

RAIVA AJA

(THE PIONEER)

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Suomalaisupseerit osallistuvat Irak-katsauksiin

Suomen ulkoministeri Erkki Tuomioja (sd) vahvistaa, että suomalaisupseereja on osallistunut Yhdysvaltain esikunnan Irak-katsauksiin. Tuomiojan mukaan suomalaisupseerit ovat Yhdysvalloissa vain seuraamassa Irakin tilannetta ja hankkimassa tietoja. Tuomioja korosti Ylen aamu-tv:ssä, että upseereille ei ole annettu eikä olla antamassa mitään suunnittelutehtäviä.

Ilta-Sanomat ja *Ilta-lehti* kirjoittivat ulkoministeriön salaiseen raporttiin viitaten, että suomalaiset yhteysupseerit osallistuisivat Yhdysvalloissa Irakin jälkihoidon suunnitteluun. *Ilta-lehden* mukaan raportissa esitellään Yhdysvaltain apulaispuolustusministerin sijaisen Ian Brzezinskin näkemyksiä, ja kuvataan Suomen ja Yhdysvaltain sotilassuhteita "erittäin hyviksi".

"Brzezinskin mukaan yhteysupseerien kaksoishatuttaminen osallistumaan myös Irakin jälkihoidon (Phase IV) koskevaan suunnitteluun on hyvä ratkaisu. Yhdysvallat arvostaa Suomen valitsemia toimintalinjaa", siteeraavat iltapäivälehdet muistiota. (MTV3, STT)

Irakin joukkotuhoseita etsitty suomalaislaitteilla

Irakin mahdollisten joukkotuhosaseiden etsinnässä on käytetty suomalaisia laitteita. Säteilysurvakokeskuksen kehittämät mittausvälineet vietiin Irakiin tammikuussa ja niiden tuottamia tuloksia odotellaan saapuvaksi lähiviikkojen aikana. YK:n atomienergiajärjestön käyttöön kehitettyjä laitteita on yhteensä kolme, eikä niiden olinpaikasta Irakissa ole Suomessa tietoa.

Säteilysurvakokeskuksen johtava asiantuntija Juha Rautjärvi kertoo, että mittareilla kerätään hiukkasia, jotka kertovat gammasäteilystä, plutoniumista ja rikastetusta uraanista. Rautjärvi ei halua arvailla, löytyykö mittareiden datasta viitteitä laittomasta ydinaseohjelmasta. (MTV3, STT)

Esko Aho tutkijaksi Amerikkaan

Esko Aho on tulossa tekemään tutkimusta Woodrow Wilson International Centeriin Washington, D.C.:ssä. Keskustan entinen puheenjohtaja kertoo, että keskustelut käytännön järjestelyistä tutkimuskeskuksen kanssa ovat vielä kesken.

"Minun ei ole tarkoitus asettua sinne pysyvästi asumaan millään tavalla."

Kyseessä ei siis ole mikään päätoimi, vaan yksi kohta Keskustan entisen puheenjohtajan tulevaisuuden suunnitelmissa. Tutkimuksensa aiheesta tai alasta Aho ei halua kertoa tarkemmin. Hän toteaa STT:n haastattelussa, että tarkoitus ei ole valmistella väitöskirjaa.

Woodrow Wilson International Center määrittelee itsensä puolueettomaksi tutkimuslaitokseksi, joka pyrkii edistämään tutkimusta ja keskustelua kansainvälisistä kysymyksistä. Laitos ottaa vuosittain vastaan 20-25 stipendiaattia, jotka voivat olla tutkijoita tai entisiä poliitikkoja, toteuttamaan erikseen määriteltyjä tutkimusprojekteja.

Esko Ahon suunnitelmasta kertoivat *Aamulehti* ja *Turun Sanomat*.



Finnish farm boys in Hollywood

Wayne Wirtanen, of Placerville (CA) remembers life on a Finnish farm in Halsey Valley (NY) in the 1940s. Upon graduating from high school in 1948, the writer and three other Spencer boys took a trip to California in a new Chevrolet convertible. One of the highlights of the trip was visiting Greta and Gregory Peck at their home in Pacific Palisades. The visit had been arranged by Greta Peck's mother, Mrs. Piipari, a Halsey Valley resident. Above, the boys and their hostess by her backyard swimming pool. From left, Alfred Walden, Alga Vose, Greta Peck's son on chair, Wayne Wirtanen, Greta Peck and Emil Huttunen. More on page 6.

photo courtesy of Wayne Wirtanen

Vaalivoittajan ratkaisi noin 6 000 ääntä

Keskusta nousi Suomen tulevan eduskunnan suurimmaksi puolueeksi sunnuntaisissa vaaleissa runsaan 6 000 äänen erolla sosiaalidemokraatteihin. Alustavan laskennan mukaan keskustalle kertyi runsaat 689 000 ääntä ja SDP:lle vajaat 683 000 ääntä.

Keskusta sai 24,7 prosenttia kaikista annetuista äänistä. Kansanedustajapaikkoja sille tuli 55 eli seitsemän enemmän kuin neljä vuotta sitten. Keskusta oli siten vaalien selkeä voittaja.

Kuitenkin myös SDP oli vaalien voittaja. Voitto tosin oli pienempi kuin keskustalla. 24,5 prosentin ääniosuudella se keräsi 53 kansanedustajapaikkaa. Lisäystä viimekertaisesta tuli kaksi paikkaa.

Keskustan ja SDP:n ääniosuuksien ja paikkalukujen vertailulla voi selkeästi huomata, että ainakin tässä tapauksessa Suomen vaalijärjestelmä suosii suuria puolueita.

Vaalien suurin häviö oli kokoomus. Se menetti kuusi paikkaa, ja uuteen eduskuntaan sille tulee

40 kansanedustajaa. Puolueen saamat runsaat 517 000 ääntä ovat 18,5 prosenttia kokonaisäänimäärästä.

Jäätteenmäki pitää kaikki hallitusvaihtoehdot avoimina

Keskustan puheenjohtaja Anneli Jäätteenmäki haluaa pitää kaikki hallitusvaihtoehdot avoimina ja kaikki puolueet neuvotteluissa mukana. Keskustan puheenjohtaja valitaan mitä suurimmalla todennäköisyydellä ensi viikon alussa yhteistyön mahdollisuuksia kartoittavaksi tunnustelijaksi, kun eduskuntaryhmät aloittavat uuden perustuslain mukaiset neuvottelut hallituksesta ja sen ohjelmasta.

Jäätteenmäki ei halunnut maanantaina korostaa omia mahdollisuuksiaan nousta ensimmäiseksi naispääministeriksi. Keskusta lähtee kuitenkin hänen mukaansa siitä, ettei se suurimpana puolueena jatkuu sivulla 3

RAIVA AJA
this week:

• Parliamentary elections in Finland:
Opposition Centre Party scores narrow victory

Suomen uutisia

Ulkoministeriö pitää Irak-raporttien vuotamista vakavana

Ulkoministeriö pitää salaisten Irak-raporttien vuotamista julkisuuteen poikkeuksellisen vakavana tapauksena. Ministeriön tietohallintojohtaja Matti Favorin arvioi Väli-Suomen sanomalehdissä, että kyse on vakavimmasta ministeriössä sattuneesta julkisuuslain rikkomisesta.

Favorin katsoo, että vuoto-operaatio on ollut suunnitelmallinen, kun salaisia asiakirjoja on luovutettu järjestelmällisesti molempiin iltapäivälehtiin. Ne on toimitettu julkisuuteen myös tuoreeltaan.

Vuotoja selvittää ministeriössä virkamiestyöryhmä. Lisäksi ministeriössä harkitaan asiakirjojen salassapidon säännösten tiukentamista.

"Tämä on vakavaa. Uskottavuutemme keskustelukumppanina kärsii, jos syntyy käsitys, että kaikki mitä meille kerrotaan, menee taivaan tuuliin", arvioi myös työryhmää johtava ulkoministeriön alivaltiosihteeri Arto Mansalalehti haastattelussa.

(HS)

Suomi ja Italia esittävät kahta elintarvikevirastoa

Suomi ja Italia esittävät EU:n elintarvikeviraston perustamista kahteen eri toimipaikkaan. Virastot sijoittuisivat Helsinkiin ja Parmaan. Helsinkiin on tarkoitus sijoittaa elintarviketurvallisuusvirasto. Italiaan olisi tulossa virasto, joka hoitaa alueellisia asioita ja alkuperäismerkintöjä koskevaa päätöksentekoa.

Pääministeri Paavo Lipponen (sd) on keskustellut asiasta Italian pääministerin Silvio Berlusconiin kanssa jo Kööpenhaminassa joulukuussa pidetyssä EU:n huippukokouksessa. (MTV3, STT)

Halonen kertoo jatkoaikeistaan aikaisintaan kesällä

Tasavallan presidentti Tarja Halonen kertoo aikaisintaan kevään jälkeen, pyrkiikö hän jatkamaan tehtävässä vielä toisen kuusivuotiskauden.

"Olen pitäytynyt vanhassa kannassani, että katsotaan tämä kevät ensin ainakin, ja katsotaan sitten sen jälkeen, onko vetoa ja onko nostetta", Halonen sanoi tiedotustilaisuudessaan. Halosen virkakaudesta on jäljellä puolet.

Halonen sanoi haluavansa nähdä, miten yhteistyö presidentin ja hallituksen kesken jatkuu vaalien jälkeen, mutta hän korosti, että oman ehdokkuuden pohdinnassa lähtökohtana on oman työn arviointi. (STT)

Ahtisaari Etyjin erityislähettilääksi

Presidentti Martti Ahtisaari nimitetään lähipäivinä Euroopan turvallisuus- ja yhteistyöjärjestön Etyjin erityislähettilääksi vastuualueenaan Keski-Aasian maat. Aloitteen asiassa teki Etyjin tämänhetkinen puheenjohtajamaa Hollanti. (STT)

Työttömyys väheni helmikuussa

Työttömyys on lievässä laskussa, kertoo Tilastokeskuksen tuore työvoimatutkimus. Helmikuunsa työttömyysaste oli yhdeksän prosenttia, kun se vuotta aiemmin oli 9,4 prosenttia. Kaikkiaan työttömänä oli helmikuussa 229 000 henkilöä, mikä on 13 000 vähemmän kuin edellisellä vuonna. (HS)

Finnair lentää normaalisti

Finnair ilmoittaa lentävänsä kaikki lentonsa normaalisti, Irakin sodanhuosta huolimatta. Jos sota syttyy, kansainväliset lentoyhtiöt ja hallitukset ottavat yhteistyössä käyttöön ylimääräiset turvatoimet siviili-ilmailun turvallisuuden varmistamiseksi. (MTV3, STT)

Suomalaiset tyytyväisiä peruspalveluihin

Suomalaiset ovat keskimääräistä tyytyväisempiä peruspalveluihinsa verrattuna muihin EU-kansalaisiin. Tämä käy ilmi EU-komission teettämästä tutkimuksesta, jossa vertailtiin EU-kansalaisten tyytyväisyyttä maidensa liikenne-, tietoliikenne- ja muihin infrastruktuuripalveluihin. (MTV3)

Suomen uutisia

Kansa tukee hallituksen Irak-politiikkaa

Yli puolet suomalaisista arvioi, että Suomi on tukenut Yhdysvaltoja sopivasti Irakin kriisissä. Viime aikoina vellone keskustelu siitä, onko Suomi Yhdysvaltojen tukija Irakin kriisissä, ei näytä kansaa suuresti jakavan. Enemmistö ei näe asiassa mitään ongelmaa.

Yli puolet vastaajista arvioi, että Suomi on tukenut Yhdysvaltoja sopivasti Irakin kriisissä. Viidesosa arvioi, että tukea on annettu liian paljon. Lievästä hämmennyksestä kertoo se, että lähes yhtä suuri joukko ei osaa sanoa kantaansa asiaan.

Jos tarkastellaan vastaajien puoluetustausta, keskustan ja vihreiden kannattajista kolmasosa arvioi, että tukea on annettu liian paljon. SDP:n tukijoistakin joka neljäs on tätä mieltä. Kokoomuksen kannattajista vain joka kymmenes arvioi, että tukea on annettu liian paljon. (MTV3)

Suomi karkottaa kolme irakilaisdiplomaattia

Suomen ulkoministeriöstä kerrotaan, että se on kehottanut kolmea irakilaisdiplomaattia poistumaan maasta. Heidän on poistuttava lähipäivinä.

Diplomaatit työskentelevät Irakin Helsingin suurlähetystössä. Suomen viranomaiset ovat useiden kuukausien aikana todenneet, ettei asianomaisten toiminta ole sopusoinnussa heidän diplomaattisen asemansa kanssa.

Karkotus on seuraus Yhdysvaltain puolitoista viikkoa sitten esittämästä pyynnöstä. Ruotsi päätti viime viikolla karkottaa irakilaisdiplomaatteja. Ulkoministeri Erkki Tuomioja ei ole halunnut kommentoida asiaa. (MTV3, STT)

Luterilaisen kirkon jäsenmäärä laski

Luterilaiseen kirkkoon kuuluvien määrä putosi noin 2 500 henkeä viime vuonna. Edellisen kerran kirkon jäsenmäärä laski 1999 ja sitä ennen 1990-luvun alun lamavuosina. Kuolleita ja kirkosta eronneita oli enemmän kuin edellisellä vuonna, sen sijaan kastettujen ja liittyneiden määrät putosivat.

Nuoret aikuiset olivat ahkerimpia kirkkoon liittyjiä ja siitä eroajia. Tyypillisin eroaja oli kirkon tutkimuskeskuksen mukaan kolmikymppinen mies pääkaupunkiseudulta.

Kirkkoon kuului viime vuodenvaihteessa 4 402 521 henkeä, mikä oli 84,6 prosenttia suomalaisista. (HS)

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Thank you for your donations!

From the desk of Stig Häggblom:

“Elämä ja aurinko” oli Frans Eemil Sillanpään ensimmäisen kirjan nimi. Se tuli 1916. Eikö ole jo nimessäkin Hemingwaytä kerrakseen? Se kirja, joka sai reportterin heräämään Sillanpään lumoihin taas kerran, oli “Ihmiset suviyössä”, jonka Otava julkaisi Helsingissä 1934.

“People in the Summer Night” ilmestyi samanaikaisesti (1966) Englannissa ja USA:ssa. University of Wisconsin Press, Milwaukee, vastasi kirjan julkaisemisesta USA:ssa. Loistavan käännöksen tehneestä Alan Blairista ei ole tällä hetkellä lähempiä tietoja.

Kirjan tapahtumat liittyvät Suomen suveen, kauniiseen järvi maisemaan keskikesällä. Mutta tapahtumia Teliranta-nimisen kartanon ympäröissä riittää; nuorta rakkautta ja hupsujen juopuneitten kovia otteita ja väärää johtopäätöksiä. Tekisi mieli sanoa: tuokaa nopeasti Sillanpää tämän pohjalta näyttämölle ja miksei televisio-ohjelmiinkin...

Yrjö Salonen-niminen mies on pelissä mukana. Häntä Sillanpää kutsuu “Nokiaksi”. Eikö tämä jo ole enteellistä?

Nuori Helka on vanhan emännän kesävieras. Helka on talvela tavannut Arvidin kaupungissa. Jotain oli syntynyt ja Arvid tulee kesällä Telirantaan kylään Helkaa katsomaan. Arvid on opiskelija, joka rahoittaa opiskeluaan musiikkitaidoillaan.

Näin se sitten alkoi se kesäyön seikkailu:

“Sleep was out of the question, but at this time of year and in this part of the world – and at this age – one does not need so much sleep. For Arvid, the guest, a bed had been made up in the end corner room of the building ruled by grandmother. An empty front sitting room – smelling of unpainted wood and unlit tiled stoves – separated this room from the lady’s actual living quarters, where Helka also slept.

It was already after midnight, and the guest was still tiptoeing around the front room.”

F.E.S. kuvaa loistavasti kesäiset, valoisat ja hiljaiset huoneet ja miten ihmiset niissä liikkuvat ääntä aikaansaamatta.

“The door leading from the front room into the hall opened very gently and someone was faintly visible in the opening. The twilight was now so deep that the man in the room could pretend to look hard in order to make sure.”

“Can’t you sleep?”

“I haven’t wanted to yet.”

The girl who had asked the question remained in the doorway, leaning gracefully against the jamb. In that light and in that position she was again new. The destiny of two young people moved onward with the charm

and ease peculiar to a sublime force. As scene after scene unfolded, the attraction grew stronger. The girl was standing there on the threshold in the dusk – on the threshold, but the half-open door was already behind her: the door opened outward, in the direction from which she had come.

The young man had spoken the words ‘I haven’t wanted to yet,’ with a strange gravity.”

Tämä nuori pari oli tehnyt tuttavuutta edellisellä talvena, ohimennen tavatessaan, ja jatkoa tuttavuuteen tehtiin näin Telirannan ympäristössä. Sitten näin:

“Who could sleep here when such a being, such a brightly dark, enchanting ghost, keeps watch all round one’s bed, playing a melody which is so low and so high that the ear cannot catch it.”

How then do you know that it makes a sound?”

I see it in your eyes – you have accompanied me once before.”

By now the girl, without being aware of it, had stepped over the threshold and closed the door noiselessly behind her.”

F.E.S. on taitavampi kuin Hemingway kuvatessaan nuorenparin yöllistä kävelyä luonnossa. Mitä hän kuvaakaan?

Olemassaolon ihanoitua, sillä lailla, kuin sitä vain voi kuvata jos sen on Pohjolan kesässä kokenut.

VAALIVOITTAJAN ... jatkoa etusivulta

ryhdy heti vaalien jälkeisenä päivänä luopumaan ennen vaaleja esitetystä tavoitteesta.

“On syytä muistuttaa, mitä kukin meistä sanoi ennen vaaleja”, keskustan puheenjohtaja huomautti.

Erityisesti Sdp:n puheenjohtaja Paavo Lipponen piti vaalikampanjan aikana yllä kuvaa pääministerivaaleista. Julkisuuudessa on jo ehditty pohtia, voisiko Lipponen sittenkin jatkaa punamultahallituksen johdossa. Jätteenmäen mukaan politiikassa on tietysti kaikki mahdollista.

“Emme pysty tänään sanomaan, millainen hallitus Suomeen tulee. Kansanvalta on puhunut ja vaalituloksen tiedämme. Nyt on aika puolueiden tehdä yhteistyötä ja löytää yhteisymmärrys hallitus-kysymyksestä”, Jätteenmäki sanoi sovittelevasti.

Hän ei lähtenyt ennustamaan, miten kauan neuvottelut kestävät.

Kaikki avoimet kysymykset on joka tapauksessa käytävä läpi. Uudella tavalla käytävät eduskuntavetoiset neuvottelut luovat pohjaa seuraavienkin vuosien hallitustunnusteluille. Sen vuoksi

Ja sitten aurinko nousi, ei aurinko sille mitään voinut, että päivä piti nytkin aloittaa...

Alan Blair päättää tämän kohdauksen näin:

“The sun returned; it could not help it. The grassy space in front of the house grew mysteriously pink and the most curious of all was that certain parts of it, which one was accustomed to think of as illumined, were now in deep shadow, and quite strange parts were emerging into light. Yesterday evening – where was it? Was this the yard where they had all sat? – How have I

come to be here? – along what paths? – through what circumstances? We are still awake, and no one knows it.

“Good night,” one of them said.

But it was said in such a way that the other was unable to answer in words. In the old front room smelling of wood and clean linen, where many a bride had been wedded, it was quite still for a while. Then light footsteps were heard, and the two doors were closed almost at the same time. Day threatened – threatened with the fact that they, without the mediation of

sleep, would remember who they were, each other’s names – all that which...

But sleep did draw its curtain between – to open it again on the morrow for new events that gained in intensity.”

Näin siis päättää Blair käännöksensä Sillanpään kuvauksesta kahden nuoren ihmisen yöllisestä retkestä Telirannan lähiympäristössä, missä pellot olivat valmiita elonkorjuuseen.

Uutta tulemistä tässä haluaisi povata tälle kirjoittajalle. Ei tuo Nobel-palkinto väärään mieheen osunut.



Sigfrid Sillanpää, kirjailijan vaimo, päässyt iloitsemaan miehensä suuresta menestyksestä. Kun Nobel-palkinto tuli vuonna 1939, Sigfrid oli jo kuollut. F.E. Sillanpää kuoli 1964. Kuva: Kaarina Sala



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14. maaliskuuta sitä ns. lavasäteilyä, joka tekee lauluesityksistä niin nautittavia elämyksiä. Ritva Pyylle kiitokset heidän vierailustaan Lepokodilla.

Tervehdys Lepokodilta, jossa menneen viikon aikana saimme pitää vierainamme jälleen suomalaisia viihdetaiteilijoita. Viime viikon perjantaina saimme tuulahduksen Suomen Kainuusta, kun Kainuu viikon esiintyjät tulivat tervehtimään asukkaitamme lauluin, soitoin ja runoin. Vierailusta kiitokset Maija-Liisa Otvakselle ja Helvi Väänäselle.

Maanantaina toi mukavat Suomen muistot monelle mieleen Vieno Kekkosen tyttärensä Elina Saurin kanssa. He lauloivat suoraan sydämiimme Harmony Sistersien legendaariseen tyyliin mm. kappaleilla Tiikerihai, Luona vanhan veräjän ja Hiljainen on kylätie.

Jopa täysin amerikkalainen, hallinnollinen johtajamme Owen Gustafson nautti lauluista niin, että tilasi heti Suomesta tuotavaksi Vieno Kekkosen musiikkia.

Elinalla, Vienon tyttärelläkin on aivan ihastuttava ääni. Heissä on

Keskiviikon retken teimme Lake Osbornen puistoon. Siellä kirkkaankeltaisena ja vaaleanpunaisena kukkien puiden sekä kevään linnunlaulu konsertin keskellä nautimme kylmästä juotavasta ja jäätelöstä.

Sattui siinä samassa paikassa taukoaan pitämään komea moottoripyöräpoliisipartio. Pirteä ilopillerimme Alma Petersen rohkeana tyttönä meni heitä jututtamaan, kertoen heille ikänsä, 92 vuotta.

Poliisit kysyivät häneltä mikä mahtoi olla pitkän iän salaisuus, johon Alma sai vastata: ei viinaa, ei tupakkaa ja luottamus Herraan.

Tilanteen saimme ikuistettua valokuvaan, jossa Alma nojaa yhteen heidän massiivisista moottoripyörästään hymyillen leveästi poliisipartion ympäröimänä.

Terveisin ANNE

pitää menetellä hyvin tarkasti uuden perustuslain mukaisesti.

Lipponen maan ääniharava

SDP:n puheenjohtaja Paavo Lipponen oli maan ääniharava. Häntä äänesti vaaleissa 26 382 äänioikeutettua. Toiseksi eniten ääniä sai kokoomuksen puoluejohtaja Ville Itälä 21 401 äänellä.

Kolmanneksi eniten ääniä sai puolestaan keskustan Tanja Karpela. Karpelaa äänesti Uudenmaan vaalipiirissä 19 126 äänioikeutettua. Neljänneksi kiilasi Vasemmistoliiton puheenjohtaja Suvi-Anne Siimes 17 546 äänellä.

Vaalien todellinen yllättäjä oli kuitenkin Helsingin vaalipiirissä suuren ääniväyryyden saanut julkisehdokas Tony Halme. Halme keräsi eduskuntavaaleissa viidenneksi eniten ääniä. Halme äänesti 16 390 äänioikeutettua.

Keskustajohtaja Anneli Jäätteenmäki sai Helsingissä 15 657 ääntä. SDP:n Antti Kalliomäki oli 14 881 äänellään seitsemänneksi suosituin ehdokas, ja saman puolueen Saara Karhu 14 277 äänellään kahdeksas.

(HS, MTV3)

Kuolleita

Arnold Hartikka

VOLUNTOWN, CT - Arnold Hartikka, 79, Wylje School Rd., kuoli maalisk. 3, 2003 kotonaan.

Hän oli syntynyt heinäk. 24, 1923 Virginiassa (MN) Arne ja Martha (Manninen) Hartikan poikana. Päästyään Griswold High Schoolista hän jatkoi opintojaan Cornell Universityssa.

Lokak. 6, 1951 edesmennyt avioitui Phyllis Ramerin kanssa.

Hartikka omisti poikansa Davidin kanssa Hartikka Tree Farms yrityksen Voluntownissa, Prestonissa ja Sterlingissa.

Edesmennyt kuului Voluntownin Baptist seurakuntaan toimien sen finanssihoitajana. Hän oli palvellut Voluntownin opetuslautakunnan puheenjohtajana. Hän oli jäsenenä seuraavissa järjestöissä: National Christmas Tree Assc., Ct. Christmas Tree Growers, R.I. Christmas Tree Growers sekä Ekonk Grange.

Kaipaamaan jäi puolison ja pojan lisäksi kaksi tyttärelä, Elaine Delaney, Lincoln, RI ja Susan Doyle, Exeter, RI; sisko Mary Ann Saila, Jewett City; viisi lastenlasta, David ja Jakob Hartikka, Julia Jean, Solanna ja Nico Doyle.

Gagne-Piechowski Funeral Home, 490 Voluntown Rd., Jewett City, huolehti hiljaisuudessa toimitetusta hautamisesta.

Kukien asemasta vainajaa voi muistaa lahjoituksella: Voluntown Baptist Church, P.O. Box 508, Voluntown, CT 06384 tai Hospice, 20 Furnace St., Danielson, CT 06239.

FITCHBURG, MA - Antti Juhani Arjanen, 57, kuoli helmik. 14, 2003 kotonaan.

Hän oli syntynyt kesäk. 6, 1945 Ylöjärvellä Suomessa Esther (Salminen) ja Arvo Arjasen (Ahlgren) poikana. Hän oli kolmivuotias muuttaessaan USA:han vanhempiensa ja isoveljensä Eskon kanssa. Hän oli vain 5-vuotias, kun hänelle tehtiin uraauurtava sydänleikkaus Bostonissa.

Koulussa edesmennyt menestyi hyvin akateemisesti. Vuonna 1963 hän sai päästötodistuksen Fitchburg High Schoolista, missä hän pelasi koripalloa, golfia ja tennistä.

Kouluvuosinaan hän työskenteli Raivaajassa sekä vanhempiensa omistamassa Elm Street Steam Bath saunassa.

Valmistuttuaan Fitchburg State Collegesta 1967 hän ryhtyi opettamaan matematiikkaa Stoningtonin (CT) kouluissa. Hän jatkoi myös opintojaan suorittaen matematiikan Masters -tutkinnon University of Lowell oppilaitoksessa.

Liikunta kuului oleellisesti Arjasen elämään. Hän osallistui useisiin paikallisiin ja osavaltiolisiin painonostokilpailuihin. Myöhemmin hän innostui juoksusta osallistuen Marine Corps maratoniin Washington, D.C:ssä sekä Dixville Notch maratoniin New Hampshiressä.

Viime vuosina, jäätyään eläkkeelle, hän palasi golfin pariin.

Kaipaamaan jäi veli Esko,

Antti J. Arjanen



Antti J. Arjanen

Kuva n. 1970

Whitney, TX; veljen tyttäret, Liisa McCoy, Arlington, TX ja Tiina Arjanen Auler, Red Oak, TX; tätejä ja serkkuja Suomessa; sekä läheiset ystävät Paul ja Norma Niemi perheineen, Fitzwilliam, NH sekä Pentti ja Irma Laine, Lunenburg.

Muistotilaisuus ja hautausmaahan vanhempien viereen Suomessa. Aubuchon-Moorcroft Funeral Home Fitchburgissa huolehtii järjestelyistä.

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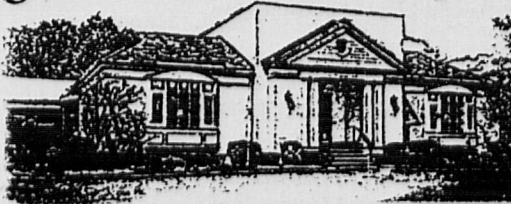
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Helmi Ham

Kuva vuodelta 1974

SOUTH ASHBURNHAM, MA - Helmi Terttu (Matilainen) Ham, 85, 17 Murray Road ja viimeksi 29 Merriam Parkway, Fitchburg, kuoli maalisk. 12, 2003 UMASS Memorial-Health Alliance Leominster Campusissa Leominsterissä pitkän sairauden seurauksena. Hän oli edesmenneen rovasti Alfred Shelby Hamin leski.

Hän oli syntynyt marrask. 4, 1917 Gardnerissa Wilho ja Ida (Koskela) Matilaisen tyttärenä. South Ashburnhamissa hän asui vuosina 1966-2002.

Edesmennyt pääsi Gardner High Schoolista 1935 ja Fitchburg State Collegesta 1939. Hän opetti yksiluokkaisissa kouluissa pohjois-Vermontissa 1940-luvulla. Ennen eläkkeelle jäämistä hän opetti monia vuosia kolmasluokkalaista J.R. Briggs Elementary Schoolissa South Ashburnhamissa.

Rovasti Hamin kanssa hän palveli Bean's Corner:ssä (ME), Atticassa & Mohawksissa (NY) sekä South Ashburnhamissa.

Hän kuului People's Evangelical Congregational seurakuntaan ja oli entisen Finnish Cultural Center'n jäsen. Hän oli läntisen New Yorkin konservatiivisten baptistien ja itäisen suomalaisen lähetyskirkon kristillisen konferenssin entinen presidentti.

Ham oli opettanut suomea Fitchburgin Kalevaisten Kaleva Kodissa. Hän oli toimittanut Suomalaisen lähetyskirkkokonferenssin virallista *Palvelija* -lehteä.

Vapaa-aikanaan edesmennyt luki - erityisesti Amerikan historiaa, matkusteli ja keräili postimerkkejä ja kiviä.

Kaipaamaan jäi neljä poikaa, Allan Ham, Ashburnham, David Ham, Fort Myers, FL, John Ham, South Ashburnham ja Paul Ham, Fitchburg; tytär Kaarina Ham, joka palasi hiljattain Samarasta Venäjältä; lastenlapset, Jennifer Brittany Ham, Los Angeles, CA, Maureen Nguyen, Natick, Jessica Ham, South Ashburnham, Angela Ham, Los Angeles, Meghan Ahern, Fitchburg, Julia ja James Ham, Ashburnham; yksi lapsenlapsen lapsi Olivia Caron, South Ashburnham; veli Waldo Matilainen, Gilroy, CA; veljenpoika Robert Matilainen, Kalifornia; serkku Eila Palojärvi, Westminster; sekä monia serkkuja Suomessa.

Smith Funeral Home, 69 Vernon St., Gardner, huolehti hautausmaahan.

Vainajaa voi muistaa lahjoituksella: "Youth for Christ-Volga" (Venäjällä), c/o Youth for Christ International, P.O. Box 4555, Denver, CO 80155-4555 tai Camp Clear, South Carver, MA c/o Mrs. Margaret Keranen, 26 Staten Road, Braintree, MA 02184.

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Bostonin seudun uusi suomalaiskirkko

Uuden Englannin alueen suomenkielisessä kirkollisessa toiminnassa on viime aikoina tapahtunut merkittäviä muutoksia. Uusin suomenkielinen seurakunta Finn Church of New York on yhdistynyt New Yorkissa pitkään toimineen Finnish Lutheran Congregationin kanssa. Uuden seurakunnan nimi on New York Finnish Lutheran Congregation ja sen pastorien toiminta-alueeseen kuuluu myös Bostonin seudun kirkkotilaisuuksien järjestäminen ja muista kirkollisista toimituksista huolehtiminen.

Viimevuotisten kokemusten innoittamina Bostonin seudun

kirkkotilaisuudet ovat siirtymässä uuteen kokoontumispaikkaan Walthamiin, vain kivenheiton päähän valtatiestä 128/95. The First Evangelical Lutheran Church (6 Eddy Street, Waltham, MA 02453) on ystävällisesti ottanut Bostonin suomalaiset uusiksi alivuoralaisikseen muutaman kerran vuodessa.

Tällä upeilla lasimaalauksilla koristetulla kirkolla on ennestään jo vieraskielinen alivuokralaisseurakunta Haitista. Kokoontumme kuitenkin eri aikoina, joten niin isäntäväki kuin alivuokralaisetkin sopivat samoihin tiloihin.

Punatiilisessa kirkkorakennuksessa on tunnelmallisen kirkkosalin lisäksi tarjottilat kirkkokahvien pitoon heti kirkkosalin vieressä ja alakerrassa on tilava seurakuntasali ja iso keittiö suurempia tilaisuuksia varten.

Kirkossa on myös tilat lastenhoidon järjestämiseen ja sen vieressä on hyvät pysäköintitilat. Artikkelin lopussa on ajo-ohjeet.

Ensimmäinen suomenkielinen tilaisuus Walthamin kirkossa järjestetään sunnuntaina huhtikuun 6. kello 4 iltapäivällä. Pastori Risto Takkinen, johon tutustumme Kauneimmat Joululaulut-tilaisuudessa, saapuu silloin New Yorkista viettämään joulunpalvelusta Bostonin seudun suomalaisten kanssa.

Kultaisen Iän Kerho

FITCHBURG, MA - Suomalainen Kultaisen Iän Kerho kokoontui tiistaina, maaliskuun 11. päivänä kello 2 iltapäivällä viikottaisen kokouksensa merkeissä Saiman Puistossa.

Puheenjohtaja Armas Kaukoranta toivotti kaikki tervetulleiksi nauttimaan yhdessäolosta ystävien parissa ja vaihtamaan talvenaikaisia uutisia.

Aluksi laulettiin "God Bless America" sekä Suomen kansallislaulu "Maamme".

Sirkka Tastula lahjoitti \$10.00 edesmenneen miehensä Olavi Tastulan syntymäpäivän (4. maalisk.) muistoksi.

Lahjoituksia kahvipöytään tekivät seuraavat: Kaukorannat, Meimi Lauricella, Aino Virta, Helvi Fiskaali, Ellen Delaney, Vieno Salmu, Edna Holm, Allie Kamila sekä Lenny ja Ellen Kuniholm.

Viikon ohjelmassa Kaukorannat näyttivät videon ja kuvia Havaijille tekemälään matkalta. Sen jälkeen nauttiin kahvista herkuineen.

Kerho kokoontuu tiistaisin kello 2 iltapäivällä Finnish Center at Saima Parkissa.

Maaliskuun 18. päivän kokouksen ohjelman pitäjäksi oli suunniteltu Onerva Lovejoy, jonka oli määrä puhua kuvineen ja esineineen lukuisista Suomeen tekemistään matkoista. Hänen siskonsa asuu Helsingissä.

Kaikki ovat tervetulleita kerhon kokouksiin.

Jatkossa on tarkoitus järjestää toinen kirkkotilaisuus ennen kesälomien alkua touko-kesäkuun vaihteessa.

Tilaisuuden päädyttyä tarjotaan kirkkokahvit. Sen jälkeen toiveissa on saada kokoon Bostonin seudun uusimman kirkon toimintakokouksena olisi luoda uusia toimintamuotoja ja kehitellä Bostonin seudun toimintaa paikallisten tarpeiden mukaan. Joten merkitse huhtikuun 6. päivä kalenteriisi ja tule tutustumaan Bostonin seudun uusimpaan suomalaisseurakuntaan ja osallistumaan sen toimintaan.

Driving instructions to The First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6 Eddy Street, Waltham, MA 02453: From Route 95/128 take Exit 26 (Rte 20). Follow signs for Rte 20 East. Go through set of lights. First Lutheran is approximately a half mile on your left, just prior to second set of lights. Turn left on Everett Street before Church to enter parking lot.

Hyvät maanmiehemme Bostonin seudulla:

New Yorkin Suomalainen Luterilainen Seurakunta tarjoaa kirkollisia palveluja New Yorkin lisäksi myös Bostonissa, Philadelphiassa ja Washington D.C:ssä asuville suomalaisille.

Muutama viikko sitten tapahtunut New Yorkin suomalaisseurakuntien yhdistyminen toivotavasti vain entisestään parantaa näitä palvelumahdollisuuksia. Bostonin kohdalla se tarkoittaa muutaman vuotuisen kirkkotilaisuuden järjestämistä ja tarpeen mukaan kirkollisista toimituksista huolehtimista sen mukaan kuin työntekijäresurssit antavat myöten.

Bostonin seudun suomalaisilta on tähän mennessä löytynyt erinomaisesti omaa aktiivisuutta tilaisuuksien suunnitteluun ja järjestelyihin. Esimerkiksi viime joulun alla Kauneimmat joulu-

laulut-tilaisuus kokosi 70-80 innokasta osallistujaa. Sen, samoin kuin muidenkin tilaisuuksien suunnittelu on paljolti hoidettu siellä paikallisin voimin.

Lämmin kiitos teille, jotka olette ottaneet monin tavoin vastuuta. Käytännössä se on tarkoittanut mm. kirkon varaamista, aikataulujen suunnittelua, papin kanssa sopimista, kanttorin varaamista, vastuiden jakamista jne. Täältä New Yorkista on ollut mahdollisuus lähettää sinne pappi. Muut kulut pyritään kattamaan kolehtituloin.

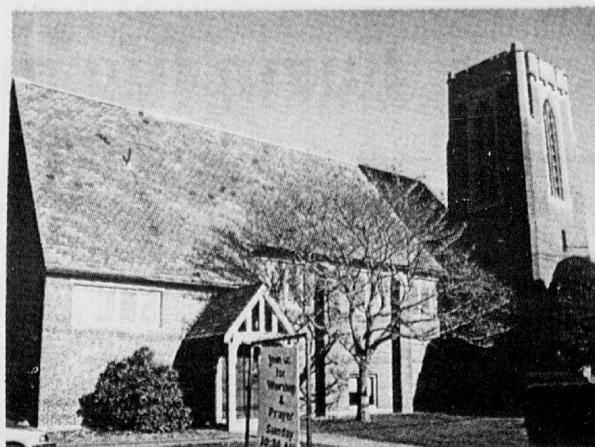
Koska Bostonin seudulla ei ole omaa suomalaista seurakuntaa, on Suomen kirkon tuki kanavoitu Bostonin suomalaisille New Yorkin suomalaisen seurakunnan kautta. New Yorkin suomalainen seurakunta kuuluu nimittäin sekä Amerikan (ELCA) että Suomen luterilaiseen kirkkoon. Jatkossakin Suomen kirkko kanavoi tukensa

Bostonin seudun suomalaisten toiminnalle tällä samalla tavalla.

Me New Yorkin papit olemme siis mahdollisuuksiemme mukaan myös teidän bostonilaisten palveluksessa.

Bostonin seudun kirkollinen työ on vähitellen tullut siihen vaiheeseen, että jonkinlaisen kirkkotoimikunnan asettaminen olisi aiheellista. Kyseessä olisi ainakin alkuvaiheessa aika epävirallinen toimikunta, joka sitten toiminnan vakiintuessa voisi järjestäytyä vaikka kuinka viralliseksi kirkkoraadiksi.

jatkuu takasivulla



The First Evangelical Lutheran Church tulee toimimaan Bostonin alueen suomalaisten uutena kirkkona.



Kirkko tarjoaa hyvät tilat suomalaisen seurakunnan toiminnalle.

Seurakunnat

Fitchburg, MA

Bethel-seurakunta

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

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Elm St.

Lähetysseurakunta

Jumalanpalvelukset sunnuntaisin klo 9:30 aam. Pyhäkoulu klo 11. Kuoron harjoitukset tiistaisin klo 7 ill. Hartaustilaisuus keskiviikkoisin klo 2 i.p. Nuorisoryhmä kokoontuu lauantaisin klo 6 ill.

Messiah Lutheran seurakunta

Kuun ensimmäisenä sunnuntaina suomenkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 8:15 aam.

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

Perjantaisin klo 1 i.p. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

Suomenkielinen Naistenliitto kokoontuu kuukauden kolmantena sunnuntaina klo 2 iltapäivällä.

New York City

New Yorkin suomalainen luterilainen seurakunta

Suomalainen jumalanpalvelus joka kuun 1. & 3. sunnuntai klo 3 i.p., Park Avenue Methodist Church, 106 East 86th Street (Park & Lex välissä, metrot 4,5,6)

Vauva & Tenavajumppa perjantaisin klo 10:30-12 Eestitalolla. Lisätietoja: Niina Hammond, 212-308 4401.

Aupairit & nuoret kokoontuvat joka toinen perjantai klo 7 ill. Tiedustelut puh. 646-515 1163 tai email: krista.riipinen@finnchurchny.org

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Rekisteröinti alkaa klo 9:30 aamulla.

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Farm life in Halsey Valley in the 1940s

By Wayne Wirtanen

Wayne Wirtanen, of Placerville (CA), remembers life on a Finnish farm in Halsey Valley (NY) in the 1940s.

At 12 years old, I came from Cleveland to live with my grandparents on their Halsey Valley (NY) chicken farm, one of many small Finnish farms in an area of upstate New York, just south of the Finger Lakes. (Many Finnish families resettled here from mill towns in western Pennsylvania, to take advantage of inexpensive farmland available in the early part of the 20th century.) I still remember my first sighting of the eerie colors and slow undulations of the Northern Lights in the clear country sky.

Self sufficiency

The 68-acre farm on a slightly sloping hillside along Ellis Creek Road was quite self-sufficient, at least by today's standards. There were barns, chicken coops, a summertime grazing pasture for two cows and fields for haymaking. There was a small apple orchard, a good-sized garden and usually a pig. All this provided a steady supply of chicken, pork, eggs, milk, butter and surplus vegetables for canning.

Grandmother (Sophie Torkko Anderson nee Jääskeläinen) was kept pretty busy in the summer months, gardening, baking and sharing in the farm work while also preparing food for the winter. I particularly remember that one of my favorite foods on a dull wintry day was her specialty of canned pork.

The pig never made it very far into the winter, being turned into pork as soon as the weather turned cold. The butchering project required the help of a couple of neighbor men.

After being killed the pig was hoisted up on a wooden tripod for cleaning and then was lowered into a large vat of boiling water. This facilitated shaving off skin bristles and probably provided sterilization prior to being sliced up into identifiable cuts of pork. I recall that the men helping in the job were paid with a share of the meat.

I was traveling in rural Belgium a few years ago and saw the identical pig-to-pork transformation underway in a farmer's backyard. It brought back vivid memories.

Each day's milk went into a hand-cranked cream separator. The skim milk went to the pig and the chickens. The cream that was not generously poured into the many cups of coffee consumed daily, was saved up for the wooden butter churn.

Although I got the cholesterol-forming cream and the caffeine, and the pig got the healthy calci-



Wayne Wirtanen on the farm in the 1940s.

photos courtesy of Wayne Wirtanen

um-rich skim milk, the pig never got to see the middle age and I'm now well into my seventies writing about all this.

Grandmother's baking kept the table provided with a light brown, crusty, rye bread and, of course, no Finnish farmhouse ran out of the braided sweet coffee bread we called *nissu*. The odor of yeasty, cardamom seed dough rising for hours in a warm oven, preceded actual baking. A finishing touch on the browned tops of the loaves was egg white brushed on with a clean white chicken feather followed by a sprinkling of sugar.

A small "panel delivery" bakery truck from the Spencer Co-op visited the farm once every week or so. I remember the exotic treat of jelly doughnuts purchased from the shallow display shelves of baked goods that could be pulled out of the sides of the truck.

Firewood from the 30 acres of woods provided fuel for the furnace in the cellar and for the woodstove in the kitchen. There was a wood box at the kitchen wall next to the woodstove. There were access doors on the inside of the kitchen and on the outside of the house near the woodpile. One of my chores was to keep this wood box filled with a variety of sizes of split firewood to allow easy starting of a cook stove fire and the maintenance of a good steady cooking fire.

The primary source of farm income was from chickens, and eggs that were sold to the Spencer Co-op. (After marriage, one of my first jobs was driving - summer and winter, rain and snow - the very truck that went around to the Finn farms to pick up their weekly shipments to the Co-op egg department.)

Early in the war years, grandfa-

ther, (Solomon "Sulo" Anderson), like many of the local Finn farmers went to work briefly as a carpenter at Romulus in the Syracuse area, where they were building military barracks. In later years Sulo's oil paintings of Spencer-Van Etten scenes graced the walls of Tioga State Bank and local homes.)

Going to "town"

A trip to Spencer, some 9 miles away, in Sulo's red 1937 Ford pickup truck, a couple of times a month, was a major excursion to renew supplies for baking ingredients and the few other necessities that the farm did not provide.

The Spencer Co-operative Society was a multi-faceted supplier of farmer's needs in addition to groceries, clothing items and otherwise unavailable items such as smoked and salted salmon and dried codfish. (Soak the codfish in a strong lye solution, and then hang them in a flowing creek until the lye was washed out, before preparing them for eating.) We only had a Finnish name for this Christmas dish, *lipeäkala*; the Norwegians call it *lutefisk*. (It's served with a white sauce, but is an acquired taste that I never acquired.)

In addition to a complete hardware store that Co-op had a large mill for the production of chicken and other animal feeds. It was a dealer for farm implements, tractors and International Harvester trucks, automobile tires and had a full service auto repair garage.

In the post-war years, one of the mechanics, Arne Luuri, was single and was able to afford a new Buick every year! He traded his "old" one for a new one for \$300. This seemed to me a fantastic extravagance for someone like me with a smaller income and a new family to support. Arne's brother, Bill Luuri,

was the manager of the co-op egg operation.

Halsey Valley

Beautiful downtown Halsey Valley had a dozen or so houses and a few farms in and around the "city limits." There was a small general store with one gas pump. (I took the storekeeper's blonde daughter, Jean Jackson, to the junior high prom at Tioga Center School). A large two-story wooden building across the road from the general store was the shuttered-up and deserted "Red Quick's Saloon" which was rumored to have had a wild and woolly past.

Farm boys go to Hollywood

Mrs. Piipari, a Halsey resident was the mother of Greta Peck. Upon graduation from high school in 1948, four Spencer boys, (Emil Huttunen, Donald Maki, Alfred Walden and Alga Vose) and I took a trip to California in Emil's new Chevrolet convertible.

Mrs. Piipari had arranged for us to visit Greta and Gregory Peck at their home in Hollywood. (Actually in Pacific Palisades). We spent most of an afternoon there. After meeting briefly with Gregory Peck, Greta served us cake and coffee and then invited us to join her in the backyard swimming pool. That was a really eye-popping and "gee-whiz" experience for us farm kids. (Alga and I are the only ones surviving of the original five.)

Tucker automobile dealership

The Spencer co-op took an ill-fated fling at being a Tucker automobile dealership at the height of the post-war automobile shortage frenzy. There was a waiting list for delivery that at first required a cash deposit. Later requirements to stay on the list were the purchase of Tucker seat covers and then expensive leather luggage that was "specially designed to fit into your new Tucker automobile's spacious trunk".

I never heard the details of how many Finn farmers went the whole way with waiting list requirements. I have to believe that, as they were level-headed and generally tight-fisted, they did not get stung too badly.

A modest social life on the farm

On the farm in the early 1940's, life was not very exciting. A major part of shopping was through the Sears or "Monkey Ward" catalogs. Postal rates were low enough that mail order was easy and economical. (There was a choice in most



Gregory Peck with Alfred Walden.

turn to HALSEY VALLEY page 12

Boston Ballet presents All Balanchine

BOSTON - Boston Ballet proudly presents the work of George Balanchine in 12 performances of a program entitled *All Balanchine* at The Wang Theatre March 27-April 6.

George Balanchine's genius is explored in this program of four works: *Ballo della Regina*, *Monumentum pro Gesualdo*, *Movements for Piano and Orchestra*, and *Prodigal Son*. Balanchine is the foremost neo-classical choreographer of the 20th century, known for successfully fusing innovative choreographic concepts with classical ballet tradition.

"I plan to present the brilliant work of Mr. Balanchine each season," said artistic director Mikko Nissinen. "His works demand great strength and athleticism from dancers, which enhances their technique and ability. Mr. Balanchine created the role of Ballo for Merrill Ashley, a first-rate dancer and a Balanchine muse, whom he worked with for almost two decades."

Balanchine created many bal-

lets specifically to showcase the talents of New York City Ballet dancers, including Ballo della Regina for Ashley, who will be staging Ballo for Boston Ballet.

Balanchine set *Ballo della Regina*, to music Giuseppe Verdi composed for his opera *Don Carlos*. The ballet alludes to the 1867 opera and its story of a fisherman searching for the perfect pearl for the queen's crown. The dancing suggests the movement of waves, with both the lighting and the costumes bearing a mother-of-pearl quality.

"Critics have called it 'pure Balanchine' for its virtuosos dancing and radiance. It contains a series of exuberant solos that will delight the audience," said Nissinen.

This *All Balanchine* program was made possible by a generous gift from Mary Hart Cogan.

Tickets can be purchased by calling Tele-charge at (800) 447-7400, or by visiting Tele-charge online at www.telecharge.com, or in person at The Wang Theatre box office, located at 270 Tremont Street in Boston's Theatre District.

Nokia warns on 1st-quarter earnings

Nokia, the biggest and usually the most optimistic of the major makers of mobile telephones, warned recently that its revenue and earnings for the first quarter would be slightly off from the period in 2002, mainly because of the slump in sales of equipment to phone companies.

Mobile phone operators "in all major regions continue to decrease the level of their investment," the company said. It forecast a decline of 15 percent to 20 percent in network equipment sales, which account for one-fifth of Nokia's revenue.

Sales at the company's handset division, which introduced a raft of new models recently at the Cebit technology trade fair in Germany, would be "at the low end of the guided range to flat to 9 percent year-on-year growth," Nokia said.

Lars Vestergaard, an analyst at the International Date Corporation, said Nokia's cautious outlook indicated that the equipment slump had not yet touched bottom. "Nokia is not being hit harder than the others," Vestergaard said. "We may have to wait a year to 18 months for a consistent, noticeable increase in infrastructure spending."

Anssi Vanjoki, executive vice president of Nokia's mobile phone division, said the company's new products included a phone for teenagers that plays and records MP3 files; a business phone that incorporates Edge, a technology, that speeds data access; and a digital "pen" for entering text messages in handwriting. The company also introduced a phone with an auto-mobile-dashmounted display.

(IHT)

Sports Roundup

by Harri Siitonen

Virpi third in Norway ski

Finnish skier Virpi Kuitunen finished in 3rd place, 1.6 seconds behind Norwegian Bente Skare's win in a World Cup women's ski sprint on March 11 at Drammen Norway. Manuela Henkel of Germany was 2nd, 0.8 seconds behind. Annmari Viljanmaa of Finland was 4th, 0.7 seconds behind Kuitunen.

The Finns had a good day at Drammen as Riikka Sirviö and Kati Venäläinen had a dual vic-

tory in the B-sprint.

Teemu stays with Sharks

The National Hockey League trade deadline passed on March 11 and the San Jose Sharks didn't come up with their last minute trade of players which was rumored to include star forward Finland's Teemu Selänne. So he stays in San Jose for now. Since the Sharks are too far down the totem pole to make the Stanley

turn to SPORTS page 11

News from Finland

Ex-President Ahtisaari says he turned down Iraq mediation offer

Former President Martti Ahtisaari says that in January he turned down a request to serve as a mediator in the Iraq crisis.

In an interview with the newspaper *Kaleva* on Sunday, Ahtisaari said that a US-based non-governmental organisation was behind the move to send three former presidents - Ahtisaari, Nelson Mandela of South Africa, and Jimmy Carter of the United States - to meet Iraqi leaders in Baghdad.

"I turned it down right away. I did not feel that there would be anything that could be done from the outside at that point. If the request had been made in the summer of last year, then a trip might have been worth considering."

In Ahtisaari's view, such a group would not have had any credibility, even if it succeeded in getting the Iraqis to sign some kind of a paper.

(HS)

Former PM Esko Aho to become researcher in US institute?

Former prime minister of Finland and ex-chairman of the Centre party, Esko Aho, says he is about to leave for Washington to work as a researcher in the Woodrow Wilson International Center.

Aho said last week that negotiations with the prestigious research centre were still ongoing.

"I have no intention to stay there permanently in any way," Aho said.

Aho told the Finnish News Agency (STT) that the prospective job would not be a full-time job but just a single element in his future plans.

Aho declined to elaborate on the subject of his research but he said he had no intention to prepare a doctoral dissertation.

(STT)

Ministry trying to trace leak on Bush-Lipponen discussions

Minister for Foreign Affairs Erkki Tuomioja (Soc Dem) has appointed a group of officials to investigate how secret reports of his ministry had been leaked, writes the newspaper *Helsingin Sanomat*.

The group is headed by administrative affairs under-secretary Arto Mansala.

The parliamentary elections debate heated up in the days preceding the election over a leaked document drafted at the Finnish Embassy in Washington that describes discussions between Finnish prime minister and Social Democratic leader Paavo Lipponen and President George W. Bush.

(STT)

Halonen to reveal plans for a second term in the summer

Finnish President of the republic Tarja Halonen says she is going to reveal in the summer at the earliest her plans about running for a second six-year term in office. "I have stuck to my old view that let's first see how this spring goes, and evaluate after that whether there is pull and whether there is uplift," Halonen said in a press conference recently.

The president also said that before making a decision she would like to see how cooperation between the president and prime minister and the government would continue after the parliamentary elections.

Halonen said she hoped she would not need to intervene in the make up of the new government.

Halonen's first six-year term as president reaches half way at the end of March.

(STT)

Parliamentary Elections: Opposition Centre Party score narrow victory; NCP biggest losers on the night

Sunday's Parliamentary elections went right down to the wire as the votes were counted, but the opposition Centre Party, led by Anneli Jäätteenmäki, held on to their early lead and emerged as the largest party in the country, gaining 55 MPs in the new 200-seat Parliament.

The Social Democrats, under Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen, also made gains, but could only reach 53 MPs, an increase of two versus the seven extra won by the Centrists. The Centre Party secured 24.7 percent of the total vote and the SDP were just behind on 24.5 percent. The biggest losers on the day were the moderate conservatives of the National Coalition Party, who lost six MPs and finished with 40 seats.

The result means the Centre Party looks very likely to end their eight years in opposition, and Jäätteenmäki could well emerge as Finland's first female Prime Minister when government negotiations get under way next week.

turn to ELECTIONS page 9

EU food safety agency split between Finland, Italy

The controversial European Union food safety agency will be split into two between Finland and Italy, with both of the countries proposing that the EU set up two separate administrative bodies, one in Helsinki and another in Parma, Italy.

The plan is that a bureau for food security would be located in Helsinki, while Italy would host a bureau for regional affairs and decision-making on the original labelling of products.

Prime minister Paavo Lipponen (Soc Dem) discussed the matter with Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi in the Copenhagen EU summit in December. The interested parties continued to find a solution to the matter in the last summit in Brussels in February.

(STT)

Bits and pieces

Finnish national carrier Finnair is to keep its flight routes unchanged despite a possible war in Iraq. According to Finnair officials, all Finnair flight paths are adequately far from the possible war zone.

(STT)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that the Finnish government has requested three Iraqi diplomats - described as "members of the diplomatic personnel of the Iraqi Embassy" - should leave Finland. According to the ministry statement, "Over several months, the Finnish authorities have come to the conclusion that their activities are not compatible with their diplomatic status".

(HS)

Unemployment in Finland fell from January to February by 0.4 percent to 9 percent, Statistics Finland reported earlier this week.

(AP)

Coniferous forests around the world may be emitting more smog-causing nitrogen oxides than traffic and industry combined, suggests a report in the prestigious journal *Nature*. Scotch pine needles release nitrogen oxides directly into the atmosphere when exposed to ultraviolet light, says a study led by Pertti Harri of the University of Helsinki, Finland.

(LFP)

Finland is already gearing up to receive war refugees from Iraq. The Ministry of Labor has been making preparations ever since January so that hundreds or even thousands could get a place to stay. The refugees are expected to join their relatives here both from Iraq and Kurdish regions, already in Finland as a result of the first Gulf war of 1991.

(STT)



CANTEBURY, CT - At the annual meeting of Finnish American Heritage Society held on January 5, officers were elected for the coming year. A busy year is planned for 2003 with some additional events already added to the schedule. An art show has been scheduled for Saturday, May 10th, in conjunction with Canterbury's Tercentenary celebration. The Weaving Open House has been rescheduled for July 10th at 5 p.m. prior to a membership meeting that will begin at 7 p.m. Finnish classes were scheduled to begin March 18th. Those interested attending are asked to contact the Finnish Hall at 860-546-6671 for dates and to register for classes. - Pictured from front row left: Anita Smiley, corresponding secretary; Jackie Harjula, vice president; Matti Huhta, president; Marcia Huhta, recording secretary; back row, Jack Smiley, membership secretary; Roy Rautio, trustee; Eila Mäkipuro, trustee; Judy Galinat, treasurer; Kavi Ruuskanen, trustee and Leo Andstrom, trustee.

photo: Pauline Andstrom



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Finlandia Foundation

Boston Chapter

March 30 meeting goes to ballet

The March chapter meeting will take place at the Wang Center in Boston, where we will attend a Boston Ballet performance with its new artistic director Mikko Nissinen on Sunday, March 30.

There will be a preshow talk given by Mr. Nissinen at 1 p.m. followed by the Boston Ballet performance of All Balanchine at 2 p.m. After the performance we will have a guided backstage tour for a half an hour.

Mikko Nissinen is recognized internationally as an accomplished dancer, teacher and artistic director. He assumed the position of artistic director of Boston Ballet and the Boston Ballet Center for Dance Education in September 2001.

He was born in Helsinki, Finland in 1962. He began his dance training at age eleven at The Finnish National Ballet School. At age fifteen, he launched his dance career and immediately began performing soloist roles.

Nissinen has danced with the Dutch National Ballet, Basel Ballet and San Francisco Ballet. Before accepting his post in Boston, he had been an artistic director in San Rafael Ballet and Alberta Ballet in Calgary, Canada.

For ticket information, please call Elina Lehtinen 781-652-8729.

The Board of 2003

President: Elina Lehtinen, Lexington, MA; vice-president: Anni Pirinen-Valme, Medford, MA; president-elect: Juhani Paakkonen, Boston, MA; secretary: Sari Kunnas, Winchester, MA; program: Roy Helander,

Maynard, MA; membership: Liisa Chanoff, Marlboro, MA; treasurer: Sirkku Kontinen, Somerville, MA; hospitality: Linda Lindell, Lexington, MA; newsletter: Saana McDaniel, Arlington, MA; nominating committee: Auli Batts, Wellesley, MA, Anneli Johnson, Quincy, MA, and Anni Pirinen-Valme, Medford, MA.

President's message

May I introduce myself - I am Elina Lehtinen, the new president of the Finlandia Foundation. I am a mother of two young boys, a five-year-old and a two-year-old, a journalist and a wife of a venture capitalist. My husband's work brought us here, but there are synergies for the whole family. I am able to pursue my own interests - politics and culture - and we have always wanted our sons to learn English at a young age. We have settled down in Lexington.

I received my masters degree from the University of Helsinki in political science/international relations in the early 90's. I also have another degree in journalism and I have worked ten years for major newspapers and for the TV news in Finland. I specialized in domestic politics. Now I am trying to continue my post graduate studies.

Initially we were supposed to arrive in Boston on September 12, 2001, but for obvious reasons our plans got diverted by 10 days. I think that what happened on 9/11 has had an impact on us settling down. We sense that the change in America has subsequently been a big one - wars of different kinds have been and continue to be the main agenda

in the media and between people. As a mother it makes me nervous, as a journalist it makes me curious, but as a foreign resident it makes me sad. America - the promised land, melting pot of nations, has become a fortress filled with suspicion and anger.

Well, nations go through different stages of development which history has shown many times. So does Finlandia Foundation. My presidency will definitely be affected by the current issues and hopefully we'll hear some stimulating speakers. I am convinced that we'll all need some esthetic experiences as well - something that good music, art, ballet, literature and movies can give us. This will be a part of the program too.

I wish that this year's meetings will give you something to think, something to drink, something to share with people who care!

Sincerely,
Elina Lehtinen

Welcome new members

Finlandia Foundation Boston Chapter welcomes its new members: Tellevo Korhonen of Medford; Antti and Arja Rau-tainen of Winchester.

Hospitality thanks

We would like to recognize the contributors for the February coffee table: Linda Lindell, Ellen Lindell, Aira Schkuta, Barbara Aalto, Ritva Garutti, Liisa Rosetti, Vera Smith, Anneli Johnson, Betsy Short, and Sirkku Kontinen. Thank you!

Calendar of events

March 29 - Suomi-koulu, 10 a.m. Waldorf School, Lexington
March 30 - Chapter Meeting, 1 p.m.

April 1 - Board meeting, 8 p.m. Elina Lehtinen's house, Lexington 781-652-8729

April 27 - Chapter meeting, 3 p.m. Director Lindholm will present his movie *Leijat Helsingin yllä* at Belmont Movie Theatre, Trapelo Road, Belmont

May 10 - Suomi-koulu's leirikoulu, 10 a.m., Kaleva Maja, Littleton

May 18 - Chapter Meeting, 3 p.m. Dr. Miikka Peltomaa will lecture about lyme disease, cookout and sauna at Uljas Koitto Temperance Society, Pembroke

October 26 - Chapter meeting, 3 p.m. Ambassador Jukka Valtasaari, Scandinavian Living Center, Newton.

FF Boston, Inc.

Gammeldans 1

Featuring accordionists

Nils Lundin, Ebbe Jularbo and Lennart Wärmell

This CD of gammeldans (old-time dance) music is a quality digital reproduction of an LP recorded by Nils O. Lundin, Lennart Wärmell and the late Ebbe Jularbo (1915-91) in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1972. It contains five waltzes, three hambos, two schottisches, two tangos, and two polkas including including Lundin's "American Wooden Shoe Polka."

Born in Sweden in 1921, Nils Lundin came to the USA in 1929. He has been playing Scandinavian music and other ethnic-type music, as well as ballroom dance music, for over 60 years in the New England area. He has played at many dances of Finnish American organizations through the years.

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RAIVAAJA
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HUOMIO! Whomever borrowed a plastic bag with some Finnish magazines from the Scandinavian Library in West Newton (MA) is asked to return it.

New York City

A solo exhibition of painter Maritta Nurmi is currently on display at Gallery Sideshow, 319 Bedford Avenue Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

The exhibition closes April 6th. Gallery hours are Fri thru Mon 12 - 6 p.m.

The exhibition includes recent paintings by Nurmi infused with silver, which in the mythological world is the special color of the spirit world and of the moon. During Nurmi's nine-year-long journey in Vietnam, her paintings have undergone a total change.

Nurmi has exhibited her work in solo exhibits in Finland and in Vietnam.

ELECTIONS

from page 7

Voter turnout was up slightly on 1999, but the stay-at-homes were still the largest party. In terms of average age, the new Parliament will be older than the last group of 200, and it will have slightly more than 60 "new" MPs, though some are actually making comebacks after a spell in the wilderness.

The chamber will also have a sizeable number of celebrities from other fields, most noticeably the professional boxer Tony Halme (True Finns), who astonishingly gained more votes in Helsinki than did Anneli Jäätteenmäki.

Final seats and percentages:
 Centre Party 55 seats (+7) 24.7%
 SDP 53 seats (+2) 24.5%
 National Coalition Party 40 seats (-6) 18.5%
 Left Alliance 19 seats (-1) 9.9%
 Greens 14 seats (+3) 8.0%
 Swedish People's Party 8 seats (-3) 4.6%
 Christian Democrats 7 seats (-3) 5.3%
 True Finns 3 seats (+2) 1.6%
 Others 1 seat (+0) 0.5%

(HS)

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 April 18, 7 PM

Easter Sunday April 20
 Free Breakfast 8 AM
 Worship 10 AM

Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

- Mar. 26 - Lecture by Architect Mikko Heikkinen, principal at Heikkinen+Komonen, Helsinki, 7 pm, SCI-Arc campus, 960 E Third St, Los Angeles. Free admission & parking. Info: www.sciarc.edu
- Mar. 29 - Finlandia Foundation's Golden Jubilee Gala, 6-11 pm, Grand Ballroom, Furama Hotel, 8601 Lincoln Blvd, Los Angeles. Co-sponsored by Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation & Finlandia Foundation National. Info: 714-996-51156 or mokuji1@ix.netcom.com
- Apr. 5-6 - Scandinavian Festival 2003, 10 am-5 pm both days, California Lutheran University, 60 W Olsen Rd, Thousand Oaks. Celebrating Nordic/Baltic Cultures. Info: 805-493-3269.
- Apr. 6 - Finnish film *Mies vailla menneisyyttä* (Man Without a Past), 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. Directed by Aki Kaurismäki (2002), stars Kati Outinen and Markku Peltola. Nominee for Best Foreign Film Academy Award. English subtitles. Info: 510-849-0125.
- Apr. 12 - Suomi Kerho's Easter Bazaar & Dinner, 5 pm, LA Finnish Center, 10701 Magnolia Blvd, North Hollywood. Info: www.suomikerho.org
- May 4 - Finnish film *Bad Luck Love*, 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, Berkeley. Directed by Olli Saarela (2000), stars Jorma Tommikka, Tommi Eronen, Maria Järvenhelmi. Finnish sound only. 1 hr 29 min.

COLORADO

- May 3 - Finlandia Foundation of Colorado Vappu celebration, Pulju's House, 2647 S Xenon Way, Lakewood. Info: 303-989-0980.

CONNECTICUT

- Mar. 21 - Reception for artist Eric Aho, 6-8 pm, Paesaggio Gallery, 966 Farmington Ave, West Hartford. Recent work by Aho will be on exhibit at the gallery March 18-April 19. Info: 860-233-1932.
- Apr. 3 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 N Canterbury Rd (Rte 169), Canterbury.
- Apr. 5 - Finnish Culinary Delights, 1:30 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Info: 860-546-6671 or info@fahs-ct.org
- Apr. 12 - Spring Clean-up Day, 9 am-1 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

FLORIDA

- Mar. 27 - Fashion Show & Luncheon, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, 6016 Delaware, New Port Richey. Advance tickets required: 727-849-6349, 727-845-0097 or 727-942-3916.
- Mar. 29 - Hawaii dance sponsored by Finland House, 7 pm, Finland House, 301 W Central Blvd, Lantana.
- Apr. 2 - Membership meeting & Pot Luck, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.
- Apr. 9 - Finnish American Club Snowbird Picnic, Shelter 4, Anderson Park, New Port Richey. Info: 727-847-3280.
- May 4 - Vappu Pot Luck Dinner, Program & Dance, 2-6 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey. Music by Margene.
- May 7 - Membership meeting & Pot Luck, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

ILLINOIS

- Mar. 29 - Workshop for children under age 12 to be conducted by vocalist Maarit Vaga, Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year 2003, 3:30-5:30 pm, Estonian House, Estonian Lane, Lincolnshire. Info: 815-444-4240.
- Concert by soprano Maarit Vaga, Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year, 7 pm, Estonian House, Lincolnshire. Finnish-American Society of the Midwest co-sponsor. Info: 815-444-4240.

MAINE

- Apr. 5 - The Maine Kantele Consort will present an afternoon of entertainment & refreshments, 2 pm, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, South Paris. Refreshments will be provided by the Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine. Donations will be accepted at the door & proceeds will benefit Kantele Lailu Inc. and the Maine Kantele Institute in July. Info: kantelelailu@aol.com
- Apr. 17 - Finn-Am Society of Mid-Coast Maine regular meeting, 7 pm, Owls Head Community Center, Owls Head.
- Apr. 20 - Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris.

MASSACHUSETTS

- Mar. 25 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Saima Park, Scott Rd, Fitchburg.
- Mar. 29 - Suomi-koulu of New England, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, 739 Mass. Ave, Lexington. Info: 617-764-1761 or petri_01@hotmail.com
- Mar. 30 - Finlandia Foundation Boston Chapter meeting, Boston Ballet, The Wang Center, 270 Tremont St, Boston. Preshow talk by the Ballet's new artistic director Mikko Nissinen, 1 pm; Boston Ballet performance of *All Balanchine*, 2 pm; half-hour guided backstage tour after performance. Contact Elina Lehtinen (781-652-8729) for ticket info.
- Apr. 1 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg.
- Apr. 5 - Raivaaja Publishing Company annual meeting, 10 am, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Registration begins 9:30 am.
- Apr. 6 - Spring Fling snack/dance, 3-7 pm, Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave, Braintree. Dancing 3-4:30; followed by beef

vegetable soup with chicken sandwiches, dessert with a variety of sweets. Reservations: 781-659-2206.

- Apr. 9 - Finnish Center at Saima Park Inc. membership meeting, 7:30 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg.
- Apr. 25 - Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod monthly meeting, 7 pm, West Barnstable Community Building, Rt 149, West Barnstable.
- Apr. 26 - Suomi-koulu of New England, 10 am-12 noon, Kaleva Maja, Fort Pond, Littleton.
- Apr. 27 - Vappu May Day 2003 celebration, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Luncheon buffet, dancing, program.

MICHIGAN

- Mar. 28 - Supper with music by Soitoniekat, 5:30-8 pm, Lounge, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills.
- Apr. 2 - Finnweavers meeting, 10:30 am, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Apr. 12 - Flea Market, 9 am-3 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Informal Finnish Language Class, 12 noon-2 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Soitoniekat Jam Session, 1-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Apr. 13 - Finnish Center Association general meeting, 2:30 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

MINNESOTA

- May 2-4 - Work Weekend, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 218-564-4266 or laitenen@wcta.net
- May 4-10 - Spring Adult Week, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 800-450-2214 or kennedy@cord.edu
- June 9-14 - One-week Exploratory session for ages 7-11, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Cultural & language-learning activities. Info: 800-222-4750, info@finnsonline.org or www.concordialanguagevillages.org
- June 16-21 - One-week Exploratory session for ages 11-15, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Cultural & language-learning activities.
- June 23-July 5 - Two-week Immersion session for ages 12-18, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Focus on spoken language & culture.
- June 23-July 19 - Four week credit session for grades 9-12, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. A more intensive study of Finnish at any level of language proficiency.
- July 7-July 19 - Two-week Immersion session for ages 8-13, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Focus on spoken language & culture.

NEW JERSEY

- June 14 - 15th annual Scandinavian American Heritage Society Midsummer Celebration, Farleigh Dickinson University, Madison. Info: 201-493-8672 or SAHSNJ.org

NEW YORK

- Mar. 23 - Concert by Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, with Karita Mattila, soprano, 3 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. Mattila to sing *Four Last Songs* by Strauss. Ticket info: 212-875-5030 or www.lincolncenter.org
- Mar. 24 - Concert by Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, 8 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. Program to feature music by John Adams and Bartok. Ticket info: 212-875-5030 or www.lincolncenter.org
- Mar. 26 - Finnish American Chamber of Commerce luncheon, 12:30 pm, Scandinavia House, 58 Park Ave, New York City. Topic: 'Corporate Reform? The New SEC Auditor Independence Rules: Implications for Audit Committees and Management' by Laurence N. Charney, partner, Ernst & Young LLP. Pre-registration (deadline Mar. 21) required due to limited seating. Info: 212-821-0225.
- Mar. 31 - Concert by Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Paavo Järvi conducting, with Vadim Repin, violin, 8 pm, Isaac Stern Auditorium, Carnegie Hall, 881 Seventh Ave, New York City. Program to include Sibelius's Violin Concerto. Ticket info: 212-247-7800; www.carnegiehall.org; Box Office corner of 57th & Seventh Ave.
- Apr. 5 - New York Suomi-koulu flea market, 10:30 am-4:30 pm, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 88th St & Lexington Ave, New York City. For more info call Heli Blum at 212-410-2626 (after Mar. 24).
- Apr. 11 - Finlandia Foundation Metropolitan Chapter membership meeting, Estonia House, 243 E 34th St, New York City.
- Apr. 16 - Finger Lakes Finns dish-to-pash luncheon, business meeting and program, 1 pm, Fire Hall, West Danby.

TEXAS

- Apr. 17 - Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Ft Worth monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Freeway, Dallas.

VERMONT

- Mar. 22 - Vermont's 4th Annual St Urho Celebration, 7 pm, Grange Hall, Waterbury Center. Live music to be provided by Papu (Carol Reinholm). Dancing, songs, games, refreshments. Bring snacks & soft drinks - Finnish foods especially welcome. Coffee provided. All donations to benefit FinnFunn 2003. Info & RSVP for planning purposes: jrnutt@pshift.com or 802-244-8042.

Events subject to change without notice

New York City

A solo exhibition of painter Maritta Nurmi is currently on display at Gallery Sideshow, 319 Bedford Avenue Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

The exhibition closes April 6th. Gallery hours are Fri thru Mon 12 - 6 p.m.

The exhibition includes recent paintings by Nurmi infused with silver, which in the mythological world is the special color of the spirit world and of the moon. During Nurmi's nine-year-long journey in Vietnam, her paintings have undergone a total change.

Nurmi has exhibited her work in solo exhibits in Finland and in Vietnam.

ELECTIONS

from page 7

Voter turnout was up slightly in 1999, but the stay-at-homes were still the largest party. In terms of average age, the new Parliament will be older than the last group of 200, and it will have slightly more than 60 "new" MPs, though some are actually making comebacks after a spell in the wilderness.

The chamber will also have a sizeable number of celebrities from other fields, most noticeably the professional boxer Tony Halme (True Finns), who astonishingly gained more votes in Helsinki than did Anneli Jäätteenmäki.

Final seats and percentages:
Centre Party 55 seats (+7) 24.7%
SDP 53 seats (+2) 24.5%
National Coalition Party 40 seats (-6) 18.5%
Left Alliance 19 seats (-1) 9.9%
Greens 14 seats (+3) 8.0%
Swedish People's Party 8 seats (-3) 4.6%
Christian Democrats 7 seats (-3) 5.3%
True Finns 3 seats (+2) 1.6%
Others 1 seat (+0) 0.5%

(HS)

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Sunday Worship 10 AM
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And Bible Study

Lenten Matins 6 AM
Through April 9
Free Breakfast Follows!

Maundy Thursday
April 17, 7 PM

Good Friday Tenebrae
April 18, 7 PM

Easter Sunday April 20
Free Breakfast 8 AM
Worship 10 AM

Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

- Mar. 26 - Lecture by Architect Mikko Heikkinen, principal at Heikkinen+Komonen, Helsinki, 7 pm, SCI-Arc campus, 960 E Third St, Los Angeles. Free admission & parking. Info: www.sciarc.edu
- Mar. 29 - Finlandia Foundation's Golden Jubilee Gala, 6-11 pm, Grand Ballroom, Furama Hotel, 8601 Lincoln Blvd, Los Angeles. Co-sponsored by Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation & Finlandia Foundation National. Info: 714-996-51156 or mokuj1@ix.netcom.com
- Apr. 5-6 - Scandinavian Festival 2003, 10 am-5 pm both days, California Lutheran University, 60 W Olsen Rd, Thousand Oaks. Celebrating Nordic/Baltic Cultures. Info: 805-493-3269.
- Apr. 6 - Finnish film *Mies vailla menneisyyttä* (Man Without a Past), 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. Directed by Aki Kaurismäki (2002), stars Kati Outinen and Markku Peltola. Nominee for Best Foreign Film Academy Award. English subtitles. Info: 510-849-0125.
- Apr. 12 - Suomi Kerho's Easter Bazaar & Dinner, 5 pm, LA Finnish Center, 10701 Magnolia Blvd, North Hollywood. Info: www.suomikerho.org
- May 4 - Finnish film *Bad Luck Love*, 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, Berkeley. Directed by Olli Saarela (2000), stars Jorma Tommikka, Tommi Eronen, Maria Järvenhelmi. Finnish sound only. 1 hr 29 min.

COLORADO

- May 3 - Finlandia Foundation of Colorado Vappu celebration, Pulju's House, 2647 S Xenon Way, Lakewood. Info: 303-989-0980.

CONNECTICUT

- Mar. 21 - Reception for artist Eric Aho, 6-8 pm, Paesaggio Gallery, 966 Farmington Ave, West Hartford. Recent work by Aho will be on exhibit at the gallery March 18-April 19. Info: 860-233-1932.
- Apr. 3 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 N Canterbury Rd (Rte 169), Canterbury.
- Apr. 5 - Finnish Culinary Delights, 1:30 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Info: 860-546-6671 or info@fahs-ct.org
- Apr. 12 - Spring Clean-up Day, 9 am-1 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

FLORIDA

- Mar. 27 - Fashion Show & Luncheon, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, 6016 Delaware, New Port Richey. Advance tickets required: 727-849-6349, 727-845-0097 or 727-942-3916.
- Mar. 29 - Hawaii dance sponsored by Finland House, 7 pm, Finland House, 301 W Central Blvd, Lantana.
- Apr. 2 - Membership meeting & Pot Luck, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.
- Apr. 9 - Finnish American Club Snowbird Picnic, Shelter 4, Anderson Park, New Port Richey. Info: 727-847-3280.
- May 4 - Vappu Pot Luck Dinner, Program & Dance, 2-6 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey. Music by Margene.
- May 7 - Membership meeting & Pot Luck, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

ILLINOIS

- Mar. 29 - Workshop for children under age 12 to be conducted by vocalist Maarit Vaga, Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year 2003, 3:30-5:30 pm, Estonian House, Estonian Lane, Lincolnshire. Info: 815-444-4240.
- Concert by soprano Maarit Vaga, Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year, 7 pm, Estonian House, Lincolnshire. Finnish-American Society of the Midwest co-sponsor. Info: 815-444-4240.

MAINE

- Apr. 5 - The Maine Kantele Consort will present an afternoon of entertainment & refreshments, 2 pm, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, South Paris. Refreshments will be provided by the Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine. Donations will be accepted at the door & proceeds will benefit Kantele Laulu Inc. and the Maine Kantele Institute in July. Info: kantelelaulu@aol.com
- Apr. 17 - Finn-Am Society of Mid-Coast Maine regular meeting, 7 pm, Owls Head Community Center, Owls Head.
- Apr. 20 - Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris.

MASSACHUSETTS

- Mar. 25 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Saima Park, Scott Rd, Fitchburg.
- Mar. 29 - Suomi-koulu of New England, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, 739 Mass. Ave, Lexington. Info: 617-764-1761 or petri_01@hotmail.com
- Mar. 30 - Finlandia Foundation Boston Chapter meeting, Boston Ballet, The Wang Center, 270 Tremont St, Boston. Preshow talk by the Ballet's new artistic director Mikko Nissinen, 1 pm; Boston Ballet performance of *All Balanchine*, 2 pm; half-hour guided backstage tour after performance. Contact Elina Lehtinen (781-652-8729) for ticket info.
- Apr. 1 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg.
- Apr. 5 - Raivaaja Publishing Company annual meeting, 10 am, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Registration begins 9:30 am.
- Apr. 6 - Spring Fling snack/dance, 3-7 pm, Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave, Braintree. Dancing 3-4:30; followed by beef

vegetable soup with chicken sandwiches, dessert with a variety of sweets. Reservations: 781-659-2206.

- Apr. 9 - Finnish Center at Saima Park Inc. membership meeting, 7:30 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg.
- Apr. 25 - Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod monthly meeting, 7 pm, West Barnstable Community Building, Rt 149, West Barnstable.
- Apr. 26 - Suomi-koulu of New England, 10 am-12 noon, Kaleva Maja, Fort Pond, Littleton.
- Apr. 27 - Vappu May Day 2003 celebration, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Luncheon buffet, dancing, program.

MICHIGAN

- Mar. 28 - Supper with music by Soittoniekat, 5:30-8 pm, Lounge, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills.
- Apr. 2 - Finnweavers meeting, 10:30 am, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Apr. 12 - Flea Market, 9 am-3 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Informal Finnish Language Class, 12 noon-2 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Soittoniekat Jam Session, 1-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.
- Apr. 13 - Finnish Center Association general meeting, 2:30 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

MINNESOTA

- May 2-4 - Work Weekend, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 218-564-4266 or laiti nen@wcta.net
- May 4-10 - Spring Adult Week, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, Bemidji. Info: 800-450-2214 or kennedy@cord.edu
- June 9-14 - One-week Exploratory session for ages 7-11, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Cultural & language-learning activities. Info: 800-222-4750, info@finnsonline.org or www.concordialanguagevillages.org
- June 16-21 - One-week Exploratory session for ages 11-15, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Cultural & language-learning activities.
- June 23-July 5 - Two-week Immersion session for ages 12-18, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Focus on spoken language & culture.
- June 23-July 19 - Four week credit session for grades 9-12, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. A more intensive study of Finnish at any level of language proficiency.
- July 7-July 19 - Two-week Immersion session for ages 8-13, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. Focus on spoken language & culture.

NEW JERSEY

- June 14 - 15th annual Scandinavian American Heritage Society Midsummer Celebration, Farleigh Dickinson University, Madison. Info: 201-493-8672 or SAHSNJ.org

NEW YORK

- Mar. 23 - Concert by Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, with Karita Mattila, soprano, 3 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. Mattila to sing *Four Last Songs* by Strauss. Ticket info: 212-875-5030 or www.lincolncenter.org
- Mar. 24 - Concert by Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, 8 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. Program to feature music by John Adams and Bartok. Ticket info: 212-875-5030 or www.lincolncenter.org
- Mar. 26 - Finnish American Chamber of Commerce luncheon, 12:30 pm, Scandinavia House, 58 Park Ave, New York City. Topic: 'Corporate Reform? The New SEC Auditor Independence Rules: Implications for Audit Committees and Management' by Laurence N. Charney, partner, Ernst & Young LLP. Pre-registration (deadline Mar. 21) required due to limited seating. Info: 212-821-0225.
- Mar. 31 - Concert by Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Paavo Järvi conducting, with Vadim Repin, violin, 8 pm, Isaac Stern Auditorium, Carnegie Hall, 881 Seventh Ave, New York City. Program to include Sibelius's Violin Concerto. Ticket info: 212-247-7800; www.carnegiehall.org; Box Office corner of 57th & Seventh Ave.
- Apr. 5 - New York Suomi-koulu flea market, 10:30 am-4:30 pm, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 88th St & Lexington Ave, New York City. For more info call Heli Blum at 212-410-2626 (after Mar. 24).
- Apr. 11 - Finlandia Foundation Metropolitan Chapter membership meeting, Estonia House, 243 E 34th St, New York City.
- Apr. 16 - Finger Lakes Finns dish-to-pash luncheon, business meeting and program, 1 pm, Fire Hall, West Danby.

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Events subject to change without notice

Nordic Lodge ends its winter season

HOLDEN, MA - The Nordic Lodge ended its winter events at the Immanuel Lutheran Church with a dinner and dance held in the gymnasium at the church March 8th. A crowd of 185 people attended this dinner dance, the last one of the winter programs the Nordic Lodge has sponsored.

The dinner was served promptly at 6:30 p.m. by the kitchen committee, and the meatball dinner was excellent. Bob Belden, the master of ceremony at these events, and the dedicated volunteer workers always do an outstanding job organizing these

dinner dances. They all can be proud of their accomplishment satisfying so many people who attend these special affairs at the church facility.

There has been nothing but praise from the participants for the outstanding dinner dances these members of the Nordic Lodge have put on through the many years they have run their programs. Many of the people who support Nordic Lodge are now looking forward to the summer programs at Sovittaja Park, sponsored by the Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja Park in Rutland. Barry Heiniluoma,

president, and Bob Belden as vice president at Sovittaja Park have many outstanding programs for their summer season at the park starting in June.

The orchestra this evening at the dinner dance in Holden included Nils Lundin on accordion, Jack Curran playing his drums and they were joined by Robert Ness with his saxophone. The music was excellent.

The dancers enjoyed polkas, tangos, hambos, and many line dances were played. The dance floor was crowded all night and at intermission the committee served coffee and the usual coffee bread, a delight for the many in the audience.

There were also some birthdays that Nils Lundin announced - Sven Carlson, a very well known person amongst the Scandinavians celebrated his 93rd birthday. His wife, Alice, had the honor of being the grand master of the Vasa Order in America, Canada and Sweden for many years. These two special persons are very dedicated to their heritage.

Nils Lundin announced five more birthdays: Siv Kristianson, Stella Trottier, Maggie Erickson, Eileen Granfors and Al Secilius, a famous vocalist who often sings with Nils Lundin's orchestra. For all of these birthday celebrants, Nils's orchestra played the traditional birthday songs, both in Swedish and English.

Nils Granfors sang a special song for his wife, Eileen, "Man skall leva for varandra" in Swedish (in English: You shall live for each other and take care of the time you have together, because soon there will be only memories left.) Very appropriate song for everyone who celebrated their birthdays.

Successful Finnish - US exchange program

KENNETH SQUARE, PA - The Upland-Finnish Exchange Program began in 1977 as the brainchild of Dr. John M. Cleveland, who believed that international travel and exchange, using sports as a vehicle for sharing friendship even when language might be a barrier, was an invaluable educational opportunity for young people.

On vacation in Turku, Finland, Dr. Cleveland met and shared his idea with Juhani Wahlsten, a Finnish coach who, in turn, talked over the idea with his next-door neighbors, Dr. and Mrs. Stig Holmberg. The following fall, Mika, the Holmberg's eldest son, became Upland's first Finnish student.

Following Mika's year at Upland, Dr. and Mrs. Holmberg presented the School with The Finnish Cup of Friendship to commemorate the relationship

which had developed between us.

Awarded at graduation, the Cup is "presented to a member of the School whose warm, open, friendly personality has enhanced the life of the School in a special way." Recipients are chosen by the faculty and have included Dr. and Mrs. Cleveland (1984) and Mikko Kirkkola, the Finnish Official for Upland Overseas (1997).

The program has evolved into a dynamic experience for students on both sides of the Atlantic. Each year in March, eighth and ninth grade students travel to Finland, the girls one year, the boys the next, to play hockey and volleyball, stay with Finnish families, and learn about the history and culture of the country.

The School reciprocates each



Music was provided by Jack Curran, Robert Ness and Nils Lundin.
photos: Nils Granfors



Alice and Sven Carlson are enjoying the meal. Sven was celebrating his 93rd birthday.



Nils Granfors sang a birthday song to his wife, Eileen. He was accompanied by Nils Lundin.



Bob Belden was the master of ceremonies.

This pleasant event was drawing to an end. Many are sure to miss these delightful dinner

dances. A well deserved thank you goes to the Nordic Lodge for its continued dedication to its ethnic traditions in keeping up its Scandinavian heritage.

But we cannot forget to also support other ethnic organizations in this area. We have the Finnish Center at Saima Park with Henry Flinkstrom as president and his dedicated members putting on many events. In their summer season the famous *Kesäjuhla* (summer festival), which is organized with Raivaaaja, will be held around midsummer (21-22 June) at Saima Park. This is always a successful event at the Finnish Center at Saima Park in Fitchburg. Also, the Viking club in Braintree will celebrate its midsummer festival in June. The Swedish Federation in Worcester will have its midsummer at SAC Park this summer.

Let us support all these ethnic groups and keep up our proud Scandinavian heritage for the younger generations to enjoy in many years to come.

Nils Granfors

March is Women's History Month

Here is a selection of memoirs written by
Finnish American women available
from RAIVAAJA BOOKSTORE

Memories of a Sailor, His Angel & Me

by Irja Wenstrom

Growing up in New Jersey, New York City and Connecticut in the 1920s & '30s

softcover, 193 pages, illustrated with photographs \$12.95

My Story, Inkeri's Journey

by Inkeri Väänänen-Jensen

The author writes of her childhood on Minnesota's Iron Range, the Depression, World War II, marriage and children, and 'discovering' Finland.

softcover, 183 pages, illustrated with photographs \$12.95

Me and My Life

by Maria Lindroos

The author, born in northern Finland in 1894, came to the U.S. in 1916. She recounts growing up in Finland, immigration and life as a young single woman holding various jobs from maid to textile worker in north central Massachusetts.

hardcover, 129 pages \$7.50

The Finn in Me

The Chronicles of a Karelian Emigrant

by Sinikka Gronberg Garcia

This author retraces the steps of her long, and sometimes frightening, life journey from Finnish Karelia to North America and, finally, the U.S. When she was eight years old the Winter War forced her family out of their home. The author's diaries and journals from the 1930s to the '50s form the basis of this book.

softcover, 116 pages, photographs \$9.95

A Coming Home For Me

by Aili Jarvenpa

She writes of her youth in 1920s & '30s Cloquet (MN), about her relatives and also essays, fiction, humor, translations and poetry.

softcover, 88 pages, photographs \$10.00

Helmi Mavis: A Finnish American Girlhood

by Mavis Hiltunen-Biesanz

Growing up in a small farming community in northeastern Minnesota, 1920s & '30s.

softcover, 200 pages, illustrated with photographs and drawings \$12.95

add \$3.00 per order for postage and handling
(Mass. residents must also add 5% state sales tax)

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turn to SUCCESSFUL page 12

Finnish Heritage House to be established in Maine

SO. THOMASTON, ME - The first stage of interior restoration for the former parsonage of the Finnish Congregational Church on Route 131 is nearing completion. This part of the renovation involves the resurfacing of all walls and ceilings of the first floor rooms in 3/4" tongue & groove pine paneling. This paneling is in keeping with the interior of the original church, and the recent Miettinen Room fellowship hall addition.

The ultimate goal of this project is to transform the former parsonage into a non-profit corporate entity that will be named

the "Finnish Heritage House." This will become a library, museum, archives, and research center, dedicated to the preservation of the culture of the Finnish immigrants who settled within the mid-coastal area of Maine.

Another important feature will be the promotion of genealogical research, with Internet access through a future in-house computer. Finland has recently created vast electronic records of: births, christenings, weddings, deaths, and emigration. In the near future, these records can be searched by local volunteers, manning this new center on pre-

scribed days of each week.

The Church Council has announced a target date for a combined Open House and organizational meeting. This is tentatively planned for this May 31st (Saturday).

Any person interested in the project is urged to attend, and their input is invited. All local historical societies and libraries are also invited to participate, as their advice will be appreciated, and mutual cooperation could be beneficial.

The parsonage has been in relatively good repair over the years, although it ceased to be used forty years ago as a home for Finnish pastors. It was constructed from new materials in 1930, while the adjacent Mission Church was built in 1923 from the salvaged lumber of a former boarding house in Waldoboro.

The latest parsonage maintenance was in the form of a complete exterior paint job in 2000, financed by Mrs. Lois Harjula of Thomaston. A beloved retired teacher, who also served as pianist for the church, she regularly donated to the reconstruction of the church during her last years.

The original congregation was organized in 1907, with 20 members meeting at various homes. After severe difficulties during those early years, they again reorganized in 1912 with 55 members, but still with no house of worship. Finally, under the continuing leadership of Rev. & Mrs. Lauri P. Miettinen, (and local Finnish families with names still common in the area) a church corporation was formed on December 24, 1921.

That official meeting was held

at the District No. 1 School in South Thomaston, which was also called the Finnish Schoolhouse, or the Georges River School. This eventually resulted in the construction of the present Finnish Congregational Church in 1923.

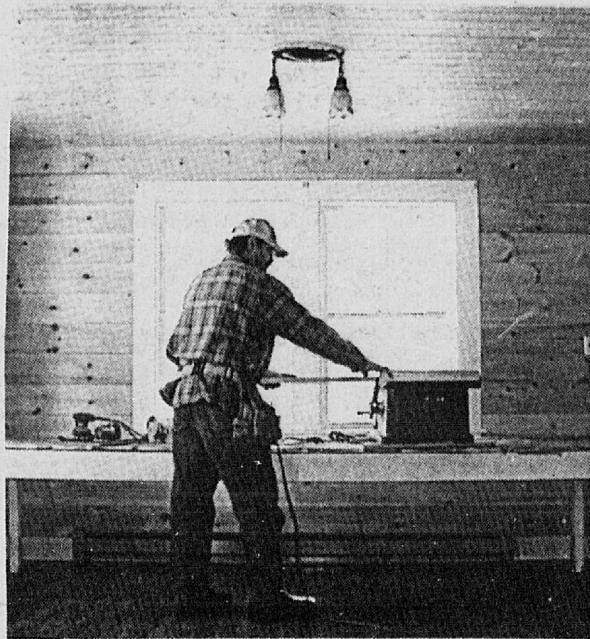
The little church was an active component in the lives of many of the first two generations of Finnish-Americans for possibly another 50 years, but then membership declined steadily until 1995.

Rather than see the very last of these Finnish Mission Churches close, the local Finnish-American Society undertook the responsibility of building restoration, and recruiting of new membership. Today, this church is again growing, and an active part of the coastal community.

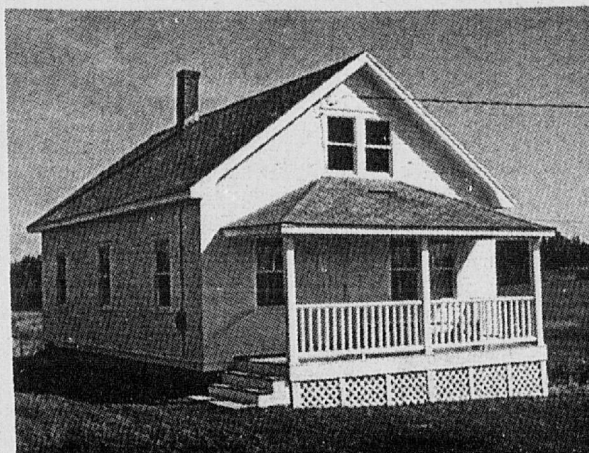
This first step in the transformation of "parsonage-to-research-center" was made possible by a Community Grants Program in June 2002, with matching funds from the Finnish-American Society of Mid-Coast Maine, gifts from individual donors, and church funds completing the balance.

The next plan is for the renovated building to be leased through the church to a new corporation, which will then operate independently of both the church and the society, as long as Finnish Heritage House promotes ongoing research and preservation of their mutual immigrant heritage.

Art Jura



Alan Dearborn, of Rockland, installing pine paneling in a room in the former parsonage. photos: Art Jura



The exterior of the former parsonage.

SPORTS

from page 7

Cup playoffs, Selanne can now join with the Finnish Leijonat (Lions) to play in the World championships.

Two Finnish NHL players did get traded away on the last day possible. Defenseman Janne Niinimaa moves from the Edmonton Oilers to the New York Islanders.

Janne Laukkanen was traded by the New York Rangers to Tampa Bay.

Väänänen help Coyotes win

Ossi Väänänen, who was hit by a car in Florida recently, looked none the worse for the wear as his third period goal put the game on ice as his Phoenix Coyotes defeated the San Jose Sharks, 6-4, in a National Hockey League game in Arizona on March 8.

The Sharks blew a 3-0 lead, as the Coyotes kicked into high gear. Teppo Numminen assisted Shane Doane in scoring another Phoenix goal in the 2nd period.

Teemu Selanne of San Jose had an assist in a goal made by Team mate Mike Ricci in the 3rd period. Väänänen's goal was his second of the season.

Selanne who in past years has routinely hit 50 goals a season, has had a relatively poor year this year with 27. In fact, San Jose which was considered a major Stanley Cup contender at the start of the season, has fared poorly and is out of contention for the 2003 playoffs.

San Jose has been engaging in heavy late season trading to try to boost their fortunes for next year. Rumored on the trading block or forwards Selanne and Vincent Damphouse, two Shark mainstays. Selanne's contract gives him the option to be traded or not, so who knows what will happen to this Finnish all-time great.

Kimi third in F1 opener

Finland's Kimi Räikkönen showed all his surplus sisu, when he shot up from a 15th place start to nail 3rd place on the winners' podium in the opener of the Formula One auto racing season at Melbourne, Australia on March 9. And winner was his McLaren-Mercedes team mate, David Coulthard of Scotland.

Seven-time world champion Michael Schumacher of Ger-

many of the Ferrari team, won the time trial the previous day to start from the pole position, and most of the wise money was on Big Schumi to start his season with another win. Coulthard and Räikkönen were the hardluck twins as Coulthard started from 11th position to Kimi's 15th.

But the McLarenites were not to be denied and with deft and powerful tooling, they ended up splashing bottles of the Old Bubbly on the winner's stand along with 2nd placer Juan Pablo Montoya of Colombia and the Williams team. Schumacher ended up in 4th place.

Räikkönen drove the fastest lap of the race, the 32nd, in 1:27.724. Initial ranking after this opener thus read: Coulthard 10 points, Montoya 8, Räikkönen 6, and Schumacher 5.

Ilonen is so iloinen

Finnish ace men's golfer Mikko Ilonen has good reason to be very iloinen (happy) today with his 6th place finish in the Dubai Desert Classic golf tourney in the United Arab Emirates on March 9.

After two days, after shooting a pair of 67's (par 72), he was tied for first place with four world elite golfers who included Ernie

Els of South Africa, considered next to Tiger Woods among the best. This was the first time a Finn had ever done in international competition.

After slipping to a 73 on the third day, Ilonen came back with a roar in the last round for a 68, and 6th place, four shots behind the winner!

The winner was another sleeper, an unknown Hollander, Robert-Jan Derksen, who defeated Els by one stroke. Ilonen didn't strike oil in the desert, but came home with a tidy bundle of 52,558 Euros.

Tiger, watch your back; Mikko is on his way!

Kalle takes another

Finland's Kalle Palander won another World Cup slalom event at Shigalogen, Japan on March 7. His combined time for two runs was 1:41.14. He now leads the World Cup slalom series standings with 578 points.

He is 5th in World Cup overall standings with 598, which are led by Stephan Eberharter of Austria with 1,153.

In the women's World Cup slalom at Are, Sweden on March 8, Tanja Poutiainen finished 5th with 1:48.33, won by world champion Janica Kostelac of

Croatia in 1:45.84. Kostelac leads the season's slalom series with 710 points, and Finland's Poutiainen is 4th with 317.

Viljamaa 2nd in WC 30K XC

Finland's Annemari Viljamaa finished 2nd in the World Cup women's 30km classic cross-country skiing race in Oslo on March 9. Winner was Norway's powerful Bente Skari in 1:21:45.4, 2:07.4 minutes ahead of Viljamaa. Finland's Aino-Kaisa Saarinen was 3rd, 3:06.5 behind and 5th was Virpi Kuitunen, 3:23.1 behind.

On March 6, in the 1.7km XC Sprint, Kirsi Vähimaa was 3rd to Skari's win of 4:10.5, 7.6 seconds behind. Kari Venäläinen was 4th, 8.3 behind. In the men's 1.7km sprint at Oslo, Havard Bjerkell of Norway won in 3:41.8, with Lauri Pyykkönen of Finland 2nd in the same time.

Also at Oslo on March 6, Finland was 2nd in the World Cup team ski-jump event with 887.5 points.

Austria won with 908.5 and Germany was 3rd with 867.

The Finnish team was comprised of Veli-Matti Lindström, Tami Kiuru, Arttu Lappi, and Matti Hautamäki.

HALSEY VALLEY

from page 6

items of "good, better or best" quality.) Even baby chicks - a thousand at a time - were delivered by the RFD (Rural Free Delivery) carrier.

Our social life revolved around sharing sauna nights with neighbors and an occasional play or dance at the Van Etten Finn Hall. My connection to the outside world was the school bus.

I remember walking across the fields carrying kerosene lanterns to our Ellis Creek neighbors, the Natunens or to the Keturis across the road.

It would be the turn of one of the small circle of neighbors to fire up his sauna stove early in the day, so that it would be hot enough to provide bathing for two or three families by evening when the farm chores were over.

While one family was in the sauna the men played penny-ante poker while the women sat together and gossiped. Coffee and *nisu* were served and I have recollections of home-brewed beer being passed around.

Spencer Central School

For the three years that I attended Spencer Central School, classes through grade 12 were in a single modern brick building. A large-several story old school building stood empty and neglected across the street adjacent to Nichols Park.

Class sizes were small - 15 to 18 students in each grade. The first and second generation Finn kids were often about one third of each class. The Finn kids were bi-lingual and as their exposure to the English language was primarily at school, their spelling and grammar skills were generally quite good.

The farm was in the Owego

high high school district and although the Spencer school bus went by our driveway, I could not get on or get off the Spencer bus within the Owego district.

In order to attend high school in Spencer, a neighbor boy, Dick Huopana, and I had to walk about a mile uphill ("through waist-high snow drifts in the winter" - as I've told the grandkids) in order to get on and off the bus within the Spencer school district.

Changing generations

Young Finnish-Americans generally married non-Finns ("Yankees", as grandmother called them) as the Finnish influence in the community declined and as young people drifted away from the farms. To the best of our knowledge, Saima (maiden name Liuska) and I were the only young Finn couple to take the "pure-bred" Finn generation to the next level on the family tree with our six towheaded children.

Language changes with time

Immigrants from the early in the 20th century brought with them a time capsule of the language spoken at the time. In America, early "flying machines" ultimately became known as "airplanes." If you speak today about going up in a flying machine, people would think that you had been asleep longer than Rip Van Winkle.

The same language difference quickly revealed where and how you had learned to speak the language. We knew the archaic Finnish word for aircraft, *ilma-laiva*. The modern term in Finland now is *lentokone*. As soon as we used the archaic term, people in Finland would giggle and say, "We know a lot about you right away."

Social differences among the Finns

I remember that there was a modest social distinction between two loosely different groups of Finns. When many of the Finns came to America, Finland was administratively under the control of Russia. Around the time of the Russian Revolution, in Finland, as in Russia, there were two political groups, the "Whites" who were on the side of the Czar and the monarchists and the "Reds" who supported the revolutionaries.

The immigrants brought this political dichotomy with them to America. During my 1940s days in the Spencer area, I recognized that some families were "Church Finns" (Whites). Those of us who participated in Finn Hall activities and were more likely members of the Spencer Co-operative were "Finn Hall Finns" (Reds).

This differentiation was as subtle as now being Republicans or Democrats. There did not seem to be any real difference in the friendships between these groups of families, but as I remember it, families were more active socially within their Church/Finn Hall groups. This differentiation seems to have disappeared with the first generation that was born here.

Dances

Viola Turpeinen came to the Spencer Central School auditorium about once a year to play polkas, schottisches and other Finnish-American favorites that I still enjoy on CDs in my car. Ed Pytkas, a long time Co-op employee, was a one-man-band

that performed at the Finn Hall. He played drums and cymbals with his feet and accompanied those with a banjo. Norma Liuska of North Spencer often added her accordion to the lively music.

In Halsey Valley a meeting hall

to be continued

SUCCESSFUL

from page 10

year by hosting students from Finland who spend a year as members of Upland's ninth grade. There are four criteria for selection: Students selected are those who wouldn't ordinarily have the opportunity to visit this country. The students should be self-sufficient and mature enough to spend a year in a foreign country. The students must be in good standing academically. The students should be able to share their cultural experiences and impressions when they return to Finland.

In 1997, Mikko Kirkkola, brought twenty two members of the renowned Lahjan Tytöt gymnastics troupe to Upland for a special series of performances.

During that visit Mr. Kirkkola, acting on behalf of the Finnish government, presented Finland's gold Cross Medal to Dr. John M. Cleveland. The Golden Cross Medal is an honor bestowed by the Ministry of Education and has never been presented to anyone outside of Finland. Moments later, Upland turned the tables on Mr. Kirkkola by awarding him The Finnish Cup of Friendship.

In summary, Upland has benefited greatly through its Finnish connection. "Upland Overseas," has to date brought 54 Finnish

boys and girls to spend a year in the ninth grade here and sent some 400 students to experience Finnish life and culture.

In December 2002, Upland welcomed the TPS C-88 Ice Hockey Team and some 36 members of Lahjan Tytöt to spend a week celebrating the 25th Anniversary of this remarkable friendship.

The continuing goodwill gained and lifetime memories shared by students, faculty, coaches and families who participate are felt on both sides of the Atlantic.

Upland Country Day School
The Finnish Accent

BOSTONIN ... jatkoa sivulta 5

Jäsenten lukumäärä voisi määrytyä käytännön näkökohdista käsin. Mukana voisi hyvin olla esim 5-8 henkeä. Tärkeää olisi, että siinä olisi edustettuna mahdollisimman moni suomalaisyhteisössä jo tälläkin hetkellä vaikuttava taho.

Sunnuntaina 6. huhtikuuta klo 4 i.p. pidettävän jumalanpalveluksen jälkeen Walthamin luterilaisella kirkolla voimme keskustella tästä asiasta lisää ja valita Bostonin seudun kirkkotoimikunnan. Sitä ennen kannattaa miettiä toimikuntaan mahdollisia jäseniä ja käydä asiasta etukäiteiskeskustelua.

Minulla on ilo tulla viettämään kanssanne seuraavaa jumalanpalvelusta.

Tervetuloa kirkkoon ja samalla keskustelemaan Bostonin seudun seurakunnallisen toiminnan kehittämisestä.

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