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Halonen kiittelee Bushin yhteistyöhaluja

Suomen presidentti Tarja Halonen kiitteli presidentti George Bushin yhteistyöhaluja. Göteborgissa pidettyyn viimeviikkoiseen EU-huippukokoukseen osallistunut presidentti Halonen arvioi EU:n ja Yhdysvaltain välisen ympäristöyhteistyön olevan vahvistumassa.

EU-johtajat ja presidentti Bush tapasivat yhteisellä päivällisellä. Keskusteluissa käsiteltiin pitkään Kioton ilmastopöytäkirjan tilaa. Kaikki EU-maiden edustajat käyttivät puheenvuoron ja Bush puolestaan selosti amerikkalaislinjauksia. (MTV3)

Wärtsilälle iso kaasuvoimalatilaus

Wärtsilä on saanut ison kaasuvoimalatilaus USA:sta. Se on Wärtsilän historian suurin avaimet käteen -kaasuvoimalatilaus. Voimalaan tulee 20 Wärtsilän kaasumootoria. Tilaaja on Marylandissa sijaitseva energiayhtiö PG&E National Energy Group.

Voimalasta tulee yksi USA:n suurimmista mäntämootoreihin perustuvista maakaasuvoimaloista. Wärtsilä on viimeisen puolen vuoden aikana saanut kahdeksan kaasuvoimalatilausta USA:sta. (STT)

WWF tyytyväinen Suomen Itämeripolitiikkaan

Ympäristöjärjestö WWF:n pääjohtaja on kehunut Suomen Itämeripolitiikkaa. Pääjohtaja Claude Martin on Suomen vierailullaan kiittänyt Suomen aktiivisuutta Itämeren suojelemisessa. Martinin mielestä hallituksen päätös sektorirajat ylittävästä Itämeri-ohjelmasta on yksi hyvä esimerkki Suomen aktiivisuudesta. WWF:n pääjohtaja kuitenkin muistutti, että Suomen tulee varmistaa rahojen riittävyys Itämeren suojelemissa. (MTV3, STT)

Suomen ulkoministeriö tarvitsee lisää rahaa

Ulkoministeriö ei pysty hoitamaan sille annettuja tehtäviä nykyisillä voimavaroilla. Rahaa on saatava lisää, muuten ministeriö joutuu sulkemaan 1520 ulkomaanedustustoa. Tämä rampauttaisi Suomen edustautumisen Euroopan ulkopuolella, varoittaa ministeriö selvityksessään. Selvitys annettiin eduskunnan ulkoasiainvaliokunnalle.

Selvityksen mukaan ulkoministeriö ja edustustot tarvitsevat lähivuosina 4050 virkamiestä lisää pysyäkseen nykyisessä toimintakyvyssään. (STT)

SP: Suomen talous kasvaa suotuisasti

Hidastumisesta huolimatta Suomen talous kasvaa Suomen Pankin mukaan suotuisasti. USA:n talouden kehitys heittää varjon Suomenkin ylle, jos amerikkalaistalouden elpyminen viivästyy ja varsinkin, jos USA:ssa talouskasvu jää pitkäksi aikaa ennakoitua matalammaksi.

Kuluttajahintojen nousun Suomen Pankki arvioi olevan tänä vuonna 2,8 prosenttia ja kahtena seuraavana vuonna noin kaksi prosenttia. Työttömyysaste pysyy ennusten mukaan varsin korkeana, vuonna 2003 8,5 prosentissa. (STT)



Scandinavian entertainment

RUTLAND, MA - Swedish musicians Lars Karlsson and Jan-Olof Andersson entertained with American musicians at Sovittaja Park. Above, from left, Nils Lundin, Karlsson, Andersson, Bert Stromholm and Tuure Nilsson. Nils Granfors's story on page 11.

photo: Nils Granfors

Presidentti Tarja Halonen suosituimpi kuin koskaan

Suomen presidentti Tarja Halonen ja hallitus ovat kansalaisten keskuudessa huippusuosittuja. *Helsingin Sanomien* teettämän kyselyn mukaan 88 prosenttia kansasta antaa Haloselle melko tai erittäin hyvän arvosanan.

Presidentti Tarja Halonen voi olla tyytyväinen tämänpäiväiseen tutkimustulokseen. Kansa pitää Halosta jopa enemmän kuin presidentti Martti Ahtisaaresta. Myös hallitus saa kiitosta. 70 prosenttia

kansasta antaa nykyhallitukselle arvosanaksi erittäin hyvä tai melko hyvä.

Parhaimmat arvosanat hallitus saa hallituspuolueiden kannattajilta. Kokoomuksen, SDP:n ja RKP:n tukijoista yli 80 prosenttia toteaa hallituksen pärjänneen hyvin.

Yli puolet keskustaoppositiostakin on tyytyväisiä Paavo Lipposen kakkoshallitukseen. Keskusta niittää myös kehuja, sillä liki puolet väestöstä pitää puolueen oppositiopolitiikkaa hyvänä.

Halonen suosituimpi kuin Ahtisaari

Presidentti Tarja Halonen on nyt suosituimpi kuin koskaan aiemmin. 88 prosenttia kansasta antaa Haloselle yleisarvosanaksi melko tai erittäin hyvän, kertoo samainen kysely. Luku on viisi prosenttiyksikköä parempi kuin viime lokakuussa. Kansa on tyytyväinen myös presidentin tapaan hoitaa ulkopoliittia ja kykyyn vastata kansalaisten tarpeisiin. Tiedustelun mukaan presidentti on voittanut puolelleen erityisesti porvaripuolueiden kannattajia.

Halonen on nyt selvästi suosituimpi kuin edeltäjänsä Martti Ahtisaari presidentinuransa vastaväna ajankohtana. (MTV3)



Suomen Tasavallan presidentti Tarja Halonen.

This week in

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RAIVA AJA

• Finland's Jari Kurri bound for Hockey Hall of Fame

Suomen uutisia

Teollisuus kaipaa koulutettuja työntekijöitä

Teollisuus tarvitsee lisää koulutettua työvoimaa. Teollisuuden ja työnantajain TT:n jäsenyritykset arvioivat tuoreessa kyselyssä palkkaavansa tänä vuonna 44 000 uutta ihmistä. Palkattavista valtaosalla eli noin 35 000 uudella työntekijällä tulisi olla tutkinto joko ammatillisesta oppilaitoksesta tai korkeakoulusta, TT:sta kerrotaan. Tämä on lähes kolmanneksen enemmän kuin viime vuonna. Tarve keskittyy eteläiseen Suomeen ja pääkaupunkiseudulle.

Yritykset ovat kyselyn perusteella huolissaan ammatillisen koulutuksen laadusta ja määrästä. Yritykset toivovat, että vanha teknikkokoulutusta vastaava koulutus aloitettaisiin uudelleen, että työnjohtotehtäviin saataisiin motivoitunutta henkilöstöä. (MTV3, STT)

Tasa-arvolain rikkomisesta vaaditaan miljoonia

Kajaanin kaupunki on saanut miljoonavaateen tasa-arvolain rikkomisesta. Kajaanin kaupungin perusturvatöimälän naistyöntekijät vaativat kaupungilta korvauksia toissavuoden lomautuksista. Yli 200:n Tehyn, Superin ja Sosiaalituontekijöiden liiton jäsenten yhteinen korvausvaatimus nousee miljooniin markkoihin.

Kajaanin kaupungin on kiistänyt kanteen ja korvausvaatimukset perusteettomina. Kaupungin lakimiehen mukaan työntekijöiden lomautukset tapahtuivat budjettisyistä, eikä tasa-arvoa loukaten. (MTV3, STT)

Suomeen tehdään runsaasti yritysten palkintomatkoja

Kannustematkailu Suomeen on voimakkaassa kasvussa. Viiden viime vuoden aikana kannustematkailijoiden määrä on kolminkertaistunut. Vuonna 1995 maahan saapui arviolta 25 000 kannustematkailijaa, mutta viime vuonna heitä oli jo 75 000. Kannustematkailu on yritysjohdon työkalu, jolla työntekijöitä palkitaan ja kannustetaan entistä parempiin tuloksiin.

Kannustematkailun taloudellinen merkitys Suomelle oli viime vuonna noin 500 miljoonaa markkaa. Tulevaisuudessa kannustematkailun ennustetaan vain lisääntyvän.

Yritykset panostavat kannustematkailuun huomattavia summia. Esimerkiksi Yhdysvalloissa käytettiin viime vuonna kannustematkoihin lähes 10 miljardia dollaria ja Englannissa yli miljardi puntaa. (MTV3, STT)

Totaalilakko ei ole suunnitelmissa

Lääkäriliitto kiistää tulkinat, että liitossa pohdittaisiin jo kolme kuukautta kestäneen lakon laajentamista koko lääkärikuntaa koskevaksi totaalilakoksi. Toiminnanjohtaja Markku Äärimaan mukaan liitto ei harkitse missään oloissa tällaista lakkomallia.

Lääkäriliitto pohtii lakon jatkokuviota seuraavan kerran elokuun puolivälissä. Jos lakkoa päätetään tiukentaa, todennäköisin vaihtoehto on Äärimaan mukaan laajentaa työtaistelu nykyistä useammalle paikkakunnalle. (STT)

Veikkaukselle uusi toimitusjohtaja

Veikkaus Oy on saanut uuden toimitusjohtajan erotetun Matti Ahteen tilalle. Uusi toimitusjohtaja on Risto Nieminen. 49-vuotias Nieminen on Suomen Urheilutelevisio Oy:n toimitusjohtaja ja entinen Veikkauksen tiedotusjohtaja. Koulutukseltaan hän on filosofian maisteri pääaineenaan historia. (MTV3)

Mökkikausi alkanut

Kesälomakausi alkaa juhannukselta ja suuri joukko viettää lomaansa kesämökillä, joko omassa tai vuokratessa. Suomi on kesämökkien maa, sillä vuonna 2000 maassa oli käytössä 435 000 kesämökkiä ja vuosittain rakennetaan 5000-6000 mökkiä lisää. Mökeillä on 1,7 miljoonaa vakituista käyttäjää. (MTV3)

Exchange rate

June 13, 2001
1 Finnish mark = US \$.1601
1 US \$ = 6.24 FIM
1 Euro = US \$.9369
1 US \$ = 1.67 Euros

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

Nimipäivät



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Suomen uutisia

Aho sai takaisin avaimet ja rahapussin

Keskustan puheenjohtaja Esko Aho ja sijaisjohtaja Anneli Jäätteenmäki juhlistivat vallanvaihtoa yhteisellä kahvihetkellä. Tilaisuus sujui molempinpuolisten kohteliaisuuksien merkeissä. Jäätteenmäki sanoi olevansa iloinen Ahon paluusta ja ohjaksien luovuttamisesta jälleen varsinaiselle puheenjohtajalle. Aho puolestaan sai takaisin avaimet ja rahapussin. Jäätteenmäki vakuutti, ettei hänen ja Ahon välille synny kiistaa. Lisävoimia tarvitaan ja yhdessä saatetaan parempia tuloksia. (STT)

Työllisyys parani

Suomen työllisyysaste on parantunut ja työssäkäyvien määrä lisääntynyt viimeisen vuoden aikana. Työttömyysaste puolestaan laski edelleen. Tämä käy ilmi Tilastokeskuksen työvoimatutkimuksesta, jossa vertailtiin työllisyys- ja työttömyysasteiden kehitystä viime vuoden toukokuusta tämän vuoden toukokuuhun.

Työllisiä oli toukokuussa 20000 enemmän kuin vuotta aiemmin. Luku on 0,4 prosenttia parempi kuin vuoden 2000 vastaavana ajankohtana. Työttömiä oli toukokuussa 304 000 ja työttömyysaste oli 11,3 prosenttia. Vuodessa se aleni reilulla puolella prosentilla. Miesten työtilanne oli naisia parempi: miehistä oli työttömänä 10,8, naisista 11,7 prosenttia. (STT)

Lipponen: Uudet veronalennukset mahdollisia

Pääministeri Paavo Lipposen (sd) mukaan on yhä mahdollista alentaa tuloveroja kuluvaan hallituskauden aikana enemmän kuin mitä hallitusohjelmassa on sovittu. Veronalennusten edellytys on kuitenkin niiden työllisyystä edistävää vaikutus.

Syksyn budjettiriihessä voidaan Lipposen mukaan velanmaksun ja hyvinvointipalveluihin panostamisen lisäksi sopia veronkevennyksistä, mikäli ne voidaan rahoittaa kestäväällä tavalla.

"Verohelpotuksia voidaan perustella Suomen hyvällä taloudellisella tilalla sekä tarpeella lisätä kotimaista kysyntää", pääministeri totesi Yleisradion Radio Suomen pääministerin haastattelutunnilla. (SS)

Luutnantti luovutti Venäjälle ilmavoimien koulutusohjelman

Helsingin Sanomien mukaan vakoilusta syytteessä oleva vaasalainen luutnantti on luovuttanut Venäjän sotilastiedustelulle Suomen ilmavoimien koulutusohjelman. Ohjelma sisälsi lehden tietojen mukaan mm. tarkkoja tietoja ilmavoimien harjoitusajataulusta. Siksi puolustusvoimat on joutunut muuttamaan lentoharjoituksiaan. Viranomaiset epäilevät vakoilun syyksi rahapulaa. Vakoilujutun käsittely alkoi toukokuun lopulla Helsingin hovioikeudessa suljettu ovin. (SS)

Huumekokeilut hiipumassa

Suomalaisten huumekokeilut eivät ole Stakesin viimeisen väestökyselyn mukaan enää yleistyneet. Kyselyn mukaan kaksi sadasta suomalaisesta oli käyttänyt jotain laiton huumetta viimeksi kuluneen vuoden aikana. Joskus elämänsä aikana huumeita kertoi kokeilleensa joka kymmenes suomalainen.

Väestökysely kertoo kuitenkin, että huumeiden käyttö ja kokeilu ovat kaksinkertaistuneet vajaassa kymmenessä vuodessa. (MTV3)

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Thank you for your donations!

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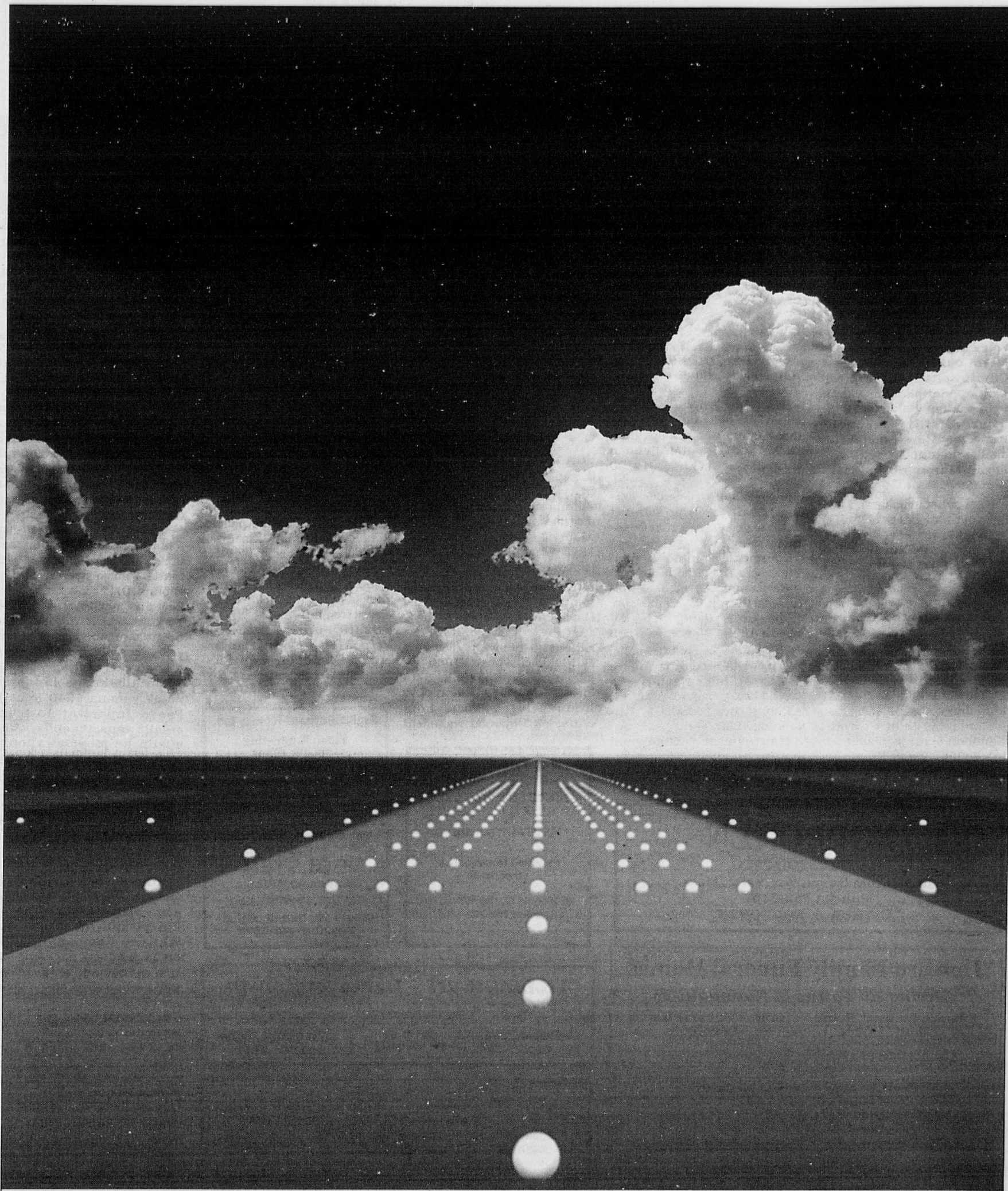
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Kuolleita

Helen K. Carroll

WESTMINSTER, MA - Helen K. (Ukkola) Carroll, 87, 57 Turnpike Road, kuoli kesäk. 10, 2001 Baldwinin hoitokodissa sairauden seurauksena. Hän oli syntynyt marrask. 5, 1913 Fitchburgissa Oscar ja Tilda (Hammer) Ukkolan tyttärenä. Westminsterissä hän oli asunut 50 vuotta ja ennen sitä joitain vuosia Worcesterissa.

Päästyään Fitchburg High Schoolista 1932 edesmennyt jatkoi opintojaan Worcester City Hospital School of Nursing oppilaitoksessa valmistuen sairaanhoitajaksi 1935.

Carroll oli työskennellyt Princeton Manor hoitokodissa Princetonissa sekä Keystone Manor hoitokodissa Leominsterissä.

High schoolvuosinaan edesmennyt harrasti urheilua, erityisesti koripalloa. Hän kuului myös urheiluseura Reipaaseen ja sen koripallojoukkueeseen.

Edesmennyt oli ollut Finnish American Club of Saiman sekä Westminster Friendship Clubin jäsen.

Kaipaamaan jäi puoliso Austin L. Carroll; tytär Kathleen E. Carroll-White, Jaffrey, NH; käly Janet Carroll, AZ; kaksi lastenlasta, Scott Carroll ja Shannon Lehr; ja yksi lapsenlapsen lapsi Kallie Lehr.

Poika Ret. U.S.M.C. Gunner Sergeant Austin L. Carroll

Jr., kuoli vuoden 1993 loka-kuussa.

Sawyer-Miller-Masciarelli Funeral Homes, 123 Main St., toimitti hautaamisen Woodside hautausmaahan.

Vainajaa voi muistaa lahjoituksella: Baldwinin Nursing Home, Activity Fund, 51 Hospital Rd., Templeton, MA 01436.

Urho Katvala

PORTLAND, OR - Urho Katvala, 89, kuoli kesäk. 5, 2001.

Hän oli syntynyt Hamiltonissa (MT) ja oli asunut Maynardissa (MA), Marlborossa (MA) ja Worcesterissa (MA) ennen kuin muutti Oregoniin 20 vuotta sitten.

Katvala oli kirvesmies ammatiltaan ja oli ansainnut elantonsa silta- ja rakennusteollisuuden parissa.

Edesmennyt oli toisen maailmansodan veteraani.

Kaipaamaan jäi kaksi poikaa, Arthur ja William Jollo, kumpikin Portland; tytär Gloria Brunell; Worcester; veli Robert Katvala, Minneapolis; sisko Sylvia Brooks, Maynard; yhdeksän lastenlasta; sekä useita lastenlasten lapsia.

Puoliso Eva (Erkkilä) Katvala kuoli 1992.

Hautaaminen Glenwood hautausmaahan Maynardissa. Fowler-Kennedy Funeral Home huolehti järjestelyistä.

Ralph U. Nisula

OCALA, FL - Ralph U. Nisula, 86, kuoli toukok. 12, 2001 Munroe Regional Medical Center'ssä.

Hän oli syntynyt Newarkissa (NJ) Oscar A. ja Alice E. (Brown) Nisulan poikana. Vuonna 1932 hän pääsi Gardner (MA) High Schoolista, missä hän oli yltänyt kehäänheiton ennätykseen. Myöhemmin hän asui Leominsterissä ja Sterlingissä ja Austinissa (TX) ennen kuin muutti Ocalaan 11 vuotta sitten.

Nisula oli ansainnut elantonsa muotti- ja työkaluseppänä.

Kaipaamaan jäi puoliso Theresa (L'Ecuier) Nisula; kaksi tyttäreltä, Marion Tata, Leominster ja Carol Massey, Winter Park; poika Ralph O. Nisula, Bastrop, TX; sisko Virginia T. Timmerman, Westminster, MA; veli Richard A. Nisula, Gardner; 12 lastenlasta; 19 lastenlasten lasta; sekä monia sisarusten lapsia.

Hautaaminen Green Bower hautausmaahan Gardnerissa.

Martha Lajoie

GARDNER, MA - Martha (Kempi) Lajoie, 76, 142 Logan St., kuoli kesäk. 8, 2001 kotonaan pitkän sairauden murtamana.

Hän oli syntynyt toukok. 26, 1925 Westminsterissä David ja Anna (Korhonen) Kempin tyttärenä ja oli asunut suurimman osan elämästään Gardnerissa.

Lajoie oli omistanut Atholissa toimivan Vegetable Bin liikkeen vuosina 1980-90, jolloin hän jäi eläkkeelle. Sitä ennen hän oli työskennellyt huonekalujen korjaajana entisessä Heywood wakefield

Co.:ssa. Koulunsa hän kävi Westminsterissä ja Fitchburgissa.

Kaipaamaan jäi puoliso Joseph R. Lajoie; kolme poikaa, Ronald A., Steven J. ja Brian S., kaikki Gardner; tytär Nora Goguen, Tucson, AZ; sisko Lillian Korhonen, Gardner; viisi lastenlasta; sekä useita sisarusten lapsia.

Smith Funeral Home, 69 Vernon St., toimitti hautaamisen Woodside hautausmaahan Westminsterissä.

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Kesäinen tervehdys Lepo-kodilta!

Lepokodin käytävällä kulkee harmaapäinen pariskunta käsi kädessä, toinen toistaan tukien, jakaen pitkäaikaisen yhteisen taipaleen. He ovat Irene ja Paavo Waltonen, herttainen pari. He viettävät paljon aikaa Lepokodin asuntonsa patiolla, vaikka ilmat ovat kohonneet kesän lämpötiloihin.

Irene on syntynyt Puolassa vuonna 1911. Hän on yksi niistä asukkaistamme, jotka eivät puhu suomea. Vanhempansa tulivat aikaisemmin USA:han, mutta äitinsä halusi mennä Puolaan takaisin synnyttämään lapsensa. Niin he sitten menivät, tulien takaisin Irenen ollessa 9-vuotias, asettuen asumaan Bostonin alueelle, jossa Irene varttui nuoreksi naiseksi.

Paavon vanhemmat tulivat Raumalta Suomesta Kanadan Suset Marieen vuonna 1910, jossa Paavo sitten syntyi vuonna 1912. Saman vuoden keväänä perhe muutti New Yorkiin, USA:han, josta asettuivat asumaan Bostonin alueelle, jossa Paavo myös varttui nuoreksi mieheksi.

Kohtalokkaana lauantai-iltana vuonna 1940 Irene ja Paavo tapasivat toisensa eräällä tanssihaalilla. Naimisiin he menivät vuonna 1943, asettuen asumaan Bostonin alueelle lähelle sukulaisiaan.

Yliopiston diplomityön jälkeen Paavo työskenteli elämänsä rakennusalalla. Hän työskenteli mm. Walpolen kunnassa, joka on historiallinen kunta, sen viettäessään vuonna 1924 250-vuosisjuhliin. Hän työskenteli myöskin pitkän ajan Brat and Whitney Companylle, joka myös johdatti pariskunnan tien myöhemmin Floridaan. Eläkkeelle Paavo siirtyi vuonna 1971.

Irenellä oli kädet työtä täynnä kodin ja lasten hoitamisen. Pariskunta matkusti Lontoon ja Pariisin kautta Suomeen vuonna 1978, jossa tapasivat Paavon serkut.

Lapsia heille syntyi yhteensä viisi. Esikoinen Onni Wilhelm Waltonen syntyi reilu vuosi heidän naimisiin menonsa jälkeen. Karen, joka on nuorin, ja Jouni asuvat New Yorkissa, Peter asuu Washinton D.C.:ssä toimien valtion lakimiehenä, ottaen huolen myös vanhempiensa lakiasioista, Linda asuu Coral Springissä täällä Floridassa.

jatkua takasivulla



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Ystävällinen palvelu

From the desk of Stig Häggblom:

Esko Aho palaa Suomen I

Quincyn kautta

Kun Esko Aho syksyllä 2000 lähti Harvardin yliopistoon, ei ollut kysymys aivan helposta lähdöstä. Varsinkin Suomen eduskunnassa, minkä jäsenenä Aho oli ollut 17 vuotta, pantiin lähdölle yllättävän suuria esteitä. Niinpä oli arvattavissa, että kotiinpaluu voisi olla vaikea sekkin.

Miksi Suomessa ollaan niin ankaria tätä nuorta (46 v.) miestä kohtaan, joka 1 540 615 henkilökohtaisella äänellä oli vähältä tulla valituksi Suomen presidentiksi?

Esko Aholla oli mahtava talvi Amerikassa. Se oli mah-

tava perheen elämisen ja opiskelun kannalta. Se oli mahtava Esko Ahon henkilökohtaisen onnistumisen kannalta. Hän otti Harvardin tehtävät tosissaan ja onnistui erinomaisesti. Amerikansuomalaiset sulkiivat Kannuksen pojan omakseen syliinsä.

Jo varhain syksyllä Esko oppi sen, että Bostonin eteläisessä naapurikaupungissa Quincyssa oli oppimista. Quincy on ainoa kaupunki koko USA:ssa, josta on lähtenyt kaksi presidenttiä Washingtonin Valkoiseen taloon.

Esko löysi John Adamsin synnyinkodin, missä tämä näki päivänvalon vuonna 1735. Adamsista tuli USA:n toinen presidentti, mutta ensimmäinen, joka asui Valkoisessa talossa, joka syksyllä täytti 200 vuotta.

Ennen presidentiksi tuloa Adams oli talonpoika, tuomari ja - kuten hän itse asian ilmaisi - patriootti. Vaimonsa Abigailin kanssa hän asui talossa, minkä naapuritalossa syntyi hänen poikansa John Quincy, josta tuli USA:n presidentti numero 6.

Historiallinen totuus on se, että USA:n itsenäisyysjulistus vuodelta 1776 näki melkoiselta osalta päivänvalon tuossa rakennuksessa, jossa John Quincy Adams syntyi vuonna 1767.

Esko Aho muisti, että mukana sitä kirjoittamassa - julistushan tapahtui heinäkuun 4. päivänä vuonna 1776 yhtäaikaisesti Bostonissa ja Philadelphia - John Adamsin

Adams National Historical Park

Birthplaces of John and John Quincy Adams



Quincy yksistään on kaupunki, josta on lähtöisin kaksi USA:n presidenttiä, John Adams ja John Quincy Adams, presidentit numero 2 ja 6. Heidän toistaan lähellä sijaitsevat kotirakennuksensa ovat nykyisin museoina. Vanha maalaus on onnistunut hyvin painetussa esitteessä.

lisäksi olivat Samuel Adams ja James Bowdoin sekä sen, että puheenjohtajan toimi John Hancock.

Quincyn alueella on myös suvun myöhemmän ajan suuri asuintalo, jota kutsuttiin nimellä *Old House* ja joka oli rakennettu vuonna 1731. Neljä sukupolvea on asunut tässä talossa, joka nykyisin on keskushallinnon ylläpitämä museo. John Adams muutti taloon vuonna 1788 ja perhe piti taloa hallussaan vuoteen 1927.

Bostonin kauneimmalla niemellä - Columbia Point - sijaitsee JFK Library, murhatun presidentti John F. Kennedyn museo. Tämä paikka on Esko Aholle hyvin tuttu. Lähinnä häntä on kiinnostanut presidentti Kennedyn lehdistötilaisuudet, joita oli 64 hänen hallintokaudellaan ja aina suoria lähetystöjä.

Jos näitä haluaa tutkia tarkemmin, ne kaikki löytyvät videolta.

Esko Aho kävi Quincyssa nuorimman poikansa Pekan kanssa ja heittää Pekalle leikkisästi tietoon sen, että USA:n ensimmäinen presidentti oli George Washington.



Esko Aho ja poikansa Pekka kiertävät kameran kanssa John Quincy Adamsin syntymäkotia. Kuva: Stig Häggblom

Suurista lähetyksistä puheenollen Esko Aho varmasti muistaa, että "suora lähetys" ratkaisi presidentinvaalit, kun J.F. Kennedy tiukassa ottelussa vuonna 1960 voitti

Richard Nixonin, joka sitä ennen oli toiminut maan varapresidenttinä. Tällä tavalla tulivat suorat lähetykset Valkoisen talon kuvioihin - J.F.K. ne toteutti!

Seurakunnat

Fitchburg, MA

Bethel-seurakunta

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

Kesäkuun hengelliset tilaisuudet sunnuntaisin Elm St. Lähetyskirkossa klo 2 i.p. Olli ja Irja Pyykkö Sudburystä (Ontariosta) mukana Kesä-juhannusjuhlassa 24. p.äinä klo 2 i.p.

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

Elm St. Lähetysseurakunta

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

Kesä-, heinä- ja elokuun aikana kuukauden kolmantena sunnuntaina jumalanpalvelus pidetään klo 10:30 aam. Mäntyrannassa Westminsterissä. Kesäk. 17. p:nä vuotuinen isänpäivän piknikki jumalanpalveluksen jälkeen.

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.

Perjantaisin klo 1:00 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

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

Suomenkielisen Naistenliiton Mansikkajuhla 24. kesäkuuta klo 5 iltapäivällä.

Kultaisen Iän Kerho

FITCHBURG, MA - Suomalainen Kultaisen Iän Kerho kokoontui kesäkuun 12 p.ä klo 2 iltapäivällä Saiman Puistossa Scott Roadilla.

Puheenjohtaja Armas Kaukoranta avasi kokouksen toivottamalla kaikki tervetulleiksi. Lauloimme "America" ja "Maamme" laulut.

Vieraina joukossamme olivat Touko Salonen sekä Kauko ja Barbara Tirronen. Heidät lausuttiin tervetulleiksi.

Lahjoituksia kahvipöytään tekivät seuraavat: Armas ja Barbara Kaukoranta, Mamie Lauricella, Irene Vilakari, Elvi Hagelberg, Arvo Rantala, Helvi Misslin ja Leena Kokk.

Ray Leslie on Spaulding Rehabilitation Center'ssä Bur-

bankin sairaalassa Fitchburgissa. Pikaista parantumista toivomme kaikille sairaille.

Pitkäaikainen jäsenemme Taimi Olkkola muutti sinne mistä ei palata. Hänen muistolle pidettiin hiljainen hetki.

Ohjelma oli seuraava: Touko Salonen soitti kauniita lauluja haitarilla.

Leena Kokk luki Kalevalasta, Väinämöisen syntymästä. Mildred Heino luki hauskoja Laihan vitsejä.

Kesäkuun 19. p.ä pidetään viimeinen kevätkauden kokous ja *Catered Dinner*.

Kahvi ja pöydän antimet jo houkuttelivat.

MILDRED HEINO

Ackte'lle juhlaraha

Oopperalaulaja Aino Ackte'n syntymän 125-vuotisjuhlien kunniaksi lyödään juhlaraha. Hopeisen rahan nimellisarvo on sata markkaa, ja sitä lyödään enintään 40 000 kappaletta. Aino Ackte'n ja oopperan juhlarahan suunnittelu perustuu kuvanveistäjä Timo Rytkösen ehdotukselle. Myynnin arvioidaan tuottavan valtiolle noin kaksi miljoonaa markkaa.

Tämä vuosi on viimeinen jolloin juhlarahat ovat markkoina; ensi vuonna käytössä ovat vain eurot, mikä koskee myös juhlarahoja. Juhlaraha tulee myyntiin 6. heinäkuuta.

Laajavasta poliittinen alivaltiosihteeri

Jaakko Laajava on nimitetty ulkoministeriön poliittiseksi alivaltiosihteeriksi. Washingtonista suurlähettilään tehtävästä ulkoministeriöön siirtävä Laajava seuraa virassa Jaakko Blombergiä, joka siirtyy Suomen Tallinnan-suurlähettilääksi. Laajava aloittaa uudessa tehtävässään syyskuun alussa.

Suomen uudeksi Washingtonin-suurlähettilääksi on nimitetty valtiosihteeri Jukka Valtasaari, jonka seuraajaksi tulee EU-suurlähettiläs Antti Satuli. (SS)

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*The Finnish-American***RAIVAAJA**

Finnish Midsummer

By Tiina Holm

What Finns usually associate with *Juhannus* (the Midsummer holiday) is a summer cottage, a bonfire and alcohol. Grown-ups, young adults and children have different ways of celebrating the shortest night of the year, but Midsummer is a time when everyone tends to do something they usually do not have time for. Most people do not have to work and many people start their summer vacations then.

In earlier days, Midsummer was also celebrated in other European countries. Nowadays Midsummer is celebrated only in the Nordic and Baltic countries, perhaps because that is where the differences between seasons can be seen so clearly.

Midsummer has been celebrated for many centuries and some traditions actually predate Christianity.

History

Traditionally, all the turning points of the solar year were celebrated. Also Midsummer was first celebrated as the summer solstice. That is the day when the northern side of the planet leans most towards the sun and when night is the shortest of the year in the northern hemisphere.

In 1316, this pagan celebration was turned into a Christian one, because the Church did not like heathenish traditions. Midsummer and the birthday of St. John the Baptist fell on almost the same day and therefore it was very convenient for the Church to unite these two events and try to eradicate the pagan customs.

However, the Church was not very successful in this; people were quite used to all the prophecy and magic. Ever since 1954, Midsummer has been celebrated on the Saturday that falls between June 20th and 26th.

The Finnish name *Juhannus* is the old way of pronouncing the name of John the Baptist (Johannes Kastaja). In Swedish, it is called *midssommar* and some Finnish dialects have modified that into *mittumaari* or *messumaari*. In addition, Midsummer was earlier called *Ukon juhla*, after an old Finnish god.

Furthermore, some people call it *kesä/joulu* (Summer Christmas).

Traditions: customs and superstitions

Midsummer has always been an event full of customs and superstitions, most of which have to do with weather, wealth and future part-

ners in life. People also believed that there were witches and demons that had to be banished. In the 19th century, these superstitions were the most essential part of Midsummer festivities. Even now, people are more or less aware of these elements as a part of Midsummer and some people even continue these traditions.

Midsummer bonfire

An old belief is that demons and witches are on the move at Midsummer and they have to be driven away. That is why people had to make loud noise and start up bonfires. Another theory is that burning fires is actually a Christian custom.

Over the centuries, these fires were burnt all over Europe: in Russia, Scandinavia, the Alpine countries and Ireland. Nowadays Finland is thought to be the only country which still holds this tradition. Even the Swedes replaced bonfires with Midsummer poles in the 19th century.

Bonfires have not always been set up everywhere in Finland; at the end of last century this custom spread into the whole of Finland. Originally, it was a custom of people in the northern and eastern parts of Finland, especially Karelia.

In Karelia, people had many

bonfires side by side, the biggest of which was called *Ukko-kokko*. Karelian bonfires were often bigger and of different shape than those set up elsewhere in Finland. The materials for the bonfire were usually wood, stakes, twigs, old boats and tar barrels.

In earlier days, setting up bonfires was a big happening which gathered the whole parish, dressed up in their best clothes. The oldest person of the parish had the honor of lighting up the bonfire. People also used to foretell the future from how the fire was burning.

Midsummer pole

In some parts of Finland, it was more common to have a maypole decorated with foliage than to have bonfires. This was the case mostly in the Swedish-speaking areas: Åland, the coast of Finland Proper and some parts of Uusimaa. This custom was adopted from Sweden by the gentry when Finland was under Swedish rule. Today, maypoles are set up only by Swedish-Finns and certain societies as a symbol of Swedishness.

Treasure fires

Treasure fires were believed to burn during the darkest time of this short night. Spirits and ghosts cleaned their valuables of mould and

rust by putting them into fire. These treasures were said to date back to the wars Finland had gone through; people used to hide their valuables in the ground when the enemy was coming. These treasures were guarded by spirits and fierce animals, and one could get the treasures if s/he was able to answer the questions the guards asked.

Love omens

Midsummer is thought to be a very favorable time to find a partner. In addition, many weddings have traditionally taken place at Midsummer, especially in the 20th century.

Most of the Midsummer spells have to do with seeing your future husband's face. According to one of the spells, you were supposed to pick nine different flowers and put them under your pillow and in this manner you would see him in your dreams. If you already knew who you wanted, you had many ways of making him want you. For example, you could go to the boy's field and roll around the field naked.

Forest-ferns

The forest-fern is a plant which never blooms. However, they were said to bloom and produce seed for a brief period during Midsummer night. Anyone who collected a

seed or a flower could become invisible, beautiful, healthy and rich. This belief was taken so seriously that in 1612, the Catholic Church forbade collecting forest-fern seeds at Midsummer night.

Nature and decorations

Nature has always been a big part of Midsummer. Most of the decorations used during Midsummer date back to pre-Christian times. People decorate rooms with flower garlands, greenery and birch-branches to make the rooms more beautiful and to get the fresh forest aroma indoors. In addition, some people thought it might bring good luck with their cattle.

Birches were erected at the door posts and in the yard. In Ostrobothnia, people used to bring a long, slim spruce to the yard. In 1734, using branches or young trees for decorative purposes as well as making arbors was forbidden, because it was thought to be a threat to Finnish forests. However, this order was soon repealed, because it was considered unreasonable.

Predicting weather was a big part of Midsummer in the old days. Farmers tried to find signs of the forthcoming harvest and started to get ready for haymaking and harvest.

Housework, food and drink

In the old days, people did not use to clean their houses or wash their clothes as often as we do today. Some people did it only twice or three times a year, before the big celebrations like Christmas and Midsummer. They also washed themselves, and going to sauna was one of the main events of Midsummer.

Midsummer has never had as traditional foods as, for example, Christmas. One reason for this is that the shortage of food that people often suffered from in the spring-time still continued at Midsummer.

What people usually ate were dairy products, because that was the time when cows started giving milk again after the harsh winter. Nowadays most people eat dishes somewhat different from the traditional ones: sausages, new potatoes, herring, cutlets and pancakes.

Alcohol is one of the things people most usually associate with Midsummer.

Getting drunk is actually a long tradition; in earlier times drinking alcohol was even supposed to help in getting a

turn to MIDSUMMERpage 12





GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN - Finnish President Tarja Halonen and President George W. Bush met each other last week at the European Union Summit. Here they line up for a group photo with other leaders prior to a dinner at the Borsen Stock Exchange. From left, EU Commission President Romano Prodi, Halonen, Bush, Prime Minister of Sweden Göran Persson and French President Jacques Chirac.

'Connecting Worlds' exhibition extended through August

In response to overwhelming public attention, and at the request of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, "Connecting Worlds: Contemporary Sculptures from the European Union" will remain in place on the Kennedy Center Roof Terrace through August 26.

Since early April the attraction has been drawing thousands of visitors weekly. Bird's-eye city views combined with the opportunity to mingle among the diverse collection of sculptures - some monumental, all thought-provoking - offer a unique experience.

The collective presentation of contemporary sculpture from each of the 15 European Union nations was launched April 3 before a 750-strong gathering of ambassadors, dignitaries, artists and art-lovers at Washington DC's Kennedy Center. At that event, DC Mayor Anthony

Williams proclaimed April 3, 2001, Connecting World's Day, and described the exhibition as an example of how Washington's diplomatic community makes significant contributions to the beauty, diversity and culture of Washington. Most of the 30 artists were on hand for the opening and participated in an outreach program involving the Washington arts community.

Groups and individuals are welcome to visit the exhibition from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily (free access). A limited supply of exhibition catalogs featuring each of the artists, with essays on contemporary European sculpture, are available free of charge at the Kennedy Center Gift Shops, courtesy of the European Union. Brochures featuring the sculpture installation are offered at Roof Terrace entrances.

European Commission Delegation

Sports Roundup

by Harri Siitonen

Henrietta French, Finnish teen pole vault prodigy

Henrietta French, a 14-year-old Finnish pole vault star, is generating excitement in the Finnish track world. A resident of Loviisa, Henrietta set a new 15-year age group record of 361 centimeters at the Tampere Junior Games on June 16, defeating her nearest opponent by a meter.

Second place went to Eeva Niemelä of Jyväskylä with 260.

To indicate the seansation of her effort, last year the best mark for the women's pole vault in the age 17 group was 347.

Henrietta, born March 13 1987, started pole vaulting at age 9. Her best in 1999 was 276 and last year it was 316.

"My goal this summer is to

turn to SPORTS page 9

News from Finland

IMF urges Finland to continue tax reductions and curb spending

The International Monetary Fund's mission to review the Finnish economy made its annual two-week visit to the country earlier this month, and it published its findings yesterday. The thrust of the concluding remarks was that the Finnish government should press on with moves to cut further taxes on labor.

The IMF believes that a doubling of the level of projected income tax cuts to 2 percentage points of GDP over the 2002-04 period "would add further impetus to much needed employment creation and economic growth." This would involve Finns in a FIM 15 billion tax cut at the level of 2001 GDP.

The leader of the IMF Mission Robert Feldman admitted that the recommendations went well beyond the line currently drawn by the government of Paavo Lipponen. The IMF would also offer a basic profile for the tax breaks: across-the-board cuts in income tax levels, coupled with additional targeted tax relief for low-income workers. (HS)

Bank of Finland:

Finnish economy will grow, but U.S. causes uncertainty

According to the Bank of Finland, the Finnish economy will continue to develop positively over the next few years despite the fact that the growth rate has declined considerably from last year. The bank predicts a growth of 3.9 percent for this year, and 3.3 percent for the next two years.

At the same time, consumer prices will continue to rise. The central bank expects inflation to total 2.8 percent this year and around two percent during 2002 and 2003.

The economic downturn in the United States casts a shadow on the Finnish economy as well. The effect will be greater the longer it takes for the U.S. to revive. "There is a great deal of uncertainty in the air," Bank of Finland Governor Matti Vanhala stated.

He also pointed out that the uncertainty in the U.S. economy is the largest single risk factor that currently affects Finland. However, Vanhala does expect the U.S. economy to recover "quite nicely" next year. (HS)

Helsinki-Vantaa airport among the best in the world

Passengers rate the Helsinki-Vantaa international airport as the best in the world in the class of less than 15 million annual passengers.

At the same time, Helsinki-Vantaa now became the best airport in Europe, and the third best in the world, when all size categories are considered. The passengers felt the Singapore Chang airport is the best overall, and the Sydney airport came in second.

Some 90,000 international airline passengers participated in the survey on passenger satisfaction conducted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). They were asked to rate 48 airports from around the world.

This was the fourth consecutive year when Helsinki-Vantaa received top marks. (HS)

Finland seals military spending until 2004

The Finnish government last week approved a much-debated security and defense policy report that gives guidelines for the country's military spending until 2004.

The five-party government which has been disputing over the money needs of the military for several months decided that the defense administration would need 10.2 billion markkas (\$1.47 billion) of funding in 2002 while by 2004 the sum would need to rise to 10.6 billion.

The Ministry of Defense said the emphasis in the defense program for this decade would be developing the army, with three Jaeger brigades to be transformed into readiness brigades.

"Extensive research on the alternatives available will be required as a basis for decisions on the main weapons systems for the army in the next decade," it said.

After a long dispute between political parties regarding the weapons systems Finland should invest in, the government now decided that systems they would examine would include combat helicopters, artillery systems, tanks and anti-tank missiles. (Reuters)

Finns reluctant to pay for EU enlargement

A majority of Finns still retain a favorable view of the EU's planned enlargement into the countries of Eastern Central Europe, according to a poll carried out for *Helsingin Sanomat* by Suomen Gallup.

However, the numbers of those who oppose the idea of additional EU members have risen sharply in recent years, and at the same time those without a firm opinion on the subject are declining. As these opinions firm up, the latest poll suggested 51 percent support for eastward expansion and 38 percent opposing it.

turn to EU page 9

Bits and pieces

Former Prime Minister and leader of the opposition Centre Party Esko Aho returned to Finland on Sunday after his sabbatical year of study in the United States. He resumes as party chairman this week, taking over from Anneli Jäätteenmäki. (HS)

A poll done for *Helsingin Sanomat* by Suomen Gallup shows approval for President Tarja Halonen at an all-time high, with 88 percent of respondents describing her work as at least "quite good." Seventy percent of those polled said the five-party coalition government had done its work very well or quite well, while opinion on the opposition was less enthusiastic. (HS)

A Social Affairs Ministry study said that nine percent of Finns, or 460,000 people, lived below the official poverty line if the future EU standard is accepted. That standard would set the poverty line at 3,900 markkas (\$560.6) per month for a one-person household and at 6,700 markkas per month for a two-person household, and at 10,600 per month for a family of two parents and two children. (TS)

Gaming group Veikkaus has appointed Risto Nieminen, former head of a sports television enterprise, its new chief executive to replace Matti Ahde. (HS)

Esko Aho looking for literary story of Finnish Americans

FITCHBURG, MA - Last month, Esko Aho, former Finnish prime minister and presidential candidate, spent an afternoon in this city, which at one time had a significant Finnish immigrant population.

Since last fall Aho had been living in Belmont with his wife Kirsti and their four children. During this time he was an adjunct lecturer at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. There he led a weekly study group on the European

Union and its political and economic implications for global relations.

Esko Aho served as Finland's prime minister from 1991 until 1995. He has been a member of Parliament since 1983 and the leader of the Centre Party since 1990. He has the distinction of being the youngest prime minister (36) in Finnish history.

Aho and his wife Kirsti began their afternoon in Fitchburg by visiting Raivaaaja.

Here he was spontaneously drawn to the *Siltokansan kalenteri* books lining a shelf in the business office. While flipping the pages of one of them he found a person who had immigrated from Kannus, the city where he currently lives.

This, of course, was not a surprise to Aho, as he knows that a large percentage of Finnish immigrants to the U.S. came from Ostrobothnia. He knows that Oskari Tokoi, the well-known Kannus native who played a role in the early history of independent Finland, ended up living in Fitchburg as well as being one of RAIVAAJA's editors.

Next the Aho's were taken to City Hall to meet Fitchburg's Mayor Mary H. Whitney and State Representative Emile Goguen (D-Fitchburg).

Esko Aho posed a number of questions regarding the city and its livelihood. He was curious about its ethnic make-up, the role of Finns now and in the past.

Mayor Whitney pointed out that the Finns were the only ethnic group to still have its

own newspaper, all others had ceased to be published.

Representative Goguen extended Aho an invitation to the State House in Boston, offering to host his visit and also to introduce him to the assembly.

The last stop of the day was Saima Park so the Aho's could to take part in the Finnish Literature Day program sponsored by the Finnish Center at Saima Park under the leadership of Paul Oinonen.

Before the guest speaker, Richard Impola, began his talk, Esko Aho was invited to say a few words.

"We are happy to be here in Fitchburg," Aho began. He then talked a bit about the significance of the city of Kannus in Finland's political life.

When he was elected the Speaker of the Parliament in 1991 he was a third Kannus person to hold that position, the first being Oskari Tokoi and the second Tauno Klemola.

"So every ninth Speaker comes from a city of little more than 5,000 inhabi-

tants," he commented, adding that "if you want to become the Speaker of the Finnish Parliament you have to move to Kannus!"

During his months in the U.S. Aho has learned that there are many regional Finnish-American histories and some nice stories about the immigrant lives have been written.

"But I think that it is important for you Finnish Americans to know what kind of a role the Finnish population has had in the history of this country," he said. "Also we Finns want to know what is the real role of the Finns here."

"The whole story has not been told yet," he stated.

When people ask Aho what they should read to understand the history of the Finnish people he recommends Väinö Linna's "Täällä Pohjantähden alla" (Here Under the Northern Star) instead of a history book.

He feels that the best way to tell the story of Finnish Americans, too, is in the form of literature.



While in Fitchburg Esko Aho had a meeting with Mayor Mary H. Whitney and State Representative Emile Goguen at Fitchburg City Hall. From left, Goguen, Kirsti and Esko Aho and Whitney.



Finnish Folk Culture

by Ilmar Talve

Translated by Susan Sinisalo

This is the first comprehensive account in English of Finland's material folk culture, habits and folklore. It contains a wealth of photographs and maps and provides a good insight into Finnish folk culture against the general cultural trends in Europe. The subject is made all the more interesting by the fact that Finland has for centuries been a melting pot for cultural influences from both East and West.

Finnish Folk Culture is a handbook both for students and for anyone interested in folk tradition and its history. It contains an index and a bibliography of works in English and German. Published by the Finnish Literature Society. Soft cover, 386 pages

\$29.95 add \$3.00 for postage and handling
(Mass. residents must also add
\$1.50 state sales tax)

RAIVAAJA

P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054

Successful Midsummer celebration

RANDOLPH, NJ - The Scandinavian American Heritage Society held its 13th annual Midsummer Celebration on Saturday, June 16th at the County College of Morris. Over 1000 Scandinavian-Americans, and several visitors from Scandinavia, enjoyed a full day of celebrating a traditional midsummer in America from the raising of the Maypole to the bonfire.

A packed auditorium enjoyed the two shows with outstanding performances by: Jan-Olaf Anderson from Sweden, Havard Svendsrud from

Norway, Ulla Suokko from Finland, Lars Karlsson from Sweden, The Ridgewood Concert Band directed by Dr. Chris Wilhelm and Brent Buswell the Scandinavian-American accordionist.

Everyone had a great time shopping for their favorite Scandinavian items and foods provided by the 30 vendors that participated. The children kept busy with the Viking Ship replica "The Norseman" provided by the Leif Erikson Viking Ship and SAHS' children's room.

The recipients of SAHS'

2001 scholarship awards were Laura Cirigliano and Keith Samuelsen of New Jersey.

The day long celebration ended with a full dance floor and a bonfire with music provided by the Bert Stromholm Orchestra with violinist Jeanette Baker.

The members of SAHS wish to thank all those that attended and for those interested in their activities please visit their website www.SAHSNJ.ORG or call 201-493-8672.

SAHS

Finlandia Foundation

Finnish American Society of the Midwest

FF Performer of Year to play in Chicago Area

Internationally known, award-winning organist Vicki Lundberg Gornick will perform in the evening solo concert, Saturday, October 27, 2001, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Villa Park (IL). The concert will start at 7:00 p.m. and a reception will follow.

Gornick is the Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year, and the concert is sponsored by the Finlandia Foundation, the Finnish American Society of the Midwest (FASM), and St. Paul Lutheran Church.

The public is invited and a suggested donation of \$5.00 will be appreciated. More information is available from the church office. Please call 630-832-5580.

Gornick began her organ

studies at the age of six, graduated from University of Minnesota at Duluth in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude, and has performed in the United States, Canada, Sweden, and Finland. She studied organ with Sibelius Academy professor, Eero Annala in Finland.

Gornick is a member of the American Guild of Organists, Arrowhead Chapter, and, currently, is the organist for three churches in Northern Minnesota. Recently she released a CD of Finnish organ music entitled "Finnish Mixtures," several selections of which can be downloaded from her website, www.vgornick.com.

The sponsors are honored to host an internationally known artist for this concert. St.

Paul Lutheran Church has a Reuter pipe organ reworked by the Zimmer Brothers in 1989 to 29 ranks, 21 voices, and 1,667 pipes.

FASM provides a forum for learning about Finnish history and culture. The society sponsors Finnish American social and cultural events throughout the Chicagoland area. All interested in Finnish culture are invited to become members for the nominal fee of \$20.00.

FASM

**Olethan
muistanut
uusia
tilauksesi?**

Finnish multi-generational week at Salolampi

August 28 - September 2

BEMIDJI, MN - Registrations are still open for the "first ever" Finnish Multi-Generational Week August 28-September 2 at Salolampi, the Finnish Language Village, north of Bemidji.

The program, sponsored by Salolampi Foundation and Concordia Language Villages, focuses on Finnish culture and language instruction. It is open to students, parents and grandparents.

Families participate in a variety of activities that reflect the language, traditions and

celebrations of Finland. Language learning activities are for the entire family and offered at all levels, from beginning to advance. Families learn to use Finnish through music, stories, games, arts and meals. This week is designed to introduce Finland's culture to participants and enrich existing family traditions. Evening campfires and sauna provide ample time for reflection and sharing.

Salolampi provides a setting reminiscent of Finland, and

features Finnish architecture and furnishings. Salolampi is a program of Concordia Language Villages and Concordia College, which provides experiences in language and cultural learning for all ages.

For further information about the Finnish programs or other programs of the Villages, please call Concordia Language Villages - Bemidji at 1-800-450-2214 or 218-586-3623. Check out the Web site: <http://www.ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org>

Concordia Language Villages

Correction

Due to a composing error, the address in the Summer Festival greeting of Constance and Herbert Laakso was incorrect. Their correct address is 124 Pacific Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420.

Also, there was an error in the address of Andy & Wendy Hammond. Their correct address is 14 Canal Road, Westport, CT 06880.

Festival Greetings

Constance & Herbert Laakso

124 Pacific St.

Fitchburg, MA 01420

SPORTS

from page 7

raise my record to 380," said Henrietta.

Her pole vault idol is the great Sergei Bubka of the Ukraine, world record holder. But surprisingly, on the women's side she isn't overly impressed by American Tracy Dragila, the women's world record holder.

Her biggest test comes in early July as she has entered the Kaleva Games at Turku, the adult Finnish National T&F Championships. There she has formidable competition. Hanna Palamäe will compete, a 406-cm vaulter who has just returned from a great year in American university competition where she represented Eastern Michigan University. Moreover, Teija Saari has just vaulted a 394cm best. But it will be a good experience for young Henrietta.

But Tracy Dragila will need to watch out in a very few years. For there's a young Finnish teen out there ready to vault over the moon.

Harri Siitonen, reporting from Oulu, Finland.

EU

from page 7

These figures change radically if we add in a rider to the question. When asked whether they supported EU enlargement "if it involves additional costs for existing member-states," the opponents represent nearly two-thirds of the sample population, 64 percent. Under these conditions, supporters of enlargement make up only around a quarter of the population, at 27 percent. (HS)

NORTH-END
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Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

July 9-13 - Children's Day Camp for 4-6 yr olds, Finnish American Home Association, 197 Verano Ave, Sonoma. Info: 707-935-0200.

July 23-27 - Children's Overnight Camp for 7-9 yr olds, FAHA, Sonoma.

Aug. 5-10 - Overnight Camp for 10-12-yr-olds, FAHA, Sonoma.

CONNECTICUT

June 24 - Juhannus Celebration, Tamarack Lodge, Voluntown. Special Midsummer Smörgåsbord (4-6 pm) followed by kokko & dancing to the music of the Hannu Mäkipuro Band. Info, reservations: 860-376-0224.

June 30 - Pulla making taught by Eila Mäkipuro, 10 am, Aura Hall, Lillibridge Ave (Rt 138), Voluntown.

July 2 - Aura Seura meeting, 6 pm, Aura Hall, Voluntown.

July 5 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 N Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury. Coffee 6 pm.

July 14 - FAHS/Aura Joint Picnic & Dance, time tba, Aura Hall, Voluntown.

ILLINOIS

July 24 - Sibelius Academy Trio Pegasos in concert, 7 pm, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 802 E Geneva Rd, Wheaton.

Aug. 19 - Finnish American Society of the Midwest annual meeting & picnic, Estonian House, Lincolnshire. Info: 847-259-0724 or 847-446-1922; CRBerg@aol.com or L.Doren@worldnet.att.net

MAINE

June 23 - Finnish American Society of Mid-Coast Maine Juhannus Picnic, 9 am, Lee Wotton's cottage, Lermond Pond, South Hope. Pot luck lunch at noon. Teacher Mari Koistinen will speak about Finland; rolling pin throwing contest, wife carrying contest, music, games. Info 446-1875.

- Dance, Finnish Farmers Club, Monson. Music by Woodsong. Info: 207-827-4857 or 207-997-3268.

July 1 - Open House, 2-4 pm, Finnish American Heritage Society of Maine Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris.

July 8 - Open House, 2-4 pm, Finnish American Heritage Society of Maine Heritage Center, West Paris.

July 21 - Dance, Finnish Farmers Club, Monson. Music by Veikko Honkala.

MASSACHUSETTS

June 23 - Spiran Lodge #98 Annual Scandinavian Midsummer Fest, 12 noon-2 pm, Millbrook Meadow, Beach St, Rockport. Performers include Cape Ann Finnish Singers. Admission free.

- Boiled Lobster Dinner, 5 pm, Uljas Koitto Temperance Society, 83 Suomi Rd, Pembroke. Reservations: 781-878-0376.

- Finnish Midsummer's celebration Juhannus, 6 pm, Kalevaiset Lodge, Fort Pond, Littleton. Ladies & Knights of Kaleva host program, singing, refreshments. Info: 978-264-9044.

- 95th Finnish Summer Festival begins, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Midsummer dance (7:30-11:30 pm) with music by Veikko Honkala & Juhani Puutio; Revontulet folk dance group (9 pm); ceremonial fire on Saima Pond (9:30 pm); Coffee & coffeebread (10 pm).

June 24 - 95th Finnish Summer Festival continues, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Raising of the flags (8 am); track & field meet begins (9 am); road race begins (9 am); videos in clubhouse (9-11 am); coffeebread contest entries accepted (9 am); classic & antique car display (9 am); Raivaaja bookstore (9 am); Coffee & coffeebread sales begin (9 am); display by festival artist Linda Widstrand opens (9 am); hot dog stand opens (11 am) chicken barbeque (11 am-2 pm); Oivan Tytöt perform (11:30 am); Open mike in pavillion (12 noon-1 pm); beer on sale (12 noon); Coffeebread contest winner announced (12:30 pm); Cultural program (2 pm);

Dancing in pavillion to music by Veikko Honkala & Juhani Puutio (3 pm); Lowering of the flags (4 pm).
 July 14 - Rolled Turkey Dinner, 5 pm, Uljas Koitto Temperance Society, 83 Suomi Rd, Pembroke. Reservations: 781-878-0376.

MICHIGAN

June 29 - Supper with music by Soittoniekat, 5:30-8 pm, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills.

July 4 - Third Annual Finnish Music Festival, 11 am, Covington Multipurpose Building, M-28, Covington. Performers to include White Water, RFD North, John Perona, Oren Tikkanen, Les Ross Sr, Conge Se Mennes Boys, Wilho Kilpela & Friends. Fireworks at dusk. Food & beverages available. Info: 355-2174 or finnlady2000@hotmail.com

July 8 - Open house, 1-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. Cultural Committee hosts.

July 14 - Soittoniekat Jam Session, 1-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

July 15 - Open house, 1-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. FCA Board hosts.

July 17 - FinnWeavers Workshop, 9 am-2 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

- Performance by pianist Jonas Kukkonen, 8 pm, Finnish-American Heritage Center, Finlandia University, Hancock. A feature of the 3rd annual Sibelius Academy Music Festival. Info: 800-682-7604.

July 18 - Performance by Trio Pegasos, 8 pm, Finnish-American Heritage Center, Finlandia University, Hancock. A feature of the Sibelius Academy Music Festival.

July 19 - Performance by organist Kira Lankinen, St Joseph's Church, Lake Linden. A feature of the Sibelius Academy Music Festival.

July 20 - Performance by violinist Laura Vikman, St Peter's-by-the-Sea Church, Eagle Harbor. A feature of the Sibelius Academy Music Festival.

July 22 - Open House, 1-4 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills. Publicity Committee hosts.

July 27 - Supper with music by Soittoniekat, 5:30-8 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

MINNESOTA

June 30 - Performance by Diane Jarvi, Finland Historical Society Summer Tori, Finland. Info: 612-822-5273.

July 9-21 - Student Summer Session for ages 8-11, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, County Highway 20, Bemidji. Application form: 800-222-4750 or info@finnsonline.org

July 21-22 - Festival Finlandia, Ironworld Discovery Center, Hwy 169 West, Chisholm. Info: 800-372-6437 or www.ironworld.com

NEW YORK

June 24 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metropolitan Chapter annual family picnic, 11 am, Williams Lake Resort, Rosendale. Lunch 1 pm. Finnish Urban Network's 2001 New York Pulla Championship. Bus transportation from Manhattan & Brooklyn. Info, reservations: 212-988-8083.

PENNSYLVANIA

June 23 - Finnish American Society of Delaware Valley Juhannus Party, 2-10 pm, Ritva & Tom Dale's House, 106 Sean Dr, Kenett Square. If planning to attend please advise by June 20: 610-444-1250 or trdale@msn.com

July 26-29 - FinnFest USA 2001, Villanova University, Villanova. Info: Phone 856-489-1594; FAX 856-489-1106; e-mail: mail@finnfest2001.org; web site: www.finnfest2001.org

July 26 - FinnFest USA annual meeting, 9-10:30 am, Villanova University. Exact location to be announced.

VERMONT

June 24 - Vermont Finnish American Society monthly meeting, 1 pm, Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High St, Ludlow. Bring hot dish, salad or dessert to share; coffee provided. Program 2 pm. Info, directions: 802-775-6303.

Events subject to change without notice

New east coast emigree discoveries

By Mayme Sevander

From "Vaeltajat"

In the eleven year course of research and writing I've been surprised, perplexed and amazed many a time by findings. Would you please open "Red Exodus" and reread pp. 138-140? It would serve as a good start for what follows.

The Leningrad Siege

Frankly speaking I had no idea that even Finnish-Americans were caught in the web of the Leningrad siege tragedy, that there were victims among them, that very few had survived and returned to their home parts.

Of the returnees I could mention but two: Ainikki

Fors-Petersen and 1910, Canadian-born Roine (Roininen) Helmi, who lived in Concord (MA), from where she emigrated to the Soviet Union August 18, 1931.

Helmi became a student of the Leningrad University of national minorities. Upon graduation she went to work for the "Kirja" publishing house in Petrozavodsk, from where in later years she moved to Leningrad. There she worked for a local Finnish publication "Vapaus". (The Finnish-speaking population in Leningrad and region numbered high due to the Ingrians, living in townships surrounding Leningrad). Helmi had married Minnesota-born

Roine Reino, who died in a gulag (see Vaeltajat, p. 215).

My friend Ainikki Fors, also from Massachusetts, was the one who gave me the story of the Oscar and Herman Vuori family. In the post-war years Ainikki married another American, Eugene Petersen, highly appreciated for his journalist skills in covering sports events for the Moscow News.

When visiting Moscow it was always a treat to drop in at the Petersens. Both of them have passed on.

Visiting Massachusetts in 1997 I gave two talks: one at the Salma Puisto, the other, at Sovittaja. It was at the first one that a gentleman, Henry Flinkstrom by name, got up and thanked me for having brought the fate of a close kin to their knowledge. Such moments make me feel great: my efforts have not been without merit.

Henry and June Flinkstrom, hadn't remained idle: they had made file of letters exchanged between family living in the USA and Russia. Thanks to them for handing me a copy of this treasured file: it enabled me to develop an impressive story for the readers of "Vaeltajat".

The Oscar Herman, Hilma, Evi and Bruno Vuoris. Karjala, Kontupohja

p.p. 79-80.

Oscar Herman Vuori's letter to his relatives, dated April 16, 1933, gives deep insight into his professionalism, exactitude and commitment:

"It seems that this historically well-known country knows how to do things a single bourgeois country has never managed to do. You experience joy from your labor input, labor, in which one and all can participate to achieve a universal goal... I have my own problems. A sloppily done job gives me a bad feeling. We put up a modern copper foundry. Before that the old one was used. But the demands are so great, that everything has to be renewed and a production plan elaborated that would work. I have to keep an eye on all the equipment. I am chief manager and responsible for everything. I have assistants who are in charge of operations. According to American standards I could be called foreman. It's a clean job, I don't have to dirty my hands, lots of measuring and writing to do, a great responsibility. I like my job. I've received many bonuses (up to a thousand rubles), the highest government order (the order of Lenin, - M.S.)... You yourselves know that I'm a real workaholic, the one who sets the pace. Real specialists, ready to make sacrifices, who are ingenious and productive,

are continuously awarded. I've had good luck here, better than I hoped and it keeps looking better and better."

They came from Moscow to check on Vuori's work. Small wonder that in the early spring of 1936 he was transferred to Marianburg, a town in the vicinity of Leningrad. There was a factory in this town similar to the one in Kondopoga (the Kontupohja paper and pulp mill - M.S.), but production was at a low level.

The whole Vuori family was called to Marianburg to help. Mrs. Vuori's last letter to her sister Selma is dated July 17, 1936. Although the tone of the letter as a whole is positive, they regret having moved away from Kontupohja, where life was clearly changing for the better.

"People dress better, old wooden houses are being torn down and brick buildings are going up. Kontupohja is beginning to look like a city. Wandering keeps going on. But now towards better life styles. Marianburg is quite close to Leningrad, where you can buy next to anything, but the prices are high. You can even find jazz music. Traffic is heavy, you've got to keep your eyes open not to be run over. One of the czar's palaces is in Marianburg. You cannot imagine the luxury the rich enjoyed. You talk about the American rich, but it's nothing compared to this! Now wonder there was a revolution here. We don't as yet get along in the language, that's why interpreter Bronvelti always accompanies us. The high quality of the Vuoris' work keeps everyone amazed. Earlier the foundry's production was of such low quality that the factory carried million dollar losses. Herman and Bruno do everything the American way and they're praised. After the first 20 rollers Moscow sent a 3000 ruble prize, 300 of which went to the roller-makers. Now we live like we used to. Not everyone succeeds like we have. You've got to be a highly skilled professional. I've tried to explain that we've caught one end of the golden chain. Just so it'd hold and not break anywhere... Herman could have gotten an automobile, but we took cash to buy ourselves some clothing, as in four years what we had has worn out. We'll buy some furniture and a car the next time. It's the custom here to get bonuses twice a year. Those who do the jobs well get them. It's called progressive wages."

The Vuoris' premature deaths and losses

p. 163.

The Vuori family was evacuated to Leningrad (The Ger-

mans were advancing. - M.S.) Ainikki gave her room to the Vuoris, as, since the first days of the siege, she had been working at a factory where she also spent her leisure moments. In Leningrad the Vuoris died of hunger: Oscar Herman, Hilma, their son Bruno's and his wife Katri's two little children, Evi's new-born and her husband Usko (Oscar) Dyster (b. 1906, Cleveland, Ohio). Upon the death of child and husband Evi returned to her hopeless duties of a nurse in the famine-stricken city. When Ainikki went to her home for the last time, the door was ajar, no sign of Evi or anyone. The neighbors claimed Evi had been evacuated. Since then nothing has been heard of Evi, nor her brother Bruno and his Helsinki-born wife Katri. Eventually they too had met with their death during or in evacuation. It might have been on the so-called Road to life (across the ice of Lake Ladoga - M.S.) which was heavily bombed by German aviation.

The Vuori family is one of the hundreds of Finnish-American families completely wiped out. But of the Vuoris there is a trace: the file of letters that enabled me to bring home to readers another sad story of those wonderful people who left for the unknown, to remember them.

...

In writing "Vaeltajat" I had an important piece of research to lean on. Researcher Ivan Chukhin, whom I had the honor to know personally, was working on the purges in Karelia. Unfortunately, he too has joined the silent majority. He hadn't even turned fifty! (See "Vaeltajat", pp. 133, 135, 150-151. - M.S.)

As the Vuoris' Russian journey began in Kontupohja, I'd like to say a few words about this expanding town.

Petrozavodsk and Kontupohja, situated only about 50 miles to the north from the capital on the shores of Lake Onega, were the most favorable places of residence for Finnish-Americans: better jobs, cultural and language facilities.

The construction of the Kontupohja pulp and paper mill was gaining momentum. At the time it was the largest in the country, producing a third of all paper needed for printing newspapers. Immigrants were happy to take up jobs there.

Among the factors accounting for the purge intensity, I. Chukhin names the following:

1. the closeness of populated areas to NKVD headquarters;
2. the efficiency of punitive agents;

turn to DISCOVERIES page 12

Whose songs do you sing?

By Risto Uimonen

The eleventh President of the Republic of Finland, Tarja Halonen, has already left her mark in the presidential institution, after serving just over a year of her term - above all in the way she takes care of her responsibilities.

Although the Constitution is new, and some old courses of action have been reassessed due to the new Constitution, Halonen's personality must be the cause for the most visible change.

Halonen's attitude towards her role as head of state is very down-to-earth and unpretentious. The horns do not blare as she arrives, and people do not need to stand in attention when they see her. Halonen has purposefully lowered the status of the presidential institution, and brought everyday elements to many practices. It is plain for everyone to see that a red carpet is not her favourite footing.

Recently in the Congress of SAK, the Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions, Halonen provided an example of her unpretentiousness. First of all, she made history by being the first President in office to honor with her presence the Congress of the country's largest trade union organization, held once every five years. Second, she held a speech before the Congress that had been prepared beforehand. In the speech she praised the members of SAK in a way that was sure to warm the hearts of the activists.

Previously, Presidents Urho Kekkonen and Martti Ahtisaari had visited "only" the SAK general council. The status of the Congress is much higher. Mauno Koivisto visited neither as President.

A third sign of her modesty was provided when Halonen arrived at the site of the meeting. Only a few photographers witnessed it. The evening

news broadcasts provided the citizens with a view of Halonen and SAK President Lauri Ihalainen walking hand in hand to the Helsinki Fair Centre, like two bashful young people in love.

A stronger wordless message of the solidarity between the state and trade unions could not have been presented.

The view could be held as quite disconcerting, if it were not widely known that Halonen is close to SAK and Ihalainen. Halonen worked as an SAK lawyer in her early years. This is a mitigating circumstance, but does not nullify the fact that Halonen was on duty, and Ihalainen met her as President of SAK.

Public and private roles were quite mixed up in the conduct of both, but at the same time, we received a public display of how close the ties are at the top of the Social Democratic power network. The SAK Congress did not appeal to Halonen simply because of common background. Without the organization's help, she may never have been elected President.

Halonen's rise to victory in the 2000 elections began in November 1999, when she visited the SAK general council. The SAK trade union members also provided Halonen with considerable support during her campaign. The recognition Halonen bestowed on the SAK Congress was in appreciation for all the support.

Ahtisaari did the same, but in more modest connections. Halonen also revealed her colors by joining in the *Työväen marssi*, a song composed for the working-class movement. Even this was natural for her, given her background, but did she also create a new presidential policy at the same time? Will the President participate as readily in the events of other civic organizations? (HS)

Entertainment at Sovittaja Park

Saturday, the 9th of June, the Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja in Rutland, Mass., had the pleasure of having two entertainers from Sweden performing a musical program in the clubhouse at Sovittaja Park.

Lars Karlsson was performing on a Dur Spel, a small accordion that is somewhat related to a harmonica in action, a very specialized instrument.

Jan-Olof Andersson, vocalist and guitarist, is known as the troubadour with his strong voice. He played some well-known numbers by Edward Tauber and Bellman's selections.

Before the concert, Katy Heiniluoma and Barry Heiniluoma, the president of the Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja, had put on a delicious dinner for the musicians from Sweden and Bert Stromholm, Nils Lundin and Tuure Nilsson with wives and friends. An excellent, good gesture from Katy and Barry Heiniluoma. The guests were very pleased with the dinner, a relaxing time before the concert.

Our thanks to Katy and Barry and also to Burt Stromholm and his lovely wife Liisa and Nils and Sue Lundin. These people are the ones who are responsible for bringing the entertainers from Scandinavia over to the USA and our area to enjoy.

The program started with Lars Karlsson playing some fast and exciting numbers on his Dur Spel accordion. Very well done. The volume from his instrument filled the dance hall with wonderful music. This musician could really play some terrific tunes on his accordion.

After this, Jan-Olof Andersson with his guitar continued the program by singing some old-time Swedish songs and melodies. Here was a real troubadour singer from Sweden. His voice carried

through the hall with ease. Even with over a hundred in the audience all you could hear was his clear, strong voice and very well pronounced words with his singing. A tribute to Jan-Olof Andersson.

As a finale to their program, both musicians got together and played a few numbers, Jan-Olof on guitar and to everybody's surprise Lars Karlsson brought out this third Dur Spel accordion, this one only six inches wide, a real miniature accordion. The sound from this little instrument was surprisingly good.

Both of these young fellows from Sweden certainly gave the audience a wonderful evening at Sovittaja Park.

Barry Heiniluoma presented the players from Sweden with a book about the Finns and Finn-Swedes in Worcester and surrounding areas. A very well-written book about Finn-Swedes and Finns. The musicians appreciated the gift.

Barry also presented Nils Granfors with a gift as a token of appreciation for his constant writing in the Finnish newspaper RAIVAAJA about the ethnic events and affairs that are held in Finnish and Scandinavian clubs in this area.

Barry Heiniluoma, Bert Stromholm and Nils Lundin thanked their wives for their great contributions and help in these events.

Liisa Stromholm was selling cassettes and CDs for the Swedish players and there were brisk sales at her table.

During intermission, the Sovittaja dance committee had a smörgåsbord with coffee, punch and pulla. Very well set up by these great volunteers at Sovittaja Park. A dedicated group, a proud asset to the club.

The dancing with Nils Lundin, Bert Stromholm, Tuure Nilsson playing and with the

turn to ENTERTAINMENT page 12



Lars Karlsson with small accordion and Jan-Olof Andersson with guitar.

Photos: Nils Granfors



Katy Heiniluoma (second from left) received some help with dinner. From right, Sue Lundin, Eileen Granfors, Liisa Stromholm and Gloria Nilsson.



The audience at the Sovittaja Park concert.



Nils Granfors received a gift from Barry Heiniluoma.

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Jari Kurri bound for Hockey Hall of Fame

Former NHL star and five-time Stanley Cup winner Jari Kurri received a very pleasant invitation in the mail last week. He has been chosen along with four other NHL greats in this year's intake into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Kurri is only the fourth European player to receive the accolade, and the first Finn.

"Sure it choked me up quite a bit. This selection comes pretty high up on my list of personal achievements," said Kurri. His admission into the Hall of Fame had been considered a distinct possibility, but there was no certainty about the timing of the award. He will be travelling to Toronto for the official awards ceremony in October or November.

Kurri, 41, played seventeen seasons in the NHL from 1980 onwards, spending ten years with the Edmonton Oilers. He managed to hit a golden streak with what was the premier team of that era, and won five Stanley Cup championships in 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, and 1990.

After one season playing for Milano Devils in Italy (where he scored 75 points in just 30 games!), he returned to the NHL in 1991 and played for the Los Angeles Kings, New York Rangers, Anaheim Mighty Ducks, and Colorado Avalanche. He retired from the sport after the 1998 Winter Olympics.

Jari Kurri and the legendary Wayne Gretzky formed the entire NHL's most-feared and most-talented strike pairing during their time together at Edmonton in the 1980s.

They racked up goals by the truck-load and set some astonishing records in the League. Gretzky is the name everyone remembers, as the Pele of the sport, but Wayne himself has always been quick to point out that with-

out his Finnish lieutenant a great many of the goals and assists would simply never have happened.

Gretzky and Kurri were together for four of Kurri's five Stanley Cups, but in 1990 the pairing was broken up after Gretzky signed for Los Angeles.

During his career, Jari Kurri scored 601 goals and 797 assists for 1,398 points, entitling him to 14th place on the career points list. He was an 8-time member of the All-Star team.

A short note on the website of Kurri's former team, the Edmonton Oilers, shows the respect that the player is held in. General Manager Kevin Lowe, who was actually one of Kurri's team-mates in the 1980s, writes: "Jari was one of the most gifted players I had the pleasure of playing with. Although he was known as a prolific scorer, he was also an outstanding defensive player. His understanding of the game, his ability to always find open ice, his incredible shooting ability and his fluid, almost effortless skating style all combined to make him one of the truly great players. We are all very proud that he has been recognized, and we are particularly happy that he has become the first Finnish-born player to be entering the Hall of Fame."

Kurri's career in ice hockey continues from the bench. He has been chosen to the coaching squad for the Finnish Olympic team to travel to Salt Lake City next year.

This year's Hall of Fame inductees also included Mike Gartner, 5th in the all-time goalscoring tables, the great Russian defenseman Vyacheslav Fetisov, and Dale Hawerchuk, who is one place above Kurri on the career scoring list with 1,409 points.

(HS)

MIDSUMMER

from page 6

manticism.

Many city people move to the country for the summer and most towns are very peaceful and quiet the whole period of Midsummer. Of course, there are also people who do not celebrate it at all.

What people nowadays do is go to their summer cottages or to visit their relatives and neighbors; Midsummer is not as exclusively a family party as Christmas is. People spend their few days off by fishing and going for a row, bathing in a sauna, firing up a bonfire, enjoying the company and perhaps drinking some alcohol.

There are also several Midsummer festivals for people who like different kinds of music: Finnish folk music and rock, for example. Usually, children from 13 to 15 years old still do what their parents do, but after that many of them go to see their pop idols at a festival with their friends. Many of these festivals are organized by societies, political parties and other organizations.

The importance of Midsummer to Finns

Nowadays, Midsummer is without doubt the most important of our summer events. It includes many different festive elements: it is an ecclesiastical celebration, the celebration of the mid point of the summer and it has also been the National Flag Day ever since 1934.

The funny thing is that all these are celebrated on the day before - Midsummer Eve seems somehow more important than the actual Midsummer Day.

In earlier times, people used to go to church and predict weather on Midsummer Day. Nowadays people just sleep late and perhaps go for a row or a walk.

The ecclesiastical meaning of Midsummer is sometimes easily forgotten, but it really is quite an important day for the Church. This day has actually been a battle field for religion in Finland: it has good harvest. According to recent statistics by the State Alcohol Monopoly of Finland, they sell five times more alcohol during the day before Midsummer Eve than they do on any normal day.

Midsummer among city-people

Although Midsummer is thought to be a rural celebra-

tion, it has adjusted itself very well in to the lives of urban people. Midsummer has not even changed much during all these centuries; its main element is still rural ro-been debated as to whether it is originally a pagan or Christian celebration. Today, St. John's Day is a popular day for confirmation and for getting married.

Now that fewer and fewer Finns live in the countryside, Midsummer has quite an important role as a preserver of the rural way of life and rural romanticism.

Nature is one of the main elements of Midsummer. Practically everyone who has the chance will spend their few days off in the countryside.

One might think of a few reasons why all these Midsummer traditions have not been forgotten: people feel drawn to nature and they simply have the need for change from work and the busy way of life. People also want to separate Midsummer from other weekends and celebrate it in a special way.

Midsummer is the time when you are allowed to go a little crazy. Some people do that by trying out the magic that our forefathers were so ready to believe in.

Other people may try to achieve that same feeling with the help of alcohol and that causes trouble for the police and hospitals. Fortunately, most people know how not to go overboard and they can celebrate Midsummer as the highlight of the summer.

Titina Holm is a student in the FAST Area Studies Program in the Department of Translation Studies at the University of Tampere in Finland.

LEPOKOTI . . . jatkoa sivulta 4

tullen usein katsomaan vanhempiensa.

Floridassa pari asettui asumaan Lake Parkiin Riviera Beachille, jossa he asuivat 37 vuotta ennen Lepokodille tuloaan. Täällä he kertovat viihtyvänsä hyvin. He nauttivat rauhallisesta ympäristöstä patien keinussa vieressä istuen käsi toisen kädessä. He ovat niitä harvoja Lepokodilla, joilla vielä on toisensa.

Kiitos vielä Lepokodin viikon esiintyjille. Bertta ja Matti

DISCOVERIES

from page 10

3. the density of Finnish residential areas;

4. border proximity.

All but the fourth concern Kontupohja. Thus, it's no wonder that the Kontupohja district, including the city proper, ranks among those, where the number of illegal arrests was the highest: out of the 745 arrested two-thirds were Finns - 422, over a hundred Finnish-Americans among them.

Judging by the protocols I've perused, the Kontupohja victims were also executed in Petrozavodsk. I allow changes in places of execution might appear in future, as it's inexplicable, why Kondopoga residents had to be taken elsewhere to be shot; although Sandarmokh shows that did happen.

ENTERTAINMENT

from page 11

musicians from Sweden joining in with the group and the music could not have been better. The event ended at midnight. Everyone leaving the club at Sovittaja thanked the guest musicians from Sweden for an enjoyable evening.

Our thanks to Barry and Katy Heiniluoma and all the others who arranged this wonderful event; hoping that the fellows from Sweden will make a return visit sometime in the future.

The next event at Sovittaja will be June 23 with Janet Liljestrom Borelli playing for the dance. There will be a dinner served at this event.

For reservations call Bob Belden, Shresbury, Mass., tel. 508-842-8468

Nils Granfors

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Tel: (212) 750-4400

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