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Suomi valmis terrorismin vastaiseen yhteistyöhön

Pääministeri Paavo Lipposen (sd) mukaan Suomi on valmis terrorismin vastaiseen kansainväliseen tiedusteluyhteistyöhön. Asia oli esillä EU-maiden johtajien äskettäisessä huippukokouksessa Belgiassa.

EU:n oikeus- ja sisäministerit keskustelivat jo aiemmin viime viikolla muun muassa poliisi-, tiedustelu ja pankkitoimintaan liittyvän yhteistyön tiivistämisestä. Lipponen korosti eduskunnassa järjestetyssä tiedotustilaisuudessa, että asiaan liittyy vaikeita perusoikeuksiin ja kansalliseen itsemääräämisoikeuteen liittyviä kysymyksiä.

Lipposen mukaan Suomi ja muut EU-maat haluavat antaa Yhdysvalloille ja sen kansalle vankan tuen ilmaisan. EU-maat eivät kuitenkaan ole antamassa Yhdysvalloille avointa valtakirjaa kostoiskujen toteuttamiseen. Jos Yhdysvallat ryhtyy sotilaallisiin iskuihin esimerkiksi Osama Bin Ladenin vastaan tulisi Yhdysvaltojen Lipposen mukaan esittää myös uusia todisteita Ladenin syyllisyydestä. Pääministeri korosti, että "jos pakkotoimiin ryhdytään, on niillä oltava oikeuspohja".

Lipponen korosti, että EU ei ole aloittamassa unionina minkäänlaisia sotilastoimia. Hän arvioi, että jos Yhdysvallat suunnittelee sotilaallisia toimenpiteitä, se keskustelee asiasta kahden kesken sellaisten maiden kanssa, joilla Yhdysvaltojen mielestä on annettavaa operaatiolle. (HS)



Travels in Finland

A group of 28 travelers from the U.S. spent 17 days touring Finland and northern Norway. They traversed through the Lake District in the east, northward towards the fells of Lapland and still further north to the Finnmark region on Norway. Anita Smiley's story on page 11. Above, "The Silent People" exhibit in Suomussalmi.

photo: Anita Smiley

Suomenkin pakolaispolitiikkaan muutoksia

Suomen työministeri Tarja Filatovin (sd) mukaan Yhdysvaltain terrori-iskut voivat vaikuttaa myös pakolaispolitiikkaan maailmanlaajuisesti ja kansallisella tasolla. Filatov sanoi, että paitsi pakolaisvirtoihin terrorismin vastainen taistelu voi vaikuttaa yleiseen ilmapiiriin ja suvaitsevaisuuteen.

Filatov myös kertoi, että Suomi on jäädyttänyt kiintiöpakolaisten haastattelumatkan Iraniin. Tarjoitus oli tavata afganistanilaisia pakolaisia.

Filatov totesi lahtelaisten maahanmuuttajien kuulemistilaisuudessa, että kotouttamisohjelmia on hyväksytty 249, ja valmistelu on vireillä yli 70 kunnassa. (STT)



Polttarivieraita yläilmoista

Reportterimme Sini Harjunmaa kertoo kuuma-ilmapallolla hänen kotipihalleen Espoossa yllättäen saapuneesta polttarijoukosta. Juttu kuvineen löytyy sivulta 3.

Kuva: Sini Harjunmaa

Erikoistarjous uusille RAIVAAJAN tilaajille!

Kolme kuukautta kahdeksalla dollarilla! Joka viikko ilmestyvän kaksikielisen RAIVAAJAN avulla pysytte ajan tasalla sekä Suomen että amerikansuomalaisen yhteisön uutisten suhteen. Tilatkaa jo tänään!

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Huom.: Tämä tarjous on voimassa vain USA:ssa asuville uusille tilaajille syysk. 30, 2001 asti. Vakinaiset USA:n tilaushinnat ovat \$28.00 vuosi, \$20.00 puoli vuotta ja \$16.00 kolme kuukautta. Lähettäkää kuponki sekkeineen osoitteella: Raivaaja Publishing Company, P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054.

Hieno ja halpa keino esitellä RAIVAAJA ystäville!

Inside:

• FinnFest USA 2001 coverage continues

Suomen uutisia

Oppivelvollisuuskäsi ei esitetä alennettavaksi

Opetusministeriön työryhmä ei kannata oppivelvollisuuden alentamista kuuteen vuoteen vuodesta 2003 lähtien. Työryhmän mukaan on tarpeen kerätä ensin kokemuksia kuusivuotiaalle suunnatusta esiopeutuksesta ja vasta sitten tehdä ratkaisuja oppivelvollisuuden alkamisajasta. Jos myöhemmin päädytään koulunaloituksen aikaistamiseen, esiopeutus pitäisi työryhmän mielestä liittää osaksi oppivelvollisuuskoulua. Tämä merkitsisi sitä, että kuusivuotiaat lapset saisivat vuoden ajan esiopeutusta, ja sen jälkeen alkaisi yhdeksänvuotinen perusopetus. (MTV3)

Koskinen: Presidenttiä tarvitaan

Oikeusministeri Johannes Koskinen (SD) on torjunut kokoomuksen puheenjohtajan sisäministeri Ville Itälän ajatuksen presidentin tarpeettomuudesta.

Turun Sanomien kolumnissaan Koskinen huomauttaa, että niissäkin maissa, joissa presidenttiä ei ole, löytyy aina jonkinlainen valtionpäämies. Vakiintuneissa tasavalloissa ei ole syytä lähteä jäljittelemään kuningaskuntia, sillä niissä valtaa on keskittynyt pääministerille jo liikaakin, Koskinen arvioi.

Myös toinen valtionvarainministeri Suvi-Anne Siimes (vas) sekä valtioneuvos Harri Holkeri ovat kummastelleet Itälän ajatuksia presidentti-instituutiosta luopumisesta. Itälä esitti ajatuksiaan viikonloppuna sanomalehti Kalevassa. (MTV3, STT)

Sari Kaasiselle Luonnotar-palkinto

Muusikko Sari Kaasinen on saanut ensimmäisen Luonnotar-palkinnon. Palkinto ojennettiin Lahden Sibeliustalossa lauantaina. Palkinto on suuruudeltaan 100 000 markkaa. Se myönnetään asioista musiikin alueella ja maakunnan kulttuurin tukemisesta.

Sari Kaasinen sai palkinnon kansanmusiikin uudistamisesta. Hän on Värttinä-yhtyeen perustajajäseniä, mutta ei ole enää yhtyeessä mukana.

Maakuntien kulttuuripalkinnon on perustanut Puu kulttuurissa ry. (SS)

USA:n kongressi kuulee Kiljusta

Kansanedustaja Kimmo Kiljunen (sd) on kutsuttu kertomaan Moldovan tilanteesta Yhdysvaltain kongressille. Julkinen kuulemistilaisuus pidetään tällä viikolla. Kutsu Kiljuselle tuli hänen Etyj-yhteyksiensä kautta. Kiljunen on Euroopan turvallisuus- ja yhteistyöjärjestön parlamentaarisen yleiskokouksen presidentti ja johtaa Etyjin Moldova-työryhmää. (UD)

Jo yli 70

karhua kaadettu

Karhuja on tällä metsästyskaudella kaadettu jo 72. Näistä 11 on ammuttu poronhoitoalueella, 60 riistanhoitopiirien myöntämällä luvalla ja yksi maa- ja metsätalousministeriön myöntämällä luvalla. Kaikkiaan karhunmetsästyksen on tähän mennessä myönnetty 115 pyyntilupaa maa- ja metsätalousministeriön määräämstä 125 luvan kiintiöstä. (HS)

Suomalaisia kaasunaamareita Yhdysvaltoihin

Suomalainen kaasunaamarituottaja valmistautuu toimittamaan 50 000 kaasunaamaria Yhdysvaltoihin. Suomalainen Scott Health and Safety Oy on amerikkalaisen Scott Technologies Inc:n tytäryhtiö.

Suomen hallitus on antanut luvan 50 000 naamarin ja 60 000 suodattimen myyntiin Yhdysvaltain viranomaisille. Virallista tilausta ei ole vielä tullut. (SS)

Talouden kasvu hiipunut

Talouden kasvu oli vuoden toisella neljänneksellä 0,3 prosenttia edellisvuoden vastaavasta ajasta. Tammi-maaliskuuhun verrattuna bruttokansantuote oli toisella neljänneksellä 1,7 prosenttia alempi.

Palvelutoimialoilla kasvu jatkui huhti-toukokuussakin, mutta se supistui alkutuotannossa ja teollisuudessa. Metalliteollisuudessa laskua oli viisi prosenttia. Noususuhdanteen huippu saavutettiin Tilastokeskuksen mukaan viime vuoden lopulla. (SS)

Exchange rate

September 20, 2001

1 Finnish mark = US \$ 1.556

1 US \$ = 6.42 FIM

1 Euro = US \$0.9263

1 US \$ = 1.0796 Euros

Foreign currency exchange rates for outbound travelers. Source: Thomas Cook Currency Services.

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Suomen uutisia

Finnair vähentää New Yorkin vuoroja

Finnair ilmoittaa aloittavansa säästötoimet huonontuneiden talousnäkymien vuoksi. Yhtiön mukaan myös lomautukset ja irtisanomiset ovat mahdollisia. Lisäksi yhtiö ilmoittaa tähtäävänsä kustannusrakenteen muutoksiin.

Finnair lopettaa Helsingin ja Lontoon Gatwickin välisen reittiliikenteen. Helsingistä yhtiö jatkaa normaalisti lentoja Lontoon Heathrow'n kentälle. New Yorkin viikkovuoroja yhtiö vähentää yhdellä. New Yorkin reitiltä vapautuva vuoro siirretään lisäämällä Bangkokin viikkovuoroja.

Lisäksi talvikauden liikenneohjelmaan on tulossa joitakin pienempiä supistuksia. Yhtiö vähentää myös lomaliikenteen tuotantoa.

Finnairin loppuvuoden tuottojen arvioidaan edelleen vähenevän. Yhtiö arvioi maanantaisessa tiedotteessaan, että negatiiviset muutokset toimintaympäristössä saattavat pitkittyessään ja syventyessään viedä koko vuoden tuloksen tappiolliseksi. (STT)

Jätteenmäen suosio korkealla

Suomen Keskustan sijaispuheenjohtaja Anneli Jäätteenmäki on kansalaisten mieleen. Jäätteenmäki sai parhaan arvosanan sanomalehti Kalevan jokavuotisessa mittauksessa, jossa kysyttiin mielipidettä eduskuntapuolueiden nykyisiin ja hiljattain väistyneisiin puheenjohtajiin.

Keskustaa Esko Ahon sapattivuoden ajan johtanut Jäätteenmäki saa arvosanaksi 7,7. Tulos on parempi kuin yhdelläkään puheenjohtajalla moneen vuoteen. Sen sijaan Ahon kouluarvosana on vain 6,4. Toiseksi suosituin kansan keskuudessa on kokoomuksen Sauli Niinistö ja kolmas vasemmistoliiton Suvi-Anne Siimes. (MTV3, STT)

Parisuhdelain sisältö hyväksyttiin

Eduskunta on hyväksynyt samaa sukupuolta olevien henkilöiden parisuhteen rekisteröintiä koskevan lain sisällön. Pykälät lyötiin lukkoon ilman äänestyksiä. Lopullinen päätös tehdään perjantain täysistunnossa.

Lakiesityksen mukaan kaksi samaa sukupuolta olevaa henkilöä voi rekisteröidä parisuhteensa. Rekisteröinnin suorittaa siviilivirkamiehen toimittamiseen oikeutettu viranomainen. Rekisteröinti tuo osapuolille lähes samat oikeudet ja velvollisuudet kuin avioliitto. (MTV3, STT)

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Vierailu yläilmoista

Syyskuun ensimmäinen lauantai Suomessa oli kuulas ja kaunis. Aurinko paistoi lähes pilvettömältä taivaalta ja hento tuulenvire piti sään miellyttävän lämpimänä.

Olin lyhyellä vierailulla synnyinmaassani, ja nautin viikonlopun rauhasta Espoon talossani poikien ja heidän pienten sekkujensa miellyttävässä seurassa. Takana oli pari tiivistä työpäivää ja edessä rauhallinen viikonloppu minulle niin tärkeässä lapsuudenkodissa.

Nautimme ilta-aurinkon suloisesta lämmöstä pihalla nuorempien lasten kanssa, kun yhtäkkiä huomasin kauppanäköisen lähestyvän kuumailmapallon.

Kuumailmapallot eivät ole harvinainen näky Espoossa tyynenä kesäiltana. Useilla suomenmatkoillani olen nähnyt niiden hitaasti purjehtivan Helsingin suunnasta kohti länttä ja ohittavan kotimme matkalla jonnekin kauemmas.

Yllätysvierailu

Emme ensin kiinnittäneet palloon erityistä huomiota, mutta sen lähestyessä meitä hyvin matalalla, havahduin. Aluksi näytti siltä, että pallo oli laskeutumassa suoraan läheiselle Turun moottoritille, mutta kohti se nousi hitaasti uudelleen.

Valtava kuumailmapallo nousi väkisin yli kapoksen metsän ja purjehti hitaasti ja ylväästi kohti taloani. Ryntäsin sisään hakemaan kameraani ja huikkasin samalla pojilleni: "Kuumailmapallo on laskeutumassa pellolle, tulkaa ulos!"

Ilmapallon pilotti oli valinnut laskeutumispaikakseen turvallisen suuren ja avoimen tilan. Tonttimme on hyvin rauhallinen, se rajoittuu osittain metsään ja suurimmalta osaltaan vapaana kasvaneeseen heinäpeltoon. Ainoa näkyvä naapuri on taaemmalle tontille uuden talon rakentanut pikkusisareni Terttu perheineen.

Terttu oli myös havainnut pihalla touhutessaan jotain erikoista ja kiihtyi miehensä kanssa mäkeä alas yllätysvierailua ihmettelemään.

Pallo todellakin laskeutui kauniisti ja suunnitellusti sopivalle aukealle, heinäpellolle kotitalomme viereen. Pallon korissa seisoi iloinen viisihenkinen seurue, kolme miestä ja kaksi nuorta poikaa.

Annoimme välittömästi pilottille laskeutumispaikan koordinaatit, joiden mukaan mies soitti kännykällä ohjeet perässä seuranneille apujoukoille. Samalla saimme tietää, että kyseessä oli "poltari"-tempaus.

Poltarit

Viimeisten parin vuosikymmenen aikana on Suomessa polttari-perinne vahvasti li-

sääntynyt.

Poltari-nimitys tulee saksankielisestä *Polterabend* -sanasta. Kyseessä on piakkoin avioituvan sulhasmiehen ns. viimeinen vapaa ilta kavereiden kanssa. Aiemmin se todellakin tapahtui edellisenä iltana, mutta nykyään aikarajaa on armeliaasti väljennetty.

On tapauksia, joissa sulhoparka laitettiin "liikuttuneessa mielentilassa" ruotsinlaivaan ja pahaa-aavistamaton hääväki, morsioista puhumattakaan, sai turhaan odotella naapurimaassa hitaasti selviävää juhlaa.

Poltareiden ideointi on yleensä bestmanin ja sulhasen kavereiden yhteistyötä. Tarkoitus on, että sulhoparka on viimeiseen hetkeen asti onnellisen tietämättömän siitä, mitä kaverit ovat hänen päänsä menoksi keksineet.

Juhlinta tapahtuu tiukasti poikaporukassa, mikä ei suinkaan tarkoita sitä, etteikö illan kuvaan sopisi myös naisseura. Ei kuitenkaan oma.

Autolastillinen yllätysvierailu

Vihreä suunnattoman suuri kuumailmapallo oli laskeutunut onnellisesti tunnin rauhallisen lennon jälkeen. Se oli lähtenyt liikkeelle - ei kovin kaukaa - Lautasaaresta. Korissa olivat pilotti lisäksi tuleva sulhaspoika Jouko Laaksonen bestmaninsa kanssa.

Vain muutamaa päivää aikaisemmin oli Laaksonen nähnyt kuumailmapallon taivaalla ja tokaissut kavereilleen: "Tuommoiseen en ainakaan ikinä mene!" Vain kymmenen minuuttia ennen pallon ilmaannousua miehelle selvisi, että juuri sellaiseen olivat kaverit päättäneet hänet laittaa.

Pallo siirrettiin kevyesti korista työntäen pellon reunalle, josta se tyhjennettiin ja siististi viikattuna nostettiin paikalle tulleen huoltoauton peräkärreyn. Samantien tupsahti paikalle myös suuri tilataksi, jonka uumenista purkautui ulos tusinan verran iloisia nuoria miehiä.

Paikalle saapui vielä toinenkin auto, ruotsalaisin rekisterikilvein varustettu henkilöauto, josta lappasi ulos lisää porukkaa. Onneksi tätä kahta täyttää autolastillista juhlahuumeja yllätysvieraita ei tarvinnut ryhtyä ruokkimaan. Pojilla oli omat eväät mukana ja hauskaa tuntui olevan.

Kuohuviiniä katsojille

Yllättävän napsakasti miesporukka sai autettua tyhjiinpuristetun pallon siististi kasaan ja paketoitua sen takaisin peräkärreyn. Pienen jutusteluhetken ja muutaman valokuvan jälkeen iloinen seurue pakkautui takaisin autoihin ja lähti jatkamaan kujeiluaan sulhon kustannuksella.

Saamieni tietojen mukaan



Poltari-porukka, joka yllättäen tupsahti "tervehdykselle" kuumailmapallon laskeutumispaikalle.

Kuva: Sini Harjunmaa

jotain varsin yllättävää oli keksitty jatkossakin.

Juhlakansan jatkettua matkaansa jäimme vielä jutustamaan ilmapallon pilottiin, vantaalaisen Ilkka Korhosen kanssa. Mies kertoi meille kuumailmapallojen alkua ajoista muinoin Ranskassa.

Kun ensimmäiset kuumailmapallot laskeutuivat lentonsa päätteeksi pellolle Ranskan maaseudulla, olivat maanomistajat tietenkin kauhuissaan ja peloissaan. Nämä luulivat pallojen olevan jotain yliluonnollista ja pelottavaa ja heitä rauhoitettiin yläilmoista tupsahtaneet vieraat ensin juttelivat heille ja tarjosivat sitten lohdutukseksi kuohuviiniä. Se yleensä laukaisi jännityksen ja sai maanomistajan tyytyväiseksi.



Kuohuviiniä maanomistajille. Kuvassa (vas) Sini ja Ari Harjunmaa, Olavi Kovanen ja pilotti Ilkka Korhonen.

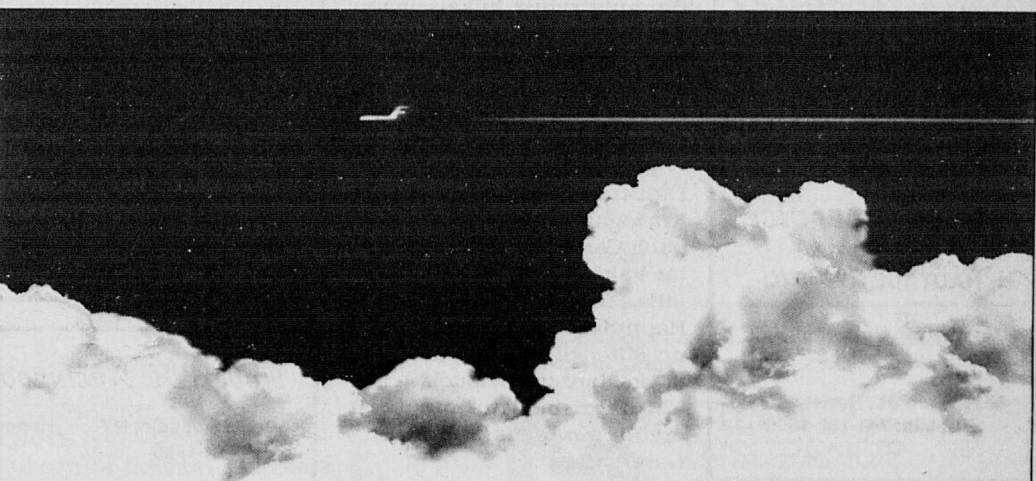
Kuva: Terttu Kovanen

Korhosen mukaan tämä tapa on vielä voimassa - ainakin miehellä itsellään - ja niinpä mies vetäisi kylmälaukustaan pullon kuohuvaa ja tarjosi lasilliset meille pal-

listeleville (naapuri)maanomistajille.

Fiksu ele, jonka vaikutus oli varmasti toivotun mukainen.

SINI HARJUNMAA



"SYKSYKSI EUROOPPAAN" HINNAT

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Kuolleita

Bernhard Autula

WESTMINSTER, MA - Bernhard Autula, 79, 137 Davis Road, kuoli syysk. 20, 2001 Henry Heywood Memorial sairaalassa kotonaan saamansa sairauskohtrauksen seurauksena.

Hän oli syntynyt lokak. 23, 1921 Fitchburgissa Wiljam ja Anna (Saari) Autulan poikana. Westminsterissä hän oli asunut 50 vuoden ajan.

Autula sai päästötodistuksen Fitchburg High Schoolista 1939 ja oli saanut vastaanottaa koulun kultaisen "F" kirjaimen.

Edesmennyt ansaitsi eläntonsa kirvesmiehenä. Hän oli kirvesmiehiliiton paikallisosasto 48:n jäsen ja ensimmäinen presidentti. Myöhemmin se yhti osasto 107:n kanssa. Ennen eläkkeelle siirtymistä Autula työskenteli McKenzie Engineering firmassa Westminsterissä.

Vuosina 1949-1953 Autula työskenteli Raivaajan kirjapaino-osastolla sitojana.

Autula kuului Finnish Center at Saima Park järjestöön, AMVETS, D.A.V.:hin sekä Westminsterin William S. Miller Post 174 American Legioniin.



Bernhard Autula

nin. Hän oli toisen maailmansodan veteraani.

Kaipaamaan jäi poika Steven A. Autula, Westminster; kaksi tytärtä, Donna J. Autula, Cognac, Ranska ja Carol A. Robichaud, Gardner; sekä neljä lastenlasta.

Edesmennneen puoliso Viola K. (Leino) Autula kuoli vuoden 1998 huhtikuussa.

Bosk Funeral Home, 85 Blossom St., Fitchburg, toimitti hautaamisen Woodside hautausmaahan.

Vainajaa voi muistaa lahjoituksella: Raivaaja Publishing Company, P.O. 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420.

Reino N. Hannula

FALLBROOK, CA - Reino N. Hannula, 83, Raivaaja Publishing Companyn entinen lyhytaikainen liikkeenhoitaja, kuoli syysk. 7, 2001 syöpään kotonaan.

Hän oli syntynyt Gardnerissa (MA) ja oli asunut 37 vuotta San Luis Obispoissa ennen kuin muutti Fallbrookiin neljä vuotta sitten.

Hannula oli suorittanut matematiikan masters tutkinnon UCLA:ssa. Hän oli opettanut matematiikkaa ja tietokonealaa California Polytechnic

Universityssa San Luis Obispoissa. Jäätyään eläkkeelle hän työskenteli vuoden 1984 kesän Raivaaja Publishing Companyn liikkeenhoitajana.

Aikaisemmin edesmennyt oli omistanut Quality Hill Candies makeisten tukkuliikkeen Hollywoodissa. Hän oli myös opettanut vuoden Redondo Beach High Schoolissa.

Lähdettyään Raivaajasta Hannula ryhtyi julkaisemaan useita vuosia ilmestynyttä *Finn Heritage* lehteä. Hän oli kirjoittanut kirjat *Blueberry God* ja *An Album of Finnish Halls*.

Kaipaamaan jäi puoliso Alice Hannula; poikapuoli Craig Kravagna, Tucker, GA; tytärpuoli Carol Kravagna, Murrieta; kaksi veljeä, Tarmo Hannula, Lakeside, OR ja Waino Hannula, Gardner; sisko Vieno Mitchell, Floral Park, NY; ja yksi lapsenlapsipuoli.

Muistotilaisuus pidetään myöhempänä ajankohtana Gardnerissa.

Carl K. Poikonen

TOWNSEND, MA - Carl Kalervo Poikonen, 89, 66 Dudley Road, kuoli syysk. 11, 2001 kotonaan saamansa sairauskohtrauksen seurauksena.

Hän oli syntynyt elok. 14, 1912 Gardnerissa Aati ja Ida (Kuula) Poikosen poikana ja kävi siellä koulunsa. Fitchburgiin hän muutti 1952. Port Richeyn Floridaan hän muutti 1977 nauttimaan eläkepäivistään. Townsendissa hän asui kaksi viikkoa.

Poikonen työskenteli leipurina perheensä omistamassa Gardner Bake Shopissa Gardnerissa ja myöhemmin entisen United Cooperative Society liikkeen leipomo-osaston hoitajana Fitchburgissa. Hän jäi eläkkeelle 1977.

Edesmennyt oli toisen maailmansodan veteraani. Hän kuului vapaamuurareihin ja oli National Republican Committeeen jäsen.

Kaipaamaan jäi poika tri John C. Poikonen, Littleton; kaksi tytärtä, Beth M. Klein, Townsend ja Kim Jarvi, Wheaton, IL; kaksi kälyä; kuusi lastenlasta; yksi lapsenlapsen lapsi; sekä sisarusten lapsia.

Edesmennneen puoliso Bertha (Kazokas) Poikonen kuoli vuoden 1996 helmikuussa. Veljet Kaino ja Kalervo K. Poikonen olivat myös kuolleet aikaisemmin.

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21. syyskuuta tuun he saivat paikan talossa, jossa oli neljä huonetta ja palkka nousi Kanadassa saadusta \$80 viikossa \$180:een viikossa; sekös pariskuntaa huvitti. Seuraavaksi he olivat työssä David Rockerfellerin talossa, jossa Aili hyvällä maulla piti talon kauniina sommittelemineen kukkalaitteineen.

Arvi Tokkolan kotitalta kiiri tieto, että Tokkolan talo tarvitsee pitäjää, kun ei vanhemmista enää ole talon pittoon, jatkuu takasivulla

Tervehdys Lepokodilta

Saimme hiljattain asukkaaksemme Aili Tokkolan, joka oli yksi Lepokodin alkuunpanijavoimia v. 1974. Hän vietti 93-vuotispäivään 12. syyskuuta. Hänen lapsenlapsensa tahtoi yllättää mumsa tarjoamalla koko talolle juustoliatarjottimet sämpylöineen, hedelmätarjottimet ja täytekakkukahvit. Kyllä olikin hyvää Onnea Ailille.

Aili kertoo onnellisesta lapsuudestaan maalaistalossa Suomen Parkanossa. Hän oli yksi 12 lapsen sisarusparvesta, josta seitsemän oli veljeä. Kotona kasvatettiin myös kolme sukulaisten orvoksi jäänyttä lasta.

Aili muistaa, kuinka sunnuntaisin isänsä luki perheelle raamattua ja äiti rukoili. Hän muistaa lapsen uskoa, kun hän rukoili, Taivaan Isä kuuli. Tällaista lapsen mieltä Aili kaipailee nykyin.

Aililla oli hyvä musiikkitaju ja opettaja olisi halunnut isän lähettävän tyttärensä musiikki oppiin, mutta isä sanoi, että maalaistaloihin tarvitaan emäntiä, eikä antanut tytön lähteä oppiin.

Aililla oli toiset ajatukset katseltuaan äitinsä vaatavaa ja raskasta emännän hommaa. Hän rukoili, ettei vaan emännäksi joutuisi ja niin kävikin, että veljensä tultua käymään Amerikasta, Aili lähti myös Amerikkaan. Luvattamalla Amerikkaan Aili täytti 18 vuotta, voiden pahoin merisairaudesta vuoksi.

Hän tuli ensin Kanadaan, jossa myös avioitui toisen koti-ikävan valtaaman siirtolaisen, Arvi Tokkolan kanssa. He odottivat laillisia papereita USA:han. New Yorkiin tul-

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Messiah Lutheran seurakunta

Kuun ensimmäisenä sunnuntaina suomenkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 8:15 aam.

Perjantaisin klo 1:00 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

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

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Ystävällinen palvelu

From the desk of Stig Häggblom:

Meksikosta tuulee, yli rajojen . . .

Meksikon vastavalittu (ja myös avioliittoon vihitty) presidentti Vicente Fox vieraili hiljattain Washingtonissa. Fox ja hänen vaimonsa Marta olivat täällä tasolla korkeimmat vieraat, joita USA:n uusi presidentti Bush on virkakautensa aikana talossaan nähnyt.

Valkoisen talon illalliset olivat hienointa laatua. Vierastalolla komeili peräti 136 nimeä, näistä lähes puolet Meksikon korkeinta johtoa ja maan rahamaailman silmiinpistävimmät tekijät. Laulaja-poika Placido Domingo oli siellä ja USA:n puolelta Clint Eastwood, jonka vaimo Dina Ruiz on meksikolainen.

Kaiken tämän komeuden keskellä vieraileva presidentti Fox lähti puheessaan koskettelemaan asiaa, joka järkytti isäntäväkeä. Koko USA nousi käytännössä varpailleen ihmettelemään.

Fox sanoi, silmiään sulke-matta, että Meksikon ja USA:n on saatava rajanylitysvaikeutensa aisoihin ennen vuoden loppua.

Englanninkielellä tuo lause kuului: "The time has come to give migrants and their communities their proper place in the history of our bilateral relations."

Vieraileva presidentti saavutti ainakin eräänlaisen yllätysvoiton. Maailma tietää, että Meksikosta virtaa päivittäin väkeä USA:han luvatta. USA:n työmarkkinoilla on ainakin kolmisen miljoonaa työntekijää vailla työlupaa ja maassaolulupaa.

Presidentti Bush jäi sanottomaksi ja pakeili kaiken päivää lehtimiehiä, jottei tarvitsisi vastata mahdollisiin kysymyksiin.

Ulkoministeri Colin Powell kyllä lähti vastailemaan, mutta ei siinä suuresti onnistunut. USA haluaisi sopimuksen solmittavan, mutta - kuten hän itse sanoi - "do it right, not do it fast".

Sen pitemmälle ei päästy.

Näin kommenttipalstalla voi sanoa, että hyvä kun tuo presidentti Fox tuon kysymyksen viritteli!

Keskustelua pitäisi riittää. Eihän tuo ole yksin USA:n ongelma, sehän on koko maailman ongelma, jossa nykyisin puntarissa ovat aina nuo paljon puhutut ihmisoikeudet - "human right" - joita ei niin helpolla syrjäytetä.

Suomeen nämä ongelmat saapuivat kuuluisan laman myötä kymmenen vuotta sitten. Ja kun talous elpyi, ongelmat jäivät, siis kaukaa tulleet maahanmuuttajat, joita sitten alkoi olla paljon.

Kuuba on Meksikon lisäksi läheinen ongelma USA:lle tuossa mielessä. Presidentti Kennedy ehti virassa ollessaan vuonna 1962 pistää

Castro Kuuban saartoon, joka vielä pitää tai on ainakin voimassa. Neuvostoliitto rahoitti pitkälle ennen kommunismin luhistumista Castro "kommunismia", joka sitten sai luvan muuttaa kasvojaan.

Floridassa asuvat kymmenet tuhannet entiset kuubalaiset rahoittavat rahalahetyksin aika pitkälle Castro nykyistä taloutta, samoin tietenkin lisääntyvä turismi. Euroopan maat ja Suomi myös ovat hyvänä tukena tuossa mukana. Sanotaan jopa, että pahinta mitä voisi nykytilanteessa Castro eteen tulla, on saartotoimenpiteiden loppu USA:n taholta.

Sitten on tämä Kiinan uusi tuleminen, mikä näyttää järkevän taloustieteilijöitä kautta koko planeetan.

Muistan kun palasin selostusmatkalta Tokion olympialaiskisoista vuonna 1964. Japani oli silloin varsinainen talousihme. Oli hankittava Toyota-merkinen auto. IFAMerkinen DDR:ssä rakennettu kulkuneuvo joutui markkinoille (ja oli vaikea myytävä . . .)

Kiinassa on Japaniin nähden kymmenkertainen määrä niitä, jotka haluavat näyttää, mihin työmarkkinoilla pystytään. Casper Weinberg kir-jatkuu takasivulla



Mexican President Vicente Fox with President Bush yesterday in Washington.

Mexico's Fox delivers a challenge on immigration

By Wayne Washington
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON - President Vicente Fox of Mexico broke from the diplomatic routine of

ihmismassojen yksipuolinen virta Meksikosta USA:han on ollut vaikea pala politiikan tekijöille vuosikymmentä. Viralliset keskustelut ovat kuitenkin olleet laimetta. Virkaan vastavalittu Meksikon presidentti Vicente Fox muutti tyyliä. Asiat pöydälle, hän ehdotti virkaveljelleen George W. Bushille Valkoisessa Talossa.

50 vuotta yhdessä

Ellin ja Martti Saari viettivät kultahääjuhlaansa Zion Luterilaisen kirkon tiloissa Fairport Harborissa, Ohiossa 25. elokuuta. Saarien lapset perheineen olivat kutsuneet yli 100 henkeä kunnioittamaan tämän Floridan suomalais-tenkin keskuudessa hyvin tunnetun pariskunnan juhlapäivää.

Kirkon Maria-piiri oli huolehtinut mittavasta päivällistarjoilusta, joten kerrankin Elli ja Martti olivat juhlijoiden puolella. Heidät nimittäin on aina totuttu näkemään työntekijöiden joukossa.

Zion Lutheran kirkon pastori Hannu Vepsäläinen tervehti juhluvieraista pitäen alkukurukouksen. Heikki Perttu toimi juontajana ja säestäjänä. Hän kertoi mm. Lapualla pidettyistä häistä Ellin kotona v. 1951 ja kehotti kaikkia astumaan juhlapöytien äärelle.

Hääateria oli monilla taidoilla valmistettu ja oli erittäin herkullinen. Paikalla oli paljon nuorta väkeä, jota ei usein näe kultahäissä. Martilla ja Ellillä on paljon ja monenikäisiä ystäviä.

Juhlaohjelmassa oli perhepiirin, pastoriin ja ystävien tervehdyksiä, monissa hyvin liikuttavia piirteitä. Pastori Vepsäläinen viittasi raamatun neuvoihin avioliitosta. Kaikissa oli sama yhteinen teema: Martti ja Elli Saari tekevät kaiken mahdollisen perheensä, kirkon ja ystäviensä parhaaksi.

Armi ja Jussi Lampinen lauloivat sopivasti valittuja duettoja. He olivat ainoat paikalla olleet, jotka olivat 50 vuotta sitten saarien häissä Lapualla.

Kantelemusiikki, juhlaruno ja viulusoolot kuuluivat myös ohjelmaan. Juhlapäivällinen oli niin maistuva, että monet

Oikaisu

Viime viikon (19. syysk.) lehdessä sivulla 5 olleen valokuvan tekstissä oli virhe. Brian Matchett nosti 500 paunaa.

Kultaisen Iän Kerho

FITCHBURG, MA - Suomalainen Kultaisen Iän Kerho kokoontui Saiman Puistossa syysk. 18. pvä kello 2 iltapäivällä.

Puheenjohtaja Armas Kaukoranta avasti kokouksen lausumalla kaikki tervetulleiksi. Lauloimme "America" ja "Maamme" laulut.

Lahjoituksia kahvipöytään tekivät seuraavat: Kaukoranta, Onerva Lovejoy, Aino Virta, Elma Groves, Irene Villakari, Ann Anderson, Allie Kamilla, Helvi Misslin, Rose ja Allan Tastula, Irma ja Ray Leslie, Leena Kokk ja Jenny Adams.

Miriam Orava Hillcrest hoidokodissa on ollut huonovointinen. Toivomme pikaista parantumista hänelle. Oli hyvä nähdä Ray Leslie joukossam-

jatkuu takasivulla



Martti ja Elli Saari 50-vuotishääpäivändän.

maistoivat sitä vielä toistamiseen ennen kotimatkaansa. Hääpari kiitti kaikkia ja esitteli perheensä, joka oli tehnyt paljon työtä juhlan hyväksi. Saari lahjoittivat saamansa Martti lopetti kiittelyt hauskaan tapaansa sanoen: "Elli said everything already. Amen!"

Seuraavana päivänä, sun-

nuntaina, osa juhluvieraista osallistui Zion Lutheran kirkolla pidettyyn jumalanpalvelukseen, jossa Elli ja Martti lahjoittivat saamansa lahjarahat, \$1,140 kokonaisuudessaan Zion luterilaiselle kirkolle, jonka suojissa he ovat toimineet 36 vuotta.

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European-US relations in the 21st century

New challenges for the EU and the US

The following is a lecture given by Erkki Tuomioja, Finland's Minister for Foreign Affairs, at FinnFest USA 2001 in Villanova (PA).

- continues from last week -

Framing a real global partnership

One of the most far-reaching consequences of globalization is that it calls into question old notions of national interest. In pre-globalization times it was possible to conceive that nations had interests that they could pursue at the cost of other nations' interests, and through the use of military power, conquer other people's land and natural resources and enslave their workforce.

In today's world, which is characterized by growing interdependence, and real time global communication as well as opportunities and challenges shared by the whole global community alike - be it the internal or open access to markets as opportunities or HIV/AIDS and climate change as challenges - there can be no sustainable increase in welfare in one country at the cost of others.

Smaller countries are quicker to recognize this than larger ones. Size alone does not bring benefits to citizens of larger countries. In the long term, all countries can enjoy the benefits of globalization only through cooperation and genuine global partnership.

Isolationism is recognized today as a dead-end idea. But unilateralism too must come to be recognized as something which is neither justified nor sustainable in today's world.

For the United States and Europe this entails building a genuine global partnership.

While capability of disparities will remain between them, the European Union pursues its common interests and implements its joint actions in the regional as well as global arena in the same way as the United States. A partnership among equals, competing with ideas and models for action, is the solution for future transatlantic relations.

While there may be differences in political philosophies as well as in tactics and overall strategies, a real partnership will stand on the basis of pragmatic solutions, where the EU and US pursue common objectives. Based on agreement on the overall goals of democracy, human rights and prosperity, such a partnership should convey a growing sensitivity towards solidarity and equality with

the developing world and globally.

A working partnership needs to be reworked at times, as it must reflect genuine equality and contain effective consultation and cooperation.

Relationship between EU and NATO enlargement

Coming back to Europe, the relationship between the parallel enlargement processes of the European Union and NATO has been focused on recently by planners and pundits alike.

Although the background history and institutional dynamics behind these processes differ, they are proceeding simultaneously. The EU has in principle decided that the next new members can, if ready, accede to the Union in 2004, whereas NATO will invite new members in 2002 for accession talks, which last time took two years to complete.

Moreover, the lists of recognized candidate states in Central Europe overlap for the EU and NATO. For those countries, memberships in the EU and NATO are both seen as vital for joining the community of established democracies. This natural, as the fundamental membership criteria are the same in both cases.

One should not forget, however, the profound difference between impacts on the transition states and societies caused by accession to the EU on one hand and by NATO on the other. In the case of the Union, the aspirants have been for years engaged in pre-accession programs and detailed accession negotiations that concretely and tangibly shape and transform their political, economic, social and legal systems. This entails adopting some 20,000 pages of community legislation into the candidate countries' legislation, and implementing it. In the case of NATO, it is primarily a political yes-or-no decision, even if it naturally also entails concrete work to transform and modernize the aspirants' defense forces.

As the impact of EU membership on aspirants is deeper and broader, NATO is in effect enlarging in a Central European sphere that is being transformed by the enlargement policies of the EU. From that perspective, if implemented successfully, the processes complement and reinforce each other. The processes are, however, independently decided, and there is no invisible hand guiding them jointly.

Another factor affecting the integration scene is that the

Union continues to change, not just by taking on new tasks, which NATO has done in military crisis management, but also in its institutional structure and substantive *acquis*. The next round of integration talks and decisions awaits in 2004.

The debate on the future of the enlarging European Union is only just taking shape. The aim is to make it into a broadly-based process that reaches out to the grassroots as well as national parliaments and elites. At this stage, it is not possible to see which road the Union will take, but the steps will be based on the existing institutional foundation and the goals of the constituting treaties. Without doubt, the greatest expectations are directed towards making the connection between individual citizens and Union institutions closer and the decision-making on common policies more effective at all levels.

Finland and the enlargement processes

The EU recognizes the right of all and any European countries who fulfill the membership criteria to join the Union. Thus, enlargement cannot be based on the present members' subjective preferences. Of course, everyone has their own favorites among the candidate countries and we in Finland have said quite openly that the three Baltic States are our favorites, but their interests, too, are best served by adhering strictly to the objective criteria. We look forward to the accession of the Baltic States and Poland as an important element in the stability and security of our region in Northern Europe. As a result, the Baltic Sea will again become the symbol of interstate and transnational cooperation that it has been back in history and should be in the future.

Such a vision cannot become true, however, without Russia. As the European Union enlarges around the Baltic Rim, the region becomes a focal point of the relationship between the European Union and Russia that is a defining factor for the future of Europe as a whole.

In geographical terms, Northern Europe is where the EU and Russia meet. Equally significantly, great opportunities exist for cooperation in such areas as energy, the environment, transportation, civic contacts and cross-border business that will show the benefits and fruits of EU-Russian relations more gener-

ally. The Northern Dimension of the EU's common policies builds on the promise of such constructive interdependence.

Northern Europe is a region with particular prospects for cooperation involving the United States, the EU and Russia. The region has benefited from the proactive and effective engagement of the United States in concrete and practical issues, not least in nuclear safety. It is important that the new administration is determined to continue the Northern Europe Initiative, as it furthers the same goals as the EU's Northern Dimension.

Although Finland is not a decision-maker in NATO enlargement and Finland is not seeking NATO membership, we follow the process closely.

Our security interests are involved in NATO enlargement and its ramifications for our vicinity and Europe at large. We practice, and benefit from, the fundamental principle at play here, which is every state's right to choose its line of security and defense policy. NATO's open doors for eligible applicants supports that principle and its viability.

Judged by the public discussions, the prospects for Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia to be invited to become NATO members have improved, not least because of the growing support here in the United States.

Finland has consistently supported the Baltic States in the consolidation of their sovereignty, the transformation of their political and economic systems and national defense, and in their overall engagement in European integration. Our main instruments have been EU enlargement and Nordic cooperation. An important element for success in this process is their pursuit of normal and constructive relations with Russia.

Russia as a European power

Russia is a key European power today, as it has always been in history. At the same time, its traditional position has been weakened, even questioned since the end of the cold war by the cumulative changes of power in the international system. It has largely missed the dynamics of European integration. Despite progress towards democracy, human rights and free markets, and recent political stabilization, Russia remains a project; a great power in search of a new identity.

As the core force in Euro-

pean unification, the EU is engaged in a multi-sectoral and multi-level cooperation with Russia. Still, no single country is more important politically than the United States in efforts to help Russia's adjustment to a new position as a great power. Although there are voices in the US that urge the administration to downgrade Russia in the hierarchy of foreign policy interests, it is difficult to believe that the US would step aside from affecting and assisting the Europeanization of Russia. The EU certainly does not have the choice nor the intention of rescinding that historic task.

While the EU evolves towards an area without borders and NATO binds its members in national security, a main theme in the discourse of the future of Europe remains the avoidance of new borderlines or gaps beyond the areas of those institutions. The EU and the U.S. have a common interest in working towards a whole Europe that engages Russia, Ukraine and other countries as full participants with a credible perspective of transition and unification.

Such a large Europe, unified by common values and institutions, constitutes a framework for addressing political and economic challenges in the Caucasus and Central Asia, which in turn border on crucial geopolitical regions in the Middle East and South Asia, not to speak of North-east Asia. Europe at large is a link in the increasingly global world that is searching for solutions to new problems and challenges.

Concluding remarks

The transatlantic relationship between the EU and the U.S., as well as Canada, remains central for the participants themselves. There is nothing that could diminish the significance of their historic ties, common fundamental values and practical benefits of the transatlantic bond. At the same time, there are challenges in the international environment that face this relationship and call for its adaptation to new conditions.





Members of FinnFest USA 2001, Swedish Colonial Society, Delaware Finnish American Society and Delaware Swedish Colonial Society gather to view the Ryjy Rug exhibit on July 22.

photo: esko Townell

FinnFest USA 2001: A happy memory

VILLANOVA, PA - They travelled from Finland and all around this continent to the campus of Villanova University in Villanova, Pennsylvania, USA, to enjoy all things Finnish at FinnFest USA 2001 from July 26 to July 29, 2001. Preliminary statistics available to date indicate a total attendance of about 2300 at a time when the economy was depressed, air fares were high and employment was at risk.

But they were indomitable. They performed and pursued performances far too numerous to list here with illimitable vigor and delight. Among other events, they flocked to high-energy performances on the Great Stage in the Pavilion from early till far into the night and spent their moneys on Finn-related goods and wares at the Tori in the same facility nearly all day long.

They shuttle-based around the campus to fill 4 lecture halls for presentations by experts dealing with Finnish-related topics through most of the day and another large chamber for the Ex-Patriate Conference. They jammed the Villanova Room to listen to Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland and marvel at the Crown Wedding ceremony.

They experienced history with the Veteli Men's Chorus in uniforms of Finland's Winter War. They ran and walked their campus-wide kilometers in the Lasse Viren event, though the world-famous Olympian was kept from attending by travel problems.

They crowded in to laugh through an original comedy based on Finnish humor in "The Simpletons." All the festival long, they danced and ate and sang and banqueted Finn-style. Performances spilled out of their assigned venues onto the broad plazas around the campus.

Even before the event began on July 26, 2001 with its elaborately-staged opening ceremony, they were touring all over the Northeast and visiting the ship Kalmar Nyckel and the Forest Finn and Ryjy

Rug Exhibits at the American Swedish Historical Museum.

And they revelled in the artistry of Finnish violin superstar Pekka Kuusisto performing with the Philadelphia Orchestra and, later at the gala banquet, of Ulla Suokko, Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year for 2001.

By Closing Ceremony time on July 29, enthusiasm was running high and planning was afoot for the upcoming 20th annual festival in Minneapolis in 2002.

For the record, FinnFest USA 2001 president Ari Aho has announced a nominal attendance of about 2300 or more, based on incomplete figures subject to later revision. Villanova University, which managed pre-Festival mailing registrations, has reported about 1360 registrants. The FinnFest organization managed daily walk-in registrations amounting to about 800 registrants. The Lasse Viren event attracted more than a hundred, many registering only for this event. The Gala Banquet attracted about 500, again with many registering only for the event.

With many events happening simultaneously in different venues, some attracted hundreds of attendees, including, for example, the tours, the "Simpletons," Veteli Men's Choir/Viskurit, and Pohjolaiset Crown Wedding. Folk Dance Night, Philly Feast, and Chorus/Brass Band performances drew nearly as many.

Numbers alone, of course, can't tell the true story if they exclude events that also went to the heart of Finnish concerns and, for many attendees, the festival was marked by many of these.

Along with those in better-attended events, smaller groups too will remember FinnFest USA 2001 for what they enjoyed and valued most: the chance to celebrate what it means to be Finnish.

Information about FinnFest USA 2001, along with numerous images, are available on the organization's web site: www.finnfest2001.org.

Esko Townell

News from Finland

Finnair sees 2001 loss if weak market persists

Finland's national carrier Finnair said on Monday it could be heading for an operating loss this year if the industry turmoil sparked by the U.S. plane attacks deepens and is prolonged.

"The sector's profitability had already turned to a decline before the terror attacks. Due to the crisis, the sector's profit outlook has weakened rapidly," Finnair said in a statement.

Finnair also said it would stop its regular services to London's Gatwick airport as well as cut one of its weekly flights to New York. In all Finnair's flights would be cut by about seven percent from what it had previously planned.

"The flight freed from the New York route will be used to increase weekly flights to Bangkok by one," Finnair said.

Last week Finnair said it would start a cost-cutting program and was preparing for possible layoffs.

Finnair had already said in August it expected its 2001 result to be clearly weaker than 2000 due to the economic slowdown and higher fuel costs. (Reuters)

Finnish-made gas masks to be sold to U.S.

The Finnish Government has granted Scott Health & Safety Oy a license for the export of 25,000 gas masks to the United States. In addition to the masks, the company was authorized to export 60,000 NBC filters for the gas masks. The export licenses were processed quickly after the Sept. 11th terrorist attack on the United States. The masks will be used by US officials.

Formerly known as Kemira Safety, the company got its new name when it was bought out by the U.S. company Scott Technologies in May last year.

Scott Health & Safety Oy has been granted another license, for the sale of another 25,000 military gas masks to the United States by the end of next year. The delivery involves so-called NBC masks and filters, which are effective protection against biological and chemical weapons. (HS)

Opposition grows for fifth nuclear power plant

Members of parliament are increasingly opposed to the building of a fifth nuclear power plant because of the terrorist attacks in the United States, a survey by the *Turun Sanomat* newspaper found.

Both supporters and opponents of nuclear power have started to think what a possible terror attack would mean to energy production. Supporters said Finland should not depend on imported oil, opponents fear an attack on a nuclear power plant. (HS, TS)

Outokumpu may close nickel mine

Finnish metals group Outokumpu said last week it may close its Hitura nickel mine in Finland following the fall in the price of nickel.

Outokumpu said in a statement the possible closure of the mine, located in Nivala, would affect all 150 employees there.

"The operation of the mine has become uneconomical mainly due to the drastic drop in the price level of nickel," the company said.

It said a decision on closing or continuing the operations at the 30-year-old Hitura mine would be made during the autumn. (Reuters)

Finland to take part in antiterrorist attack if asked

Finland's Minister for Foreign Affairs Erkki Tuomioja (Soc. Dem.) says that his country will not take part in United States action against terrorism until it gets a specific request from either the U.S. or the United Nations.

Tuomioja said that decisions on taking part in any such action will be made after a request comes. As of Monday no contact had been made on the issue and Tuomioja does not believe that the United States will have any reason to ask Finland for help in the future.

He also says that Finnish participation in actual combat activities is out of the question. "The law on peacekeeping is binding in this respect," he said. (HS)

Prime Minister Lipponen:

EU decision on terrorism no open mandate

The political leaders of the European Union countries gave their approval to possible U.S. military action against the perpetrators of the terrorist attacks in the United States at their summit meeting in Brussels last Friday.

Although the support expressed to the U.S. in the fight against terrorism was stronger than expected, Finnish Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen (SDP) said that they did not want to give the Americans an open mandate for full-scale war.

In a joint statement the leaders said that the U.S. has the right to launch a counter-attack within the framework of the United Nations. (HS)

Bits and pieces

Finance Minister Sauli Niinisto (Nat. Coalition) said it was regrettable that key financial meetings of the World Bank and the IMF had been cancelled, saying the world's economic community should collate its resources. (KL)

Harvard Professor Michael Porter warned Finland against following Japan where home markets are lagging behind global demand and said the state should continue to sell-off its corporate holdings. (HS)

Finnish children are likely to still start school at age seven after a study ordered by the education ministry came out against cutting that to six years. (TS)

Finland's possible NATO membership could become a top issue in the parliamentary elections of 2003, said Helsinki University researcher Teija Tiilikainen. Finland had already chosen a path towards the alliance and the recent U.S. attacks would not effect Finns' opinions, she added. (Hbl)

Finns are eager readers of newspapers, with a total of 147 newspapers and magazines published in Finland reaching 99 percent of the population. The most active group reading newspapers is people aged 25-49 years. (AL)

The Education Ministry has proposed turning part of students' state-backed loans into a stipend if students complete their education within a certain time frame. The ministry hopes the move will push students to finish their studies faster. (TS)

Finnish hotels and restaurants look set to be hit hard by the expected drop off in American leisure and business travellers coming to Finland in the wake of the recent terror attacks. (TS)

Einojuhani Rautavaara will create an opera about Rasputin for Matti Salminen

"I never thought the *Aleksts Kivi* would be my last opera. That would mean that I had decided to hang myself. And I see no need for it, life is so wonderful."

72-year-old Einojuhani Rautavaara thus bases his decision to write an opera about the Russian mystic Grigori Rasputin. The work will debut at the Finnish National Opera in Helsinki on September 16, 2003. The work will open six years after his previous opera.

The leading role will be sung by Matti Salminen and Jorma Hynninen has been engaged for the role of Nicolai II. Mikko Franck will be the conductor and Vilppu Kiljunen, the stage director.

Rautavaara does not want to become a retiree. He spends his mornings with the *Rasputin* libretto and his afternoons at polishing a piano piece for the Maj Lind piano contest. His evenings involve

finishing a clarinet concerto which Richard Stolzman will debut in Washington next year.

There has also been time for writing. "Säveltäjä ja muusa" (The composer and the Muse) co-written with Sini Rautavaara has just appeared in the bookstores.

Rautavaara first became interested in Rasputin in the early 90's, but other projects intervened. He returned to the subject last year and urged his publisher and his record company to bring the project to Erkki Korhonen, the new director of the Finnish National Opera.

Korhonen immediately added the opera to the repertoire.

The composer will write his own libretto as before. "You don't have to ask the writer for separate permissions," he said, smiling gently. (HS)

Translated by Roy Helander

Jean Sibelius subject of four film projects

Director Timo Koivusalo wants to bring Finland's most famous composer closer to the people

Director Timo Koivusalo is not the only person who hopes to produce a movie on Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. When Koivusalo recently announced his plans to make a major motion picture on Sibelius, he became the fourth to undertake such a project. Koivusalo hopes to have his movie ready in the autumn of 2003.

Koivusalo has already successfully directed biographical movies about three other Finnish musical talents: popular songwriter Reino Helismaa, 1950s singer Tapio Rautavaara, and singer-songwriter Irwin Goodman, who made his mark on Finland's popular music scene in the 1960s and '70s. Now he wants to bring the classical composer Sibelius closer to the ordinary Finn.

Koivusalo has not decided on a name for the film he plans to produce and direct. The main alternatives are simply Sibelius or Jean Sibelius. He believes that he could get financial support from the Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE, and he has not yet discussed the issue with the production adviser of the Finnish Film Foundation. He also says that he has a distribution agreement with Buena Vista, a part of the Disney concern.

According to Erkki Astala, production executive of the Finnish Film Foundation, such a massive project cannot be carried out without some financing from abroad.

Two other Finnish production companies, Kinoproduktion and Fantasiafilmi have approached the Finnish Film Foundation for funding for similar projects.

The CEO of Kinoproduktion, Claes Olsson has been thinking about a film about the life of Sibelius in the years 1924 to 1941, during which time he was working on his eighth symphony. Dissatisfied with the quality of his work, Sibelius apparently destroyed the notes of the symphony during the war.

Olsson was first thinking of producing a documentary, but the current project involves a fictionalized account. It has a working title, which translates as "Compulsion to Compose", and a script which still needs a final revision. With the help of Sibelius experts Olsson has dug up facts on the composer's personal characteristics, habits, and peculiarities.

Like Koivusalo, Olsson wants to produce a big movie that would be released in the autumn of 2003. Dialogue in the movie will be in Swedish, Finnish, and German; Sibelius liked to pepper his conversation with occasional German words and phrases.

The grandson of the master himself, Anssi Blomstedt, who works for Olsson's company, is directing a movie of his own which touches upon Sibelius. The film, called *Citadel*, is about Blomstedt's parents, Sibelius' youngest daughter Heidi and her husband Aulis

Blomstedt. The film is set in the 1950s, in the prosperous Helsinki neighborhood of Munkkiniemi where the Blomstedts had their home, but the composer is powerfully present in the narrative.

"He was prosperous already then," producer Olsson says. The script of *Citadel* was written by Yrjö-Juhani Renvall.

Asko Apajalahti of Fantasiafilmi recently got financial support for a script for a film called *Valse Triste*, the name of one of Sibelius' most famous compositions.

The plot focuses on Sibelius' relationship with his wife Aino, particularly their first years at the couple's home, Ainola in Järvenpää, north of Helsinki.

Another project, which has moved somewhat further than the other four, is a drama production of YLE Television. Entitled *Puhtaaksikirjoittaja*, or *The Copyist* and scheduled for airing on November 5, the plot revolves around the mystery of Sibelius' lost eighth symphony. The film is written by Harri Virtanen and directed by Hannu Heikinheimo. Sibelius is played by Oiva Lohtander.

Almost exactly 13 years ago another Sibelius film had been in production. The initiator was veteran film director Edvin Laine, who was 83 years old at the time, and wanted to get started on a project that he had been

turn to **SIBELIUS** next page

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See RAIVAAJA article on this page

FENNI

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By Art Jura

This book covers a wide range of topics: How and why the Finns left their homeland and where they settled; early history of the Finns while under both Russia and Swedish rule; Maine Finns; Hollywood Finns; organizations; sauna; vital records of the Finnish church in South Thomaston (ME); the Finnish-American Congregational Church with many biographies and photos of various pastors. The book contains over 200 photos of individuals, churches, confirmation classes, pastors as well as immigration documents.

Art Jura is a third-generation Finnish-American who lives in Union, Maine. He is a photographer by profession. After retirement from business in 1992, he continues with photography and writing as a hobby.

Hardcover, 260 pages

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The translation so many have been waiting for!

Under the North Star

By Väinö Linna

Translated by Richard Impola

Väinö Linna's classic, monumental trilogy *Täällä Pohjantähden alla* is now available in English, elegantly translated by Richard Impola.

Under the North Star is volume one of the trilogy. This historical novel offers a comprehensive account of the social and economic realities of the mainstay of the Finnish rural populace at the turn of the 20th century (1884-1907). It depicts the hopes, dreams and experiences of Jussi and Alma Koskela and their children in the rural village of Pentti's Corner in south central Finland. The experience of the book's characters are representative of the mounting discontent and transformations taking place in Finland at that time.

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RAIVAAJA

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Octoberfest at Aura Hall

VOLUNTOWN, CT - The highlight of Aura Hall's summer program is going to be a German-Finnish Night (Octoberfest) on Saturday, October 6, starting at 6 p.m. with a German-style supper. We are going to enjoy authentic delicacies from sauerkraut to strudel.

Remember the Italian night last fall, how successful it was? The hall was filled with

people and everybody enjoyed the food and music.

This year again, Bert Stromholm is organizing the bands to play and the Italian waiters are changing their uniforms to a German look.

All the income from this affair is going to be used for the renovation of Aura Hall's restrooms, and the donation drive for this purpose has

already started. For only \$10 for adult and \$3 for a child you are promised an enjoyable evening. After the Octoberfest supper the lively dance music is going to get us all hopping and shed all those extra pounds.

Please, remember Aura Hall with your donation and come to our memorable events.

Anja Laurila

Thank you

to Aura Seura and all its members for taking part in the celebration of my 100th Birthday on August 5, 2001.

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Two Worlds

"Two Worlds," a show of pastel artwork by Rea Nurmi, will be in the Showroom of Scandinavia, 515 Broadway, Suite # B-F, from October 11 to November 14.

The will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and also 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat., Oct. 13, and Sun., Oct., 14.

For more information, call 212-965-1585.

SIBELIUS

from previous page

thinking about since the late 1970s.

He had a small camera crew gathered around Helsinki's Sibelius Monument. Behind the camera was Olavi Tuomi, the sound man was Tero Malmberg, and Åke Lindman directed. In front of the camera was Professor Erik Tawaststjerna, the most competent Sibelius expert of the time. The producer was Jukka Mäkelä of the film production and distribution company Finnino.

Tawaststjerna's health had started to deteriorate, which worried Edvin Laine. He wanted Tawaststjerna to crystallize the essence and importance of Sibelius in a few sentences. Tawaststjerna's narration was recorded in four different languages.

Laine had planned to use this material as the framework, or introduction of the film that would be completed sometime in the future. However, the project never took wind, because the director was also showing his age. Edvin Laine died in November 1989. (HS)

ZZ

Productions

www.FATV.org/UV

An Uncommon View Program Guide
CH 36/Fitchburg

October Weekends

F 9p, S 12p & 6p, Su 8a & 2p

5, 6, 7 Corn & Punks
12, 13, 14 Dick's Market - Fall
17, 18, 19 ACAF 2001 Teresa DeZam LIVE!
26, 27, 28 Ulla Suokko, Finnish Flutist

October 6 Saturday 2p McKay Campus
Diversity Through Dance

Adeshi "Royals" Afr. Dance Tr. w. Drummers
Traditional Chinese Dance troupe
N.E. Cherokee Village, Native American
Oct. 13 Ballet Allegro; Russian Folk Dance
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CALIFORNIA

Oct. 7 - Finnish film 'Elämän vonkamies' (Growing Up Logging), 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. 1986 drama about the late Kalle Päätalo, popular and prolific Finnish novelist, as he grows up in a northern Finland logging camp. 2 hrs 20 mins. No English subtitles. Info: 510-849-0125.

Oct. 13 - '2001 A Viking Odyssey,' 19th annual Scandinavian Festival of the American Scandinavian Foundation of Los Angeles, 10 am-6 pm, MGM Plaza, 26th & Colorado, Santa Monica.

Nov. 4 - Finnish film 'Rakkaudella, Maire' (With Love, Maire), 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, Berkeley. 1999 suspense film stars Eeva Litmanen in the role of Maire, an amateur sleuth determined to solve a policeman's murder. 1 hr 37 mins. No English subtitles.

CONNECTICUT

Sept. 29 - Tori/Open Market, 9 am-3 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 North Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury.

Sept. 30 - Aura Seura meeting, 2 pm, Aura Hall, Lillibridge Ave (Rt 138), Voluntown.

Oct. 6 - German - Finnish - American Dinner & Dance, Aura Hall, Voluntown. Dinner (knockwurst, bratwurst, hot potato salad) 6 pm; Dancing, 7:30 pm, to music of Herbert Stromheim Orchestra (aka Bert Stromholm) with Hannu Makipuro. Info, directions: 860-376-0052.

Oct. 7 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 1:30 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Coffee 12:30.

Oct. 8 - Walking Weekend open house, 1-4 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

Oct. 20 - Children's Halloween party, 2 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

FLORIDA

Oct. 3 - Membership meeting & Pot luck, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, 6016 Delaware, New Port Richey.

Oct. 13 - Welcome Back Dance & Pot luck, 6 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

ILLINOIS

Oct. 27 - Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year Vicki Gornick to perform a concert of ethnic organ music, 7 pm, St Paul Lutheran Church, Villa Park. Sponsored by Finnish American Society of the Midwest and St Paul Lutheran Church. Info: 630-833-8511 or LesceliusR@aol.com

MAINE

Sept. 30 - Concert by the Kantele Consort, Gray Congregational Church, Gray. Info: 207-657-6494 or sarahr@aol.com

Oct. 21 - Choral concert by Mari Koistinen's students, from Kuopio, Finland, 2 pm, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Oxford. Sponsored by the Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine and Trinity Lutheran Church.

MASSACHUSETTS

Sept. 27 - Finnish Center at Saima Park Skier Meeting, 7 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Skier issues will be discussed.

Sept. 29 - Harvest Fair, 9 am-1pm, Spiran Lodge #98, Broadway, Rockport. Coffee & nisu available. Free admission. Info: 978-283-2475.

Oct. 5 - Finn Nite, Viking Club, Braintree. Info, reservations: 781-659-2206.

Oct. 6 - Craft Fair for Missions, 9 am-1 pm, Messiah Lutheran Church, 750 Rindge Rd, Fitchburg. Finnish coffee bread, pannukakku.

- Finnish School of New England Day Camp, 2-4 pm, Kaleva Maja, Littleton.

Oct. 13 - Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod monthly meeting, 7 pm, West Barnstable Community Building, Route 149, West Barnstable.

Oct. 14 - Annual Finnish American Fine Art Exhibit, 11 am-4 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Scott Rd, Fitchburg. Info: 978-582-7717.

Oct. 20 - Finnish School of New England, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, 739 Mass Ave, Lexington.

Oct. 24 - First Annual Rahnasto Family Lecture featuring Patricia Gray Berman, of Wellesley College, speaking on Scandinavian Art & Design with particular emphasis on Finland's contribution, 10 am, Fitchburg Art Museum, 185 Elm St, Fitchburg. Seating is limited. Reservations: 978-345-4207 x 306.

Oct. 28 - Finlandia Foundation-Boston membership meeting, 3 pm, Scandinavian Living Center, 206 Waltham St, West Newton.

Nov. 2-4 - Finn Funn Weekend 2001, Radisson Inn, Hyannis. Info: The Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod, P O Box 220,

Kalenteri

West Barnstable MA 02668. Registration forms: warm.jaco@verizon.net

MINNESOTA

Oct. 25-27 - English world premiere of Kari Tikka's opera 'Luther,' about the life of Martin Luther, 7:30 pm, Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis. Presented by Finnish National Opera, Luther Seminary, Augsburg College and Central Lutheran Church. Tickets: 612-343-3390.

Nov. 29 - Osmo Vänskä conducting the Minnesota Orchestra, 11 am, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, 345 Washington St, St Paul. Program includes 'A Requiem in Our Time' by Juhani Rautavaara. Tickets: 612-371-5656 or 800-292-4141.

- Osmo Vänskä conducting the Minnesota Orchestra, 7:30 pm, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, St Paul. Program includes Rautavaara's 'A Requiem in Our Time.' Tickets: 612-371-5656 or 800-292-4141.

Nov. 30 - Osmo Vänskä conducting the Minnesota Orchestra, 8 pm, Orchestra Hall, 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis. Program includes Rautavaara's 'A Requiem in Our Time.' Tickets: 612-371-5656 or 800-292-4141.

Aug. 7-11 - FinnFest USA 2002, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Info: finnfest02@hotmail.com or FinnFest USA 2002, 2147 University Ave W, St Paul MN 55114.

NEW JERSEY

Oct. 6 - 5th annual Leif Erikson Millenium Festival, 10 am-?, Vasa Park, Budd Lake. Free admission. All-day entertainment; children's events; pancake breakfast; dinner; dancing; craft vendors. Info: 1-800-877-1448.

NEW YORK

Sept. 30 - Myllärit Karelian Folk Band in concert, 4 pm, Victor Borge Hall, Scandinavia House, 58 Park Ave, New York City. Info: 212-879-9779.

Oct. 6 - Finnish War Veterans in America Venison Dinner Dance, 6 pm, Lomala Hall, Hopewell Junction. Vension, roast beef, salmon, 'Finnish style' delicacies. Dancing to music of Edward Hendela & vocalist Aatos Autio. Guest of honor Consul General & Mrs Jukka Leino. Info, reservations: 203-438-1890 or 845-897-5902.

Oct. 24 - Finnish film 'Kahdeksan surmanluotia' (Eight Deadly Shots) (1972), 6 & 8:30 pm, Victor Borge Hall, Scandinavia House, New York City. 135 min. Written & directed by Mikko Niskanen. With Mikko Niskanen, Tarja-Tuulikki Tarsala, Paavo Pentikäinen. In Finnish with English subtitles. Tickets must be purchased in person at Scandinavia House during public hours.

- Sibelius Concert organized by the Sibelius Society USA, 7 pm, St. Peter's Church, 619 Lexington Ave at 54th St, New York City. Featuring Markku Ylönen, cello, Jaakko Kuusisto, violin, Anna Reetta Turunen, viola, Paavali Jumppanen, piano. Info: 212-750-4400.

Nov. 7 - Finnish film 'Valkoinen peura' (The White Reindeer) (1952), 6 & 8:30 pm, Victor Borge Hall, Scandinavia House, New York City. 74 min. Directed by Erik Blomberg. With Mirjami Kuosmanen, Kalervo Nissilä, Åke Lindman. In Finnish with English subtitles. Tickets must be purchased in person at Scandinavia House during public hours.

Nov. 11 - Leif Segerstam conducting the Helsinki Philharmonic in a performance of 'Kullervo Symphony' by Jean Sibelius, 3 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. With Monica Groop and Jorma Hynninen.

PENNSYLVANIA

Sept. 29 - Myllärit Karelian Folk Band perform at the Turtle Dove Folk Festival, West Chester. Concert on main stage 12:45-2 pm; children's stage 3-3:45 pm. Info: 610-692-6113 or www.turtledove.org

TEXAS

Oct. 18 - Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Ft Worth monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Freeway, Dallas.

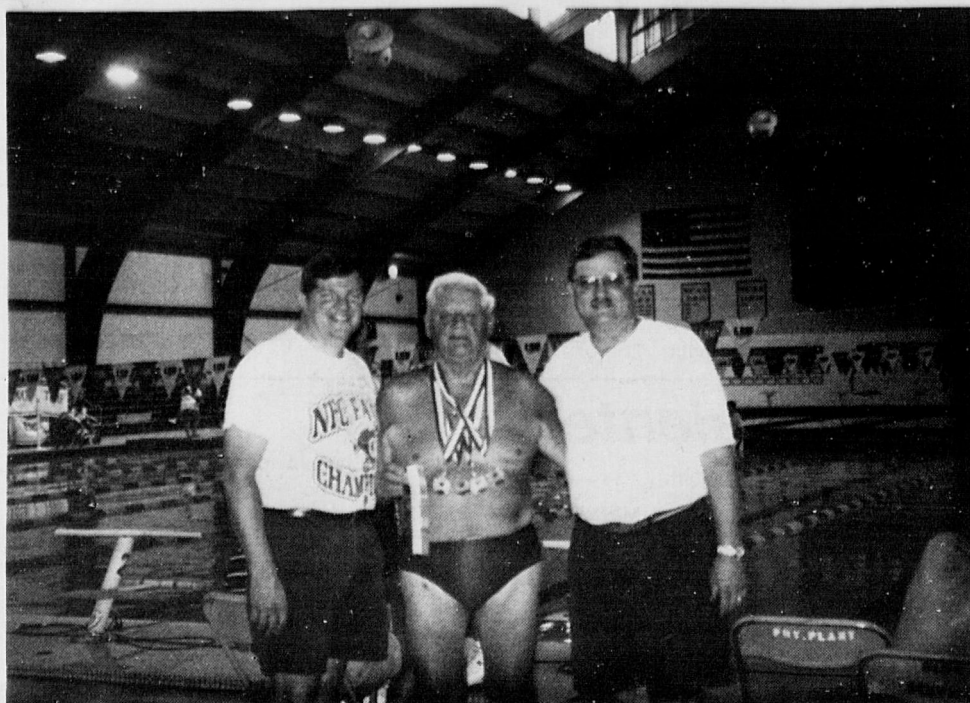
WASHINGTON

Nov. 3 - Finnish Community Bazaar, Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 NW 67th St, Seattle.

WASHINGTON, DC

Nov. 9 - Leif Segerstam conducting the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra in a performance of the Kullervo Symphony by Jean Sibelius, 8:30 pm, Concert Hall, The John F Kennedy for the Performing Arts, 2700 F St NW. Soloists Monica Groop and Jorma Hynninen; the Polytechnic Choir. Tickets, info: 202-467-4600 or 800-444-1324.

Events subject to change without notice



Flanked by his two proud sons, Brian R. (left) and Bruce A. (right), Esko Ensio Hallila displays his 2 silver medals, 2 bronze medals and a 4th place ribbon for his efforts in the National Senior Olympics in Baton Rouge (LA).

Finnish immigrant swims best ever in 2001 National senior Olympics

BATON ROUGE, LA - Esko 4:05.35.

Ensio Hallila won two silver medals, two bronze medals and a fourth-place ribbon for his efforts in all five of his swimming events at the National Senior Olympics hosted this summer by Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

The LSU Natatorium was the setting for the swimming sport in which Esko faced the best swimmers in the nation in the men's 80-84 age group to achieve these times:

Monday, July 23 - 200 yd Freestyle, Silver Medal,

Tuesday, July 24 - 100 yd Breaststroke, Silver Medal, 2:09.62; 100 yd Freestyle, Bronze Medal, 1:40.75.

Wednesday, July 25 - 50 yd Freestyle, 4th Place Ribbon, 43.04 seconds; 50 yd Breaststroke, Bronze Medal, 54.36 seconds.

Esko, a Tampere, Finland native, immigrated to the United States when he was six years old with his parents and entered his new country through Ellis Island.

He settled in Worcester,

Mass., where he made his mark in the swimming arena, even to the point of being offered a swimming scholarship to Springfield College only to turn it down to join the U.S. Marine Corps and fight to maintain his country's freedom in WW2 and the Korean Conflict.

His love for the aquatic sport has never waned and he says we'll see him again in 2003 when Hampton Roads, Virginia hosts the next National Senior Olympics.

Bruce A. Hallila

Back on his feet, Bruno Maki wins 6 golds

Bruno Maki, of Laconia (NH), 85 years young, took six golds at the 14th Granite State Senior Games held at the Southern University of New Hampshire this summer Aug. 16-18.

"I had planned to take part at the games at Saima Park but came down sick and landed in the hospital for three weeks," Maki says. However, he adds, "my Finnish background of sisu and

determination to get things done helped me get back on my feet and participate in the Granite State Games."

And participate he did. He won the gold in the 50 m freestyle, javelin, shotput, discus, high jump and long jump.

Maki's father, Emil Maki, was an outstanding athlete in his day.

"My father was my mentor," recalls Maki, "who taught me

to be honest in life and truthful, success only comes with being both of these."

Good health is also important, he added. "Good health is good insurance, but you have to work for it. So take care of yourselves."

Maki is a year-round athlete. He won the Eastern Regional Mt. Dew Giant Slalom race at Loon Mountain in April. He also qualified for the national Nastar program.

Finnish educational system

By Riitta Kuusiluoma

One of the goals of Finnish society is equality and thus study opportunities are available for people of all ages. Adults can study in evening high schools for adults. They can either take all the necessary courses (44) for graduation or they can study, for example, Spanish, as a hobby.

Before graduation the students take the matriculation examination arranged by the National Board of Matriculation Examination. The examinations are exactly the same in all high schools in Finland.

There are evening high schools all over Finland; altogether over 50 schools. The school year is divided into periods - usually 6 in adult high schools - and students take 3-4 courses per period.

There is no division into grades and students complete the high school in two to four years, depending on the student's own choice: the "normal" being 3 years. Some evening schools also have classes during the day and also courses during the summer. School begins in the middle of August or beginning of September and ends at the end of May or beginning of June.

Eiran Aikuislukio also teaches students in English; the school is situated in Helsinki so there are students of many nationalities attending the school.

The first group was very good; they had obviously been waiting for something like this. The regular evening school system did not appeal to them: some lived far away, some had young children, some had demanding jobs etc.

The students and the teachers worked closely together and we are grateful to this first group for the feedback they gave us. With their help we developed a system that works for us; we noticed early on that what worked for a larger school did not necessarily work for us at all.

The distant education project in Finland

The National Board of Education (Opetushallitus) has planned a program in which it is possible for students (mostly adults) to take high school courses without studying courses in the traditional way, in the classroom.

In addition to the National Board of Education, The Ministry of Education and The Finnish Broadcasting Company are taking part in the project. In 1997 11 schools were chosen for this project and teachers were trained to teach using this new method. At the moment there are 79 schools giving distance courses and 93 "distance students" graduated in June, 2001.

The students register at one of the schools and they are given help in making a study plan; choosing courses and subjects. Students study mostly at home. They use textbooks, the written material the teachers have prepared and the national material: radio programs, TV programs educational tapes and web sites (www.oph.fi/etalukio).

During their self-instruction they can send the teachers e-mail messages or they can fax or phone the school. The schools also offer classes for

these students; some only 3 per course, others more. During these lessons students are helped in the most difficult parts of the course.

The students usually come to school for the tests, but some tests can be taken using the computer (for example 5 entrepreneurship courses can be taken by answering the questions via the Internet).

Rauman aikuislukio (Rauma High School for Adults)

We were lucky enough to be chosen to take part in the distant education project right at the beginning, in 1997. Actually the first seminar was in 1996 but the first students started with this new method in August, 1997.

The first group was very good; they had obviously been waiting for something like this. The regular evening school system did not appeal to them: some lived far away, some had young children, some had demanding jobs etc.

The students and the teachers worked closely together and we are grateful to this first group for the feedback they gave us. With their help we developed a system that works for us; we noticed early on that what worked for a larger school did not necessarily work for us at all.

Our teachers have prepared written material for the students; each course has its own course guide with instructions on how to study, dates, phone numbers etc. All of our teachers have taken part in training and in seminars during these 4 years.

In addition a few of the teachers in Rauman aikuislukio have produced material for the whole distant education project: radio programs, TV programs and web sites.

Naturally we are still in the process of learning because the project will go on until 2004. This fall the national theme for the project is evaluation, starting with a seminar in Helsinki.

As a result of this new method we have two kinds of courses so our students can choose the system which suits them best. They can also "mix", ie take both regular courses and distant courses, which makes our school much more flexible. We, the teachers, are satisfied; the project has involved a lot of work but the results have well been worth it.

Riitta Kuusiluoma teaches English in the Rauman aikuislukio in Rauma, Finland.

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Traveling from Helsinki to Lapland

By Anita Smiley

Finland might be classified as a small country geographically speaking, but the diversity of experiences speak otherwise. Our 17-day tour from August 6 to 22 traversed through the Lake District in the east, northward towards the fells of Lapland with its sparse vegetation, and still further north to the Finnmark region of Norway with its beautiful fjords and small picturesque coastal villages.

Our flight back to Helsinki from Kittilä returned us to the hustle and bustle of this charming, clean cosmopolitan city. Introducing a group to the beauties of Finland is always a heartwarming experience. In this case, returning to Finland with my 7th tour group, there were several who were also returning for more of the wonders Finland exposes on each successive visit.

The decision to travel in August was based on advice I sought from two Sami gentlemen whom I met in Helsinki over a year ago. My proposed tour had the North Cape, the northernmost point in Europe, as a destination; and I asked them what would be the best time to travel in Lapland and have a combination of a moderate climate and minimal mosquitoes. Their reply was mid August.

We had beautiful weather all the way to northern Norway and traveled without the hindrance of mosquitoes. We were blessed, and I'm grateful to these two gentlemen for their advice.

We were welcomed to Finland at the 4-H office in Helsinki with Päivi Torniainen, director of international programs, as our hostess. Since my first visit to Finland in 1956 was as an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate, hosted by the 4-H program in Finland, this group tour was the 45th anniversary of a memorable and life-changing experience.

Connecting with relatives and new host families during that 6-month exchange program in 1956 gave many reasons to return to Finland over and over again. It has become my second home, and arranging these group tours is my way of giving thanks to Finland for these many years of memories and friendships.

Places I have visited with my Finnish relatives and friends during several personal visits to Finland with my husband and children have become places I want to share with members of my tour groups.

The excitement never diminishes but rather grows stronger with each successive visit to Finland. And Finland always provides me with new visits and changes. The coffee table at this visit was an introduction for our group to the warm hospitality of the Finnish people.

Comments from our group of 28 travelers clearly express the reasons people love traveling to Finland. Group mem-



A painting by Andreas Alaristo.

photos: Anita Smiley



Hosts, Hannu and Maija Vuorela by their new log home in Muhntemi.

bers noted the cleanliness and tidiness of the country with its beautiful scenery, how well kept the properties are; the deep feelings which Finnish people have for each other and their history and heritage; and the kindness of the Finnish people to us and to other Finns, with pleasantness and patience in answering questions.

Comments from those with Finnish roots included: "I'm proud to be an American but equally proud to be 50 percent Finnish. I may not speak the language but certainly feel at home." "The beauty of the country, including the crystal clear lakes and streams, the beautiful woodlands of birch and spruce, the vivid flowers, the picturesque farms and villages - these images will stay with me until I visit Finland again. And there will be more visits!" "Each visit to Finland makes me more proud of my Finnish ancestry."

When commenting on memorable experiences, one group member noted that his single most memorable experience was meeting so many friendly Finns. What a tribute to the Finnish people! (Here I wish to add that we also had a very congenial group of travelers.)

Another member mentioned that the trip fulfilled an interest when traveling to new places in learning what makes the local economy work. Farming and forestry products are important, but of interest especially was the fact that Finland's economy is

driven by high-tech business such as Nokia, a fact not known to many who are unfamiliar with the "small" country of Finland.

Our 17-day tour included a variety of activities, with planned and unplanned stops at points of interest. The personalized nature of the tour made it possible to stop at places such as a small *kesäkauppa* (summer shop) in a remote area (the owners were delighted with the unusual sight of a bus full of people coming to shop!); the "Silent People," a group of about 1,000 motionless, colorfully clothed, peat-heated beings in a field in Suomussalmi (a wonderful photo op); a local village market squares (*tori*) with their fresh produce, crafts, and flea market items; grocery store stops to pick up snacks and necessities such as Finnish beer; Alko and bank stops; many ice cream stops; and a myriad of photographers' delights.

Shopping for Finnish crafts was a top priority along the way, and the Finnish economy got a definite boost from our group. Our appointments at museums and other stops were kept on schedule; and our bus driver Pertti Luokoma (our drive two years ago also) and my cousin Outi Arojää, our tour guide, kept our days filled with new adventures whenever there was time to spare.

We marveled at the ski tunnel at Vuokatti (the only indoor ski tunnel in the world - leave it to the Finns!), and

we climbed into the dugouts and checked out the tank barricades and equipment at the Continuation War fortifications (Salpalinja).

On days when travel was a bit more lengthy, my husband Jack and our friend Charlie Dvorak kept people amused with jokes and stories. "Laughter is the best medicine," as one member commented.

Accommodations in Finland are always clean, and the hotel staff efficiently checks in each group. We never had to wait when we arrived at our destination, and meals were always ready at the appointed hour. If changes were requested, they were always handled with courtesy and efficiency.

Our first evening at the Haikko Conference Center in Porvoo was a wonderful introduction to Finnish hotels, and the next evening at the 98-year-old Valtionhotelli (State Hotel) in Imatra was a continuation of what we were to experience in delightful accommodations throughout Finland.

A real treat for group members was the cabins with individual saunas at Vuokatti. Most members who had never experienced the delight of a Finnish sauna took advantage of this opportunity to indulge - lots of rave reviews the next morning over a wonderful night's sleep.

The three meals a day included in the package price proved to be a culinary experience.

The breakfast buffet in hotels gets one off to a good start. The variety of choices is enough to satisfy the most discriminating taste, whether one is willing to opt for the herrings and salmon or go with the more common Finnish breakfast sandwich items, the hot or cold cereals, or the American scrambled eggs or boiled eggs (hard or soft) and bacon or sausage. Yogurts and toppings are always included in the selection, as are a variety of the most delicious breads and jams. What a way to start a day!

We had luncheons and dinners including the most delicious salad combinations, potatoes in many forms and always tasty, salmon and other fish served with gourmet sauces, braised reindeer with lingonberries and reindeer stew, arctic crepes with cloudberry, various desserts made with fresh berries, and always there was room for that delicious Finnish ice cream at rest stops along the way.

Some brave souls tasted the fish pie (*kalakukko*) in Savonlinna, and everyone had numerous opportunities to indulge in the *karjalan piirakkas*.

At a home visit with our friends Hannu and Maija Vuorela in Muhntemi (40H friends from my 1956 exchange), a coffee table laden with fresh *pulla*, *piirakkas*, and a mouth-watering cream cake laced with cloudberry was a welcome treat.

Hosting a group of 28 travelers is not an easy feat, but we were welcomed with a warm handshake and left with hugs. Maija was even talked into selling two of her beautiful hand-woven rugs.

Assistance at the coffee table was provided by our friend Kaarina Savikurki, who was a 4-H agent in Mäntyharju during my stay there in 1956. Several in the group had met her two years ago when she had graciously invited our group to her summer cottage for sauna and coffee. It was a warm reunion for them; and even though she can't speak English, her radiant smile spoke a thousand words. My host sister Alli Salola and her husband Tarmo were also there to greet us.

turn to TRAVELING page 12



The tour participants: front row, left, Jason Graves, Anita Smiley, Karen Weir, Angela Marcucci, Outi Arojää, Jackie Harjula, John Gerdes, Doreen Dvorak, Charlie Dvorak; second row, left, Josie Stenback, Judy Myers, Barbara Murphy, Sonja Hegymegi, Marjorie Gerdes, Wilma Helander, Carol Perry, Ilma Tikkanen, Joe Moscatelli; third row, left, Lou Alex, Georgiann Cassano, Esther Hartman, Patrice Burton, Stuart Gadbois, Judy Gadbois, Frank Thurston, Faith Johnson, Jack Smiley, Jerry Murphy, Rene Osterlund and Ray Osterlund.

TRAVELING

from page 11

We spent several hours at the annual Housing Fair (*Asuntomessut*), held this year in Kajaani. Types of housing constructed on site were apartment houses, efficiency apartments, a complex for elderly and handicapped, modern and traditional single-family homes, and saunas. The homes showed the latest in construction and design.

One group member commented, "The concept of actually building a community designed to include such a variety and cross-section of dwellings for all age groups on an annual basis is a real tribute to the Finns." He also said, "We made it a point to examine all the saunas and came away with the intention of exploring the possibility of having one installed in our home."

Our first museum experience was at the Mechanical Music Museum in Varkaus, and it was a memorable experience.

Jurgen Kempf, referred to by one group member as "the eccentric owner" and by another as "the crazy owner (who really is not so crazy)," gave an entertaining commentary as he guided us through three floors of musical magic. Some of the over 160 mechanical pieces had been reconstructed by the owner from fragmented objects with missing pieces.

A fitting comment by a group member was, "It's good to be reminded that no matter what was going on in the world - wars, depressions, and other hardships - people still had found time for music." And it's wonderful that this husband and wife team has put together such a magnificent display of nostalgia and present it in such a delightful way.

Other museums were not quite so whimsical but rather gave an educational insight into various aspects of the life and culture of the Finnish

and Sami people. The Arctic Museum in Rovaniemi is a "must" if in the area.

A guided tour through the displays gives a good perspective of life above the Arctic Circle. Of special interest are two dioramas, one depicting buildings in Rovaniemi before the war and the other depicting the destruction which took place when the city was almost completely demolished by retreating German soldiers.

Our insight into the life and culture of the Sami people was broadened extensively by our visits to the Sami Museum SIIDA in Inari (chosen as the second best museum exhibit in Europe in 2000), the Sapmi Theme Park in Karasjok, Norway, visits to reindeer farms with opportunities to speak with the owners, introduction to yoik music, and traveling through the areas the Sami people inhabit. As one group member commented, "We counted reindeer instead of sheep." An unofficial count members came to upwards of 560 reindeer observed in our travels.

In Lapland, humans depend on nature for subsistence. Using natural resources is a way of life, and preserving food with suitable methods is a necessity. Salted, dried, and smoke-cured meat and fish are still important parts of their diet.

All reindeer are owned by farmers, even though they are seen freely grazing throughout the region. Earmarkings identify the owner, and roundups are held each fall for tagging and branding calves and harvesting.

Reindeer meat is one of the staples of Sami cooking, and virtually every part of a reindeer can be used for something. The reindeer are such an important part of the life of the Sami people that the Sami language consists of thousands of terms relating to reindeer.

The museum in Inari had displays, written commentary, videos, and wonderful

pictures showing how the Sami people live and explaining reindeer farming. The Sami people live in northern Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia, with the largest number in Norway. They have long struggled to keep their heritage alive, against many obstacles; and finally they are being recognized as an ethnic group and are bringing their language and customs back to life with the younger generation.

As Christianity was gaining a foothold in the 1600's, priests took away the Sami language and yoiking, killed the shamans, and tried to eliminate the traditions of the Samis. The Utsjoki Sami are credited with salvaging many of the traditions because they moved a lot and were harder to catch. As one group member commented, "We take so much for granted."

Many museums in Finland are little known, such as the International Coffee Cup Museum at Pentikmäki in Posio. The display includes over 2,000 coffee cups from nearly 100 nations. In addition, Pentik also has an interesting museum of nicely displayed artifacts from Finland's past (the 1800's up to the Second World War), tucked away in a corner and not readily noticeable. Shopping at the factory shop took a back seat as I

browsed through these museums.

The Retretti Art Centre, built into a cavern in Punkaharju, is worth a visit just to marvel at the ingenuity in construction. This year's main exhibit displayed about 200 works by Salvador Dali. Although many feel his work is eccentric and controversial, the exhibit was quite interesting. It included sketches and paintings inside and statues displayed outside.

There are also many other artists' works on display in Retretti; and an extensive gift shop contains books, prints, postcards, etc.

Quite a contrast in art form was our stop in Sodankylä at the Alariesto Gallery. The style of Andreas Alariesto is called primitivist, and he happens to be one of my personal favorites. I have been drawn to his colorful painting since I first saw some of his work in the Cultural Center in Rovaniemi several years ago. He is credited with preserving the cultural inheritance of Lapland by creatively recording his own experiences living amongst the Sami people in the early 20th century. He was not a Sami himself.

One of the biggest thrills on the trip was being visited on the last day in Helsinki by our son Greg and his family. He and his wife Soile had

taken time from work to travel the two hours from their home in Masku to Helsinki, which meant that Jack and I had a day to spend with our grandchildren, Raemus (4) and Meeri (1).

It was a memorable day walking around the city together, browsing through the open market, having lunch, playing with the children, and catching up on news. Having family at such a distance is difficult!

Having just returned from this tour with encouragement from group members to organize yet another tour, Outi and I, along with our travel agency in Finland, are working on details for our 2002 tour.

Comments such as "The fun and joy experienced with the Smiley's group is past telling on paper. You have to see it/experience it!" and "It was all very special," are heartwarming. Finland is a special place for me, and these comments tell me that Finland is a special place for others also. New adventures and old favorites abound.

If reading about Finland stirs something inside you, join us for our next adventure in July, 2002. Or take the step to make that dreamed-about trip to Finland a reality soon. The Finns are waiting with open arms!

LEPOKOTI . . .

jatkoa sivulta 4

niin pariskunta muutti takaisin Suomeen v. 1930, alkaen työskennellä tilalla. Heille syntyi tyttö tuona aikana.

Aili luki lehdestä siirtolaislain muuttuneen niin, että oli mentävä takaisin Amerikkaan vuoden sisällä, jos aikoi siellä asua. Hän juoksi pellolle miehensä luokse kertomaan uutisia kysymään mitä tehdään. Arville tuli leveä hymy kasvoille ja niin lähdettiin takaisin Amerikkaan. Aili kertoi, että tilallekin jäi jatkaja.

Aili ja Arvi muuttivat lopullisesti Floridaan v. 1956. Molemmat olivat aktiivisesti mukana perustamassa Lepokotia. Aili sanoo harmittavansa sitä, ettei heitä, jotka paljon ovat työtä ja varojaan Lepokodin perustamiseen ja rakentamiseen laittaneet, muisteta eikä mainita.

Nyt tässä voimme kunnioituksella kiittää Ailia kaikista ponnistuksistaan ja työstään Lepokodin hyväksi ja toivom-

me, että hän viihtyisi suomensukuisille vanhuksille pe-

MEKSIKON . . .

jatkoa sivulta 5

joiht äskettäin kolumnissaan *Forbes*-talouslehdessä kuinka Kiina on jo järkyttänyt Taimaan taloutta ottamalla sitä - rauhanomaisin keinoin, mutta lujasti - haltuunsa.

Kävin ennen aika useasti Taimaassa. lämmin ja väkikas maa, asukasluvultaan jopa Ranskaakin suurempi. Ei ole pieni asia, kun tällaisen maan talous horjuu.

Taas tuli mieleen tuo euro, joka on sitten uusi Suomen markan vastine ensi vuoden alusta. Taisi olla hyvä tempu tuo Paavo Lipposen aikaansaannos, kun hän sai Suomeen mukaan tuohon rahaliittoon ensimmäisten joukossa.

Pieni valuutta - kuten markka - ei pärjää tällä vuosituhanella!

rustamassaan kodissa.

Terveisin ANNE

KULTAISEN . . .

jatkoa sivulta 5

me auto-onnettomuudessa saamiensa vammojen jälkeen.

Kaukoranta ilmoitti, että suomen kielen 10-viikkoiset kurssit alkavat maanantaina kello 7 illalla.

Ohjelma oli seuraava: Mamie Lauricella näytti etusivulla olleen kuvansa *Pulssi* -sanomalehdessä Suomessa. Kuva oli otettu Philadelphiaan FinnFestissä viime kesänä. Mamie luki myös "Why am I Tired?"

Allie Kamila luki hauskoja vitsejä. Allan Tastula soitti haitarilla tuttuja suomalaisia viihdelauluja. Kauno Rauha soitti haitarilla hengellisiä lauluja ja lauloi itse seipitämäänsä lauluja.

Kahvi jo tuoksui hyvälle, niin siirryttiin nauttimaan kahvista ja pöydän antimista.

MILDRED HEINO

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