

Our 100th anniversary year

RAIVAAJA

(THE PIONEER)

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UPM Rafsec rakentaa tehtaan Yhdysvaltoihin

UPM-paperikonserniin kuuluva UPM Rafsec rakentaa tehtaan Pohjois-Carolinan Fletcherin kaupunkiin. Uusi tehdas valmistaa langattomaan radiotaajuustekniikkaan (RFID) perustuvia etätunnisteita.

Investointi lujittaa UPM:n mukaan UPM Rafsecin asemaa yhtenä maailman merkittävimmistä etätunnisteiden toimittajista. Yhtiö uskoo uuden tehtaan myös vahvistavan UPM Rafsecin markkina-asemaa Yhdysvalloissa, missä EPC-yhteensopivien (Electronic Product Code) RFID-etätunnisteiden kysyntä kasvaa voimakkaasti.

Langattomaan radiotaajuustekniikkaan perustuvia etätunnisteita käytetään älykorteissa ja -tarroissa muun muassa tuotetunnistuksessa ja varastohallinnassa.

Tehdasinvestointi on osa yhtiön 24 miljoonan dollarin investointiohjelman, joka tähtää miljardin etätunnisteen vuositaiseen tuotantokapasiteettiin.

Uusi tehdas käynnistyy kuluvan vuoden viimeisellä neljänneksellä. (STT)

Suomi kuudes kilpailukykyvertailussa

Suomi nousi kaksi sijaa sveitsiläisen liikkeenjohdon koulutuslaitoksen IMD:n tekemässä vuotuisessa kilpailukykyvertailussa. Suomi sijoittuu vertailussa kuudenneksi. Kärkipaikkaa pitää viime vuoden tavoin Yhdysvallat.

Toisen kilpailukykyä mittaavan laitoksen, WEF:n viime syksynä julkaisemassa vertailussa Suomi jakoi ykköspaikan Yhdysvaltojen kanssa.

IMD pistää maat paremmuusjärjestykseen neljän päämitarin perusteella.

Hallinnon tehokkuudessa Suomi yltää sijaluvulle kolme. Infrastruktuurissa eli teiden ja energiahuollon kaltaisissa tuotannon ja talouden perusrakenteisissa sijoitus on neljäs. Yksityisen sektorin tehokkuudessa Suomi sijoittuu yhdeksänneksi. Talouskehityksessä Suomi sen sijaan jää kauas kärjestä, sijalle 32.

Suomen suurimmiksi heikkouksiksi vertailussa nimetään muun muassa korkea teollisuustyöntekijän kokonaistuntipalkka, korkea kokonaisveroaste ja alhainen työvoiman kasvu. Lainsäädäntö ei Suomessa myöskään kannusta työnhakuun. (HS)

Tarja Halonen korosti yhteisiä arvoja EN:n huippukokouksessa

Euroopan neuvosto on aloittanut maanosan kattavan kampanjan kotiväkivaltaa ja muuta naisiin kohdistuvaa väkivaltaa vastaan Suomen aloitteesta. Maininta kampanjasta otettiin maanantaina Varsovassa alkaneen Euroopan neuvoston huippukokouksen päätösasiakirjaan.

Kokouksessa puhunut presidentti Tarja Halonen korosti jatkuu sivulla 5



Raivaajan satavuotisjuhlilla

FITCHBURG, MA – Salintäyteinen yleisöjoukko oli mukana RAIVAAJAN satavuotisjuhlilla 24. huhtikuuta Saiman Puistossa. Yllä Irma Rahnasto (oik.), Ellen Rahnasto, Mamie Lauricella ja Bertha Santaviita keskittyvät ohjelman seuraamiseen. Lisää juhlasta sivulla 3. Professori Varpu Lindströmin englanninkielinen juhlapuhe löytyy sivulta 12.

kuva: Mika Horelli

Nokia yhä suomalaisten opiskelijoiden suosikkityönantaja

Nokia on yhä suomalaisopiskelijoiden suosikki työnantajana. Universum Communicationsin yli 4 000 opiskelijalla teettämän kyselyn mukaan toiseksi suosituin työnantaja on Finnair ja kolmanneksi suosituin Fazer.

Viime vuonna tehtyyn kyselyyn verrattuna suosioitaan olivat lisänneet erityisesti Fazer, Amer Sports, KPMG, Accenture ja Fortum. Suosioitaan työnantajina olivat menettäneet esimerkiksi Suomen Pankki, UPM-Kymmene, Sanoma-WSOY ja Yleisradio.

Houkuttelevimpana ominaisuutena työnantajassa opiskelijat pitivät kilpailukykyistä palkkaa. Tämän jälkeen tulivat joustavat työajat ja teh-

tävien vaihtelevuus.

Opiskelijoiden palkkaodotukset ovat kasvaneet viime vuodesta. Taloustieteilijät odottivat ansaitsevana 28 201 euroa vuodessa alkupalkkana. Summa oli kasvanut seitsemän prosenttia. Insinööriopiskelijat odottivat puolestaan 28 596 euron alkupalkkaa.

Palkan lisäksi opiskelijoista oli tärkeää, että työnantaja maksaa ylityökorvauksia. Tutkimuksen tekijän mukaan tästä olisi pääteltävissä, että opiskelijat ovat aiempaa haluttomampia tekemään ilmaista työtä.

Kyselyyn vastanneet opiskelijat olivat 21:stä eri korkeakoulusta. (STT)

RAIVAAJA
this week:

- Raivaaja Centennial Celebration speech by Professor Varpu Lindström
- Remembering sister-in-law and a friend from Iceland by Werner Wiskari

Suomen uutisia

Ikääntyneet naiset paiskivat pitkään töitä

Ikääntyneiden työllisyysasteet kohosivat laman jälkeen melko ripeästi. Naisten työllisyysaste on jo ohittanut miesten työllisyysasteen, ja 55 vuotta täyttäneet naiset tekevät nyt enemmän ansiotyötä kuin koskaan aikaisemmin Suomen historiassa.

Ikääntyneiden työssäolo on kasvanut Suomessa EU-maista eniten. Tiedot käyvät ilmi Tilastokeskuksen julkaisusta Tallella ikä eletty, johon on koottu tilastotietoa väestön ikääntymisestä ja ikääntyneiden elinolojen muutoksista.

Yli 55-vuotiaista naisista enemmistö asuu yksin, ja eniten näitä yksin asuvia löytyy kaupungeista. Yksin asuvat miehet ovat keskimäärin vanhempia ja asustavat maaseudulla.

Suomalaiset ikäihmiset ovat hyvässä kunnossa, mutta pitkäaikaissairauksia heillä on EU-maista eniten. Koulutus ja hyvät tulot merkitsevät usein myös parempaa terveydentilaa. (HS)

Fagnäs: Suomeen lisää töissäkäyviä maahanmuuttajia

Elinkeinoelämän keskusliiton EK:n toimitusjohtaja Leif Fagnäs haluaa Suomeen lisää sellaisia maahanmuuttajia, jotka hakeutuvat ja sijoittuvat suoraan työelämään. Porvoossa puhuneen Fagnäsin mukaan tämä edellyttää aktiivisia toimia, sillä kilpailu työvoimasta on alkanut eikä Suomi useimmiten ole ulkomaalaisten ensisijainen kohdema.

Tällä hetkellä Suomen vajaan 110 000 ulkomaalaisesta vain vajaat puolet on työssä tai työmarkkinoiden käytettävissä, hän sanoo.

Toiminta maahanmuuttajien houkuttelemiseksi Fagnäs mainitsee muun muassa korkean verotuksen alentamisen. Lisäksi tarvitaan pikainen ratkaisu ns. avainhenkilölaista, jolla on helpotettu ulkomaisten osaajien saamista Suomeen.

Lain soveltamisalaa pitää hänen mukaansa jatkaa viiteen vuoteen ja lähdeveroprosentti laskea 35 prosentista 25 prosenttiin. (STT)

Teollisuuden liikevaihto kasvoi 10 prosenttia

Teollisuusyritysten liikevaihto kasvoi joului-helmikuussa lähes 10 prosenttia vuotta aiemmasta.

Eniten lisääntyi metallien jalostuksen ja metallituotteiden valmistuksen liikevaihto. Tilastokeskuksen julkistamien tietojen mukaan kasvu oli voimakasta myös muilla metalliteollisuuden alatoimialoilla, kemianteollisuudessa sekä puu- ja paperiteollisuudessa. (HS)

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Suomen uutisia

Rikollisliigat värväävät töihin Suomeen?

Viron rikollisliigojen väitetään värväävän Baltiasta ja Venäjältä laittomia työntekijöitä Suomeen. Liigat myös ottavat osansa työntekijöiden palkoista.

Suomen Tallinnan-suurlähetystön poliisiattasea Raine Nurminen sanoo viidenneksen laittomien työntekijöiden palkoista menevän rikollisliigoille.

Hän kertoo järjestäytyneen rikollisuuden jakavan urakoita keskenään muun muassa suomalaisille rakennus- ja metallityömaille. Nurminen mukaan Virossa toimii ainakin seitsemän rikollisryhmittymää, joita kiinnostaa tehdä rahaa myös työvoimaa vuokraamalla.

Hänen mukaansa kolmen kuukauden työluvasääntöä kierrettään siten, että työntekijä palaa kotimaahansa juuri ennen määräajanjakson päättymistä. Tämän jälkeen hän palaa tekemään seuraavan työjakson. (YLE)

Kalliomäki arvostelee yritysjohtajia

Valtiovarainministeri Antti Kalliomäki (sd) arvostelee suomalaisten yritysjohtajien intoa siirtää tuotantoa ulkomaille. Hän sanoo *Kauppalehden* haastattelussa, että osa johtajista on syylistynyt ylilyönteihin.

"On muodostunut sellainen johtajien kultapossukerho, joka lähes kilpailee sillä, kuka tekee rankimmat päätökset. Välillä ratkaisut näyttävät järjenvastaisilta", Kalliomäki arvioi.

Kalliomäki on huolestunut siitä, että investoinnit menevät Suomen ulkopuolelle. Voittoja pitäisi hänestä käyttää tuotekehitykseen eikä ainoastaan jakaa rahoja omistajille ja johtajille.

"Nyt on nähty raskaita ylilyöntejä. Esimerkiksi Wärtsilän päätökset eivät kestä kriittistä tarkastelua. Myös Perloksessa yt-neuvottelujen aloittamisen yhteydessä työntekijöitä on ilmeisesti johdettu harhaan."

Valtiovarainministeri pohtii haastattelussa, pitäisikö irtisanomissuojaa parantaa. Muutokset voisivat hänen mukaansa kuitenkin ajaa investointeja ulkomaille. (STT)

Suomalainen Winwind toimittaa tuulipuiston Viroon

Suomalainen tuulivoimalayhtiö Winwind toimittaa kahdeksan tuulivoimalaa Viroon. Tilausten kokonaisarvo on noin 24 miljoonaa euroa.

Kolmen megawatin tehoiset voimalat on tilannut Viru-Nigula Tuulepark -projektiyhtiö. Tuulipuiston rakennustyöt alkavat syksyllä 2005 ja voimalat pystytetään kesällä 2006.

Kauppa nostaa yhtiön tilauskannan yli 30 miljoonaan euroon.

Winwind pystytti ensimmäisen kehittämänsä teknologiaan perustuva WWD-3-tuulivoimalan Oulun Vihreäsaareen viime vuoden lopulla. Yhtiön mukaan maailmanlaajuisestikin vastaavan kokoluokan voimaloita on asennettu vain muutama kappale. (STT)

EU:n perustuslaista halutaan kansanäänestys

Suurin osa suomalaisista haluaa, että EU:n uudesta perustuslaista järjestetään kansanäänestys. *Aamulehden* teettämän mielipidekyselyn mukaan lähes puolet eli 43 prosenttia ei silti vielä tiedä, kannattaako vai vastustaako hän perustuslakia.

Taloustutkimuksen tekemän kyselyn mukaan kaksi kolmesta puoltaa kansanäänestystä. Vastaajista 76 prosenttia äänestäisi jatkuu sivulla 7

Lahjoituksia Raivaajalle

Donations to Raivaaja

TUKEMISRAHASTO 2005: \$5,576.00

2005 Century Fund Drive

Enclosed is a contribution in recognition of 100 years of outstanding reporting on events and activities associated with Finland and the Finnish community. I make this contribution on behalf of my parents, grandparents and myself who have appreciated and enjoyed reading RAIVA AJA over all these years.

Frederic "Rick" Jaakkola, Leesburg, VA \$100.00

Kiitos lahjoittajille!

Thank you for your donations!

Matkapuhelinten myynti kääntyi laskuun

Matkapuhelinten kauppa kääntyi Suomessa laskuun huhtikuussa. Elektroniikan Tukkukauppiat ry:n mukaan kauppoihin toimitettiin huhtikuussa hieman alle 100 000 matkapuhelinta, mikä tarkoittaa yhdeksän prosentin laskua viime vuodesta. (HS)

Kompostointilaitos aloittanut Lahdessa

Suomen suurin compostointilaitos on aloittanut toimintansa Lahdessa. Euroopan nykyaikaisin tunnelikompostointilaitos pystyy käsittelemään vuodessa liki 40 000 tonnia biojätettä ja puhdistamolietettä. (YLE)

Marimekko paransi alkuvuonna

Marimekko paransi alkuvuoden tulostaan: sen voitto ennen veroja oli €1,6 miljoonaa. Vuotta aiemmin samaan aikaan voitto oli lähes €1,4 miljoonaa. Osa-vuosikatsauksensa äskettäin julkaissut Marimekko arvioi, että koko vuoden liikevaihto kasvaa noin 10 prosenttia. Yhtiön kannattavuuden uskotaan säilyvän hyvällä tasolla. (STT)

Exchange rate

May 16, 2005

1 Euro = US \$ 1.2636

1 US \$ = € 0.7914

Foreign currency exchange rates for out-bound travelers. Source: Thomas Cook Currency Services.

Nimipäivät



Toukokuun 18 p., Erkki, Eero, Eerik, Eerika, Eerikki
Toukokuun 19 p., Emilia, Emma, Emmi, Milla, Milja, Milka, Amalia
Toukokuun 20 p., Lilja, Karoliina, Lilli
Toukokuun 21 p., Kosti, Konsta, Konstantin
Toukokuun 22 p., Hemminki, Hemmo
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Kesäkuun 3 p., Orvokki, Viola
Kesäkuun 4 p., Toivo
Puolustusvoimain lippujuhlan p.
Kesäkuun 5 p., Sulevi
Kesäkuun 6 p., Kustaa, Kyösti, Kustavi
Kesäkuun 7 p., Suvi, Roope, Robert

Hienot juhlat 100-vuotiaalle Raivaajalle

FITCHBURG, MA – Raivaajan satavuotisuutta juhlittiin hienosti huhtikuun 24. päivänä Saiman Puistossa. Juhlaväki saapui paikalle suurin joukoin, jokainen tuoli täyttyi ja muutama sai jäädä seisomaankin.

“En ole nähnyt tällaista ihmis-määrää Saiman Puistossa sitten vuoden 1995 Kesäjuhlien, jolloin Kalevi Sorsa oli juhlapuhujana”, kommentoi RAIVA AJAN päätoimittaja Marita Cauthen.

Vanhempi ikäluokka oli hyvin edustettuna. He ovat lukeneet lehteä useita vuosikymmeniä, monet jo lapsuuvuosista lähtien, jolloin heidän vanhempansa tilasivat sitä. Oman lehden satavuotisjuhlia ei voi jättää väliin, ei vaikka liikkuminen on hankalaa.

Juhlat aloitettiin kuusimiehisten torvisoittokunnan voimin. Eläkkeelle kunniankonsulin virasta jäänyt Edwin Kaarela oli säveltänyt juhlia varten “Sanomalehti Raivaajan kantajan balladin” soittokunnalle.

Fitchburgissa lapsuutensa viettänyt Kaarela muistelee lämmöllä vuosia, jolloin hän oli Raivaajan kantajapoika.

“Ne olivat elämäni parhaita”, hän totesi.

Muusikoiden, C.G. Lower, Dan Johnson, Gene Rauhala, Ed Stromski, Doug Casker ja Fred Bernhard, soittama balladi lähti alkuun kuin vanha höyryveturi, paukkuu ja puhisten. Kaarela sanoi sävellyksen syntyneen Raivaajan entisen painokoneen innoittamana.

Suomen New Yorkin pääkonsuli Osmo Lipponen ja rouva Cheryl Lipponen olivat mukana juhlilla. Pääkonsuli Lipponen toi omansa, Suomen valtiovalan sekä Suomen Sosialidemokraattisen puolueen puheenjohtajan Paavo Lipponen tervehdykset.

Juontajana toiminut Cauthen sanoi monien kysyvän “miten kauan Raivaaja vielä pysyy hengissä?”

“Minusta se on väärä kysymys. Parempi kysymys olisi ‘miksi Raivaaja on selvinnyt näin pitkään?’” hän lisäsi.

Vastaus Cauthenin mukaan on yksinkertainen: lehden toimintaperiaate. Raivaaja Publishing Company on ja on aina ollut yleishyödyllinen “not-for-profit” yhtiö. Sen päätehtävä on valista-



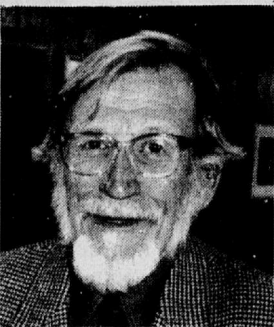
Raivaaja Publishing Companyn presidentti Dennis Hill (oik.) äitinsä, entisen Raivaajan kirjanpitäjän Ellen Hillin kanssa.



Josie Stenback toimii Raivaajan asiamiehenä Connecticutissa.



Edith Syrjälä Eashin isä Sävle Syrjälä ja isoisä F.J. Syrjälä toimivat Raivaajan päätoimittajina.



Harri Siitonen oli kirjoittanut henkilökohtaisen juhlarunon.

minen eikä voiton tuottaminen.

“Suomalaisyhteisö omistaa Raivaajan ja se toimii suomalaisyhteisön yhteiseksi hyväksi”, hän totesi. Osoittaakseen kuinka monet ihmiset ovat mukana Raivaajan toiminnassa tavalla tai toisella Cauthen esitteli Raivaajan johtokunnan juhlayleisölle. Hän jatkoi esittelemällä työntekijät, vapaaehtoistyöntekijät, kolumnistit ja kirjeenvaihtajat, entiset johtokunnan jäsenet ja työntekijät ja kaikki muut Raivaajan parissa työskennelleet.

“Tässä on Raivaajan pitkäikäisyyden salaisuus”, Cauthen sanoi. “Se on meidän kaikkien summa.”

Raivaaja Publishing Companyn presidentti Dennis Hill tervehti juhlayleisöä. Hänen jälkeensä paikalla olleiden suomalaisseurojen edustajat toivat tervehdyksensä.

Satavuotisjuhlan pääpuhujana oli kanadansuomalainen histori-

an professori Varpu Lindström, jonka puhe vastaanotettiin myrskyisin taputuksin.

Lindström loi katseen lehden historiaan, mutta veti samalla esiin neljä seikkaa, joiden johdosta Raivaaja on yltänyt satavuotiaaksi.

Ensimmäinen seikka liittyy aikansa historiaan. Raivaajaa perustettaessa 1905 aika oli kypsä vastaanottamaan sosialidemokraattisen sanomalehden. Suomalaisiirtolaiset jättivät synnyinmaansa taloudellisista ja poliittisista syistä. Heidän joukossaan



Kolumnistit kohtaavat

Raivaajan kolumnistit, Werner Wiskari (vas.) ja Stig Häggblom kohtasivat toisensa ensi kerran lehden satavuotisjuhlilla Saiman Puistossa. Miehet ovat käyneet kirjeenvaihtoa ja seuraavat tarkasti toistensa kirjoituksia, mutta vasta nyt sattui paikalle yhtä aikaa.

Sekä Wiskari että Häggblom ovat ansioituneita lehtimieskonkareita. Wiskarilla on takanaan pitkä ura *New York Timesin* leivissä ja Häggblomilla Suomen johtavassa ruotsinkielisessä päivälehdessä *Hufvudstadsbladetissa*.

Onnetoivotukset RAIVA AJALLE!

Arvoisa Raivaaja-lehden 100-vuotisjuhlaväki!

Suomen Sosialidemokraattisen Puolueen puheenjohtajana minulla on ollut ilo osallistua useiden työväenyhdistysten satavuotisjuhlisiin. Näissä juhlissa on usein kunnioitettu vanhoja perinteitä, mutta luotu samalla myös siltä nykypäivään. Poliittisella liikkeellä pitää tietysti olla oma missionsa, jota se aktiiviansa avulla edistää. Poliittisen agendan lisäksi sosialidemokraattinen liike on toiminut ja toimii edelleen myös ihmisten yhdyssiteenä ja tiedon välittäjänä.

Satavuotisjuhlaansa viettävä Raivaaja-lehti on malliesimerkki perinteiden ja nykyajan yhdistämisestä. Lehti pitää yllä yhtä tärkeimmistä linkeistä lukijoiden-

sa historiaan, suomen kieltä. Myös uutisointi Suomea koskevista tapahtumista ja suomalaisen esiintuomat ajatukset ja ehdotukset saavat Raivaaja-lehdessä palstatilaa. On tärkeää, että amerikkansuomalaisilla on näin mahdollisuus seurata Suomen tapahtumia – tieto lisää ymmärtämystä, joka puolestaan on perusta yhteistyölle.

Toivotan vetreälle Raivaaja-lehdelle riemukasta juhlaa ja jatkuvaa menestystä tärkeässä työssä!

Samalla minulla on ilo välittää terveiset sekä onnetoivotukset lehden pitkäaikaiselta ystävältä ja tukijalta Hugo L. Mäkiseltä!

Paavo Lipponen
Suomen Sosialidemokraattisen
Puolueen puheenjohtaja

oli monia, jotka olivat valmiita työskentelemään työläisluokan lehdissä.

Mutta lehdet tarvitsivat lukijoita, ja koska 98 prosenttia suomalaisiirtolaisista oli lukutaitoisia, tilaajista ei ollut puutetta.

Toinen menestyksen syy Lindströmin mukaan on lehden lukijat hyvät toimittajat, jotka olivat jo Suomessa työskennelleet työläisluokan lehdissä.

Kolmas tärkeä seikka on lehden yleishyödyllinen “not-for-profit”

toimintaperiaate – lehti todella kuuluu lukijoilleen.

“Mutta Raivaaja on enemmän kuin pelkkä sanomalehti”, Lindström totesi. “Se on ollut yhteisön kokoontumispaikka, matkatuomisto, luottokonttori ja kirjapaino. Sadan vuoden ajan Raivaaja on myös ollut kirjakauppa.”

Neljäntenä ja merkittävimpana seikkana Lindström pitää lukijakuntaa, tilaajia, ilmoittajia, jotka jatkuu takasivulla



Salintäyteinen juhlayleisö seuraa ohjelmaa. Eturivissä (vas.) rouva Cheryl ja pääkonsuli Osmo Lipponen.



Torvisoittokunta vauhdissa.

Kuolleita

Warren Polston

CHICAGO, IL - Warren Polston, 72, kuoli huhtik. 23, 2005.

Hän oli syntynyt toukok. 13, 1932 Chicagossa Alma (Larson) ja Jesse Polstonin poikana.

Polstonilla oli Bachelor of Music Education sekä Master of Music tutkinnot Northwestern yliopistosta. Opiskeluaikanaan hän kuului yliopiston konserttisoittokuntaan sekä sen Wildcat Marching Bandiin.

Polston oli ollut musiikkiopettajana East Chicagon (Indiana) kouluissa.

Hän johti Sibelius Male Chorus kuoroa 42 vuotta. Viisi kertaa hän toimi Finnish Male Sin-

gers of North America kuoron johtajana sen vieraillessa Suomessa. Presidentti Mauno Koivisto myönsi hänelle *Director Cantus*-palkinnon 1993.

Vuodesta 1988 lähtien Polston oli ollut norjalaisen Normennes Singing Societyn johtajana. Lisäksi hän toimi Schiller Liedertafel German Male Chorus kuoron apulaisjohtajana ja oli vierailut sen kanssa Saksassa moneen otteeseen.

Monia vuosia edesmennyt kuului Finnish American Society of the Midwest järjestön johtokuntaan. Hänet tunnettiin monista komediarutiineista, joissa hän oli ollut mukana suomalaistilaisuuksissa.

Edesmenneen veli Lawrence oli kuollut aikaisemmin.

Muistotilaisuus pidetään sunnuntaina, kesäk. 12. päivänä klo 2:30 iltapäivällä Estonian Housessa Riverwoodsissa.

Ruth E. Longsjo

FITCHBURG, MA - Ruth E. Longsjo, 93, kuoli huhtik. 29, 2005 Lutheran Home of Worcester hoitokodissa.

Hän oli syntynyt tammik. 4, 1912 Fitchburgissa Jacob ja Impi (Rasi) Longsjon tyttärenä ja asui koko ikänsä paikkakunnalla.

Edesmennyt pääsi Fitchburg High Schoolista 1929 ja Burbank Hospital School of Nursing oppilaitoksesta 1932.

Longsjo oli Visiting Nurses Associationin sairaanhoitajana 25 vuoden ajan. Hän oli työskennellyt myös Hillcrest hoitokodissa sekä monia vuosia entisen Falulah Paper Companyn sairaanhoitajana.

Hän kuului Elm St. Lähetysseurakuntaan.

Kaipaamaan jäi sisarusten lapset Peter C. Longsjo, Westmoreland, NH ja Ruth Ann Krog, Holden; kolme serkkua, Terry Longsjo, Lunenburg, Penny Best, Pacifica, CA ja Thomas Longsjo, Idaho; sekä useita sisarusten lapsia lapsineen.

Sawyer-Miller-Masciarelli Funeral Home, 129 Elm St., toimitti hautaamisen Forest Hill hautausmaahan.

Veikko Hursti on kuollut

Köyhien ja alkoholistien auttamiselle elämänsä omistanut sosiaalineuvos Veikko Hursti on kuollut. Hän kuoli kotonaan Helsingin Herttoniemessä 80-vuotiaana äkilliseen sairauskohtaukseen. Veikko Hursti toimi lähes viisikymmentä vuotta vähäosaisten auttajana. (YLE)

Runoilija Arto Melleri kuollut

Runoilija Arto Melleri on kuollut. Vuonna 1956 syntynyt Melleri kuului Suomen tunnetuimpiin runoilijoihin. Hän kuoli Helsingissä.

Mellerin esikoiskokoelma *Schlaageriseppele* julkaistiin 1978. Runojen lisäksi Melleri kirjoitti myös näytelmiä ja romaaneja. Hän oli mukana tekemässä esimerkiksi näytelmää *Nuorallatanssijan kuolema* eli kuinka Pete Q sai siivet (1978).

Ensisijaisesti hän oli kuitenkin runoilija, ja sai työstään myös tunnustusta. Hän sai Kalevi Jäntin palkinnon vuonna 1979 ja valtion kirjallisuuspalkinnon vuonna 1986. Finlandia-palkinto oli vuorossa vuonna 1991, se tuli runokokoelmasta *Elävien kirjoissa*.

Haastattelussa Melleri korosti usein kirjoittavansa omien kokemuksien pohjalta ja hakevansa tunteilleen ja ajatuksilleen ilmauksia, jotka koskettaisivat myös muita. Hänen runoissaan on usein ironiaa, huumoria ja vahva rytmi.

Juhannuksena 1998 Melleri loukkaantui auto-onnettomuudessa, jossa hän loukkasi päänsä pahoin. Kuntoutuminen kesti kauan, eikä hän toipunut entiselleen. Puoli vuotta sitten kaatuminen pahensi onnettomuudessa saatua aivovammaa, mikä johti sairaalahoitoon.

Mellerin viimeiseksi teokseksi jäi viime syksynä julkaistu Arpinen lemмен soturi. Sitä edellisestä kokoelmasta oli seitsemän vuotta. (YLE, STT)

Lentäjien lakonuhkan peruuntuminen lykkääntyy

Finnairin lentäjien lakonuhan lopullinen peruuntuminen lykkääntyy lentäjien pyydettyä sovintoesityksen järjestökasittelyyn aikaa 25. toukokuuta asti. Liikennelentäjiliiton jäsenistö ehti jo alustavasti puoltaa sopimuksen hyväksymistä, mutta Finnairin virolaisen tytäryhtiön Aeron työehdot vaativat vielä lisäkäsittelyä. (YLE)

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Perjantaisin klo 1 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

Suomalainen seura, "Finnish League" kokoontuu kuun kolmantena sunnuntaina klo 2 ip.

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Helmikuusta lähtien pienellä tv-kanavalla Washingtonin seudulla pyörinyt suomalainen rikossarja Raid on saanut amerikkalaiset innostumaan.

Tuoreeltaan yli puoli miljoonaa katsojaa kerännyt sarja jouduttiin jo huhtikuussa lähettämään valtavan kysynnän vuoksi MHz Networks -kanavalla pikauusintana.

"Raid on herättänyt enemmän kiinnostusta, kuin mikään muu lähettämämme sarja, saimme ja

saamme yhä valtavasti sitä koskevaa palautetta, sähköpostia ja puheluita", kertoo kanavan ohjelmajohtaja Bill Elmquist.

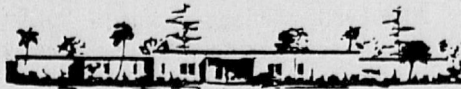
"Tämä on meille aivan historiallista. Tällaista menestystä ei mikään suomalaissarja ole aiemmin kokenut siellä eikä maailmalla", Yhdysvalloista äskettäin palannut sarjan tuottaja Anneli Pallas sanoo.

Ilta-Sanomien tavoitti Raidin päähenkilön, näyttelijä Kai Lehtisen vaihtamasta traktorinsa

öljypumppua kotipihallaan Karjalohjalla. Lehtinen on kutsuttu maailmalle sarjaa mainostamaan, mutta lähtöä pitää vielä pähkäillä. Myös mahdollisiin ulkomailta tuleviin työtarjouksiin mies suhtautuu varovaisesti.

"Mihin minä täältä ehdin, vaikka tulisi toivomuksia Indokiinasta. On kirjoittamista, näyttelystä ja ohjaamista ja kuuden kakaran lauma perässä", Kai luettelee.

(IS)



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Aloitimme vierailumme bingoa pelaamalla ja meidänkin asuk-

kaamme voittivat siellä palkintoja. Rytmikäs musiikkiohjelma viihdytti meitä koko vierailun ajan ja pikniktyylinen hampurilaislounas maistui kaikille.

Eilen torstaina meitä kävi viihdyttämässä Merry Minstrels ryhmä uudella ohjelmaohjelmalla, joka oli tosiaan menestys ja esiintyjät saivat kiitosta monelta asukkaalta.

Lauantaita odottelemme innoissamme, sillä saamme taas Reino

Kukkamaan Lepokodille laulamaan ja toivottavasti vielä yllätyksenä hän saa Tapani Kuparisen seurakseen.

Meidän asukkaamme pitävät suuressa arvossa suomalaisia esiintyjä ja onkin ihana havaita, että meillä on niin paljon suomalaisia taiteilijoita täällä Floridassa.

Hyvää viikonloppua koko Lepokodin puolesta.

Helena Kasurinen

Renny Harlinin leffa floppasi

Suomalaisohjaaja Renny Harlinin Hollywood-uran pohjakoketus saavutettiin viikonloppuna, kun hänen ohjaamansa *Mind Hunters* sai lopultakin ensi-iltaansa teattereissa. Viikonloppuun 10. katsotuun elokuva keräsi lipputulot sääliittävästi vain kaksi miljoonaa dollaria. Saman viikonvaihteen ykköselokuva keräsi 24 miljoonan dollarin lipputulot.

Harlinin tähänastisen uran karnein floppi on ollut *Cutthroat Island* (Kurkunleikkaajien saari, 1995). Merirosvoelokuvan budjetti oli 98 miljoonaa dollaria, ja lipputulot kertyi lopulta vain kymmenen miljoonaa taala. *Mind Hunters* pistää nyt vielä Kurkunleikkaajien saarta pahemmaksi. FBI-trillerin lopulliset Pohjois-Amerikan tuottoluvut tulevat jäämään vain noin neljään miljoonaan dollariin.

Jo kaksi ja puoli vuotta valmiina ollut murheenkryyni tuotiin teattereihin vain 1040 esityskopiolla. Elokuvan levittäjä- ja tuotantoyhtiö Dimension Films ei markkinoinut *Mind Huntersia* ennen ensi-iltaa käytännössä lainkaan. Tarkoitus on ilmeisesti, että elokuva sysätään nopeasti videovuokraamoihin ja kauppajen alennuslaareihin.

27 miljoonan dollarin tuotantobudjetilla tehty *Mind Hunters* on suomalaisille tuttu elokuva. Se tuli Suomessa teattereihin jo vuosi sitten kesäkuussa. *Mind Huntersin* surkea menestys Pohjois-Amerikassa voi tarkoittaa

sitä, että elokuva tulee saamaan lopulta jopa vähemmän lipputulot kuin Harlinin ensiohjaus *Born American* (Jäättävä Polte, 1986).

(IS)

Avioliittojen määrä selvässä kasvussa

Avioliittojen määrä on lähtenyt selvään nousuun. Tilastokeskuksen väestötietojen mukaan suomalaiset solmivat viime vuonna lähes 30 000 avioliittoa, mikä on isoin määrä yli 20 vuoteen.

Samalla avioerojen määrä laski. Avioeroon päättyi viime vuonna 13 200 liittoa, mikä on 300 vähemmän kuin vuotta aiemmin.

Vuoden lopussa Suomessa oli 1,4 miljoonaa perhettä. Kaksi kolmasosaa perheistä oli avioparien perheitä, 20 prosenttia avoparien ja 13 prosenttia yhden vanhemman perheitä.

Yksin asuvien määrä kasvaa yhä. Tilastokeskuksen mukaan viime vuonna yhden henkilön asutokuntia oli yli 940 000 eli 39 prosenttia kaikista asutokunnista.

Vuotta aiempaan verrattuna yhden henkilön asutokuntien määrä kasvoi noin 20 000:lla. Kasvutahti on viime vuosina pysynyt samalla tasolla.

Ahtaasti asuvia asutokuntia oli vuoden lopussa 251 000 ja ahtaasti asui yhteensä yli miljoona ihmistä. Tilastokeskus määrittelee ahtaasti asuvaksi asutokunnan, jossa on enemmän kuin yksi henkilö huonetta kohti. (STT)

Työväsymys ja ylityöt altistavat lihomiselle

Työväsymys, ylityöiden suuri määrä ja vaikeudet työn ja perheen yhteensovittamisessa altistavat työntekijöitä lihomiselle.

Tämä selviää Helsingin yliopiston kansanterveystieteen laitoksella toimivan tutkijaryhmän tuoreesta tutkimuksesta.

Erityisesti työväsymys ja ylityöt ovat riski lihomiselle. Työväsymyksestä kärsivät kertoivat tuntevansa itsensä väsyneiksi jo aamulla ennen töihin menoa tai olevansa aivan lopussa työpäivän jälkeen.

Naisilla työn ja perheen yhteensovittamisen ongelmat liittyvät lihomiseen.

Helsinki Health Study -tutkijaryhmän tutkimukseen osallistuneista 40-60-vuotiaista naisista neljännes ja miehistä viidennes kertoi lihonsa tutkimusta edeltävän vuoden aikana.

Aineistossa oli 7 000 naista ja 2 000 miestä, jotka työskentelevät Helsingin kaupungilla.

(STT)

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Toimitus pidättää itsellään oikeuden lyhentää liian pitkiä kirjoituksia, ja päättää palstalle valittavista kirjoituksista.

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60 vuotta sitten 1945

Toisen maailman sodan loppua on nyt juhlittu joka puolella Eurooppaa ja eri maat omin tavoin juhlarassinein.

Suomen talvisodan tapahtumista ei ole ollut artikkeleita. Sen loppuvaiheiden ja rauhansopimuksen tuottamat vaikeudet on unohdettu paitsi me karjalaiset, joiden kohtalo muuttui täydellisesti.

Venäjä vei alueet, jotka olivat osa Suomea ja vieläpä vaati korvaukset sodan tuhoista. Eikös tuo ollut väärä huipussaan?

Me karjalaiset jouduimme kärsimään eliniän sodan seurauksista, eikä kukaan esittänyt vas-

talauseetta. Sinne jäivät omat perinnöt ja muistot.

Venäjä on tehnyt väärin Suomea kohtaan ja Presidentti Putinin pitäisi se myöntää ja pyytää anteeksiantoa, jos ei mitään muuta.

On aika olla rehellinen asioista ja tuoda väärä esille. Enemmän julkista puhelua tapahtumista. Onneksi Suomi pelastui ja nousi jaloilleen omin voimin. Muistot vain ovat jäljellä.

Suomi voitti sodan.

Nelly Kaarina Soininen Taylor

Half Moon Bay, CA

ent. Sortavalan mlsk.

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yhteisten arvojen merkitystä, kun Eurooppa kohtaa uusia uhkakuvia. Nämä arvot ovat ihmisoi-keuksien kunnioittaminen, de-mokratia ja oikeusvaltioperiaatteen edistäminen.

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ihmisten hyvinvointia. Samalla ne luovat pohjaa terrorismin, ihmiskaupan ja järjestäytyneen rikollisuuden leviämislle aiempaa tehokkaammin.

Huippukoukussa on mukana edustus 46:sta Euroopan neuvoston jäsenmaasta. (STT)

Huom! RAIVAAJA ei ilmesty toukok. 25, 2005, koska päätoimittaja Marita Cauthen matkustaa Suomeen osallistuakseen 23-24 toukokuuta pidettävään Ulkosuomalaisparlamentin istuntoon.
Seuraava RAIVAAJA ilmestyy keskiviikkona, kesäk. 1, 2005.

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Jääkaappi mullisti suomalaisen ruokapöydän

Sitten 1900-luvun alun suomalainen ruokakulttuuri on muuttunut melkoisesti. Kun ruokahistorioitsija Merja Sillanpäältä kysyy, mitä 1900-luvun alun ruokakulttuurista on jäljellä, hän mainitsee länsisuomalaisissa pidoissa 1800-luvun lopulla yleistyneen noutopöydän, juhlapöydän laatikot ja rosollit.

“Ehka kaikkein elinvoimaisimpana on säilynyt Suomelle ominainen ruokarytmi. Lähes kaikki nauttivat aamiaisen ja syöivät aikaisen lounaan. Eteläisemmissä Euroopassa rytmi on aivan toinen, ihmiset syövät tukevan illallisen suomalaisittain varsin myöhään”, Sillanpää sanoo.

Suomalaisen ruokakulttuurin merkittävin muutos viime vuosisadalla oli kylmälaitteiden tulo

1950-luvulla.

Kodeissa tuoreen lihan, jauhelihan ja makkaroiden käyttö yleisty huimasti.

“Ennen jääkaappeja ja pakastimia suomalainen ruoka maistui happamalta. Vahva suolaus ja hapattaminen saivat ruuan säilymään kauemmin. Tyypillisiä ruokia 1900-luvun alussa olivat viili, piimä, suolasilakat ja kuivattu kala tai liha”, Sillanpää kertoo.

Sota yhtenäisti ruokatapoja

Vielä 1930-luvulla ruokakulttuurissa oli aluellisia eroja. Selkeimmin erosivat kovan leivän ja keittoruokien länsi sekä piirakoiden ja uuniruokien itä.

Sotavuodet ja evakkojen tulo

läntiseen Suomeen yhtenäistivät ruokakulttuuria.

Vielä viime vuosisadan alussa yhteiskuntaluokkien ruokatottumuksissa oli näkyviä eroja.

Tavallista oli, että työläiset ja toimihenkilöt soivat suunnilleen samanlaista ruokaa, mutta varakkaissa perheissä ruokaa oli tarjolla enemmän kuin ruumiilliseen työhön tottuneissa työläiskodeissa. Varakkaat nautiskelivat lihalla, maidolla ja voilla useammin kuin työväestö.

Ruuan vähyys näkyi työväestön lapsissa. Vielä 1930-luvulla lapsista noin kolmannes oli alipainoisia.

Ruuan määrän lisäksi luokkien välillä oli eroa myös ruokatavoissa. Ruokapöytää peitti valkoinen liina ja jokaiselle ruokalajille oli oma posliiniastiansa. Työläisperheissä kattaus oli vaatimattomampi.

Sodan jälkeen 1950-luvulla elintason noustua ja tuloerojen tasoituttua ruokailu työläis- ja

toimihenkilöperheissä oli yhdenmukaisempaa kuin koskaan.

Eines leimasi laiskaksi

Valmisruuat alkoivat yleistyä kauppojen hyllyillä 1960-luvulla. Tulokasta paheksuttiin yleisesti. Mielikuvissa einekset eivät olleet yhtä ravitsevia ja terveellisiä kuin kotitekoisen ruoka.

Perheenemännille valmisruokien hyödyntäminen on aiheuttanut tunnontuskia vielä vuosikymmentenkin kuluttua, sillä Suomessa on elänyt vahvana maalainen perinne tehdä itse.

Koulutetut työssäkäyvät naiset hyväksyivät einekset ensimmäisenä.

Monet syyttelevät valmisruokia perinteisen ruokakulttuurin tuhoamisesta.

“Einekset voi nähdä toisinkin. Veriletut ja maksalaatikko, joiden valmistamisen moni kokee

vastenmieliseksi, voisivat olla mennyt ilman einetuotantoa. Samoin on työläiden ruokalaisten kuten hernekeiton ja kaalikääryleiden laita”, Sillanpää huomauttaa.

Viime aikoina perinteen vartijat ovat eineksien lisäksi olleet huolissaan nopean työmaaruokailun ja syömisen satunnaisuuden yleistymisestä.

Historioitsija huomauttaa, ettei huolella ole mitään uutta. Valistajat varoittelivat jo 1900-luvun alussa nuoria tehtaantytöitä aterioiden korvaamisesta kahvilla.

Nälkä eilispäivää

Nälkä ei ole Sillanpään mukaan kuulunut suomalaisten historiaan sitten kansalaissodan.

Edes pahimpina pulavuosina jatkosodan aikaan suomalaiset eivät nähneet nälkää. Kasvispitoinen ruokavalio takasi riittävän energiamäärän.

Sotavuosina oli pulaa herkuista, rasvasta, maidosta, sokerista, lihasta ja kahvista. Ruuan säännöstely ja korttiaika pakottivat ihmiset hyödyntämään aiemmin elukoiden ruokana pidettyjä kasviksia.

“Pulan hellittäessä kansa alkoi mässäätä sokerilla ja rasvalla. Jälkiruuat ja kahvileivät nousivat suosioon. Makea elämä alkoi hiljalleen näkyä myös suomalaisten ulkomuodossa. Kansapulskestui.”

Terveystieteilijät kiinnittivät suomalaisten lihomiseen huomiota jo 1950-luvulla, mutta voimallinen valistus alkoi vasta 1970-luvulla.

Pohjois-Karjalassa alkoi vuonna 1972 ohjelma sydän- ja verisuonitautien vähentämiseksi. Viisi vuotta myöhemmin viranomaiset ryhtyivät neuvomaan suomalaisia ruokaympyrän avulla.

“Radikaali valistus halusi eroon sokerista ja rasvasta, samalla se unohti nautinnon. Jälkeenpäin ajan valistusta voisi luonnehtia jonkinlaiseksi terveysterroriksi”, Sillanpää naurahtaa.

Nykyiset voin autuudesta ja hiihihydraattien pahuudesta saarnaavat ruokaopit Sillanpää näkee vastareaktioksi tiukalle nautinnottomalle valistukselle.

Ihmeiden aika ohi

Suomalaisten nykyisiä ruokakulttuuria Sillanpää pitää edelleen hämmästyttävän yhtenäisinä.

“Jonkinlaiset erilliskulttuurit ovat lisääntyneet. Erilaiset kasvisruokavaliot yhdistävät pieniä ihmisryhmiä, toisaalta etniset uu-

jatkuu seuraavalla sivulla



Kouluruokailu tuli lakisääteiseksi vuonna 1948. Järvenpääläiset lapset ruokailivat luokassa Harjulan kansakoulussa.



Valmisruuat ilmestyivät kauppojen hyllyille 1960-luvulla. Kansa paheksui einesten käyttöä vuosia.



Vielä 1900-luvun alussa itäiset ja läntiset ruokaperinteet poikkesivat toisistaan. Länsisuomalaiset söivät kovaa leipää ja itäsuomalaiset piirakkaa. Ylihärmäläisen Kurkikuoman talon väki keskeytti heinätyöt aterian ajaksi 1929.

JÄÄKAAPPI...

jatkoa edlissivulta



Vielä ennen sotia ruokapäyriä ei notkunut työläiskodeissa kuten toimihenkilöperheissä. Sotajan säännöstely verotti eniten köyhien perheiden ateriaa, sillä mustan pörssin hinnat olivat korkeat.

FAKTA

Vuosilukuja suomalaisen ruuan historiasta

- 1730-luvulla peruna tulee Suomeen. Viranomaiset ja papisto koettavat suojella suomalaisia pahoilta katovuosilta peunaa suosittelemalla. Valistussaarinoista huolimatta perunan menestystarina alkaa vasta seuraavalla vuosisadalla.
- 1866 viinan kotipoltosta tulee rikollista.
- 1922 Fazerin Sinisen valmistus alkaa.
- 1930-luvulla mämmi leviää koko Suomeen.
- 1948 lakisääteinen kouluruokailu alkaa.
- 1952 Helsingin olympialaisissa korkataan Suomen ensimmäiset Coca-Colat.
- Jogurtin teollinen valmistus alkaa.
- 1972 irtomaidon myynti loppuu.

tuudet vetoavat tiettyihin kulutajiin. Muutoksista huolimatta valtaosa suomalaisista syö yhä varsin perinteisesti. Lapsena omaksutut ruokatavat istuvat tiukassa.”

Sillanpää toetaan, että ruokatuudet solahtavat nyky-Suomeen vaivattomammin kuin 50 vuotta

sitten.

“Vielä 1920-30-luvuilla syntneiden ruokamuistoja leimautavat ensikohtaamiset ulkomaan ihmisten kuten banaanin tai appelsiinin kanssa. Nyt ihmettelylle ei enää ole sija, sillä tieto uutuuksista leviää nopeasti.

(UD)

Kallis polttoaine ei painanut Finnairia

Lentoyhtiö Finnair paransi alkuvuonna tuntuvasti tulostaan.

Finnairin tulos rahoituserien jälkeen oli tammi-maaliskuussa 17,4 miljoonaa euroa, kun vuotta aiemmin tulosta kertyi 2,7 miljoonalla euroa. Samalla liikevaihto kasvoi lähes yhdeksän prosenttia 450 miljoonaan euroon.

Finnair suhtautuu myös loppuvuoteen luottavaisesti, vaikka kallis lentopetrolia aiheuttaa paineita koko alalle. Pääjohtaja Keijo Suilan mukaan Finnairin kysyntä jatkuu vahvana ja kustannukset ovat hallinnassa.

“Olemme kyenneet laskemaan yksikkökustannuksiamme kalliista polttoaineesta huolimatta. Lisäksi lentohintojen pitkään jatkunut lasku on taittunut ennakoitusti. Joillakin alueilla keskihinnat ovat jopa nousseet huolimatta lisääntyneestä kilpailusta”.

Finnair-konsernin lentoyhtiöiden liikenne kasvoi alkuvuonna 7,4 prosenttia ja matkustajakäytöstä nousi kaksi prosenttiyksikköä 73,4 prosenttiin. Reittiliikenne kasvoi 10,6 prosenttia ja käyttöstä parani 5,1 prosenttiyksikköä.

Kasvu kohdistui erityisesti Aasian-liikenteeseen sekä ruotsalaisen tytäryhtiön Flygnordicin liikenteeseen. Joka neljäs euro Finnairin reittiliikenteen tuotoista tulee Aasian-liikenteestä. (HS)

EU:N ...

jatkoa sivulta 2

varmasti, jos äänestys järjestettäisiin.

EU-parlamentin vaaleissa äänestysprosentti on Suomessa yleensä jäänyt 30-40 prosenttiin.

(SS)

Muistithan uusia tilauksesi!

Lars Råfeldt jatkaa Aura seuran puheenjohtajana

VOLUNTOWN, CT – Aura seuran kesätoiminta on alkanut. Lauantaina, 14. toukokuuta seuran toimihenkilöt järjestivät suuret myyjäiset talon sisä- sekä ulkotiloihin.

Myyntipöydissä oli tavaraa tarjolla aina käsistä kasveihin asti. Hyvälaatuista uutta vaatetavaraa, työkaluja ha astioita meni nopeasti kaupaksi.

Leivonnaismyynti on aina kansan suosiossa, ja kotitekoisen pulla myytiin viimeistä pitkoa myöten.

Elina Aarnio, Mirja Hanslin ja Anja Mällinen valmistivat herkullisen lihakeiton, jota amerikkalaisetkin asiakkaat ovat oppineet nauttimaan.

Aura seuran vuosikokous pidettiin 15. toukokuuta. Puheenjohtajana Lars Råfeldt avasi kokouksen kiittäen kaikkia työntekijöitä ja toimihenkilöitä.

Asiaankuuluvat raportit luettiin ja todettiin, että seuran rahavarat on huolella hoidettu ja viime vuosi on ollut erittäin tuottoisa. Kiehtiöön suunniteltiin uudistuksia työn helpottamiseksi ja tulevasta toiminnasta keskusteltiin pitkään.

Johtokuntaan valittiin kaikki entiset toimihenkilöt: puheenjohtajaksi edelleen Lars Råfeldt, varapuheenjohtaja Tom Rutherford, sihteeri Lily Råfeldt, rahastonhoitaja Liisa Rix, jäsensihteeri Liisa Silander, lehtikirjeenvaihtaja Anja Laurila, emäntä Elina Aarnio, musiikin järjestäjä Bert Strömholm ja luottamushenkilöt ovat Esther Jalkanen, Mauno Laurila ja Carl Anderson. Rakennuskomiteassa toimivat Lars Råfeldt, John Aarnio, Tom Rutherford, Mauno Laurila, Forrest Rix ja Toivo Anderson.

Lauantaina, 28. toukokuuta klo 7 illalla Aura seuran talolla esi-

tetään englanninkielinen näytelmä “Evacuees”, jossa näyttelee yhteistyössä Canterburyn ja Voluntownin seuratoimintaväkeä.

Ilta jatkuu tanssin ja konsertin merkeissä Burt Stromholmin, Brent Buswellin ja Joe Jolinin musiikin tahdissa. Ravintolassa on jälleen saatavana monenlaista purtavaa. Tervetuloa nauttimaan hienosta illasta Aura haalilla!

Maanantaina, 30. toukokuuta Aura Seuran väki osallistuu jälleen Voluntownin Memorial Day -paraatiin, monetr kansallisissa asuissaan.

Voluntownin kansakoulun oppilaat valmistavat suurta projektia seinämaalauksen muodossa. Siinä ilmenee myös suomalaisten osuus Voluntownin historiasa. Se tullaan asettamaan aikaan ulkotiloihin. Paikkaa vielä

harkitaan.

Aura seuran jäsenkokous pidetään maanantaina, 6. kesäkuuta klo 6 illalla, kahvitarjoilu klo 5 ip. (Huom! aika).

Lauantai, 11. kesäkuuta tulee olemaan suurenmoinen päivä Aura haalilla. Silloin on vuotuisen nanabarbecue klo 4 - 6 i.p. ja

samana iltana klo 7 kymmenhenninen kansantanssiryhmä Suomesta esiintyy kaikkien iloksi. Pitäkäähan mielessä!

Tässä vain pieni katsaus lähitulevaisuuden tapahtumiin. Tervetuloa kaikkiin Aura seuran tilaisuuksiin.

ANJA LAURILA



Lars Råfeldt jatkaa puheenjohtajana ja hänen vaimonsa Lily sihteerinä.



Tanssiryhmä Olka Suomesta esiintyy ensi kuussa.

Window on the past



Kisa Toverit, Milford (NH), 1929

Members of the Kisa Toverit gymnastic and athletic team pose for a photograph during a carnival at Endicot Park in Milford (NH) in 1929. Sitting on the ground are (left to right) Ellen Johnson, Aino Palm, Waino Kokko, Siiri Salo and Edith Hasu.

Second row (left to right) Sulo Salo, Valma Salo, Hilda Ranttila Paananen, Vieno Kokko, Effie Karnis, Sulo Winter and Axel Salmi, leader.

Back row (left to right) Carl Clay, Sulo Einar Paananen, Reino Paana-

nen, Theodore Karnis, Emil Madison, Walter Ranttila, John Ranttila and Eino Stein.

Kisa Toverit was sponsored by the Kajastus Labor Society of Milford.

This photograph is reprinted here courtesy of Kerttu Winters of Pembroke (MA). She provided the names of most of the team members. The late Walter O. Nisula was able to procure the identities of the rest.

Jonathan Ratila

Congratulations to RAIVA AJA

Finland Society congratulates Raivaaja for its 100th Anniversary.

Raivaaja has since its birth been an important deliverer of news and promoter of Finnish culture. With your alert and continuous work Finnish and Finnish American life and traditions have become known to thousands of Americans during the 100 years.

Very often those active in newspapers have more responsi-

bilities and tasks than is adequate. New ideas and people to follow the ideas, people who sacrifice their time and effort to develop their society are needed. Workdays and nights are often stretched to wee hours.

This is the situation at Raivaaja, as well. However, your work is highly appreciated by those who enjoy the results. Finland So-ciety wants to con-

turn to SUOMI-SEURA page 20



Cozy rustic lakeside kesämökki on Beach Pond Lake, Voluntown, CT. Large windows overlooking the lake. Outstanding architect-designed wood sauna. Excellent fishing, swimming. Patio, deck, private dock with canoe. Sleeps 5. \$600/wk. Kirsti 978-456-3849.



FITCHBURG, MA - The Spring Session of the Finnish Language Course, held at the Finnish Center at Saima Park, had its final class this week. After a summer break the classes will resume in September. Teaching is offered in two levels, beginner and intermediate. Above, front row, Eleanor Rogers, Shirley Mattson, Edwin Mattson and Kirsti Gamage. Second row, intermediate teacher Liisa Liedes, Vicky Soletsky and Greg Hentzi. Back row, Bob Parker, Bob Lumppio, Reino Mäki, Bob Hänninen and John Tommila. Missing from the picture is Jane Guercio and beginner teacher Marita Cauthen who took the photo. Those interested attending the Fall Session should contact Cauthen at 978-343-3822 or raivaaja@net1plus.com

An Anniversary Ode

By Elna Nelson

It's time for us to say "three cheers"
For Raivaaja's impressive hundred years;

It has been our source of news,
Giving important homeland views;

What goes on across the sea
Is of interest to you and me;

Also for any with Finnish connections
It gives top-notch reading selections;

Oldesters read it, winters and summers
The same can be said of our newcomers;

It adds so much to our heritage - knowledge
Things you'd likely not learn in college;

In Raivaaja we learn of our roots and more
Which adds to the history of Finnish lore;

Your paper, many an accolade wins
For making us proud that we are Finns!

**BOSTON TO STOCKHOLM AND HELSINKI... WICKED FAST!**

Discover the super speed of Finnair's new non-stop flights to Sweden... and beyond.

Ready for the most awesome way to get over the pond and totally north? Hop aboard a Finnair flight. Our non-stop flights from June 14 to September 9 are the fastest way to get from Logan to Stockholm (Skavsta) this summer. So, you can spend less time in the air, and more time soaking up that midnight sun.

For more information or reservations please contact your travel agency or call Finnair at 1-800-950-5000 or visit www.finnair.com/us


FINNAIR

Introduce yourself, a family member or a friend to RAIVAAJA!

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Chicago News

by Bob Kujanpaa

Chicagoland Finns welcomed the coming of spring at the Finnish-American Society of the Midwest's annual Vappu Party held at the Oak Meadows Golf Club in Addison, Saturday, April 30.

Following dinner, those attending enjoyed dancing to the music of the Alger Nordstrom Quartet and a dance routine by the Chicagoland Finnladies. Ladies participating in the performance were: Taru Berg, Lee Hoofnagle, Eeva Kallio, Alanah Kim, Kirsten Kim and Kielo Sauvola.

Arto Saarinen represented the Finnish American Chamber of Commerce at the 2005 Finnish American Chamber of Commerce National Meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia on April 22. Arto is the president of the Midwest Chapter.

Nordic Summerfest will be held Sunday, June 26, at Vasa Park in

South Elgin from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.. The day will include Scandinavian food and music, crafts, displays and games. For additional information call Britt at 773-239-1855 or Susan at 708-228-4271.

Warren Polston, director of the Sibelius Male Chorus for more than forty years, passed away on April 23. A memorial service will be held at the Estonian House in Riverwoods at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, June 12. A complete obituary appears in another section of the paper.

Lydia "Peggy" Ranta Stollberger passed away in early May. She was preceded in death by her husband Carl. Survivors include her son John (Meg) and a sister Aileen Frost. A memorial service was held May 7 at the Fourth Congregational Church in Chicago.

Signe Hill turns 90

ST. GEORGE, ME - Over 120 family members and friends gathered at the St. George Grange Hall on Saturday, May 7th to celebrate the 90th birthday of Signe Hill. She has been an active lifelong resident of the mid-coastal community, and a joy to all who know and love her.

The century-old hall was decorated with photographs and memento's of Signe's ninety years, and the guests enjoyed a vast smörgåsbord of culinary delights, along with pieces of the huge birthday cake.

During the party, Rev. Terence Willis, James Skoglund, and Art Jura each spoke about Signe's long life and hard work.

Signe was born Signe Sofia Rytty on May 8, 1915. She was confirmed June 29, 1930 by Rev. Aleks Raita at the local Finnish Congregational Church. Signe married William (Pirttinen) Hill on January 26, 1934 at the Finn-ish parsonage, with the Rev. John Heino officiating.

She raised a family during difficult Depression years, and worked many years at the local fish packing plants.

At the age of 78 she became a charter member of



Signe Hill

photo: Art Jura

the Finnish-American Society of Mid-Coastal Maine, and a charter member of the Finnish Heritage House at the age of 88.

Art Jura

Irina Björklund stars in U.S. movie 'Lost'

Versatile Finnish actress Irina Björklund is starring in the new psychological film thriller *Lost* which has just opened in Los Angeles theaters. This independent film produced by Silver Crest Entertainment, is a first-time American feature film directed and written by Darren Lemke.

Male lead is Dean Cain who plays the role of Jeremy Stanton, who is trapped in a nightmarish maze of California and Arizona desert roads, contending with

some mysterious force. Björklund plays the role of Oona Stanton, presumably Jeremy's wife. The film was produced in 2004 but is premiering now in Los Angeles.

Winner of a "Jussi", Finland's Academy Award, Björklund, has starred in several of the Finnish films that have been seen at Kaleva Hall in Berkeley. These included *Rukajärven tie* (Ambush-1999), *Lapin kullin kimmallus* (Glitter of Lapland Gold-1999) and *Minä ja Morrison* (Me and

Morrison-2001) The latter won the Jussi for 2001 Best Picture of the Year.

Björklund was outstanding as Milla, a confused young woman caught up in a world of drugs, sex and rock-n-roll in Helsinki and Tallinn and involved in a dysfunctional relationship with an older drug dealer/user.

Björklund was born Feb. 7, 1973 in Stockholm and was trained, 1993-96, at the Theater Academy in Finland. Besides Finnish feature films, she has acted in several television series and on the stage.

Others of her better Finnish known films were *Levottomat* (Restless Ones-2000) and *Vieraalla Maalla* (In a Foreign Land-2003). She was also in a Swedish crime thriller, *The Third Wave*.

However, *Lost* is not her first American film. Other U.S. credits include: *Honey Baby* (2003), *Red Is the Color of --* (2004) and *Red Lightning*.

She has also appeared on the American stage as Nastasja/Claire in the American premiere of "The Cosmonaut's Last Message" at La Jolla Playhouse in California.

Harri Siitonen

Kiitos

Thank you

to all the organizations and individuals who helped to make RAIVAAJA's Centennial Celebration a huge success.

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Smash hit at Raivaaja's centennial celebration!

Kaiku

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Those words can best describe the sound of Kaiku, a New York City-based collective of talented and experienced Finnish and American musicians. Kaiku's signature sound comes from three female singers with their soul stirring voices and exquisite harmonies. It is a bewitching fusion of world music and harmonious songs inspired by Finnish folklore and poetry. The result is something that is unlike anything else performed and heard in New York's ever eclectic-sounding music scene.

Currently available is an EP CD with the following songs: *Musta poika mulleroinen*, *Puhurin poika*, *Laulajan messu*, *Paha mieli*, *Yksi ruusu on kasvanut laaksossa*

Kaiku EP CD

\$10.00 plus \$2 postage & handling
Mass residents must also add
50cents state sales tax

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Just For You

Brent Buswell's second CD includes Pennsylvania Polka, Vagabond Waltz, Johan Pa Snippen, Barbara Polka, Amazing Grace, Accordion Oberek, Finn Polka, Rag in D Minor, German Waltz Medley, Achtung Los, Bel Viso, Waltz Allegro, What a Friend We Have in Jesus, Battle Hymn of The Republic, Armed Forces Medley

Buswell is joined on this recording by Alex Meixner on drums, bass, second accordion and keyboard.

\$15 plus \$2 for postage & handling
(Mass. residents must also add
75 cents state sales tax)

Raivaaja Publishing Company
P. O. Box 600
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European Parliament raps Russia for treatment of Mari people

The European Parliament passed a strongly-worded resolution on last week criticizing Russia for violating the rights of the Mari people, a Finno-Ugric nation living in the Volga region.

The resolution lists a number of measures taken by Russia and by the administration of the Mari Republic against the indigenous minority.

Journalists have been repeatedly beaten and persecuted in the area, and nobody has had to answer for the crimes in court.

(HS)

Branford, CT

The International Order of Runeberg Lodge 205 will have its Annual Picnic in Branford on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person and bring a dish to share. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about the Order is welcome to attend.

For more information please contact: Klas and Dottie Björk at 203-488-8468 by June 1st.

Ludlow, VT

The Vermont Finnish American Society will hold a general membership meeting at the Black River Academy Museum, 14 High Street, on Sunday, May 22 at 2 p.m.

Items to be discussed include final plans for the *juhannus* celebration to be held at the Andover Town Hall on June 18. Volunteers will be sought for the following assignments: setting up, entertainment, food for the pot luck supper and cleaning up afterward.

We will also plan for our summer picnic.

For more information, please call Paul Kalinen at 875-3155 or Alice Suojanen at 226-8176.

Eva Suojanen

Finn Hop -Dance AT KALEVA LODGE LANCASTER MASS.

Saturday, June 4, 2005

7:30PM - 11:30PM

Accordion Music by
Veikko Honkala

\$8.00 PER PERSON

Sponsored by

KNIGHTS & LADIES
OF KALEVA (Fitchburg)

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Productions

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An Uncommon View Program Guide
CH 8/Fitchburg

June Program Guide

F 9p SA 12p & 6p, SU 8a & 2p

3,4,5 NOFA (Nat'l Organic Farmers Assn)
Dale Perkins Horse Show Amherst, MA
10,11,12 Dick's Market Garden

Early Spring Plantings

17,18,19 Overlook Farm, Rutland, MA
Dale Perkins Horse Show Highlights
Heifer Intern'l Fair at Overlook Farm

June 25 & 26
24,25,26 Mylärin Musicians & Singers
from Karelia, Russia

Thank you for watching!

Judith Lindstedt

email: auv@fatv.org

ZZ

Productions

www.FATV.org/AUV

An Uncommon View Program Guide
AWCA/Ch 8

June Program Guide

TU 7p, TH 5p, SA 3p

New show every Tuesday

31,32,4 NOFA (Nat'l Org. Farmers Assn)
Dale Perkins Horse Show Amherst, MA
7,9,11 Dick's Market Garden

Early Spring Plantings

14,16,18 Overlook Farm, Rutland, MA
Dale Perkins Horse Show Highlights
Heifer Int. Fair at Overlook Farm/June 25 & 26

21,23,25 Mylärin Musicians & Singers
from Karelia, Russia

28,30,2 Dick's Market Garden
Farmer's Market Brookline, MA
Thank you for watching!

Judith Lindstedt

email: auv@fatv.org

Sateinenkin päivä on
kirkas Raivaaja lukiessa

Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

May 29 - Concert by the Wegelius Chamber Strings, from Finland, Anna-Maria Helsing conducting, 2 pm, Chapel of the Sacred Heart, Loyola Marymount University, 1 LMU Dr, Westchester, Los Angeles. Concert to include *Elegi* by Leevi Madetoja, *Music for Strings* Joonas Kokkonen and *Impromptu for Strings* (1894) by Jean Sibelius. Coffee & sweets after concert in the Bird Nest. Net proceeds to benefit Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation Scholarship Fund. Info: 714-540-5556 or 562-592-4452.

June 5 - Finnish film: *Akseli ja Elina* (1970), 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. Based on *Under the North Star* by Väinö Linna. Directed by Edwin Laine; starring Aarno Sulkanen and Ulla Ekland. 2 hrs 15 min; no English subtitles. Info: 510-849-0125.

June 11 - Concert by the Wegelius Chamber Strings, Anna-Maria Helsing conducting, 2 pm, Kaleva Hall, Berkeley. Program to include *Divertimento for cello and strings* by Jack Mattson, *Spelmans Portrait* by Pehr-Henrik Nordgren and *Impromptu* by Jean Sibelius. Info: 510-524-6217 or IrmaTJ@aol.com

June 12 - Concert by the Wegelius Chamber Strings, Anna-Maria Helsing conducting, 3 pm, Messiah Lutheran Church, corner of Woodside and Valota Rds, Redwood City. Program to include works by Joonas Kokkonen and Jean Sibelius. Info: 650-349-9223 or babesand@comcast.net

CONNECTICUT

May 21 - Giant Yard Sale & Bake Sale, 9-3 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 N Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury. Info: 860-546-6671.

May 22 - Open House and Local History Month Event, 12 noon-3 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Info: 860-546-6671.

May 28 - FAHS play "The Evacuees," by Canterbury and Voluntown performers, 7 pm, Aura Hall, Lillibridge Rd, Voluntown. Followed by dancing to music by Burt Stromholm, Brent Buswell & Joe Jolin. Tickets \$8.

June 5 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Coffee hour 6 pm.

June 25 - Chicken Barbecue, 4-6 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Info: 860-546-6671.

MAINE

June 19 - Pikku Suomi Koulu, 1 pm, Finnish-American Heritage Center, 8 Maple St, West Paris.

- Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly membership meeting, 2 pm, Finnish-American Heritage Center, West Paris.

MASSACHUSETTS

May 21 - Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod monthly meeting, 12 noon, First Lutheran Church, Rte 6A, West Barnstable. Please bring a bag lunch; coffee, tea & dessert provided. - Saturday supper: Macaroni & Cheese, Beans, Franks, Salads, 5 pm, Uljas Koitto Temperance Society Summer Camp, Furnace Pond, 83 Suomi Rd (off Rt 36), Pembroke. Reservations (required), info: 781-878-0376 or 781-871-7708. Sauna open 3-9 pm.

May 24 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Elm Street Congregational Church, 264 Elm St, Fitchburg.

May 31 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Elm Street Congregational Church, Fitchburg.

June 4 - Ski trails work party, 8 am-2 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg. - Suomi-koulu of New England Day Camp, 12 noon-2 pm, Kaleva Maja, Fort Pond, Littleton. Info: 617-669-4112 or miakiistala@yahoo.com

June 5 - Finnish Center at Saima Park membership meeting, 1 pm, Function Hall, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Finlandia Foundation representative Paul Hanslin will discuss affiliation with the Finlandia Foundation.

- Finlandia Foundation Boston Chapter membership meeting, Uljas Koitto Temperance Society Summer Camp, Pembroke. Potluck lunch (2 pm); Program: Marco Steinberg, associate professor of architecture at Harvard Design School, speaking on "Industrial Design and its Future" (3 pm); Sauna and swimming (4 pm).

June 7 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Elm Street Congregational Church, Fitchburg.

June 11 - Boiled Lobster Dinner, 5 pm, Uljas Koitto Temperance Society Summer Camp, Pembroke. Advance paid reservations required. Call 781-878-0376 or 781-871-7708. Sauna open 3-9 pm.

- Pot Roast dinner (6 pm) & Dancing to the music of Ed Hendala (7:30 pm), Sovittaja Park, Demond Pond, Finn Park Rd, Rutland.

June 12 - Knights & Ladies of Kaleva Inc. annual meeting, 2 pm, Kaleva Lodge, 32 Perry Rd, Lancaster.

- Program by Folk Dancers from Finland, 2 pm, Sovittaja Park, Rutland. Dancing to follow.

June 18 - Oven Baked Chicken supper, 5 pm, Uljas Koitto Temperance Society Summer Camp, Pembroke. Reservations required. Call 781-878-0376 or 781-871-7708.

June 25 - 99th Annual Summer Festival Dance, 7-11:30 pm, Function Hall, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Oivan Ilo. Ceremonial kokko (bonfire) at intermission.

June 26 - 99th Annual Finnish Summer Festival, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Track & field meet 9 am (info: 978-345-6006); 5km Cross Country Race, 9 am; Children's Activities, 10:30 am; Chicken Barbecue 11 am-1 pm; Program 2 pm. Info: 978-343-3822.

MICHIGAN

May 27 - Friday Buffet, 5-8 pm, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills. Reservations required. Call FCA office by noon: 248-478-6939.

June 3 - Annual Springfest & Jamboree begins, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. The Novi Concert Band will perform after the meal. Info: 248-478-6939.

June 4 - Annual Springfest & Jamboree continues, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. Folk, bluegrass, Finnish and American folk music. Info: 248-478-6939.

June 5 - Annual Springfest & Jamboree continues, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. Worship service 9 am; pancake breakfast; Open House at the "Nikkarin Talo." Info: 248-478-6939.

June 18 - FCA Members Clean-up Bee & Afterglow, 9 am-9 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. Info: 248-478-6939.

Aug. 10-14 - Finn Grand Fest 2005, Northern Michigan University, Marquette. Info: Finn Grand Fest 2005, 2342 US 41 W, Marquette MI 49855; Tel 800-906-FINN or 906-222-FINN; e-mail info@finngrandfest2005.com or www.finngrandfest2005.com

MINNESOTA

May 28 - Kokato Finnish American Historical Society Memorial Day celebration, 10 am-2 pm, Temperance Corner, County Roads 3 & 100, three miles north of Kokato. Program begins at 12 noon. Speakers to include World War II veteran Arnold Martin and author Larry Warwaruk.

June 10-11 - Nisswa-stamman Nordic Music Festival, Nisswa. Groups from Scandinavia and Minnesota playing Scandinavian and Finnish music. Info: 218-764-2994 or www.nisswastamman.org

June 11 - Finnish American Summer Festival, Timber Hall, Embarrass. Ethnic music, crafters, demonstrators, boot throwing, children's activities, storyteller, homestead tour. Info: 218-984-2552 or awj@cpinternet.com

June 13-18 - Salolampi Family Week, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. For parents, grandparents and youth ages 4-10. Info: 800-222-4750 or info@salolampi.org

June 20-25 - Salolampi One-Week Session for Ages 7-14, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 800-222-4750 or info@salolampi.org

June 27-July 9 - Salolampi Two-Week Session for Ages 11-18, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 800-222-4750 or info@salolampi.org

June 27-July 23 - Salolampi Credit Session for Grades 9-12, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 800-222-4750 or info@salolampi.org

July 11-23 - Salolampi Two-Week Session for Ages 8-13, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 800-222-4750 or info@salolampi.org

NEW JERSEY

June 18 - Scandinavian American Heritage Society Midsummer Celebration, 12 noon-8 pm, Felician College, South Main St, Lodi. Info: 201-262-4074, 609-298-8245 or www.safs-nj.org

NEW YORK

May 23 - Sofia Laiti, vocals, and James Weidman, piano, 10 pm, Kavehaz, 37 West 26th St, New York City.

May 29 - Finnish War Veterans in America annual meeting, 2 pm, Lomala Hall, Fishkill. For more info, call Ray Heinonen (860-355-1020) or Veikko Salmela (845-896-8483).

June 3 - Concert by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, 8 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. Info: www.lincolncenter.org

June 5 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metro Chapter annual picnic for members & friends, Williams Lake Resort, Rosendale. Lunch at 1 pm. Free bus transportation available from Manhattan. Deadline for reservations May 25. Info: 718-442-5792.

- Concert by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, 2 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. Info: www.lincolncenter.org

June 9 - Sunset @ the Piers Party, 6:30-9:30 pm, Sunset Terrace at Chelsea Piers, New York City. Buffet dinner and open bar, entertainment, casino, raffle and dancing. Deadline for reservations May 27. Info: www.fawnet.org. Sponsored by the Finnish & American Women's Network (FAWN) in cooperation with the New York Finnish Swedes (NYFS).

June 18 - Finger Lakes Finns Juhannus Celebration, 5 pm, Hemmo & Patty Huttunen's Southview Farm, 630 South Danby Rd, Spencer. Bring a dish to pass and chair. Kokko, hayrides and entertainment in the evening featuring the Sillanpää family from Finland and local entertainment. Info: 387-6620.

June 25 - Concert by the Sillanpää family from Finland, 7:30 pm, Auditorium, Newfield High School, Newfield. Refreshments following in the cafeteria. Info: 387-4854.

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Events subject to change without notice

Raivaaja Centennial 1905-2005

Festival speech by Professor Varpu Lindström

Saima Park, Fitchburg (MA), April 24, 2005

Taavi Tainio, the founding editor of *Raivaaja* commented that when *Raivaaja* was founded in January 1905, the smart people "viisaat ihmiset" said that the newspaper was a fool's attempt, a crazy exercise, "hullun yritys" and predicted that the paper would choke before it was out of its diapers.

When *Raivaaja* turned fifty, Professor Kolehmainen could not envision how the paper would continue to thrive. In his book about *Raivaaja*, "Sow the Golden Seed" he predicted that the time had come to write obituaries for the foreign-born Finnish-Americans and their institutions.

Yet here we are, 50 years after Kolehmainen's predictions, 100 years after *Raivaaja* was born and still the people's paper is thriving in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, the town that has been its home from the beginning.

Raivaaja has not only proven all nay-sayers wrong, it has outlived every other Finnish North American newspaper of its time. It is the oldest Finnish language newspaper outside of Finland. In fact, *Raivaaja* is 12 years older than independent Finland itself.

Today, as we celebrate this outstanding achievement, this truly historic event, I would like to take a moment to ponder the reasons behind *Raivaaja*'s longevity and success. It is impossible to squeeze into twenty minutes *Raivaaja*'s numerous accomplishments over the past 100 years. I will offer four main reasons but I am sure that you, the supporters and readers of *Raivaaja*, can add hundreds of more valid, individual reasons why the paper is important to you. I hope that in the coming weeks you will write down your thoughts and send them to *Raivaaja*.

The first important factor in *Raivaaja*'s early success is found in the historical context of the times. In 1905 the time was right for a new Finnish social democratic newspaper in North America. When *Raivaaja* was established, Teddy Roosevelt was the President of the United States.

Immigration was encouraged and thousands from Finland seized the opportunity to come to the land of perceived great opportunity. Immigrants from Finland came for economic and political reasons.

These were turbulent times in the history of Finland, then a Grand Duchy of Russia. The workers in Finland organized in 1899 and in 1903 founded the Social Democratic Party that was to become a powerful political force in Finland. Russian repres-



Varpu Lindström

sive measures, especially the hated conscription to the Russian army, made the political climate in Finland tense. It intensified with the murder of Governor General Bobrikoff in June of 1904. As the Russo-Japanese war was raging (1904-1905) Finland staged a general strike in 1905.

While most immigrants left Finland simply to look for a better life, many intellectuals had to flee the country's political turmoil. These political exiles were to play an important role in the founding of the working-class organizations and newspapers in North America and immediately took up positions of leadership.

The newspapers could not have survived, however, without eager readers. For the universally literate Finns, (about 98 percent were literate on arrival), newspapers became as important, as one reader claimed, as their "daily bread."

This opportune historical period is applicable to all the Finnish working-class newspapers that were founded around the same time: The first was the short-lived *Amerikan Työmies*, (Harlem New York City, 1900); the second was the *Amerikan Suomalainen Työmies* (*Työmies*) first published in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1903 but soon moved westward to Hancock, Michigan; the third was *Raivaaja* that published its first weekly issue on January 31, 1905 in Fitchburg, Massachusetts; the fourth was *Työkansa*, established in 1907 in Port Arthur, Ontario, Canada; and the fifth was *Toveri* that began to appear regularly in 1908 in Astoria, Oregon.

Hence each North American region had its own working-class paper, *Raivaaja* in the east,

Työmies in the mid-west, *Toveri* in the west, and *Työkansa* in Canada.

Many other working-class newspapers were established later but these four were the pioneers in the field. After the establishment of the nation-wide Finnish Socialist Federation in America, the three U.S. papers were designated as the Federation's official mouthpieces until 1936. Of these, *Raivaaja* alone, stuck to its original Social Democratic principles.

The Second reason for the success of *Raivaaja*, is its number of capable editors, many of whom had fled Finland where they had had extensive experience as journalists in working-class newspapers. They knew their trade and were well-versed in socialist ideology. They were committed, even driven, willing at times to work without salary, and later, when the financial situation improved, to dedicate themselves to the well-being of the newspaper.

During the past 100 years, *Raivaaja* has had 13 editors-in-chief and numerous other noteworthy editors. Four of the editors-in-chief served during the difficult, trying, and turbulent first two years.

The founding editor, Taavi Tainio, set the paper's socialist tone to reflect moderation and working class interests. He recognized the important role that the new newspaper would have as an educational tool among the immigrant workers.

Tainio had already established a readership in the Fitchburg newspaper *Pohjan Tähti* where he worked. He had high hopes of changing the paper to reflect his own socialist ideology. His plan did not work as he was fired

from *Pohjan Tähti* by its owner, A. Heisson, who did not share Tainio's political world view.

At the same time *Amerikan Suomalainen Työmies* moved to Michigan, leaving a void in Eastern United States. Hence, the time seemed right to start a new paper in Fitchburg.

At first the new newspaper was to be called "Sosialisti" (Socialist) but then this was deemed to be too presumptuous as socialism in America was still in its infancy. The name *Raivaaja* - pioneer - was selected instead signifying the pioneering educational work within the working-class Finnish Americans that lay ahead for the paper. The fields that *Raivaaja* was to cultivate were the hearts and minds of its immigrant readers.

Tainio was a seasoned journalist but nothing could have prepared him for the intense opposition to the founding of the new socialist paper. Harassment of the editors included (in good old Finnish tradition) a knifing attack, intentional flooding of the meeting rooms, law suits, and personal attacks.

The next two editors, A.B. Mäkelä and Aku Päiviö were known for their literary talents. Mäkelä had been the right (or should I say left) hand of the Utopian Socialist Matti Kurikka in Sointula, Canada, and Aku Päiviö is recognized as the premier Finnish North American working-class poet.

Mäkelä moved back to Finland and then back to Sointula but before he left, perhaps inspired by Kurikka's egalitarian ideas and promotion of equality between the sexes, Mäkelä proposed that the paper should establish a special "naisten nurkka" (a women's corner) for its female readers.

To his astonishment women told him in no uncertain terms that women have been put to stand in the corner long enough - they need no special corners, just treatment as equals.

Ever since its inception the *Raivaaja* has been sensitive to women's issues, first to female suffrage, then to women's working conditions, and later to other female agendas. It is important to note that this tradition has been continued to present day making *Raivaaja* a welcome and stimulating read for both men and women.

After Aku Päiviö left Fitchburg and moved to Canada, the paper received its most radical editor, Captain Johan Kock, who survived only seven weeks until the winds of moderation blew him away.

In 1907 Frans Josef Syrjälä

took over the editorship of *Raivaaja* and served as editor-in-chief with a couple of interruptions until he died in office in 1931. Syrjälä solidified the paper's unwavering support of democratic principles and cultural values. His brand of working-class ideology was based on respect for the law. He had attended the founding meeting of the Social Democratic Party in Finland in 1903 and worked there as a journalist.

A tailor by trade he moved to Toronto, Canada (it is rumored that he escaped from Finland dressed as a woman) where he quickly became a respected leader in the community. It was *Raivaaja*'s fortune, and Toronto's loss, when Syrjälä accepted the editorship of the paper. As editor-in-chief he firmly rejected all syndicalist, anarchist, and later communist attempts to take over the working-class newspapers.

There was intense competition for readers from the more radical newspapers *Industrialisti* and *Eteenpäin*, yet *Raivaaja* held its ground and became a powerful voice against communist ideology among the Finns during the twenties and the thirties. It warned its readers against the movement to Soviet Karelia and this way probably saved hundreds of Finnish Americans from a horrible destiny.

It may be hard to fathom today why a socialist paper should be called a moderate paper rather than a radical paper, but within the North American Finnish working-class movement, *Raivaaja* was indeed the voice of moderation, tolerance, and lawful participation in American society while still giving unwavering support for the working people of America.

As other Finnish American working-class newspapers moved further to the left, *Raivaaja* became the only voice of moderate social democracy among the Finnish Americans.

During Syrjälä's long tenure, J. W. Meriläinen, Leo Laukki, and Yrjö Mäkelä stepped in to take his place while Syrjälä relinquished his editor-in-chief position for a few years.

Yrjö Mäkelä was another committed, faithful, and astute editor of *Raivaaja*.

He alternated with Syrjälä as editor-in-chief and then, after Syrjälä's death served *Raivaaja* until 1952. The war years were particularly difficult because all war articles had to be translated into English for the censors.

There was also feverish activity to organize war aid for Finland. Mäkelä was an experienced jour-

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Finland 6th in new IMD Competitiveness survey

Finland went up two places to 6th on the annual World Competitiveness Yearbook scoreboard, released last week by the Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development, IMD. The top spot went to the United States, which led the table last year as well.

According to another global competitiveness study, produced by the World Economic Forum and published last October, Finland took 1st place ahead of the United States as the world's most competitive economy with respect to the prospects for economic growth.

In the view of Research Director Petri Rouvinen of Etlatieto, a project research and information services subsidiary of ETLA (the Research Institute of the Finnish Economy), the two sets of results are not totally comparable, even if both bodies theoretically measure the same things - the real and structural long-term competitiveness of states and national economies.

Rouvinen believes the results could vary by as many as 10 places in one direction or another. "In statistical terms, Finland's rise in the IMD rankings cannot be regarded as very significant," he argues.

Two years ago, Finland was as high as 3rd in this same IMD scoreboard comparison.

"At least the downward slide appears to have been halted," says Rouvinen. Last May, the country slipped down to 8th.

IMD compares the competitiveness of countries and economic regions, and places them in order on the basis of hard statistical data and questionnaire studies addressed to business leaders: how they see their own country's competitiveness.

The biggest weaknesses seen for Finland are high hourly wages for industrial workers, a high overall rate of taxation, and sluggish growth in the workforce. Legislation in Finland also provides little incentive for people to go in search of work. (HS)

RealNetworks buys Finnish mobile game producer Mr. Goodliving

The American company RealNetworks, considered the global leader in downloadable PC-based leisure games, is buying the Finnish mobile game producer Mr. Goodliving for € 11.7 million (\$ 15 million).

Mr. Goodliving CEO Juha Ruskola described the deal as a way of "finding a secure home" for his company at a time when the whole field is undergoing consolidation.

The field of mobile gaming is expected to experience sharp growth. A report published in January predicts that the whole business will grow from € 1.3 billion last year to € 6.6 billion in 2008. At Mr. Goodliving alone, the growth rate has been

reflected in the quadrupling of the company's staff in the past two years to 40 people.

In the summer of 2001 Mr. Goodliving made the strategic decision to concentrate on mobile games - that is, games that can be played on mobile telephones.

Derrick Morton, head of mobile games at RealNetworks, says that the company wanted a foothold in Europe.

"We have a strong position in downloadable PC games. We believe that we can utilise these games in the mobile environment as well. Mr. Goodliving has a big mobile business, and we can take advantage of their

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Uusikaupunki car factory prepares for launch of Porsche Boxster's hardtop version

UUSIKAUPUNKI, Finland - The employment situation at the Valmet car factory in Uusikaupunki is expected to improve substantially next year when the plant starts to assemble a hardtop version of the coveted Porsche Boxster roadster.

Production of the recently introduced second-generation model of the popular sports convertible has already doubled the factory's daily output.

This fall, the simultaneous output of the roadster and its new hardtop cousin will add a third to Valmet car factory's assembly line workforce.

This will mark a welcome change to the below national

average employment situation in the western city of Uusikaupunki.

While manufacturing of the Saab Cabriolet ended in Uusikaupunki in the spring of 2003, and as production of the first-generation Boxster, introduced in 1997, has gradually been wound down, the factory's employment situation has gone from bad to worse.

At one point nearly half of the plant's 1,250 work force were laid off.

At the moment, 750 people work at the factory. This fall, an additional 250 people are expected to return to work as production of the coupe Boxster commences. (HS)

News from Finland

Finland's top industry lobbyist wants more working immigrants

Leif Fagernäs, chief executive of the Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK) said last week that he wanted more of the kind of immigrants that would actively seek work. He expressed concern that a lack of labour would threaten the nation's welfare.

Speaking in the city of Porvoo, Fagernäs added that this would require active measures as international competition for manpower had begun and Finland did not often rank on top of an immigrant's wish list.

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Alcohol abuse is Finland's top health threat

Alcohol-related problems are the biggest health threat facing Finland, said Professor Mikko Salaspuro of the University of Helsinki in an event dedicated to the care of people with alcohol problems.

He estimates that 2.5 to 5 percent of Finland's adult population are addicted to alcohol and 10 to 20 percent are heavy users.

Salaspuro added that caring for people with alcohol problems was worth the effort. Psychosocial care can be greatly enhanced with medication, he added.

Hannu Alho, chief physician at the National Public Health Institute (KTL) said that 40 to 70 percent of patients who have gone through such care relapse within a year. (STT)

Finland's top cleric speaks against assisted conception for lesbians and single parents

Archbishop Jukka Paarma, head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, in which around 84 percent of the population belong to, said that he was opposed to making assisted conception available for single parents and lesbian couples.

"Having a child is not a subjective right, nor a subjective human right, despite this having been claimed in the discussion in our country," Archbishop Paarma said.

He added that he thought assisted conception was a blessing for those living in matrimony.

The primate feels a child always has the right to have a father as well as a mother. (STT)

Marriage popular with Finns

Love and marriage went hand-in-hand last year in Finland. Some 29,300 couples tied the knot, an increase of 3,500 over the previous year.

According to Statistics Finland, this is the highest number of marriages annually since 1983.

Divorces also showed a drop of 300 last year amounting to 13,200 cases.

A total of 186 gay and lesbian couples also registered their relationships last year.

Despite the popularity of marriage, almost one-fifth of Finns live alone.

Finland also has a rather mobile population; over a half a million people moved home last year. (YLE)

Finance Minister says companies too greedy

Finance Minister Antti Kalliomäki (SDP), accused companies in Finland of being motivated by greed in moving their operations abroad, at the expense of their Finnish workers.

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New legislation would ease restrictions governing peacekeeping operations

A working group of civil servants set up by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has proposed that the present law on Finnish participation in peacekeeping operations be replaced by a new crisis management law that would lift some present restrictions on Finnish peacekeeping operations.

Under the proposal, which was submitted to Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja (SDP), a mandate from the United Nations Security Council would no longer be required for Finnish participation in a peacekeeping operation. (HS)

Forest certification battle won

Finland is winning a dispute over the acceptability of the country's forest industry certification.

The forestry chief of the Confederation of European Paper Industries told YLE TV News that Germany has agreed to accept Finland's forest certification. Britain and France are also expected to follow suit.

Previously Germany indicated it would only accept the FSC certificate approved by environment groups.

Finland exports 38 percent of its forest industry products to Germany, Britain and France. Exports to Germany alone account for 18 percent.

Certification indicates whether sustainable forest management has been employed in wood procurement and from raw timber originates. Currently, only 5 percent of the world's forests receive certification. (YLE)

Estonian gangs recruiting workers?

Estonian criminal gangs may be sending illegal workers to Finland from the Baltic states and Russia. The gangs also deduct a part of each worker's wages.

According to the security attaché at Finland's embassy in Estonia Raine Nurminen, a fifth of each worker's wages ends up in the hands of criminals.

He claims gangs recruit labourers and send them to work, for example, in the Finnish construction and metals industries.

Nurminen adds that at least seven gangs in Estonia are involved in recruiting labor. He says that the three-month work permit regulation is by passed by sending the worker back home just before the stipulated period ends. After this, he returns to work. (YLE)

Bits and pieces

Finnish women aged 55 are expected to continue to work longer than ever before, said a statement by Statistics Finland. Further, according to the semi-public agency, the rate of employment among women has overtaken that of men. The percentage of older members of the population in work in Finland has grown more than in any other EU country, the statement added. (STT)

Finnish Customs has so far refunded tens of millions of euros' worth of overpaid car tax. Authorities fear the final figure will exceed 30 million euros. (YLE)

There are now nearly a million broadband Internet connections in Finland. The government is promoting the use of high-speed connections in hopes of increased productivity and competitiveness. As the use of broadband has increased in popularity, the connection prices have dropped. According to a Statistics Finland consumer barometer report, 68 percent of households in Finland have a computer, while 38 percent have a broadband connection. (HS)

Finland to tighten belt during its European Union Presidency

Budget for meetings considerably smaller than in 1999

HELSINKI, Finland - Finland plans to spend significantly less on expenses of its next turn at the European Union Presidency next year than it did in 1999. Anja Vilo, who was recently appointed to lead the secretariat for the Finnish EU Presidency in the second half of 2006, hopes that Finland will not tighten its purse strings too much.

In September 2006 Finland will host the biggest international political event in its history when leaders of 38 nations arrive in Tampere to take part in the Asia-Europe summit meeting (ASEM).

In addition to ASEM, 70 other international conferences and meetings will take place in Finland during the second half of 2006. However, the Finnish government plans to budget significantly less money for the upcoming EU Presidency than in 1999 when Finland last held the position.

In 1999 the budget for the country's six-month EU Presidency was in the region of € 70 million. Now the government hopes to pull through without spending more than € 50 mil-

lion.

"The idea is to manage with a smaller budget since there are fewer meetings to be arranged in Finland than the last time," Vilo explains.

Finland has made a conscious decision to summon less people than other EU countries during their six-month periods at the helm of the Union.

For example, there will be only seven ministerial level meetings during the Finnish EU Presidency, compared with around 15 during the Presidencies of other member states.

The reason for the reduction is that Finland has been calling for greater efficiency in EU operations, and wants to set an example. The Netherlands, for instance, had a budget of nearly €150 million for their Presidency last autumn.

But the room for cutting costs is limited now that the number of EU states has grown from 15 to 25. This means bigger venues, bigger tables, more chairs, more interpreters, more security staff.

At the moment Vilo has only one person working under her. By the autumn of 2006 the num-

ber of her staff will be in the region of 20. In 1999 the figure was double that amount.

"I am sure adjustments can be made if needed. Taking care of the Presidency is a primary task for all the political decision-makers, and I trust that sufficient funding will be provided," Vilo says.

Vilo already works 12-hour days, even though Finland will not assume the EU leadership until the 1st of July 2006. Among other things Vilo is responsible for organizing the meeting venues, telecommunications, accommodation, logistics, logos, business gifts - and the general image of Finland communicated to the foreign guests.

Her work resembles that of a butler. She will have succeeded if nobody pays attention to the arrangements.

The EU Presidency is always a PR opportunity.

"I hope we'll be able to run things in such a way that the guests will leave with a feeling that all the arrangements were efficient and first-rate in every respect. That would be a natural



"Finland should not compromise excessively during the upcoming EU Presidency in the autumn of 2006," says Anja Vilo, the newly-appointed Head of the Secretariat for the Finnish EU Presidency.

way of creating a positive image of Finland", Vilo emphasizes.

Still, not even the best butler can control what the guests do. Vilo also has to make provision for being able to set up a crisis meeting at two week's notice.

Finland's Presidency will take place during a difficult period. The European Constitution should become effective in November 2006, but there are likely

to be complications in its endorsement. It will be the responsibility of the Presidency-holder to seek solutions to such problems.

Vilo remembers that when Finland last held the EU Presidency her predecessor had accumulated 100 days of unused holiday at the end of her term. "I am prepared for the same fate," Vilo laughs. (HS)

The return of the Sillanpää Family

We are looking forward to a visit to the Finger Lakes (NY) area in June of one of our favorite musical groups from Finland, The Sillanpää Family.

We first heard this very talented trio led by Seppo Sillanpää in 1995 when the two singing and fiddling daughters, Jemina and Selina, were only 13 and 11 years old.

In 1997 and 1999 they returned for concert tours in the Finger Lakes area and New England, with a West Coast tour in 2000. In 1981 Seppo first traveled to the U. S. and performed at the Finger Lakes Finns Fall Festival in Newfield.

Back home in Lahti, Finland, the family has been steadily developing their professional, educational, and musical endeavors. The Sillanpää Family first started performing as a folk trio in 1995 with two CDs produced of Seppo's original children's songs.

Next, a repertoire was developed of traditional Finnish, Irish, and American folk music. This all came together in 1999 with the *Moon Madness* CD. In 2003, their six piece acoustic group, Band'o, produced a CD.

Presently, Selina, age 21, studies singing, acting, dancing, and

fiddling in Lahti at the local theater music college. Jemina, age 23, studies in Helsinki at the National Theater Academy.

Seppo has been working full time at Lahden Radio for 21 years in music, web design, and journalism. He has played fiddle, guitar, mandolin, and banjo professionally since 1970 and has released two CDs. Wife and mother, Aija Sillanpää keeps the group together and acts as art director and photographer for the group.

During their summer 2005 U. S. tour, The Sillanpää Family will be performing in our area on June 18, Saturday evening, at the Juhannus celebration at Huttunen's Southview Farm in South Danby.

On Saturday, June 25, at 7:30 p.m. they will be performing a concert at the Newfield High School Auditorium.

On Sunday evening, June 26, from 8-11 p.m. they will be performing live on the Bound For Glory radio program on 93.5 WVBR FM. You can be part of the audience as the program is performed at the coffee house at Anebel Taylor Hall on the Cornell Campus. For more information, phone 387-4854.

Richard Koski
Finger Lake Finns

Warren Polston passed away, Saturday, April 23, 2005. He was born in Chicago on May 13, 1932 the son of Alma (Larson) and Jesse Polston. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother Lawrence.

Warren was a graduate of Northwestern University receiving a Bachelor of Music Education degree in 1955 and a Master of Music degree in 1956. While a student at Northwestern, he was a member of the University Concert Band and the Wildcat Marching Band.

Warren taught music in the

East Chicago, Indiana Public Schools during his teaching career.

He was the conductor of the Sibelius Male Chorus for forty-two years and conducted the Finnish Male Singers of North America on five of their concert tours of Finland. He received the *Director Cantus Award* from President Mauno Koivisto of Finland in 1993.

Warren was also the current director of the Normennenes (Norwegian) Singing Society, a position he held since 1988 and served as assistant director of the

Schiller Liedertafel German Male Chorus with whom he traveled to Germany on several occasions.

He also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Finnish American Society of the Midwest for many years. He was well-known for the many comedy routines in which he participated at Finnish events.

A memorial service will be held at the Estonian House in Riverwoods at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 12.

Robert Kujanpää

Warren Polston (1932-2005)

Fitchburg, MA

The Finnish Golden Age Club held a memorial for Henni Lappalainen of Townsend, who recently passed away in Townsend. People who are members of the club come from all around the Worcester County.

The Golden Age Club was formed at the beginning of 1960, after Saima Hall was sold in 1957. Active seniors wanted to have something to do. Retired people of all walks of life joined. It was formed with no membership fees. A donation cup is the only money maker. Members bring donations to the coffee table. There is a kitchen commit-

tee that changes frequently.

The club had over 200 members. Now it is only about 40. The club had its own choir. The club has been in existence for 45 or so years. Current lifestyles have changed people. They feel they are not old enough to join the senior organization.

May 3rd the club held its annual pot luck dinner with spiral ham. Gib Lashua entertained with his accordion. Forty members attended.

Tuesday, May 10th the club met at its usual time at 2 p.m. Program was presented. First,

Mildred Heino of Lunenburg told about the Finnish establishments on Main Street of Fitchburg during the earlier years. Barbara Kaukoranta read a poem and Allan Tastula played the keyboard, piano and organ.

Doations were made by the Kuniholms, Helvi Tervo, Helvi Fiskaali, Armas and Mildred Heino, Irene Vilakari, George and Leena Kokk, Elli Jokela.

Memorial program for Henni Lappalainen was presented by Leena Kokk, Irene Vilakari and Armas Kaukoranta.

Barbara & Armas Kaukoranta

SPEECH

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nalist who had worked in many North American working-class papers until he found his home in Fitchburg and joined *Raivaaja* in 1915. As editor-in-chief he continued the steady, moderate path of the paper. As the cold war raged in America, another very experienced journalist, Elis Sulkanen was at the helm of *Raivaaja* for ten years (1952-1962).

Akseli Mattson took over the paper for two years (1962-1964) until Sävele Syrjälä, the son of the beloved Frans Syrjälä who had given the paper such sound leadership, followed in his father's footsteps and served the paper until 1981. Sävele Syrjälä was *Raivaaja*'s first second generation Finnish American editor-in-chief.

Before the current editor, Marita Cauthen became the editor-in chief in 1984, Irma Laine ran *Raivaaja* for three years (1981-1984).

The current editor-in-chief Marita Cauthen is clearly inspired by *Raivaaja*'s 100 year old tradition of promoting human values. Marita Cauthen brings to *Raivaaja* a strong commitment to social justice, equal rights, tolerance, dignity of work, and mutual respect.

At the same time, she has continued the promotion of cultural values and of Finnish and Finnish North American artists while maintaining a good balance of Finnish and North American news and information.

It is to her credit that currently, against many odds, the number of subscribers remains steady.

In its heyday, *Raivaaja* had 10,000 subscribers and was published daily.

This required a cadre of editors and staff too numerous to mention here. Many of them deserve their own books, like Oskari Tokoi, the first socialist prime minister of Finland.

Hence the paper has benefited not only from the steady leadership of several long-term editors but of remarkably loyal editors and staff. While other newspaper offices were often like revolving doors, changing editors and changing locations, *Raivaaja* was rooted firmly in the Fitchburg soil and its editors stayed put.

Five editors, Frans Syrjälä, Yrjö Mäkelä, Elis Sulkanen, Sävele Syrjälä and Marita Cauthen have all served at least ten years as editors-in-chief.

Marita Cauthen's term has now stretched to 24 years - nearly a quarter of a century of service to *Raivaaja*, 21 of those as editor-in-chief. That is a remarkable achievement. For almost as long Jonathan Ratila has been the paper's business manager.

This team, bolstered by its many volunteers and supporters have shepherded the paper into

the 21st century as a politically independent, bilingual, not-for-profit newspaper that, as Marita Cauthen points out, is for the common good. Gone too are the massive and noisy printing presses, replaced by miniscule microchips.

The third reason for *Raivaaja*'s success is that from the beginning the newspaper has been based on not-for-profit principles and sound, frugal, fiscal management - it is a paper that truly belongs to its readers.

Often the *Raivaaja* business managers found their coffers empty and the paper could not be produced by will-power alone. When in need of financial support, organizations and individuals have helped by buying its shares, expecting their investment to bring cultural and educational benefits instead of economic returns.

During *Raivaaja*'s crucial first years The Finnish Socialist local of New York came to the paper's rescue. As the official organ of the Finnish Socialist Federation (founded a year after *Raivaaja*) it received financial support from the many socialist locals and opened several branch offices in their buildings.

This way *Raivaaja* survived two serious depressions, World War II, and the cold war. More recently, Suomi-Seura, the Finland Society, has stepped in to give some financial assistance to the immigrant newspapers. In the future, *Raivaaja* is sure to benefit from the newly founded *Raivaaja* Foundation.

Raivaaja, however, has been more than a newspaper. It has been an important community centre, a travel agency, a credit bureau, and a publishing house.

For 100 years *Raivaaja* has also been a bookstore. During the early years books were a significant source of income for the paper and the service *Raivaaja* did by not only importing books from Finland but by publishing over 80 North American Finnish manuscripts and sending them to thousands of homes all over North America is a most valuable cultural and educational contribution.

Today, Jonathan Ratila, among all his other duties, continues the tradition of promoting Finnish and Finnish North American literature to *Raivaaja*'s readers.

Jonathan Ratila is the latest incarnation of many dedicated men and women who have served the paper as accountants, business managers, advertising sales people, kept subscription lists, and looked after supplies. He, and his predecessors, are the unsung heroes of *Raivaaja*.

The fourth, and the most significant reason for *Raivaaja*'s success is you - the readers, the subscribers, the advertisers, the

turn to SPEECH page 16

Finnish culinary delights day delights

CANTERBURY, CT - Those who were at the Finnish Hall in Canterbury on Saturday afternoon, April 30, spent an enlightening afternoon watching some of our cooks sharing their recipes, followed by audience participation in tasting the foods they had prepared. This annual event draws an audience from a wide area, covering CT, MA, and RI; and attendees lavished praises on the cooks.

Thanks go to our cooks for making this event possible. The presenters and their dishes were: Aili Galasyn, Strawberry Snow (*mansikkalumi*); Mirja Hanslin, Finnish Cream Cake (*kermakakku*); Linda Kuja, Finnish Oven Pancake (*maailman paras pannukakku*); Eila Mäkipuro, Salmon a la Cream; Ilma Tikkanen, Finnish Sour Cream Cake (*hapankermakakku*); and Cynthia Williams, Whipped Berry Pudding (*vispipuuro*). With recipes to take home and instructions on preparation, the hope is that many attendees will add some new dishes to their menus.

After the chefs presented their recipes, displayed the finished product, and answered questions from the audience, tasting with ample portions served was enjoyed by all. There was obvious approval of the creations since

no leftovers needed to be packed away. The program concluded with the awarding of door prizes, including a basket of pulla ingredients and recipes.

The event was chaired by Anita Smiley, assisted by Linda Kuja.

Michael Kuja videotaped the event, Pauline Andstrom handled registration and door prizes, and Sharlann Smiley assisted with maintaining a smooth flow in the kitchen.

Anita Smiley.



Mirja Hanslin putting on finishing touches on kermakakku.



Chairperson Anita Smiley, left, and kitchen assistant Sharlann Smiley with the cooks Cynthia Williams, Aili Galasyn, Linda Kuja, Eila Mäkipuro, Ilma Tikkanen and Mirja Hanslin, hidden in the back.

BUYS

from page 13

know-how."

Both Morton and Ruskola feel that Mr. Goodliving and Real Networks link up well together.

"From the first time that we met, we understood that we want to do business together, and that joining forces would be a good idea," Morton explains.

Mr. Goodliving is the second Finnish mobile game producer bought by a US company within the past 12 months. In June 2004 the US company Digital Chocolate bought the game publisher Sumea.

(HS)

Veikko Hursti 1924-2005

Veikko Hursti, a renowned Finnish humanitarian and tireless advocate of the poor and the homeless, died of a sudden illness at his home in Helsinki on May 10th at the age of 80.

Hursti, who was born on November 25th, 1924, was known for his massive Christmas dinners for the poor that he organized at the Töölö sports arena. Last Christmas the event attracted about 3,000 guests.

An artist by training, Hursti was a recovering alcoholic, who had a strong religious motivation for his activities.



Veikko Hursti

In 1985 he was awarded the Pro Benignitate Humana medal by President Mauno Koivisto.

(HS)

Leo Fabritius in memoriam

The last of the volunteers in Finland for the Republican cause in the Spanish Civil War died on March 23rd, 2005.

Tauno Leo Fabritius was born in Viipuri on 8.11.1912. When he was five years old, his mother died. Leo did not get along with his stepmother, and at the age of 17 he went to Helsinki, where he worked for the Pohjola Insurance Co. for three years. But the sea was in his blood, and after attending cooking school, he served in the Coast Guard for a couple of years before moving on to merchant ships. So began a life of adventure.

In 1937 Leo was on the Wihuri Company ship *Viiri* as chief cook. In Canada, Leo jumped ship in the usual seamen's fashion. He found work in a mine, when the Finns, in their "graduation test" drilled 12 holes and put in so much dynamite that they blew an entire hill into the air.

But the police, at the request of the ship's Captain, were on the heels of the fugitive, and the men continued their flight.

Leo was a cook in a Toronto restaurant when he read in the paper that Franco was in revolt against the legal government of Spain.

Leo decided to go and help the Republicans and went to the office of the Sudbury paper, *Vapaus*, where he received a passport under the name of Leo Riutta. Journeying to Montreal, Leo joined other volunteers leaving for Spain.

In August and September of 1937, the volunteers traveled from Canada to France by ship and from there over the Pyrenees to Spain. The Finns there were members of the International Brigade. The first Finn Leo met in Spain was the renowned Eero Hautajärvi. After a three-week machine-gun course in Tarragona he was taken to the front.

In the line at Teruel, Fabritius experienced his fiercest battle.

There the unconscious Fabritius was left for dead on the battlefield. Later he was also wounded in the leg.

Fabritius was already on board a truck bound for the defense of Barcelona when word came that the city had fallen. He relates that during the retreat he carried a little Spanish girl for five days until he was able to leave her at Spanish shelter for the young.

According to Jyrki Juusela, who has researched the war, 225 American or other Finns fought on the side of the Republicans, of whom 67 were killed. There were 14 Finns in Franco's forces, 4 of whom died. In 1986 Leo Fabritius wrote a book based on his experiences, "*As a Republican in Spain's Civil War*."

With the defeat of the Republican army, Fabritius walked over the Pyrenees to France in February 1939. The Finnish general, Bruno Jalander, found Fabritius in a refugee camp and he was sent via Antwerp to Finland, where Fabritius was immediately subjected, in his own words, to an interrogation by the "secret police."

In Finland, cooks and waiters can always find work, and in Viipuri he got to serve both Mannerheim and General Malmberg. But he soon went to work on a ship which carried oil to Turku during the Winter War.

In the summer of 1940, Leo Fabritius took a job on a ship going from Petsamo to the United States. He jumped ship in New York and went into what was then the Finnish community of Harlem. Fabritius had always been a sharp dresser, and he was upset because his three suits had been ruined when water got into the ship's wardrobe.

Soon he got a job on a Ame-

rican ship going to Africa. A full-scale war was raging in Somalia, with Haile Selassie and the English battling the Italians.

The ship returned to the United States via the East Indies. Since the ship had been in a war zone, the pay was good. Fabritius received the sum of \$1000. He gave a part of the money to a seaman friend of his who was in a bind.

Fabritius now wanted to join the United States Army, but he could not get in because he was the citizen of a foreign country. Then he took a job driving Carl Päiviö, the secretary of the IWW [Industrial Workers of the World] organization, across the United States. Later he worked on Päiviö's blueberry farm near Boston.

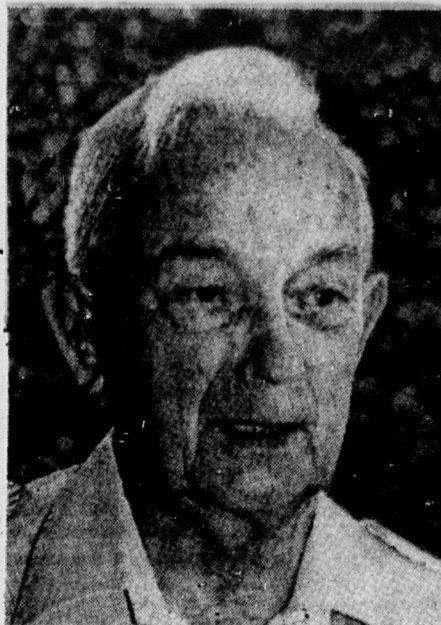
In San Francisco, Fabritius took a job on a Norwegian ship, which a German U boat hunted in the Gulf of Mexico. Since England had declared war on Finland on 12.6.1941, Fabritius was taken from the ship to a prison camp on the island of Jamaica, where he spent three years. There he learned to carve

ships in a bottle the way seamen do.

In 1945 Fabritius was again in New York working as a printer of the *Eteenpäin* newspaper for nearly a year. But soon he was again sailing around the world until 1952, when he landed in Baltimore. He kept on going west, and in California he worked in a hotel and for a builder.

Those were the days of the Korean War, and left-wing foreigners were under close scrutiny. Fabritius's papers were "hung up" specifically because he had been in the Spanish Civil War on the side of the Republicans, so in 1954 he decided to shake the dust of America from his heels and so he moved to Australia.

From Sydney he traveled to the mining town of Mount Ida in North Queensland, where he worked as a uranium prospector in the wilderness. Finally he settled in Sydney and married Tyne Tuomi, who had come to Australia as a child. The couple ran a grocery store in Sydney for 16 years, until 1977.



Leo Fabritius

While living in Sydney, Fabritius collected a significant number of objects related to Finnish immigrants in a home museum. Its most important contents were the farm implements of his in-laws, Antti and Wilhelmina Tuomi, Antti Tuomi's metal ship models, and Leo's own ships in bottles.

Mimmi and Antti Tuomi had been in St. Petersburg during the revolution of 1917 and had moved to Australia in the 1920's after first returning to Finland.

After the death of his in-laws and wife, Leo Fabritius visited Finland in 1986 for the first time since leaving Petsamo in 1940.

One of the reasons for his visit was to give the collection from his home museum to the Institute of Migration operating in Turku. During the trip to Finland he met his second wife, the speech therapist Marjukka Wäre, and they were married in Sydney on 4.10.1987. Having sold his house in Sydney, Leo returned to Finland in 1988, where he and his wife lived in a number of places, the last one being Saukkola.

Tauno Leo Fabritius was a good representative of the adventurers of his time. He was a sailor, adventurer, and migrant who had knocked around all the world's lands and seas. He was also an extraordinary story-teller in the manner of the "Outsider" creation Pekka Lippos.

Leo Fabritius was always a friendly, warm, and helpful person, to whom brotherhood and justice were guiding stars from youth onward. Left to mourn were his wife Marjukka and a broad circle of relatives and friends on many continents.

Olavi Koivukangas
Institute of Migration
Turku Finland

Translated by Richard Impola

Finnish and Soviet leaders agreed in 1961 to substitute political for military consultation

Professor Osmo Apunen, a Finnish International Relations academic, concludes in a book launched last week that President Urho Kekkonen of Finland and Nikita Khrushchev, in a meeting in Novosibirsk in 1961, agreed that the Soviet Union would rescind the process of military consultation enshrined in the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance (FCMA) in exchange for Finland submitting to political consultation instead.

Prof. Apunen reaches this new interpretation after an analysis of the so-called Note Crisis, also in 1961, considered by some historians as the peak of Finno-Soviet cold war tensions.

The Note Crisis started when

the Soviet Union demanded that military assistance negotiations would have to be launched in response to the situation in Berlin. After the Novosibirsk talks however, the demand was withdrawn; Olavi Honka, Kekkonen's challenger in the upcoming elections, retired from the race and Kekkonen got the foreign policy-centred general elections he wanted.

The scholar has no evidence to back his thesis as there are no public records on what the heads of state agreed in the meeting.

Citing circumstantial evidence instead, he argues that Kekkonen followed the "Novosibirsk formula" until the end.

Having fought two wars against

the Soviet Union in 1939-40 and 1941-44, the treaty signed between the former enemies did not tie Finland to the Soviet Union in a military alliance as treaties signed by Hungary and Romania did, but Finland was required to defend its territory against an attack by Germany or its allies.

The treaty also put an obligation on Finland to hold military consultations with the Soviet Union to discuss possible threats and what sort of military assistance was required.

J. K. Paasikivi, Kekkonen's predecessor, sternly rejected political consultations when the FCMA treaty was being negotiated.

(STT)

SPEECH

from page 15

members of the board of directors, and the supporters of the paper.

Your support has been the *raison d'être* for the paper. Your subscriptions are the life-line of the paper. Your encouragement and constructive feedback are the energy that encourages Marita Cauthen and Jonathan Ratila to continue their most demanding work.

In the age when there is hardly any new immigration from Finland, when instant e-mail communication to thousands of newspapers is just a click away, *Raivaaja* has maintained its relevance. It has done so because it has listened to its readers and supporters.

It has formed a reliable network of individual supporters, and writers. It has avoided contro-

versy and personal vendettas. It has become a kind voice for both men and women, indeed a trusted friend. It has become the heart and soul of the changing Finnish community in America and it has changed with the times - but not too fast, not too radically, but in the steady, tolerant, and moderate way envisioned by its founders.

As Jonathan Ratila confirmed in the centennial issue of *Raivaaja*, for hundred years the mission has remained the same: "to educate, stimulate, and inform."

Because of all of your present support and your future generous support of the Raivaaja Foundation, and because of the able leadership of Marita Cauthen and Raivaaja's Board of Directors, just maybe, our great grandchildren can gather together in Saima Park to celebrate Raivaaja's bicentennial.

Happy Birthday to 100 year-old Raivaaja!

N.Conway, NH

Karen Minkinen Page has the lead role (Anna) in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I" at the Eastern Slope Playhouse in N.Conway for two weekends, May 27, 28, 29 and June 3 & 4.

"In addition to learning this challenging role, I was able to cast and direct the king's children and make all my gowns. My parents, Myra and George Minkinen, must be watching me from heaven, especially as I sing and dance to 'Shall We Dance?' They were avid dancers and loved musical theater," Minkinen Page tells RAIVAAJA.

Tickets can be bought through the theater box office at 603-356-5776.



Karen Minkinen Page plays the female lead in "The King and I."

GREEDY

from page 13

Kalliomäki suggested that things have now got so bad, companies seem to be competing with each other to see who can make the most radical decision to relocate abroad.

According to Kalliomäki, Wärtsilä's decision to move its Turku diesel motor production to Italy does not stand up to critical scrutiny. He also criticized mobile phone components maker Perlos, for deciding to shut its Finnish plant in Ylöjärvi.

He's concerned that such moves will lead to less inward invest-

ment, innovation and product development in Finland. He said that prolonged industrial conflict will lead to a slow down in economic growth.

He suggested a solution might be strengthening legislation protecting workers from redundancy. He also felt that jobs in Finland would be more secure if a three way approach was adopted between employers, workers and the government, before any decision is reached on moving production abroad. (YLE)

Lancaster, MA

A Finn Hop will be held on June 4, 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. at Kaleva Lodge, 32 Perry Road, Lancaster. Accordion music by Veikko Honkala. Donation: \$8.00 per person. Sponsored by Knights & Ladies of Kaleva (Fitchburg).

For more information call Martha at 978-874-2780.

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Karelian Exodus

Finnish Communities in North America and Soviet Karelia
during the Depression Era

Edited by Ronald Harpelle, Varpu Lindström and Alexis Pogorelskin

This book is a collection of articles about the exodus of Finnish Canadians and Finnish Americans to Soviet Karelia in the 1930s. These articles were originally papers presented in March 2004 at a conference in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, dealing with Finnish communities in North America and Soviet Karelia during the Depression. The conference featured speakers from Russia, Finland, Sweden, the United States, and Canada.

The following articles are included:

Lamentations on Mayme Sevander's Life by Raija Warkentin; The Finnish Canadian Communities during the Decade of Depression by Varpu Lindström; Communism and the Co-ops: Recruiting and Financing the Finnish-American Migration to Karelia by Alexis E. Pogorelskin; Sudbury in the Great Depression: The Tumultuous Years by Oiva Saarinen and Gerry Tapper; A Remarkable Place, An Eventful Year: Politics and Recreation at Minnesota's Mesaba Co-op Park in 1936 by Arnold R. Alanen; "Murder" in the Bush: The Making of a Modern Myth by Peter Raffo; From the Frying Pan into the Fire: North American Finns in Soviet Karelia by Irina Takala; The Fate of Finnish Canadians in Soviet Karelia by Eila Lahti-Argutina; The Soviet Depression and Finnish Immigrants in Soviet Karelia by Markku Kangaspuro; Framing the Finnish Experience in the Soviet Union: Comparing Finnish and North American Finns by Timo Vihavainen; The Experience of Finnish-North American Writers in Soviet Karelia in the 1930s by Mikko Ylikangas; Pipeline Accident on Lake Onega: A Study of Ethnic Conflict in Soviet Karelia, 1934 by Alexis E. Pogorelskin; Recruitment of Swedish Immigrants to Soviet Karelia by Kaa Eneberg; Memories of the North American Depression among Finnish Americans in the Soviet Union by Helena Miettinen and Raija Warkentin.

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RAIVA AJA – 100 YEARS

We celebrate, we honor, the Raivaaja today, the first Finnish-American newspaper to survive 100 years, and thriving still. Who would have thought that in 1905, when it saw the light of day in Fitchburg, love's labor of idealistic immigrants, who cherished the magical printed word to illumine their way in the New World in their own beloved mother tongue, the language of Kivi and The Kalevala.

Most of these Finns, men and women, labored for wages, were working class, toiled in New England's mills, factories, farms, construction, household service. The winds of labor, humanistic socialism, were blowing worldwide, in the land of their birth, their *kotimaa*, and in the new land where they hoped to overcome the want, the impoverishment, of their youth.

Political freedoms they found here – of speech, press, and assembly. A far cry from the growing, stifling oppression of the late-stage rule of Russia's czarism. But America's streets were not lined with gold. Work was hard, hours long, wages low, benefits few, no vacations, pensions, health plans. No safety, sanitation standards, in their places of toil. So, many of our forebears joined the labor movement. They founded halls, and mutual aid and labor societies. In Fitchburg, it was the Saima Society, home away from home to these Finns and their families. But a newspaper was needed for community solidarity. In New England it became The Raivaaja (The Pioneer), after the 1903 Worcester-born Työmies (Workingman) left for Upper Michigan's Copper Country, Hancock. The Raivaaja became the "immigrant workers' university." *Kiitos* to Taavi Tainio, F.J. Syrjälä, other editorial pioneers.

In 1913, my uncle August Siitonen, a young baker from Finnish Karjala, landed in Fitchburg, with wife Iita and infant daughter, Lempi Rauha. First, Augusti-Setä founded a small bakery, like the one he ran in Imatra. Next, he subscribed to The Raivaaja, eight years after its birth. This journal has been part of our family's legacy ever since – for 92 of The Raivaaja's 100 years. In 1915, Augusti-Setä wrote to my father, Antti Siitonen, journeyman baker in Finland: "Come, join me in America. Come give me a hand in the bakery. I'll send you a steamship ticket." Antti, 27, a loose-ends bachelor, thought: "Miksei? Why not?" So, from Sortavala to Christiania to Ellis Island, to Fitchburg he came, donned his baker's apron, in his new homeland, his new life.

Plenty to do for a young baker, besides work. Dances at Saima Hall, gymnastics, wrestling. Hearty Finnish food at working stiff's cafes. A beer now and then and a round of pool with his good *ikäkaveris*, his pals, from the Hall. Inspiring political speeches at Saima, envisioning a better world for workers. With lively debates in Upper Common barber shops, the Kuusamo park benches. And, of course, reading The Raivaaja.

Yes, let's not forget reading the Raivaaja, the incubator of ideas and opinions about the growing Finnish labor movement, the exciting young co-operatives being born, buttressed by *Sikenä* ("Sparks"), the magazine published by Raivaaja in those early, heady years of immigration. Raivaaja announced news of stage plays, of lectures, concerts forthcoming at Saima, – both Saima Park and Saima Hall. They read news from home, happenings in *Vanhassa Maassa*, in the Old Country.

Raivaaja introduced these newcomers to other Finntowns in the United States. Through local correspondents reporting the news and happenings among Finns in places like Maynard, Quincy, Worcester, Ashby, Norwood, Cape Ann, Cape Cod, and in New York's Brooklyn, Finn Harlem. They learned about events all over their New Homeland and the world in their own language, since English was so strange and alien to them in the early years.

Yes, The Raivaaja provided them with a wider window to the world around them. An education – the only university most immigrants would ever attend. And their culture was highly important to them. They were the people of The Kalevala, loved poetry and song, Eino Leino. Short stories and sometimes serialized novels would appear in their beloved Raivaaja, Finnish and the new Finnish-American culture. All helped to introduce and welcome them, our brave forebears, to their New World home.

In that very year 1915, a Finnish lumberjack, deep in the woods of Maine, Antti Saikkonen, proud member of the Industrial Workers of the World, wrote to his sister Hanna, a 21-year-old *kahvila*, coffee house, waitress in Helsinki: "Come to America, life will be easier for you, I'll send you a steamship ticket for passage." So my mother, Hanna Saikkonen, sailed. Destination: Quincy, Massachusetts. First job, housemaid for the wealthy. Pay: \$3 a week, room and board, Thursday nights and Sundays off. With her first paycheck, Hanna bought shoes. Cost: \$3. Then she discovered the Quincy Finns and Labor Society Veli's hall, a mecca for her free time. At that time she subscribed to The Raivaaja, constant companion for the rest of her long life.

In 1916, Augusti-Setä and family and Antti-Veli left Fitchburg for Quincy for a partnership, with William Wick, of 1919 Boston Marathon fame, at Quincy Baking Co., in West Quincy's Finntown. (Wick became Boston Marathon runner-up in 1919.) My father and my Aunt Iita joined the bakery crew. The Siitons also joined Veli Hall. My political uncle became secretary of the Socialist Local – *Osasto*. My father became an actor and gymnast at the Hall. Both brothers competed for Veli's wrestling team. Cousin Lempi attended Sunday morning classes at the children's Ihanneliitto, Idealistic League. Their Raivaaja subscription followed them to Quincy. Antti became the women's gymnastics coach at Veli. Hanna, my mother, joined the women gymnasts on her maid's Thursdays out. Hanna met Antti. So in October, 1917, they married, had a reception and dance at Veli Hall. So now they had one subscription, not two, to their beloved Raivaaja. No more His and Hers – smart home economics.

Augusti-Setä then bought a bakery in Worcester – in the mid-Twenties; my parents followed, Antti to bake bread, Hanna to clean houses. Their Raivaaja sub followed them to Hooper Street on Belmont Hill, Worcester's thriving Finntown. As first-born, I saw the light of day in March, 1926. In 1928 we were off to farm in Westminster, to raise chickens; with Antti setting up shop at the High Street Bakery in nearby Fitchburg. The Raivaaja came as friendly visitor, delivered to a rural route mail box, on Worcester Road, then, six days a week. My sister Irma, born 1932, and I grew up with Raivaaja as a family member. Finnish was our first language, English we began to learn at Westminster's fine public schools. Soon I began to read Finnish, the Raivaaja, my primary language textbook, after mastering Cousin Lempi's old *Työväen Aapinen*, "Workers' Primer," from her Ihanneliitto days. It wasn't easy, but a young mind learns fast.

So, the whole family read The Raivaaja, in detail. I recall going to our mailbox on Worcester Road, a summer vacation chore, with schools out. I'd run out to the poultry house and announce: "Pappa, Raivaaja on tullut (The Raivaaja is here)." Antti dropped everything, returned to the house, warmed over the morning coffee, lit a cigarette, and sat on the back porch steps, totally absorbed in the world of The Raivaaja. Hens could wait. The printed word, the news, was all that mattered. What was happening in Finland? The world? Spanish Civil War rages. Roosevelt's New Deal tries to end Depression. Some Finns, stars of illusion in their eyes, leave for Russian Karelia to face dire fate. CIO organizes workers in auto, steel industry. United Farmers Coop expands grain storage space. Price specials at Into, the Finn Co-op market. What stage plays next at Saima Park or Saima Hall? Speakers announced for Finnish Summer Festival, *Kesäjuhlat*, at Saima Park. Track meet sounds great.

My first savings account was at *Raivaajan Pankki*, "Raivaaja's Bank," the Workers' Credit Union in The Raivaaja Building, 48 Wallace Avenue. We would buy our Finnish books, our magazines, our '78 Victrola records, at Raivaaja's book store, from Lauri Hallfors, the intrepid sales manager. We needed another car? New batch of chicks? We checked the Workers' Credit Union for loans, with longtime treasurer John Suominen presiding. I can recall some of the editors of the 1930s, '40s: Heikki Puranen, Oskari Tokoi, Yrjö Mäkelä, Toivo "Niku" Nousio, A.E. Usenius, Elis Sulkanen. Heikki, with his morning Finnish language program delivered daily on Fitchburg's radio station, WEIM.

In my teens, I entered Worcester Boys Trade School to learn the printing trade for my life's work. So on our Saturday shopping trips to Fitchburg, I started hanging out in the Raivaaja composing room, Chatting with the Linotype operators and hand comps, All members of the International Typographical Union, to which I've belonged now myself for nearly 50 years. I guess I must have been a pest with my questions. The irritated foreman finally telling me to take a hike. So, I'd go down to the pressroom when the run began, to watch the papers rolling off the giant, noisy press. Pressroom foreman Fabian Raatikainen would smile, hand me the day's Raivaaja, hot off the press, Warm to the touch. It made my Saturday, big time!

The war years erupted – World War II. November, 1939, Soviet Russia attacked Finland in a terrible, bloody three-month Winter War, ending in a difficult, precarious peace in 1940. American Finns rose to the task of providing help, many thousands in financial aid, food, clothing, for their suffering kin, the people of *Suomenmaa*. Raivaaja led the way in this appreciated relief work, Editor Oskari Tokoi led the nationwide aid drives. We did not forget our brethren, our cousins. *Kiitos* – much thanks – to Raivaaja's publicity work. Pearl Harbor: World war against the Axis powers, with the United States in the thick of it all. Finland again embroiled, when Germany struck Russia. Thousands of Finnish-American youth were drafted, enlisted, fought in Europe and Southeast Asia. Finally, victory for the Allies against fascist tyranny. Finland, caught in the middle, managed to survive, retained its independence, yet suffered heavy sacrifice in human losses, territory, reparations; was destitute. Again Finnish-Americans responded to help Finland recover, The Raivaaja with its journalistic inspiration.

I'm a U.S. Navy vet of World War II. Antti, my father, died in 1944. My mother and sister moved to Fitchburg. I went to Michigan State on the GI Bill. Studied journalism.

My mother would send me Raivaaja bundles to Michigan, and elsewhere in the Midwestern states and California where I hung my hat, lived and worked thereafter.

Werner Wiskari: 'NO NIIN'

*The Lord gave Ginger special gifts –
Compassion and a zest for life,
An inner and an outer beauty
And delightful selflessness.*

*When we would phone, my wife and I,
We'd always hear a catch of breath,
Then joy that for a time she'd have
A chance to talk with us.*

*She was
A noble lady, fun to be with.*

Ginger was my sister-in-law, Virgina Wiskari of Naperville, Illinois, west of Chicago. This column begins by remembering her and my Icelandic friend, Hersteinn Palsson. It ends with still another look at a subject I have written about twice before – Finnish humor.

Both Ginger and Hersteinn, I am sure, would have approved. Both were delightful people who enjoyed a good laugh.

Ginger slept away on the last day of April at the age of 76, and a short time later I heard that Hersteinn had done so in February. He was 88.

Ginger's maiden name was Sorsen, the American version of the Finnish name Sorsa. She was related to Kalevi Sorsa, who was Finland's Prime Minister four times between 1972 and 1987 and who died in January 2004 at the age of 73.

Ginger, who was tall and slim, was married to my brother, Arthur, in 1955, and they had been married for thirty-nine years when he died in 1994. They had met at the office – the Chicago bureau of the American Broadcasting Company. They both had journalism degrees – she from the University of Illinois, he a master's from Northwestern.

They adopted two sons – Kevin who was born in 1965, and Brian, in 1967. Kevin Wiskari, his wife, Nancy, and their six children live in Naperville. Brian Wiskari and his wife, Laura, live in Lee, near Naperville.

Before she was married, Ginger flew for a time as an airline stewardess. Above all, she was a nurturer.

For many years, she worked for a plant nursery and a nursery school. She loved horses and rode regularly for many years. She loved dogs and served as a volunteer for an organization called Second Hand Sheltie Rescue.

She would look forward to the visits, twice a year, of her nephew, our son Wayne, who lives in Seattle. She had hoped to see him one more time during her final illness, but she died a few hours before he arrived.

His funeral was held at the Bethany Lutheran Church of Naperville, where she had been a member since 1970. Wayne read my poem about her at the cemetery ceremony.

I had met Hersteinn Palsson in 1958 on my first visit from Sweden to Reykjavik, Iceland, as Scandinavian correspondent for *The New York Times*. Hersteinn, the editor of the Reykjavik newspaper *Visir*, was also a stringer, or part-time local correspondent, for *The Times*.

He was a quiet man with quite a sense of humor. He knew at least two words in Finnish and delighted in repeating them, especially when I asked a lot of questions. Besides, the words rhyme.

"*Miksi* (Why)?" he would ask and then immediately reply, "*Siksi* (Because)."

I heard many a "*Miksi? Siksi?*" during the six years I visited Iceland regularly as a correspondent, both at his office and his home. I last heard the words from him in 1995 when he visited our home in Charlestown, Rhode Island, with his wife, Margit, their daughter, Inga, and grandson, Sigmundur.

Every year, we would exchange Christmas cards, and Hersteinn would include with theirs an urbanely written letter. Last year, the letter was written by Margit, as Hersteinn was in the hospital, suffering from pneumonia and heart problems.

He rallied for a time, and in

January this year he and his wife celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary with their children, including their son, Pall, their grandchildren and a few other relatives and close friends. A few weeks later, Margit wrote recently, he was gone, and "the party and Hersteinn's joyful mood at the time is an extremely healing memory for the rest of us and will stay with us forever."

Turning now to the subject of Finnish humor – for the third time as a RAIVAAJA columnist – I do so only because one of my readers has again forcefully let me know that he feels I was wrong both previous times I wrote about it.

Ever since my two columns on the subject were published in November and December of 2001, a Finnish-born neighbor has periodically chided me for having written that much Finnish humor is at best considerably restrained.

In the past, he has brought over various books in an effort to prove Finnish humor is at least as hilarious as that of any other people and has been disappointed when I have found nary a knee-slapper in them. Recently, he provided still another book, and this time he was sure, he said, that I would change my mind.

I asked him to plead his case in a letter to the editor of the *Raivaaaja*, but he did not want to engage in a public debate with me. So reluctantly I agreed to write one more column item on Finnish humor on the basis of his latest offering and to refer to him as only my Finnish-American neighbor, or FAN for short.

The latest book that FAN brought over is a collection of columns published in the Finnish magazine *Suomen Kuvalehti*

(Finnish Picture Magazine) by a Finnish humorist named Jukka Ukkola. To the beginning of the ninth column, FAN had attached a note reading, "Please read from here on."

That Ukkola column has to do with a visit that few have been allowed to make to the archives of Finland's longest serving President, Urho Kekkonen, who was in office for a quarter century, from 1956 to 1981. The column does not begin promisingly.

It has the author being allowed in after telling the caretaker that he had lost a ball and that he thought "it had flown" into the archives building through a window. But first, the caretaker had advised him that "people who live near glass houses should not throw balls."

It was very dusty inside, Ukkola wrote, as the building had not been aired for years, and "not even a cleaning person had been allowed to enter." After his eyes had got used to the dim light, he could see leaning up against the wall the foreign policy "line" of Kekkonen's predecessor, President Juho Paasikivi.

Groaning, I stopped reading. The humor here was supposed to be that foreign policy was something physical that Kekkonen had "stolen" from his predecessor, hidden away and then claimed to be largely his own – a policy of neutrality and friendship with all nations, especially the neighboring Soviet Union.

Perhaps another column would be better.

I tried the twelfth column, something about a couple who had gone to bed.

"Are you asleep already?" the man asks.

"I was asleep. I'm not sleeping now, since you woke me."

"But I had a reason."

"What reason could you have in

the middle of the night?"

"I just wanted to know if you remember where the bathroom is. I mean I want to do something there. I ask because this is so new a place that I don't yet know my way around."

"The bathroom? Don't you remember? We were just practicing before going to bed. First to the left from the first corner and also from the second and the third. Then from two corners to the right and after that to the left, left, right, left, right, right, left. That's where it is."

The man repeats some of the directions and says, "I'll be right back."

Needless to say, he gets hopelessly lost.

That one made me laugh at first, but then, was that humor? And particularly when it got even sillier, I stopped laughing and resolved to try just one more Ukkola column.

The seventeenth, out of a total of sixty-nine, happens to be a collection of mostly one-liners. Here are two of them.

"Salary: the world's most imprecise amount of money, always either too little or too much."

"Food is expensive, but fortunately there is little of it."

That Ukkola column ends with a dialogue between a father and a young child.

"Father," it begins, "what is a line of people?"

"Well, one example can be at the post office, where people stand in line when there are many of them waiting to buy stamps."

"Father, what is a post office?"

I stopped reading at that point. One question still remained.

FAN, I am sorry. You have struck out again.



Ginger and Arthur Wiskari at home in 1990.



Hersteinn Palsson in Rhode Island in 1995.

photos: Werner Wiskari

SUOMI-SEURA

from page 8

vey our humble gratitude to all of you who have supported and worked for this hundred-year-old paper.

Your good co-operation with other Finnish Americans is an excellent continuity for the old Raivaaja and conveys the respect for the values of past generations. Today, you still have the same tasks: collecting and giving out news and information on the state of affairs in your own area and in Finland, enhancing Finnish culture and supporting Finnish American clubs and soci-

eties.

All papers need to modernize their publications from time to time. Your paper has changed its target group from workers to all Finnish Americans, its language from Finnish to English but the goal remains: truthful and timely information for people with Finnish roots.

We wish Raivaaja a prosperous future!

Suomi-Seura
(Finland Society)
Finland

HIENOT ...
jatkoa sivulta 3

tokunnan jäseniä ja lehden tukijajoukkoa.

"Teidän tukenne on syy lehden menestykselle. Lehti ei voi toimia tilauksitta. Teidän tukenne ja rakentava palautteenne ovat se energia, mikä rohkaisee Marita Cauthenia ja Jonathan Ratilaa heidän vaativassa työssään", Lindström sanoi.

Ohjelmassa oli myös Harri Siitosen runo, Kaiku -ryhmän musiikkiesitys ja tanssimusiikkia Bert Stromholmin ja Joe Jolinin soittamana.

Todella hienosta kahvitarjoilusta vastasi Fitchburgin Kalevan Ritarit ja Naiset.

POEM

from page 18

I was mostly away from the Finnish community for years,
The Raivaaja my sustaining lifeline to Finnish-America.
When my mother died in 1977, I made my re-entry back -

Back to the culture of my youth that I had missed so much.
I picked up the Raivaaja torch that my mother had lit,
in 1915 when she first subscribed. I bear that torch now,
to this day, which had so enriched the lives of my forebears.

Many have been the changes at The Raivaaja in the 60 years that followed World War II, inevitable generational change. The first-generation Finns, The Raivaaja pioneers, are gone. The proud Finnish-American labor movement died with them. To survive, the paper had to reduce its publication frequency. Finally to the weekly we read today. No longer political in partisanship, it serves the whole Finnish community, reaching far beyond its old New England constituency. Bilingualism became a necessity, but valiantly it publishes its Finnish-language section still, which many of us enjoy. Key editors in this transition included Sävele Syrjälä, who grew up with the paper his father Frans once edited. Woman editors included Lempi Ikävalko and Irma Laine, noteworthy in their service to our ethnic community needs. So, we're in a new century, the 21st, thriving, very much alive, thanks to the long-term stewardship of editor Marita Cauthen, Tampere's gift to The Raivaaja, and to Fitchburg's own - Jonathan Ratila, who manages the paper's business end so well.

They deserve Pulitzers for their dedication to The Raivaaja, long hours, modest pay, without whom it's questionable if The Raivaaja would even be part of our lives today. Just as at the beginning, in 1905, the same community values that enhanced immigrant lives then, guide The Raivaaja in our own time: Democratic process, the cooperative spirit, mutual aid, tolerance and acceptance of human differences in race, creed or color, social equality, a profound sympathy for those in need and want and for empowering them to succeed. Love rather than hate, enlightenment to transcend ignorance. And, to appreciate our Finnish heritage, its cultural richness. The Raivaaja has helped to teach me these values, but not only me. Several generations of Finns are graduates of Raivaaja University.

By Harry Siitonen, Berkeley, California, April, 2005.

Kalenteri

from page 11

NEW YORK

June 26 - Concert by the Sillanpää family, 8 pm, coffee house, Anebel Taylor Hall, Cornell Campus, Ithaca. This concert will be broadcast live on the *Bound for Glory* radio program on WVBR fm 93.5.

PENNSYLVANIA

June 12 - Chester Monument Ceremony, Chester. Info: ESeppala@aol.com

VERMONT

May 22 - Vermont Finnish American Society general membership meeting, 2 pm, Black River Academy Museum, 14 High St, Ludlow.

June 18 - Vermont Finnish American Society Juhannus Celebration, Andover Town Hall, Andover. Info: 875-3155 or 226-8176.

WASHINGTON

June 5 - Concert by Wegelius Chamber Strings, from Finland, Anna-Maria Helsing conducting, 4 pm, Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 NW 67th, Seattle. Program to include *Impromptu* by Jean Sibelius. Buffet of Finnish delicacies. Reservations are advised. Info: 206-789-5707 or www.nordicmuseum.com

Aug. 20 - Second Annual Finlandia Music & Art Festival, Northwest College of Art, Poulsbo. Info: 206-363-0225 or 360-697-2699.

WASHINGTON, DC

May 26 - Concert by Wegelius Chamber Strings, from Finland, Anna-Maria Helsing conducting, 7 pm, Embassy of Finland, 3301 Massachusetts Ave NW. Program to include works by Jean Sibelius and Leevi Madetoja. Reservations (deadline): 703-536-2619 or OssiFinland@aol.com. Presented by Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter.

Events subject to change without notice

IMMIGRANTS

from page 13

Fagnäs also voiced disappointment that among those making decisions on immigration, some still consider foreign workers to be a threat, rather than an advantage.

He quoted statistics as saying that half of the 110,000 immigrants were working or available for work.

In order to lure in more qualified people, Fagnäs proposes to alter a 1995 act, which introduced tax breaks for incoming high-wage experts, so that the law would be applied for a five-year period instead of the current two years and 25 instead of 35 percent of wages would be held.

(STT)

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