

RAIVAAJA

(THE PIONEER)

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65 cents

Harri Holkeri valittiin yksimielisesti YK:n 55.

yleiskokouksen puheenjohtajaksi

YK:n 55. yleiskokouksen avauspuheessaan valtioneuvos Harri Holkeri korosti yleiskokouksen vastuuta uuden vuosituhannen alkaessa. Hän peräänkuulutti tehokkaampaa, vahvempaa ja avoimempaa YK:ta, joka voisi vastata tämän hetken ongelmiin. Holkeri painotti, että viime viikon keskiviikkona alkaneen kolmipäiväisen huippukokouksen tulosten, samoin kuin rauhan- turvaa koskevien uudistusehdotusten toimeenpanoon on ryhdyttävä viipymättä.

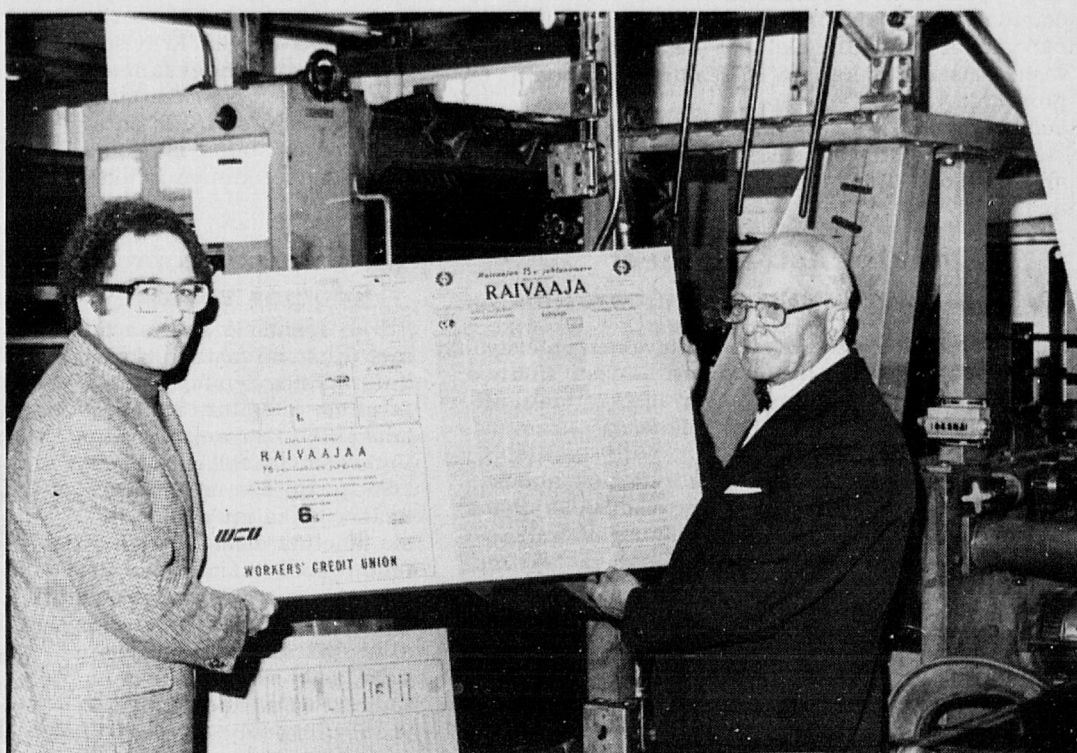
Holkerin mukaan näiden mittavien tehtävien toimeenpano edellyttää, että YK uudistuu. Tämä vaatii myös läheisempää yhteistyötä kansalaisyhteiskunnan, yksityissektorin ja muiden toimijoiden kanssa. Puheessa todettiin informaatio- ja kommunikaatioteknologian avaavan uusia mahdollisuuksia monilla kehityksen osa-alueilla.

Puheessa korostettiin yleiskokouksen puheenjohtajan roolia niin konsensuksen kuin työskentelykurin ylläpitäjänä, jotta saadaan aikaan tuloksia ja pysytään aikataulussa.

Benecol sai markkinointiluvan

Yhdysvaltojen elintarvikeviranomaiset ovat antaneet luvan markkinoida suomalaista Benecol-levitettä sydäntauteja ehkäisevänä tuotteena. Myös Take Control -merkkiselle kolesterolia alentavalle levitteelle on myönnetty samanlainen lupa. Levitteitä myyvät yhtiöt Johnson & Johnson ja Unilever anoivat lupaa voidakseen markkinoida tuotteitaan Yhdysvalloissa. Molemmat levitteet sisältävät veren haitallista kolesterolia alentavia aineita.

(STT)



Anniversary time

As we are getting ready for RAIVAAJA's 95th anniversary celebration on October 1st it is timely to reflect on a special occasion twenty years ago. Above, displaying plates used in printing the RAIVAAJA 75th anniversary issue in 1980 are, left, the late Gordon Bell, then president of The Gardner News, and Raivaaaja's then editor and business manager, the late Sävele Syrjä. The Gardner News printed RAIVAAJA at that time.

Halonen johti YK:n Millennium-kokousta

Suomen tasavallan presidentti Tarja Halonen johti puhetta YK:n kolmipäiväisessä huippukokouksessa New Yorkissa yhdessä Namibian presidentti Sam Nujoman kanssa. Halonen sai myös kunnian ensimmäisenä kumartua mikrofonin ylle ja julistaa kokouksen avatuksi.

"Meidän on selkeytettävä YK:n roolia maailmassa ja muutettava sitä, jotta se olisi aikansa tasalla oleva järjestö", Halonen kehotti avaussanoissaan.

Suomen varsinaisessa puheenvuorossa Halonen sanoi, että kansalaisjärjestöjen lisäksi myös parlamentit ja liike-elämä on saatava mukaan YK:n toimintaan.

"Niiden edustajia voitaisiin ottaa virallisiin YK-valtuuskuntiin, kuten Suomi tekee", Halonen sanoi. Hän ko-

roosti sekä siviilikriisinhallinnan että YK:n perinteisen rauhanturvaamisen tärkeyttä ja muistutti, että parasta pitkän aikavälin kriisien ehkäisyä on työ ihmiskeskeisen, kestävän kehityksen hyväksi.

Halonen toivoi puheessaan YK:n rauhanturvatoiminnan uudistamista koskevan tuoreen selvityksen, niin kutsutun Brahimin raportin suositusten pikaista käsittelyä. Raportti kehottaa rauhanturvaajia muun muassa tekemään entistä selkeämmin eron hyökkääjän ja uhrien välillä ja toimimaan siviileihin kohdistuvan väkivallan estämiseksi.

KUVA: Suomen presidentti Tarja Halonen hauskutti Millenium-kokouksessa Ranskan presidentti Jacques Chiradia (vas) ja Saksan liittokansleri Gerhard Schröderiä.



This week in

THE FINNISH-AMERICAN

RAIVAAJA

pages 6 - 12

• 'Bridges North' theme of ASFLA Scandinavian Festival

• New Consul General in New York City

Suomen uutisia

Vihreiden kannatus selvässä nousussa

Vihreän liiton puoluekannatus on noussut. Tuoreen mielipidetiedustelun mukaan vihreitä kannatti elokuussa 12,1 prosenttia haastatelluista, kun tavallisesti vihreiden kannatus on ollut noin 10 prosenttia.

Myös keskusta ja sosiaalidemokraatit ovat kohottaneet puoluekannatustaan. Kyselyn mukaan keskustaa kannatti elokuussa 23,2 prosenttia ja SDP:tä noin 24,1 prosenttia haastatelluista. Kesäkuussa keskustan kannatus oli 22,1 prosenttia ja SDP:n 23,9 prosenttia.

Kokoomuksen kannatus on tutkimuksen mukaan laskussa. Kokoomusta kannatti elokuussa 19,3 prosenttia kyselyyn vastanneista. Kesäkuussa kokoomuksen kannatus oli 21,1 prosenttia.

Vasemmistoliiton kannatus on pysynyt ennallaan. Noin yhdeksän prosenttia haastatelluista ilmoitti kannattavansa vasemmistoliittoa. Taloustutkimus teki kyselyn Ylen Radiouutisille. (STT)

Finnair kiistää puheet liittoutumissopimuksen hajoamisesta

Finnair vakuuttaa olevansa täysin luottavainen yhteistyösopimukseensa Oneworld-liittoutuman kanssa. Johtaja Henrik Arle kiistää, että yhtiön kansainväliset liittoutumissopimukset olisivat vaarassa kuten julkisuudessa on esitetty.

Turun Sanomissa arvioitiin äskettäin, että hollantilaisen lentoyhtiön KLM:n myynti British Airwaysille BA:lle uhkaa hajottaa Oneworld-liittoutuman, jossa Finnair on mukana. Hajoaminen johtuisi siitä, että KLM-kaupan myötä Oneworldiin tulisi kaksi keskenään kilpailevaa amerikkalaista lentoyhtiötä, Northwest Airlines ja American Airlines.

Brittiläisen BA:n ja hollantilaisen KLM:n fuusio on ollut vireillä kevästä asti. Hankkeelle on povattu lukuisia esteitä, mutta vielä elokuussa yhtiöt vakuuttivat löytäneensä mallin, jolla fuusio saataisiin kannattamaan. KLM:n ja BA:n fuusiolla Arle ei halua spekuloida. (STT)

Suomelle huomiota miinakokouksessa

Suomi joutui huomion kohteeksi Ottawan henkilö- eli jalkaväkimiinat kieltävän sopimuksen tarkastelukokouksessa Genevessä. Nobelin rauhanpalkinnolla palkittu miinojen vastustaja Jody Williams vaati muita maita ja kansalaisjärjestöjä painostamaan entistä voimakkaammin maita, jotka eivät ole vielä sitoutuneet luopumaan henkilö- eli jalkaväkimiinoista. Suomi on ainoa EU-maa, joka ei ole liittynyt Ottawan sopimukseen. (STT)

UKK-palkinto Juhani Suomelle

Presidentti Urho Kekkosen 70-vuotisjuhlasäätiön UKK-palkinto on tänä vuonna myönnetty professori Juhani Suomelle. Presidentti Tarja Halonen luovutti palkinnon maanantaina Mäntyniemessä.

Palkinto myönnettiin Suomen runsaat kolme vuosikymmentä kestäneen laajan ja ansiokkaan kirjallisen tuotannon perusteella. Erityisenä ansiona oli kahdeksanosainen Kekkosen elämäkertasarja. Palkinnon suuruus on tänä vuonna 30000 markkaa. Suomi sai palkinnon jo toista kertaa. (STT)

EU-komissio toimiin Suomea vastaan

EU:n komissio aloittaa toimet Suomea vastaan, koska linturikkaita Kemihäärän soita ei ole suojeltu. Suot ovat keskeinen osa suunniteltua Vuotoksen tekoallasaluetta.

Suomi on saanut ennakkotiedon, jonka mukaan komissio lähettää asiasta virallisen ilmoituksen tai huomautuksen. Komission mukaan noin 240 neliökilometrin Vuotos allas jättäisi veden alleen soita, joilla esiintyy useita lintudirektiivissä lueteltuja lajeja. (STT)

Sotilastarkkailijoita Etiopiaan

Suomi osallistuu YK:n rauhanturvaoperaatioon Etiopiassa ja Eritreassa lähettämällä alueelle seitsemän sotilastarkkailijaa ja 2-3 eskuntaupseeria. YK on pyytänyt jäsenmailtaan UNMEE-nimellä kulkevaan operaatioon alkuvaiheessa sata sotilastarkkailijaa. Koko rauhanturvaoperaatio vaatii YK:n arvion mukaan 4 200 sotilasta. (HS)

Exchange rate

September 11, 2000
1 Finnish mark = US \$ 1.460
1 US \$ = 6.8487 FIM
1 Euro = US \$ 8.5780
1 US \$ = 1.1658 Euros

Foreign exchange, New York prices.
Rates for trades of \$1 million minimum.

Nimipäivät



Syyskuun 13 p., Orvo
Syyskuun 14 p., Iida
Syyskuun 15 p., Sirpa
Syyskuun 16 p., Hellevi, Hillevi, Hille, Hilla
Syyskuun 17 p., Aila, Aili
Syyskuun 18 p., Tyyne, Tytti, Tyyni

Syyskuun 19 p., Reija
Syyskuun 20 p., Varpu, Vaula

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Syyskuun 23 p., Mielikki
Syyskuun 24 p., Alvar, Auno
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Syyskuun 26 p., Kuisma

Suomen uutisia



Suomalaisvanki Seppo Fränti heluttaa päästyään vapaaksi. Vasemmalla toinen suomalaisvanki Risto Vahnen.

Jolon saaren suomalaisvangit vapautettiin

Jolon saarella panttivankeina olleet suomalaiset ovat päässeet vapauteen 140 päivän vankeuden ja uskomattomien vaiheiden jälkeen. Helsingiläiset Risto Vahnen ja Seppo Fränti pääsivät ensimmäistä kertaa kuukausien jälkeen siistytymään ja ruokapöydän ääreen. Kotiin saakka vapautetut pääsivät tämän viikon alkupuolella.

"Olen onnellisempi kuin koskaan ennen, tämä on elämäni onnellisin päivä", sanoi Seppo Fränti vapauduttuaan Abu Sayyaf-ryhmän kynsistä.

Vapautuminen oli tähän asti nähdyistä kaikkein dramaattisin. Se oli murskautua yhden rosvojoukon hyökkäykseen, jossa kuoli kaksi Filippiinien hallituksen välittäjäryhmän henkivartijaa.

"Alon suudella Suomen maaperää paavillisesti", Vahnen kommentoi tulevaisuudensuunnitelmiaan Jolon saarella hengenvaarallisen vapautusmission päätyttyä.

Suomalaiset, saksalainen Marc Wallert ja ranskalainen Stephane Loisy jouduttiin evakuoimaan vapauteen helikoptereilla, koska panttivankien leirin ympäristö muuttui yhtäkkiä pieneksi sotatantoreeksi.

Nyt vapautetut panttivangit olivat viimeiset Malesian Sipadanilta pääsiäisenä siepatusta 21 ihmisen kansainvälisestä joukosta. Abu Sayyafille jäi vielä kaksi ranskalais-toimittajaa, jotka siepattiin, kun he olivat tekemässä juttua panttivankien leiristä alemmin kesällä. (SS)

Aallon Paimio-tuoleista maksettiin 7 000 punttaa

Huutokauppakamari Christie's myi Lontoossa pidetyssä pohjoismaisen designin huutokaupassa kolme Alvar Aallon vanerista prototyypiksi väitettyä tuolia vuodelta 1931. Paimion parantolaa varten suunnitelluista kahden istutavasta sohvesta ja kahdesta nojatuolista tarjottiin 7 000 punttaa eli noin 68 000 markkaa.

Sekä Jyväskylän Alvar Aalto -museon intendentti Kaarina Mikonranta että Helsingin Artek:n taiteellinen johtaja Ben af Schultén kuitenkin epäilevät, että Lontoossa myydyt Aalto-huonekalut olisivat todella prototyyppejä. He ovat nähneet huutokaupattavien huonekalujen valokuvat ja sanovat niissä olevan piirteitä, jotka eivät vastaa Paimio-tuolien prototyyppejä.

Kaarina Mikonranta askarruttaa myös, olivatko myydyt Aalto-huonekalut laillisesti myynnissä Lontoossa. Suomesta ei saa viedä Aallon varhaistuotannon prototyyppejä eikä harvinaisia malleja. Christie'sin edustaja Simon Andrews sin mukaan tuolit olivat peräisin Ruotsista. (SS)

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From the desk of Stig Häggblom:

Veikko Karvonen otti voiton Zatopekista ja saavutti olympian pronssimitalin 1956 Melbournen olympiamaratonilla. Tämä ei kuitenkaan ollut Karvosen suurin saavutus eikä hänen paras maratonvuotensa. Suomen (ja suomalaisten) ei pitäisi unohtaa vuotta 1954, jolloin Veikko oli koko maailman ykkönen maratonilla (ja hänellä on kansainvälisiä dokumentteja, jotka tämän todistavat).

Nyt - Sydneyn kisojen kynnyksellä - olen totisesti sitä mieltä, ettei Suomi milloinkaan täysin ymmärtänyt mitä Veikko tuona vuonna teki maansa hyväksi ja urheilumme puolesta. Hän oli myös Euroopan mestari syksyllä, maalipaikkana Neufeldin stadion Berliinissä. Olin siellä.

Muistan kuinka vaatimaton oli tapa, jolla Veikko Karvosta otimme vastaan, kun hän tuli voittajana Bostonista. Juoksun hän oli voittanut huhtikuun 19. päivänä. Olin mukana siinä pienessä ryhmässä Karvosta vastaanottamassa.

Juoksupäivä sattui olemaan päivä sen jälkeen, kun USA:n varapresidentti Richard Nixon (Eisenhower) oli presidentti oli sanonut, että USA joutuu lähettämään joukkoja Indokiinaan, mikäli Ranska lopettaa vietnamilaisten gorilla-joukkoja vastaan käymänsä taistelunsa Dien Bien Puhissa.

Siis, Bostonin 58. juoksu tapahtui Nixonin puheen jälkeisenä päivänä. Karvosta oli vastassa kaikki maailman valiot. Mukaan oli pantu Japanin uusi kaarti. Delfo Cabrera Argentiinasta, Lontoon 1948 olympiavoittaja, oli mukana ja ennen kaikkea britti Jim Peters, joka vuodesta vuoteen ylsi ihmeellisiin voittoalkoihin maratonilla. Maailmanennätyksiksi niitä ei ilmoitettu, IAAF tahtoi näin.

Mukana tämä Peters oli ollut myös vuonna 1952 Helsingin olympiamaratonilla, sillä jonka Emil Zatopek voitti.

Peters sai äkillisen sairauskohtauksen matkalla takaisin Stadionille. Olimme vielä Vantaan (silloin Helsingin pitäjän) alueella. Lähdistöbusseja oli kaksi, toisessa minä ja DN:n Henry Rydahl, jonka kanssa riensimme Petersin avuksi, koska muita avustajia ei sattunut paikalle. Peters oli huonossa kunnossa ja auttoimme hänet lehdistöbusseimme, mistä hän sitten virkistyttyään saattoi seurata Zatopekin voittokulkua aivan Stadionin portille asti.

Tämä oli siis se Peters, jonka Karvonen tiukan ottelun jälkeen voitti Bostonissa 1954. Tämä kertomus on mielestäni tärkeä myös siksi, että juuri nyt kysytään onko Suomella lainkaan maratonedustusta Sydneyssä, niin naisissa kuin miehissä.

Tällaiset olivat Bostonin tulokset 1954: 1) Veikko Karvonen, Suomi, 2.20,39 2) Jim

Peters, Englanti 2.22,40 3) Erkki Puolakka, Suomi 2.24,25 4) K. Hiroshima, Japani 5) K. Nishida, Japani 6) D. Cabrera, Argentiina.

Paavo Nurmen vanha ystävä (Berliinin kisoista) Johnny Kelley, mies joka on juossut Bostonin 61 kertaa ja voitti juoksun vuosina 1935 ja 1945, oli siinä vanavedessä.

Tarkoitin tässä totisesti, että Veikko Karvonen - joka vielä on joukossamme, se "Naantalien postiljooni" - vielä voisi saada meiltä kaikilta jonkun kiitoksen ja huomionosoituksen. Vuosi 1954 ei ollut olympiavuosi, mutta se oli Veikko Karvosen vuosi.

Saamen kertoa eräästä toisesta maratonjuoksijasta, jonka kotiintulo oli juhlavampi kuin Karvosen. Hän oli kotoin kreikasta, itse asiassa Kyprokselta. Mies oli ollut mukana Berliinin kisoissa 1936, Adolf Hitlerin kisoissa. Hän tuli maaliin yhdenentoista. Nimi oli Stylianos Kyriakides.

En usko, että Veikko Karvonen tätä tietoa usko, mutta kun Kyriakides tuli kotiin Ateenaan voitettuaan Bostonissa 1946. oli miljoona ihmistä paikalla juoksijaa vastassa. Ihmeellinen juttu. Onko urheilijaa koskaan muulloin juhlistu tällä tavoin? Vaikea uskoa.

Olympiaintoa kohottaakseni Suomen maassa kerron tämän jutun:

Kyriakides oli siis ollut mukana Berliinin maratonjuoksussa, jonka voitti korealainen Sohn, mutta Japanin piikkiin, koska Japani oli siihen aikaan miehittänyt tämän maan. Mukana oli myös Bostonin legenda, silloin ja nyt, Johnny Kelley, kahdeksastoista maalissa, ainoa amerikkalainen, joka pystyi

Kun Kyriakides palasi voittajana yli miljoona ihmistä odotti poikaa

Eli kuinka Veikko Karvosen kotiintulo vuonna 1954 lyötiin todella laudalta

juoksemaan loppuun asti.

Hitlerin 12. armeija (ja Mussolin yhdeksäs) valtasi Kreikan vuonna 1941 ns. salamosotaa käydessään. Kyriakides oli pian vangittuna omassa maassaan, mikä oli osittain raunioina.

Saksalaisen miehityksen aikana juoksija pelasti kerran nahkansa näyttämällä osanottajapassinsa Berliinistä. Toisen kerran hänen kotinsa tutkittiin, mutta taloon tunkeutui näkivät Berliinissä otetun kuvan juoksijasta ja toimenpiteet lopetettiin. Siinä määrin olympiajuoksijaa kunioitettiin, että saksalaiset jopa esittivät anteeksipyyntöä.

Kun tämä juoksija vuonna 1946 saapui Bostoniin, kalpeana ja huonosti ruokittuna, ei ollut rajaa sillä miten hyvin Bostonin kreikkalainen väestö häntä kohteli. Kaikki tarttuivat häneen.

Bostonissa asuva kreikkalainen hotellinomistaja työnsi lapun hänen käteensä ennen juoksun alkua Hopkintonissa. Lapussa luki: "Voita tai kuole taipaleella."

Tämä lappu kourassaan Stylianos suoritti juoksunsa. Miltei alusta loppuun hän taisteli legendaa, edellisvuotista Bostonin voittajaa Johnny Kelley'ä vastaan. Vuonna 1945 käytiin vielä maailman-sotaa sekä USA:n että Kreikan osalta.

Bostonilla oli juoksun suhteen jo klassiset puitteet. Oli 50. juoksu. 112 miestä oli ilmoittautunut kisaan, 102 lähti matkaan. Kyriakides, myös Balkanin mestari, oli juossut parhaiten, 2,43 - Berliinin aika. Kelleyn paras aika

oli 2.30,40.

Kreikkalainen oli Bostonissa päällisin puolin heikossa kunnossa, mutta valmis taistelemaan maansa ja kansansa puolesta.

Juoksusta tuli mahtava, Kelley ja Kyriakides olivat pitkään aivan rinta rinnan. Lopputulos oli Kreikan voitto, kuka ties maan suurin voitto koskaan urheilun alalla. Ajat: 1) S. Kyriakides 2.29,27 2) J. Kelley 2.32,27.

Ennen juoksua jotkut lääkärit huomauttivat, ettei Kyriakides pystyisi suorittamaan juoksua. Hän oli aivan aliravittu, liian heikko juoksemaan.

Voittaja itse:

"Tiesin, että minulla oli kaksi vaihtoehtoa, joko voittaa juoksu tai kuolla matkalla."

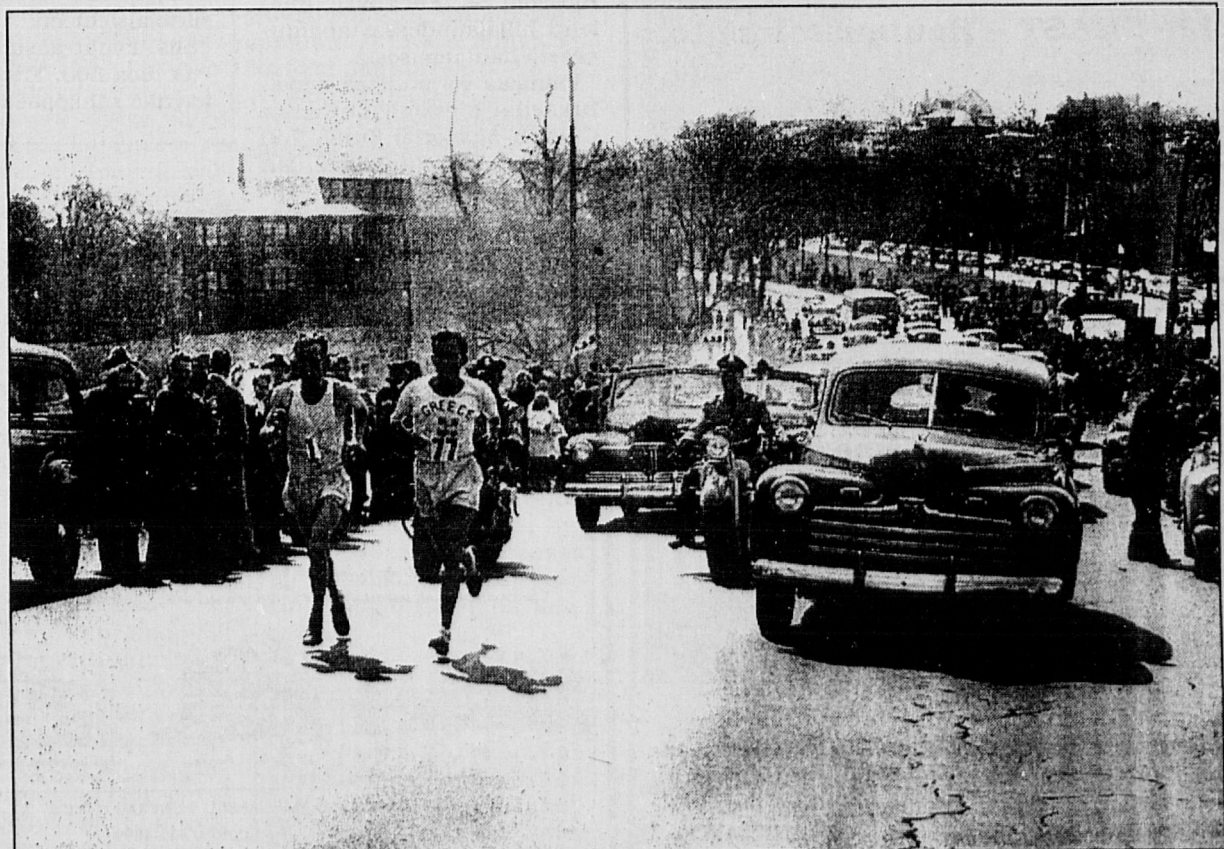
Sponsorit ja tukijat olivat panneet likoon yli 5 miljoonaa drachmaa - siihen aikaan jokuinkin tuhat USA:n dollaria - saadakseen Kyriakidesin Hopkintonin lähtöviivalle.

Harvoin, jos milloinkaan, ovat sponsorit saaneet niin ruhtinaallisen korvauksen. Kerättiin rahaa ja elintarvikkeita Kreikalle tämän juoksun ansiosta. Laiva täytettiin ruokatarvikkeilla ja lähetettiin Pireuksen satamaan. Tava-

jatkuu sivulla 5



Vuonna 1954 käytiin Bostonissa kaksintaistelu Suomen Veikko Karvosen ja englantilaisen Jim Petersin välillä. Alkoihin nähden Peters oli 50-luvun hurjin maratoonari maailmassa, mutta Veikko Karvonen pehmitti hänet voittaessaan Bostonissa. Erkki Puolakka oli kolmas.



Stylianos Kyriakides Kreikasta - voitte lukea "Greece" hänen paidastaan - pehmittämässä numero yhtä, Johnny Kelley'ä edellisvuoden (1945) Bostonin voittajaa. Tässä oli 50. Bostonin maraton, unohtumaton Kreikan kansalle.

85 Nichols St., Norwood, MA
Puhelin: 781-762-1509

KYRIAKIDES ...

Jatkoa sivulta 3

ran arvo vuonna 1946 oli 250,000 dollaria.

Ja kun sitten juoksija itse saapui kotimaahansa parantuu omaa maratona näytystään lähes 14:llä minuutilla, oli Ateenassa pantu pystyyn juhlat, joihin osallistui reippaasti yli miljoona ihmistä. Kaikki maan kansalaiset sulkiivat juoksijan syliinsä.

Voisiko sanoa, että tässä oli suuremmat juhlat kuin ne, jolloin Paavo Nurmi otettiin vastaan hänen saapuessaan Helsinkiin vuonna 1924 Pariisin olympiakisasta?

Seurakunnat

Fitchburg, MA

Bethel-seurakunta

Suomenkielinen radioharrastus HYVÄT UUTiset lähetetään joka sunnuntiaaun asemalta WEIM am 1280, Fitchburg, klo 8:45.

Hengelliset tilaisuudet sunnuntaisin Elm St. Lähetyskirjossa klo 2 i.p. Syysk. 17. p:nä Mikko Tervo tulee mukaan.

Tiedusteluja seurakunnan toiminnasta voi tehdä soittamalla numeroon 343-9659. Myös niitä, jotka tarvitsevat kyytiä seurakunnan tilaisuuksiin, pyydetään ottamaan yhteys ylläolevan numeron avulla.

Elm St. Lähetysseurakunta

Jumalanpalvelukset sunnuntaisin klo 9:30 aam. Pyhäkoulu klo 11.

Kuoron harjoitukset tiistaisin klo 7 ill. Hartaustilaisuus keskiviikkoisin klo 2 i.p. Nuorisoryhmä kokoontuu lauantaisin klo 6 ill.

Lauantaina, syysk. 23. p:nä klo 4:30 - 6:30 ill. "Italialainen ilta".

Messiah Lutheran seurakunta

Kuun ensimmäisenä sunnuntaina suomenkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 8:15 aam.

Perjantaisin klo 1:00 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

Sunnuntaisin englanninkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 9:30 aam. Klo 10:30-11:00 seurustelua ja virvokkeita. Klo 11:00-12:00 aikuisten raamattutunti.

New Ipswich, NH

Suomenkieliset jumalanpalvelukset kuukauden neljättä sunnuntaina klo 3:00 iltapäivällä Apostolic Lutheran kirkossa Goen Roadilla.

Muistithan uusia tilauksesi?

Cutlerin ja Sarmannon uusin yhteistyö kantaesitettiin

Heikki Sarmannon ja Aina Swan Cutlerin uusin yhteistyö, *Helsinki Halku - song pictures* -laulusarja, sai kantaesityksensä Cafe Caruselissa Helsingissä. Laulusarja on myös levytetty.

Amerikansuomalainen runoilija Cutler tunnetaan yhteistyöstään jazzsäveltäjä Heikki Sarmannon kanssa. Hän on kääntänyt muun muassa Aaro Hellaakosken, Eino Leinon ja Lauri Viidan runoutta englanniksi Sarmannon lauluksi.

Kymmenen vuotta sitten Cutler näytti Helsinki-aiheisia runojaan Sarmannelle, joka pani tekstit talteen. Cutlerin runot ovat tuokiokuvia ja näkymiä yli Helsingin, alkaen lentokentältä ja päättyen lentokentälle. (SS)

Helsinki Halkua voi tilata Raivaajan kirjakaupasta hintaan \$25.00. Lisäksi \$3.00 postituskuluhin ja Massachusettsin asukkailla \$1.75 osavaltion veroa.

Häkkinen säilytti johtonsa Monzan kakkossijalla

Mika Häkkisen ja Michael Schumacherin kamppailu formula 1:n maailmanmestaruudesta kiristyy. Schumacher pystyi pitämään Häkkisen takanaan Monzassa ajatussa dramaattisessa MM-osakilpailussa. Kolmanneksi selviytyi nuorempi Schumacher eli Ralf.

Tappiostaan huolimatta Häkkinen säilytti asemansa pistetilaston kärjessä. Häkkinen on 80 pistettä, Schumacherilla 78. Jäljellä on vielä kolme osakilpailua. (SS)

Sodissa kaatuneiden tiedot löytyvät Internetistä

Sota-arkiston tiedot Suomen sodissa 1939-1945 menehtyneistä on siirretty Internetiin. Tietokannasta löytyy yli 94 000 henkilöä, joita voi etsiä sukunimen, etunimen, syntymä- tai kuolinajan mukaan tai vaikkapa kunnittain.

Palvelu mahdollistaa tietojen hakemisen myös joukko-osaston tai menehtymispaidan mukaan.

Aiemmin vastaavien tietojen hakeminen on edellyttänyt käyntiä paikan päällä Sota-arkistossa. Sodissa menehtyneiden arkistoon voi tutustua osoitteessa www.mil.fi/san karivainajat. (SS)

Kulttuurikaupunkivuosi jo tavoitteessa

Helsingin kulttuurikaupunkivuoden tapahtumissa oli käynyt 4,2 miljoonaa ihmistä elokuun loppuun mennessä. Se on enemmän kuin odotettiin koko vuoden kävijämääräksi. Kulttuurivuoden johtaja Georg Dolivo uskookin, että vuoden loppuun mennessä päästään viiteen miljoonaan kävijään. (STT)



WESTMINSTER, MA - Kansanmusiikkiryhmä Myllärien yli seitsenviikkoinen kiertue toi musiikit myös Massachusettsiin, missä he esiintyivät Fitchburgissa, Bostonissa ja Somervilleissä. Tärkeinä isäntinä toimineet Joyce ja Lloyd Hannula järjestivät yhtenä iltana pot luck -vastaanoton kotonaan. Vieraita oli pyydetty tuomaan mukanaan vain joko suomalaista tai karjalaista (Myllärit ovat kotoisin Venäjän Karjalasta, Petroskoista) ruokaa. Leppoisan illan kuluessa Myllärit innostuivat myös viihdyttämään vieraita.

Kuva: Ben

Sukulaisvierailulla Yhdysvalloissa

WESTMINSTER, MA - landin yliopistossa, jolloin Christina Skog ja Carita Pihl, Espoosta Suomesta, tekivät menneenä kesänä kolmiviikkoisen sukulais- ja lomamatkan Louise ja Peter Janhusen luokse.

Kuusitoistavuotias Christina ja Peter ovat kaukaista sukua toisilleen, ja olivat tavanneet toisensa ensi kerran kolme vuotta sitten Janhusen silloisen Suomi-matkan aikana.

"Peter kutsui lähtiessään korvaani, että olen tervetullut vierailulle milloin vain", Christina kertoi.

Matkakaverikseen hän sai 15-vuotiaan ystävänsä Caritan, joka on ollut hänen "kaverinsa" kolmivuotiaasta asti.

Tytöt kertoivat olleensa häissä Houstonissa ja viettäneet Fourth of July juhlan Washington, D.C.:ssa minkä lähistöllä Janhusen poika Peter asuu perheineen.

Heillä äöli vain positiivista sanomista näkemästä ja kokemastaan.

"Ihmiset ovat olleet tosi mukavia ja ystävällisiä", he sanoivat yhteen ääneen.

Washington oli heidän mielestään viehättävää, ja siellä oli "niin paljon tekemistä. Siellä kului aika".

Mitään suurempia yllätyksiä Christina ja Carita eivät olleet kokeneet. Pieniä kieli-vaikkeitakin aluksi, ja ruoassa oli vähän eroa, joskin tälläistä he kehuivat "tosi hyväksi". Jossain vaiheessa tytöt huomasivat alkaneensa puhua englantia jopa keskenään.

He olivat vierailleet Mary-



Carita Pihl, Louise ja Peter Janhunen sekä Christina Skog Janhusen kottipihalla.

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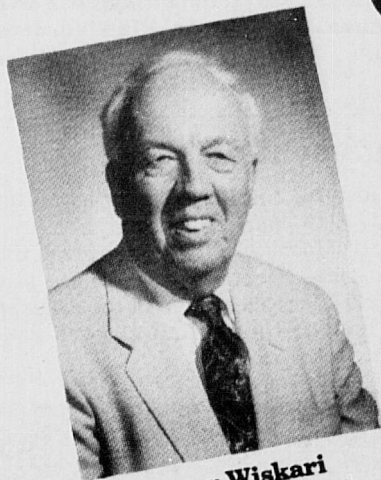
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*The Finnish-American***RAIVAAJA**

RAIVAAJA's 95th Anniversary Celebration



Werner Wiskari

Sunday, October 1st • 2 p.m.
Saima Park, Scott Road, Fitchburg

Werner Wiskari Main Speaker

Pertti Paasio, Chairman of Suomi-Seura

Hugo Mäkinen of Vanhat Toverit

Hannu Harjunmaa Quintet

Crumtown Ramblers

Lauri Lassila's Juhlaruno

Paul Hanslin Master of Ceremonies

Richard Koski
of the Crumtown Ramblers*Finnish coffee table after the program*

Admission \$10.00

Celebrating 95 years of service

FITCHBURG, MA - For over 95 years your newspaper RAIVAAJA has been serving the Finnish American community. Clearly an achievement of this caliber calls for a celebration and thus we will be marking RAIVAAJA's 95th anniversary year on Sunday, October 1, at 2 p.m. at Saima Park, Scott Road.

Following Finnish American tradition, the afternoon's program will consist of speeches, music and poetry and closing with a Finnish coffee table.

The main speaker of the event will be journalist Werner Wiskari, of Charlestown (RI). For thirty-six years Wiskari worked for the New York Times, first as a copy editor of the Metropolitan and Foreign News Desks and later as an assistant to the Foreign News Editor.

From 1958 to 1964 as well

as three-month periods in 1966 and 1967 he was the newspaper's Stockholm-based foreign correspondent covering Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Iceland.

Since his 1984 retirement from the New York Times Wiskari has kept busy with various writing projects. He wrote a book, "Reindeer and Mostly Political Animals" reflecting on his Nordic assignment years. It was published in Finland in 1987 by Werner Söderström with the Finnish title "Pahanilmantuntu."

He has written a number of articles for Finnish publications, some of which have also been published in RAIVAAJA.

Currently Wiskari is working on a memoir, tentatively entitled "Tales of Wiskari."

Werner Wiskari, 82, was born in Red Jacket (MI), the elder of two sons of Finnish

immigrants, the Reverend Matti Wiskari and Elna (Järvinen) Wiskari. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University.

Wiskari and his wife, artist Millie Wiskari, have four adult children.

Finnish guests

Pertti Paasio, Chairman of Suomi-Seura in Helsinki, Finland and Hugo Mäkinen, also of Helsinki, will travel to RAIVAAJA's anniversary celebration.

Paasio, who since 1998 has been serving as Suomi-Seura's chairman, will bring greetings from the society. He is a former chairman of the Finnish Social Democratic Party and is a former Member of the Parliament as well as the European Parliament. He will also bring greetings from his party.

Hugo Mäkinen is a long-time

friend and supporter of RAIVAAJA. He is an active member of the Social Democratic Vanhat Toverit organization whose greeting he'll be bringing.

Musical entertainment will be provided by Hannu Harjunmaa Quintet and the Crumtown Ramblers.

Harjunmaa, of Holden, plays contra base and has arranged music of Finnish composers (Merikanto etc.) for the quintet he has formed especially for this celebration of RAIVAAJA.

The Crumtown Ramblers have been playing for dances and festivals in the Finnish community around Ithaca (NY) since 1982. The band consists of Richard Koski on one and two row button accordions, Geo Kloppel on fiddle and Tom Gajewski on guitar, mandolin and clarinet. They have performed at a

FinnFest USA and the Kaustinen Folk Festival in Finland.

Besides playing old time Finnish dance music, the Crumtown Ramblers keep busy playing for square and contra dances in New York state and New England. They have one recording of Finnish music, "Saturday Night Sauna With The Crumtown Ramblers."

The juhlaruno, a special poem written for the particular celebration, has a long tradition in Finnish American gatherings. We have asked a local poet Lauri Lassila, of Ashby, to create one for RAIVAAJA's 95th. Luckily, he agreed and will recite his poem at the celebration.

Paul Hanslin, of Charlestown (RI), will serve as a master of ceremonies.

The admission charge for the event is \$10.00. The proceeds will benefit RAIVAAJA.



'Bridges North' theme of ASFLA festival

LOS ANGELES, CA - "Bridges North" is the theme of the American Scandinavian Foundation of Los Angeles 18th annual Scandinavian Festival on Saturday, October 14, at MGM Plaza in Santa Monica from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

The popular southland event this year celebrates bridges of friendship and heritage - cultural, educational and economic links between the five Scandinavian countries and the United States. The theme is inspired by the recent opening of the incredible Öresund Bridge project that provides a motorway and railway link between the Scandinavian peninsula and north central Europe by way of four tunnels, an artificial island, two approach bridges and a high span bridge.

The organization's festival "bridge" is a day long event that connects Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden with Southern California and welcomes children of all ages to enjoy Scandinavian friends, fun, music,

folk dancing, drama, ethnic foods, Nordic bar, arts, crafts, and imports, a children's corner, tombola, festival raffle and a colorful parade of museum quality national costumes.

The finale of the day is the festival raffle drawing this year awarding Double Grand Prizes as SAS joins our long-time festival partner Finnair in presenting two lucky grand prize winners with two tickets each for travel to Scandinavia.

Proceeds from the day support the work of the American Scandinavian Foundation of Los Angeles (ASFLA), including primarily a scholarship program that annually awards seven scholarships for upper-division and graduate students at Los Angeles area colleges and universities.

Raffle participants need not be present to win and are eligible for many exciting prizes in addition to the grand prizes. For further information, or to request raffle tickets, call 323-661-4ASF or 323-661-4273. ASFLA

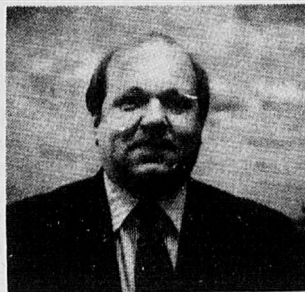
New Consul General In NYC

The president of Finland has appointed Jukka Leino as the new Consul General of Finland in New York as of September 1st.

Jukka Leino has two law degrees from the University of Turku, Finland. He started his career as the private secretary to the Minister of Justice in 1972. After that he was a Lecturer of International Law and Constitutional Law at the University of Turku, before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1974.

His diplomatic career includes positions in Moscow, United Nations in New York, Belgrade and London. In 1992-94 he served as a director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Helsinki. Since 1994 he has been running the Finnish Embassy in Singapore, at first as a Chargé d'Affaires and then as the Ambassador from 1996. Since August 1999 he has also held the post of the Non-resident Ambassador of Finland to Maldives.

"As the new Consul General of Finland in New York, I have been trying to think of the various ways to modernize the Consulate to fit into the new demands of our times. What is the 'philosophy' of a modern Consulate? Of course, I still see much



Jukka Leino

importance in its traditional fields."

"We will promote the Finnish image in New York maintaining close contacts with the large media field, promoting Finnish-related culture and rendering assistance to Finnish citizens in need. We stay in close contact with the Finnish community in our area. Should Finnish-related companies need support in trade promotion, the Consulate General should be ready to provide them all assistance."

"We should try to channel more investments to Finland and also to promote Finnish-related shares in the Stock Exchange. All in all, we should promote the Finnish image of always being reliable and trustworthy in all matters. To me, being Finnish is an added value," says Leino.

Headlines

News from Finland

Finns reduce tobacco consumption more than other Nordic nations

Finland cut back on its consumption of tobacco at the end of the 1900s more than the other Nordic countries.

Last year tobacco consumption was 40 percent lower in Finland than in 1970. In 1998, 25.1 percent of Finns were daily smokers, and the figure had gone down to 23.3 percent in 1999.

In Sweden, smoking has decreased by 49 percent since 1970. However, the use of snuff has nearly doubled in the same amount of time.

The average Swede over the age of 15 smokes more than half a kilo of tobacco and uses nearly half a kilo of snuff each year, whereas the average Finn smokes about a kilo annually.

The figures are based on a study commissioned by Sweden's tobacco industry and conducted by the private statistical office Veka. The data concerning Finland are from Statistics Finland and the National Public Health Institute. (HS)

Finland cheers release of Philippines hostages

Finland welcomed the release on Saturday of four hostages, including two Finns, held for four and a half months by rebels on the Philippines island of Jolo.

The Finns, Risto Vahnen and Seppo Fränti, were among 21 people kidnapped by Muslim rebels from a resort on the Malaysian island of Sipadan on April 23 and taken to the southern Philippines island.

The Abu Sayyaf rebels handed them over to government emissaries on Saturday along with the German Marc Wallert and Frenchman Stephane Loisy. The group still holds two French journalists and a Filipino.

"The situation has all along been perhaps even more serious than we have understood," Finnish foreign minister Erkki Tuomioja (SDP) told reporters by telephone from New York, where he was attending the U.N. millennium summit.

Tuomioja thanked negotiators who secured the release, especially those from Libya, which has played a key mediating role in the 20-week crisis. Tuomioja said that while it seemed apparent that Libya had paid ransom, Finland had not.

"We don't have any exact knowledge (of this). If money has changed hands - and everything undoubtedly suggests that it has - we have not been asked and we have not contributed," he said. (Reuters)

100 Finnish transport companies change names to avert problems with Russian customs

About 100 Finnish transport companies involved in road haulage in Russia have changed their names during the past year. The reason for the move is the black list kept by Russian customs authorities of companies suspected of violating Russian regulations, mainly in the years 1996-1997. About 150 Finnish road haulage firms transport goods to Russia.

"Using the old name would mean that our equipment might have been confiscated at any time in Russia," says Antti Seppälä, the managing director of Kiito-Simeon. He notes that during the past year, Finnish road haulers have had to pay a total of about FIM 4 million to get back trucks that had been seized by Russian authorities. The money involved has varied from a few thousand markkas to up to FIM 300,000. (HS)

Koivisto on 1981 dispute:

I would have resigned from Bank of Finland

Former president Mauno Koivisto says that he would have entered "politics" if he had been forced to resign as prime minister in the spring of 1981. In an interview with YLE Television broadcast on Sunday evening, Koivisto says that he would not have gone back to his post as governor of the Bank of Finland.

As it happened, Koivisto held on to his office, and when president Urho Kekkonen resigned later that year for health reasons, Koivisto became acting president, and was officially elected to the office in early 1982, an office which he held for two terms, until 1994.

In his interview Koivisto spoke about his confrontation with president Kekkonen. Koivisto did not say directly what his plans had been. However, he made it clear that if he had been forced to resign as prime minister, he would have resigned from the Bank of Finland, and that he would probably have been a candidate in the following parliamentary elections. (HS)

Best grain harvest in a decade

Finland's grain harvest this autumn promises to be the best since 1990. According to information gathered in mid-August, this year's grain harvest should be about four billion kilos. In a normal year, the harvest is about 3.5 billion kilos.

More than 650 million kilos will be for bread grains: wheat and rye. Barley and oats are classified as feed grains.

According to Hannu Pelttari, the managing director of the state grain company Avena, the quality of this year's crop is "reasonably good."

This will be the first time in many years that Finland gets close to self sufficiency in breadstuffs.

Esa Härmälä, the chairman of the Finnish farmers' union, the MTK, says that it is easier to smile now than two weeks ago.

"Quantitatively, the crop seems good on a national scale. Questions of quality are not known in detail yet, but the good weather of the past week and a half has saved very much."

One reason for the expected large grain crop is the increase in land under cultivation. Another reason was the weather, which may have seemed cool and wet to holiday makers, but for growing grains, it was suitably warm and damp. (HS)

Bits and pieces

Finland has surpassed the United States to become the best country in the world in terms of competitiveness, but in terms of future competitiveness Finland is seen as sixth, a survey by the World Economic Forum found. (HS)

Finnish spice and coffee house Paulig said it had bought a 20 percent stake in Europe's second largest spice group, German Fuchs, for an undisclosed sum. (TS)

Drug use is increasing among Finnish youths and they are becoming more tolerant of narcotics usage while drugs education is still rare in high schools and vocational institutes, a survey carried out in the spring found. (Hbl)

Finance Minister Sauli Niinistö (Coalition) hopes that the collective wage talks this autumn will result in moderate wage increases and that the unions will take into consideration the tax cuts of some six billion markka proposed in the 2001 budget. (Demari)

Knights and Ladies of Kaleva
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Dinner

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Finland ahead of U.S. on wireless Internet

Appearing on the mass market in Sweden and Finland earlier this year, the first cellular phones employing the Wireless Application Protocol, or WAP, were hampered by high costs, ergonomic deficiencies and simplistic applications. The devices' buttons are number-based and their screens are difficult to read.

Finland's Nokia, the world's largest cellular phone maker, took one step toward solving the ease-of-use problem by designing a roller for its 7110 model that works similar to a computer mouse. The phones also memorize words, meaning fewer key strokes. But the compact screen still requires much navigation to complete a single transaction.

"There are no colors, the screen is very small and the communication speed for these devices is so slow that it's nothing really very comparable to Web services that you get from the PC," said Petri Mahonen, head researcher at the VTT Wireless Internet Laboratory in Finland.

"The wireless Internet is really complex and we don't really have the tools to do it yet," he said. "The main problem is not really in the WAP technology itself, but the marketing people have creat-

ed too high expectations by promising to put the Internet in your pocket."

The most widespread use so far for the wireless Internet is entertainment and information retrieval: games, horoscopes, news headlines and stock information.

Businesses in Europe and on a more limited basis in the United States are increasingly trying WAP; shipping companies let customers track deliveries via cellphone, and music stores and even cinemas are offering mailorder purchases.

Many European banks also have launched WAP services, but these are plagued by security concerns. Finnish-Swedish Merita Nordbanken says it overcame those concerns by using its own gateway - but that requires a separate dial-in procedure than users employ to use the Internet.

Matti Oivio, an Internet specialist for the bank in Helsinki said that using the services are indeed cumbersome: "If it's hard to start to use, slow to use and expensive to use, it's a wonder that anybody uses it, but they do."

Oivio is among the users. He was sitting in a restaurant in Rome recently when he realized he had forgotten to pay for his wife's plane tickets. He dialed into his account and transferred the money to the travel agent.

"At that point I didn't have any other access, since I wasn't near a desktop computer," he said.

It's easy for application developers in gadget-crazy Sweden and Finland to be optimistic as they walk down streets filled with people who appear to be talking to themselves until their mobile phone headgear comes into view - or staring down at handsets while punching out missives using short message services, or SMS, technology.

Mobile phone use far ex-

ceeds desktop computer use in Europe, particularly in the Nordic region. More than 50 percent of almost 9 million Swedes have a cellphone and the figure skyrocketed to more than 85 percent of Finland's 2.4 million households.

Those phones, of course, are increasingly tied to the Internet. The number of Net-capable mobile phone owners in western Europe is expected to surge in the next five years, rising from 25.6 million last year to 285.6 million in 2005, according to Massachusetts-based Forrester Research Inc.

European countries got a boost in the mobile market from a joint decision a decade ago to adopt a uniform Global System for Mobile communications that allows cellular phones to be used throughout the region.

The United States lags way behind in the wireless Internet market. Only 37.5 percent of Americans are projected to have a cellphone this year, and only 0.3 percent of those would have access to the Internet, according to Forrester.

AP

Finlandia Foundation-Boston Inc.

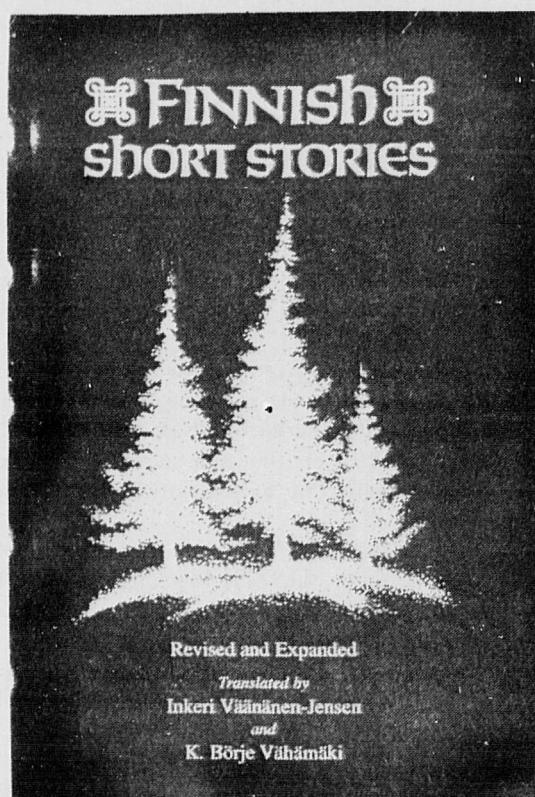
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DEADLINE FOR RETURN:
Nov. 30, 2000



Finnish literature has always favored short fiction. Indeed, some of Finland's most illustrious writers have also been masters of the short story. This anthology offers examples of the best stories written by Finnish authors between 1860 and 1970.

The writing styles display great variety: from Aleksis Kivi's romanticism to Timo Mukka's stark realism, from Juhani Aho's nationalistic portraits to Veijo Meri's globally universal absurdist stories, from the social realism of Minna Canth to the humor of Veikko Huovinen, from the contemplative Toivo Pekkanen to the symbolist Juha Mannerkorpi.

This edition of *Finnish Short Stories* contains additions and revisions to the two earlier editions (1982 and 1991). The collection now includes a detailed and informative introduction entitled "The Traditional Finnish Short Story, 1860-1970," written by K. Börje Vähämäki, co-translator with Inkeri Väänänen-Jensen of the stories. He has also made significant revisions to a number of the earlier stories.

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Connecting Souls

Finnish Voices in North America

Edited by Varpu Lindström & Börje Vähämäki

The thirty contributors invite you to share the humorous, tragic, reflective, melancholy, and joyous poems and stories which make up this book. Their Finnish voices reverberate in their texts.

Finnishness, of course, manifests itself in a great many ways. Yet it always emanates out of the soul of the writer. *Connecting Souls* offers the reader opportunities to connect with other souls within and across geographic and cultural boundaries. A truly diverse and meaningful collection of what North American ethnic Finns have to offer.

soft cover, 223 pages

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RAIVAAJA's 95th Anniversary Special

RAIVAAJA's 95th Anniversary Special will be published on Wednesday, September 27th. Since RAIVAAJA is a paper of its readers we are inviting all of you to participate in the creation of this special issue. Why not send in your recollections about your connection to the paper?

Monson, ME

Dance at Farmers' Club

There will be a dance at the Finnish Farmers' Club, Route 15, on Saturday, October 7, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Veikko Honkala will play.

Finnish American Heritage Society

Canterbury, CT

New members' night

Our fourth New Members' Night has been set for Friday evening, September 22, at 7 p.m.

These gatherings are planned for new members and others who wish to see our hall and find out more about FAHS activities on an informal basis. Previous sessions have served a very useful purpose in providing an opportunity to become acquainted with other members and tour the hall, including our new addition.

Remember that you do not need to be a new member to attend this event. We invite you to join us for light refreshments and a glimpse of what we do.

Tori

The annual Tori/Open Market will be held on Saturday, September 30, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Finnish Hall in Canterbury. Finnish food will be served and many varieties of goods will be for sale.

Come and enjoy our biggest annual event! Bring friends and meet new ones. Do holiday shopping early. Come and taste those Finnish delicacies.

If you would like to assist with set-up, sales, parking, raffle or clean-up, call Jackie Harjula at 860-429-4152.

If you would like to help with food preparation, call Ella Mäkipuro at 860-423-3854. We can sell as many loaves of pulla as we can make!

Fall barbecue

An addition to the FAHS calendar this year is our Fall Barbecue set for Saturday, October 14. Note that the time is 5 to 7 p.m.

The dinner will feature barbecued beef, slow cooked for several hours on a spit and basted with barbecue sauce.

Our FAHS barbecue crew will handle the barbecue detail and promise another tasty meal. Joan Sommers, of Voluntown, will chair this event.

For those who wish to get in a little dancing there will be taped music beginning at 7 p.m. following the barbecue.

FinnConn

Photographs and poems are welcome, too.

There must be many out there who in some manner have participated in Raivaaja's events or campaigns. You might be a former Raivaaja employee or perhaps your parents or grandparents were connected to Raivaaja.

May-be you are a more recent subscriber and would like to share your feelings and comments regarding this historic ethnic newspaper and its role.

Please mail your material to: Raivaaja, P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054 or email: raivaaja@net1plus.com

Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

- Sept. 22 - SkandiFest, celebrating a Millennium of Viking Heritage, 12 noon-8 pm, Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 N Broadway, Turlock. Info: 209-667-1452; e-mail skanfest@sonnet.com
- Sept. 23 - SkandiFest continues, 9 am-8 pm, Turlock.
 - 'Sibelius - The Man, The Genius,' lecture by Dr Jeanne Doty, 4 pm, Norwegian Seamen's Church, 1035 S Beacon St, San Pedro. For more info: 310-452-7667. Sponsored by LAFF, LBFF & the Norwegian Seamen's Church.
- Sept. 24 - SkandiFest continues, 10 am-4 pm, Turlock.
- Oct. 2 - California and Finnish Perspectives on Media Art, lecture featuring professor Minna Tarkka, Medialab at the University of Art & Design Helsinki, and Norman Klein, UCLA Design & CalArts, 6 pm, 1473 Dickson Art Center, UCLA, Los Angeles.
- Oct. 14 - Scandinavian Festival 2000, 10 am-6 pm, MGM Plaza, 2425 Colorado Ave, Santa Monica. Performers include Mesterilaulajat male chorus from Finland. Info 323-661-42734.

CONNECTICUT

- Sept. 22 - Finnish American Heritage Society's new members' night, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 North Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury.
- Sept. 30 - Tori/Open Market, 9 am-3 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.
- Oct. 1 - Finnish-American Heritage Society membership meeting, 1:30 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Coffee 12:30 pm.
- Oct. 14 - FAHS Fall Dinner & Dance, 5-7 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.
- Oct. 21 - FAHS Children's Halloween Party, 2 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

MAINE

- Sept. 17 - Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris.
- Oct. 15 - Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, West Paris. Program: RAIVAAJA editor Marita Cauthen will speak about her work.

MASSACHUSETTS

- Sept. 16 - Annual Kaleva Fall Fair, 9 am-2 pm, Kalevaiset Lodge, Kaleva Rd, Littleton. Finnish baked goods, wooden crafts, grilled lunches, holiday ornaments. Info: 978-264-9044.
 - Finnish folk dance lesson for children, 2-3 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, 61 Scott Rd, Fitchburg. Participants to perform in AmeriCulture Arts Festival.
- Sept. 17 - Tori 2000, 10 am-3pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. A fall festival of Scandinavian Arts & Crafts; a variety of unique gift items available; Clam chowder & hot dogs; concert by Fitchburg Military Band 12:30-1:30 pm.
- Sept. 18 - Finnish Language Course classes begin, Kaleva Koti, 107 Mechanic St, Fitchburg. Registration 6-7 pm. Classes 7-9 pm for 10 weeks. Beginners class taught by Marita Cauthen; conversational class led by Oiva Anderson. Info: 978-874-2780 after 4:30 pm; e-mail mmkterve@yahoo.com
- Sept. 19 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.
 - Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod monthly meeting, 7 pm, West Barnstable Community Building, Rte 149, West Barnstable.
- Sept. 23 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.
- Sept. 24 - Smörgåsbord Dinner, 12 noon-1 pm, Kaleva Camp, Fort Pond, Perry Rd, Lancaster. Hosted by Knights & Ladies of Kaleva.
- Sept. 26 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.
- Sept. 30 - New England Suomi-Koulu Fall opening, 12 noon-2 pm, Kaleva Maja, Fort Pond, Littleton. Info: www.finnish-schools.org/boston/ or 617-753-9377.
 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.
- Oct. 1 - RAIVAAJA's 95th Anniversary Celebration, 2 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg.
 - Accordion Fest featuring Nils Lundin & his Roving Band of New England Accordionists, 2 pm, Sovittaja Park, Rutland. Refreshments & dancing.
- Oct. 3 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.
- Oct. 6 - Annual Finn Night, Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave, Braintree. Dancing to music of Nils Lundin. Info, reservations: 781-659-2206.
- Oct. 8 - Finnish American Fine Art Exhibit, 11 am-5 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

FINNISH LANGUAGE COURSES

Beginners class taught by Marita Cauthen
Conversational class led by Oiva Anderson

Beginning September 18, 2000
Registration 6 - 7 pm
Classes on Mondays 7 - 9 pm
for 10 weeks

Kaleva Koti

107 Mechanic St., Fitchburg, MA 01420

For more information contact

Martha Kuokkanen at 978-874-2780 after 4:30 p.m.
e-mail: mmkterve@yahoo.com

- Oct. 14 - New England Suomi-Koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, Lexington. Info: www.finnish-schools.org/boston/ or 617-753-9377.
 - Nov. 3-5 - Finn-Funn Weekend, Sheraton Colonial Hotel and Golf Club, Wakefield. Sponsored by Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury (CT). For info, contact Anita & Jack Smiley, 42 Benjamin Rd, Preston CT 06365; e-mail smiley.s.place@juno.com
- ### MICHIGAN
- Sept. 19 - Finnweavers Workshop, 9 am, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.
 - Sept. 30 - Flea Market, 9 am-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
 - Oct. 4 - Finnweavers, 10 am, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
 - Oct. 7 - Finnish Center Association Senior Citizen's Housing Corporation's 25th anniversary celebration, Finnish Center Association Cultural Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills. Dinner 7 pm; dancing 8 pm-midnight to music by the Mike Wolverton Trio. Reservations (deadline Sept 30): 248-476-4577 or 248-474-3907.
 - Oct. 14 - Rummage, pasty & bake sale, 9 am-2 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
 - Oct. 15 - Finnish Center Association Scholarship Reception, 3 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- ### MINNESOTA
- Sept. 15 - Finnish American Cultural Activities monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, International Institute, 1694 Como Ave, St Paul. Program: 'Writing Your Family History' by Pat Ellola.
 - Oct. 13 - Dance, 8:30 pm, Tapestry Folkdance Center, 3748 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis. Dance lesson at 7:30. Music by Minnesota Pelimannit. Info: 651-578-0156 or 612-722-2914.
 - Oct. 14 - Fall Festival, 10 am-1 pm, Finnish American Historical Society, Cokato. Info: 763-595-9188.
 - Nov. 19 - Swan Cutler Finnish Choral Music Festival, 2 pm, Ted Mann Concert Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Guest conductor Matti Hyökki to conduct varied program of Finnish choral music. Free admission. Info: 612-624-1069.
- ### NEW HAMPSHIRE
- Sept. 17 - Myllärit Karelian Folk Band concert, 4 pm, Lyme Congregational Church, Lyme. Info: 802-333-9598.
- ### NEW YORK
- Sept. 17 - Finger Lakes Finns annual Fall Festival, 1 pm, Newfield High School, Newfield. Dish to pass dinner followed by 'A Tribute to Viola Turpeinen' by Richard & Helvi Impola with Bert Stromholm. Dancing till 5 pm.
 - Sept. 24 - Mika Pohjola Trio, Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St, New York. Shows at 9 & 10:30 pm.
 - Sept. 30 - Finnish War Veterans in America Annual Venison Dinner Dance, 6 pm, Lomala Hall, Rte 82, Hopewell Jct. Music by Hendela with vocals by Autio. Guest of honor: Harri Holkari, former prime minister of Finland. War veterans at no charge. Reservations: 203-438-1890, 914-897-5902 or jmkirk@attglobal.net
 - Oct. 13 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metropolitan Chapter program evening, 8 pm, 6th floor, Central Presbyterian Church, 593 Park Ave at 64th St, New York.
- ### PENNSYLVANIA
- Sept. 17 - Finnish American Society of Delaware Valley Fall Picnic, 1 pm, Pavilion #7, Core Creek Park, Bucks County. Info: 609-625-3464.
 - Sept. 24 - Philadelphia Suomi-koulu, 1:30-3:30 pm, Swedish Museum, Philadelphia. Info about 4-6 age group, 215-579-1008; 7-12 age group, 856-427-9931; adults, 215-886-1478.
 - July 26-29 - FinnFest USA 2001, Villanova University, Villanova. Info: Phone 856-489-1594; FAX 856-489-1106; e-mail: mail@finnfest2001.org; web site: www.finn_fest2001.org
- ### TEXAS
- Oct. 12 - Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Fort Worth monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, Walnut Hill Lutheran Church, Royal Lane & Webb Chapel, Northwest Dallas.
- ### VERMONT
- Sept. 15 - Myllärit concert, 7:30 pm, Chandler Music Hall, Randolph. Info: 802-728-9878.
- ### WASHINGTON
- Dec. 2 - Finnish Independence Day Celebration Dinner & Dance, Mountaineers Club, Seattle. Info: 425-641-8724.
- ### WASHINGTON, DC
- Sept. 17 - Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter Fall Opening Concert featuring Diane Jarvi, 2-4 pm, Embassy of Finland. Reservations: 703-684-8563.

Events subject to change without notice

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Finnish Center at Salma Park

Finnish legacies in north central Massachusetts

The Finnish Center at Salma Park Inc of Fitchburg (MA) was a participant in the Local Legacies project of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress.

As part of this project the Finnish Center at Salma Park prepared this narrative about Finnish American history and culture in the north central region of Massachusetts.

Since it is a historic document in itself, this narrative is being printed in RAIVAAJA as it was submitted to the Library of Congress by the Finnish Center's board of directors.

In preparing the narrative for publication, however, we did note some specific factual errors. We did not want to knowingly print this inaccurate information so there are some instances where something, most often a year, is followed by something in brackets (for example: 1905 [1906]). Our correction is the information in the brackets.

We also wish to state that this narrative does not necessarily reflect the opinions of this newspaper or its staff.

- continues from last week -

Churches

The early Finns were pretty much isolated from the rest of the community because of language so it was natural that they formed societies and groups in which members could associate with others having kindred interests.

Many references to "Church Finns" and "Hall Finns" have been made during discussions at Finn Fests and other conferences when reviewing the adjustment to life in the United States by Finnish immigrants.

This broad classification of the early Finns in America applied in Fitchburg, although the degree of animosity between the groups was less than in some other Finntowns, especially in those where labor conflicts intended to intensify the division between the two camps.

It is often said that "politics make strange bedfellows." Economic considerations often do the same; the truism of which was proven by what happened among the early Finnish Fitchburgers. In 1898 Aamunkoitto (temperance), Salma Society (labor), and the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church decided that the only way they could muster the finances to build a meeting place was to join forces.

Two years later a church was dedicated on Mechanic Street - right on the edge of one of the heavily Finnish

areas of the city - which housed the Evangelical Lutheran church and the temperance society and the Labor Society Salma. This union, understandably, in view of the temper of the times, was not a harmonious one. Its survival prospects were about those of a snowball in Elm Street's Hanna Sauna. But despite the discord among the original occupants, the Mechanic Street Church must be remembered as the first structure erected by the Fitchburg Finns for religious and social purposes.

Following various squabbles over who could use the non-chancel areas of the building - and when - plus a court action because somebody changed the locks, the church finally purchased the shares of the temperance society and of Salma so that peace could reign in the House of the Lord.

This church, now known as the Messiah Lutheran Church, has grown markedly in the size of its congregation since those early days and its well being is attested to by its splendid current home (1963) on the outskirts of the city. The temperance society, Aamunkoitto, finally built a home for itself on Grove Street but because of dwindling membership and financial problems, it terminated its activity in the early thirties, selling its building to the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Since then the Eagles have moved on and the Finn hall on Grove Street is no more.

As has been pointed out, the Messiah Lutheran Church congregation was the first to establish a place for worship for its immigrant brethren. A few years later another congregation, a group which had been meeting in private homes and various other places, also gained its own house of worship, the Finnish Evangelical Mission Church, which is now known as the Elm Street Congregational Church.

The history of this Finnish church is unique. Its organizer and pastor, the Reverend Andrew Groop, came to Fitchburg from the Chicago Union Theological Seminary to serve the Swedish-speaking community but was asked to become a missionary minister preaching to the Finnish people in Massachusetts. He established a Finnish congregation in the city in 1893 even before he had solved two big problems - his Finnish-speaking congregation had no permanent home and he, Rev. Groop, didn't really speak Finnish! Although Groop had been born in Finland, his family was Swedish-speaking and he, himself, had moved to Sweden when he was seventeen.

Andrew Groop wasted little time in overcoming the handicaps. He mastered the Finnish language and purchased land on Elm Street which he

donated to his congregation. The first service in the new church (which the congregation had constructed on this donated land) was held on Christmas Day, 1904. And for the next forty years Rev. Groop was a very familiar figure in the Fitchburg Finnish community.

His visits to the hospitals to comfort the ill and his help for the poor, carrying sacks of food which he had collected from the bakeries and other sources almost on a daily basis became legendary. He was a beloved man and the Elm Street Church's name reflected this. The church was known to all Finns as "Groop's Church."

Probably reflecting on their congregations' memories of their childhood homeland, both these major Finnish churches purchased lakefront property for the use of their members. This provided summertime living area and opportunity for recreation, youth camps, and religious services.

Recognizing the changing times and the increasing number of "non-Finns" in their congregations, these churches decided in the middle of the 20th century to adopt English as the service language.

Kaleva

In addition to church life and involvement in the labor movement, the Fitchburg Finns also launched the Fitchburg lodges of the Knights and Ladies of Kaleva. The purpose of the Kaleva was to maintain an interest in the Finnish language and culture and to make their members conscious of their obligations to their new homeland. Both lodges were founded in 1908 - the Knights as the 24th and the Ladies as the 18th chapter of the national organization started 10 years previously in Belt (Montana).

Panun Maja, as the Knights lodge is known, and Kanteletaren Tupa, the Ladies lodge, did not have a permanent home for the first eighteen years but conducted their meetings in various sites around the city. But they weren't completely homeless all that time.

They purchased a "summer place" - named the Kaleva Camp - on Fort Pond in nearby Lancaster. The camp, with 300 feet of frontage on a spring-fed lake, gave the Knights and Ladies an appropriate setting for various outings such as picnics, festivals, and dances. An athletic field was cleared and a sauna was built.

These two Kaleva lodges bought a large house on Mechanic Street in 1926 which has been their meeting place ever since and where the two lodges have sponsored a Finnish language course since 1968.

turn to LEGACIES page 12

CORRECTION

Due to a typing error the length of the digital videotape "Traditions of Culture" mentioned in last week's issue was wrong. The correct length is 120 minutes.

Sports Roundup

by Harri Siitonen

Schumacher edges Häkkinen in tragic Formula One race

Michael Schumacher driving from the pole position finally won again at the Italian Grand Prix at Monza on September 10, in a race marked by death in a tragic accident. There was a seven car chain reaction pile-up on the second curve of the race killing Paolo Ghilberti, a track official standing nearby. The race continued with 15 contestants.

Mika Häkkinen was 12 seconds behind at one point but closed in for second place 3.81 seconds behind. Both top contenders David Coulthard and Rubens Barrichello were involved in the early race crash and couldn't continue.

Final standings were: 1) M. Schumacher/Ferrari, 2) Häkkinen/McLarenMercedes, 3) Ralf Schumacher, and 7) Mika Salo. Thus Häkkinen still leads the Formula One series by two points over Schumacher, 80-78.

Coulthard remains in third place with 61 and Barrichello in fourth with 49. Salo is in tenth with six points.

Best of Finnish track talent seen at Kalevan Kisat 2000

Kalevan Kisat 2000 (Kaleva Games, annual Finnish track & field championships) took place in Lahti, August 17-20. I was able to see the first two days of the Kisat, but then had to fly home. But I was able to pick up the later results via Internet.

The meet featured Finland's top hopefuls for the Olympics at Sydney. However, the star of the Kisat won't be able to go. He is Wilson Kirwa, 26, the Kenyan native who now lives in Lahti and competes for the city's host club Lahden Ahkera.

Kirwa won an unprecedented three running events at Lahti's stadium: the men's 400-meter in 47:31, the 800M in 1:50.39 and the 1500M in 3:48.07.

Finnish adore this personable star who this season has emerged as the top 800M runner in Europe. Unfortunately, since he is not yet a Finnish citizen he is ineligible to represent Finland in the Olympics, although IAAF rules allow him to do so in the World and European Championships.

A strong contender for an Olympic medal in the 50K racewalk was Valentin Kononen, 31, who breezed to an easy 20K victory at Lahti in

1:22:34, 7 minutes 15 seconds ahead of second place Jani Lehtinen. Unfortunately for Finland, Kononen, a former world champion, plans to retire from competitive racewalking after the Olympics.

I felt fortunate in being able to watch this classical stylist for the last time in competition. There is no one of his caliber on the horizon in Finnish men's racewalking.

Since World Champion Sari Essayah retired, Finland has no women walkers who rank among the world elite. But the women's 10K had an exciting race between defending champion Outi Sillanpää and 18-year-old Iina Muinonen, who may yet fill Essayah's shoes in a few years.

Sillanpää led most of the way but about two-thirds along, Muinonen pulled ahead and entered the stadium to win in 47:54.68 to Sillanpää's 48:17.31 second place.

World champion men's javelinist Aki Parviainen has had an excellent season and won at Lahti with 84.29 meters (he's been throwing in the 90M range most of the season). Matti Närhi was second (82.56) and Harri Hakkarainen third (81.71).

Mikaela Ingeberg took to women's javelin (63.44), Taina Uppa, second with 60.81 and 1996 Olympic champion Heli Rantanen third (57.09). Although Ingeberg and Uppa are throwing well this year they are not quite at the top on the world level when compared to Trine Hattestad, Norwegian world record holder and others.

Eduard Hämäläinen, formerly of Belarus, now a Finnish citizen, came back from a long injury layoff and took the men's decathlon with 8224 points, barely nosing out Aki Heikkinen with 8188. Hämäläinen is still of from his old world class form which netted him a Finnish national record of 8730 in 1997.

Tiia Hautala had already been picked for the Olympic team in the women's heptathlon so she didn't compete in her premier event at Lahti which was won by Susanna Rajamäki with a personal best of 6014 points followed by Annu Montell with 5931. But Hautala was conspicuous at Lahti in several single events she was using to tune up for the Olympics pentathlon. She was third in the women's high jump, the long jump and the 100-M hurdles as well as sixth in the shotput!

The men's shotput suffered a severe blow when world class Mika Halvari again tore his achilles tendon while warming up for an earlier

competition. So he had to kiss his Olympic chances goodbye this time. Arsi Harju won at the Kisat with 20.84m.

Finland's best long distance runner Annemari Sandell who had hoped to run the marathon at Sydney, had been shelved by injuries for several weeks. But she tried the 5000M at Lahti which she won in a slow 16:32.00, fighting off a last minute surge by Maria Söderström in 16:32.57. Sandell's Finnish record in 5000M is 14:56.22 (1996). Sandell limped to the victory stand, so it looks like her season is wrapped up.

An outstanding double winner at Lahti was Tytti Reho, who won the women's 800m in 2:03.59 and the 1500M in 4:14.87. She had been a sensation in the U.S. where she had competed for Southern Methodist university in the 800M in collegiate circles for several seasons. Penathlete winner Susanna Rajamäki also doubled for the gold in the long jump with 6.45M.

Tommi Hartonen, looked good in winning the Men's 200m in 20.76 while half-Finn, half-Italian Manuela Bosco, 17, won the women's 100M hurdles in 13.30.

Hohan Meriluoto took the men's triple jump in 15.97, not nearly as well as the 16.95 he did at Turku on August 2, when he almost matched Pertti Pousi's 32-year-old national record of 17.00. He injured himself to boot at Lahti, so his Olympic shot went with it. Heli Koivula won the women's triple jump with 12.92.

In the women's hammer, Finnish record holder Mia Strommer (66.37) defeated her top rival Sini Poyry in the event, 63.32 to 60.80. Olli-Pekka Karjalainen took the men's hammer with 78.52.

Berkeley, CA

Movies to be shown by UFKB&S Lodge 21 at Kaleva Hall, 2970 Chestnut St., from Oct.-Jan.

FALL HALL MOVIE SEASON IS HERE! All shows will be at 2:30 p.m. on Sundays in Dining Room area. Small donation appreciated. Refreshments.

Sun., Oct. 8: *Acting Our Age*, a 1987 hour documentary on older women creating meaningful lives for themselves. Featured among these women is Irja Koski Friend, a longtime member of the Berkeley Finnish community. Many may remember Irja's Kalevala study classes and her directing and acting as Louhi in the Kalevala Players productions of the mid 1980s. Directed by Michal Aviad, now a filmmak-

er in Israel, the video of course is in English. It should be inspirational to many of our older members as it shows that aging is no deterrent to creativity.

Sun., Nov. 5: *Rukajärven tie* (Ambush), a 1999 Finnish film starring Peter Frenzen and Irina Björklund. It tells of the harrowing lives of a young army lieutenant and his beloved, an army nurse, in the opening days of the Continuation War. Directed by Olli Saarela, the film is based on an Antti Tuuri novel and is 1 hour, 58 minutes long. Screenplay was by Saarela and Tuuri. IT HAS ENGLISH SUBTITLES, and was the most seen film in Finland during the 1990s.

December: No films.

Jan. 7, 2001: *Going to Kansas City*, a 1998 Finnish-Canadian production starring Mikko Nousiainen, Michael Ironside and Melissa Galianos. Mikko is a Finnish high school exchange student who thinks he's headed for the hot music scene of Kansas City, but instead ends up on a farm in rural Kansas.

He gets along fine with his high school peers but runs into problems with small town xenophobia among the adults. There is an accidental murder in Mikko is blamed. But not to worry, you'll see a happy ending. Sound is in English, but with Finnish subtitles. (How's that for a twist?) The film is an hour 35 minutes; Peter Mandart is director.

Ville Video



Norma Belden singing, Bert Stromholm and Nils Lundin playing accordions.
photo: Anja Laurila

A perfect party

ANJA LAURILA
VOLUNTOWN, CT

Like the movie "Perfect Storm" this get-together at the Pachaug-Lake can be described as a "Perfect Party". The Pulkkinen and Stromholm families wanted to revive the past tradition of Labor Day parties we used to have many years ago.

The grounds of these two families' properties are an ideal place to have a picnic where everybody can enjoy swimming, sauna and many kinds of outdoor games.

The hostess families provided coffee, cakes, grills, charcoal and all the trimmings needed to make it fun. And of course, live music is the one ingredient a good party must have and Nils Lundin and Bert Strömholm took care of that. We also had the privilege of enjoying Norma Beldens ever popular Swedish songs. Also Olavi Kurko entertained everybody with his mandolin and songs.

It was good to see about 70 happy people together, grilling hamburgers and hot dogs, enjoying many kinds of pot luck delicacies, swimming and sauna, kids playing darts and badminton. All ages of children participated in the dart games along with the adults, and at the end you could see many happy faces receiving their first, second and third prizes.

Sing-along "erupted" with the familiar Scandinavian music and Bert acknowledged several birthdays and anniversaries with the appropriate melodies.

A thought is being entertained that we could continue this Labor Day tradition annually. If there are people willing to host such a party and work for the enjoyment of everybody, it would really bring a nice ending to the summer season.

The Stromholms and Pulkkinens proved again to be the best hostesses and entertainers, so we all truly enjoyed a "Perfect Party".

LEGACIES

from page 10

Since the Fitchburg lodges are chapters of a national organization they cannot affiliate officially with any local group or society, but many Kaleva individuals are members of the Finnish Center at Saima Park. In 1988 the national Kaleva organization honored the Fitchburg Knights and Ladies lodges by holding its national convention, commemorating its 90th anniversary, in Fitchburg.

(Labor) Society Saima

Although much of this account is about the influence of Saima Park, an appreciation of the early years of the organizations involved in developing this recreational and educational place should enhance understanding of its effects on communal life.

Like other immigrant groups, the Finns were isolated from the rest of their community because of their total unfamiliarity with the English language. Therefore, it was natural for them to form societies with others with shared interests. One group resulting from this desire was the (Labor) Society Saima, which was formed in 1894.

Because most of the early members shared a strong belief in unions and labor organizations in general, the advocacy of democratic socialism and, through membership in the Finnish Socialist Federation, a show of support for the American Socialist Party seemed a logical political stance to them.

In her book, *The Finnish Imprint*, Dr. Liisa A. Lieder says this about the founding of the Labor Society Saima:

"The idea of Saima was considered in the minds of immigrants who understood the meaning of labor, toil and the daily struggle of earning a living. In the beginning Saima had one issue - the worker... who as an immigrant had to make his way through uncharted territory of his New Homeland, facing much difficulty, much neglect, and often, much abuse. To the immigrant worker, Saima became the mother, the father, the home and the children, the center toward which he could lean when the going became tough. Saima became the community center for the family that longed to join other families in sharing lives, ideas, work and fun. It became the educational center, the amusement park, the social club for the immigrant needing and wanting to understand his own worth. Saima became an ideology and cause for the immigrant who had no other ideology or who had abandoned old values and causes in search of new ones....Often the picture

painted of the early immigrants is that of rough, rugged, hardworking, tough-skinned, uneducated people formed earthy experiences and harsh terrain. All this is true; it is a part of the picture, but not all of it. There is another side to these immi-

grants; the side that is woven of tender strands of love and sensitivity, humanity and caring, intelligence and wit. Saima has exemplified all of these qualities, and has erected through her very existence a monument to the Finnish Americans in New England."

After working out of a partly owned in-town building for a few years, in 1905 [1906] Saima Society moved into its own new quarters in the city complete with a 700 seat auditorium (with removable seats), a well equipped stage for theatrical performances and concerts, meeting rooms, a small library, a kitchen, and dining area for all social activities. The building became known as Saima Hall.

The society's new home teemed with activities - concerts by bands, orchestras, and choruses, folk dancing, poetry readings, operettas, and short talks on current subjects. Drama groups with professional directors were common, and a full-time dramatics director was usually hired since a play was performed almost every Saturday night.

Often guest directors and performers from Finland came to augment the local casts, and frequently there were exchanges of play performances with other Finnish drama groups in New England and New York City.

In addition, the best Finnish classics, folk plays, and contemporary plays were presented as well as Finnish translations of popular German and Viennese operettas, such as "The Merry Widow" and "Countess Maritza."

Miriam Lehto, who was active both as an actress and a director in the Saima Drama Club for four decades, reports that "non-professional ethnic community theaters were unique to the Finnish groups, in New England at least, which had such an ongoing structured program for producing plays in its native tongue."

Attendance at the plays at Saima Hall was a family affair; children were admitted free and occupied the first few rows. Plays were presented almost every Saturday during the winter season. The drama club had a full-time paid director which resulted in a new play once a month. These productions, plus inter-

changed plays with other Finnish community groups in New England, assured the members the opportunity to "go to the theater" almost weekly. The average admission in the 'twenties was 40 cents.

Saima's dramatic group was organized on professional lines: a director, set designer, wardrobe mistress, props chairman, stage hands, and a prompter. (The last mentioned has since departed from the theater in America.) Plays produced included Finnish classics, translations of Shakespeare, Ibsen, Gilbert and Sullivan, operettas, as well as contemporary Finnish dramas and comedies.

In addition to this very active theatrical program, music was an important part of the cultural and entertainment offerings which the Saima Society enjoyed. Saima had an excellent band and a mixed chorus which often performed at social functions. These groups served a dual purpose - as did the dramatic club - since it gave people a chance to pursue their hobby or interest and it provided the attraction on various programs sponsored by the society.

The mixed chorus was usually a part of a multiple feature program, but it was also the sole attraction for concerts now and then. It always sang at the annual Summer Festival. The Saima Band, which normally numbered from 25 to 35 musicians, sometimes played a concert at Saima Hall on the rare Saturday nights when no play was presented. Sometimes it appeared on such occasions jointly with the choral group.

Most of the functions of Saima Society mentioned thus far were held at Saima Hall. But it should be noted that some type of activity was carried on concurrently - with seasonal limitations - at Saima Park. When Saima Hall was sold (1957), the Park became the site of all the society's activities. For a few years the production of plays continued but diminishing interest in Finnish dramatics plus the inadequacy of the summer hall hastened the end of the dramatic program. (The stage was small and the backstage area was practically nonexistent). The last

plays at Saima Park were produced in 1961. Among these was *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

The Summer Festival has been an annual affair since 1905 [1907]. For four decades it was rotated among the Finnish societies in Fitchburg, Gardner, Maynard, Worcester, and Quincy but since World War II the Summer Festival has been only at Saima Park.

It has always been a two or three day event with a field day, or carnival, an atmosphere of dances, dramatic performances, speeches, poetry reading, music, and a track meet. In earlier years the Saima Band was on hand to give a concert. In the 'twenties and 'thirties the Summer Festival drew crowds up to 3,000 and 4,000 people. Today's attendance is about 800 to 1,000.

In addition to the Summer Festival, an early tradition which was observed is the celebration of Midsummer (June 24th), also referred to as *Juhannus*, or St. John's Day. This day, which is a national holiday in Finland, starts with a bonfire the night before. Locally the object to be burned was a "tower" of six or seven wooden barrels piled one on top of the other around a heavy pole in the middle to hold them in place. This was a great evening for the children who were thrilled watching the blazing pyre and the scores of fireflies zooming about.

This holiday is still observed at Saima Park but stricter regulations to limit fire danger have caused the cancellation of the bonfire. But music and dancing and, of course, coffee and Finnish style goodies are still with us.

In the 1920's Saima Society had a bitter struggle against leftist extremists (Communists) trying to take control of both it and Raivaaja. The society prevailed and remained affiliated with the American Socialist Party. In 1937 [1936] it became disenchanted with the extreme positions taken by the ASP and severed all connections to it. Today the Finnish Center has no political connection, a continuation of the policy of its predecessor, FACS.

to be continued

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THE FINLANDIA FOUNDATION

Metropolitan Chapter, Inc.
Meetings every 2nd
Friday of the month from
October through May.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

593 Park Ave & 64th St., NYC

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information

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**Wanted:
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Requirements: Ability to speak Finnish and conduct service in the Finnish language and Lutheran tradition. Ability to speak, read, and write English is also helpful. This position requires a minimum three year commitment. Salary is negotiable. Living quarters are provided.

For consideration and complete details
please contact:
Alpo Niskanen
[church council president]
718-892-2712

"Welcome Home"

Summer is over and our fall schedule is starting on

September 17, 2000, at 3 PM.

106 East 86th Street

Officiating will be Pastor Juhani Peltonen and Pastor Tarja Koskela

**Church services will be held on the first and third Sunday of each month, until
further notice or special events. Coffee hour after every service.**

Everyone is cordially welcome.

New York Finnish Lutheran Congregation

**Further information or to be added to our mailing list contact:
Alpo Niskanen (718) 892-2712**