8: Sloboda's General Meeting at the Linda Sokol Francis Brookfield Library, 3541 Park Ave., Brookfield, at 11 a.m., when the library doors open. Meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m. The facility is handicapped accessible with an elevator to take you down to the lower level. A continental breakfast of coffee and . . . will be served. Hope to see y'all there!

Also on this day: It's Super Bowl Sunday! Come to the meeting first! We'll be sure to get you home or to your Super Bowl Party in plenty of time to have some chili and fun!

Saturday, Feb. 14: Happy Valentine's Day! Be sure to make your romantic dinner reservations early. It's on a Saturday this year!

Monday, Feb. 16: Presidents' Day is celebrated on the third

Monday of February, officially known as Washington's Birthday for federal purposes but commonly honoring all U.S. Presidents, providing a three-day weekend for many.

Wednesday, Feb. 18: Ash Wednesday! Ashes are a symbol of penitence and penance, and a reminder of our mortality. The day itself is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat; it marks the beginning of our primary penitential season of Lent. Catholics and non-Catholics alike are welcome to receive ashes.

Saturday, Feb. 21: Roll & Kolo Night sponsored by our Sloboda Jr. Tamburitza starts with a roller skating party from 4:30-6:30 p.m., followed by dinner and dancing. Don't skate? Come for the dinner and dancing! This is a fundraiser for our

Tammies. Please support them! Details found elsewhere in this “Z”.

Sat., Feb. 21-Sun., Feb. 22: Frank M. Jerbich Midwest Classic Bowling Tournament. This tourney will be held at the Bowlero Wauwatosa, 11737 West Burleigh St., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. Singles & Doubles start at 12 noon on Saturday and at 10 a.m. on Sunday for 5-Man Teams. More info and registration form will be coming.

SAVE THIS DATE!
Saturday, March 21: Our Prijatelj in Concert with The (Duquesne) Tamburitza as their guest performers. You won't want to miss this! More information coming.

A great big “THANKS” to our Fraternal Activities Director Meagan Jacobsen and her crew for a wonderful Christmas luncheon! The tables were beautifully decorated from the centerpieces to the red-ribbon tied gifts at each place-setting. To add to the festivities, Christine and Marie Gornick brought a trunkful of hats and a backdrop, etc., to make for some merry fun-filled picture taking. No party is complete without music and that was supplied by our very own “Sinovi” (Steve Kirin, Joe and Nick Gornick and Toma Vucinic) who played Christmas carols for our annual sing-along, in between raffle gifts supplied by our wonderful board which were distributed by Matt and Julie Lozich.

I'd also like to “THANK” each and every one who brought bags-full of non-perishable food items for those in need, plus the monetary donations we

received as well. The St. Blasé Food Pantry beamed with delight and gratitude when they saw all the food we brought in. I wish you all could have seen their faces! “THANKS” again to all who contributed, attended and supported our wonderful Christmas luncheon!

Get Well Wishes go out to Bob Pavich! He is now in rehab to gain some strength in his legs! We wanna see ya, Bob, at the finish line of the next marathon! You sure were missed at the luncheon!

“Do what you gotta do -- So you can Do what you want to do!” ~ unknown

Arlene Boudos/Lodge 32

Single Premium Made Easy

PITTSBURGH, PA -

Don't forget, the CFU's single premium insurance package can now be paid for in three convenient installments, so affordable quality protection from the CFU is even more affordable.

For more details on the single premium insurance and how you can make it work for your family, call the CFU at **412-843-0380** and ask for CFU Sales Department.

Chicago Bulls and CFU Partner Again for a Fun Night

CHICAGO, IL - Come celebrate our Croatian Heritage on Tuesday, January 20th, at 7 p.m., with the Chicago Bulls at the United Center with our Chicagoland-area Croatian Fraternal Union lodges! A special ticket is being offered that includes your ticket to the Bulls vs. Clippers game plus an exclusive, co-branded hat while they last. Also, with this ticket you will have early access to watch the Bulls and the visiting team warm up from 5:15 pm-5:45 pm. (Details on early access to watch warmups and

hat distribution will be sent to purchasers a few days before the game.)

Please note, this is a special event ticket. It **MUST** be purchased through this special link Croatian Heritage Special Ticket Offer (<https://www.gofevo.com/event/Croatiansto25?ref=C-FU>) or via a Bulls Group Sales representative. Third-party purchases will not include the hat, as this is not an arena-wide promotion.

For those of you interested in bringing a large group, you will pay no processing fees with the

purchase of 15+ tickets. Contact Joe Hunt, Bulls Ticket Sales Associate at 312-455-4173 and unlock unique experiences and benefits.

All tickets will be delivered digitally to your account. You are encouraged to transfer seats to each individual in your party prior to entry. A mobile device is required for entry and to claim the item(s) included in this special ticket offer. The location of the in-arena pick-up table will be outside of section 115/116. One ticket must be provided for each promotional item. Items must be claimed before the end of the 2nd quarter. **GO BULLS!**

Marie and Chris Gornick
Lodge 32



Lodge 1 Celebrates Christmas and Honors 50 Year Members

PITTSBURGH, PA – I was privileged to attend the Christmas Celebration of “Svi Sveti” CFU Lodge 1 at Croatian National Hall Javor in the northside of Pittsburgh. When Mirjana and I arrived, the Lodge was holding its Annual Meeting with reports of the officers and election of the

new board. It was my honor to extend a brief fraternal greeting and congratulate them on their fraternal and cultural activities. CFU Lodge 1 is an active lodge with a variety of events and affairs for all ages.

During this time, a large gathering of Nest 111 members participated in the holiday celebration with activities provided by Nest Manager Chloe Langenfeld Niglio.

The CNH Javor was decorated with Christmas colors and a tree which brought out the spirit of the upcoming holidays. From the very beginning, everyone enjoyed traditional songs played by the orchestra “Pittsburgh Trubaduri”. This

talented group of musicians played traditional Christmas Carols from Croatia. They were praised with comments like, “I feel like I’m in Zagreb.” It was definitely special!

When the official program started, I was invited by Lodge President Julia Bubanovich to extend greetings and recognize CFU 50 year members. It was my distinct pleasure to do so. I extended greetings and the best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of my colleagues on the CFU Executive Board, including National President Edward W. Pazo, National Secretary/ Treasurer Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras and all of the CFU National Administration. Following, Lodge 1 Secretary/ Treasurer Donald C. Langenfeld invited CFU 50-Year Member Amy Sršić to the stage. I thanked Amy for her 50 years of membership, her loyalty to the CFU and her contributions to our fraternal ranks. She was very thankful for the recognition and happy to receive the certificate of recognition.

The Lodge recognized 11 CFU members: Carri Buss, Jan M. Comport, David DePellegrini, Donald DePellegrini, Lynn Anne Kearns, Sheri L. Kretschmaier, Dana Lynn Martini, Diane Novosel, Robert S. Pouch, Paul A. Puhac and Amy Srsic.

After a delicious dinner a special visitor appeared – well-known as the Singing Santa – who delivered gifts to all children in attendance. Santa had time and patience to take photos with young and old.

Thank you CFU 50-year members, and thank you Lodge 1 members and officers for such a nice celebration! My you all have a Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Franjo Bertović
CFU Executive Vice President





54-ti Skijaški izlet HBZ i ove godine održavamo na zapadnoj strani New Yorka

Piše: Edward W. Pazo/Nacionalni predsjednik

PITTSBURGH, PA - Doživite događaj o kojem svi pričaju – i otkrijte zašto će ova godina biti još bolja. Pripremite se ljubitelji skijanja, posebno oni koji nisu bili sigurni želite li nam se pridružiti prošle godine, jer se 54. godišnji SkiFEST HBZ vraća u jednu od najuzbudljivijih zimskih destinacija u regiji.

S ponosom najavljujemo da će SkiFEST 2026. ponovno biti održan u zadivljujućem Holiday Valley Ski Resortu u Ellicottvilleu, New York, od 6. do 7. veljače.

Nakon uspjeha lanjskog događaja, postalo je jasno da Holiday Valley nudi ne samo prekrasno okruženje, već i savršenu kombinaciju sadržaja, atmosfere i aktivnosti za nezaboravan vikend naše Zajednice.

Za one koji su oklijevali zbog promjene lokacije, možemo s povjerenjem reći da je Holiday Valley premašio očekivanja u svakom pogledu. Od modernih žičara i dobro uređenih staza do živahnog sela, odlične prehrane i toplog osjećaja zajednice, odmaralište je ponudilo besprijekorno, ugodno iskustvo za posjetitelje svih uzrasta.

Ove godine gradimo na tom zamahu i podižemo ljestvicu još više. Sve najpopularnije SkiFEST tradicije vraćaju se, uključujući skijaške utrke, dvodnevna druženja i živahnu zabavu u vanskim Cabana Bar-u, uz glazbu, nagrade i mnogo zimskih zabava.

Također smo uzbuđeni što možemo ugostiti Sedmu Brzinu iz Clevelanda, čiji su energični nastupi držali publiku na nogama do kasno u noć na našim omladinskim i odraslim festivalima. Oni će ponovno biti glavni izvođači na

našim zabavama u petak i subotu navečer, u prekrasnom skijaškom salonu na vrhu, s panoramskim pogledom na staze.

Jedna od jedinstvenih prednosti Holiday Valleya je širok izbor smještajnih opcija, od soba uz stazu i udobnih stanova do većih kuća za najam savršenih za obitelji i grupe.

VRBO i Airbnb također nude dodatne opcije širom Ellicottvillea, što olakšava pronalaženje smještaja koji odgovara veličini vaše grupe i proračunu. Odmaralište nas je obavijestilo da se ovaj vikend svake godine brzo popunjava, stoga se članovima snažno preporučuje da rezerviraju rano. Poveznice za rezervaciju paketa od dvije, tri i četiri noći dostupne su na našoj web stranici www.cfu.org/events. SkiFEST 2026 također se pokazuje kao idealan događaj za obitelji i mlađe goste.

Holiday Valley je široko poznat kao jedno od najprikladnijih mjesta za obitelji u skijaškim odmaralištima na sjeveroistoku, a nudi izvanrednu Školu skijanja i snowboarda s programima za

(Nastavak na 10. strani)



JESTE LI SPREMNI? Skijalište Holiday Valley u mjestu Ellicottville u New Yorku je ocharavajuće utočište za ljubitelje zimskih aktivnosti. Oprema za skijanje, snowboarding i sanjkanje dostupna je za najam. Ovo je izletišta koje zimi postaje prepoznato po svojem čarobnom sanjkalistu, pružajući posjetiteljima nezaboravno iskustvo zimske zabave. Posjetitelji mogu pronaći raznovrsnu gastronomsku ponudu, uključujući tople napitke, ukusne zalogaје i slastice. Vidimo se 6. veljače. Dobro došli!

Odsjek 530 održava godišnju sjednicu

ST. THOMAS, ON – Društvo „Ogulini“ odsjek 530 HBZ održati će svoju Godišnju sjednicu u nedjelju, 25. siječnja 2026., u St. Thomasu, na 9 Farmington Drive, N5R 5W8.

Sjednica će započeti u 16 sati. Odsječni odbornici podnijeti će svoja Izvješća o radu tijekom 2025.g., razmotriti ćemo i donijeti plan godišnjih aktivnosti. Potom ćemo predložiti i izabrati odsječne odbornike za 2026. godinu. Večera će biti servirana u 18 sati.

Pozivamo sve članove našeg odsjeka da prisustvuju sjednici i da nam pomognu nastavak naših aktivnosti i pružanja usluga članovima.

Franjo Bertović/predsjednik

Važna obavijest za suradnike i čitatelje Zajedničara

PITTSBURGH, PA - Počevši od 14. siječnja 2026., Zajedničar će biti dostupan online putem naše službene CFU web stranice. Kao dio ove tranzicije, imajte na umu da će sve osobne informacije, obavijesti odsjeka i organizacija, kao i svi literarni radovi koje naši urednici prime za objavu također biti prikazani u online izdanju našeg službenog lista.

Potaknujemo sve suradnike da budu oprezni pri dijeljenju osobnih podataka poput telefonskih brojeva, email adresa i kućnih adresa te da šalju samo informacije koje se osjećaju ugodno da budu dostupne javnosti putem interneta.

Hvala vam na kontinuiranoj podršci dok ulazimo u ovo novo poglavlje.

U ime Nacionalnog odbora HBZ,
Edward W. Pazo/Nacionalni predsjednik

Zima u Hrvatskoj: bajka koja nikada ne prestaje



Od snenih ravnica koje se tiho bude u zimska jutra do moćnih planina koje prkose vjetru, veselih gradova koji pozdravljaju snijeg do spektakularnih morskih krajolika u kojima možete upoznati svu ljepotu prirode, zima u Hrvatskoj idila je o kojoj ste sanjali.

Zaleđeni slapovi Plitvičkih jezera, zaglušujuća simfonija milijuna kapljica vode u Nacionalnom parku Krka ili okrutna ljepota Velebita i Pak-

lenice kriju zadivljujuću ljepotu i beskraju tišinu prirode.

Risnjak, Učka, Papuk ili Biokovo samo su neka od čarobnih mjesta gdje zima slika najljepše akvarele, a užitek boravka u divljini i epske planinske staze Gorskog Kotara i Like pretvorit će vaš odmor u avanturu, a putem možda sretnete i Djeda Božićnjaka.

Ljubitelje opuštene atmosfere oduševit će kontinentalna Hrvatska.

Slikovit način života u selima, miris tradicionalnih zimskih jela, prijateljska atmosfera, ravnice nad kojima sunce slika najljepši akvarel i okićeni gradovi koji blistaju u festivalskom ruhu.

Iskusite zimsku mističnost Slavonije i Baranje u kojima velebne rijeke skrivaju brojne legende, a vjetar poput zaigranog djeteta baca pahuljice nad beskonačnim ravnica.

Otkrijte romantične priče koje postoje već stoljećima i tišinu koju pružaju zimske večeri. Izgubite se u šarenim ulicama gradova i provedite zimu na otvorenim sajmovima u Zagrebu, Osijeku ili Varaždinu ili se uputite u otkrivanje mnogobrojnih dvoraca, kula i tvrđava, koji se bijele poput vila u zimskoj haljini od snijega.

Za one kojima je more u krvi, jadranska obala nudi posebnu zimsku kolekciju.

Blaga klima, pješčane plaže koje jedva čekaju da u njima ostavite svoje tragove, stoljetna blagdanska tradicija i uređeni gradovi pišu najljepšu zimsku čestitku s okusom mora.

Mediterranska zima donosi užitek boravka na suncu, miris fritula u zraku, ribarske gradiće u kojima vrijeme sporije teče i stoljetne gradove koji blistaju ukrašeni tisućama lampica.

Neka vas zadivi čista ljepota Dubrovnika i moćna energija Splita, plešite na buri i upoznajte skriveni zimski svijet hrvatskih otoka.

Zima u Hrvatskoj ima tisuću lica, a sva su jednako lijepa i privlačna.



Uzvanici na promociji



Milan Bošnjak

Vrijedni kroatološki ogledi Milana Bošnjaka o inozemnoj Croatici

U povodu manifestacije *Mjesec hrvatske knjige*, dvije su Matice – Matica hrvatska i Hrvatska matica iseljenika, promovirale Bošnjakovo dvoknjižje koje otkriva osebujno sociokulturno blago naše dijaspore...

U organizaciji Hrvatske matice iseljenika u Zagrebu 14. listopada predstavljene su dvije knjige ogleda o književnom i kulturnom stvaralaštvu te društvenom životu Hrvata izvan Lijepe Naše autora dr. sc. Milana Bošnjaka pod naslovom „Suvremena hrvatska književnost nastala izvan Hrvatske“ i „Hrvatska nacionalna manjina – status i perspektiva“. Objavile su ih Matica hrvatska i Hrvatska matica iseljenika.

Dobrodošlicu brojnoj nazočnoj publici uputio je u ime domaćina dr. sc. Ivan Tepeš, (tadašnji) zamjenik ravnatelja Hrvatske matice iseljenika čestitajući autoru na ustrajnom i temeljitom opisu presjeka aktualnog kulturnog i društvenog stvaralaštva Hrvata izvan domovine.

Prigodnim govorom uvodno se obratio predsjednik Matice hrvatske dr. sc. Damir Zorić kazavši među ostalim: „Hrvatska književnost nastala izvan Hrvatske ili u iseljenoj hrvatskoj konstitutivni je dio identiteta hrvatskoga naroda. Zato mi je jako drago da se susrećemo s Hrvatskom maticom iseljenika, Središnjim državnim uredom i drugima, jer posla je puno i ne smijemo rasipati snage, nego ih trebamo udružiti da bismo taj konstitutivni čimbenik našeg suvremenog identiteta podastrli kako ovdje hrvatskoj javnosti tako koliko god je to moguće i onoj inozemnoj osobito kada je riječ o Hrvatima u inozemstvu. Bez toga, nećemo imati svoj cjeloviti suvremeni nacionalni identitet.“

Državni tajnik Središnjega državnog ureda za Hrvate izvan Republike Hrvatske Zvonko Milas, uz čestitke autoru, naglasio je „kako će ove dvije knjige koje progovaraju o političkim bilateralnim aktivnostima i temama ali i o životu, umjetnosti, kulturi i svemu onome što Hrvati izvan Republike Hrvatske njeguju tamo gdje žive -dakle svim vrijednostima po kojima se prepoznaju kao pripadnici hrvatskoga naroda,

biti vrijedan doprinos boljem statusu i položaju hrvatske nacionalne manjine ali i prije svega očuvati hrvatski nacionalni identitet, tj. sve ono što je važno kako bi Hrvati izvan Republike Hrvatske mogli doista sačuvati vrijednosti, kako bi ih mogli prepoznavati po njima, i kako bi to bilo usmjereno na dobrobit i boljitak svega onog što ih okružuje.“

O knjigama su u nastavku govorili, osim autora Bošnjaka, recenzenti prof. dr. sc. Sanja Vulić i prof. dr. sc. Željko Holjevac te urednici dr. sc. Luka Šeput (MH) i mr. sc. Vesna Kukavica (HMI).

Riječ je o dvije zasebne zbirke domišljatih eseja, koje zajedno opsežu više od 400 stranica nevelika formata kojima autor Milan Bošnjak kritički propituje suvremenu interkulturalnu dionicu hrvatske dijaspore – kako u preko-oceanskim odredištima tako i u bližem europskome susjedstvu.

Suvremene književne prakse

Prva knjiga usredotočena je na recentno književno stvaralaštvo iseljeništva, uključujući i prevodilačke pothvate pisaca hrvatskih korijena, promišljeno zahvaćajući naše rasuto filološko blago. Druga predstavljena knjiga pak proizlazi iz autorovih neposrednih uvida u društvene, političke, obrazovne i kulturne prilike hrvatske nacionalne manjine u dvanaest zemalja srednje i jugoistočne Europe. U njoj autor donosi inventivan pokušaj konceptualnog određenja te manjine u razdoblju nakon demokratskih preobrazbi u Europi (1989.), koje su otvorile posve nove perspektive za sve narode ovoga dijela Staroga kontinenta.

Prigodni glazbeni program na Bošnjakovoj svečanosti, koju su dvije Matice ciljano zajednički priredile u povodu manifestacije *Mjeseca hrvatske knjige*, izvela je solistica Nika Pastuović, a promociju je znalački moderirala Ivana Perkovic s Međunarodnog programa Glasa hrvatske HRT-a.

Po riječima recenzentice Sanje Vulić, među koricama knjige „Suvremena hrvatska književnost nastala izvan Hrvatske“ sabrana su autorova višegodišnja kroatološka propitivanja kao i prikazi djela postmoderne hrvatske beletristike nastale u posljednjih tridesetak godina u hrvatskim manjinskim zajednica-

ma i iseljeništvu. Autor Bošnjak nedvojbeno obogaćuje korpus hrvatske književnosti, uključujući i ona književna djela napisana na engleskom, njemačkom i španjolskom jeziku koja su napisali pisci hrvatskog podrijetla, a koja, osim same korjenike spisatelja, u hrvatsku književnost ugrađuju teme i motive koji se odnose na Hrvatsku i hrvatski narod.

„Nepristrane i na konkretnim činjenicama utemeljene analize u ovoj knjizi omogućuju čitateljima upoznavanje s velikim brojem novih autora i njihovih djela, s estetskom vrijednošću tih djela i njihovim više ili manje uspelim uključivanjima u suvremene trendove književnih sredina u kojima žive i modernoga svijeta općenito.“

Interkulturalne prakse u Bošnjakovim esejima izgledaju veoma značajne - kada se govori o „društvenoj integraciji i literarnom stvaralaštvu“ u drugoj kulturi, odnosno o prihvaćenosti hrvatskih iseljenika u domicilnome višejezičnom i višekulturnom društvu, primijetili su urednici Bošnjakova dvoknjižja kroatist Luka Šeput i teoretičarka migrantske književnosti Vesna Kukavica, čestitavši autoru na uspelim i stilski dotjeranim kroatološkim ogledima.

Perspektiva manjinske zajednice u europskome susjedstvu

Građa knjige „Hrvatska nacionalna manjina – status i perspektiva“ po riječima recenzenta Željka Holjevca temeljito obrađuje u osam eseja današnje pozitivne kulturne, obrazovne i znanstvene prakse među hrvatskom nacionalnom manjinom. Pripadnici hrvatske manjine, čija ukupna brojnost u 12 europskih država doseže oko četvrt milijuna osoba, žive u slijedećim zemljama: Republika Austrija, Republika Bugarska, Crna Gora, Češka Republika, Talijanska Republika, Republika Kosovo, Mađarska, Rumunjska, Republika Sjeverna Makedonija, Slovačka Republika, Republika Slovenija i Republika Srbija.

Knjiga opseže 228 stranica i bogato je ilustrirana te opremljena pouzdanim znanstvenim aparatom koji sadrži, osim sažetaka na hrvatskom i engleskom jeziku, izabranu literaturu, odabrane predmetne međunarodno-pravne dokumente s manjinskom tematikom i ostala usporedbeno vrela te *Popis institucija i udruga hrvatske nacionalne manjine u 12 europskih država*, kojih ima više od 220 raznih organizacija. „Članci, esej, studije, prezentacije, izlaganja, govori i intervjui, objedinjeni u ovom djelu Milana Bošnjaka o statusu i perspektivi hrvatske manjine u europskome susjedstvu, ukazuju na razgranatu institucionalnu suradnju Republike Hrvatske s hrvatskom manjinom u okolnim zemljama.

S druge strane, prilozi uvršteni u ovu knjigu posređuju zanimljive uvide u značaj koji imaju hrvatske manjinske zajednice u spomenutih 12 europskih zemalja kao mostovi između drža-
 (Nastavak na 10. strani)

PROGRAMI HBZ-A

Poruka iz ureda izvršnog potpredsjednika FRANJE BERTOVIĆA

POD POVEĆALOM

NOVI POČETAK U 2026.

Na samom početku nove godine najbolje je vrijeme donijeti odluku i trasirati put u 2026. godini. Kupnja životnog osiguranja i zaštita trebala bi biti jedna od tih odluka. Ili, ako ste već član HBZ-a s policom osiguranja i potporom kroz druge fraternalističke beneficije možete razmotriti situaciju te razmisliti je li to dovoljno da zadovolji vaše potrebe i obiteljski proračun.

Ako ste u radnom odnosu ne bi smjeli isključivo ovisiti o tom životnom osiguranju. I ako je grupno osiguranje kod poslodavca često povoljno, vjerojatno nije dovoljno da pokrije vaše potrebe i vaših najmilijih. Važno je znati da možete izgubiti ili napustiti posao te ostati bez tog osiguranja. Isto, imajte na umu, dok ste mladi i cijene osiguranja su daleko niže.

Pozivamo vas da postanete naš preporučitelj. Nazovite nas radi više saznanja o ovom programu. Pripazite da vaša obitelj i prijatelji znaju da Hrvatska bratska zajednica u Americi pruža potporu i zaštićuje svoje članove već više od 131. godinu te pomaže iznaći vrijednu zaštitu ne samo u životnom osiguranju i štednju u anuitetima već kroz mnoge druge besplatne beneficije.

Specijalna ponuda HBZ-a je produžena do travnja

- PONUĐA PREMIJE U PRVOJ GODINI** za djecu i mladež. Samo \$5 premije u prvoj godini za iznos osiguranja od \$25,000 u planu Jednoročno osiguranje za mladež do 25 godina starosti.
- OSIGURANJE S JEDNOM PREMIJSKOM UPLATOM** pruža uštedu do \$1,000! Trenutno, HBZ nudi popust od 15% za osobe do 40. godine starosti i 10% od 41. i veće životne dob kroz fraternalističku dividendu uz jednokratnu uplatu. Samo jedna uplata premije je dovoljna da osiguranik ostane zaštićen!
- OSIGURANJE NA DESETOGODIŠNJU OTPLATU PREMIJE.** Nakon 10 godina prestaju premijske uplate a osiguranik ostaje životno osiguran do konca života. Ponuda: \$25,000 osiguranja za \$250 premije u prvoj godini, za osobe 0 do 25. godine starosti. A za osobe od 0 do 50. životne dobi \$100 premije u prvoj godini omogućuje osiguranje od \$5 do \$10 tisuća. Treći stupanj je za osobe 51. do 70. godine također \$100 u prvoj godini ali za iznos od \$5,000 životnog osiguranja.
- ISKORISTITE TRENUTNO PONUĐENU KAMATU** kroz programe „Izbor dva 4.5%“, „9. godišnji ugovor 4.0%“ i „5. godišnji ugovor 3.25% kamatu“ i to s zajamčenom kamatnom stopom od 3%. Da bi otvorili bilo koji od ovih računa potreban je ulog od \$3,000. Ovi računi dostupni su našim članovima samo u SAD.

Iskoristite prednosti koje vam bratski potporni sistem pruža! Kao i uvijek, ako postoji bilo kakav upit ili vam je portebno pojašnjenje naših programa i beneficija koje iz toga proizlaze nazovite naš Glavni ured na tel. 412-843-0380 ili otvorite web stranice www.cfu.org.

Zagrebačka uspinjača

ZAGREB - Zagrebačka uspinjača je javno prometalo koje spaja zagrebački Gornji i Donji grad. Donja stanica nalazi se u Tomičevoj ulici (koja izlazi na Ilicu), a gornja se stanica nalazi na Strossmayerovom šetalištu, podno kule Lotrščak. S prugom dugom 66 metara poznata je i kao jedna od najkraćih žičanih željeznica na svijetu namijenjenih javnom prometu. Službeno je puštena u pogon 8. listopada 1890., a s radom je počela 23. travnja 1893. godine. Isprva je bila na parni pogon koji je 1934. zamijenjen električnim. Budući da je do danas u cijelosti zadržala prvobitni vanjski izgled i građevnu konstrukciju, a i većinu tehničkih svojstava koja su joj dali graditelji, zagrebačka je uspinjača zakonski zaštićena kao spomenik kulture. Održava ju i vodi Zagrebački električni tramvaj. Izvan pogona je od 20. siječnja 2025. godine zbog radova na sveobuhvatnoj obnovi gradske znamenitosti.

Tehnička svojstva

Uspinjača ima dva vagona, svaki kapaciteta 28 putnika (16 sjedećih i 12 stajaćih mjesta). Dužina kola preko odbojnika je

5640 mm, osnovni razmak 3700 mm, a težina praznih kola je 5,05 tona. Nosivost im je 2240 kg. Električni pogonski motor nalazi se u gornjoj postaji, ima snagu od 28,5 kW, napajan istosmjernom strujom napona 400 V, sa 720 okretaja u minuti. Najveća dopuštena brzina uspinjače je 1,5 m/s. Vožnja traje 64 sekunde. Uspinjača svladava visinsku razliku od 30,5 metara na usponu od 52 posto (gornja stanica je na 156,5 m nadmorske visine, a donja na 126 m). Uspinjača je sagrađena kao kosi vijadukt od osam polukružnih otvora duljine 2,5 metra, od opeke s vapnenim mortom.

Usprkos stalnom mehaničkom opterećenju, izvorna konstrukcija do današnjih dana nije pokazala znakove značajnijih tehničkih deformacija, a u nekim od onih polukružnih otvora danas su umjetničke galerije i prodavaonice suvenira. Na betonskoj površini vijadukta nalaze se dva kolosijeka (na svakom se nalazi jedan vagon) s tračnicama duljine 66 metara i širine 1200 mm. Vučno uže promjera je 22 mm.

(Nastavak na 10. strani)





DEATHS REPORTED	
FROM DECEMBER 23, 2025 TO JANUARY 5, 2026	
3	Nicole M. DeMarinoMcKeesport, PA
5	Katheleen A. Mikesic Johnstown, PA
13	Lavina MalatestinicSteelton, PA
72	Joan M. KarolUniontown, PA
80	Reita A. Wilson Smoke Run, PA
84	Frances M. Kessner..... Anaconda, MT
121	Phillip L. Marelick Oakland, CA
185	Margaret C. Kelley Campbell, OH
222	Kenneth C. Hoef Madison, IL
533	Jean V. AndersenBattle Creek, WI
776	Patricia A. Cottage..... Canfield, OH
993	Andrew Lorenz, Sr. Mukwonago, WI
1994	Patricia R. Carus Milwaukee, WI
1994	Sharon M. Chaplock Milwaukee, WI

Premинуo je Mate Meštrović



Široj javnosti poznat je i kao sin Ivana Meštrovića. Od 1980. do 1982. godine bio je pročelnik za vanjske poslove, a od 1982. do 1991. godine predsjednik Izvršnog odbora Hrvatskog narodnog vijeća...

U 96. godini života, nakon kraće bolesti, umro je poznati diplomat, povjesničar i novinar, široj javnosti poznat i kao sin Ivana Meštrovića, Mate Meštrović. Predsjednik Vlade Andrej Plenković uputio je izraze sućuti.

"Sa žaljenjem sam primio vijest o smrti Mate Meštrovića, istaknutog novinara, povjesničara i političara, sina velikog hrvatskog kipara Ivana Meštrovića, koji je znatan dio svojega profesionalnog i životnog puta posvetio predstavljanju hrvatske povijesti, političkih težnji i identiteta međunarodnoj javnosti.

Kao novinar i javni intelektualac pisao je za američke i britanske publikacije te hrvatski emigrantski tisak, nastupao u međunarodnim medijima i davao brojne intervjuje stranoj javnosti, osobito u razdobljima kada se hrvatski glas teško probijao izvan domovine.

Svoj je doprinos produbio znanstvenim i publicističkim radom, kao autor knjiga i brojnih članaka te urednik engleskog izdanja knjige dr. Franje Tuđmana *Nacionalno pitanje u suvremenoj Europi*, pridonoseći boljem razumijevanju hrvatske povijesne i političke zbilje u međunarodnom kontekstu.

Kao povjesničar i profesor suvremene europske povijesti na američkom sveučilištu, znanje je prenosio studentima te sudjelovanjem na seminarima i javnim predavanjima pridonosio razumijevanju europskih i jugoslavenskih procesa iz perspektive važne za Hrvatsku.

Nakon uspostave samostalne hrvatske države vratio se u domovinu te je, kao zastupnik u Županijskom domu Hrvatskog sabora i veleposlanik Republike Hrvatske u Bugarskoj, svoje iskustvo stavio u službu hrvatskih institucija i vanjske politike.

Mate Meštrović ostat će zapamćen kao jedan od onih koji su hrvatsku političku misao u emigraciji održavali živom i prepoznatljivom, dajući izniman doprinos djelovanju hrvatske političke emigracije te potom to iskustvo stavio u službu samostalne hrvatske države.

U ime Vlade Republike Hrvatske i osobno, obitelji, prijateljima i suradnicima gospodina Mate Meštrovića upućujem izraze iskrene sućuti i dubokog poštovanja."

Meštrović je rođen u Zagrebu 1930. godine. U Zagrebu je završio osnovnu školu, a daljnje školovanje nastavio je u inozemstvu. Od 1942. godine, živjeli su prvo u Rimu, potom u Švicarskoj, a zatim u SAD-u od 1947. godine. Godine 1951. diplomirao je, a 1952. godine i magistrirao na Sveučilištu Syracuse u SAD-u. Za vrijeme Korejskog rata bio je u američkoj vojsci u činu poručnika. Nakon povratka iz rata i izlaska iz vojske doktorirao je 1957. godine na Sveučilištu Columbia u New Yorku. Nakon toga deset godina radio je kao novinar, a od 1967. do 1991. godine predavao je suvremenu europsku povijest na Sveučilištu Fairleigh Dickinson u New Jerseyju.

Objavio je, među ostalim djela: U borbi za Hrvatsku: sabrani članci (1980.-1986.) (1986), U vrtlogu hrvatske politike: kazivanje Peri Zlataru (2003) i dr.

Od 1980. do 1982. godine bio je pročelnik za vanjske poslove, a od 1982. do 1991. godine predsjednik Izvršnog odbora Hrvatskog narodnog vijeća (HNV), krovne političke organizacije hrvatskog političkog iseljeničtva. Početkom 1990. godine vratio se u domovinu, a 1993. godine bio je kao zastupnik izabran u Županijski dom Hrvatskog sabora. Nakon isteka zastupničkog mandata imenovan je veleposlanikom Republike Hrvatske u Bugarskoj i na toj dužnosti bio je od 1997. do 2000. godine.

Iza njega ostala je supruga Rumi Meštrović i sin Simon Meštrović. Ispraćaj je bio u krugu obitelji.

HINA

54-ti Skijaški...

(Nastavak sa 7. strane)

djecu, početnike i odrasle. Bilo da tek počinjete ili želite poboljšati svoju tehniku, njihovi instruktori pružaju sigurne, zabavne i pouzdane lekcije koje mogu pretvoriti SkiFEST u savršeni zimski odmor za cijelu obitelj.

Iako je sam vikend SkiFEST-a ispunjen aktivnostima, također potičemo posjetitelje da razmotre produženje svog boravka. Grad Ellicottville nudi izvrsne restorane, pivovare, butike i kafiće, sve unutar šarmantne, prohodne glavne ulice koja je posebno ugodna za obitelji i grupe. Dolazak u četvrtak ili odlazak u ponedjeljak omogućuje više vremena za istraživanje

Zagrebačka uspinjača...

Povijest



Pogled iz Illice na Uspinjaču u Tomićevoj ulici

Osječki građevinski poduzetnik D.W. Klein je pod stubama u Bregovitoj ulici (danas Tomićeva) koja vodi na Gornji grad, 1888. godine počeo pratiti učestalost pješakaoga prometa. Učinilo mu se da se upravo tom ulicom najviše ljudi uspinje prema Gornjem gradu, a ne primjerice Mesničkom ili Dugom (danas Radićevom) ulicom. Potaknut osobnom dobiti, počeo je brojiti i zapisivati broj prolaznika te je ocijenio da je pješački promet dovoljno živ da bi se na mjestu javnog stubišta mogla izraditi uspinjača po uzoru na Budimpeštu, Zürich i druge europske gradove.

Klein je podnio 6. listopada 1888. godine Gradskom poglavarstvu molbu za građevinsku dozvolu. Gradsko poglavarstvo je prijedlog gospodina Kleina prihvatilo i u roku od dva dana izdalo mu građevinsku dozvolu. Radovi na izgradnji uspinjače započeli su 6. svibnja 1889. godine, no tijekom gradnje javljale su se brojne nepredviđene teškoće. Prilikom prve pokusne vožnje s praznim kolima, 22. veljače 1890., glavni ležaj stroja, kojeg je izradila tvrtka »Ganz« iz Budimpešte, istrgnuo se zajedno s temeljem pri čemu se kompletan stroj polomio. Dvadesetak dana kasnije, 14. ožujka 1890., odvila se prva uspješna testna vožnja. Uspinjača je službeno puštena u pogon 8. listopada 1890. godine bez posebne svečanosti. Radilo se o uspinjači na parni pogon s dvojica kola na izmjenični pogon, a sa strojarnicom na gornjoj postaji. Prve putničke kabine bile su razdijeljene u tri dijela. Čeonij dijelovi kabina, s pogledom na Grič ili Illicu, bili su kao prvi razred, dok je sredina zbog lošijeg vida bila takozvani drugi razred. Trajna vožnja uspinjače upriličena je tek 23. travnja 1893. godine.

grada i uživanje u svemu što ovo područje ima za ponuditi.

Sa svojom kombinacijom atmosfere velikog planinskog odredišta, vrhunskih sadržaja, gostoljubive zajednice i jedinstvenog duha prijateljstva HBZ-a, SkiFEST 2026 obećava biti jedan od naših najnezaboravnijih događaja do sada.

Bilo da ste strastveni skijaš, prijateljski raspoložen, zaljubljenik u glazbu ili jednostavno tražite zabavan zimski bijeg, ovo je savršena prilika da iskusite sve po čemu je naš SkiFEST poznat. Radujemo se što ćemo vas ugostiti u Ellicottvilleu za vikend ispunjen avanturom, opuštanjem i bratskim druženjima koje nikako ne želite propustiti. Dobro nam došli!

(Nastavak sa 9. strane)

Tijekom sljedećih godina zbog čestih kvarova na pogonskom dijelu, kada su ponekad putnici morali izaći da je poguraju, Zagrepčani su je od milja prozvali „zapinjačom“. Prema ugovoru, nakon četrdesetogodišnjega razdoblja koncesije, 1929. godine uspinjača je prešla u vlasništvo Grada Zagreba. Tehničko vodstvo i financijska uprava povjerene su Zagrebačkom električnom tramvaju, čiji djelatnici od tada brinu o njoj i moderniziraju je. 1934. godine zastarjeli je parni pogon zamijenjen električnim.

U međuvremenu je izvršeno i nekoliko općih popravaka, no nakon 80 godina životni vijek uspinjače polako se približavao kraju. Stari je uređaj sa svojim drvenim zupčanicima bio prava rijetkost (uostalom radilo se tada o najstarijoj izvornoj uspinjači na svijetu) pružao sve manje sigurnosti, pa je njezin pogon 1969. bio obustavljen. Odmah se započelo s planiranjem rekonstrukcije, odnosno pripremama za izgradnju nove uspinjače. Pokazalo se da je samo zidani vijadukt bio besprijekorno sačuvan, dok je ostali dio konstrukcije trebalo rasklopiti i ukloniti. To je i učinjeno 1973. godine. Istaknuti arhitekti i službeni konzervatori uspjeli su vjerno reproducirati prvobitne građevine. Pogonski je uređaj zajedno s vozilima dobavila i namjestila bečka tvrtka »Wagner-Biro«, dok je za električni dio bila zadužena tvrtka »Siemens«.

Nova uspinjača puštena je u pogon 26. srpnja 1974. godine. Od tada pa do danas uspinjača prolazi kroz redoviti godišnji remont, a 2005. obnovljene su obje postaje.

Revitalizacija zagrebačke uspinjače

U sklopu projekta *Revitalizacija zagrebačke uspinjače* 20. siječnja 2025. godine započeli su radovi na sveobuhvatnoj obnovi gradske znamenitosti. Obnova je planira do ožujka 2026. godine. Ovim projektom obuhvaćeni su građevinski zahvati na gornjoj i donjoj postaji, sanacija trasa i vijadukata, unaprjeđenje pristupačnosti, modernizacija pogonskog sustava te ugradnja novih kabina.

Projekt je vrijedan 7,2 milijuna eura, a financira se iz proračuna grada Zagreba, kredita Europske investicijske banke te Europskih fondova u okviru *Integriranog teritorijalnog programa 2021.-2027.*

Wikipedija

Vrijedni kroatološki...

(Nastavak sa 9. strane)

va, društava i kultura u polivalentnom europskom okruženju. Povezujući razvoj raznih oblika djelovanja s bogatim i raznovrsnim manjinskim iskustvima na koncepcijski osmišljen i komunikativan način, autor omogućava bolju procjenu postojećeg modela aktivnosti i doprinosi prepoznatljivosti razvoja optimalne participacije hrvatskih manjinskih perspektiva u mozaiiku suvremenih europskih izazova“, zaključio je recenzent Željko Holjevac.

U Bošnjakovoj knjizi prvi su put u nas na jednome mjestu opisane prednosti i mane aktualnih modela manjinske regulative u odnosu na dva bitna multilateralne ugovora Vijeća Europe kakvi su Europska povelja o regionalnim ili manjinskim jezicima (1992) te Okvirna konvencija o zaštiti nacionalnih manjina (1994.) – kako u 12 europskih zemalja gdje živi hrvatska manjinska zajednica tako i u modelu manjinske zastupljenosti koji primjenjuje Republika Hrvatska za predstavnike 22 manjine koje žive na njezinu državnome teritoriju.

Kuriozitet je što autor Bošnjak uspijeva s vremenske okomice od pola tisućljeća skicirati složenost i društveno-povijesnu uvjetovanost etnokulturnih zajednica naše korjenike označenih pojmom nacionalne manjine te ukazati na mjestimičan izostanak njezine šire prihvaćene manjinske zbilje u društvenoj praksi domicilnih sredina srednje i jugoistočne Europe. Usto, Bošnjak je zamijetio vrlo korisno djelovanje međuvladinih mješovitih odbora za zaštitu nacionalne manjine/ nacionalnih manjina, izdvojivši uzorne prakse i to između Hrvatske i Mađarske, uz prvoklasno manjinsko zakonodavstvo koje se primjenjuje u Republici Hrvatskoj.

Zahvala autora

U završnici svečane promocije autor Milan Bošnjak, nadahnutim je riječima zahvalio nakladnicima – Matici hrvatskoj i Hrvatskoj matici iseljenika – što su prepoznale zrelost njegovih interpretacija kulturnog i društvenog te napose književnog života Hrvata izvan Lijepe Naše. Učinak tih interpretacija, drži Bošnjak, mogao bi pomoći svima nama iz akademske zajednice da u budućnosti razvijamo što bolje institucionalne interkulturalne modele, koji će jačati suvremeno hrvatsko kulturno zajedništvo na globalnoj razini.

„Mislim da je koncept, paradigma, model hrvatskoga globalnoga zajedništva, jedini održivi koncept razvoja hrvatskoga naroda, hrvatske nacije, hrvatske države u 21. stoljeću. I to je nešto što nije invazivno, agresivno, što ne propituje nikoga, ali što isto tako ne postavlja granice onoga tko želi pristupiti onome što globalno hrvatsko zajedništvo jest. Na svima nama je, na način na koji to možemo, da mu doprinosimo i da ga razvijamo.“ – kazao je Bošnjak.

Svečanosti su prisustvovali brojni uglednici iz javnog života, među kojima su bili: Jasna Vojnić, izaslanica predsjednika Hrvatskog sabora; Ivan Guban, predsjednik Savjeta Vlade Republike Hrvatske za Hrvate izvan domovine i predsjednik Hr-

(Nastavak na 11. strani)

Vrijedni kroatološki...

(Nastavak sa 10. strane)

vatske državne samouprave iz Mađarske; ravnateljica I. Uprave za Europu Ministarstva vanjskih i europskih poslova Terezija Gras; Milan Kovač, predsjednik Upravnog vijeća Hrvatske matice iseljenika; Mirjana Piskulić, ispred Ministarstva kulture i medija; ravnateljica Agencije za odgoj i obrazovanje mr. sc. Katarina Milković; dopredsjednica Društva hrvatskih kn-

jiževnika za međunarodnu suradnju i prevoditeljica dr. sc. Željka Lovrenčić; Marija Žebec, ispred ravnateljstva Dušobrižništva za Hrvate u inozemstvu; prof. dr. sc. Tihomil Maštrović, u ime Hrvatske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti; akademkinja dr. sc. Jasna Čapo iz Instituta za etnologiju i folkloristiku, bivši ravnatelj Hrvatske matice iseljenika Ante Beljo, Nikola Jelinčić i Marin Knezović te brojni drugi predstavnici političkih i kulturnih institucija i udruga.

Tekst: Snježana Radoš/Foto:
Jurica Galoić, ustupljene fotografije HMI-ja

Piše: Edward W. Pazo/Nacionalni predsjednik
(Nastavak sa 8. strane)

franjevačke kuće u Beaver Fallsu, PA a zatim je imenovan župnikom župe Presvetog Trojstva u Ambridgeu.

Za gvardijana u samostanu Hrvatskih franjevaca u Chicagu imenovan je 1982. te je u isto vrijeme postao i direktor Hrvatske Franjevačke Tiskare do njezina zatvaranja 2007. Godine 1985. izabran je za starješinu hrvatskih franjevaca u Americi i Kanadi, sa sjedištem u Chicagu i na toj dužnosti ostao je do 1994. Zatim je kratko opet bio gvardijan u Chicagu, a od 1995. do 2000. župnik hrvatske župe Srca Isusova u južnome Chicagu.

Nakon te službe otišao je za župnika hrvatske župe Presvetog Srca Isusova u Milwaukee, gdje je ostao 12 godina. Njegova posljednja župnička služba bila je u hrvatskoj misiji Blaženog Alojzija Stepinca u Chicagu.

U proljeće 2017. fra Pavao je otišao u mirovinu u franjevački samostan sv. Ante u Chicagu. Njegovu životnu priču o više od sedam desetljeća života u Americi za portal Dijaspورا.hr napisao je provincijal Hercegovačke franjevačke provincije fra Jozo Grbeš.

Fra Maslač je bio dugogodišnji član Hrvatske bratske zajednice u odsjeku 1959. Bio je dobro poznat i cijenjen među našim članovima i često puta je služio mise na pojedinim proslavama i svečanostima naše Zajednice. Sprovodni obredi pokojnog fra Pave Maslaća, održani su 7. siječnja 2026. godine u crkvi sv. Jeronima u Chicagu. Nakon svete Mise slijedio je ukop na groblju Holy Sepulchre. Neka mu Gospodin, kojemu je vjerno služio udijeli vječni mir a obitelji naša iskrena sućut.

ZA SREĆU - DOVOLJNO

Vremena su nešto drugačija, Ali, kad su bila jednaka? „Svako vreme nosi svoje breme"

Sadržaje nove, nove teme. Data nam je udobnost, ljepota Veća nego potrebe života A ljudi su skloni, već po svom Kruha tražiti-nad pogačom Dobro nam je ali ne cijenimo Jedino kad DOBRO izgubimo Zadovoljstvo, teško se postiže Jer za boljim srce i duh seže Zašto bi se obilju stremilo? Malo, je za sreću dovoljno!

Božanstveno vrijeme Božića Na Svetu Obitelj podsjeća Josip nije krivca tražio Buntovnički nije prijetio Nenormalne su okolnosti Da se Dijete rodi u štali Ali Majka svojom ljubavlju Dala je budućnost Djetetu Sveti Josip, brižni poočim U Boga se uzda srcem svim Vjera, pouzdanje spašava Riječ Božja put osvjetljava Teret jarma često osjećamo Molitvom se Bogu obraćamo „Mili Bože, naš nebeski Oče Oslobodi nas od boli, zloće Ako je za duhovno spasenje Daj da podnosimo trpljenje" Suze su i patnja je, za ljude Ako treba, onda neka bude Gospodnje da ime slavimo Vijest radosnu sretni živimo Na radost smo brižno pozvani U srcu smo svetom čuvani Kad u srca Boga primimo Svaki teret, lakše nosimo. **Darinka D.H. Šmintić**/odsj. 515



Istražite mogućnosti!
Učlanite se u HBZ još
DANAS! Za potankosti
nazovite na
412-843-0380

SELE MOJA

Zvono već zvoni, podne je tu Misli mi tebi odlutaju Da li si danas sretna ko tada kada si bila djetinje mlada.

A ovo zvono tišinu para I sa mnom kao da razgovara Za oca me pita i majku milu I kao da spominje rodbinu cilu.

A zašto baš mene ispituje Ne mogu znati ja baš sve Neka se obrati tebi i njima Koliko još ih po svijetu ima.

Svatko nek kaže nešto o sebi Da ovaj drugi strepio ne bi Jesam li danas sretna ko tada Kada sam bila djetinje mlada? Ne nisam više, niti ću biti A tugu svoju probat' ću skriti Zvono već zvoni večer je tu A misli moje lutaju.

Gdje li su mili, misle li na me Il' jedno krađu Bogu dane Zvono već zvoni, zadnji je čas Pozdrav vam svima, POZDRAVLJAM VAS!

Mo-Bi-Lika

Ljerka Rajzl (Ivanovo Selo)
Odsjek 515/Toronto



PROGRAMI USLUGA

ZAŠTO ODABRATI HBZ?

Sada u svojih 130 godina Hrvatska bratska zajednica (HBZ) je pronalazila rješenja za financijske potrebe svojih članova. Počevši od skrbi o osnovnim potrebama i društvenim zbrinjavanjima do trenutno modernim programima o životnom osiguranju i štednim ulaganjima. HBZ nastavlja sa pružanjem bezbrižnosti o financijskom stanju svojih članova kao i sa stvaranjem prilika za učešće u raznim fraternalističkim aktivnostima.

Kupnjom životnog osiguranja ili ulogom u mirovinske fondove kod HBZ, osoba postaje članom i otvara si pristup brojnim povlasticama i aktivnostima Zajednice: područnim, regionalnim i nacionalnim. Ovi programi su namijenjeni čuvanju i promicanju hrvatske kulturne baštine i pučkih običaja, humanitarnih potpora, podupiranju više školske naobrazbe, rodoljubnih i građanskih poduhvata, i drugih bratskih djelatnosti radi međusobnih pomaganja i pomoći zajednicama u kojima živimo.

PREDNOSTI HBZ-a

- HBZ nudi kompletan paket kvalitetnih usluga kroz pristupačne programe da biste ostvarili svoje financijske ciljeve.
- HBZ neprekidno pokazuje čvrstu financijsku stabilnost kroz odgovorno i oprezno vodstvo s provjerenim iskustvom u gospodarenju s imovinom.
- Zarade se članovima vraćaju kroz dividende i kroz imovinu niza fraternalističkih programa.
- Pristojbe su pristupačne i daleko niže u usporedbi sa komercijalnim osiguravajućim poduzećima.
- HBZ nema vlasnika burzovnih papira – u vlasništvu je i upravlja njima na korist svojih članova i njihovih obitelji.
- Članovi dobivaju usluge brzo i ljubazno, i to bez bilo kakovih naplata.
- HBZ je jedina hrvatska fraternalistička ustanova u sjevernoj Americi i najveća je hrvatska organizacija izvan domovine Hrvatske.

Pozivamo vas da iskoristite sve ove prednosti koje vam pruža HBZ! Više informacija može se dobiti na telefon 412-843-0380 ili web stranici mbrsrv@cfu.org

Zašto te volim?

Zhog čega te volim?
Za kaj te imam rada?

Bilo da to nezaboravni Ivo Robić pjesmom upućuje voljenom Zagrebu, ili ma tko, ma kome, ma kada, ma gdje i ma za što?

Odgovor nije teško naći samo taj razlog za ljubav, ili ti razlozi, brojni su i mnogo bi trebalo nabrajati sve što zaslužuje, potiče, obavezuje, inspirira na voljenje.

Znam da volim glasilo Hrvatske bratske zajednice! Znam da cijenim dvojezično uređenje svakoga tog dvotjednog izdanja. Cijenim marljivi rad, trud, žrtvu, zalaganje, brižne urednice sestre Lorraine Turkall i urednika, brata Ivana Begg.

Volim slike, pisma, obavijesti iz raznih gradova i mjesta gdje se održavaju aktivnosti zajedničara, nas iseljenih Hrvata i potomaka kojima želimo pomoći prigriliti, bolje upoznati, u život ponijeti, potomcima prenijeti, ljepote jezika i bogatstva kulturne baštine koja je neprocjenjiva.

Volim te dragi moj „**Z**“ i radi poezije koja mi dušu hrani, i radi kuharskih savjeta koji zamirišu toplim kruhom, štrudlom, orehnjačom, puricom i sarmom!

Volimo te, divna novino* i radi obavijesti o preseljenju u vječnost naših dragih pokojnika, koji su sebe, primjer i dobrotu svoju ostavili u naslijeđe nama. Hvala im!

Volim naš dragi „**Z**“ kad nam predstavi Bebe* Nove članove naših odsjeka i gnijezda. Oni nas raduju, obogaćuju, obavezuju, molimo za njih, bdijimo nad njima, njihovim mladim roditeljima, kako ih nikada ništa ne bi iznenadilo, razočaralo, kako ih nitko i ništa ne bi udaljilo od rodoljublja, domoljublja i Bogoljublja.

Volim kad čitatelji Zajedničara mogu vidjeti imena voljenih župskih središta gdje nas ljubav Božja poziva i okuplja na Euharistijska slavlja diljem Amerike kao Sv. Josip u Saint

Louisu, ili Kardinal Stepinac u New Yorku.

Te u Kanadi „KRALJICA MIRA" u Norvalu, Hrvatska Katolička Župa „SV. KRIŽA" u Hamiltonu, “SVETE OBITELJI" u Kitcheneru, Sv. Leopolda Mandića u London-St.Thomasu, Hr. Kat. Župa Hrvatskih Mučenika u Mississaugi, Hr. Kat. Župa PRESVETOG TROJSTVA u Oakville, Sv. Marka u Sudbury On., Hr. Kat. Župa Sv. Antuna Padovanskog u Wellandu, Hr. Kat. Župa Sv. Franje Asiškog u Windsoru, Hr. Kat. Župa „MALA GOSPA" u Edmontonu, Hr. Kat. Župa „SV. NIKOLE TAVELIĆA" u Winnipegu, Hr. Kat. Župa PREČISTOG SRCA MARIJINA u Vancouveru B.C. A posebno Hrvatska Katolička Župa „NAŠE GOSPE KRALJICE HRVATA na adresi 7 Croatia St u Torontu.

Voljela bih da, kad smo već tako razasuti po meridijanima i paralelama svijeta, daleko od domovine da čitatelje obraduje, vidjeti kako u Torontu metropoli ima ulica koja nosi to divno drago ima CROATIA i da poziva i da okuplja ljude dobre volje na molitve, Euharistijska slavlja, vjeronaučne pouke, pjevanja, (zborske vježbe), sviranje (vježbe tamburica), plesanja, (učenje folklor) okupljanja, upoznavanja, druženja, Proslave Godišnjice župe, Obiteljska slavlja posebno Karmine, Krstitke, svečanosti obiteljskog ručka Prvopričesničkih i Svete Krizme proslava, Zaručničkih okupljanja pa i Svadbenih radovanja i za Ljubav zahvaljivanja.

Sveti nam se Sakramenti pobožno dodjeljuju o neka nam se pučki darovi ne prikraćuju. Jedno se mora podržati, drugo se ne smije propustiti.

Bolno je žeđ osjećati, kad izvor ne možeš dohvatiti a dato nam je vidjeti i žubor žive vode slušati. Molimo s vjerom na nakane, možda se želje ostvare. Dobrota Božja s nama je, On želi naše spasenje i dao nam je strpljenje.

Darinka D. Herceg-Šmintić
Odsjek 515/Toronto

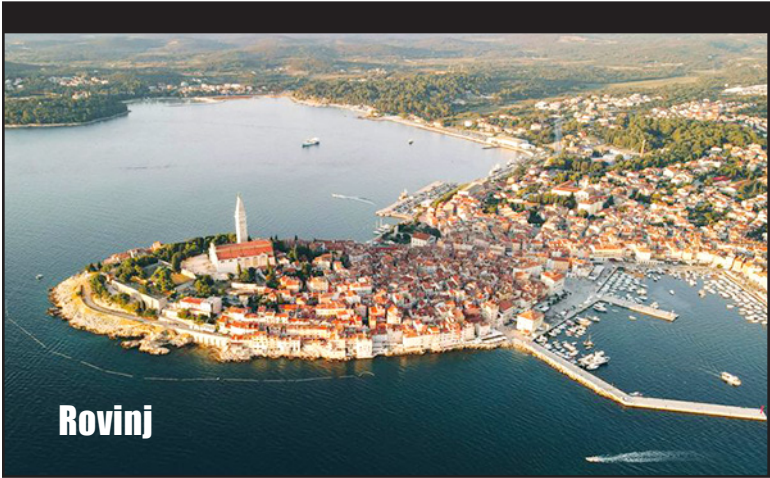
SLUŽBENA OBAVIJEST

PITTSBURGH, PA -

Hrvatska bratska zajednica u Americi obaviještava sve članove Hrvatske bratske zajednice u Americi („HBZ“) i goste-posjetitelje priredbi pod pokroviteljstvom HBZ da kod dolaska i nazočnosti na prostoru održavanja skupa može doći do snimanja fotografija, video ili drugih zapisa. Dolaženjem i ulaskom u prostorije priredbe posjetitelji dozvoljavaju da se izlažu javnosti ili snimanju (fotografija), pojave u tisku ili razmnožavanju materijala sa strane HBZ iz bilo kojeg razloga ili namjere, uključujući elektronsku, zvučnu ili video zabilješku i/ili uredničku uporabu kroz sve načine novinskog izvješća diljem svijeta bez ograničenja ili zabrane (dozvoljene upotrebe). Svi gosti oslobađaju HBZ, njene odbornike i zaposlenike

od bilo koje odgovornosti proizišle iz uporabne dozvole uključujući, ali ne s ograničenjem, odgovornost o privatnosti, pravu o objavi, kleveti ili kršenja autorskih prava te se odriču prava na provjeru ili dozvolu: o bilo kojoj fotografiji, tekstu koji bi mogao biti u svezi sa fotografijom, ili, specifična uporaba ili uporabe te fotografije gdje su ukaže potreba. Sa posjetom priredbi, posjetitelji se odriču prava na bilo kakovu novčau nadoknadu za dozvoljena fotografiranja ili za fotografije. S ovim gosti-posjetitelji su upotpunosti upoznati i primaju na znanje odricanje od bilo kakove odgovornosti pri dolaska na skupove HBZ.

Svi slikovni prikazi ne mogu se upotrebljavati bez pisanog odobrenja Hrvatske bratske zajednice u Americi.



Croatia makes Wanderlust’s best 26 places in 2026

Croatia has received a major international tourism boost after being included on The Good to Go List 2026, an annual selection compiled by Wanderlust, one of Britain’s oldest and most respected travel magazines.

The list showcases the most exciting destinations around the globe for the year ahead. Countries are chosen based on authentic travel experiences, a responsible approach to tourism and compelling local stories that appeal to modern travellers.

Croatia secured its place on the 2026 hotlist thanks to its remarkable history, rich cultural heritage and distinctive identity. Wanderlust praised the country for offering visitors much more than just a summer holiday, highlighting its year-round appeal.

“Being named among the best 26 destinations for 2026 is another confirmation of Croatia’s position as a tourism destination that offers more than just a trip,” said **Bisera Fabrio, director of the Croatian National Tourist Board office in London.**

“Croatia provides authentic experiences throughout the year, a strong connection with heritage and memories that tourists cherish for a long time. It is a great honour to receive recognition from the British market, whose guests view our country as a high-quality, safe and diverse destination,” Fabrio added.

She emphasised that inclusion on the Good to Go List 2026 further increases Croatia’s visibility on one of the key outbound markets for Croatian tourism.

In its dedicated feature on Croatia, Wanderlust underlined the nation’s deep roots in human and cultural development.

The magazine mentioned **Krapina**, home to Europe’s largest Neanderthal archaeological site, as well as the prehistoric **Vučedol culture**, which played an important role in early European civilisation.

The article also noted Croatia as the birthplace of the **cravat**, a globally recognised fashion accessory that originated in the country centuries ago.

Special attention was given to **Istria**, celebrated as a gastronomic hotspot. Wanderlust described the region as one of Europe’s most significant truffle areas, pointing to towns such as **Motovun and Buzet**, which host popular food festivals and culinary events.

The recognition comes as Croatia continues to attract large numbers of British visitors. During 2025, UK guests generated **more than 834,000 arrivals and 4.1 million overnight stays.**

These figures matched the arrival numbers from 2024 and represented a **2 percent increase in nights spent.**

British tourists most frequently stayed in the Dubrovnik-Neretva and Split-Dalmatia counties, while the leading destinations were Dubrovnik, Split, Konavle, Župa dubrovačka, Rovinj and Rovinj.

Alongside Croatia, Wanderlust’s 2026 list features a wide range of global destinations, including Japan, Australia, Jordan, Argentina, Angola, Portugal, Malta and Spain.

The inclusion of Croatia among such renowned travel names is yet another accolade from an influential foreign media outlet. It reinforces the country’s reputation as a destination known for authenticity, safety and unforgettable experiences.

by **croatiaweek**

Croatian Mass Schedule for January

WASHINGTON, DC - Happy New Year to all of you! May God bless, guard and protect you in this New Year 2026.

In January, our Holy Mass schedule will be as follows:

January 18th in Washington, D.C. at 12:30 pm at Our Lady of Victory, 4835 MacArthur Blvd NW, Washington, DC 20007.

January 25th at 11 am at the Church of St. Nicholas (Pittsburgh, PA), 24 Maryland Ave., Millvale, PA 15209. Confessions before Mass.

Blessings of the families continues.

Mir i Dobro! Peace and Goodness!

Father Maurus Dolčić

CFU Lodge 66 Extends Thanks

YOUNGSTOWN, OH - A big Thank You to Lodge 66 fraternal members and friends near and far who participated in and contributed to our Holiday Cash Fundraiser for the maintenance of our lodge facility. It was wonderful that so many members who are not local participated in the fundraiser and/or sent contributions for the cause.

The winners of our 2025 Holiday Cash Drawing are: Nancy Rothstein, Carole Krispinski, Lester Sabados, Earl Callow, Jr., Jennifer Batta, George Remias, Ron Merrick and Justin Saunders. An extra HVALA to Nancy Rothstein and Justin Saunders.

If you would like to participate in our club monthly drawings (Jan-Feb-Mar winners will be

pulled in March) or become a social member of the club, please contact me at 66cfumembers@gmail.com and the information will be sent to you. As a reminder, our January meeting will be held at noon at the lodge hall. Our 2026 Officers and Trustees will be installed at the regular meeting. The required annual meeting will follow the regular monthly meeting.

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, July 19th, to attend our annual Lodge indoor event honoring our 50-year members and others. All performances have not been finalized, but Mikey Dee will be there to provide great music for our dancing and listening pleasure.

Patty Moran/Sec./Treas.

Read the **ZAJEDNIČAR** for the latest on Croatian banquets, picnics, barbecues, lodge meetings, concerts and sporting events going on in your area.



“Oh What Fun!” in Lorain

LORAIN, OH - On December 6, 2025, Lorain CFU Lodge 136 and the American Croatian Club’s Social Committee hosted a delightful Christmas pajama party for 58 children, ranging in age from one month to ten years old.

The hall was transformed into a magical Christmas Candyland, setting the perfect scene for a morning filled with laughter, excitement, and holiday cheer. Shouts of joy echoed throughout the room when Santa Claus made his much-anticipated arrival, instantly lighting up the faces of children and adults alike.

Each child had the special opportunity to whisper their Christmas wishes into Santa’s ear before receiving a wrapped Christmas gift. Parents and



grandparents looked on, smiling and sharing in the overwhelming excitement as the children eagerly opened their presents.

Spreading the true spirit of Christmas through joy,

generosity, and togetherness, the event was a heartwarming celebration of the season, creating lasting memories for families.

Donna Perichak Katrincsak
Secretary



OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION PHOTOS

PITTSBURGH, PA - The Croatian Fraternal Union of America advises all Croatian Fraternal Union of America (CFU) members and guests attending a CFU sponsored event that by entering a CFU event, attendees will be entering an area where photographs, videotapes, and/ or other such recording of attendees’ images (photographs) may occur.

By attending and entering the event premises, attendees consent to photographs and the release, publication, or reproduction of this material by the CFU for any and all purposes including electronic, audiovisual, and/or editorial use in any and all manner and media world-wide without limitation or restriction (Permitted Use).

All attendees release the CFU and its officers and

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By attending the event, attendees waive all rights to claim any financial compensation for the consent of the Photographs. Attendees have been fully informed of consent, waiver of liability, and release before attending a CFU event.

Images are not to be used without the prior written consent of the Croatian Fraternal Union of America.

OBITUARIES

George J. Petrusa



BRAMPTON, ON - It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of George Juraj Petrusa of Brampton, Ontario, whose presence will be deeply missed, having departed on September 6, 2025 at the age of 85. He was a member of CFU Lodge 530 in St. Thomas, Ontario. George was born on Valentine's Day, 1940 in his beloved village of Petruš Vrh, Vivodina, Croatia. In 1966 he immigrated to Canada in search of a better life for himself and his siblings. A devoted family man, George was the proud father of Joe (Brenda) and cherished Deda to his two beloved granddaughters, Brianna and Gabriella. He was predeceased by his wife Anny. He is survived by his siblings, Nikola (Kathy), Barbara Stefan (Zdravko), Joe (Vera), Katica Doljac (Lovro), Ann Gaspar (Tony), John, Vilko (Lily), Marijana Salinger (late Josip) and Marijan (Anna). He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins. George is also deeply mourned by his companion of 15 years, Marica Kasun, whose love, care and support brought him much happiness in his later years. George will be fondly remembered for his generous heart, love of storytelling, and unwavering devotion to his family and community. A proud and devout Catholic, he remained deeply connected to his Croatian roots and culture. George was an honest man who never hesitated to speak his mind, always with sincerity, but never with harm. He found joy in the simple pleasures of life: people-watching from his patio, tending to his garden, wine-making, reminiscing about the past, and most of all, spending time with those he loved. The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the nurses and medical staff at Credit Valley, St. Michael's and Runnymede Hospitals who provided compassionate care during George's final weeks. In memory of George, donations can be made to Croatian Martyrs RC Church - Mississauga, ON, Queen of Peace RC Church - Norval, ON or Heart and Stroke Foundation. Počivao u miru!

The Family of George J. Petrusa

★ GUIDELINES ★

for Submission of Obituaries

The **Zajednicar** understands that the death of a loved one is a difficult time for family members. Obituaries are among the most important items we publish in the **Zajednicar** since we are respectful of all CFU members and are grateful for their contributions to our Fraternal Family. In light of the increasing number of lengthy obituaries which have been submitted in recent years, we ask all members submitting obituaries to please limit an obituary to two typed pages, double spaced (approximately 250 words). Be sure to include all basic obituary information include the CFU lodge affiliation of the deceased. Please note that eulogies, in most instances, will not be published. A photo may accompany the obituary, provided the photo submitted is of printable quality. Obituaries are published in the order they are received. We request that obituaries be submitted in typewritten copy by mail or by e-mail: editor@cfu.org. We reserve the right to edit information provided in all obituaries in order to maintain the style adopted for the obituary pages. Thank you for your cooperation!

Editors

Henry J. Pinter, Sr.



MYRTLE BEACH, SC - Henry J. Pinter, Sr., 97, passed away peacefully at home, on Sunday, December 7, 2025, surrounded by family. Born on October 17, 1928, in Ream, WV, he was the son of Croatian immigrants, John and Mary (Grguric) Pinter. He attended Gary High School, where he excelled at sports, making the All-Area Basketball Team in 1947. Henry served honorably during the Korean War as a Corporal in the U.S. Army. Following his military service, he worked at US Steel for over 30 years and also worked independently as an electrician. Throughout his life, Henry enjoyed spending time with his family most of all. He found joy in the simple things in life and no one ever enjoyed a good meal as much as he did. A great dancer, Henry especially loved to Polka and he thoroughly enjoyed country and Croatian music. Still an athlete at heart, he was an avid sports fan. After raising his family in Welch, WV, he spent his retirement years in Myrtle Beach, where he found great pleasure in woodworking, creating beautiful furniture pieces for his family and friends, as well as tending to his vegetable garden. Henry was a member of the American Legion and the Croatian Fraternal Union, where he served as Secretary of Lodge 2 (formerly Lodge 416) for many years. A devoted Catholic, he attended daily Mass and lived as a man of great faith. He is survived by the love of his life, Mary (Yanesh) Pinter. Their 68-year marriage is a testament to faith, devotion, and enduring love. Also surviving are his six children: Henry J. Pinter, Jr. (Andrea), Patrick A. Pinter (Diana), Rosemary Jarvis (Tony), Victoria Poprocky (Edward), Paul A. Pinter (Dawn) and Mary Frances Odom (Joel), his beloved 15 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, his twin sister, Mary McCray, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Eva and Josie, and brothers, Joe, John, George, and Tony. Henry's family is deeply grateful for all the wonderful care providers who have touched their lives. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the charity of your choice in Henry's memory. Visitation was held on December 15, with a prayer service, at Burroughs Funeral Home, 3558 Old Kings Highway, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on December 16 at St. Michael Catholic Church, 542 Cypress Ave., Murrells Inlet, SC 29576. May he rest in Eternal Peace.

The Family of Henry J. Pinter, Sr.

By Edward W. Pazo/National President

(Continued from page 2)

He entered the Order of Friars Minor with his novitiate on July 14, 1955, in Lafayette, New Jersey. He professed his first religious vows on July 15, 1956, also in Lafayette, and made his solemn vows on August 18, 1959, in St. Bonaventure, New York. He was ordained to the priesthood on March 17, 1962, in Washington, D.C., by the Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi. With his priestly ordination began his long and faithful priestly, pastoral, and religious service. He began his pastoral ministry as an associate pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Chicago from 1962 to 1964, and then at Sacred Heart Parish in Milwaukee from 1964 to 1970. From 1970 to 1976, he served as pastor of St. Joseph Parish in St. Louis, Missouri, and from 1976 to 1979 as pastor of St. Jerome Parish in Chicago. In 1979, he was appointed administrator of the Our Lady of Peace Residence in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and from 1979 to 1982 served as pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. From 1982 to 1985, he served as guardian of St. Anthony Friary in Chicago. From 1985 to 1994, he held the office of Custos. He again served as guardian at the same friary from 1994 to 1995. From 1995 to 2000, he served once more as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Chicago. For the following twelve years, from 2000 to 2012, he was pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Milwaukee. From 2009 to 2012, he served for the fourth time as Custos. His final active pastoral assignment was as pastor of Blessed Alojzije Stepinac Parish in Chicago, where he served from 2012 to 2017. From 1990 onward, he also served as the spiritual leader of the Croatian Catholic Community. From 2017 until his death, he spent his retirement years at St. Anthony Friary in Chicago. Through his long religious and priestly life, Fr. Paul Maslach made a significant contribution to the Church, the Franciscan Order, and the many communities entrusted to his care. His ministry was marked by fidelity, perseverance, and devoted pastoral service, especially among Croatian faithful in the United States of America. The Funeral Mass for Fr. Paul Maslach was celebrated on January 7, 2026, at St. Jerome Church in Chicago. Burial followed at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. May the Lord whom he faithfully served grant him eternal rest.

Lodge 146 Annual Meeting and Elections

VERSAILLES, PA - Lodge 146 of Versailles, PA will hold its quarterly and annual meetings on Sunday, January 18, at 11 a.m. Elections of officers will immediately follow at 12 noon. We encourage all lodge members to attend. Rachel Poturich Recording Secretary

Mukwonago Lodge 993 President Loses Home to Fire

MUKWONAGO, WI - The president of Mukwonago Lodge 993, David Boeck, had tragedy strike, as he lost his mobile home to a horrific fire. He escaped barefoot in the early morning with his life and little else. David is the grandson of Mukwonago Lodge Founder John Movrich. He did not have insurance. We have set up a GoFundMe page to help David: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-david-ethan-rebuild-after-fire>. It is also on the Lodge's Facebook page (CFU Lodge 993) or people can send a check to CFU Lodge 993, C/O Carol Gedde, 310 Shore Dr., Mukwonago, WI 53149. Checks should be made payable to David Boeck. David is a very active member of our lodge and an indispensable worker at our yearly picnic. Please keep him in your prayers. Carol Movrich Gedde/Secretary

5 Reasons Why You Should Consider Life Insurance:

1. Protects your family financially
2. Helps pay for funeral expenses
3. Can cover your children's education
4. Helps with retirement
5. Sets an example of financial responsibility



Cooking Corner

Chicken & Egg Noodle Casserole

6 c. uncooked egg noodles (about 12 oz.)
2 cans (10 3/4 oz. each) condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted
1 c. (8 oz.) sour cream
3/4 c. 2% milk
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
3 c. cubed cooked chicken breasts
1 c. crushed butter-flavored crackers (about 20 crackers)
1/4 c. butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°. Cook noodles according to package directions for al dente; drain.
In a large bowl, whisk together soup, sour cream, and milk, salt and pepper until blended. Stir in chicken and cooked noodles. Transfer to a greased 13x9-inch baking dish.
In a small bowl, mix crushed crackers and butter; sprinkle over top. Bake 30-35 minutes or until bubbly.

Chicken Tarragon

4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
1/2 tsp. paprika
1/3 c. butter, divided
2 medium zucchini, julienned
4 medium carrots, julienned
4 large mushrooms, sliced
2 Tbsp. minced fresh tarragon (or 2 tsp. dried tarragon)
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
1/2 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. pepper

Sprinkle chicken with paprika. In skillet, brown chicken in 2 tsp. butter.
Place the vegetables in greased 13x9 inch baking dish. Top with chicken.
Melt remaining butter; stir in the tarragon, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Pour over chicken and vegetables.
Cover and bake at 350° for 35 minutes until chicken juices run clear and vegetables are tender.

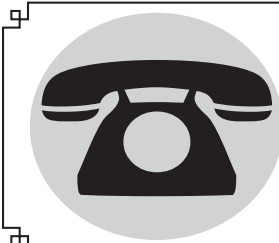
All Recipes from the Cooking Corner Archives

Attention All Cooking Corner Contributors:

All submissions for the **Zajedničar Cooking Corner** are greatly appreciated. However, since we do not operate a test kitchen to validate all recipes received, we kindly ask everyone to please review each recipe submitted to ensure its accuracy. We realize many “Z” readers enjoy trying the recipes and recognize the fact that cooking and baking involves considerable time, effort, and expense. Missing ingredients and incomplete details result in disappointing finished products. We appreciate your accuracy because we want all of our **Cooking Corner** readers to be happy cooks and satisfied bakers!

—Editors

❖ **RECIPES WANTED!** If you have a Croatian or American culinary specialty of which you're quite proud, please submit it to the “Z” by addressing it to **Zajedničar** at 100 Delaney Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235, faxing to 412-823-1594 or e-mailing editor@cfu.org.



Protect your family with insurance from the **Croatian Fraternal Union - The Society That Cares!**
412-843-0380



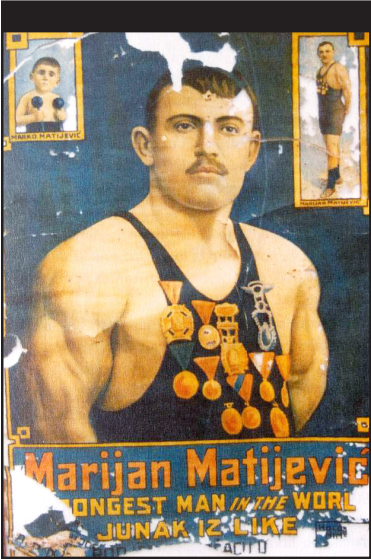
Life Happens in a heartbeat.

In one moment, one Heartbeat—your life changes.

You start a family...and learn what it really means to love. But, have you considered what would happen if you were no longer there to take care of your loved ones?

While nothing can replace you, having life insurance means that if something happened to you, your loved ones would be OK financially. Life insurance is a gift of love.

Learn more at www.cfu.org.



Marijan Matijević

Official poster from his North America tour 1913.

Born today: The Croatian who became the world's strongest man

ZAGREB - 148 years ago today, Croatian Marijan Matijević, once known as the strongest man in the world, was born.

Matijević was born on 10th of January 1878 in Duboki Dol (Gračac) in Lika, Croatia, and became the world's best Greco-Roman wrestler of his era, winning countless medals and titles.

Nicknamed the 'Lika Samson', Matijević had extraordinary strength and also won many awards for his incredible displays of power, in his mouth he could lift 430kgs, on his arms 600 kgs, and 1,130 kgs on his back.

He wrestled against many of the great wrestlers of his time and beat them all. Matijević was raised in the mountainous region of Lika and was exposed to heavy, physical work from a young age.

Matijević got into the sport

CFU Advantage

- **The CFU** offers a complete portfolio of quality, affordable life insurance plans to meet your financial needs.
- **The CFU** consistently demonstrates financial stability and responsibility through prudent and experienced management of assets.
- **Profits** are returned to members through dividends and through access to a full array of fraternal programs.
- **Rates** are affordable and compare favorably with commercial insurance companies.
- **The CFU** has no stockholders - It is owned and operated for the benefit of members and their families.
- **Members** receive courteous and efficient service and are never subjected to administrative loads or fees.

of wrestling whilst working in Berlin, where he would attend various competitions.

He first made his name when he accepted a challenge to take on a famous German wrestler of the time. Marijan needed seven minutes to shock the crowd as he beat his more known opponent, earning him 500 golden marks in the process. Marijan Matijević World's Strongest Man.

Matijević had an illustrious career travelling the globe, where apart from wrestling he would entertain people by displays of strength such as tearing up packs of cards, bending coins with his fingers, pulling out nails and earing pots.

He was awarded a number of medals and honours during his career, including an Ottoman Star in 1904 from Sultan Abdul Hamid II and a Golden Cross with the inscription 'The World's Strongest Man' from the New York Athletic Commission in 1927.

His immense strength made

many people curious and even after one show doctors in the United States took some x-rays and discovered that he had bone tissue which was double the size of a normal human.

There were many legendary stories about Matijević that locals would pass down, including stories about his enormous appetite. It was said he would eat regularly 5 kg of meat for lunch and he could even eat a whole lamb on the spit.

One of his famous quotes was: 'I am a Croat, born in rocky and proud Lika beneath the mighty Velebit mountain where oaks are sowed and heroes are sprouting.' Marijan Matijević World's Strongest Man.

He was a generous man who donated a lot of money to Red Cross, hospitals and for orphans and those injured in wars.

Matijević passed away in 1951 when he died of pneumonia at the age of 73 and was buried in Županja where he lived.

by **croatiaweek**

All CFU Members Must Be Made Aware of Privacy Act

The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, also known as the Privacy Act, was enacted by Congress on Nov. 13, 2000, with all states required to be in full compliance by July 1, 2001. State insurance regulatory authorities have been assigned responsibility for administration of the Act as it applies to insurance financial institutions, including the Croatian Fraternal Union of America. A significant feature of the Act is the inclusion of rules and requirements to protect an individual's non-public personal financial and medical information from distribution without the individual's consent.

Each financial institution must provide a privacy notice to all existing insureds. In compliance with this requirement, the CFU is sending this issue of the **Zajedničar** to all members which includes the following Privacy Act:

CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION

100 Delaney Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412) 843-0380

PRIVACY - PERSONAL FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Protecting the privacy of your personal financial and medical information has always been and will continue to be a matter of top priority for us. When used in this notice, the following terms have the meaning shown.

* **Public Information** means information that is lawfully available to the general public from: Federal, State or local government records; widely distributed media; or, disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by Federal, State or local law.

* **Non-Public Information** means personally identifiable financial and medical information. It also means any list, description or other grouping of individuals, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived from any personally identifiable information that is not publicly available.

* **Consumer Reporting Agency** means an entity which regularly provides reports (Consumer Reports) including information regarding an individual's: general reputation, character, personal characteristics or mode of living and financial status. The information may be obtained through interviews with the individual or third parties such as the individual's: business associates, family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or financial sources.

We obtain information about you from the following sources:
* information that you provide to us in an application or other form;
* information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.) or others; and
* information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

We do not disclose any personal, Non-Public, Information about you to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. We will not disclose personal medical information about you, except as permitted by law or as you may authorize.

We restrict access to your personal, insurance and medical information to those of our employees who need to know that information in order to provide insurance or service to you. We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal financial and medical information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to comply with Federal and State regulations regarding the safeguarding of Non-Public Information.

It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us at the address or telephone number shown above, to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.

Edward W. Pazo/National President

Lodge 530 Holds Annual Meeting

ST. THOMAS, ON - CFU Lodge 530 "Ogulin" will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2026 in St. Thomas at 9 Farmington Drive, St. N5R 5W8.

The meeting will start at 4 p.m. The Officers' Reports and a plan of activities for year 2026 will be reviewed and discussed. Then nominations and the election of lodge officers will be done. Following the meeting, dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

We invite all members of the lodge to attend the meeting and help us to continue our activities and member services.

Franjo Bertović/President

CFU Lodge 177 Plans Meetings

LOS ANGELES, CA - We will be holding our Annual/Quarterly meetings of Lodge 177 on Sunday, February 1st, at St. Anthony's Croatian Catholic Church, following 10:30 a.m. Mass, in the upstairs hall as usual.

Our auditing committee will give a report on income and expenditures for the year 2025, including total assets to date. Discussions will include planning events for this year.

Lunch will be served before the meeting.

We value your participation and looking forward to seeing you.

Dragica Grabovac
 Secretary/Treasurer

A REMINDER

From the Home Office

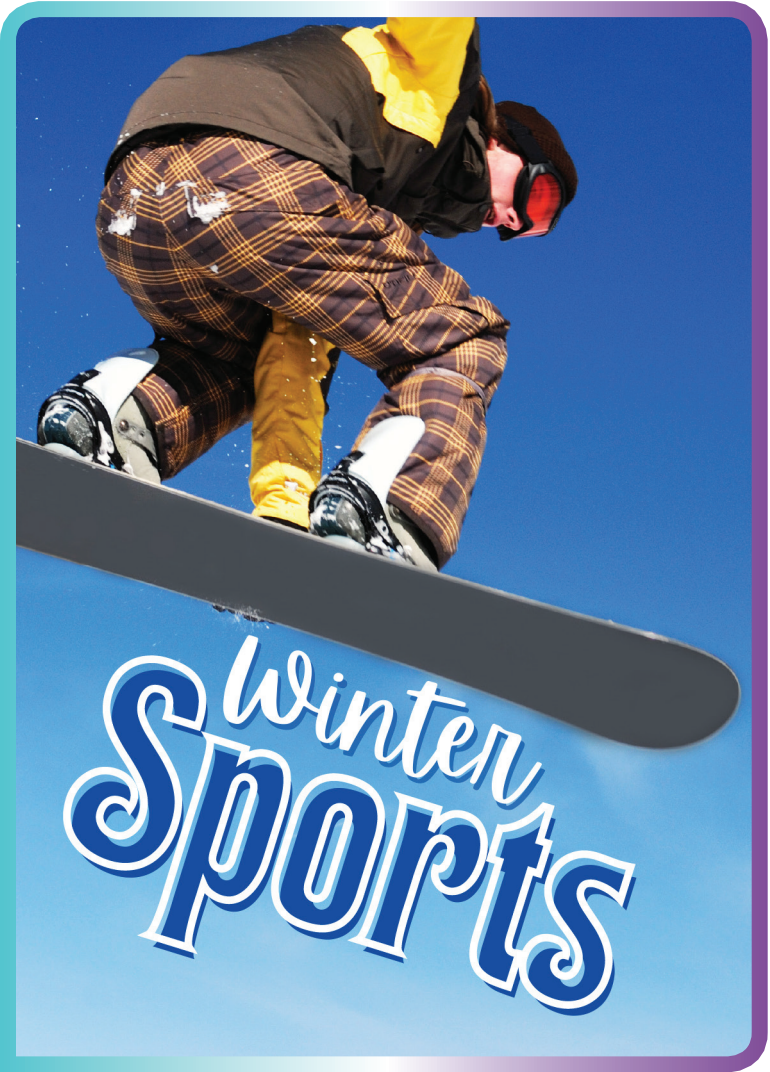
The Need For Keeping Beneficiaries Up To Date

Many of us have forgotten the last time we did anything with our beneficiary designation. Most of us probably designated a beneficiary when we applied for our original insurance. Many people never consider their beneficiary again, even though changes may have occurred in our life conditions. The goal of this article is to remind our policy-holders they may need to update that section of their insurance certificate.

It is important to know how to change the beneficiary designation. There are several points that should be addressed at the time you decide to update your designation and the Home Office staff will be more than willing to provide you with the necessary form required to change the beneficiary status. To obtain beneficiary information on a policy a request in writing is required due to the Privacy Act enacted by Congress on Nov. 13, 2000.

Please keep in mind the importance of reviewing all your insurance needs on a regular basis and if there is a need for additional insurance, the Home Office staff is always available to provide you with the necessary assistance.

Please call us at 412/843-0380.



CFU Junior Nest KIDS PAGE

The **Zajedničar** welcomes children and young adults to submit articles of interest and personal artwork for the CFU Kids Page which is published monthly in the first issue of each month. Original stories and artwork by CFU Nest Members may be submitted by *e-mail to:* editor@croatianfraternalunion.org or by *mail to:* Editor/Junior Page, Croatian Fraternal Union, 100 Delaney Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

WORD SEARCH

Winter Sports

G E L Y T S E E R F N E F O S G F N

P N H G N S O E N S N I A T N U O M

B H I E N G N I D D E L S T O O B O

E H O I N I V W C H A I R L I F T S

B L L T K E D E H J F L R E T H S S

O Y A L C S E R G I O L E R I H C O

B N R D I H S L A H T L D T D A H E

S A R T H H O N O O I E W T N T U E

L G A D N V N C E B B Y O E O T S Q

E G P K E U E W O T A W P U C R S U

I O A S R H O M O L T S O D T I I I

G B C B T A W C A D A I L N L C N P

H O E M S O P F S I D T M O S K G M

U T L E N S R H I S O R E M P E N E

L K S S L A L O D N O G A N D E P N

R N S T H E R M A L S R C E E S S T

C I O T A R E H T A E W C L G S S E

G R T D H Y S K A T I N G T D R N A

BOBSLEIGH	GONDOLA	SKIING
BOOTS	HAT TRICK	SLEDDING
CHAIRLIFT	HOT CHOCOLATE	SLOPES
CONDITIONS	MITTENS	SNOWBOARDING
CROSS COUNTRY	MOUNTAINS	SNOWMOBILE
DOWNHILL	PARKA	THERMALS
EQUIPMENT	POWDER	TOBOGGAN
FREESTYLE	RINK	TOSSLE CAP
GEAR	SCHUSSING	WEATHER
GLOVES	SKATING	WHITEOUT

WELCOME TO THE WORLD,

Mary Kate Miller Sauchelli Lodge 143 is proud to welcome its newest member, Mary Kate Miller Sauchelli, born on October 12, 2025. She arrived weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 18.5 inches.

Mary Kate is the beloved daughter of Alexa and Harry Sauchelli of West Orange, New Jersey.

Her maternal grandparents are Karin and Keith Turkovich, her maternal great-grandparents are Kenneth and Bernadette Turkovich, and she is the cherished great-niece of Kara Eckert, all of Lodge 141, East Pittsburgh, PA.

The family is enjoying every moment with Mary Kate and looks forward to seeing her dancing kolos soon!

Kara Turkovich-Eckert/Lodge 141



Conversational Expressions In Croatian

NOVA GODINA – NEW YEAR
 TAKOZVANO – SO-CALLED
 VRUĆE – HOT
 ČITAVO – ENTIRE
 NEKOLIKO – SEVERAL
 KAO – LIKE
 JEDNOSTAVNO – SIMPLE
 LJUTITI SE – TO BE ANGRY

BUNITI SE – TO REBEL
 SAKUPLJATI – TO COLLECT
 RAZGOVOR – CONVERSATION
 RECIMO – LET'S SAY
 IZVRŠITI – TO CARRY OUT
 U VEĆINI – IN THE MAJORITY
 OSVOJITI – TO CONQUER

JANUARY

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

(Junior Members Transferring into the Adult Lodge)

17

Chicago, IL

Francesca Persa

27

Versailles, PA

Gina Delaney Amatucci

32

Uniontown, PA

Scott E. Brundege Jr.

38

Rankin, PA

Owen Eastgate

62

Cleveland, OH

Trent A. Bertollette

111

Pittsburgh, PA

Mia Bugarija

134

Waukegan, IL

Addison O. Beck

143

E. Pittsburgh, PA

Richard A. Olenak III

167

Columbus, OH

Eleanor M. Yandrich

190

Farrell, PA

Brooke M. Smith

Shelby M. Smith

309

Youngstown, OH

Lengitu Hovanic

506

Pueblo, CO

Olivia Ann Kuntz

607

Los Angeles, CA

Daniella M. Gotal

651

Cleveland, OH

Kristian Jure Mazar

1015

Grand Rapids, MI

Nina Stiver

CANADA

274

Welland, ON

Hudson Cunjak Kipp

515

Toronto, ON

Angelina R. Smintich

The top 2026 New Year's Resolutions in Croatia

ZAGREB – New Year's resolutions in Croatia are largely job-related, with 66% of people seeing them as motivation to achieve long-term goals, while 34% dismiss them as meaningless, recruitment firm Alma Career Croatia said on Wednesday.

As in previous years, two-thirds of resolutions focus on careers, led by people aged 26–30 (60%) and those under 25 (52%). The share falls to 38% among those aged 31–40 and 33% among respondents over 41.

Finding a better job is the most common resolution, cited by 62% of respondents, followed by higher monthly income (40%), professional training and education (25%) and a better work-life balance (24%).

Only 28% said they had fully met last year's resolution, while 41% said they had not and 32% said they were still hoping to do so.

One in five said their plans failed due to poor planning or unforeseen obstacles, while others cited lack of support or simply forgetting their resolution.

The survey covered more than 400 respondents, 73% women and 27% men, with 86% in employment, mostly in privately owned companies.

by **croatiaweek**

Make Your IRA Contribution Today

Any time is a good time to invest, but investing earlier can maximize the compounding effect on your money. Consider making your 2026 IRA contribution as early as possible.

IRA CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

Tax Year	Under Age 50	Age 50 or Older
2025	\$7,000	\$8,000
2026	\$7,500	\$8,600

Note: You may not contribute more than your taxable compensation for the year.

Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras
National Secretary/Treasurer

IRA CONTRIBUTION COUPON

If you wish to make a deposit into an existing account with the Croatian Fraternal Union, simply complete this coupon and return it to our Home Office.

Name _____

Certificate No. _____

Deposit Amount _____

☐ Traditional IRA for Year 2026 _____

☐ Roth IRA for Year 2026 _____

Consular Days in Pittsburgh and Cleveland

WASHINGTON, DC - The Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Washington, DC will hold Consular Days in **Pittsburgh, PA** in 2026 at the premises of the Croatian Fraternal Union, 100 Delaney Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., **(by appointment only)** on the following dates: **January 15; February 5; March 12; April 9; May 14; and June 11.**

The Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Washington, DC will hold consular days in Eastlake, OH at the premises of the American-Croatian Lodge Cardinal Stepinac, 34900 Lakeshore Blvd, Eastlake, OH 44095 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., **(by appointment only)** on the following dates: **January 16; February 6; March 13; April 10; May 15; and June 12.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE:
Appointments can be scheduled via e-mail: crocons.washington@mvep.hr or by phone: +1 202-588-5899 ext. 2. Please include the type of a request and your contact details.

Mihovil Pazin
Embassy of Croatia
Washington, DC

ON AIR Croatian Radio Programs

♦ **MCKEESPORT, PA** – The Voice of the CFU sponsored by the United CFU Lodges of Western, PA, Saturday at 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on WEDO 810 AM and 93.3 FM. Bernice Yanzetich - Program Director/Announcer.

♦ **PITTSBURGH, PA** - Croatian Program, sponsored by the United CFU Lodges of Four Counties, heard every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on WEDO 810 AM and 93.3 FM.

Please like and follow our new Facebook page by searching CFU 4 County Lodges of Western PA on Facebook. Ivan Begg - Program Director/Announcer.

♦ **YOUNGSTOWN, OH** – Voice of the CFU Radio Program, sponsored by the Greater Mahoning and Shenango Valley CFU Lodges, every Sunday at 10 a.m. over WRQX 600 AM. Timothy Komara - Program Director/ Announcer.

♦ **FAIRBANKS, AK** - All Slavs Considered Radio Program is on KSUA 91.5 FM in Fairbanks, every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Kelsey Aho - Program Director/Announcer.

♦ **MILWAUKEE, WI** - American-Croatian Radio Club, broadcast and streamed on the internet every Saturday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Central Time on WJYI Joy 1340 AM. Program Announcers are Karlo Milling and Sanja Jankovic.

♦ **SEATTLE, WA** – Balkan Radio Program - every Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. PST on KBCS 91.3 FM and KBCS.FM. Hosts are Vincent and Dominic Jovanovich, Here is the link to the program - <https://www.kbcs.fm/programs/balkana/>

♦ **TORONTO, ON** – Radio Program Hrvatsko Srce, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on 530 AM. Vlado Miljan - Program Director/Announcer.

♦ **CALGARY, ALBERTA** – Croatian Program, CJSW-FM on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. with host Josip Skrtic.

If you know of any other Croatian radio programs, please let us know so they can be added to this list of programs. Send your information to editor@cfu.org.

Editors



Croatian Fraternal Union's Spirit of Christmas

SPARTA, NJ – Judy and Mike Lutz, in loving memory of John and Theresa Matotek	50.00
MADISON, IL – “Velebit” Lodge 222	200.00
DAVISON, MI – Joe Sucic Jr., in memory of Joe Sucic Sr., Mary Ann Sucic, Ann Sucic, Jean Sucic and Jim Sucic	100.00
OJAI, CA – Charlene Spretnak, in memory of Joseph, Donna and Nikki Spretnak	100.00
CANTON, IL – “Sacred Heart” Lodge 367	100.00
PITTSBURGH, PA – Bob and Carol Keber, in memory of Marko Brigich, a friendly Croatian gentleman	50.00
Towards the Brigich Family Scholarship Fund	
LITITZ, PA – Brinton Culp	25.00
MCMURRAY, PA – Joan and Robert Stein, in memory of Marko Brigich	100.00
Towards the Brigich Family Scholarship Fund	
PITTSBURGH, PA – Andrew Yergiyev	50.00
PITTSBURGH, PA – Stephen J. Zivic congratulates all scholarship recipients	50.00
ST. LOUIS, MO – “St. Louis” Lodge 50 donation from lodge officers and members	25.00
YOUNGSTOWN, OH – “St George” Lodge 66, in memory of deceased lodge officers and members	100.00
Towards the Renee L. Ples Scholarship Fund	
TOTAL THIS REPORT	\$950.00
TOTAL SPRIOT OF CHRISTMAS	\$11,580.00
TOTAL COLLECTED	\$40,821.79

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DONATION

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Yes! I want to CONTRIBUTE \$_____ to the CFU Scholarship Fund in order to aid CFU students seeking a higher education. Please include the following message or memorial with my contribution.

Name _____ Lodge _____

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Make all checks payable to CFU Scholarship Foundation and mail to:
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