

# Zajedničar

FRATERNALIST

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION OF AMERICA / ALL FOR ONE...ONE FOR ALL

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## 39th Annual CFU TamFEST Meets in Columbus

### Twenty-Four Adult Ensembles Scheduled to Participate

By Edward W. Pazo / National President



PITTSBURGH, PA – Hundreds of tamburitza performers and CFU members will make their way to central Ohio the first weekend in November for the 39th CFU Adult Tamburitza Festival taking place in downtown Columbus. As the capital city of Ohio and the fourteenth largest city in the United States, Columbus has much to offer for visitors and guests as this year's TamFEST venue. While many local attractions will be enjoyed by CFU travelers to this beautiful city, the primary focus will be on stage at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel where tamburitza music will be the main event.

TamFEST 2026 will showcase the incredible talents of the members of 24 adult tamburitza ensembles performing at this year's festival. Begun in 1987, the annual cultural event makes its second appearance in Columbus, having been hosted here once before in 2010. This year's event will bring together performers from the United States, Canada and Croatia to celebrate the music and choreography which represents the richness of our ancestral heritage. An action-packed weekend of tamburitza music

For full details, a complete TamFEST schedule of the two-day concert appearances and other TamFEST activities is included in this issue.

#### Friday, November 6:

The 2026 TamFEST festivities begin on Friday, November 6 at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. Group leaders of all participating tamburitza ensembles are asked to please

visit the CFU Registration Table near the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom on Friday evening to receive the packet containing the TamFEST ribbons for their group members.

For all participants and guests, the 2026 CFU TamFEST weekend will festively kick-off with a Welcome Dance in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom at the Renaissance Hotel on

**RUNNERS, WALKERS, CFU NATIONAL OFFICERS AND RACE VOLUNTEERS** gathered at the North Park Boat Club in Pittsburgh bright and early on Sunday, October 11th, for the CFU 5K Strides for Scholarships & Hope only to have their smiles dampened by the persistent heavy rainstorm that forced the cancellation of the inaugural event. Although the Pittsburgh venue was deluged by the remnants of Hurricane Isaias, virtual participants in Croatia and other locations throughout the country supported the charitable event.

Friday, November 6, starting at 9 p.m., featuring the music of the talented and energetic T.S. Zadnja Stanica of Steelton, PA. This popular band will entertain the crowd until 1 a.m., welcoming all to get the weekend off to a fabulous start.

#### Saturday, November 7:

The Official Opening of the 39th Annual CFU TamFEST will take place on Saturday, November 7.

The program will begin at 12 noon in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom. National anthems will be provided by the Penn-Sem- bles of Versailles, PA, followed by invocation offered by our longtime friend, Father William Hritsko, Chaplain, Columbus Catholic Cemeteries, Columbus, Ohio, who will serve as this year's Festival Celebrant.

As the program gets underway, greetings will be extended

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## There's Much To Do With 32

**CHICAGO, IL -** October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month! Please, schedule and get that mammogram whether you think you need it or not!

**Friday, Oct. 23:** Fish Frys are starting up again at the Joliet Croatian Cultural Club. Rated the "BEST" Fish Fry in the community and beyond! Dine-in or carry-out. Trust me, you won't be disappointed! These Fish Frys will continue on Fridays until further notice. Hip, hip, hooray!

**Saturday, Oct. 31:** Did you know Halloween began in Ireland? Halloween has its roots in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Traditionally, during Samhain, people would light bonfires, eat sweets, wear costumes and set places at the dinner table for spirits. Over

time, Halloween traditions have evolved and changed, and the holiday became increasingly commercialized. Happy Halloween!

**Tuesday, Nov. 3:** Election Day! Your vote is important and will be counted! Use that vote wisely. Do your homework. Beware of false or misleading statements and information.

**Sunday, Nov. 8:** Don't forget - we're back at the Linda Sokol Brookfield Library, 3541 Park Avenue in Brookfield for our Lodge 32's General Meeting. Library doors open at 11 a.m., with the meeting approximately 11:30 a.m. This facility is handicapped accessible with an elevator to take you down to the lower level. A continental breakfast of coffee and...will be

(Continued on page 3)

## 4-Counties United Lodges Celebrates Fraternalism



#### FOUR COUNTIES, PA -

On Sunday, October 25th, the United Lodges of Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland Counties will host a grand event to honor our 2026 Fraternalist of the Year and to recognize the members of our United Lodges who are celebrating 50 years of membership in our Society. Honoring our dedicated fraternalists and celebrating the commitment of our longtime members is a cherished tradition within our Society. We invite you to join us for this special occasion

as we come together to recognize these outstanding individuals, celebrate their accomplishments and honor their many years of dedication and service.

This celebration will begin at 2:00 p.m., in the upper hall of the "St. George" Lodge 354 Croatian Home located at 32 Grant Street in Cokeburg, PA and will consist of a brief program recognizing all honorees, a buffet lunch and live tamburitza music throughout the afternoon.

We are very proud to announce our 2026 Fraternalist

of the Year, Brother Daniel Turkall of Lodge 3, McKeesport. Daniel is well-known throughout the Croatian Fraternal Union, having attended and supported numerous CFU national and local events over the years. Daniel is the son the co-editor of the **Zajedničar** and Executive Assistant to our National President, Lorraine Turkall and husband Dan.

Daniel exemplifies the true spirit of a fraternalist through his outstanding commitment and contributions to our organization. His genuine concern for others, compassion, and unwavering dedication are evident in all that he does.

Daniel is a valued member of our CFU family and a wonderful example of what it means to be a true fraternalist. He is truly deserving of this distinguished honor and we are proud to recognize him as our 2026 Fraternalist of the Year.

In addition to our Fraternalist of the Year, the United Lodges will be recognizing its members who have achieved 50-year status in 2026. We are quite proud to announce that there are a total of 61 individuals belonging to our member Lodges who have reached the 50-year milestone this year.

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# Zajedničar

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...LORRAINE TURKALL

# No Generation Gap Here!

Witnessing the progression of involvement in our CFU Tamburitza Festivals reveals a phenomenal transition of hundreds of young CFU members, from childhood to adulthood, who are continuing their musical interests. Within our organization, we are proud to feature the musical aptitudes of many children, ranging in age from single digits to those in their early twenties, who perform each year at CFU Junior Tamburitza Festivals. Continuing their interests into adulthood, many of the children from earlier years are now participating in our CFU Adult Tamburitza Festivals, with the “adult crowd” ranging in age from their twenties to their nineties.

What a marvelous bridge of the generation gap as children, parents and grandparents of families share a love for our Croatian music, dance, and cultural heritage! Over the years, there have been many small family tamburitza orchestras whose members encouraged their children to follow in their footsteps and nurtured them to pick up a tambura and feel the magic. These

family orchestras featured quite a number of talented individuals. Beyond these tight-knit familial bonds, one could hardly imagine that hundreds of children would one day continue their musical interests to perform with families and friends in large ensembles and share this common ground of performing at annual festivals and a variety of other events.

Unlike many notable likes and dislikes, differences of

## Croatian Hall CFU Lodge 5 Fall Schedule

**JOHNSTOWN, PA –** Johnstown Croatian Hall CFU Lodge 5 will host the following fall events:

**Friday, October 23:** Kids Halloween Party, 6 p.m., Croatian Hall - 3rd Floor. Treats, snacks, and small games for kids under age 12. Pre-registration is required. Costumes are encouraged for spooky fun!

**Saturday October 24:** 5 p.m., Croatian Meal and entertainment. Meal includes: Čevapi, Pita bread, Pomme frites, Ajvar, Palačinke. \$15 per meal-limited meals available. Acoustic Music: “Ray, Roy & Mike” 7 p.m.-10 p.m.

Join Lodge 5 for fall events!  
**Carol Booth/Lodge 5**

opinion, and generational divides among age groups and family lineages, the continuity of an appreciation for our Croatian music and dance stands out as a proud common bond between parents and children, brothers and sisters, Baby Boomers, Millennials and Gen Z offspring. It leads one to wonder what the attraction is and how it is being sustained. Is it the attachment to one’s ancestry or simply an interest in the ethnic enrichment enjoyed by singing, dancing kolos and playing a musical instrument? Or is it the outright pleasure and camaraderie of being with others who share this unique interest and talent?

Whatever the appeal is, the outcome is well worth the effort as we are about to witness a beautiful representation of this generational musical celebration in action at the Annual CFU Adult Tamburitza Festival slated for November 6-8, at Columbus, Ohio. Participants will include young adults, their parents, aunts, and uncles, and even a number of their grandparents singing their hearts out, strumming tamburas and dancing as fast and accurately as their legs allow!

The CFU Adult TamFEST is now in its 39th year and will feature 24 tamburitza ensembles from three countries, celebrating the talents of participants from the United States, Canada and Croatia. Traveling many miles and toting tamburas as well as luggage, these amazing performers are prepared to bring a smile to your face, tears to your eyes and enough energy and rhythm to make you dance in your chair so be prepared to be properly, and most assuredly, entertained!

**ŽIVJELI NAŠI TAMBURAŠI!**



## RAIN, RAIN Go Away, Come Again Another Day!

By Edward W. Pazo/National President

The children’s nursery rhyme was on everyone’s mind on Sunday, October 11th, as over two hundred twenty avid runners (and walkers) were scheduled to participate in the first inaugural CFU Charity 5K Run at North Park located in Allegheny County, Southwestern Pennsylvania. Billed as the “**CFU 5K Strides for Scholarships & Hope**”, the race attracted widespread interest and generated plenty of enthusiasm. Throughout its history, the Croatian Fraternal Union has always served as a bridge between the Croatian diaspora and the homeland; with this initiative, we continue our humanitarian efforts to help those most in need.

During the immediately preceding days prior to the race, CFU planners were watching the projected path of **Hurricane Isaías** as it bore down on landfall near Destin, Florida, with cautious optimism that the race could go on as planned. The knowledge that those dedicated individuals who regularly participated in 5K runs did so without hesitation or fear of inclement weather buoyed our hopes for a successful first year charity event.



**CFU NATIONAL OFFICERS** thanked Race Organizers, Lodge 5 Members whose Lodge was recognized as the Title Sponsor of the event, and UPMC Representatives including Elizabeth Wild, president of UPMC Hillman Cancer Center in Pittsburgh, for all of their efforts to initiate the first CFU 5K Strides for Scholarships & Hope charitable event.

Brother Derek Hohn, CFU Director of Fraternal Programs, the originator of the proposed event, along with CFU staff member and avid runner, Lauren Ricci, spent countless hours in the planning process. Working with a professional race company, soliciting sponsors, and advertising the race to not only CFU members but the greater public as well were but a few of their tasks which they completed magnificently. Creating a special link on the CFU website to advertise and inform our membership and friends was a key ingredient to the successful attraction of 5K runners and one-mile walkers; as was the provision for “virtual participants” throughout the US and Canada as well as Croatia.

We must congratulate and thank our very good friend, Dr. Dragan Primorac, MD, Ph.D., Chairman of the Board of St. Catherine Specialty Hospital of Zagreb, Croatia, who was instrumental in working with UPMC representatives led by Elizabeth Wild, President of UPMC Hillman Cancer Center in Pittsburgh, PA, to ensure that the Cancer Center at the Zabok Hospital became a reality. The tremendous importance of the availability of the cutting-edge care that is now available to Croatian citizens at a Zagreb area hospital cannot be overstated or undervalued. This was the impetus of the decision to include the patients seeking care at the hospital as one of the planned beneficiaries of the money raised along with the Croatian Fraternal Union Scholarship Foundation, Inc. When Dr. Primorac was informed of the planned race, he immediately voiced his support and indicated his intention of participating.

## Sunday Morning Deluge

As luck would have it, the days leading up to the Sunday start were completely compatible with ideal 5K race weather. However, news reports cautioning that the Hurricane effects, after hitting land, would lead to inclement weather in Pittsburgh beginning very early on Sunday morning proved to be correct. Beginning just a short time after midnight, rain fell throughout the night and into the early morning hours. This led 5K Race manager Derek Hohn

(Continued  
on page 15)

## GOOD NEWS !

The Current Interest Rate on the CFU CHOICE TWO Annuity Program has been **EXTENDED THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026!**

The CHOICE TWO Program’s current interest rate of 4.5% has just been extended and is guaranteed for an initial Two-Year Term, with a 30-Day Window for Penalty-free Withdrawals beginning at the 2nd Anniversary of contract.

Minimum Deposit is \$3,000. Available as non-qualified Annuity; Traditional or Roth IRA.

Act now to secure the favorable rate on this excellent Savings Opportunity currently available through the Croatian Fraternal Union!

Call the CFU Home Office today at 412-843-0380 to lock in this great rate on a valuable CFU Annuity while it lasts





# Schedule

## TamFEST XXXIX, Nov. 6-8

### At the Renaissance Columbus Downtown, Columbus, OH



|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.     | Welcome Dance in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.<br>Music provided by T.S. Zadnja Stanica of Steelton, Pennsylvania.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 12:00 NOON                 | Opening of the 39th Annual CFU Adult Tamburitza Festival in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel.<br><b>NATIONAL ANTHEMS</b> —Penn-Sembles, of Versailles, Pennsylvania, under the direction of Jerry Grceвич<br><b>INVOCATION</b> — Fr. William Hritsko, Chaplain, Columbus Catholic Cemeteries, Columbus, Ohio<br><b>GREETINGS</b> – H.E. Pjer Šimunović, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in the United States<br><b>GREETINGS</b> — Franjo Bertović, Executive Vice President Croatian Fraternal Union of America<br><b>MASTER OF CEREMONIES</b> — Edward W. Pazo, National President Croatian Fraternal Union of America |
|                            | ■ <b>EACH GROUP WILL PERFORM FOR 12 MINUTES.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                            | 1. <b>PENN-SEMBLES</b> , Versailles, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                            | 2. <b>VESELI HRVATI</b> , Welland, Ontario, Canada                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                            | 3. <b>ŽIVA GRANA HRVATSKE</b> , Hamilton, Ontario, Canada                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                            | 4. <b>KRALJICA KATARINA</b> , East Lake, Ohio                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                            | 5. <b>VESELJACI</b> , Farrell, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                            | 6. <b>ANSAMBL SVETI NIKOLA</b> , Aliquippa, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                            | 7. <b>SACRED HEART TAMBURITZA ENSEMBLE</b> , McKeesport, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                            | 8. <b>HRVATSKO SRCE</b> , Hamilton, Ontario, Canada                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                            | 9. <b>LJELJO</b> , Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                            | 10. <b>ST. GEORGE ADULT TAMBURITZANS</b> , Cokeburg, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                            | 11. <b>TRI-STATE TAMBURAŠI</b> , New York, New Jersey, Connecticut                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                            | 12. <b>SEVDAH</b> , Conway, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                            | 13. <b>GRANIČARI</b> , Milwaukee, Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                            | 14. <b>TAMBURA CLUB ZAGREB</b> , Markuševac, Croatia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 5:00 P.M.                  | <b>Mass</b> will be held in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel.<br><b>Celebrated by Fr. William Hritsko</b> , Chaplain, Columbus Catholic Cemeteries, Columbus, Ohio and <b>Concelebrated by Fr. Paul Marich, O.P.</b> , Pastor, St. Patrick Parish, Columbus, Ohio.<br><b>Music</b> will be provided by the Directors of the participating Tamburitza Ensembles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.     | <b>The Saturday Night Social and Dance</b> in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel.<br><b>Music</b> will be provided by “Tambura Club Zagreb” of Markuševac, Croatia.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 12:00 NOON                 | Festival Program begins in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.<br><b>NATIONAL ANTHEMS</b> — St. Lawrence Adult Tamburitza, of Steelton, Pennsylvania under the direction of Vinnie Ban<br><b>INVOCATION</b> — Fr. William Hritsko, Chaplain, Columbus Catholic Cemeteries, Columbus, Ohio<br><b>GREETINGS</b> – Nikica Kopačević, Consul General, Republic of Croatia, New York<br><b>GREETINGS</b> —Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras, National Secretary/Treasurer Croatian Fraternal Union of America<br><b>MASTER OF CEREMONIES</b> — Edward W. Pazo, National President Croatian Fraternal Union of America             |
|                            | ■ <b>EACH GROUP WILL PERFORM FOR 12 MINUTES.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                            | 1. <b>ST. LAWRENCE ADULT TAMBURITZANS</b> , Steelton, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                            | 2. <b>SOUTH FLORIDA TAMBURITZA ORCHESTRA</b> , Deerfield Beach, Florida                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                            | 3. <b>HRVATSKI OBIČAJ</b> , Kansas City, Kansas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                            | 4. <b>FOLKLORNI ANSAMBL ZELENA POLJA</b> , Cleveland, Ohio                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                            | 5. <b>HOOSIER HRVATI</b> , Merrillville, Indiana                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                            | 6. <b>ŽUMBERČANI</b> , Cleveland, Ohio                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                            | 7. <b>SELO</b> , Columbus, Ohio                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                            | 8. <b>OD SRCA</b> , Youngstown, Ohio                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                            | 9. <b>JAVOR PITTSBURGH</b> , Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                            | 10. <b>DETROIT TAMBURITZA ORCHESTRA</b> , Detroit, Michigan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                            | 11. <b>TAMBURA CLUB ZAGREB</b> , Markuševac, Croatia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

# 39th Annual...

(Continued from page 1)

by H.E. Pjer Šimunović, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in the United States.

Also extending greetings on behalf of our Society will be CFU Executive Vice President Franjo Bertović

Serving as Master of Ceremonies for the 39th Annual TamFEST, it will be my great pleasure to introduce each of the fourteen CFU adult tamburitza ensembles and guest performers scheduled on the Saturday afternoon program.

Following the day's program, a Tamburitza Mass will be held in the same ballroom, beginning at 5:00 p.m., celebrated by Father William Hritsko and concelebrated by Father Paul Marich, O.P., Pastor, St. Patrick Parish, Columbus, Ohio.

Musical accompaniment for the Mass will be provided by the Directors of the participating tamburitza ensembles.

Festival participants and guests will then have a few hours for dining and relaxing before returning to the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom for the Saturday evening social that will begin at 9 p.m. Music will be provided by the outstanding Tambura Club Zagreb of Markuševac, Croatia, who will entertain throughout the evening until 1 a.m., when the social will conclude.

## Sunday, November 8:

On Sunday, November 8, the festival program will commence at 12 noon, with National Anthems presented by the St. Lawrence Adult Tamburitza of Steelton, PA, followed by invocation offered by Father William Hritsko.

We are honored to have with us Hon. Nikica Kopačević, Consul General, Republic of Croatia, in New York, who will join us to address the assembled audience for TamFEST 2026.

Extending greetings on behalf of our Society will be CFU National Secretary/Treasurer Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras.

Resuming my duties as Master of Ceremonies, I will be pleased to introduce the eleven ensembles scheduled to perform on the Sunday afternoon program.

As a reminder for the weekend festivities, all Concerts and Socials will be held in the Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. This year's TamFEST is among our largest adult festivals reminding us how important the perpetuation of our Croatian cultural heritage and tamburitza music is to all of us. We are gratified by the strong response to this year's event and gratefully acknowledge all who do their part to keep our musical culture alive on this continent.

With our CFU Adult Tamburitza Festival taking place just days prior to Veteran's Day, a day which honors all military veterans of the United States Armed Forces, we proudly salute and honor all Veterans and thank them for their valuable service to our country.

We are looking forward to greeting all of the performers, families and guests as they arrive at Columbus, Ohio for 2026 TamFEST and trust the warm Croatian hospitality will bring all together in harmony for a truly enjoyable weekend of music, friendship and fraternalism.

Dobro Nam Došli!

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\$5,000 Face Value - \$100 First Year - Ages 51-70

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- 4% 9 Year Surrender Charge
- 3.25% 5 Year Surrender Charge

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# 4-Counties United Lodges...

(Continued from page 1)

A warm invitation is extended to all of our CFU members and friends to join us on Sunday, October 25th, to celebrate our dedicated fraternalists.

We hope that you and your families can join us for what promises to be a memorable celebration.

**Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras**  
President/4-Counties  
United Lodges

## Daniel Turkall

Born into a family whose parents have held strong fraternal ties in two Croatian communities, Monessen, PA and McKeesport, PA, Daniel Turkall has enjoyed a cultural upbringing that has included many Croatian traditions, favorite family customs, and memorable events filled with tamburitza music. Being selected as the 2026 Fraternalist of the Year by the United CFU Four County Lodges is an amazing honor for Daniel as he takes great personal pride in being a part of an organization that celebrates his Croatian ancestry and identity.

From his first trip riding in a stroller around Kennywood Park on Croatian Day when he was just two months old, Daniel Turkall was destined to enjoy his Croatian heritage and his bond with the Croatian Fraternal Union. Since then, he has attended many CFU festivals, picnics, banquets, sports events and fraternal gatherings and has enjoyed every minute of it. As a member of CFU Lodge 3 of McKeesport and with a long family affiliation with CFU Lodge 194 of Monessen, Daniel has benefited from his interactions with many outstanding fraternal members and role models.

Residing in Mt. Lebanon, PA, Daniel is a graduate of Mt. Lebanon High School and has enjoyed taking part in numerous activities in the local community, including dance groups, art exhibits and other events.

Working at the CFU Home Office remains a source of pride and fulfillment for Daniel. He respects the opportunity to be a part of the office staff and also enjoys the social involvement of participating in CFU tamburitza

festivals, cultural and sporting events.

For many years, Daniel has enthusiastically volunteered his services at Four County picnics and banquets, always ready to assist with ticket sales, banquet preparations, and any variety of jobs that require attention. Need someone to lend a helping hand organizing and preparing for an event? Looking for a willing volunteer or a fun dance partner at a CFU festival? Dan's Your Man!

Above all, Daniel is an avid Pittsburgh sports fan, solid and true to his hometown teams... Steelers, Penguins and Pirates. He cheers the loudest, follows as many games as humanly possible, is ecstatic when his teams win, defends them when they lose, never counts them out, and remains proud of them no matter the outcome. Known to carry along the Terrible Towel on numerous vacations, Daniel even carried it with him to Croatia in 2018, sharing the powerful vibes of the Terrible Towel as the Croatian Soccer Team advanced in the World Cup games and played their way to the championship game. Daniel's Pittsburgh hometown enthusiasm plus his Croatian cultural pride is indeed a force to be reckoned with at any venue!

Never was it more evident than earlier this year when Daniel was presented with the honor of throwing out the first pitch at CFU's Croatian

Heritage Night at a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game. The moment was a singular thrill for Daniel and will remain a lifetime memory for him, forever appreciative and proud of the incredible opportunity.

With an infectious smile, deep-rooted enthusiasm and a warm heart, Daniel has endeared himself to many friends and acquaintances he has met along life's way. He

has been blessed with family members and great friends who have enriched his life in countless ways, as he continues to benefit from these remarkable relationships.

The CFU Four County Lodges' 2026 Fraternalist of the Year recognition is an accolade that reflects Daniel's determination to do his best and the commitment he shares with his CFU Fraternal Family.

## Notice to Lodge 602 and Narodni Dom Members

**VERONA, PA** - The members of the Narodni Dom CFU Lodge 602 are encouraged to attend a meeting on November 9, 2026, at 10 a.m., at the office of Dillon McCandless King Coulter & Graham, LLP, 600 Cranberry Woods Drive, Suite 175, Cranberry Township, PA 16066.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and approve the prospective sale of real property located at 312 Arch Street, Verona, PA 15147, Parcel IDs 0365-A-132 and 365-A-67.

Over the recent years the membership has dropped to a point where the lodge does not adequately sustain itself. Currently, it has been rented to the local Moose lodge.

If you plan to attend this meeting, please R.S.V.P. to Dan Uvodich at 724-316-8855 or by email danuvodich@gmail.com.

**Dan Uvodich/Lodge 602**

## SAVE THE DATE

**RANKIN, PA** - Saturday, November 14, Annual Concert of the Rankin Junior Tamburitizans, starting at 4 p.m., Turtle Creek Steam Academy, 126 Monroeville Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA.

Special Guest Slavjane Folk Ensemble. Reception to follow at Rankin Croatian Home featuring Trubaduri. More information to follow.

**Terra Nonack/President**



**Protect your family with insurance  
from the Croatian Fraternal Union**

**The Society That Cares! 412-843-0380**



## CFU History in Photos... Recognize Anyone?

**PITTSBURGH, PA** - CFU is an organization deeply rooted in heritage and tradition, with a proud 132-year history of preserving, celebrating, and perpetuating our beautiful Croatian culture. Our members have long cherished this heritage and take great pride in the history and enduring contributions of Croatian immigrants who traveled to the United States and Canada, beginning in the late 1800s.

We are incredibly fortunate that generations of our members and their families have entrusted CFU with their personal treasures and family heirlooms. Through their generosity, photographs, traditional folk costumes, flags, lodge ribbons, original sheet

music, recordings, books, and countless other historical artifacts have been preserved and are proudly maintained and displayed at our Home Office in Pittsburgh.

The remarkable collection housed at our Home Office is a testament to the richness and enduring legacy of the Croatian-American experience. Few, if any, fraternal, cultural, or religious organizations can rival the breadth and authenticity of the historical memorabilia preserved within our walls.

Visitors—including CFU members, Croatians from across the country, and the general public—are often captivated by the original artwork, extensive libraries, historic photographs, authentic

national folk costumes, and countless artifacts that chronicle our 132-year journey. Each piece tells a story, connecting us to the generations who came before us and helping ensure that our Croatian heritage and traditions continue to be treasured and passed on to future generations.

Over the last several years, we have made a concerted effort to review, organize, and catalog these treasured materials. As part of this ongoing initiative, we are working to digitize printed and recorded materials, while also refreshing and enhancing our museum displays with many of the items generously donated since the remodeling of our Home Office.

Our goal is to protect and preserve these irreplaceable pieces of our heritage for generations to come, while also making them accessible to our members, the Croatian community, and the general public. By preserving these treasures and sharing their beauty and stories, we can ensure that the history, traditions, and accomplishments of those who came before us continue to inspire and educate future generations.

With that said, during this lengthy process of reviewing, categorizing, and preserving these materials, we at the Home Office have often found

ourselves pausing to look through old photographs. We find ourselves wondering: Who is pictured? What tamburitza group is this? What event were they attending? And, when was the photograph taken?

It has been an enjoyable journey of discovery, but we would also like to learn more about these photographs and add that information to our archives—and **YOU may be able to help!**

In upcoming issues of the **Zajedničar**, we will be sharing a selection of these classic photographs with our members. We hope those who recognize the people, tamburitza groups, events, locations, or time periods pictured will share their knowledge with us so that we

can properly document these pieces of our history.

If you recognize something—or someone—in one of the photographs, please send any information you may have to **editor@cfu.org**. Please use “Old Pictures” or “**Stare Slike**” in the subject line.

We hope you enjoy taking a little trip down memory lane with us—to a time when life seemed a little simpler, junior tamburitza groups were large, costumes were lovingly handmade, and musical directors wore suits and ties!

Thank you for helping us preserve these memories, and most of all, enjoy the **journey back in time!**

**Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras**  
National Secretary/Treasurer



# ACAP Honors 12 Leaders at 2026 Awards Ceremony in Seattle

**SEATTLE, WA** - The Association of Croatian American Professionals (ACAP) honored 12 individuals across six award categories at its Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on October 3 in Seattle. Presented during ACAP’s 10th Annual Conference, the awards celebrated achievements in medicine, law, technology, business, mentorship, cultural promotion and community service.

The conference theme, “Croatian Excellence: Celebrating the Decade, Engineering the Century,” was reflected in the work of this year’s honorees, whose efforts strengthen their professions, connect communities and create opportunities for future generations.

### Rising Star Award

**Marela Klepo** is a learning and talent development leader who has helped advance ACAP’s mentorship and career development efforts through the Career Hub. Her work connects professionals with mentors, resources and programming that support purposeful career growth. She was recognized for creating opportunities for members to learn, build relationships and take greater ownership of their professional journeys.

**Vedran Brozović** chaired the 2026 ACAP Conference in Seattle, leading the team behind the organization’s milestone 10th annual gathering. Through his ACAP leadership and conference work, he has brought together professionals, volunteers and community partners. His award recognized his leadership, initiative and contribution to ACAP’s continued growth.

### Professional Excellence Award

**Dr. Jeana Havidich** is Chief of Pediatric Anesthesiology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. A physician and educator, she brings extensive experience in pediatric care, clinical leadership and medical education. She was recognized for her professional achievements

and her contributions to the Croatian American professional community, including ACAP’s Nashville activities.

**Dr. Marko Rojnica** is a pediatric surgeon at UI Health in Chicago, where he treats abdominal and chest conditions in children from birth through young adulthood. He completed his pediatric surgery fellowship at Seattle Children’s Hospital. His recognition reflects his commitment to patient care, medical education and the exchange of knowledge through ACAP’s medical programming and mentorship efforts.

### Member Achievement Award

**Andrea Kunza** has contributed to ACAP through service in the Pacific Northwest chapter and at the national level, including on its Board and Executive Committee. She also served on the 2026 Conference Organizing Committee. Her award recognized her sustained volunteer leadership and her work to strengthen ACAP’s organization, member engagement and community connections.

**Marko Pavela** is a Managing Assistant Attorney General for the State of Washington. He has combined public service with leadership in ACAP’s Pacific Northwest chapter, service to the national organization and participation in the Seattle Conference Organizing Committee. He was also recognized for spearheading ACAP’s Law and Legal Practice Committee, which creates opportunities for professional exchange and collaboration.

### Friend of Croatia Award

**Sara Dyson** is the founder of Expat in Croatia, a resource that helps foreigners and members of the Croatian diaspora navigate citizenship, residency, relocation and daily life in Croatia. Through her writing, education and advisory work, she makes complex processes more accessible. Her award recognized her dedication to helping people build lasting connections with Croatia.

**Dr. Wayne Larrabee** is a Seattle facial plastic and

reconstructive surgeon, educator and humanitarian, and the founder of the Larrabee Center. His longstanding connection with Croatia includes providing pro bono reconstructive surgery to people injured during the Croatian Homeland War. He was honored for his humanitarian service and enduring commitment to healing and medical collaboration.

### Honorary Award

**John Kraljic** is an attorney and longtime Croatian American advocate whose contributions span community organizations, historical scholarship and efforts supporting recognition of Croatia’s independence. His work has helped preserve Croatian American history and strengthen connections between the community and public institutions. The Honorary Award recognized his decades of service and advocacy.

**Nena Komarica** is an art historian and the first director of the Croatian National Tourist Board’s U.S. office. She played an important role in establishing Croatia’s tourism presence in the American market while introducing audiences to the country’s cultural heritage. Her award recognized her longstanding work promoting Croatia through tourism, cultural programs and community engagement.

### Innovation Award

**Tomislav Tipurić** is Chief Technology Officer and a partner at Nephos, with

expertise in cloud computing, artificial intelligence and digital transformation. A former Microsoft professional, he helps organizations adopt new technologies and develop the skills to use them effectively. He was recognized for his technology leadership and contributions to ACAP’s professional programming.

**Margaret Nekić** is President and CEO of Inspirien, where she leads innovation in insurance and risk management, including services for the healthcare sector. Her leadership emphasizes new business models, employee development and approaches to managing organizational risk. The Innovation Award recognized her entrepreneurial approach and commitment to

advancing her industry. Together, the 2026 recipients demonstrate the breadth of Croatian and Croatian American achievement and the impact of sharing expertise, serving others and building connections across borders.

### About ACAP

Founded in 2014, the Association of Croatian American Professionals connects professionals across industries in the United States, Croatia and around the world. Through its chapters, conferences, mentorship and educational initiatives, ACAP supports professional collaboration and strengthens ties between Croatia and its diaspora. For more information, visit [croampro.com](http://croampro.com).

Lara Fahey/ACAP

## 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.**

## Croatian American Sports HOF Induction Celebration October 24

**EASTLAKE, OH** — Tickets are officially on sale for one of the most anticipated nights on the Croatian American sports calendar, and organizers are urging fans to reserve their seats now before tables sell out. The Croatian American Sports Hall of Fame (CAS-HOF) will host its 3rd Induction Ceremony and Banquet on Saturday, October 24, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., at the American Croatian Lodge in Eastlake, Ohio, honoring eight legendary Croatian American athletes.

Tickets are available now at [croatianamericansports.com](http://croatianamericansports.com) with individual tickets at \$100 per person and table of eight is \$750. Also, one can send a check made out to the NFCACF and to: Ron Zivic, 90 East 238th St., Euclid OH 44123.

Every ticket includes a family-style dinner with three entrée choices and an open bar. Fans, former teammates, longtime supporters and members of the public are all warmly invited. Organizers note that tables have historically sold out ahead of the event, and encourage guests to reserve early. The event website also has details on program book advertising and sponsorship opportunities. Emmy Award-winning sports broadcaster Jerome Jurenovich will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

The NFCACF is proud to announce that Croatian American singer and songwriter, Tommi Mischell and Croatian guitarist, Zvone Antolos will perform at the Saturday induction ceremony banquet.

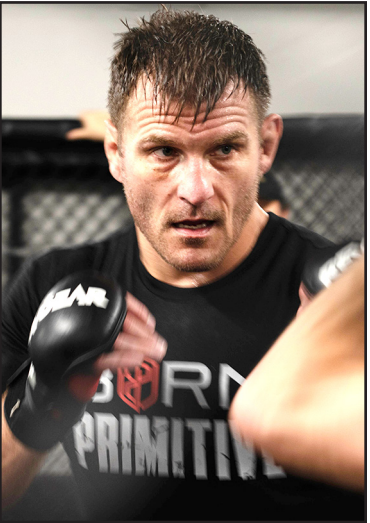
Headlining the 2026 induction class is **Stipe Miočić**, the greatest UFC Heavyweight World Champion in history and

son of Croatian immigrants, widely regarded as the greatest heavyweight in mixed martial arts history. He'll be joined by seven additional Croatian American legends:

- **Meri Abbado** - Bodybuilding (Two-Time Masters World Champion)
- **Fred Arbanas** - Football (Six-Time All-AFL Selection)
- **Gary Beban** - Football (1967 Heisman Trophy Winner)
- **Bobby Grich** - Baseball (Four Gold Glove Awards & Six-Time All-Star)
- **Jack Marin** - Basketball (Two-Time NBA All-Star, known as "Mr. Consistency")
- **Rob Ninkovich** - Football (Two-Time Super Bowl Champion, New England Patriots)
- **Johnny Pesky** - Baseball (Boston Red Sox icon as player, manager and announcer)

Out-of-town guests are encouraged to book early at the official host hotel, the Four Points by Sheraton Eastlake (35000 Curtis Blvd.), where a discounted rate of \$139 per night (Friday and Saturday) is available through September 23rd. Please send a note to Mark Plavetic to receive the link: [mplav96@gmail.com](mailto:mplav96@gmail.com).

“This 2026 induction class is among the most accomplished in our history,” said Steve Rukavina, CAS-HOF Chairman and President of the National Federation of Croatian Americans Cultural Foundation. “From world champions to Heisman Trophy winners and Hall of Famers, these Croatian American sports legends will be inducted that evening — a night that honors not only their extraordinary careers, but the heritage that shaped them. We



**STIPE MIOČIĆ**  
UFC Heavyweight World Champion



**TOMMI MISCHELL**  
Croatian American singer and songwriter

expect this to be our biggest banquet yet, and we encourage everyone to get their tickets soon.”

Don’t miss this unforgettable night celebrating Croatian American athletic excellence. Secure your seats or table today at [croatianamericansports.com](http://croatianamericansports.com). For questions, contact: Steve Rukavina, CAS-HOF Chairman [sjukavina@gmail.com](mailto:sjukavina@gmail.com) or [croatianamericansportshof@gmail.com](mailto:croatianamericansportshof@gmail.com).

Steve Rukavina/Lodge 760



# “The Croatians” Win 2026 Bocce Tournament

**STEELTON, PA** - St. Lawrence Lodge 13 of Steelton is proud to announce that “The Croatians” captured the championship at the 2026 Bocce Tournament hosted by the Hershey Italian Lodge!

The winning team, made up of Lodge 13 members, Frank Colak, Nick Fisic, Joe Ban, Vince Ban, Jure Gojmerac, and Nick Vranicar Sr., came out on top after competing against 72 teams in matches held from May through September.

Congratulations to “The Croatians” on this outstanding accomplishment! You proudly represented Lodge 13 and the entire Croatian community of Steelton. Way to go, and congratulations from everyone at the Lodge!

Tina Simpson/Lodge 13



# 39. godišnji TamFEST HBZ održava se u Columbusu

## Na festivalu sudjeluju 24 odrasla tamburaška ansambla

Piše: Edward W. Pazo/Nacionalni predsjednik

PITTSBURGH, PA – Stotine izvođača na tamburicama i članova HBZ-a u prvom će vikendu u studenom krenuti prema središnjem Ohiju na 39. Festival odraslih tamburaša, koji će se održati u središtu Columbusa. Kao glavni grad Ohija i četrnaesti najveći grad u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama, Columbus nudi mnogo posjetiteljima i gostima kao ovogodišnja lokacija TamFEST-a. Iako će mnoge lokalne atrakcije biti zanimljive putnicima HBZ u ovaj prekrasni grad, glavni fokus bit će na pozornici u Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotelu, gdje će tamburaška glazba biti glavni događaj.

TamFEST 2026 predstaviti će nevjerojatne talente članova 24 odrasla tamburaška ansambla koji nastupaju na ovogodišnjem festivalu. Počevši 1987., ova godišnja kulturna manifestacija po drugi puta se održava u Columbusu, nakon što je prvi put ovdje ugostila 2010. godine. Ovogodišnji događaj okupit će izvođače iz Sjedinjenih Američkih Država, Kanade i Hrvatske kako bi proslavili glazbu i koreografiju koja predstavlja bogatstvo naše predaje. Akcijski ispunjen vikend tamburaške glazbe čeka sudionike i gledatelje u središtu Columbusa.

Za sve detalje, u ovom izdanju Zajedničara je uključen potpuni raspored TamFEST-a s dvoipodnevnom nastupima i ostalim TamFEST aktivnostima.

### Petak, 6. studenog:

TamFEST 2026. počinje u petak, 6. studenog u Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotelu. Voditelje svih tamburaških ansambala koji sudjeluju molimo da posjete CFU registracijski stol u blizini Woody Hayes Grand Ballrooma u petak navečer kako bi primili paket s TamFEST trakama za članove svoje grupe. Za sve sudionike i goste, vikend 2026. TamFEST-a svečano će započeti plesom dobrodošlice u Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom-u u Renaissance Hotelu u petak, 6. studenog, s početkom u 9 sati navečer, uz glazbu talentiranog i energičnog sastava T.S. Zadnja Stanica iz Steeltona, PA. Ovaj popularni sastav zabavljat će publiku do 1 sat ujutro, pozivajući sve da vikend započne na sjajan način.

### Subota, 7. studenog:

Službeno otvaranje 39. godišnjeg TamFEST-a održat će se u subotu, 7. studenog. Program počinje u 12 sati u Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom-u. Nacionalne himne izvest će Penn-Sembles iz Versailles-a, PA, a zatim će molitvu izreći naš dugogodišnji prijatelj, vlč. William Hritsko, kapelan Columbus Catholic Cemeteries, Columbus, Ohio.

Kada program započinje, pozdravne riječi uputit će g. Pjer Šimunović, veleposlanik, Veleposlanstvo Republike Hrvatske

u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama.

Pozdrave u ime naše Zajednice također će uputiti izvršni potpredsjednik brat Franjo Bertović.

Kao voditelju programa za 39. godišnji TamFEST, bit će mi velika čast predstaviti svaki od četrnaest odraslih tamburaških ansambala i gostujućih izvođača planiranih za subotnji popodnevni program.

Nakon dnevnog programa, u istoj će se hali održati tamburaška misa, počevši u 5 sati popodne, koju će voditi vlč. William Hritsko, uz pomoć vlč. Paul Marich, O.P., župnik, Župa Svetog Patrika, Columbus, Ohio.

Glazbenu pratnju za misu osigurat će direktori sudjelujućih tamburaških ansambala.

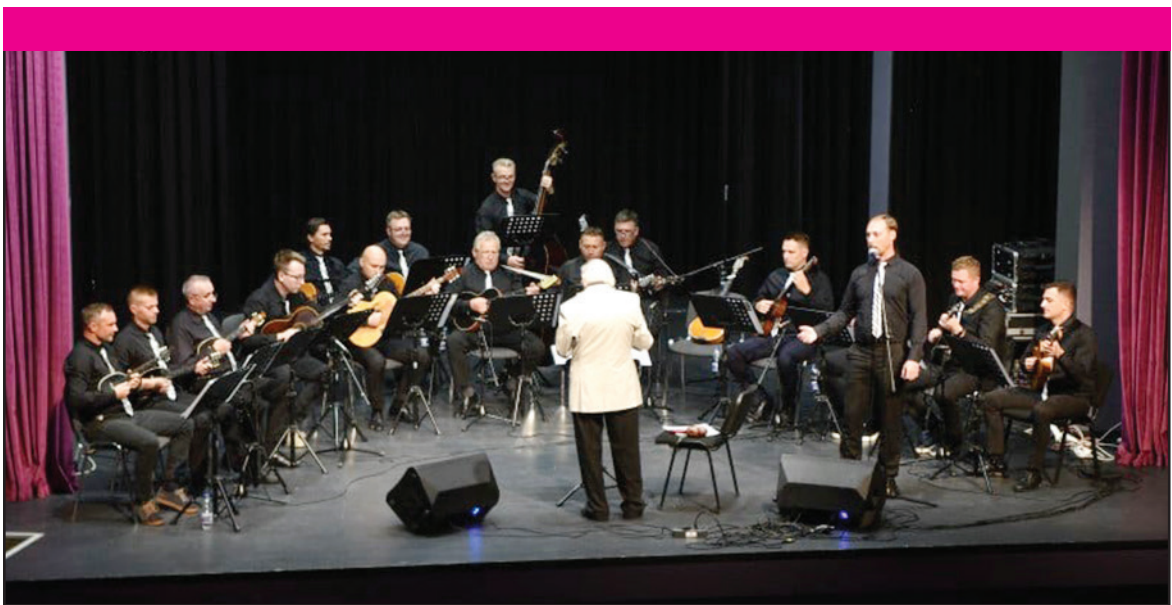
Sudionici festivala i gosti imat će zatim nekoliko sati za objedovanje i opuštanje prije povratka u Woody Hayes Grand Ballroom na subotnju večernju zabavu koja počinje u 9 sati navečer. Svirati će izvrsni Tamburaški klub Zagreb iz Markuševca, Hrvatska, koji će zabavljati tijekom večeri sve do 1 sat ujutro, kada će zabava završiti.

### Nedjelja, 8. studenog:

U nedjelju, 8. studenog, festivalski program započinje u 12 sati podne, s izvedbom državnih himni od strane St. Lawrence Adult Tamburitans iz Steeltona, PA, a zatim slijedi molitva koju će predvoditi vlč. William Hritsko.

Imamo čast ugostiti g. Nikicu Kopačevića, generalnog kon-

(Nastavak na 8. strani)



TAMBURAŠKI KLUB ZAGREB osnovan je 2013. godine od strane amaterskih tamburaša iz Markuševca, gdje se i danas nalazi sjedište grupe. Grupa je organizirala godišnje tamburaške festivale, održavala tamburaške radionice i pružala mjesto za druženja. Glavni fokus ipak je tamburaški orkestar koji se od tada proširio na 18 članova, uključujući i članove iz drugih dijelova Zagreba. Ove godine nastupa na TamFESTU HBZ u Columbusu, Ohio. Dobro nam došli!



## Godišnji prijem organizacije Odsjeka HBZ Četiri kotara

### FOUR COUNTIES, PA

- U nedjelju, 25. listopada, Ujedinjeni odsjeci HBZ u kotarima Fayette, Greene, Washington i Westmoreland održavaju godišnji prijem kako bi odali počast našem Fraternalisti godine 2026. i počastili članove naših Ujedinjenih odsjeka koji slave 50 godina članstva u našoj Zajednici.

Odavanje počasti našim predanim zajedničarima i dugogodišnjim članovima naših odsjeka je tradicija u našoj bratskoj organizaciji.

Pozivamo vas da nam se pridružite na ovoj posebnoj prigodi dok se okupljamo kako bismo počastili ove izvanredne pojedince, proslavili njihova postignuća i odali počast njihovim mnogim godinama predanosti i članovanja.

Ovo će slavlje početi u 2 sata poslije podne u gornjoj dvorani doma društva Sv. Juraj odsjek 354 HBZ u Cokeburgu, i sastojat će se od kratkog programa kojim će se odati priznanje svim svečarima, včerom po buffet stilu i tamburaškom glazbom tijekom popodneva.

Vrlo smo ponosni što možemo najaviti našeg **Fraternalistu godine brata Daniela Turkalla** iz odsjeka 3 u McKeesportu. Daniel je dobro poznat diljem Hrvatske bratske zajednice, budući da je tijekom godina sudjelovao u brojnim nacionalnim i lokalnim događanjima HBZ i pružao im podršku. On je sin suurednice Zajedničara i izvršne tajnice našeg Nacionalnog predsjednika, Lorraine Turkall, i supruga Dan.

Daniel je primjer pravog zajedničarstva kroz njegov izvanredan angažman i doprinos našoj organizaciji. Njegova iskrena briga za druge, suosjećanje i nepokolebljiva predanost očiti su u svemu što radi.

Daniel je cijenjeni član naše obitelji HBZ i divan primjer što znači biti pravi zajedničar. On zaslužuje ovu prestižnu čast i ponosni smo što ga možemo počastiti kao našeg Fraternalistu 2026. godine.

Uz našeg Fraternalistu godine, naši Ujedinjeni odsjeci će također odati priznanje svojim članovima koji će 2026. godine obilježiti 50 godina članstva. S ponosom najavljujemo da ukupno 61 osoba iz naših odsjeka ove godine doseže 50-godišnji jubilej.

Srdačno pozivamo sve naše članove HBZ-a i prijatelje da nam se pridruže u nedjelju, 25. listopada, kako bismo proslavili

naše odane bratske članove.

Bit će poslužena ukusna večera na švedskom stolu po pristupačnoj cijeni od samo 10 dolara po osobi, dok su svi svečari i djeca oslobođeni plaćanja. Molimo da 50-godišnji članovi i gosti ljubazno potvrde svoj dolazak kontaktiranjem Darje Maroš u HBZ na broj 412-843-0380 ili dmaros@cfu.org, od ponedjeljka do četvrtka od 9 ujutro do 5 sati poslije podne, kako bismo mogli planirati sjedenje i obroke.

Nadamo se da ćete se vi i vaše obitelji pridružiti ovom događaju koji obećava biti nezaboravan. Za dodatne informacije, pratite naše službeno glasilo Zajedničar.

### Daniel Turkall

Rođen u obitelji čiji su roditelji imali čvrste bratske veze u dvjema hrvatskim zajednicama, Monessenu, PA i McKeesportu, PA, Daniel Turkall uživao je u kulturnom odgoju koji je uključivao mnoge hrvatske tradicije, omiljene obiteljske običaje i nezaboravne događaje ispunjene tamburaškom glazbom. Biti izabran za Fraternalistu godine 2026. od strane Ujedinjenih odsjeka HBZ Četiri kotara ogromna je čast za Daniela, jer je izuzetno ponosan što je dio organizacije koja slavi njegovo hrvatsko podrijetlo i identitet.

Od svog prvog izleta vozeći se u dječjoj kolici po Kennywood Parku na Hrvatskom danu kada je imao samo dva mjeseca, Daniel Turkall je bio predodređen da uživa u svom hrvatskom naslijeđu i svojoj vezi s Hrvatskom bratskom zajednicom. Od tada je prisustvovao mnogim

(Nastavak na 10. strani)

# Zajedničar

FRATERNALIST

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ALL FOR ONE – ONE FOR ALL SVI ZA JEDNOG – JEDAN ZA SVE

Official Organ Of The Croatian Fraternal Union of America

Službeno Glasilo Hrvatske Bratske Zajednice u Americi

Izlazi svaki drugi tjedan u mjesecu

Izdaje ga:

HRVATSKA BRATSKA ZAJEDNICA

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Dopisi se ne vraćaju, a šalju se na adresu:

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GLAVNI URED  
Hrvatske Bratske Zajednice  
u Americi  
Organizirane 1894. godine

RIJEČ UREDNIŠTVA...LORRAINE TURKALL

## Ovdje nema generacijske razlike!

Svjedočiti napretku uključenosti u naše tamburaške festivale HBZ otkriva fenomenalnu tranziciju stotine mladih članova HBZ-a, od djetinjstva do odrasle dobi, koji nastavljaju svoju glazbenu strast. Unutar naše organizacije ponosno ističemo glazbene sposobnosti mnoge djece, u dobi od nekoliko godina pa sve do ranih dvadesetih, koja svake godine nastupaju na Omladinskim tamburaškim festivalima. Nastavljajući svoje interese u odrasloj dobi, mnogi od djece iz ranijih godina sada sudjeluju na Odraslim tamburaškim festivalima, gdje "odrasla publika" ima dob od dvadesetih do devedesetih godina.

Kakav divan most preko generacijskog jaza kad djeca, roditelji, bake i djedovi dijele ljubav prema našoj hrvatskoj glazbi, plesu i kulturnoj baštini! Tijekom godina bilo je mnogo malih obiteljskih tamburaških orkestara čiji su članovi poticali svoju djecu da krenu njihovim putem i njegovali ih da uzmu tamburu u ruke i osjete čaroliju. Ti obiteljski orkestri imali su priličan broj talentiranih pojedinaca. Iznad tih usko povezanih obiteljskih veza, teško se može zamisliti da će stotine djece jednoga dana nastaviti svoje glazbene interese, svirati s obiteljima i prijateljima u velikim ansamblima i dijeliti ovu zajedničku strast za nastupanje na godišnjim

festivalima i raznim drugim događanjima.

Za razliku od mnogih poznatih simpatija i antipatija, razlika u mišljenjima i generacijskih razlika među dobnim skupinama i obiteljskim lozama, kontinuitet u uživanju u našoj hrvatskoj glazbi i plesu ističe se kao ponosna zajednička veza između roditelja i djece, braće i sestara, Baby Boomera, Milenijalaca i Generacije Z. To navodi na razmišljanje o tome što je to što privlači ljude i kako se održava. Je li to povezanost s vlastitim podrijetlom ili jednostavno zanimanje za etničko bogatstvo koje dolazi s pjevanjem, plesom kola i sviranjem glazbenih instrumenata? Ili je to jednostavno užitak i zajedništvo s drugima koji dijele ovaj jedinstveni interes i talent?

Bez obzira na to što je privlačno, ishod svakako vrijedi truda jer ćemo uskoro svjedočiti prekrasnoj prezentaciji ovog glazbenog generacijskog slavlja u akciji na godišnjem festivalu tamburaša za odrasle, koji je planiran od 6. do 8. studenog u Columbusu, Ohio. Sudionici će uključivati mlade odrasle, njihove roditelje, tetke i ujne, pa čak i mnoge njihove bake i djedove, koji će pjevati iz sveg srca, svirati tambure i plesati što brže i preciznije što im njihova noga dopušta!

Odrasli TamFEST sada je u svojoj 39. godini i ugostit će 24 tamburaška ansambla

iz tri zemlje, slaveći talente sudionika iz Sjedinjenih Američkih Država, Kanade i Hrvatske. Putujući mnogo milja i noseći tambure uz prtljagu, ovi nevjerojatni izvođači spremni su vam izmamiti osmijeh na lice, suze u oči i dovoljno energije i ritma da plešete u svojoj stolici, pa se pripremite za pravu i zasigurno vrhunsku zabavu! **Živili naši tamburaši!**

## 39. godišnji TamFEST...

(Nastavak sa 7. strane)

zula Republike Hrvatske u New Yorku, koji će se obratila okupljenoj publici na TamFEST-u 2026.

Pozdrav u ime naše Zajednice uputit će nacionalna tajnica/ blagajnica Bernadette M. Luke-tich-Sikaras.

Nastavljajući svoje dužnosti voditelja programa, bit će mi drago predstaviti jedanaest ansambala koji su planirani za nastup u nedjeljnom poslijepodnevnom programu.

Kao podsjetnik za vikend fešte, svi koncerti i druženja održavat će se u Velikoj dvorani Woody Hayes hotela Renaissance Columbus Downtown. Ove godine TamFEST je jedan od naših najvećih festivala za odrasle, podsjećajući nas koliko je svima nama važno očuvanje naše hrvatske kulturne baštine i tamburaške glazbe. Zadovoljni smo snažnim odazivom na ovogodišnji događaj i zahvaljujemo svima koji svojim doprinosom održavaju živom našu glazbenu kulturu na ovom kontinentu.

S našim Odraslim Tamburaškim festivalom koji se održava samo nekoliko dana prije Dana veterana, dana koji odaje počast svim vojnim veteranima Oružanih snaga Sjedinjenih Država, ponosno pozdravljamo i odajemo počast svim veteranima te im zahvaljujemo na njihovoj vrijednoj službi našoj zemlji.

Veselimo se što ćemo dočekati sve izvođače, obitelji i goste kad stignu u Columbus, Ohio za TamFEST 2026. i vjerujemo da će topla hrvatska gostoljubivost sve povezati u zajedništvu za jedan zaista zabavan vikend glazbe, prijateljstva i bratstva.

**Dobro nam došli!**

KIŠO, KIŠO, ODI!  
Vrati se neki drugi dan!



Piše: Edward W. Pazo/Nacionalni predsjednik

Dok su djeca o ovim stihovima razmišljala u dječjem vrtiću u nedjelju 11. listopada, više od dvjesto dvadeset zaljubljenika u trčanje (i hodanje) pripremalo se za sudjelovanje na prvom inauguracijskom Dobrotvornom 5K trčanju HBZ u North Parku u okrugu Allegheny, jugozapadna Pennsylvania. Najavljeno kao "CFU 5K Koraci za stipendije i nadu", natjecanje je privuklo široki interes i izazvalo veliko oduševljenje. Kroz svoju povijest, Hrvatska bratska zajednica uvijek je služila kao most između hrvatske dijaspor i domovine; ovom inicijativom nastavljamo naše humanitarne napore kako bismo pomogli onima kojima je pomoć najpotrebnija.

Tijekom dana neposredno prije ove utrke pratili smo predviđenu oluju, uragana Isaias dok se približavao obali kod Destina na Floridi, s opreznim optimizmom da bi se utrka ostvarila prema planu. Znajući da oni posvećeni pojedinci koji redovito sudjeluju u 5k utrkama to rade bez oklijevanja ili straha od lošeg vremena, podiglo je naša očekivanja za uspješan prvi humanitarni događaj.



PRVE 5K UTRKE podržali su i prijatelji Branka i Mihovil Pažin, konzularni službenici iz Veleposlanstva Republike Hrvatske u Wašingtonu.

Brat Derek Hohn, direktor bratskih programa HBZ-a i začetnik predloženog događaja, zajedno s članicom osoblja u glavnom uredu i strastvenom trkačicom, Lauren Ricci, proveli su bezbroj sati u procesu planiranja. Rad s profesionalnom tvrtkom za utrke, traženje sponzora te oglašavanje utrke ne samo članovima HBZ-a nego i široj javnosti, bili su samo neki od njihovih zadataka koje su izvršili izvrsno. Kreiranje posebne veze na HBZ web stranici za oglašavanje i informiranje naših članova i prijatelja bio je ključni faktor u uspješnom privlačenju trkača 5k i hodačeli na udaljenosti od jedne milje. Kao i osiguranje za „virtualne sudionike“ diljem SAD-a i Kanade, kao i Hrvatske. Moramo čestitati i zahvaliti našem vrlo dobrom prijatelju, dr. Draganu Primorcu, dr. med., Ph.D., predsjedniku Upravnog odbora Specijalne bolnice Sv. Katarina u Zagrebu, Hrvatska, koji je imao ključnu ulogu u suradnji s predstavnicima UPMC-a na čelu s Elizabeth Wild, predsjednicom UPMC Hillman Cancer Centra, kako bi Centar za rak u Zaboku postao stvarnost. Ogromna važnost dostupnosti vrhunske njege koja je sada dostupna hrvatskim građanima u bolnici u Zagrebu ne može se dovoljno naglasiti niti podcijeniti. To je bio poticaj za odluku da se pacijenti koji traže skrb u bolnici uključe kao jedan od planiranih korisnika prikupljenih sredstava zajedno s Školarinskom zakladom HBZ, Inc. Kada je dr. Primorac obaviješten o planiranoj utrci, odmah je izrazio svoju potporu i naznačio svoju namjeru da sudjeluje.

### Nedjeljni jutarnji potop

Kako se sreća posložila, dani koji su prethodili nedjeljnom startu bili su potpuno kompatibilni s idealnim vremenskim uvjetima za 5 km utрку. Međutim, izvještaji u vijestima upozoravali su da će učinci uragana nakon udara na kopno dovesti do lošeg vremena u Pittsburghu, počevši vrlo rano u nedjeljno jutro, što se pokazalo točnim. Počevši vrlo kratko nakon ponoći, kiša je padala tijekom noći i u ranim jutarnjim satima. To je natjeralo upravitelja 5k utrke, Dereka Hohna, da se konzultira s organizacijom koja upravlja utrkom o vjerojatnosti održavanja utrke. Svjestan

(Nastavak na 10. strani)

## Obavijest studentima odsjeka 530

ST. THOMAS, ON - Tiskanice zahtjeva za Školarinsku pomoć odsjeka 530 «Ogulín» su pripremljene za studente-članove.

Svaki student, član našeg odsjeka od dvije godine na više, i u dobrom stanju, stječe pravo na pomoć.

Obrazac zahtjeva zatražite i pošaljite na 5 Cider Mill Lane, St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 0C1 ili na e-adresi darinkacindric@gmail.com .

Zahtjevi se moraju zaprimiti najkasnije do 19. studeni 2026. godine.

Darinka Cindrić/tajnica

# Chautauqua i širenje tamburaške glazbe u Sjevernoj Americi

**HAMILTON, ON** - Zamislite život u seoskim dijelovima Sjeverne Amerike prije stotinu godina. Nije bilo televizije ni interneta, a radio je još bio u prvim počecima. A onda je jednog vrućeg ljetnog dana stigla skupina muškaraca i prionula poslu podizanja golemog šatora u mjestu, izazvavši silno uzbuđenje i iščekivanje među djecom. Nekoliko dana kasnije stigli su glazbenici, pjevači, glumci i predavači, te u kostimima prodefilirali glavnom ulicom, najavljujući početak manifestacije Chautauqua. Uslijedili su dani ispunjeni neprekidnim nastupima pred mnoštvom okupljenim pod šatorom. Za tisuće Amerikanaca i Kanađana upravo je to bila čarolija Chautauque.

Od 1904. do sredine 1930-ih Chautauqua je bio jedan od najpopularnijih putujućih kulturnih festivala u Sjevernoj Americi. Obećavajući da će vam donijeti „svijet na vrata“, Chautauquine turnejske tvrtke posjećivale su poljoprivredne zajednice i male gradove s programima koji su spojili obrazovanje i zabavu. Među izvođačima koji su oduševili publiku bili su talentirani tamburaški ansambli sa sjedištem u SAD-u, upoznavajući mnoge Sjevernoamerikance s bogatim zvucima tradicionalnog hrvatskog žičanog instrumenta.

Tijekom ljetnih mjeseci, Chautauqua nastupi održavali su se pod velikim platnenim šatorima podignutim u lokalnim zajednicama. Nakon žetve, nastupi su se preselili u zatvorene prostore kao društvenim dvoranama i svim dostupnim objektima koji su mogli primiti veliki broj ljudi. Godine 1917. oko 2000 američkih gradova bilo je domaćin Chautauqua festivala, a tijekom njegovog vrhunca između 1916. i 1920. prisustvovalo im je dva-deset milijuna Amerikanaca.

Za pripadnike publike ti su nastupi predstavljali mnogo više od poslijepodnevnih ili večernjih zabave – bila je to rijetka prilika za upoznavanje različitih kultura i umjetničkih tradicija bez potrebe za putovanjem u inozemstvo.

Među prvim hrvatskim tamburaškim sastavima koji su nastupali u sklopu programa Chautauqua bio je nekadašnji Tamburaški orkestar „Zvonimir“, osnovan 1906. godine u Steeltonu u Pennsylvaniji. Do trenutka kada je ansambl 1913. godine nastupio na svojoj prvoj manifestaciji Chautauqua, već je bio preimenovan u „Hrvatski tamburaški orkestar“ te je izvodio hrvatske i američke pjesme, balkanske melodije i odabrane dijelove iz opera.

Od sredine srpnja do sredine kolovoza 1913. godine orkestar je nastupao u 30 gradova u saveznom državama Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma i Missouri. Sljedeće godine, od kraja lipnja do početka rujna, ansambl je nastupao u 69 gradova u Iowi, Minnesoti, Wisconsinu, Južnoj Dakoti, Nebraski, Kansasu, Illinoisu, Michiganu i Ohiju. Izazovi i poteškoće s kojima se suočavao Hrvatski tamburaški orkestar – uključujući naporna putovanja i gust raspored nastupa tijekom pet sezona Chautauqua između 1913. i 1918. godine – opisani su u knjizi Rudolfa Crnkovića iz 1933. godine pod naslovom *Sa*

*“Zvonimirom” po Americi. Zapišci 5 godišnjeg tamburaškog putovanja.*

Nekoliko godina nakon rata, rasformirani ansambl odlazio je na turneje pod vodstvom ravnatelja Janka Gajskog (Johna Gayskog). Nakon Chautauqua turneje po Australiji i Novom Zelandu 1924. godine, orkestar je putovao Kanadom u sklopu programa Chautauqua. Godine 1925. ovaj je ansambl nastupao u manjim mjestima u Ontariju, upoznavajući publiku sa živahnim melodijama tamburice.

Još jedan omiljeni sastav u sklopu programa Chautauqua bio je tamburaški zbor Charles Eliasa („Elias Tamburitza Serenaders“) iz Wisconsina. Skupina je počela nastupati na tim događanjima 1923. godine. Predvodio ju je Dragutin Ilijaš, poznatiji kao Charles Elias stariji, a obiteljski su ansambl činili i njegov brat Bartol te djeca Martha, Anna i Charles mlađi. Kada članovi obitelji nisu mogli putovati, skupini su se pridruživali vrsni glazbenici Nikola Krznarić i Ivan Miškulin.

Od kraja rujna do kraja studenoga 1930. godine sastav Serenaders nastupao je u 48 manjih mjesta diljem Britanske Kolumbije, Alberte i Saskatchewan. Sljedeće godine, tijekom turneje po Ontariju, orkestar je od sredine siječnja do kraja veljače održao nastupe u 36 manjih mjesta. Nakon završetka turneje u jesen 1930., Charles Elias stariji napisao je niz članaka za winnipeški list *Hrvatski glas*, u kojima je opisao izazove devotjednog putovanja kroz izolirana seoska područja zapadne Kanade u kasnijim mjesecima godine na cestama koje su bile tek nešto više od blatnjavih putejljaka.

Odjeveni u živopisne hrvatske narodne nošnje, članovi sastava Serenaders izvodili su tradicionalne skladbe na simfonijskim tamburama. Repertoar je obuhvaćao dijelove opereta, stare hrvatske narodne pjesme i kola, stare američke i kanadske melodije, polke, valcere, popularne pjesme, odabrane arije te koračnice. Novine su njihove nastupe opisivale kao „autentične“, „osebujne“ i „egzotične“, odražavajući pritom fascinaciju javnosti glazbom i tradicijama iz dalekih krajeva.

I Elias i njegov sin Charles razvili su snažnu povezanost s HBZ-om. Charles Elias stariji skladao je 1930. godine „Koračnica Hrvatske bratske zajednice.“ Nakon očeve smrti 1937. godine, Charles mlađi preuzeo je vođenje sastava i nastupao na godišnjoj manifestaciji „Hrvatski dani“ u Pittsburghu, uključujući i proslavu 60. obljetnice HBZ-a 1954. godine. Charles mlađi također je 1969. godine bio gostujući dirigent na godišnjem Omladinskom tamburaškom festivalu koje organizira HBZ u suradnji s odbornicima i članovima Omladinske kulturne federacije.

Na svom vrhuncu, pokret Chautauqua pomogao je u prevladavanju izolacije s kojom su se suočavali mnogi stanovnici malih gradova i seoskih zajednica u Sjevernoj Americi. Njegovi su programi publici pružali uvid u druge kulture putem glazbe, predavanja, kazališnih izvedbi i

pripovijedanja. Tijekom gotovo tri desetljeća, hrvatski tamburaši imali su važnu ulogu u toj misiji. Njihovi su nastupi oduševljavali publiku diljem SAD-a i Kanade te dopirali do tisuća zajednica širom Sjeverne Amerike.

Iako je pokret Chautauqua počeo zamirati tijekom ranih i srednjih 1930-ih godina, usporedo sa širenjem radija, filma i drugih oblika zabave, njegova ostavština i dalje živi. Stanovnicima seoskih krajeva i malih gradova taj je pokret predstavljao fascinantno poglavlje mjesne povijesti – razdoblje u kojem su hrvatski glazbenici iz Sjedinjenih Država, putujući i nastupajući, pomagali povezati stanovnike malih mjesta i seoskih područja Amerike i Kanade sa širim svjetskim kulturama, i to kroz niz nezaboravnih nastupa.

Stan Granic/Odsjek 954

## Odsjek 515 HBZ organizira godišnji ručak za stipendije

**TORONTO, ON** – U nedjelju, 22. studenog društvo Bernard M. Luketich odsjek 515 HBZ organizira svoj godišnji ručak za stipendije u spomen na Magdalenu Mary Smintich.

Ovgodišnje okupljanje održat će se u prostorijama Kraljevske kanadske legije, ogranak 31 – Mount Dennis, na adresi 1050 Weston Road u Torontu.

Ovaj poseban događaj posvećen je uspomeni na našu pokojnu sestru Magdalenu Mary Smintich, koja je još kao studentica i djevojka pokazivala veliku ljubav i predanost očuvanju hrvatske povijesti, kulture i tradicije. Svake se godine u njezino ime dodjeljuju stipendije zaslužnim pojedincima koji nastavljaju svoje obrazovanje na višim i visokim učilištima te aktivno doprinose hrvatskoj zajednici.

S osobitim zadovoljstvom najavljujemo da će naš gost i govornik biti brat Franjo Bertović, izvršni potpredsjednik Hrvatske bratske zajednice koji će nam se obratiti u ime Nacionalne uprave HBZ-a. Glazbeni program pobrinut će se Živa Grana Hrvatske iz Hamiltona.

Pozivamo vas da nam se pridružite u ugodnom druženju ispunjenom prijateljstvom, glazbom i zajedništvom, zajedno s obitelji i prijateljima, dok čuvamo uspomenu na Magdalenu i podupiremo buduće naraštaje naše hrvatske zajednice.

**Informacije o događaju:**

Datum: Nedjelja, 22. studenog; Mjesto: Kraljevska kanadska legija, ogranak 31 – Mount Dennis, 1050 Weston Road, Toronto; Otvaranje vrata: 12:30 sati; Početak programa: 13 sati. Cijena ulaznica: Odrasli – \$60 - Studenti – \$25 - Djeca mlađa od 12 godina – besplatno. Za ulaznice i rezervacije obratite se: Antunu Belanu telefon 416-503-0840 ili 647-282-1263; E-pošta: antunbelan@gmail.com.

Veselimo se vašem dolasku na ovo posebno okupljanje na kojem ćemo zajedno slaviti hrvatsku baštinu, odati počast uspomeni na Magdalenu i ulagati u budućnost naše zajednice.

Svi nam dobro došli!

Antun Belan/predsjednik

# PROGRAMI HBZ-A

## POD POVEĆALOM

## PRILIKE ZA PLANIRANJE VAŠE FINANCIJSKE BUDUĆNOST

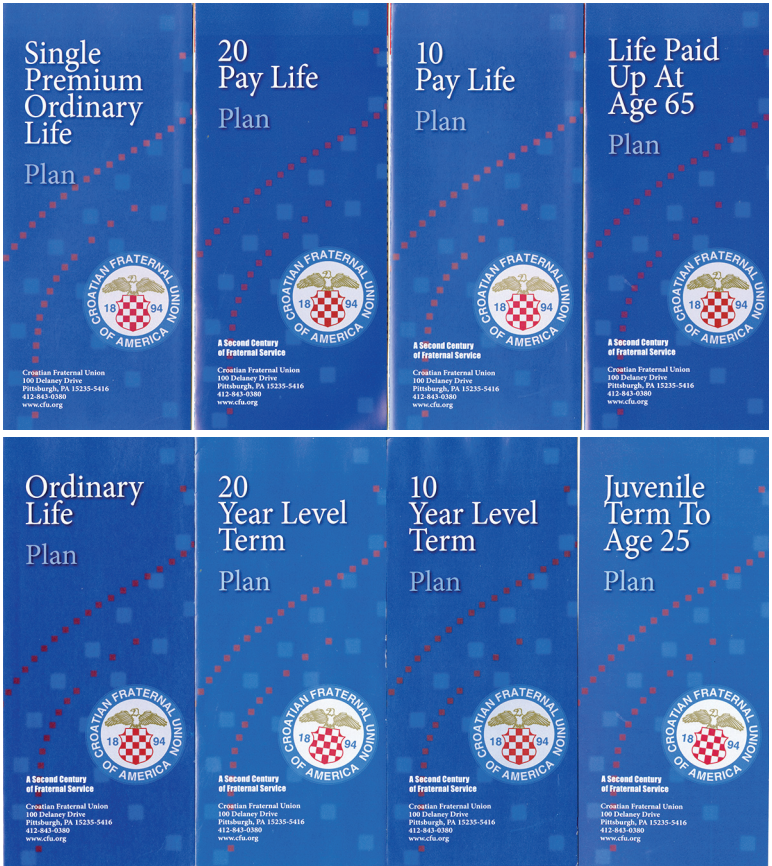
Osigurajte svoju financijsku budućnost kupnjom životnog osiguranja ili otvaranjem anuitetskog/IRA računa kod HBZ-a.

**Životno osiguranje pruža financijsku zaštitu od životnih neizvjesnosti.** U slučaju neželjenog događaja osiguranik ima zajamčenu pogodnost. S osiguranjem možete pomoći svojim najmilijima da podmiri svoje životne troškove, ostvare svoje životne ciljeve i u vašoj odsutnosti. Osiguranje daje financijsku sigurnost, pomoć je u otplati dugova, pomaže u podmirivanju životnih troškova i medicinske zaštite.

Zamislite što bi se dogodilo vašoj obitelji da prihodi koje ostvarujete odjednom nestanu! Sa životnim osiguranjem, možete osigurati vašim voljenima sredstva koja su im potrebna za pomoć.

**HBZ nudi izbor programa životnog osiguranja u stalnom i u osiguranju na određeno vrijeme da bi zadovoljio vaše potrebe.**

Razmotrite kupnju jednog od ovih planova životnog osiguranja:



**Iskoristite velikodušnu kamatnu stopu i štednju već danas, kroz anuitetski program „Izbor dva“ ili „Otvoren pristup“.**

HBZ ima bezbrojne povlastice samo za svoje članove. Programi su usmjereni na pomoć članovima, uključujući sljedeće: Školarinske stipendije, različite sportske aktivnosti, kulturne priredbe i festivale te besplatno novinsko izdanje dvotjednog **Zajedničara**.

Potičite svoje obiteljske članove i prijatelje da postanu članovi HBZ-a i zaštite svoju budućnost. Kao član uključujete se u kvalitetne programe, dobivate pristup mnogim koristima koje su namijenjene samo članovima, te podupirete postojanost hrvatske najuglednije i najutjecajnije organizacije Hrvata izvan Republike Hrvatske.

Za cijene i ostale informacije molimo vas da nazovete naš Glavni ured na tel. 412-843-0380 ili posjetite naše internetske stranice na [www.cfu.org](http://www.cfu.org).

## POVIJEST HBZ-A U FOTOGRAFIJAMA... Prepoznajete li nekoga?

**PITTSBURGH, PA** - HBZ je organizacija duboko ukorijenjena u naslijeđu i tradiciji, s ponosnom 132-godišnjom poviješću čuvanja, proslavljanja i očuvanja naše predivne hrvatske kulture. Naši članovi odavno cijene ovo naslijeđe i vrlo su ponosni na povijest i trajne doprinose hrvatskih imigranata koji su putovali u Sjedinjene Države i Kanadu, počevši krajem 1800-ih.

Nevjerojatno smo sretni da su generacije naših članova i njihovih obitelji povjeravale HBZ-u svoje osobne dragocjenosti i obiteljske relikvije. Zahvaljujući njihovoj velikodušnosti, fotografije, tradicionalne narodne nošnje, zastave, vrpce odsjeka, originalne note, snimke, knjige i bezbroj drugih povijesnih artefakata sačuvani su i s ponosom održavani te izloženi u našem Glavnom uredu u Pittsburghu.

Izvanredna zbirka smještena u našem Glavnom uredu svjedočanstvo je bogatstva i trajne ostavštine hrvatsko-američkog iskustva. Malo koja, ako uopće neka, bratske, kulturne ili vjerske organizacije mogu se mjeriti s opsegom i autentičnošću povijesnih memorabilija sačuvanih unutar naših zidova. Posjetitelji - uključujući članove HBZ-a, Hrvate iz cijele zemlje i širu javnost - često su oduševljeni originalnim umjetničkim djelima, opsežnim knjižnicama, povijesnim fotografijama, autentičnim narodnim nošnjama i bezbrojnim artefaktima koji kronički prate naše 132 godine. Svaki predmet priča priču, povezujući nas s generacijama koje su nas prethodile i pomažući osigurati da se naše hrvatsko naslijeđe i tradicije i dalje cijene i prenose budućim generacijama.

(Nastavak

na 10. strani)



## DEATHS REPORTED

FROM SEPTEMBER 29 TO OCTOBER 12, 2026

|     |                              |                   |
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| 13  | Louise M. Kostelac .....     | Steelton, PA      |
| 85  | Betty J. Moehrle .....       | Rochester, PA     |
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| 141 | Edward J. Godula .....       | E. Pittsburgh, PA |
| 141 | Christine T. Hartmann .....  | E. Pittsburgh, PA |
| 146 | Frederick F. Blozen .....    | Versailles, PA    |
| 248 | Mark A. Pazo, Sr. ....       | Clairton, PA      |
| 351 | Carol Carolin .....          | Detroit, MI       |
| 354 | Joseph M. Goblesky .....     | Cokeburg, PA      |
| 354 | William J. Harvey .....      | Cokeburg, PA      |
| 354 | Mary F. Kubiak .....         | Cokeburg, PA      |
| 367 | Antoinette B. Driscoll ..... | Canton, IL        |
| 644 | Jose Marsic .....            | Hamilton, ON      |
| 789 | Josip Knezevic .....         | New York, NY      |
| 789 | Matthew M. Mestrovic .....   | New York, NY      |

## POVIJEST HBZ-A...*(Nastavak sa 9. strane)*

veliki napor da pregledamo, organiziramo i katalogiziramo ove dragocene materijale. Kao dio ove stalne inicijative, radimo na digitalizaciji tiskanih i snimljenih materijala, dok također osvježavamo i poboljšavamo naše muzejske izložbe s mnogim predmetima koji su velikodušno donirani od renoviranja našeg Glavnog ureda.

Naš cilj je zaštititi i sačuvati ove nezamjenjive dijelove naše baštine za buduće generacije, istovremeno ih čineći dostupnima našim članovima, hrvatskoj zajednici i široj javnosti. Čuvanjem ovih dragocjenosti i dijeljenjem njihove ljepote i priča, možemo osigurati da povijest, tradicije i postignuća onih koji su bili prije nas nastave nadahnjivati i educirati buduće generacije.

S tim rečeno, tijekom ovog dugog procesa pregledavanja, kategoriziranja i čuvanja ovih materijala, mi u uredu često smo se zaustavljali kako bismo pregledali stare fotografije. Pitali smo se: Tko je na slici? Koji je ovo tamburaški sastav? Kojem su događaju prisustvovali? I kada je fotografija snimljena?

Bilo je to ugodno putovanje otkrivanja, ali također želimo saznati više o ovim fotografijama i dodati te informacije u naše arhive - i možda nam vi u tome možete pomoći!

U nadolazećim izdanjima Zajedničara dijelit ćemo odabir ovih klasičnih fotografija s našim članovima. Nadamo se da će oni koji prepoznaju osobe, tamburaške sastave, događaje, lokacije ili vremenska razdoblja prikazana na fotografijama podijeliti svoje znanje s nama kako bismo ih mogli pravilno dokumentirati i time sačuvati dio naše povijesti.

Ako prepoznajete nešto - ili nekoga - na jednoj od fotografija, molimo pošaljite sve informacije koje imate na [editor@cfu.org](mailto:editor@cfu.org). Molimo koristite „Old Pictures“ ili „Stare slike“ u naslovu e-maila.

Nadamo se da ćete uživati u malom putovanju kroz sjećanja s nama - u vrijeme kada je život izgledao malo jednostavnije, kad su juniorske tamburaške grupe bile velike, kostimi pomno ručno izrađeni, a glazbeni dirigenti nosili odijela i kravate!

Hvala vam što nam pomažete očuvati ove uspomene, a najviše od svega, uživajte u povratku kroz vrijeme!

**Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras**  
Nacionalna tajnica/blagajnica

## Konzularni dani u Pittsburghu i Clevelandu

**WASHINGTON** – Velepo-slanstvo Republike Hrvatske iz Washingtona održat će konzularne dane u Pittsburgh-u u prostorijama Hrvatske bratske zajednice, na adresi 100 Delaney Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, u vremenu od 10 sati ujutro do 4 sata poslije podne (**uz prethodni dogovor termina**) na sljedeće datume: **12. studenog i 3. prosinca 2026. godine.**

Konzularni dani u Eastlake-u održat će se u prostorijama hrvatskog doma "Kardinal Alojzije Stepinac" na adresi 34900 Lakeshore Blvd, Eastlake, OH 44095, u vremenu od 9 sati ujutro do 4 sata poslije podne (**uz prethodni dogovor termina**) na sljedeće datume: **13. studenog i 4. prosinca 2026. godine.**

### VAŽNA OBAVIJEST:

Potrebno je unaprijed zakazati termin i to putem adrese elektroničke pošte: [crocons.washington@mvep.hr](mailto:crocons.washington@mvep.hr) ili nazvati na +1-202-588-5899, kućni 2.

Uz zahtjev za sastanak, potrebno je navesti vrstu usluge koja se zahtjeva i kontakt podatke (ime i prezime, broj telefona). Veleposlanstvo Republike Hrvatske u Washingtonu određuje vrijeme termina po redu zaprimanja zahtjeva i prema dostupnosti istih.

Mihovil Pažin/VRH

## Godišnji prijem organizacije...

*(Nastavak sa 7. strane)*

festivalima, piknicima, banketima, sportskim događanjima i bratskim okupljanjima te je uživao u svakoj minuti. Kao član odsjeka 3 iz McKeesporta i s dugom obiteljskom povezanošću s odsjekom 194 HBZ iz Monessena, Daniel je imao koristi od svojih susreta s mnogim izvanrednim bratskim članovima i uzorima.

Daniel, koji živi u Mt. Lebanonu u Pennsylvaniji, diplomirao je na Mt. Lebanon srednjoj školi i uživao je sudjelovati u brojnim aktivnostima u lokalnoj zajednici, uključujući plesne grupe, izložbe umjetnina i druge događaje. Rad u glavnom uredu HBZ ostaje izvor ponosa i zadovoljstva za Daniela. Cijeni priliku biti dio uredskog osoblja, a također uživa u društvenom angažmanu sudjelujući na tamburaškim festivalima HBZ, kulturnim i sportskim događanjima.

Već dugi niz godina Daniel s entuzijazmom volontira na piknicima i banketima organizacije Četiri kotara, uvijek spreman pomoći oko prodaje ulaznica, pripreme za banket i raznih poslova koji zahtijevaju pažnju. Trebate li nekoga da pruži ruku pomoći u organizaciji i pripremama za neki događaj? Tražite li voljnog volontera ili zabavnog plesnog partnera na festivalu? Dan je vaš čovjek!

Prije svega, Daniel je strastveni navijač sportskih timova iz Pittsburgha, vjeran i odan svojim domaćim timovima...Steelerima, Penguinima i Piratesima. Navija najglasnije, prati što je više utakmica moguće, presretan je kada njegovi timovi pobjede, brani ih kada izgube, nikada ih ne otpisuje i ponosan je na njih bez obzira na ishod. Poznat po tome da na brojna putovanja nosi Terrible Towel, Daniel ga je čak ponio sa sobom u Hrvatsku 2018. godine, dijeleći snažne vibracije Terrible Towela dok je hrvatska nogometna reprezentacija napredovala na Svjetskom prvenstvu i igrala do finala. Danielska ljubav prema domaćem timu iz Pittsburgha, uz njegovu hrvatsku kulturnu ponos, doista je snaga s kojom treba računati na bilo kojem mjestu!

Nikada nije bilo očitije nego početkom ove godine kada je Daniel dobio čast da iznese prvi zamah na Noći hrvatske baštine HBZ-a na baseball utakmici Pittsburgh Piratesa. Taj trenutak bio je jedinstveno uzbuđenje za Daniela i ostat će mu trajno sjećanje, zauvijek zahvalan i ponosan na nevjerojatnu priliku.

S vedrim osmijehom, duboko ukorijenjenim entuzijazmom i toplim srcem, Danielu su se mnogi prijatelji i poznanici privukli kroz život. Blagoslovljen je članovima obitelji i sjajnim prijateljima koji su obogatili njegov život na bezbroj načina, dok i dalje uživa u ovim izvanrednim odnosima.

Nagrada 'Fraternalist godine 2026.' koju dodjeljuju Odsjeci Četiri kotara odraz je Danielove odlučnosti da daje najbolje od sebe i predanosti koju dijeli sa svojom velikom obitelji Hrvatske bratske zajednice.

**Bernadette M. Luketich-Sikaras**  
Predsjednica org. 4 kotara

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

da su velika područja planirane staze bila poplavljena, utrka u Pittsburghu otkazana je iz obilja opreza za sigurnost trkača. Iako je ova odluka bila teška za donijeti, bilo je jasno da je kiša ozbiljno utjecala na mogućnost sigurnog održavanja planirane utrke.

U međuvremenu, kontaktirali smo dr. Primorca u prethodno dogovoreno vrijeme u 8:50, deset minuta prije planiranog početka, i saznali da je okupio između dvadeset i trideset trkača koji će s njim virtualno sudjelovati gotovo u isto vrijeme kada je planiran početak u Pittsburghu. Vrijeme u Zagrebu bilo je prekrasno, toplo i sunčano s plavim nebom i nekoliko oblaka. Raj na zemlji za neke, i ovaj dan nije bio izuzetak. Obavijestili smo dr. Primorca da on i njegova ekipa trkača, zajedno s onima koji su planirali sudjelovati virtualno širom SAD-a i Kanade, moraju nositi zastavu naše udruge kako bi osigurali uspješan završetak humanitarne utrke „CFU 5K Strides for Scholarships & Hope“.

Dr. Primorac je svoje mišljenje o projektu izrazio na sljedeći način: „Ovo je prekrasan projekt koji na najbolji mogući način povezuje hrvatsku dijasporu i domovinu oko iznimno plemenitog cilja: pomoći pacijentima oboljelima od raka, a istovremeno podržati mlade liječnike i znanstvenike dok stječu nova znanja, vještine i iskustvo u području moderne onkologije. Posebno me veseli što ova inicijativa povezuje čovječanstvo s obrazovanjem i znanošću, jer ulaganje u nove generacije stručnjaka predstavlja jedno od najvažnijih ulaganja u budućnost medicine. Borba protiv raka ne poznaje nacionalne niti geografske granice.“ "Potrebna su jedinstvo, međunarodna suradnja, najnovija znanstvena dostignuća i, iznad svega, duboka predanost ljudima. Danas Zagreb i Pittsburgh pokazuju koliko možemo postići kad nas spaja zajednički cilj — spašavanje i unapređenje ljudskih života.”



**TROFEJ ZA NAJVEĆI BROJ SUDIONIKA** preko 30 na 5k utrka u ime ansambla Presveto Srce u McKeesportu, PA primio je njegov predsjednik Ivan Begg.

U ime svojih kolega s Izvršnom odborom HBZ-a, sestre Bernadette Luketich-Sikaras i brata Franje Bertovića, izražavamo iskrenu zahvalnost svim trkačima koji su se prijavili za humanitarnu utrku i napominjemo da je naš Direktor za bratske programe bio u kontaktu sa svakim od njih u vezi njihove automatski osigurane prijave za planiranu utrku iduće godine. Zahvaljujemo Dereku, Lauren i svim članovima HBZ osoblja koji su nudili svoju pomoć tijekom cijelog procesa, a posebno na dan utrke u Pittsburghu. Posebna zahvalnost upućena je svim pojedincima i organizacijama koji su sudjelovali kao imenovani sponzori utrke, uključujući društvo sv. Rok odsjek 5 iz Johnstowna u Pennsylvaniji, koji je velikodušno osigurao 5.000 dolara kao Titularni sponzor humanitarnog događaja. Bili bismo nemarni kad bismo također ne spomenuli prisutnost naših prijatelja Branke i Mihovila Pažin, konzularnih službenika Veleposlanstva Republike Hrvatske, koji su putovali u Pittsburgh kako bi sudjelovali u ovom humanitarnom pothvatu naše Zajednice.

Drago nam je što ponovno možemo istaknuti svrhu utrke koja je bila prikupljanje sredstava za pomoć hrvatskim građanima koji traže liječenje u UPMC Cancer Center Klinici u Zaboku blizu Zagreba, kao i za podršku CFU mladima koji žele obrazovanje na visokim učilištima. Ovaj poseban događaj, koji je predodređen da postane jedna od redovitih CFU aktivnosti za naše članove, jasna je potvrda humanitarnog duha naših članova. Hvala svima koji su na bilo koji način podržali CFU 5k humanitarnu utrku. Hvala, sestre i braćo!



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

# Grad Karlovac

13. srpnja 1579. osnovan je grad Karlovac. Ime je dobio po osnivaču, austrijskom nadvojvodi Karlu Habsburškom.

U ravnici na utoku Korane u Kupu, podno stare gradine Dubovac, godine 1579. osnovan je grad Karlovac čiji je točan datum nastanka poznat jer je relativno mlado naselje.

Karlovac je osnovan kao tvrđava poradi zaštite od turskih osvajanja, ime je dobio po osnivaču, austrijskom nadvojvodi Karlu Habsburškom, a samom gradnjom je upravljao tada glasoviti graditelj Martin Gambon.

Karlovac je građen po zamisli idealnog renesansnog grada u obliku šesterokrake zvijezde sa središnjim trgom i ulicama koje se sijeku pod pravim kutom. Od osnivanja Karlovac je bio pod vojnom upravom, a 1693. dobiva ograničenu samoupravu dok slobodnim kraljevskim gradom postaje 1776. proglasom carice Marije Terezije.

Tijekom 18. i 19. stoljeća, ponajviše zahvaljujući procvatu trgovine i lađarstva Kupom, Karlovac je postao najvažniji i najbogatiji trgovački grad između Jadranskog mora i Podunavlja o čemu svjedoči i podatak kako su početkom 19. stoljeća upravo Karlovčani plaćali najveći porez od svih hrvatskih gradova.

Iako je izdržao svih sedam turskih opsada, Karlovac je tijekom stoljeća bio pustošen bolestima i požarima, a najviše poplavama koje su mu redovito nanosile najveću štetu i polako mijenjale originalni izgled. Na samom početku 20. stoljeća Karlovac je prema broju stanovnika i gospodarskom potencijalu bio treći grad u Hrvatskoj.

Razdoblje od 1941. do 1945. bilo je jedno od najtežih u povijesti grada. Nakon rata, zbog velikog priliva ruralnog stanovništva stvoreno je novo lice grada koji se iz obrtničkog pretvorio u industrijski, ali i grad živih društvenih, političkih i kulturnih događanja.

Početkom Domovinskog rata Karlovac je bio okupirani grad jer se u njemu i blizjoj okolici nalazilo 19 vojnih objekata JNA. Pravilnom i mudrom organizacijom otpora, sve vojarne u gradu i blizjoj okolici su osvojene, a vojska iseljena iz grada. Najteže su trenutke grad i njegovi stanovnici proživljavali od sredine listopada 1991. do siječnja 1992., kada su svakodnevno bili izloženi granatiranju.

U tom razdoblju poginulo je 255 ljudi, dok je više od tisuću ranjeno. Žestokih napada bilo je i u svibnju 1992., srpnju i rujnu 1993., te svibnju i kolovožu 1995. godine, a grad i okolica definitivno su oslobođeni 7. kolovoza 1995. godine.

Karlovac je rodno mjesto mnogih hrvatskih povijesnih i poznatih osoba među kojima su plemić i pjesnik Fran Krsto Frankopan, slikar Vjekoslav Karas i slikarica Slava Raškaj, braća Seljan, biskup Maksimilijan Vrhovac, najpoznatiji zagrebački gradonačelnik Večeslav Holjevac, operna pjevačica Ivanka Boljkovac, voditeljica Danijela Trbović, pjevač Davor Gobac i mnogi drugi.

Wikipedija



## Ovaj grad otkrio je recept za zadržavanje stanovnika

Dok se većina gradova i dalje bori s padom stanovništva, Samobor se izdvaja kao jedan od rijetkih velikih gradova s vidljivim rastom te je od 2021. do 2024. godine dobio čak 1.101 novog stanovnika.

Demografski podaci Hrvatske već nekoliko godina uglavnom su obilježeni pojmovima poput dugotrajnog starenja stanovništva i niskog prirodnog prirasta, no jedan grad u sjeverozapadnom dijelu Zagrebačke županije odlučio se izdvojiti iz negativnog trenda. Riječ je o gradu poznatom po kremšnitama, fašniku i prirodnim ljepotama, Samoboru. To šarmantno mjesto je tako posljednjih godina postao i sinonim za nešto puno rjeđe u Hrvatskoj, porast broja stanovnika. Prema podacima Državnog zavoda za statistiku, Hrvatska je sredinom 2024. imala 3.866.233 stanovnika, tek neznatno više nego godinu ranije. Dok se većina gradova i dalje bori s padom stanovništva, Samobor se izdvaja kao jedan od rijetkih velikih gradova s vidljivim rastom. Ovo mjesto je u razdoblju

od 2021. do 2024. godine dobilo čak 1.101 novog stanovnika te je 2024. godine brojalo 38.536 stanovnika. Zbog toga se ubraja u sam vrh hrvatskih gradova po nominalnom rastu broja stanovnika.

Postavlja se pitanje što to čini Samobor tako poželjnim mjestom za život? Dio samoborske čari svakako je blizina glavnog grada, što ga čini idealnim za sve koji traže mirniji tempo života uz blizinu gradske vreve. No, blizina Zagreba nije jedini niti presudni razlog zbog kojeg ljudi ostaju ili se doseljavaju u Samobor.

### Kombinacija zelenila i gradskog šarma

Razlog sve veće privlačnosti ovog grada može se podijeliti u tri aspekta: urbani dio, blizina prirode i financijske olakšice.

Glavni orijentir i srce čitavog grada je zasigurno Trg kralja Tomislava, koji savršeno oslikava šarm Samobora. Sve zgrade na Trgu uređene su u kasnobarkonom, klasicističkom ili secesijskom stilu te je riječ o

zaštićenim spomenicima. Osim toga, Trg obiluje terasama ugostiteljskih objekata u kojima se Samoborci vole počastiti kavom i nezaobilaznim samoborskim kremšnitama, koje je, po tradiciji, najbolje jesti tople.



Osim tog slavnog deserta, Samobor se može pohvaliti i vlastitom inačicom senfa, muštardom te aromatiziranim vinom bermetom. Potok Gradna i znakoviti drveni mostić još su jedan od zaštitnih znakova ovog grada, koji mu daju dodatnu čar.

Uz standardne gradske ljepote, Samobor je poseban i po blizini predivne netaknute prirode. U samo nekoliko minuta se iz gradske gužve može doći do oaze prirode, Samoborskog gorja. Gorje zajedno sa Žumberkom čini dio zaštićenog parka prirode s mnogo označenih staza, koje su idealne za početnike, ali i ambiciozne penjače. Ta kombinacija urbanog i prirodnog, mira i blizine velikog grada, dugo je bila glavni adut Samobora kao mjesta za život. No, o nedavno je tu još drugih pogodnosti.

Grad Samobor od 2024. godine primjenjuje jednu od najnižih stopa poreza na dohodak u cijeloj državi. Niža stopa poreza na dohodak smanjena je s 20 na 18 posto, dok je viša stopa spuštena s 30 na 27 posto. Time je Samobor, zajedno sa susjednom Svetom Nedeljom, uveo najnižu moguću nižu stopu poreza na dohodak dopuštenu zakonom

te se nalazi među gradovima s najnižim porezom na dohodak u Hrvatskoj. Ta činjenica je posebno zanimljiva kada osvjestimo da je Samobor jedan od gospodarski razvijenijih hrvatskih gradova, a većina gradova s istim statusom ima znatno viši porez na dohodak.

Za financijsku dobrobit građana u ovom se gradu brinu i kroz smanjenu komunalnu naknadu te komunalni doprinos, a neprestano se ulaže i u infrastrukturne projekte, koji će Samobor učiniti još poželjnijim mjestom za život.

### Recept za uspjeh

Kada se sve navedeno posloži u jednu sliku, zaključak je poprilično jasan. Samobor nije postao poželjno mjesto za život zahvaljujući jednom magičnom potezu, već je riječ o iskorištavanju potencijala nekoliko bitnih faktora koji su neophodni za ugodan život. Povoljan geografski položaj i blizina Zagreba, očuvana priroda i planinski krajolik, dugogodišnja politika smanjenja poreznog opterećenja građana te kontinuirana ulaganja u infrastrukturu i nove sadržaje poput nadolazećeg maloprodajnog parka.



Dok se ostatak Hrvatske bori s pitanjem kako zaustaviti iseljavanje i demografski pad, Samobor svojim primjerom pokazuje kako je to zaista moguće.

Lorena Palić/Jutarnji list

## Jesenski radovi u vrtu ključni su za očuvanje zdravlja biljaka i pripremu tla za zimu

Službeno je započela jesen – godišnje doba koje vrtlarima donosi i nove obveze, ali i prilike. Jesenski radovi u vrtu ključni su za očuvanje zdravlja biljaka i pripremu tla za zimu. Uz nekoliko pametnih koraka, vaš će vrt ostati uredan, plodan i spreman za nadolazeću sezonu. Donosimo pregled zadataka koje ne biste smjeli preskočiti.

Rujan i listopad vrijeme su obilne berbe. Povrće poput rajčica, paprika, tikvica i graha potrebno je ubrati prije prvih mrazeva jer niske temperature mogu uništiti plodove. Isto vrijedi i za jabuke, kruške, šljive i grožđe koje su u punoj zrelosti.

Kako biste spriječili propadanje, višak plodova možete zamrznuti, osušiti ili pretvoriti u zimnicu. Džemovi, kompoti i sokovi izvršni su načini da sačuvate ljetne okuse i u hladnijim mjesecima. Ako imate viška, podijelite ih s prijateljima ili susjedima – to je uvijek lijepa gesta, a ništa se neće baciti.

### Sadnja lukovica za proljeće

Jesenski mjeseci idealni su za sadnju lukovičastih biljaka poput tulipana, narcisa, zumbula, šafrana i ukrasnog luka. Lukovice se sade od rujna do studenoga, najbolje u dobro drenirano tlo, jer im prevelika

vлага može naštetiti. Dubina sadnje najčešće je dvostruko veća od same veličine lukovice.

Za još bolji efekt, kombinirajte više sorti i boja te ih posadite u skupinama kako biste na proljeće dobili dojmrljive cvjetne otoke. Ako živite u području s hladnim zimama, sloj malča dodatno će ih zaštititi. za pristup ovom sadržaju

### Orezivanje i uklanjanje bolesnih dijelova biljaka

Jesen je pravo vrijeme da pregledate voćke, grmlje i trajnice. Uklonite suhe grane, oštećene izdanke i lišće koje pokazuje znakove bolesti ili napada štetnika. Time sprječavate njihovo daljnje širenje i osiguravate zdraviji rast u proljeće.

Kod ruža i hortenzija preporučuje se lagano oblikovanje krošnje, dok se drastičnije orezivanje ostavlja za proljeće. Nemojte zaboraviti i povrtnjak – uklonite sve ostatke biljaka kako ne bi postali leglo gljivica i kukaca.

### Priprema tla za zimu

Tlo je temelj svakog uspješnog vrta, a jesen je idealno vrijeme za njegovo obnavljanje. Nakon što uklonite ostatke ljetnih kultura, prekopajte gredice i obogatite ih organskim gnojivom, kompostom ili stajskim gnojem.

To će tijekom zime postupno otpuštati hranjive tvari i pripremiti tlo za novu sezonu.

Ako imate mogućnost, posijte i tzv. zelenu gnojidbu – biljke poput djeteline, facelije ili gorušice. One štite tlo od erozije, a kada ih u proljeće prekopate, obogaćuju ga humusom.

### Jesenska sadnja povrća

Osim završnih radova, jesen nudi i priliku za novu sjetvu. Povrće poput špinata, matovilca, zelene salate, endivije, raštike ili rukole izvršno podnosi niže temperature i može se uzgajati čak i ispod niskih tunela ili u plastenicima.

Na taj način imat ćete svježe povrće i u zimskim mjesecima. Ako ste ograničeni prostorom, posadite ih u tegle ili povišene gredice na balkonu – zahtijevaju malo mjesta, a puno vraćaju.

### Njega travnjaka

Travnjaku nakon vrućih ljetnih dana treba posebna pažnja. Jesen je idealno vrijeme za prozračivanje tla pomoću posebnih alata ili jednostavno vilama. Tako korijen dobiva više kisika, a trava se obnavlja.

Dosijavanje praznih dijelova i jesenskom gnojidbom travnjak će se ojačati i spremno dočekati zimu. Poželjno je koristiti gnojiva bogata kalijem jer ona jačaju otpornost trave na hladnoću.

### Malčiranje i zaštita biljaka

Biljke koje ne podnose hladnoću zahtijevaju zaštitu.

Osjetljivo ukrasno bilje, mlade sadnice i grmlje zaštitite slojem malča od lišća, kore ili komposta. Tako ćete ih obraniti od smrzavanja i očuvati vlagu u tlu.

Voćke i ukrasno drveće mogu se dodatno zaštititi omatanjem debela jutovinom ili posebnim vrtnim folijama. Kod biljaka u posudama najbolje je premjestiti ih na zaštićeno mjesto – terasu, garažu ili staklenik.

### Uređenje vrta i spremanje alata

Kako se sezona bliži kraju, vrt je potrebno dovesti u red. Očistite staze od lišća, oblikujte živice i pokosite travnjak posljednji put prije zime. Povrtnjak i cvjetnjake ostavite uredne kako biste spriječili razvoj bolesti.

Vrtnom alatu također treba pažnja – očistite ga, naoštrite škare i lopate te pospremite na suho mjesto. Ako crijeva za zalijevanje ostavite vani, mogla bi popucati od niskih temperatura, stoga ih ispraznite i spremite. Tako ćete osigurati dug vijek alata i olakšati si početak proljetnih radova.

**Jesenski radovi u vrtu** nisu samo priprema za zimu, već i ulaganje u buduću sezonu. Ako odradite sve zadatke na vrijeme, vaš će vrt ostati zdrav, uredan i zahvalan. Prvi dan jeseni idealan je trenutak da krenete – jer trud koji uložite sada, višestruko će vam se vratiti u proljeće.

Jutarnji list

# Chautauqua and the Proliferation of Tamburitza Music in North America

**HAMILTON, ON** - Imagine life in rural North America a century ago. There was no television, no internet, and radio was still in its infancy. Then one hot summer day, a group of men arrived and worked feverishly to set up a giant tent in town, setting off a frenzy of anticipation among the children. A few days later musicians, singers, actors and orators arrived, holding a parade in costumes though the town's main street announcing the opening of Chautauqua. What followed were several days of jam-packed, non-stop performances to large crowds under canvas. For thousands of Americans and Canadians, this was the magic of Chautauqua.

From 1904 to the mid-1930s Chautauqua was one of the most popular travelling cultural festivals in North America. Promising to bring "the world to your door," Chautauqua's touring companies visited farming communities and small towns and cities with programs that combined education and entertainment. Among the

performers who captivated audiences were talented US-based tamburitza ensembles, introducing many North Americans to the rich sounds of Croatia's traditional stringed instrument.

During the summer months, Chautauqua performances were held beneath large canvas tents erected in local communities. Following the harvest, performances moved indoors to buildings operated by service club, community halls and any available facility that could hold large crowds. In 1917 some 2,000 US towns hosted a Chautauqua and during its peak between 1916 and 1920 twenty million Americans attended the event.

For audience members, these performances were much more than an afternoon's or evening's entertainment—they were a rare opportunity to experience different cultures and artistic traditions without having to travel abroad.

Among the first Croatian tamburitza ensembles to appear on the Chautauqua circuit was



THE "CROATIAN TAMBURICA ORCHESTRA" from a 1914 publicity photograph.

the former "Zvonimir Tamburitza Orchestra," founded in Steelton, Pennsylvania, in 1906. By the time the ensemble performed in their first Chautauqua in 1913 it had been re-christened the "Croatian Tamburica Orchestra" and it performed Croatian and American songs, Balkan melodies and selections from operas.

From mid-July to mid-August 1913 the orchestra performed in 30 towns in Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri. The following year from late June to early September the ensemble performed in 69 towns in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio. The trials and tribulations of the Croatian Tamburica Orchestra and its gruelling travel and intense performance schedule over five Chautauquas between 1913 and 1918 was relayed in Rudolf Crnković's 1933 book in Croatian With "Zvonimir" across America: Memories of a 5-Year Tamburitza Journey.

Several years after the war, an offshoot of the ensemble toured under director Janko Gajski (John Gayski). After touring on Chautauquas in Australia and New Zealand in 1924, Gajski's orchestra travelled across Canada as part of the Chautauqua circuit. In 1925, his ensemble performed throughout small-town Ontario, introducing local audiences to the lively melodies performed on the tamburitza.

Another favourite on the Chautauqua circuit was the "Elias Tamburitza Serenaders" from Wisconsin. The group began to participate in Chautauquas in 1923. It was led by Dragutin Ilijaš, better known as Charles Elias Sr. and the family ensemble included his brother Bartol and his children Martha, Anna, and Charles Jr. When family members were unavailable, accomplished musicians Nikola Krznarić and Ivan Miškulin joined the group.

From late September to late November 1930 the Serenaders performed in 48 small towns throughout British Columbia, Alberta and



THE "ELIAS TAMBURITZA SERENADERS" from a 1931 promotional photograph.

Saskatchewan. The following year during a swing through Ontario the orchestra performed from mid-January to late February in 36 small towns. Following the conclusion of the fall 1930 tour, Charles Elias Sr. wrote a series of articles in Winnipeg's Hrvatski Glas describing the challenges of travelling over a 9-week period throughout isolated rural areas of western Canada during the later months of the year on roads that were little more than muddy trails.

Dressed in colourful Croatian folk costumes, the Serenaders performed traditional compositions on the symphonic tamburitza. This included parts from operettas, old Croatian folk tunes and kolo dance numbers, old American and Canadian melodies, polkas, waltzes, popular songs, and selections from different arias, as well as marches. Newspapers described their performances as "authentic," "distinctive," and "exotic," reflecting the public's fascination with music and traditions from distant lands.

Both Elias and his son Charles developed a strong association with the CFU. In 1930 Charles Elias Sr. composed the "Croatian Fraternal Union March." Following his father's death in 1937 Charles Jr. took over the group and performed at

Greater Pittsburgh's Annual Croatian Days, including during the CFU's 60th anniversary in 1954. Charles Jr. was also the guest conductor of the annual CFU Junior Cultural Federation Tamburitza Festival in 1969.

At its peak, Chautauqua helped overcome the isolation experienced by many folk living in North America's small towns and rural communities. Its programs offered audiences a window into other cultures through music, lectures, theatre and storytelling. For nearly three decades, Croatian tamburitza musicians played an important role in that mission. Their performances delighted audiences across America and Canada, and reached thousands of communities across North America.

Although the Chautauqua movement began to fade during the early and mid-1930s as radio, motion pictures, and other forms of entertainment became widespread, its legacy lives on. For those from rural areas and small towns, it represented a fascinating chapter in their local histories—one in which travelling Croatian musicians from the United States helped connect small-town and rural Americans and Canadians with the wider world, one unforgettable performance at a time.

Stan Granic/Lodge 954



## 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](mailto:editor@cfu.org).

Editors

# 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



# OBITUARIES



## Daniel Goldman

**LONDON, ON** - Daniel Goldman passed away on September 6, 2026 in London, Ontario, at the age of 60. Born on December 10, 1965, a member of CFU Lodge 530 of St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, he was dedicated to scientific principles of math and science, and devoted to his family.

Daniel was the son of Edward J. and Judy (Milinovich) Goldman and the dear brother of Jonathan. He shared a loving marriage with his wife, Jennifer, for 26 years and was the devoted father of Maia Elizabeth and Adam Eisely.

He attended Norton High, and graduated with honors from Cornell University. As a post-graduate student, Daniel attended Johns Hopkins, Boston University and received a Ph.D. from Brown University.

At Western Reserve University in London, Ontario, Daniel earned a permanent position while leading studies in micro-circulation of human blood.

Aside from academic accomplishments, Daniel loved the Celtics, was an excellent tennis player who enjoyed the arts and music from all eras, with a great sense of humor. Friends and family will miss him dearly.

The **Family of Daniel Goldman**

## ★ 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](mailto: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**

## Cash Bash in Aliquippa

**ALIQUIPPA, PA** - Aliquippa Croatian Center, located at 2365 Concord Street in Aliquippa PA, will hold a CASH BASH on Saturday, November 14.

Tickets are \$30 each and include entry, cash prize eligibility, food and keg beer. Each ticket has FIVE numbers, so that's FIVE chances to win! We will be giving away \$3,500 throughout the night.

Doors open at 5 p.m., and multiple drawings will be held between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. We are only selling 200 tickets, so call Shayla and get your tickets before they are gone. Shayla can be reached at 412-908-1541. See you there!

Michelle Janicki/Lodge 720

## Lodge 146 Plans Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

**VERSAILLES, PA** - The next meeting of Versailles Lodge 146 is scheduled for November 15 at 12 noon at the Versailles Club, when nominations for lodge officers will take place. All lodge members are encouraged to attend and participate in lodge business.

The lodge also has several upcoming holiday events planned, including the children's Nest Christmas Party on December 5 and Big Bingo on December 13 at 1 p.m.

Members are encouraged to mark their calendars and join in supporting the lodge and its upcoming activities.

Rachel Poturich/Secretary

## 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.

## Sacred Heart Parish Fall Bazaar

**MILWAUKEE, WI** - You're invited! Sacred Heart Croatian Catholic Parish, 917 N. 49th St., in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, warmly welcomes you, your family, and friends to our Annual Fall Bazaar on Sunday, November 1st, from 10:30 AM to 2 PM.

Come and enjoy a delicious homemade dinner featuring Sarma, Fried Chicken, and Croatian Sausage. You won't want to miss our Silent Auction and the wide selection of authentic European baked goods available for purchase. This year we will also have All Saints' Day themed games for the kids. Children are encouraged to dress up as their favorite saint!

Bring your friends, enjoy the food, and join in the fun! Admission is free. Food and drinks available for purchase.

Holy Mass will be celebrated in English at 9 AM and in Croatian at 10:30 AM.

Svi su ovdje dobrodošli! All are welcome here! **\*\*\*Save the Date\*\*\***

Sacred Heart Christmas Market and Sarma and Povitica Sale, Sunday, December 6th. More information on pre-ordering your sarma and povitica to follow.

Follow Sacred Heart Croatian Catholic Parish Milwaukee on Facebook or the website, [SacredHeartMilwaukee.org](http://SacredHeartMilwaukee.org). **Mary Schauer**  
Lodge 1959

## Let's Celebrate Fall and the Holiday Season

### with your favorite comfort foods

roasts, casseroles, delectable cookies and cakes, and traditional holiday recipes!

Share your Family Favorites with our Cooking Corner in preparation for a bountiful holiday dinner table and delightful treats to feast on with family and friends!

Email your best recipes to **[editor@cfu.org](mailto:editor@cfu.org)** and let's get the celebrations started!

To send in your favorite hoilday recipes please see *the Cooking Corner it has the instructions on how to submit all recipes.*

## Duquesne Croatian Club Rolls Out Full Slate of Fall Events

**DUQUESNE, PA** – CFU Lodge 320 and the Duquesne Croatian Club are gearing up for one of their busiest stretches of the year, and members, friends, and neighbors are all invited to join in the fun. Mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss a single one of these gatherings!

**Saturday, November 14:** Spaghetti Dinner. A club favorite is back! Join us for a comforting plate of spaghetti and good company as the weather turns cooler.

**Sunday, December 6:** Lunch with Santa. Bring the kids (and the kid in you) for lunch, photos, and a visit from Santa himself. A perfect way to kick off the holiday season.

Saturday, December 19: Christmas Party. Ring in the holidays with the Lodge 320 family at our annual Christmas Party. Food, fellowship, and holiday cheer for all.

**Saturday, January 16:** Lamb Sale (Pre-Order Only). Closing out the season, the club will be taking pre-orders for its popular holiday lamb sale. Pre-orders will be accepted around the holidays, so watch for details and get your name on the list early.

CFU Lodge 320 takes great pride in bringing members and the community together, and this fall and winter lineup is shaping up to be one to remember. For more information on any of these events, contact Paul Cherkes at 412-812-0242 or stop by the Duquesne Croatian Club.

Paul Cherkes/Lodge 320

## Youngstown St. George Lodge 66 Plans Coming Events

**YOUNGSTOWN, OH** - St. George Croatian Home Lodge 66 located at 3200 Vestal Rd., Youngstown Ohio, is pleased to announce several fundraisers they are having during the months of November 2026. All are open to the public. We invite all of our friends to come out for some great food and fraternalism.

We are having a Čevapi sale on any Friday between the hours of 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., or arrangements can be made for other days for pick up. You will receive two (2) dozen frozen čevapi, five (5) pita breads, and a jar of ajvar, all for only \$30. The Čevapi are lovingly made on premises by our Chef and kitchen staff. Order some for your tailgate parties and the holidays. To order or for more information, call Tim at 330-519-9036. Payment by cash or check only.

On Thursday, November 19, we will host an Italian Evening/ Frank Sinatra Night with Angeo Babbaro (Frank Sinatra impersonator) at our Lodge Hall on the Westside of Youngstown, Ohio. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m., dinner at 5 p.m., show at 6 p.m. Dinner will include Hors d'oeuvres (Italian meats and cheeses, peppers in oil), Entrees (Eggplant Parmesan, Chicken Parmesan, Veal Parmesan, and Pasta), Desserts will be Cannoli

and Lemon Cake. For only \$20 per ticket, you get a show, dinner and one complimentary drink. All tickets are sold in advance. We are expecting a sell-out (limited seating available). For more information and to reserve your tickets, call Tim at 330-519-9036.

Since 1968 our kitchen has been selling award-winning fish and seafood dinners every Friday. All dinners are available for eat in or to go orders, between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., or until we sell out. We have Fish dinners, both baked or fried, Shrimp, Scallops, and Potato Pierogi dinners, and Combo Platters. All dinners include one side (fries, mac 'n cheese, haluski, pierogi or green beans) and a choice of applesauce, or coleslaw. We also have side orders available consisting of: pieces of fish, haluski, mac 'n cheese, potato pierogi, French fries, and green beans. All of our food is made from scratch, right down to our tartar sauce and cocktail sauce. To place an order or for more information, please call 330-270-9056 on any Friday between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

We hope to see you at one of our fundraisers.

**Tim Komara**  
President/Lodge 66

## Lodge 126 Croatian American Civic Club Calendar of Events

**FARRELL, PA** - **Nov. 14, Saturday: Lamb An'a Band;** Join us for one of our signature events featuring expertly roasted lamb, traditional side dishes, and live performances by talented Tamburitzan musicians. Gather with family and friends to celebrate Croatian culture through delicious food, spirited music, dancing, and lasting memories.

**Nov. 15, Sunday: Lodge 126 Meeting,** 1 p.m.-2 p.m.; Croatian American Civic Club Meeting 2 p.m.- 3 p.m. Following the meeting, join us for a tasty ethnic meal and great fellowship.

**Dec. 6, Sunday: Lodge 126 Meeting,** 1 p.m.-2 p.m.; Croatian American Civic Club Meeting 2 p.m.-3 p.m.; Christmas Party, 3 p.m. Celebrate the festive season with a traditional Christmas dinner, live entertainment, dancing, and a visit from Santa Claus.

**Regular Monthly Activities:** Every Wednesday from 6 p.m., a variety of tasty ethnic meals are served at our Croatian Home: 412 Staunton St., Farrell, PA 16121. New Members Welcome - Join anytime and enjoy exclusive member benefits.

The Croatian Club thanks all members, volunteers, sponsors, and guests for their continued support throughout 2026. We look forward to sharing another wonderful year of friendship, tradition, and community.

Susan Yazvac/Rec. Secretary



Banana Crunch Cake

1/4 c. butter  
1 pkg. Pillsbury Coconut Pecan or Coconut Almond Frosting Mix  
1 c. rolled oats  
1 c. sour cream  
3 eggs  
2 bananas thinly sliced (1-1/4 c.)  
1 pkg. Pillsbury Plus Yellow Cake Mix  
Grease & flour a 10-inch tube pan.  
In saucepan melt butter, then stir in frosting mix and rolled oats until crumbly.  
In bowl blend sour cream, eggs & bananas until smooth. Blend in cake mix and beat 2 minutes. Pour 1/3 of the batter (2 cups) into pan. Sprinkle with 1/3 of crumb mixture, 1 cup.  
Repeat twice ending with crumb mixture. Bake at 350° for 60 minutes until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan 15 minutes. Invert onto large plate, then invert again onto serving plate crumb side up.

Banana-Nut Cake

3 c. sifted all-purpose flour  
1 1/2 tsp. soda  
1 tsp. salt  
1 c. Crisco  
2 1/2 c. sugar  
4 egg yolks, beaten  
6 Tbsp. buttermilk  
2 tsp. vanilla extract  
2 c. mashed ripe bananas (6 medium bananas)  
1 c. chopped pecans  
4 egg whites, stiffly beaten  
Grease 2 - 9x5-inch loaf pans. Resift flour with soda and salt; set aside.  
In mixing bowl, cream Crisco; add sugar and continue beating until fluffy. Add flour mixture alternately with egg yolks and buttermilk. Add vanilla, mashed bananas and pecans. Beat egg whites until stiff peaks form. Fold into batter. Bake in 2 loaf pans at 325° for 1 hour until toothpick comes out clean when inserted in center.  
For cupcakes, bake 25 to 30 minutes in 350° oven.

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.

Before the Turkey, Come for the Lamb!

**COKEBURG, PA** - We missed seeing everyone at our annual September picnic, so we’re bringing friends, food and football together this November! Save Sunday, November 22, for an afternoon at the Cokeburg Croatian Home, with doors opening around 1 p.m.  
Our kitchen will be serving delicious homemade food, and our new “Lamb Crew” will be firing up the spit with at least two lambs planned for the day. **All food, including lamb, will be available on a first-come, first-served basis**, so come early and bring your appetite!  
Stay to cheer on the Steelers at 4:25 p.m., with the bar open and serving throughout the game. We’re also exploring the possibility of live music in the hall, with details still being finalized.  
Most of all, we’re looking forward to catching up with the friends and families we missed in September. Whether you come for the lamb, the game or simply good company, we hope you’ll spend your Sunday with us.  
You’ll have plenty of cooking to do for Thanksgiving. Let us handle this Sunday!  
Mark your calendar and check the next issue of the **Zajedničar** for more information as plans come together.

Derek Hohn/Lodge 354

News From Lodge 270

**CALUMET, MI** - We had a wonderful gathering in September for our 50-year member dinner. Bingo was played using fun Croatian facts.  
Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 19, at 6 p.m. We will meet at our usual place, Merchants and Miners Building in Calumet. Social time and dinner with meeting to follow. Come and join us.

Donna Preston/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



CULINARY DELIGHTS • SPECIAL DINNERS • BAKE SALES  
LUNCHEONS • FUNDRAISERS • BREAKFAST MEETINGS  
BREAKFAST MEETINGS • LUNCHEONS  
BAKE SALES • SPECIAL DINNERS • CULINARY DELIGHTS  
CULINARY DELIGHTS • BAKE SALES  
LUNCHEONS • BREAKFAST MEETINGS  
BREAKFAST MEETINGS • LUNCHEONS

BAKE SALES • SPECIAL DINNERS • CULINARY DELIGHTS

Lodge 170 Holiday Bake Sale

**MERRILLVILLE, IN** - The Croatian Sons Lodge 170 of Merrillville, IN, will be selling apple and cheese strudels and nut rolls for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays. The strudels and nut rolls are frozen for \$18 each. You will be provided with cooking instructions for the strudels.  
Please call Deb at 219-644-7292 or Kathy at 219-765-3835 to place your orders.  
Orders for Thanksgiving are due by Saturday, November 14th and Christmas orders are due by Saturday, December 12th. Order pick up will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., on November 21st and Saturday, December 19th at the Croatian Center, 8550 Taft St., Merrillville, IN.  
Thank you for your support.

Kathy O’Neill/Vice President

St. Lucy’s Annual Holiday Bake Sale

**DETROIT, MI** - It is that time of year, when Christmas and the Holidays are just around the corner. Once again, the Christian Women Society of St. Lucy Croatian Catholic Church will be sponsoring a Holiday Bake Sale featuring Walnut Rolls, Poppy Seed Rolls, Apple and Cheese Strudels, Homemade Noodles and an assortment of Holiday Cookies on Sunday, December 13, by popular demand. We will be offering the walnut and poppyseed rolls with or without raisins.  
All nut and poppyseed roll plus the apple and cheese strudels are **PREORDERS ONLY**. Orders can be picked up following the 10 AM mass between the hours of 11 AM and 12:30 PM. St. Lucy Croatian Catholic Church is located at 200 East Wattles. Troy, MI 48085.  
At time of pick-up, you will be able to buy a box of specially made Croatian Cookies made by our expert bakers as well as homemade noodles, while the supply lasts. No Preorders.  
You cannot miss this great opportunity. Once you taste these cookies and make chicken noodle soup with the noodles, you will want more.  
Christmas and the Holidays are almost here and your holiday entertaining will soon be here. We cannot believe how the time went by so fast. It is also that time when the women of our parish get together and make the delicious delicacies that were made the way our grandmothers made them. The strudel dough is homemade and stretched to perfection.  
In other words, you cannot buy these delicacies in any store or bakery the way our special ladies bake at St. Lucy Church. This has always been a tradition in our homes during the Christmas season to have many delicious pastries, especially walnut and poppyseed rolls, apple and cheese strudels and cookies to be on our tables and to share these wonderful delicacies with family and friends.  
Just a reminder our Cookie Walk will have an Assortment of Holiday Cookies and treats for you to choose from while the quantities last. So come early! If not...you snooze, you lose.  
The walnut and poppyseed rolls can be purchased at a cost of \$25 per roll. The cost of the apple and cheese strudels per strip is \$15. To place your preorders, please call Violet Cunko 586-412-7016 or Mary Jurich at 586-268-9899. All proceeds will be donated to St. Lucy Croatian Catholic Church. The deadline for preorders is December 7.

Violet Cunko/Lodge 351

CFU Lodge 515 Memorial Scholarship Luncheon

**TORONTO, ON** – On Sunday, November 22, CFU Lodge 515 Bernard M. Luketich will host its annual Magdalena Mary Smintich Memorial Scholarship Luncheon at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch, 31 Mount Dennis, located at 1050 Weston Road in Toronto.  
This special event honours the memory of our late sister, Magdalena Mary Smintich, whose passion as a student and young woman was preserving Croatian history, culture, and traditions. Each year, scholarships are awarded in her memory to deserving individuals pursuing post-secondary education who are also actively contributing to the Croatian community.  
We are pleased to welcome Brother Franjo Bertović, CFU Executive Vice President, as our guest speaker representing the CFU National Officers. Musical entertainment will be provided by Živa Grana Hrvatske of Hamilton.  
Join us for an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship, entertainment, and celebration with family and friends as we honour Magdalena’s legacy and support the next generation of Croatian community leaders.  
**Event Details:** Sunday, November 22, 2026; Location: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 31, Mount Dennis, 1050 Weston Road, Toronto; Doors Open: 12:30 p.m.; Program Begins: 1 p.m. Ticket Prices: Adults-\$60, Students-\$25, Children under 12-Free. For tickets and reservations, please contact: Antun Belan, Phone: 416-503-0840 or 647-282-1263; Email: antunbelan@gmail.com.  
We look forward to welcoming you for this special occasion as we celebrate Croatian heritage, honour Magdalena’s memory, and invest in the future of our community.  
Svi nam dobro došli!

Antun Belan/President

## CFU Lodge 617 Holds Meeting

**WELLAND, ON** - On Sunday, November 22, Lodge 617 will hold a meeting at CNH, Broadway Ave.

The meeting is set to start at 1 p.m. Please try to attend.

Ann Simunic/Secretary

By Edward W. Pazo/National President

(Continued from page 2)

to consult with the organization administering the race as to the likelihood of conducting the race. With the knowledge that large areas of the planned course were flooded, the race in Pittsburgh was cancelled out of an abundance of caution for the safety of the runners. While this decision was a difficult one to make, it was clear that the rain had severely impacted the ability to safely carry on with the planned race.

Meanwhile, we contacted Dr. Primorac at a prearranged time of 8:50 a.m., ten minutes prior to the scheduled start, and learned that he had assembled between twenty and thirty runners to participate with him virtually, simultaneously with our Pittsburgh area planned start. Zagreb’s weather was magnificent, warm and sunny with blue skies and a few clouds. Heaven on earth to some, and this day was no different. We informed Dr. Primorac that he and his crew of runners, along with those who planned on participating virtually across the US and Canada, would have to carry the flag for our society ensure a successful conclusion of the “CFU 5K Strides for Scholarships & Hope” charity race.



**OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF ST. ROCHUS CFU LODGE 5 OF JOHNSTOWN, PA** were in attendance for the inaugural CFU 5K Event scheduled for October 11 in Pittsburgh. Lodge 5 was recognized as the Title Sponsor for the Charity Event, having generously contributed \$5,000 for the race.

Dr. Primorac expressed his thoughts on the project as follows:

This is a wonderful project that unites the Croatian diaspora and the homeland in the best possible way around an exceptionally noble cause: helping cancer patients while also supporting young doctors and scientists as they acquire new knowledge, skills, and experience in the field of modern oncology. I am particularly pleased that this initiative links humanity with education and science, as investing in new generations of professionals represents one of the most important investments in the future of medicine. The fight against cancer knows no national or geographical boundaries."

"It requires unity, international cooperation, the latest scientific advancements, and, above all, a deep commitment to people. Today, Zagreb and Pittsburgh demonstrate how much we can achieve when united by a common goal—saving and improving human lives."

On behalf of my colleagues on the CFU Executive Board, Sister Bernadette Luketich-Sikaras and Brother Franjo Bertovic, we extend our sincere gratitude to all runners who registered for the charity race and note that our Director of Fraternal Programs has been in contact with each as to their automatic place assured for next year’s planned run. We thank Derek, Lauren and all CFU staff members who offered their assistance throughout the process and especially on race day in Pittsburgh.

Special gratitude is extended to all those individuals and organizations who participated as named sponsors of the race, including St. Rochus CFU Lodge 5, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, who generously provided \$5,000 as the Title Sponsor for the charity event. We would be remiss if we didn’t also mention the presence of our friends, Branka and Mihovil Pažin, consular officers of the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia, who traveled to Pittsburgh to take part in this humanitarian endeavor of our society.

We are pleased to once again recognize the purpose of the race which was to raise funds to assist those Croatian citizens seeking treatment at the UPMC Cancer Center at Zabok Hospital near Zagreb, Croatia as well as to aid CFU youth seeking education at institutions of higher learning. This special event that is destined to become one of the regular CFU offerings of fraternal activities for our membership is proof positive of the humanitarian soul of our membership. Thank you to one and all who supported the CFU 5K Charity Race in any possible way.

Hvala sestre i braćo!

# Tips

## From the Home Office

### Addresses: Current, New and Changes

**PITTSBURGH, PA** – It is important to keep all addresses up-to-date on all official documents and business. Not doing so will cause delays in business transactions, mailings and notices, death benefit payments, information on life insurance and annuity policies, and the Zajednicar.

For these reasons, the Croatian Fraternal Union is asking all members to make certain their addresses are current with the Home Office. In recent months, much mail has been returned to the Home Office with the message Return to Sender, No Such Address, Forwarding Address Expired, etc. This is true for senior and junior members.

Through the years, many address changes can occur. This can be for children moving to live in college dorms; marriages and setting up housekeeping at a new location; a change in employment resulting in moving the family to another area; retiring to a smaller home; warmer climate, or to an assisted living residence; or just relocating. Whatever your situation may be, please inform lodge officers or the Home Office as to your change of address.

Addresses are also important where beneficiaries are concerned. Thus, when making application for insurance, of an annuity and in naming beneficiaries, list their relationship, social security number, and address. This greatly eases the task of locating beneficiaries when the time comes.

Remember: Keep your address current with 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.



**CROATIA MARKED WORLD CRAVAT DAY** on 18 October, celebrating the country’s historical connection to the necktie and an item of clothing that has become recognised around the world.

(Photo: Dhar Media)

## Croatian invention celebrated as World Cravat Day takes place

The cravat, regarded as the forerunner of the modern necktie, is closely associated with Croatian soldiers who wore scarves tied around their necks during the 17th century. The style later gained popularity in France before spreading across Europe and beyond.

The word cravat is derived from the French cravate, believed to originate from a French rendering of the word for Croat. The connection remains preserved in the name used for the necktie in several languages.

One of the earliest Croatian portraits depicting the garment is a 1622 painting of Dubrovnik-born poet Ivan Gundulić wearing a scarf tied around his neck in a style resembling a cravat.

World Cravat Day was established by the Croatian organisation Academia Cravatica in 2008, while Croatia’s Parliament unanimously declared 18 October Cravat Day in Croatia that same year.



(Photo: Mate Paškanović Pavković)

### Zagreb ceremony marks the occasion

In Zagreb, the day was marked on Ban Josip Jelačić Square with a ceremonial parade and changing of the guard by the Cravat Regiment, alongside a symbolic reenactment inspired by the arrival of Croatian cavalrymen at the court of French King Louis XIV.

Organised by Academia Cravatica under the patronage of the Croatian Parliament, the programme also includes the symbolic tying of cravats around monuments in the city centre, including those dedicated to Ban Josip Jelačić and Croatia’s first president, Franjo Tuđman.

The ceremony highlights the historical role of Croatian soldiers in popularising the style across Europe and the garment’s subsequent transformation from a practical accessory into an internationally recognised fashion item.

by croatiaweek

## Lodge 720 To Nominate Officers

**ALIQUIPPA, PA** - Aliquippa’s Lodge 720 will hold 2027 officer nominations on Sunday, November 1st, at 1 p.m., at their regular meeting. The meeting will be held at the Aliquippa Croatian Center located at 2365 Concord Street in Aliquippa.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Michelle Janicki/Secretary

## CFU Lodge 170 Meeting Schedule

**MERRILLVILLE, IN** - Please remember there is no Lodge Meeting in October.

Join us at the next Lodge Meeting on November 22. At this meeting, we will be taking nominations for the 2027 board. Our last meeting of 2026 will be December 20.

Meeting time is 11:30 a.m. Meetings take place at 8550 Taft Street, Merrillville, IN. Please use north doors.

Cindy Mayer/Recording Secretary

## Notice to Lodge 530 Post-Secondary Students

**ST. THOMAS, ON** – Applications for scholarship aid are now available from “Ogulin” CFU Lodge 530. Any post-secondary student who has been a member in good standing of our lodge for two or more years may apply.

For an application form, please contact: CFU Lodge 530, at 5 Cider Mill Lane, St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 0C1; or email darinkacindric@gmail.com .

Completed applications must be received by no later than November 19, 2026.

Darinka Cindrić/Secretary

# 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 |
|----------|--------------|-----------------|
| 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 \_\_\_\_\_

# 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
- ★ Ordinary Life Plan
- ★ 10 Pay Life Plan
- ★ 20 Pay Life Plan

### TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLANS

- ★ 10 Year Level Plan
- ★ 20 Year Term Plan
- ★ Juvenile Term to Age 25 Plan

### ANNUITY/IRA PRODUCTS

- ★ CFU Annuity and IRA Plans

### BENEFITS OFFERED BY CFU

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

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### PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

## WHY CHOOSE CFU?



Now in our 130th years, the Croatian Fraternal Union (CFU) has provided solutions for our members' financial needs. From our original offering of basic assistance and mutual aid, to our current portfolio of modern insurance and savings products, the CFU continues to provide financial peace of mind to our members as well as the opportunity to participate in a variety of fraternal programs.

When an insurance or annuity product is purchased from the CFU, an individual becomes a member and has access to numerous benefits and activities on all levels of the Society – local, regional and national. These programs are focused on preserving and promoting Croatian heritage and culture, humanitarian and charitable giving, support of higher education, patriotic and civic undertakings, and other fraternal activities that enable our members to support each other and their communities.

#### THE CFU ADVANTAGE

- The CFU offers a complete portfolio of quality, affordable programs 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.
- The CFU is the only Croatian Fraternal Benefit Society in existence in North America and is the largest Croatian organization outside of Croatia.

**We invite you to take advantage of all that the CFU has to offer!**

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## 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 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: **November 12;** and **December 3.**

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: **November 13;** and **December 4.**

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

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

**Mihovil Pažin**

Embassy of Croatia/Washington, DC

### DONATION

## CFU SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Make all checks payable to CFU Scholarship Foundation and mail to:  
Croatian Fraternal Union  
100 Delaney Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Offer Valid May 6-December 31, 2026