

# RAIVAAJA

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## Olympiakaupunki Sapporossa

Vuoden 2000 kesäolympialaiset ovat parhaillaan käynnissä Sydneyssä, Australiassa, mutta RAIVAAJAN lukijat pääsevät tutustumaan toiseen olympiakaupunkiin, Sapporoon Japanissa. Kuvassa kaupunki tv-tornista nähtynä. Kaukana taustalla olympialaisten mäkihyppytorni. Sini Harjunmaan matkakertomus löytyy sivulta 3. Kuva: Sini Harjunmaa

## Suomalaisprofessorille kansainvälinen tiedepalkinto

Suomalainen ekologian professori Ilkka Hanski on saanut huomattavan kansainvälisen tiedepalkinnon. Hänelle on myönnetty ensimmäisenä suomalaisena sveitsiläis-italialaisen Balzan-säätiön palkinto, joka on suuruudeltaan noin 1,9 miljoonaa Suomen markkaa. Hanski palkittiin ympäristötieteiden ansioistaan.

Balzan-säätiö on jakanut vuodesta 1961 lähtien palkintoja luonnontieteiden ja humanististen tieteiden alalla.

(MTV3, STT)

## Eija-Liisa Ahtilalle suuri eurooppalainen taidepalkinto

Mediataiteilija Eija-Liisa Ahtila on saanut suuren eurooppalaisille taiteilijoille suunnatun The Vincent -taidepalkinnon. 50 000 euron eli noin 300 000 markan palkinto luovutettiin hänelle Maastrichtissa Hollannissa. Ahtila valittiin nyt ensimmäistä kertaa annetun palkinnon saajaksi kuuden kuvataiteilijan joukosta. Heidän töitään on muutaman kuukauden ajan ollut esillä Bonnefanten-museossa Maastrichtissa. Palkinto annetaan taiteilijan koko tuotannosta.

Muut ehdolla olleet taiteilijat olivat puolalainen kuvanveistäjä Mirosław Balka, Britanniassa asuva nigerialaissyntyinen Oladélé Ajiboyé Bamgboyé, saksalainen Carsten Höller, portugalilainen tilataiteilija Pedro Cabrita Reis sekä belgialainen taidemaalari Luc Tuymans.

Palkinnon saajasta päättäneen tuomariston johtajana oli Lontoon Tate Galleryn johtaja sir Nicholas Serota. Serotan mukaan Eija-Liisa Ahtila käsittelee välinettä äärimmäisellä tarkkuudella kaikilla tasoilla ja tavalla, joka lähentelee täydellisyyttä.

(STT)

## Suomeen Naton rauhankumppanuuskokous

Suomi järjestää Naton rauhankumppanuusohjelmaan kuuluvan kokouksen Helsingissä. Tällä viikolla alkaneen viisipäiväisen kokouksen aiheina ovat muun muassa sotilasalan koulutuksen parantaminen ja informaatioteknologian hyödyntäminen opetus- ja työympäristössä. Lisäksi pohditaan virtuaali- ja monimuoto-opiskelua.

Kokoukseen osallistuu noin 40 henkilöä Nato-maista, Naton alaisista järjestöistä sekä Naton rauhankumppanuusohjelmassa mukana olevista maista.

(STT)

## Martin Scheinin uudelleen YK:n ihmisoikeuskomiteaan

Åbo Akademin ihmisoikeusinstituutin johtaja, valtiosääntöoikeuden ja kansainvälisen oikeuden professori Martin Scheinin valittiin toiselle kaudelleen YK:n ihmisoikeuskomiteaan New Yorkissa viime viikon torstaina pidetyssä vaalissa.

Vuonna 1996 ensimmäiselle kaudelleen valittu professori Scheinin on ensimmäinen suomalainen jäsen kansainvälisesti arvostetussa kansalais- ja poliittisia oikeuksia käsittelevässä komiteassa.

Ihmisoikeuskomitea on riippumaton elin, joka tutkii sopimusvaltioiden määräaikaisraportteja sekä yksilövalituksia. Jäseniä komiteassa on 18.

## Stora Enso listautui New Yorkin pörssiin

Suomalais-ruotsalainen metsäalan suuryhtiö Stora Enso listautui New Yorkin pörssiin 13. syyskuuta. Kaupankäynti yhtiön ADR-todistuksilla aloitettiin 9,00 dollarin avaushinnasta.

jatkuu sivulla 5

## Suomen kunnallisvaalien ennakoäänestys ulkomailla 11.-14. lokakuuta

Kunnallisvaalit toimitetaan Suomessa sunnuntaina 22. lokakuuta 2000.

Ennakoäänestys ulkomailla toimitetaan 11.-14. lokakuuta välisenä aikana. Äänestysaika voi kuitenkin olla lyhyempi ja vaihtelee äänestyspaikoittain.

Ahvenanmaan maakunnan kunnissa kunnallisvaalit toimitetaan eri aikaan kuin muualla Suomessa (viimeksi 1999 ja seuraavan kerran 2003).

Lain mukaan jokainen äänioikeutettu voi ulkomailla käyttää äänioikeuttaan äänestämällä ennakoäänestyspaikaksi määrättyssä Suomen edustustossa.

Äänioikeutettu kunnallisvaaleissa on jokainen Suomen sekä muun Euroopan unionin jäsenvaltion, Islannin ja Norjan kansalainen, joka viimeistään vaalipäivänä (22. lokak. 2000) täyttää 18 vuotta ja jolla on kotikunta Suomessa 1. syysk. 2000; sekä

muun valtion edellä mainitut edellytykset täyttävä kansalainen, jos hänellä 1. syysk. 2000 on ollut kotikunta Suomessa yhtäjaksoisesti vähintään kahden vuoden ajan.

Äänioikeutensa voi tarvittaessa tarkistaa maistraateista tai niiden palveluyksiköistä 11. syyskuuta 2000 alkaen.

Äänestäjän on esitettävä riittävä selvitys henkilöllisyydestään. Hänen tulee esittää henkilötodis-

tus tai muu valokuvalla varustettu henkilöllisyyden osoittava asiakirja (esim. passi).

Väestörekisterikeskus lähettää jokaiselle äänioikeutetulle, jonka osoite on tiedossa, ilmoituksen äänioikeudesta. Ilmoitus on syytä ottaa mukaan äänestyspaikalle. Sen puuttuminen ei ole esteenä äänestämiseksi.

Lisätietoja: <http://formin.finland.fi/finnish> – klikkaa "ajankohtaista". Sivun lopussa linkki

sivulle, jossa äänestyspaikat on lueteltu.

Mahdolliset kysymykset ulkoasiainministeriön oikeudelliselle osastolle, konsuliasioden yksikköön, puh. 09-1341 5736 /Anne Hakkarainen tai 09-1341 51 (vaihe), sähköposti: [anne.hakkarainen@formin.fi](mailto:anne.hakkarainen@formin.fi) tai [oik-32@formin.fi](mailto:oik-32@formin.fi)

Luettelo ennakoäänestyspaikoista Yhdysvalloissa löytyy sivulta 8.

This week in

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RAIVAAJA

• Finnish Expatriate Parliament to convene in November

• Municipal elections in Finland next month



## Suomen uutisia

### Kysely: Eduskunnan ydinvoimakannat tasaiset

Ydinvoiman kannattajat ja vastustajat ovat tuoreen kyselyn mukaan eduskunnassa varsin tasaväkiset. Ydinvoiman kannattajat näyttävät olevan eduskunnassa uuden kyselyn mukaan lievästi niskan päällä. Tilanne on kuitenkin varsin tasainen. 78 kansanedustajaa ilmoitti kannattavansa ydinvoimaa. 76 kansanedustajaa oli kielteisellä kannalla. 28 kieltäytyi ilmoittamasta kantaansa.

Tämä ilmenee Seura-lehden julkaisemasta kyselystä.

(MTV3, STT)

### Inkeriläisten paluumuuttoa rajoitetaan

Suomi suunnittelee rajoituksia inkeriläisten paluumuuttoa. Muuttajien määrää pyritään vähentämään kielitaitovaatimusten avulla.

MTV3:n uutisten mukaan sisäministeriössä on valmistella laki, jonka mukaan paluumuuttajan olisi osattava suomea tai ruotsia ennen muuttoa, tai hänelle ei myönnetä oleskelulupaa.

Tällä hetkellä suurin osa inkeriläisistä paluumuuttajista osaa vain venäjää. Nykyisin muuttoluvan edellytyksenä on, että toinen isovanhemmista on ollut inkerinsuomalainen.

Lain arvellaan laskevan maahanmuuttajien määrän jopa puoleen nykyisestä. Vuosittain Suomeen muuttaa yli tuhat inkeriläistä. (SS)

### Panda palaa suomalaisomistukseen

Takaisin suomalaisomistukseen siirtyvän Pandan makeisvalikoiman ykköstuote on Juhlapöydän konvehtirasia. Panda kertoo Juhlapöydän konvehtirasian olevan Suomen toiseksi myydyin suklaatuote Fazerin sinisen suklaan jälkeen. Toinen vahva alue on musta lakritsi panda-merkkeineen.

Markkinaosuuksia selvittävän A.C. Nielsenin Finlandin mukaan viime vuonna Suomessa myytiin makeisia hieman yli 1,9 miljardilla markalla. Pandan osuus oli hieman päälle 8 prosenttia. Suunnilleen sama siivu sillä oli vuotta aiemmin.

A.C. Nielsenin selvityksessä on mukana makeismyynti yli sadan neliön elintarvikemyymälöissä. Koska Panda ei valmista lainkaan purkkaa ja pastilleja, yhtiön tärkeimmät osuusviivat löytyvät lakritsi- ja konvehtikaupasta. Lakritsin se jakautui mieluusti osiin, koska sen vahvin alue on musta lakritsi. (STT)

### Kuusamossa järjisi maa

Kuusamossa ja sen lähiseudulla ihmiset heräsivät viime viikolla yhtenä yönä maan tärinään. Suomalaisittain isohko maanjäristys oli 3,4 richterin asteikolla mitattuna.

Helsingin yliopiston seismologian laitokselle tuli ilmoituksia, joiden mukaan astiota putosi tärinän voimasta lattialle, mutta suurempia vahinkoja ei ole syntynyt.

Järistys tuntui Kuusamon lisäksi Taivalkoskella, Pudasjärvellä ja Posiolla.

Suomessa tapahtuu vuosittain 5-10 pientä maanjäristystä. (MTV3, STT)

### Karhuja kaadettu ennätysvauhdilla

Karhuja on kaadettu tänä syksynä ennätysvauhtia. Tähän mennessä lähes puolet yli sadasta kaatoluvasta on käytetty. Pohjois-Karjalassa kaatolupia on käytetty niin nopeasti, että jahti on pian ohi. Karhujahti alkoi vajaat kuukausi sitten. (MTV3)

### Folktinget tahtoo ruotsia esikouluun

Folktinget eli Suomenruotsalaiset kansankäräjät toivoo, että toiseen kotimaiseen kieleen tutustuminen kirjataan osaksi kuusivuotiaiden esiopetussuunnitelmia. Folktingetin Opetushallitukselle antaman lausunnon mukaan suomenkielisessä esiopetuksessa pitäisi tutustua ruotsiin ja ruotsinkielisessä esiopetuksessa suomeen "kielisuihkun" muodossa. Kielisuihkuja eli säännöllisiä opetustuokioita tai leikkihetkiä on jo kehitetty Turun seudun päiväkodeissa. Kyse ei ole varsinaisista oppitunneista. (STT)

### Exchange rate

September 11, 2000

1 Finnish mark = US \$ .1460

1 US \$ = 6.8487 FIM

1 Euro = US \$ .85780

1 US \$ = 1.1658 Euros

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

### Nimipäivät



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Syyskuun 21 p., Mervi  
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Mikka, Miska, Mikaela  
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Lokakuun 2 p., Valio  
Kansainvälinen lastenpäivä  
Lokakuun 3 p., Raimo

## Suomen uutisia

### Polttoainevero ei lasketa

Hallitus ei aio ehdottaa yleistä polttoaineveron alentamista. Valtiovarainministeri Sauli Niinistön (kok) mukaan polttoaineiden hinnan nousu on johtunut raaka-aineen kallistumisesta. Hänen mielestään on myös viitteitä siitä, ettei verotuksen alentaminen välttämättä alentaisi öljytuotteen hintaa.

Kuljetusyrittäjät ovat valittaneet viime aikoina kallistuneen bensiinin asettaneen ne vaikeaan tilanteeseen. Kuljetusyritysten tilannetta aiotaan selvittää tarkemmin valtiovarainministeriön, kauppa- ja teollisuusministeriön sekä liikenne- ja viestintäministeriön kesken.

Bensiini maksaa pääkaupunkiseudulla tällä hetkellä keskimäärin seitsemän markan molemmin puolin. (SS)

### Linus Torvalds vihkii Puolassa Linux-lyseon

Linus Torvalds vihkii henkilökohtaisesti Puolassa Szczytnan kaupungissa avattavan maailman ensimmäisen Linux-lyseon. Koulun opetuksessa tullaan käyttämään hyväksi ainoastaan Linux-järjestelmää ja sen sovellutuksia, kertoo Taloussanomien.

IBM aikoo rakentaa Puolaan yhden seitsemästä Eurooppaan tulevasta Linux-ohjelmakeskuksestaan. Vuoteen 2004 mennessä IBM rakentaa Linux-käyttöjärjestelmään perustuvat ohjelmakeskukset Ranskaan ja Englantiin, jotka saavat kaksi keskusta, sekä Saksaan, Unkariin ja Puolaan. (SS)

### Suomi vähiten korruptoitunut maa

Transparency International -järjestön teettämän tutkimuksen mukaan Suomi on maailman vähiten korruptoitunut maa. Viime vuonna ykkössijan sai Tanska, joka sijoittui nyt toiseksi.

Tutkimuksessa kartoitettiin 90 maan viranomaisten ja poliitikkojen näkemyksiä siitä, missä määrin lahjontaa eri maissa esiintyy. Suomen ja Tanskan jälkeen seuraaviksi sijoittuivat Uusi-Seelanti, Ruotsi ja Kanada. Yhdysvallat oli 14. Korruptoitunein maa oli Nigeria. (SS)

Ulkoministeri Tuomioja:

### Suomi saa pitää komissaarinsa

Ulkoministerit pohtivat maanantai-iltana muutoksia komissaarien määrään. Komission kokoa muutetaan ennen laajentumista, jotta jäsenmäärä ei paisu liian suureksi. Suomalaisen mukaan kysymys on käytännössä jo ratkaistu: puheenjohtaja Ranska ja muutkin suuremmat jäsenmaat ymmärtävät, että pienillä maille ei ole aikomusta luopua ainoastaan komissaarinsalkustaan. Sitä vastaan ne ovat valmiita antamaan isoille maille enemmän ääniä ministerineuvostossa.

"Jos komissiossa ei olisi edustajia kaikista jäsenmaista, sen toimintakyky olisi heikompi", ulkoministeri Erkki Tuomioja (sd) arvioi ennen maanantain istuntoa.

Laajentumisen vaatimat uudistukset eli niin kutsuttu hallitusten välinen konferenssi sinetöidään kuitenkin pakettina Nizzan-huippukokouksessa joulukuussa, eikä EU:ssa mikään ole varmaa ennen kuin koko paketti on allekirjoitettu. (HS)

## RAIVAAJA

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Thank you for your donations!



# Maailmanympärimatkalla

SINI HARJUNMAA  
HOLDEN, MA

Taksi tulee hakemaan meidät aamuvarhaisella. Vain varttitunnin ajo läpi uneliaan kotikaupunkimme ja saavumme hiljaiselle lentokentälle. (Worcesterin kenttä ei ole turhan kireinen, tänäkin aamuna pari virkailijaa avustaa verkkaisesti matkustajia, jotka yhtä verkkaisesti siirtyvät lähtöportille. Lähteviä koneita on vain kaksi.

Täsmälleen ajallaan koneemme saapuu sateiseen New Yorkiin, jossa vietämme aamupäivän tutustumalla paikalliseen Finnairin toimistoon. Iltapäivällä istumme jälleen koneessa, tällä kertaa isossa Boeing 747:ssä edessämme neljäntoista tunnin lento. Olemme elämämme ensimmäistä kertaa matkalla Japaniin.

## Tiheään asuttu saaristo

Tyynessä meressä, Kiinan, Korean ja Venäjän rannikolla levittäytyy lähes neljän tuhannen saaren helminauha 1700 mailin pituudelta. Kooltaan Japani on suunnilleen Montanan osavaltion suuruinen, mutta asukkaita siellä on yli 120 miljoonaa - puolet USA:n väkiluvusta! Pääsaaret Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku ja Kyushu ovat hyvin vuoristoisia, kapelden solien katkaisemina.

Pääkaupunki Tokio on saariryhmän suurimmalla - Honshun saarella. Täällä ovat myös saarivaltion kymmenen suurinta kaupunkia. Asukastiheys on kolmasti suurempi kuin Los Angelesissa. Suur-Tokion alueella asuu 30 miljoonaa asukasta, joista kolmasosa Tokion keskustassa.

## Päivä kadoksissa

Japan Airlinesin lento New Yorkista Tokioon saapuu lähes tunnin etuajassa. Olemme lentäneet kohti länttä ja ylittäneet iltatunteina kansainvälisen päiväviiväajan. Näinollen häipyi elämästämme kokonainen päivä.

Valtaisa Tokio jää meiltä tällä kertaa tutustumatta. Jatkamme uudella lennolla pohjoiseen Hokkaidon saarelle,

jossa määränpäämme on Sapporon kaupunki. Sapporoon saavumme illan pimeessä jo melkoisen väsyneinä. Yli vuorokausi on kulunut siitä, kun taksi meidät haki kotiovelta. Väsymystä ja hämmennystä lisää vielä kolmentoista tunnin aikaero.

## Olympiakaupunki Sapporossa

Sapporossa pidettiin talviolympialaiset vuonna 1972. Muistan seuranneeni niitä koti-Espoossa kiinnostuneena. Aina siitä lähtien on mieleni tehnyt päästä joskus käymään Sapporossa. Nyt se toiveeni on toteutunut.

Ensimmäinen turistipäivämme Sapporossa sujuu rattoisasti. Käymme ensin tirkistelemässä kaupunkia linutperspektiivistä TV-tornista käsin. Iltapäivällä Sapporon Gakuin Yliopiston professori Eshin Sakai vie meidät olympiatunnelmiin. Lentomäen vierellä nousemme hiihtohississä ylös mäen laelle. Ylhäältä on huimaavat näköalat alas olympiakaupunkiin.

Mielelläni käy ajatus, kuinka kukaan täysjärkinen voi harrastaa mäkihyppyä tuollaisissa korkeuksissa! Huimapaitsyyttä se ainakin on vaatinut.

Eshin vie meidät myös Olympiamuseoon, jossa on todella mielenkiintoista. Murtomaahiihtosimulaattorissa kilpailen Eshinin ja ikiomani kanssa ja voitan molemmat miehet. Ikiomani haluaa myös kokeilla mäkihyppysimulaattoria. Siihen emme Eshinin kanssa uskaltaudu, sen verran vaikuttavalta se näyttää.

## Japanilaisessa kylpylässä

Sapporosta ajamme runsaan tunnin automatkan lounaaseen, rauhalliseen kylään nimeltä Ohtaki. Ohtaki on nykyisin tunnettu kuumista lähteistään. Asumme siellä Horo Horo -nimisessä kylpylässä. Huoneemme on tyyppinen japanilainen ja sen lattian peittää tatamimatto. Päivällä keskellä huonetta on matala pöytä ja sen ympärillä neljä tyynyä. Illalla pöytä siirretään syrjään ja kaapista vedetään lattialle paksut patjat sängyksi.

Kun saavumme huoneeseen, otamme eteisessä kengät pois ja vaihdamme jalkaan "lip-suttimet" - avonaiset tohvelit. Niillä saa sipsutella missä tahansa kylpylässä, mutta ei mennä huoneeseen tatamimatolle. Myöskään huoneen yhteydessä olevaan WC:hen ei mennä niillä tossuilla, vaan vessan ovelta vaihdetaan jalkaan erityiset "vessatossut".

Jokaiselle asukkaalle on huoneessa erityinen asu "Yukata", joka kietaistaan alusvaatteiden päälle. Yukata on kuin pitkä puuvillakankainen kotitakki, joka kiinnitetään vyöllä. Kaikilla asukkailla on täsmälleen samanlaiset yukatat pikkulapsista vanhuksiin. Yukata yllä mennään ruokasaliin illalliselle, sipsutellaan alakertaan kylpylään ja nukutaan. Niinpä aamiaisella suurin osa kylpylävieraista onkin omissa vaatteissaan, eihän tuki yöpuku päällä kukaan aamiaislle tule.

## Kuumia kylpyjä

Heti saavuttuamme Horohoron vaihdamme ylemme yukatan ja siirrymme kylpylään. Kylpylässä on naisten puoli ja miesten puoli. Se vaihtuu päivittäin, joten aamupöperössä tulee olla tarkkana, että varmasti menee oikealle puolelle. Naisten puolen merkinä on ovelta suuri tummanpunainen verho, jossa luultavasti lukee "naiset". Miesten puolella verho on sininen.

Heti verhon takana on korkea avohyllykkö, johon tossut jätetään, sillä pukuhuoneessa on jälleen tatamimatto. Pukuhuoneeseen jätetään kaikki vaatteet omiin koreihin ja siirrytään Eevan asussa pesupuolelle.

Vasta huolellisen puhdistautumisen jälkeen saa mennä pieniin altaisiin, joissa kirkas, parantava mineraalivesi hokuttelevana odottaa. Altaan vierellä on luullakseni teksti siitä, mitä mineraalia vedessä on. Japanin kielen lukeminen tuottaa kuitenkin vielä sen verran vaikeuksia, että mineraalit jäävät minulle sa-



Kylpylähotelli Horohoro Ohtakissa.

Kuvat: Sini Harjunmaa

laisuudeksi. Lämpötila on onneksi merkitty numeroilla; +40, +41 ja +41,5.

Ellei kuuma vesi riitä, on paikalla myös ihan oikea sauna. Vilvoitusta saamme suuressa uima-altaassa, jonne sentään mennään uimapuku päällä, sillä se on kummallekin pesupuolelle yhteinen. Vedessä liikoaminen raukaisee mukavasti ja puhottelut ja rentoutuneina sipsutteleminen muiden yukatalaisten joukkoon illalliselle.

## Finnski 50K

Olimme päässeet Japaninmatkalle läheisen ystäväni ja työtoverini Noriko Oshima Häggblomin kutsumana. Noriko, aito hokkaidolaistyttö on koko elämänsä harrastanut liikuntaa ja urheilua. Nuorempana hän oli naisten syöksylaskun Japanin mestari. Ei siis mikään turha tyttö.

Joskus 1980-luvun lopulla Ohtakin silloinen kaupunginjohtaja kysyi Norikon mielipidettä siitä, mihin rakennettaisiin uusi laskettelumäki. Norikolla oli vastaus valmi-

na: älä rakenna mäkeä, vaan tehdään murtomaahiihtolatu.

Niinpä Norikon ehdotuksesta syntyi Ohtakin 50 kilometrin hiihtotapahtuma, FinSki 50K, joka kymmenenä vuotena on kerännyt innokkaita hiihtäjiä eri puolilta maailmaa. Sanomattakin on selvää, että tällainen tapahtuma loi elämää ja toi tuloja ennen tuntemattomalle Ohtakille. Kuumavesikylpylät tulivat tunnetuksi ja niiden suosio kasvoi.

Kiitokseksi Ohtakin suosioita kylä lahjoitti Norikolle tontin läheltä hiihton lähtöpaikkaa. Norikon idea oli rakennuttaa tontille suomalainen hiihtomaja. Pahoistakin vastoinkäymisistä huolimatta Noriko uskoi ideaan ja puski sitä eteenpäin yli esteiden. Suomalainen hirsitalo kohosi hitaasti mutta varmasti suomalaisten rakentamana. Lopulta suunnitain, heinäkuun viimeisenä päivänä oli Ohtakin kylässä juhlapäivä. Oli suomalais-japanilaisen hiihtomajan vihkiäiset.

jatkuu...



Sapporon kaupungin helteessä.



Sapporon hiihtomäen juurella Hannu ja Sini Harjunmaa sekä RAIVAAJAN kolumnisti Stig Häggblom.



# Kuolleita

## Ilona Caparros

ELIZABETH, NJ - Ilona (Siren) Caparros, 63, kuoli elok. 15, 2000 kotonaan. Hän oli Rogelio Caparrosin leski.

Hän oli syntynyt helmi. 2, 1937 Newportissa (NH) Carl ja Signe (Lehtinen) Sirenin tyttärenä. Päästyään Towle High Schoolista hän jatkoi opintojaan University of New Hampshiressä ja suoritti kirjastotieteiden maisterin tutkinnon Simmons Collegessa.

Caparros aloitti kirjastouransa Harvardin yliopiston Widener kirjastossa. Hän oli pääluetteloija siirtyessään Plymouth State Collegien apulaiskirjastonhoitajaksi.

Kuolinhetkellään edesmennyt oli viettämässä sapattivuotta Rutgers yliopiston Alexander kirjastosta, missä hän toimi lähdekirjastonhoitajana.

Kaipaamaan jäi Newportissa asuvan äidin Signe Fordin lisäksi sisko Sonja Johnston, Rumfod, ME; siskonpoika Jay Johnston, Rumfod, ME; tytärpuoli Rosa Caparros, Mastic Beach, NY; poikapuoli Miguel Caparros, Ballejo, CA; sekä useita serkkuja.

Syyskuun 8. p:nä pidettiin muistotilaisuus Newportin South Congregational kirkossa.

Syysk. 27. p:nä klo 2 ip. pidetään muistotilaisuus Rutgers yliopiston Queens kampuksen Kirkpatrick kappelissa New Brunswickissa (NJ).

## Florence W. Torppa

FITCHBURG, MA - Florence "Wilén" Torppa, 87, 10 Prospect St., kuoli syysk. 6, 2000 sairauden murtamana. Hän oli 1979 kuolleen Paul B. Torpan leski.

Hän oli syntynyt jouluk. 29, 1912 Fitchburgissa Karl ja Ida (Rasi) Wilénin tyttärenä ja oli asunut Westminsterissä ennen kuin palasi eläkevuosiensa Fitchburgiin.

Edesmennyt pääsi Cushing Academystä 1930 ja Heywood Hospital School of Nursing oppilaitoksesta Gardnerissa 1933.

Hän jatkoi opintojaan Simmons School of Nursing Education oppilaitoksessa Bostonissa ja työskenteli Bostonin sairaaloissa. Ennen eläkepäiviään hän toimi pääsairaanhoidtajana Hospital Cottages for Cripples Children sairaalassa Baldwinvillessä.

Kaipaamaan jäi sisarusten lapsia ja serkkuja, heidän joukossaan Toivo A. Wilén, Westminster ja Evi I. Ojala, Gardner.

Veli Carl Wilén oli kuollut aikaisemmin.

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

## Helvie L. Sabo

PETERBOROUGH, NH - Helvie L. Sabo, 89, kuoli elok. 30, 2000 Harborside Healthcare - Pheasant Wood hoitokodissa.

Hän oli syntynyt heinäk. 13, 1911 Fitchburgissa (MA) John ja Selma (Porkala) Hyvärisen tyttärenä. Hän oli asunut Springfieldissä (MA) sekä New Ipswichissä ja Greenvilleissä ennen hoitokotiin muuttoa.

Springfieldissä asuessaan Sabo oli Diamond Match Co.:n palveluksessa. Myöhemmin hän työskenteli Independent Lock firmassa Fitchburgissa.

Kaipaamaan jäi äsisko Wilma Johannesen, Madison, CT; useita sisarusten lapsia, heidän joukossaan Patricia Johannesen, Madison, CT ja Robert Kaarto, New Ipswich ja Lantana, FL.

Hautaaminen Smithville hautausmaahan New Ipswichissa.

## Diami Hammond

WBSTER, MA - Diami (Oyala) Hammond, 94, kuoli elok. 31, 2000 Hubbard Regional sairaalassa. Hän oli 1991 kuolleen James O. Hammondin leski.

Hän oli syntynyt Worcesterissa Andrew ja Mary (Leppälä) Oyalan tyttärenä ja oli asunut Websterissa vuodesta 1980.

Hautaaminen toimitettiin hiljaisuudessa Rural hautausmaahan.

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## 8. syyskuuta

Perjantai ja viikon viimeinen päivä kului aamulla rankkasadetta katsellessa ja voimistelussa. Bingon jälkeen ilta-päivällä soitti Paavo Kukkaron meille kahviajalla kaunista hanurimusiikkia. Kiitos Paavo avusta.

Lauantaina pidettiin sitten Lepokodin Ysävien syyskauden avajaisjuhla Annanmajalla. Sali oli melkein täynnä, mikä osoittaa, että ihmiset alkavat palalla takaisin tänne etelään sieltä pohjoisesta sekä myös Suomesta. Sehän on oikein mukavaa.

Hans Nyholm toimi juhlien juontajana, ja saimme kuulla korkeatasoisen ohjelman, mikä koostui yhteislaulusta, Lepokodin johtajan Kari Rönkön alkusanoista sekä tietysti Airi Niskasen kauniista esitelmästä kertomuksesta kun-ka vanhetaan.

Musiikkipuolesta vastasivat Reino Kukkamaa ja Tapani Kuparinen sekä Charlie. Harmonikkataiteilija Veikko Laiho oli myös palannut pohjoisesta ja soitti meille korkeatasoista musiikkia.

Kiitos kaikille teille tuhanesti, kun tulette kerta toisensa jälkeen viihtymään suomalaista yhteisöä ja tietysti myös tätä meidän omaa väkeä täällä Lepokodilla.

Sunnuntain ohjelma koostui kanava 8:n lähettämästä ohjelmasta sekä Hans Nyholmin ja Paavo Kukkaron pitämästä hartaustilaisuudesta.

Maanantaina lounaan jälkeen keräänyimme Pokela huoneeseen keskustelupöytään.

joka osoittautui kaikkia kiinnostavaksi. Kertoimme tällä kertaa kokemuksistamme täällä uudessa maassa ja miten olimme vanhan maan jättäneet, kuka mistäkin syystä. Charlie ja Lydia sitten lopettivat päivän laululla ja musiikilla.

Tiistai ja pankkipäivä, jonka jälkeen keillattiin ja pelattiin bingoa. Katsoimme myös valokuvia menneiltä vuosilta. Oli hauska nähdä tuttuja kasvoja monissakin kuvissa. Pastori Hukka piti englanninkielisen ehtoollisen sitä haluaville. Ilta-päivän kahvimusiikki koostui tänään levy-musiikista, koska tiistaille oli vaikea löytää ketään soittajaa.

Keski- ja lounaskokki ja Helping Hands. Auttajien joukko oli kasvanut, mikä ilahdutti meidän asukkaitamme pitkän kesän jälkeen. Muutama asukas lähti sairaspuolen asukkaiden kanssa lounaalle Red Lobsteriin ja me kulumme aikaa täällä kodilla pelaamalla bingoa. Pastori Puustelli piti hartaustilaisuuden ja Marjo Partti säesti laulut kitarallaan. Kiitos teille kauniista tilaisuudesta.

Torstaina Publixin ja luku-tuokion jälkeen lähdimme retkelle Mallille. Oli oikein mukavaa viettää aikaa siellä viileässä ihmisvilinässä, sillä ulkona oli todella kuuma. Charlie soitti meille kahvimusiikkia ja näin oli taas viikko vierähtänyt. Kuulumiin ensiviikkoon.

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Yhtiön pääjohtaja Jukka Härmälä toteaa *Taloussanomissa*, että yhtiön Yhtiö osti kesällä amerikkalaisen Consolidated Papers -yhtiön. Härmälän mukaan Stora Enso etsii edelleen Euroopan, Pohjois-Amerikan ja Kaakkois-Aasian markkinoilta laajenemismahdollisuuksia yritysostojen kautta.

Yhtiö siirtää konsernijohtonsa Lontooseen marraskuun alussa. Lontooseen siirtyy noin 40 henkilöä, joiden joukossa on myös pääjohtaja Härmälä. Yhtiön pääkonttori pysyy kuitenkin edelleen Suomessa. (SS)

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

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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

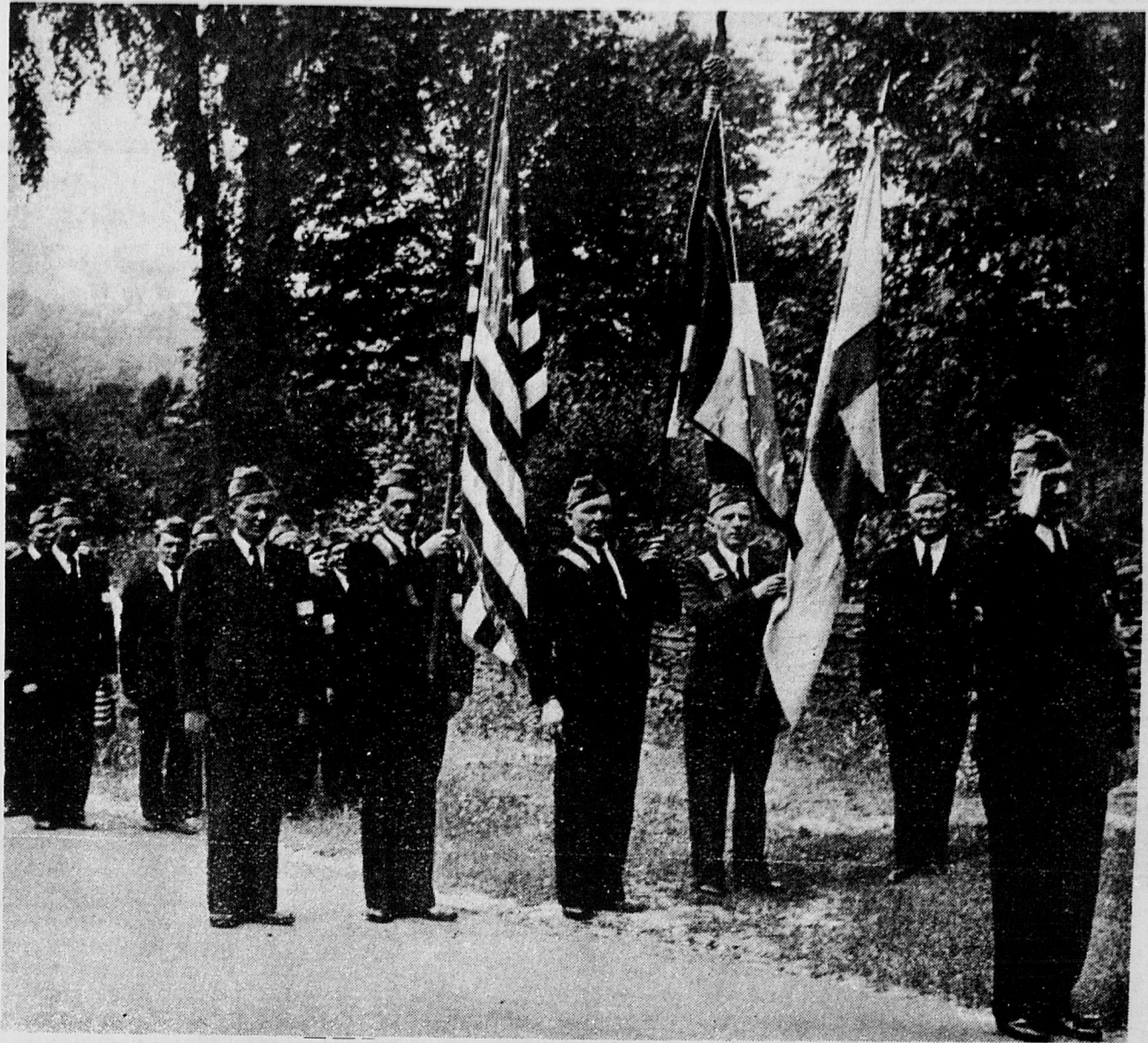
Kuun ensimmäisenä sunnuntaina suomenkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 8:15 aam.

Perjantaisin klo 1:00 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

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

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



"Suomen vapaussodan perinnellitto r.y. olisi erittäin kiitollinen, jos joku täällä Amerikoissa pystyisi tunnustamaan vaikkapa yhden tässä kuvassa olevista miehistä. Koettakaapa muistella ja antakaa meidän Aseveljien tietää. Kiitoksia etukäteen", kirjoittaa Suomalaiset Aseveljet Amerikassa järjestön puheenjohtaja John Kirk. Yhteystiedot: 93 Cooper Rd., Ridgefield, CT 06877; email: jmkirk@attglobal.net

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## Kultaisen Iän Kerho

FITCHBURG, MA - Suomalainen Kultaisen Iän Kerho aloitti syyskauden toimintansa syyskuun 12. päivänä Saiman Puistossa Scott Roadilla.

Puheenjohtaja Armas Kaukoranta lausui kaikki tervetulleiksi. Lauloimme "America" ja "Maamme" laulut.

Syntymäpäiviään tällä viikolla viettävät Onerva Lovejoy ja Ellen Tastula. Heille laulettiin "Happy Birthday".

Hiljainen hetki pidettiin Vieno Ahon muistolle. Hän kuoli kesäkuussa kerhon loma-aikana.

Lahjoituksia kahvipöytään

tekivät seuraavat: Barbara ja Armas Kaukoranta, Onerva Lovejoy, Ellen Delaney, Helvi Fiskaali, Elvi Hagelberg, Sirkka ja Olavi Tastula sekä Helvi Misslin. Leena Kokk toi persikoita.

Ohjelma oli seuraava: Armas Kaukoranta esitti videon Kauhavan viihdekuoron konsertista.

Siirryttiin sitten nauttimaan kahvista ja pöydän herkuista.

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Syysk. 23. p:nä  
klo 7:30 - 11:30 ill.

## Dori Wells Duo soittaa

Katki tervetulleita!  
Finnish Center at Saima Park

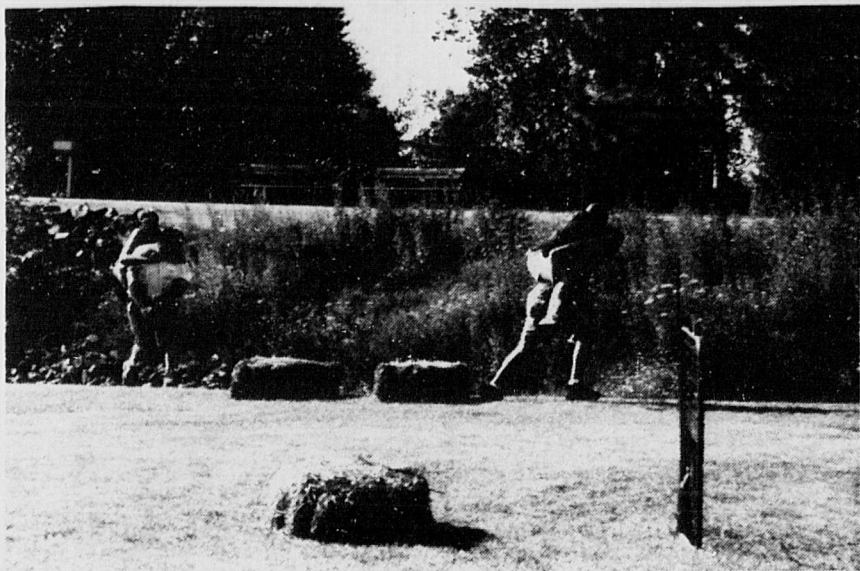
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*The Finnish-American***RAIVAAJA*****Festival Finlandia*****Ironworld Discovery Center****Chisholm, MN • July 22 & 23, 2000***photos: Bent*

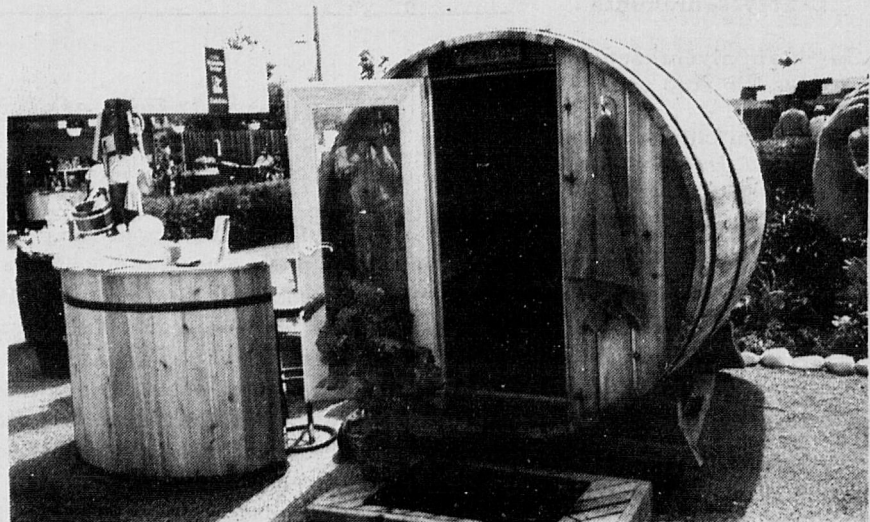
The younger generation was interested in the wife carrying contest.



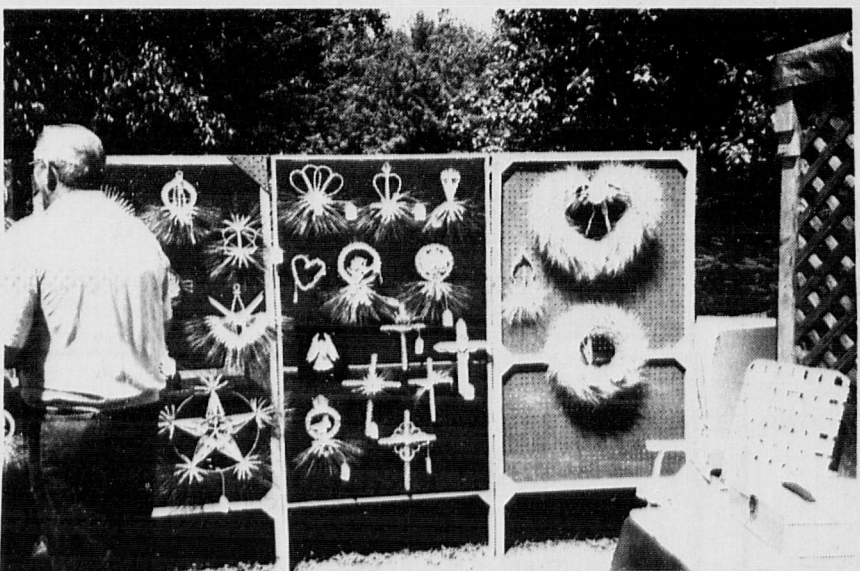
A reindeer from further north had found its way to the festival site.



Dancing lessons were included in the activities.



A barrel sauna



A wall of straw ornaments.



Robert Schmid, president of the Minnesota Finnish-American Historical Society Chapter 14, Hibbing, with the chapter's exhibit.





## Finland least corrupt nation

In the three years since Transparency International last released its index of the world's least-corrupt countries, the top finishers generally have remained the same, trading only a place or two in the ratings.

The Berlin-based group, a civil society dedicated to curbing corruption, bases its findings on surveys of the perceptions of risk analysts, business people, and the general public. Finland finished first; the US 14th. Nigeria repeated as the most corrupt.

The countries perceived as least corrupt, the scores awarded to each (out of a possible 10), and their ranking in the last previous index, where available:

|                    |      |       |
|--------------------|------|-------|
| 1. Finland         | 10.0 | (4)   |
| 2. Denmark         | 9.8  | (2)   |
| 3. New Zealand     | 9.4  | (1)   |
| (tie) Sweden       | 9.4  | (3)   |
| 5. Canada          | 9.2  | (5)   |
| 6. Iceland         | 9.1  | (5)   |
| (tie) Norway       | 9.1  | (n/a) |
| (tie) Singapore    | 9.1  | (7)   |
| 9. The Netherlands | 8.9  | (n/a) |
| 10. United Kingdom | 8.7  | (n/a) |

(Reuters)

## Finnish Expatriate Parliament to convene in November

The November 6-7 session of the Finnish Expatriate Parliament (FEP) will be a big and impressive happening. 169 Finnish expatriate societies from 23 countries registered by the deadline for the parliamentary session. The societies intend to send more than 250 representatives and observers.

The Finnish expatriate societies sent 74 motions to the session. The motions divide on a preliminary division as follows:

Senior Committee: 12  
Social Committee: 12  
Education Committee: 12  
Committee for Official and Organizational Affairs: 9  
Finance Committee: 9  
Rules Committee: 6  
Information Committee: 6  
Cultural Committee: 3  
Nationality Committee: 2  
Ingrian Committee: 3

A big part of the senior issues are social issues by nature. Finnish expatriates, having effectively lobbied for a possibility for dual citizenship, now regard social issues as important and put the emphasis of future interest representation work on social issues.

I'm moving at the end of September to Brussels to assist a Finnish member of the European Parliament.

We started an extensive recruiting procedure to find a new parliament secretary. Over 150 applications arrived. This can be seen as an indication of the good reputation of the Finnish Expatriate Parliament.

Board Members of Finland Society, among them Chairman of Finland Society/ Speaker of the Finnish Expatriate Parliament Pertti Paasio, made the final selection.

Master of Public Affairs Juha Savolainen was elected to be the new Parliament Secretary. Juha has himself spent 13 years outside of Finland and has thus a con-

siderable expatriate experience.

I leave my present posting with a hint of sadness. As a second-generation Finnish expatriate, born and raised abroad, expatriate issues are naturally very close to my heart.

We have together and in good co-operation achieved remarkable progress. The FEP, as the Finnish Expatriates' own and open interest representation forum, has established its position in the minds of Finnish decision-makers.

The work of the Speakers' Council has become established as efficient and issue orientated. The Speakers Councils' regular meetings in Helsinki and especially the meetings with Finnish ministers, members of Parliament and civil servants have proven to be very useful in furthering the cause of Finnish expatriates.

The active organization of expatriate communities within the framework of cooperation and interest promotion has given the expatriate issue more of the desired weight. The resolutions have been considered in the proper bodies and a majority are under discussion. The citizenship issue, regarded by many as the most important, has progressed with good speed and in the right direction.

The Policy Program for Finnish Expatriates by the Finnish government will probably be finished during autumn; the Speakers' Council has left the Expatriate footmark on the program.

Becoming now, once again, an expatriate myself I want to avail myself of this opportunity to thank you all for the excellent co-operation. It has been a great pleasure to work with you. We'll meet again somewhere on this globe!

Mikko Harjulehto  
Secretary of FEP

## News from Finland

### Trade sector sees strong growth in 2000

Finnish retail sales and wholesale sales are expected to grow robustly in 2000, boosted by strong consumer confidence and bright global outlook, the Federation of Finnish Commerce and Trade said last month.

The federation said it expected retail sales, excluding car sales, to grow on average 4.5 percent this year after a rise of 5.2 percent in the first half of the year, and saw retail sales including car sales up four percent.

Wholesale sales were seen rising on average eight percent without car sales after growing 8.5 percent between January-June, while wholesale sales including car sales were expected to add seven percent, it said.

Technical trade sales, which mainly service the industry, were seen rising on average by 11 percent in 2000, it added.

The purchasing power of Finnish households was expected to grow around 2.5 percent this year, 1.5 percentage points less than in 1998 and 1999, it said.

(Reuters)

### Finland offers 1,500 peacekeepers for EU force

Finland can offer 1,500 soldiers to the planned 60,000-strong European rapid reaction force, according to the government.

The European Union (EU) is working to create the rapid reaction force for deployments in areas of humanitarian crisis for up to a year.

The troops, which the government said would be pooled with forces from other Nordic countries, would also be available to participate in operations headed by the United Nations and NATO.

(Reuters)

Tuomioja on EU reform:

### Finland will keep its Commissioner

The foreign ministers of the European Union countries met early this week to discuss changes in the number of members on the European Commission. The EU plans to make changes in the size of the Commission before new member states are accepted, so that the number of Commissioners will not grow too much.

Finland says that the issue has already been resolved: France, the holder of the EU presidency, and the other larger member states understand that smaller member states have no intention of giving up a single post on the Commission.

On the other hand, they are willing to give the large countries greater say in the Council of Ministers. "If the commission did not have representatives from all member states, its ability to function would be weaker," said Finnish foreign minister Erkki Tuomioja (SDP) before the meeting.

(HS)

### Government: no fuel tax cut

The government is not planning to cut the tax on diesel oil or other fuels, despite pressure from the road transport business. According to minister of finance Sauli Niinistö (Coalition), the government's ministerial committee on economic policy was unanimous on the issue at its meeting this week.

As Niinistö sees it, the tax cut would not necessarily affect the price of fuel. He fears that it would merely make room for further increases in the price of crude oil.

(HS)

### Car-free day in Helsinki

On September 22, Helsinki, along with at least 360 other European cities, will celebrate Europe's Car-Free Day, whose slogan is "In town, without my car". The day's main goal is to get as many residents of the greater Helsinki area as possible to use public transportation, to bike or walk - for at least a day.

The city centre will be transformed into an all-purpose street during working hours from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The estimated cost of organizing the temporary traffic change is FIM 10,000.

The Car-Free Day is also planned on being held in future years on September 22. Studies will be conducted on the effects of the day on the amount of traffic and parking, traffic flow, the number of passengers on public transportation, air quality and noise, and opinions on the campaign throughout the country.

Other Finnish cities planning on participating in the car-free action are Kouvola, Mikkeli, Oulu and Toijala.

(HS)

### EU leaders end Austria boycott

Lipponen and Halonen welcome end to sanctions

Finland has given its support to the decision of the European Union to dismantle the boycott of Austria. Finnish approval for the move was given by prime minister Paavo Lipponen (SDP) and president Tarja Halonen.

The end of the sanctions, imposed seven months ago after the inclusion of the far right Freedom Party (FPÖ) led by Jörg Haider in the Austrian coalition government, was made official in Paris last week.

President Halonen was involved in the Finnish decision to end the sanctions. When the decision was made to freeze government level relations with Austria in early February, prime minister Lipponen made the decision on Finland's behalf on his own without consulting then president Martti Ahtisaari.

The statement bringing the Austria boycott to an end was drafted by France, the current holder of the EU Presidency. The statement claims that the actions of the 14 member countries were useful.

(HS)

### Bits and pieces

The Finnish economy is growing strongly, with the gross domestic product expected to grow by six percent this year and 4.6 percent in 2001, the Research Institute of Finnish Economy (ETLA) said.

(STT)

Finnish National Fund for Research and Development, SITRA, said it had signed a deal with capital investment groups British Merlin Biosciences and Swedish HealthCap in order to lure international funds for the biotechnology firms it finances.

(TS)

The Parliament's budget has grown five times faster than the state budget, increasing 113 percent over the past five years. The difference between the 1996 and 2001 budget proposals for the parliament was 242 million markkas (\$35.29 million).

(TS)

A fur farm in western Finland was vandalized for a second time in less than a week early this Monday when suspected animal rights activists released 2,000 minks from their cages.

(TS)

Second finance minister Suvi-Anne Siimes (Leftist Coalition) said she would propose a woman candidate to be appointed to the Bank of Finland.

(TS)



## Municipal elections in Finland

Municipal elections will be held in Finland on October 22, 2000.

Eligible voters abroad will have the opportunity to cast their ballots in early polling. In the United States early polling will be arranged between October 11th and 14th. For exact dates and times of opening at the polling station nearest you, please consult the following list.

Those eligible to vote in municipal elections are: (1) Finnish citizens, citizens of another European Union member state and citizens of Iceland or Norway, who will have reached the age of 18 by the election day (October 22, 2000) and who have residence in Finland on September 1, 2000 (in accordance with the law concerning municipality of residence); as well as (2) other foreign citizens who meet the criteria set above, provided that they

have had residence in Finland for two years.

Hence a person who does not have residence in Finland is not eligible to vote in municipal elections. A person who is uncertain of his or her place of residence, can contact a city administrative court in Finland.

At the polling station, voters must present a proof of identity (e.g., passport or driver's license). If the voter has received a notice card of voting eligibility from the Finnish authorities, presenting it will save time at the polling station.

### Pre-polling stations in the U.S.

**Boston, MA**  
Finland Technology Center  
11 Beacon Street, Suite 1050  
Boston, MA 02108  
tel. (617) 227-0033  
Friday, October 13, 2000  
12 Noon - 6 PM

**Irving, TX**  
Nokia  
6000 Connecting Drive  
Irving, TX 75039  
tel. (972) 894-5000  
Friday, October 13, 2000  
12 Noon - 7 PM

**Lantana, FL**  
Suomi-talo  
301 Central Boulevard  
Lantana, FL 33462  
tel. (561) 582-2335  
Friday - Saturday,  
October 13 - 14, 2000:  
10 AM - 5 PM

**Los Angeles, CA**  
Consulate General of Finland  
1900 Avenue of the Stars,  
Suite 1025  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
tel. (310) 203-9903  
Wednesday - Friday,  
October 11 - 13, 2000  
2 PM - 5 PM  
Saturday, October 14, 2000  
10 AM - 4 PM

**New York, NY**  
Consulate General of Finland  
866 United Nations Plaza,  
Suite 250  
New York, NY 10017  
tel. (212) 750-4400  
Friday, October 13, 2000  
2 PM - 7 PM  
Saturday, October 14, 2000  
10 AM - 4 PM

**Minneapolis, MN**  
Consulate of Finland  
2429 Girard Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
tel. (612) 374-2718  
Saturday, October 14, 2000  
10 AM - 4 PM

**Palo Alto, CA**  
Finland Trade Center  
1900 Embarcadero Road,  
Suite 100  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
tel. (650) 846-9300  
Saturday, October 14, 2000  
10 AM - 5 PM

**Washington, D.C.**  
Embassy of Finland  
3301 Massachusetts Avenue,  
N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
tel. (202) 298-5800  
Wednesday - Friday,  
October 11 - 13, 2000:  
4 PM - 7 PM  
Saturday, October 14, 2000  
10 AM - 4 PM

### CORRECTION

The photographer of the photo on page 11 in the Sept. 13, 2000, issue was incorrectly identified. It was taken by Ella Wigren.

## Chicago News

by Bob Kujanpaa

Melvin Holli, Ph.D., a member of the faculty at the University of Illinois, Chicago, will moderate a panel discussion about presidential character at a conference to be held at the UIC campus October 13-14. Robert V. Remini, a renowned presidential scholar, is hosting the meeting.

The sessions will be held in rooms B and C of the Chicago Illini Union, 828 South Wolcott in Chicago. The public is invited and there is no registration fee or admission charge for the program. For further details call 312-996-6532.

Professor Don Saari of Northwestern University has accepted a position of "Distinguished Professor" at the University of California in Irvine. Don and Lillian have sold their Evanston home and after spending the summer in the Copper Country of Michigan, are now settled in their new home in Irvine.

The Northwestern Math Department will continue to have a "Finnish presence" as Kari Vilonen of Brandeis University began teaching at NU in September.

Allison Rosati, news anchor/reporter of WMAQ-TV (NBC) in Chicago, hosted five specials in late August and early September dealing with the raising of children. Allison

also hosts Wednesday's "Child," a segment on her regular newscast in which she introduces children available for adoption.

Gary Korhonen's Richards High School Bulldogs are ranked number twelve among Chicago area high school football teams by the *Chicago Sun-Times* sportswriters. The *Chicago Tribune* predicts they will be champions of their SICA (Orange Division) Conference. As of this writing, the Bulldogs have a 2-0 record.

The Midwest Chapter of the Finlandia Foundation held their annual picnic and election of officers at the Estonian House on Sunday, August 20. The following officers were chosen for the coming year: president Oscar Forsman; vice presidents Riitta West and Charles Huhta; secretary Liz Grillos; treasurer Steve Koivula; membership Secretary Nona Koivula. Lois Lescelius will continue as editor of the newsletter.

Members of the board of directors are: Lauha Doren, Mel Holli, Lee Hoofnagle, Jussi Lapinjoja, Alli Leone, Lois and Ray Lescelius, Norma and Bill Maki, John Niemi, Heljä Robinson, Aarto Saari-nen and Charles West.

Members of the Midwest Chapter will be serving dinner at the Estonian House on Sunday, May 12.

## Finlandia Foundation-Boston Inc. Sävele Syrjälä Scholarship Fund

Applications for a scholarship for a student of Finnish-American heritage studying in the field of Journalism and/or Communications for the year 2000 are available from:

**Mrs. Edith Eash** or **Mrs. Vera Smith**  
35 Pierce Rd. or 4 Meadowcroft Rd.  
Watertown, MA 02472 Winchester, MA 01890

DEADLINE FOR RETURN:  
Nov. 30, 2000

## Connecting Souls

Finnish Voices in North America  
Edited by Varpu Lindström & Börje Vähämäki

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

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

soft cover, 223 pages

**\$16** add \$3 for postage & handling  
(Mass. residents must also add 80 cents state sales tax)

Order from:  
**RAIVAAJA**  
P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054

## From Heroes to Enemies Finns in Canada, 1937-1947

by Varpu Lindström

*From Heroes to Enemies - Finns in Canada, 1937-1947*, is a social history of Finnish Canadians depicting the turbulent war years. Based on ten years of research, supported by extensive RCMP documents obtained under the Access to Information Act, letter collections, and interviews, the book reveals a web of conflicts, and previously unknown, suppressed phenomena.

After years of negative press during the depression and the Red Scare, Finns were suddenly elevated to heroes during the Winter War of 1939-40, the battle between David and Goliath, Finland and Russia. When the crazy quilt of international relations changed, Finnish Canadians became enemy aliens as their former homeland fought against Canada's new ally, the Soviet Union, alongside Canada's enemy, Germany.

Throughout it all, Finnish Canadians did not change, their needs and desires remained unchanged, but with the pendulum of international politics they swung from heroes to enemies to heroes as if buffeted by contrary winds.

York University professor Varpu Lindström is also the author of *Defiant Sisters - A Social History of Finnish Immigrant Women*. Professor Lindström's books and numerous articles on the history of Finns in Canada reflect her quarter-century long research career.

**\$19** Add \$3 for postage & handling  
(Mass. residents must also add 95¢ state sales tax)

Order from  
**RAIVAAJA**  
P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054

### Special offer for new RAIVAAJA subscribers!

**Three months for eight bucks!** Whether you read Finnish or English, RAIVAAJA will keep in touch with your roots, current Finnish American activities and events in Finland. Subscribe today!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Note: This offer is limited to new subscribers in the U.S. only and expires on September 30, 2000. Regular USA subscription rates are \$28.00 a year, \$20.00 for six months, and \$16.00 for three months. Send this coupon and your check payable to Raivaaja Publishing Company, P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054.



**Braintree, MA****Finn Night**

Friday night, October 6, again will be our annual Finn Night held at the Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave., Braintree.

As in previous years we will be serving pannukakku before the dance and entertainment begin.

Hopefully again this year we will have Brent Buswell, our Vermont Scandinavian accordionist, with us. You have to see and hear him to appreciate his expertise.

If anyone has any ideas or suggestions to improve our Finnish night, please let Nils & Sue Lundin know by calling at 781-659-2206.

We will need help to make the pannukakku so if you are willing to make one or a dozen in 6" x 13" pans, let us know. And, of course, we will have some special refreshments at coffee time. Also, if you have any appropriate items for the raffle, they would be appreciated very much.

Reservations, especially tables of ten, would be nice so that we can plan to have enough pannukakku and other refreshments.

Viking Club

**West Central Michigan****Finland after 1918**

The Finnish-American Society of West-Central Michigan will hold its fall program at 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, at the Marne United Methodist Church, exit 23 off of I-96, in Marne.

Karl Sandelin made a presentation in January about the War of Independence in Finland that was fought in 1918. Now he will speak about the years after 1918.

Sandelin is a member of the Finnish-American Society of West-Central Michigan. He was born and raised in Finland and came here to the USA as a young man.

Exchange students from Finland will also be introduced and welcomed.

Following the meeting there will be a coffee time. FAS

**Finnish Center at Saima Park  
Fitchburg, MA****Annual art exhibit**

The Finnish Center at Saima Park will present an art exhibit from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at Saima Park.

If you are a Finnish-American artist, the center would like to add your name to our list of exhibitors.

If you are interested in showing your work, need more information and would like details, please call Maija Mård at 978-582-7717.

**Ludlow, VT**

The Vermont Finnish American Society will hold their monthly meeting on Sunday September 24, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. at the Gill Terrace Community Center across the street from the Gill Odd Fellows Home located at Gill Terrace in Ludlow.

Please bring a hot dish, salad or dessert to share, coffee will be provided.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Society and about Finland are always welcome to join us for the pot luck luncheon and fellowship.

If you need more information or directions, call 802-775-6303 or email: Litsavt@aol.com

Elizabeth Koitto

**New Consul General of New York  
to attend RAIVAAJA's  
95th celebration**

We are pleased to announce that the newly appointed Consul General of New York, Jukka Leino, will be at the 95th anniversary celebration of your very own newspaper RAIVAAJA.

The celebration will be held

on Sunday, October 1, at 2 p.m. at Saima Park, Scott Road in Fitchburg. The event is open to the general public. The admission charge is \$10.00, and proceeds will benefit RAIVAAJA.

**Kalenteri****CALIFORNIA**

Sept. 22 - SkandiFest, celebrating a Millenium of Viking Heritage, 12 noon-8 pm, Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 N Broadway, Turlock. Info: 209-667-1452; e-mail skanf-fest@sonnet.com

Sept. 23 - SkandiFest continues, 9 am-8 pm, Turlock.

- 'Sibelius - The Man, The Genius,' lecture by Dr Jeanne Doty, 4 pm, Norwegian Seamen's Church, 1035 S Beacon St, San Pedro. For more info: 310-452-7667. Sponsored by LAFF, LBFF & the Norwegian Seamen's Church.

Sept. 24 - SkandiFest continues, 10 am-4 pm, Turlock.

Sept. 30 - Scandinavian Consulates Cup 2000 soccer, 12 noon-4 pm, Bayfront Park, Mill Valley.

Oct. 2 - California and Finnish Perspectives on Media Art, lecture featuring professor Minna Tarkka, Medialab at the University of Art & Design Helsinki, and Norman Klein, UCLA Design & CalArts, 6 pm, 1473 Dickson Art Center, UCLA, Los Angeles.

Oct. 8 - 'Acting Our Age,' 1987 video documentary by Michal Aviad, 2:30 pm, Kaleva Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. Older women creating a meaningful lives for themselves. Among those featured is Irja Koski Friend of Berkeley.

Oct. 14 - Scandinavian Festival 2000, 10 am-6 pm, MGM Plaza, 2425 Colorado Ave, Santa Monica. Performers include Mesterilaulajat male chorus from Finland. Info 323-661-42734.

**CONNECTICUT**

Sept. 22 - Finnish American Heritage Society's new members' night, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 North Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury.

Sept. 30 - Tori/Open Market, 9 am-3 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

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

Oct. 2 - Aura Seura monthly meeting, 6:30 pm, Aura Hall, Voluntown. Coffee 6 pm.

Oct. 14 - FAHS Fall Dinner & Dance, 5-7 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

Oct. 21 - FAHS Children's Halloween Party, 2 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

- Italian Finnish American Dinner Dance, Aura Hall, Voluntown. Lasagna dinner 6 pm; followed by dancing to music by 'Berto Stromboli & Niilo Lundini.'

**MAINE**

Oct. 7 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Farmers' Club, Rte 15, Monson. Music by Veikko Honkala.

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

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Sept. 23 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Scott Rd, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Sept. 24 - Smörgåsbord Dinner, 12 noon-1 pm, Kaleva Camp, Fort Pond, Perry Rd, Lancaster. Hosted by Knights & Ladies of Kaleva.

Sept. 26 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

Sept. 30 - New England Suomi-Koulu Fall opening, 12 noon-2 pm, Kaleva Maja, Fort Pond, Littleton. Info: www.finnish-schools.org/boston/ or 617-753-9377.

- Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Oct. 1 - RAIVAAJA's 95th Anniversary Celebration, 2 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg.

- Accordion Fest featuring Nils Lundin & his Roving Band of New England Accordionists, 2 pm, Sovittaja Park, Rutland. Refreshments & dancing.

Oct. 3 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

Oct. 6 - Annual Finn Night, Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave, Braintree. Dancing to music of Nils Lundin. Info, reservations: 781-659-2206.

Oct. 7 - Craft Festival for Missions, 9 am-1 pm, Messiah Lutheran Church, 750 Rindge Rd, Fitchburg. Finnish coffeebread & pannukakku available.

Oct. 8 - Finnish American Fine Art Exhibit, 11 am-5 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

Oct. 14 - New England Suomi-Koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, Lexington. Info: www.finnish-schools.org/boston/ or 617-753-9377.

Oct. 17 - Finnish-American Society of Cape Cod, 7 pm, West Barnstable Community Center, Rte 149, West Barnstable.

Oct. 21 - Maynard Ladies of Kaleva Rummage Sale, 9 am-2 pm, Kalevaiset Lodge, Fort Pond, Kaleva Rd, Littleton. Refreshments.

Oct. 28 - New England Suomi-Koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, Lexington.

Nov. 3-5 - Finn-Funn Weekend, Sheraton Colonial Hotel and Golf Club, Wakefield. Sponsored by Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury (CT). For info, contact Anita & Jack Smiley, 42 Benjamin Rd, Preston CT 06365; e-mail smiley.s.place@juno.com

**MICHIGAN**

Sept. 30 - Flea Market, 9 am-4 pm, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.

Oct. 4 - Finnweavers, 10 am, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

Oct. 7 - Finnish-American Society of West-Central Michigan fall meeting, 3 pm, Marne United Methodist Church, exit 23 off I-96, Marne. Program: 'Finland - the years after 1918' by Karl Sandelin.

- Finnish Center Association Senior Citizen's Housing Corporation's 25th anniversary celebration, Finnish Center Association Cultural Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills. Dinner 7 pm; dancing 8 pm-midnight to music by the Mike Wolverton Trio. Reservations (deadline Sept 30): 248-476-4577 or 248-474-3907.

Oct. 14 - Rummage, pasty & bake sale, 9 am-2 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

- Soittoniekat Jam Session, 3-6 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

Oct. 15 - Finnish Center Association Scholarship Reception, 3 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

Oct. 17 - Finnweavers Workshop, 9 am, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

**MINNESOTA**

Oct. 13 - Dance, 8:30 pm, Tapestry Folkdance Center, 3748 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis. Dance lesson at 7:30. Music by Minnesota Pelimannit. Info: 651-578-0156 or 612-722-2914.

Oct. 14 - Fall Festival, 10 am-1 pm, Finnish American Historical Society, Cokato. Info: 763-595-9188.

Nov. 19 - Swan Cutler Finnish Choral Music Festival, 2 pm, Ted Mann Concert Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Guest conductor Matti Hyökki to conduct varied program of Finnish choral music. Free admission. Info: 612-624-1069.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Nov. 5 - 'The Swedish & Finnish Stonecutters of West Concord,' a talk by William P. Jones, 2 pm, Museum of New Hampshire History, The Hamel Center, 6 Eagle Square, Concord.

**NEW YORK**

Sept. 24 - Mika Pohjola Trio, Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St, New York. Shows at 9 & 10:30 pm.

Sept. 30 - Finnish War Veterans in America Annual Venison Dinner Dance, 6 pm, Lomala Hall, Rte 82, Hopewell Jct. Music by Hendela with vocals by Autio. Guest of honor: Harri Holkari, former prime minister of Finland. War veterans at no charge. Reservations: 203-433-1890, 914-897-5902 or jmkirk@attglobal.net

Oct. 13 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metropolitan Chapter program evening, 8 pm, 6th floor, Central Presbyterian Church, 593 Park Ave at 64th St, New York.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Sept. 24 - Philadelphia Suomi-koulu, 1:30-3:30 pm, Swedish Museum, Philadelphia. Info about 4-6 age group, 215-579-1008; 7-12 age group, 856-427-9931; adults, 215-886-1478.

July 26-29 - FinnFest USA 2001, Villanova University, Villanova. Info: Phone 856-489-1594; FAX 856-489-1106; e-mail: mail@finnfest2001.org; web site: www.finn\_fest2001.org

**TEXAS**

Oct. 12 - Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Fort Worth monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, Walnut Hill Lutheran Church, Royal Lane & Webb Chapel, Northwest Dallas.

**VERMONT**

Sept. 24 - Vermont Finnish American Society monthly meeting, 1 pm, Gill Terrace Community Center, Gill Terrace, Ludlow. Bring hot dish, salad or dessert to share; coffee provided. Info, directions: 802-775-6303 or Litsavt@aol.com

**WASHINGTON**

Dec. 2 - Finnish Independence Day Celebration Dinner & Dance, Mountaineers Club, Seattle. Info: 425-641-8724.

Events subject to change without notice



## A tribute to Ilona



Arlene and Allan Lampi with Ilona Caparros at FinnFest USA '99 in Seattle.

### Ilona Siren Caparros 1937 - 2000

Ilona was my favorite cousin. She and I had known each other for 60 plus years. We had a special relationship of understanding and support of each other. That is why it hurt so much when my brother called with the bad news.

They say she died of a cardiac arrest. But my wife Arlene and I feel she died of a broken heart. She missed her late husband Rogelio so much. We just know she wanted to be with him. She had just come home from the Toronto FinnFest and was beginning her sabbatical from Rutgers to do a major writing of Rogelio's life's work.

Even so, this is still hard to take. She was a person so full of life. She had always been interested in her ethnic background. In the last few years she had really focused on her Finnish connection.

I last visited with her when we together attended the Seattle FinnFest. She had her own personal agenda to get the most out of FinnFest in order to again be uplifted with her Finnish inheritance. It was such a joy to be with her.

Ilona was a romantic. She had strong thoughts and feel-

ings, much of which were directed to adventure and love. When we got together the last time, I remember so vividly how she, my wife Arlene, and I sat for six straight hours just talking, drinking her favorite Brut, talking, and nibbling smoked salmon.

There was so much warmth from her.

I wanted to write this note as a tribute to Ilona. There may be some of you who also remember her.

Ilona Siren Caparros grew up in Newport (NH); mother Signe Ford in Newport; sister Sonja Johnston in Rumford (ME); stepson Miguel in California. She lived in Elizabeth (NJ) and worked most of life at Rutgers University libraries.

Arlene and I will remember our favorite cousin and will miss her very much. We are at peace knowing she is with her husband Rogelio.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, September 27th at 2:00pm at Kirpatrick Chapel at Rutgers University.

Allan O. Lampi  
Boring, OR

## Finnish Center at Saima Park

### Finnish legacies in north central Massachusetts

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

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

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

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

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

- continues from last week -

#### Finnish American Club of Saima (FACS)

After World War II the younger generation at Saima, mostly children of the founders of the Society, decided to form their own English-speaking branch as they felt more comfortable conducting meetings in English because many had not kept up with the Finnish language. Thus, the Finnish American Club of Saima was organized on May 16, 1946 with 91 charter members and was dubbed "Young Saima." By that time "Old Saima's" activities had decreased considerably and the Park had gone somewhat to seed and needed many repairs.

In 1947 the Finnish American Club of Saima (FACS) was asked to take over management of the Park. Saima Park's "face was lifted" over the next two summers, again much of it with volunteer labor by members. In 1949 city water was finally obtained for the Park so that modern plumbing could be installed. A sauna was built in 1954. In 1949 Saima Park had also become a community resource with groups renting the Park for outings and other events under FACS management. In 1966 the Saima Society officially deeded the property to FACS.

After the sale of Saima Hall in downtown Fitchburg, Saima Park became the Finnish Community Center for the area and eventually the major Finnish Center in the eastern part of the country. Many well-known Finnish and American artists were guest performers. It had become the mecca for visiting dignitaries, athletes, diplomats, Co-op

executives, Finnish government officials and cabinet ministers.

The highlight of such events was the 1970 visit of Finland's President Urho K. Kekkonen. Under the direction of Fitchburg's Honorary Finnish Consul, Edwin E. Kaarela, FACS and the local Finnish groups joined hands to hold a reception at Saima Park at which the mayor of Fitchburg and the governor of Massachusetts extended a welcome to the Finnish President. Attendance at this reception was approximately 3,000.

Generally, FACS continued to follow the same cultural activities and pursuits established by their parent organization. The years brought changes. In March 1977 the summer "hall" was destroyed by fire. For three years members met at the Coop Center in Fitchburg until a permanent, year-round clubhouse was erected and dedicated in 1980.

Additional annual events were added to the program schedule by FACS. They included the "Tori," a variation of a typical Finnish open air market when outside vendors offer items of clothing, books, musical records and CDs, arts and crafts, and souvenirs. Most of these items are typically Finnish or have some identity with the other nordic countries. The event also features a program of music and dancing and usually a talk on a subject relating to Finland.

The observance of Finnish Independence Day (December 6, 1917) has become an annual event to commemorate the birth of an independent country after seven centuries of foreign rule.

The Spring Fair, during which baked goods made by the members, plus miscellaneous items donated for money raising purposes, was instituted by FACS.

Saima Park is a prime site for social gatherings. It is where people gather to host visiting Finnish dignitaries and performers. It is where cross-country skiers and skaters congregate, and athletes compete in track and field meets. Traditional Finnish holidays are observed with folk dancing, poetry reading, a mid-summer festival, and typical Finnish foods. Fortune telling by melting lead on New Year's Eve and predicting the future by describing shapes of the resulting lead has long been a traditional way to greet the new year.

Some of the activities of the society already mentioned in this summarized history of Saima Park were continued by FACS but some programs had to be curtailed because of the new generation's different interests and the steady loss of familiarity with the Finnish language. (FACS had adopted the English as its official lan-

guage). As already noted, dramatic presentations became fewer each year and finally came to an end in 1961. The Saima Band [1950s] and the mixed choral group dropped out of the picture in the late 1970's.

#### Raivaaja

As important an organization as the Saima Society became to the Finnish immigrants and their descendants in north central Massachusetts, there are many who feel that the influence that the society and its leading members had on the birth and development of other Finnish organizations is of equal significance.

The first offshoot (1905) was the newspaper Raivaaja (The Pioneer). Since the early Finns were illiterate in English, they lacked a source of news of local and national and, indeed, international happenings. For this reason Saima's membership supported the establishment of a Finnish language paper from which it could get the news. The newspaper was also viewed as a provider of general as well as "political" education.

During the first World War the Raivaaja editorialized in favor of peace and against American entry into the war. Even though the editors tried to be circumspect and refrained from strident criticism, this opposition to America's participation in the war resulted in charges that Raivaaja was unpatriotic and even treasonous.

In August 1918 a team of investigators was sent by the War Department to see what Raivaaja was up to. A week long search of the Raivaaja offices and buildings unearthed nothing treasonous or even suspicious. A hearing in Boston followed and Raivaaja was given a clean bill of health.

Although the first few years were a struggle the paper not only survived but gained subscribers to the point that it jumped from a weekly to a daily in six years. After having been issued six days a week since 1911, Raivaaja dropped its Saturday edition in 1953. Since then it has reduced its frequency of publication step by step until now it is one of two remaining Finnish newspapers - both weeklys - in the United States. It also has the distinction of being the longest continuously running Finnish newspaper in American history [not true].

Raivaaja was not the only Finnish newspaper started in Fitchburg. In 1902 Pohjan Tähti (The North Star) was founded and was off to a flying start. It was an early success but after Raivaaja solved its start-up years and gained circulation, the North Star

turn to LEGACIES page 12

## RAIVAAJA

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#### Raivaaja

P.O. Box 600  
Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054  
Phone: 978-343-3822 Fax: 978-343-8147



## Ed Hendela entertains at Sovittaja Park

Ed Hendela played for the dinner and dance that was held at Sovittaja Park in Rutland, Mass., Saturday the 9th of September. His dance numbers were well chosen for this great fall evening dance, and with his terrific amplifica-

tion system Ed's solo playing sounded like a whole orchestra was playing.

Ed Hendela knows his music and the numbers he plays, some of his Finnish tunes, were very well-known in Finland during the wars with

Russia (1939-1944). He played the Säkkijärven polkka with great speed and his Finnish tangos were exquisite. He played many Swedish dance numbers. All his tunes were very entertaining and with his pleasant personality Ed makes an excellent accordion player.

Ed Hendela's grandparents come from Pattijoki, near Raahen and close to Oulu in Finland. The family name was then Häntälä.

The dancers at Sovittaja enjoyed his music this evening. Thanks, Ed.

The dinner was served at 6 p.m. before the dance. Great-tasting fruit salad as the appetizer, then a well-prepared beef stew was served in generous serving. The meal was topped off with peach short cake and coffee. A very substantial and good-tasting dinner.

Thanks to Katy and Barry Heiniluoma and Linda and Jim Lamothe for being in charge in the kitchen. Bob Belden sold all the tickets and there was a good crowd enjoying the dinner and dance.

As the summer programs are coming to an end at Sovittaja, we certainly owe this club a big thanks for giving the members and the people who attend such great entertainment not only through the summer months, but throughout the year.

As a finale at Sovittaja, October 1 at 2 p.m. Nils

Lundin will bring his famous accordion jamboree group with him to the park. There will be around 20 accordionists and musicians.

Don't miss this event. It's a must for people who like accordion music with Scandinavian numbers. October 1st, 2 p.m.

Nils Granfors



Ed Hendela



Linda & Jim Lamothe and Katy Heiniluoma in the Sovittaja kitchen.

Photos by Nils Granfors

## Lukijan kynästä

The LUKIJAN KYNÄSTÄ (From a Reader's Pen) Section invites readers to discuss current issues of the Finnish American community. Everyone is welcome to contribute.

Debate, observe, question, suggest - express your opinion! If possible, keep your letter to the length of one typewritten page or two handwritten pages. Letters selected for publication may be shortened for space reasons.

Letters published in this section do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the RAIVAAJA staff, Raivaaja Publishing Company Board of Directors or Shareholders.

Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Send your letter to: LUKIJAN KYNÄSTÄ, RAIVAAJA, P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0054.

### Is Kalle Jaakko Romppainen somewhere in Michigan?

My late grandfather Eemil Romppainen was born in 1902 in Hyrynsalmi, Finland and died in 1989. Eemil had two half-brothers: Kalle Jaakko Romppainen (born August 22, 1882 in Hyrynsalmi) and Antti Edvard Romppainen (born September 1, 1884 in Hyrynsalmi).

Kalle went to the USA in 1901 because otherwise he would have been forced to go into the Russian army. He bought a ticket of 305 Finnish marks and travelled from Hanko by M/S Acturus. Acturus left Finland on October 21, 1901.

Kalle moved to Hancock (MI) and he properly worked for a mining company. There is a tale in the family that Kalle died in a mine accident.

Kalle's younger brother Antti went to USA on May 10, 1904. Nobody knows what happened to him. Probably both of them died in the

USA.

Kalle moved to the USA on the same ship that was carrying some other relatives of mine too. Kalle's second cousin Kalle Jaakko Romppainen (born 1880 in Risti-Järvi) and his wife Tilda Kempainen were travelling on the same ship. They went to Hancock, too. They returned to Finland in the 1910s but their older children were all born in the USA.

In the beginning of the century Kalle Jaakko Romppainen sent a post card from Negaunee to Finland. The photograph was taken at Negaunee studio. So, he may have lived and worked close to Marquette, too. The photograph was signed in Finnish by mysterious Mr. Elias Hell. I wonder, who is he?

If you know Elias Hell or Kalle J. Romppainen, please

turn to KALLE page 12

## Kekkonen diaries to appear as a book

Estate of late president agrees to publication

The personal diaries of Finland's former president Urho Kekkonen are to be made public in a few year's time. The late president's estate has given its authorization to publish the diaries as a series of books.

Kekkonen started keeping a diary on January 1, 1958. His first term as president had begun on March 1, 1956.

Kekkonen wrote in his diary regularly, and the last entry was from the summer of 1981. In September of that year Kekkonen went on sick leave and later resigned the presidency.

He wrote in his diary almost every day. The entries include valuable historical information about Kekkonen's contemporaries and events in Finnish foreign and domestic policy. Renowned for his writ-

ing skills, Kekkonen was able to put his observations into sharp focus in his diary, which he never intended for publication.

The most influential in the decision to publish the Kekkonen diaries were the late president's son, Matti Kekkonen, and his grandson, Timo Kekkonen, the son of Urho Kekkonen's other son, Taneli.

The plan is to publish the Kekkonen diaries in the same way as those of former president J.K. Paasikivi were released in 1985 and 1986 after being stored in a vault for nearly 30 years.

The Kekkonen diaries will be published by Otava Publishers. Initial plans are for a four volume set. The first part, with Kekkonen's observations on the diplomatic crises in relations with the Soviet

Union in the late 1950s, will come out next year.

The only parts to be left out of the books will be Kekkonen's observations about his own family. There are to be indications in the published work whenever a cut is made.

At the request of the Kekkonen family, the books will contain an explanatory section by Kekkonen's biographer, professor Juhani Suomi, who will provide the historical background to each period in the diary.

Professor Suomi is a key figure in the process in many ways. He had access to the diaries already when he wrote his Kekkonen biography, and he is one of the few people able to decipher Kekkonen's handwriting.



Finland's president Urho K. Kekkonen (1900-1986) in a reflective pose out on a ski trail.



## LEGACIES

from page 10

sold its controlling stock to Raivaaja, thereby ending its days.

Of them the one who did most to gain the acceptance of the Finnish population by the rest of the community was Henry Puranen. He served the newspaper as the manager of the bookstore, then as City Editor for more than twenty years and finally as business manager from 1948 [1950] until retirement in 1960. He was involved in community affairs and was a trustee of the Fitchburg Public Library for many years.

In addition to his work at the Raivaaja Mr. Puranen was a long-time member of the board of directors of the United Cooperative Society, serving several terms as its president. After the end of World War II, the Finnish government established a consulate in Fitchburg and appointed Henry Puranen as its first Honorary Vice Consul.

**United Cooperative Society**

It has been said often that when a Greek meets another Greek they open a restaurant. It is equally appropriate to say that if one sees two Finns hurrying along a street they are either going to a sauna or are on their way to form a cooperative.

The Finnish immigrants who settled in New England and elsewhere in America brought with them an interest in, and understanding of, the principles of cooperatives. In north central Massachusetts the most successful consumer cooperatives were developed in Fitchburg and Maynard. Smaller consumer cooperatives were established in Gardner and in Milford (NH). These latter two had severe financial problems and were finally taken over by the cooperative in Fitchburg.

After the failure of two earlier cooperatives, a group of papermakers and weavers who worked in the mills on the western side of the town organized the first successful

consumer cooperative in 1910. The organization, originally called Yrittäjä (Enterpriser), then Into (Ardor), and finally the United Cooperative Society of Fitchburg, was located in West Fitchburg.

Because the West Fitchburg site was not convenient for many Finns living in the city a branch store was opened on Rollstone Street, followed in 1918 by a larger new building on upper Main Street, adjacent to the Upper Common.

All the early cooperatives were food stores but they soon became real consumer cooperatives offering a variety of services. The main store in Fitchburg sold clothing and shoes but the branch stores just handled foods. A milk distribution cooperative became part of U-Coop, as the company was called.

A bakery was established in 1912 to supply bread and pastries to the organization's stores and to the bakery wagons which toured the Finnish neighborhoods in the city selling from door to door. Later this activity changed to special trucks which circled the nearby farm areas twice a week on a regular schedule.

This co-operative not only operated gasoline (service) stations in Fitchburg and Gardner but had its own garage to repair and maintain the fleet of trucks needed for delivery of milk, household fuel oil and baked goods.

The Co-op camp for children was popular for several years. Children were transported to Saima Park by bus and engaged in a variety of activities, including swimming. Parents and friends attended a program given by the campers on the last day of camp.

When the main store had its last enlargement an attractive coffee shop was added. This became very popular. Here customers could enjoy a cup of coffee with freshly baked pastries, or lunch, and chat with friends.

The high water mark of the United Co-operative Society was reached in 1960 when the membership exceeded 10,000 and the volume of business was just under \$4.5 million. After some years at that level, the trend started downward. Consumer cooperatives throughout New England were failing, which ended the advantages of purchasing through a jointly-owned wholesale. Other factors, needless to recount, were also involved which made continuation impossible. In September 1977 the U-Coop, after 67 years of service to the entire community, ended its days.

**Workers Credit Union**

The Workers Credit Union was founded as "Työväen Luottoyhdistys" on April 8, 1914 at a meeting held at the Raivaaja building. The majority of attendees were from Fitchburg, and others from Gardner, Maynard, Worcester, and Quincy.

The meeting was called by the manager of the Raivaaja Publishing Company, John Suominen, who had been prompted to find a solution to the banking needs of the Finnish immigrants. Raivaaja had gained a firm footing by then and many immigrants came to it for their banking needs, but since it was not a bank, it could not accommodate them.

Suominen sought help from the Bank Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and learned of the Credit Union Law that had been enacted in 1909. He learned that credit unions are established as cooperatives and that they are a people's bank available to all people to open savings accounts.

The early Finns were hesitant to go into banks because they could not read or write English and they knew that bankers catered to established businessmen and were not as approachable by ordinary working people. Furthermore, some Finns had lost money in banks that had failed elsewhere and had had bad experiences with unscrupulous moneylenders.

As chartered, Credit Union membership fee was 50 cents per individual. Shares were \$5.00 each and the maximum amount investment permitted

a shareholder was \$40.00. Maximum savings amount per person was set at \$1,000. The undertaking was hoped to be useful "not just for Finns in Fitchburg and Massachusetts but all over the country" and people were urged to "understand the importance of this undertaking and become its supporters." People responded and in five years the Workers Credit Union's assets had grown to \$606,000.

Twice in the Credit Union's history the organization faced difficulties. In 1920 it survived the attempts of a group of dissident Finns who tried to gain control over it and other Finnish organizations. They spread rumors and several depositors withdrew their money, causing assets to drop from \$705,000 to \$366,000. However, sufficient reserves had been built up and loyal supporters enabled the Credit Union to survive.

Another crucial time was during the depression when all banks suffered and many closed their doors. By 1932 Workers Credit Union did feel the effect of the depression but five years later they were in good shape again. Remarkably, dividends were paid to members during those difficult years and throughout its history dividends have been paid every year.

The Workers Credit Union has outgrown its quarters several times. Their first move was from the office on the first floor of the Raivaaja building, which they had purchased. Next they constructed a new building at the corner of Elm and Academy Streets. When the United Cooperative Society went out of business the Workers Credit Union purchased its Main Street property, which they remodeled for increased efficiency.

Through the years the Workers Credit Union has expanded with branch offices in surrounding communities of Leominster, Lunenburg, Townsend, Lancaster, Gardner and Orange. A branch office in the Cleghorn neighborhood of Fitchburg closed.

The 1998 annual report showed assets of \$313.7 million and a membership of 50,471. It is the seventh largest of 309 credit unions in

Massachusetts and the largest such institution in Worcester County at that time. Thousands of Finns and non-Finns have purchased homes and cars through the Credit Union and it continues to live on as a meaningful tribute to the early Finnish immigrants.

Although it retains its original name, the Workers Credit Union today is no longer a credit union but operates as a full fledged bank. [Workers' Credit Union is still a credit union, operating under the same charter received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on April 17, 1914]

to be continued

Suomi has been working on the Kekkonen diaries for some time already. The microfilm versions of the original diaries will be available to researchers at the UKK Archive in Orimattila.

This is considered important, lest there be suspicions that the content of the diaries had been altered for the published version.

The foundation which runs the archive has also decided to allow historians access to Kekkonen's so-called year books.

Each year, Kekkonen would collect large files of material on key events. These documents would include reports from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Security Police, as well as letters he had received, and newspaper clippings.

Kekkonen found these year books useful when preparing for talks and writing speeches. (HS)

**KALLE**

from page 11

contact me: Hannu Romppainen, Länsitie 10, 88300 Paltamo, Finland.

You can also use my e-mail address: rohata@freenet.hut.fi. Any kind of information about my grandfather's half-brothers is highly appreciated.

Hannu Romppainen  
Paltamo, Finland

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