

Madeleine Albright at the West Park Slovenian Home

By Phil Hrvatin



Madeleine Albright traveled across Northern Ohio campaigning for Senator Barack Obama on Friday October 24, 2008. One her stops included a meet and greet event at the West Park Slovenian Home.

Ohio State Representative Kenny Yuko District 7 coordinated with the Obama camp to make this event possible in our Slovenian Community.

One attendee to the function was West Park Slovenian Home's own Rudy Pivic. Little did Rudy know that he would have the opportunity to waltz with the first woman to become United States Secretary of State and at the time the highest-ranking woman in the history of the United States government, the author of several books, a professor at Georgetown University and the second woman to become a United States Ambassador to the United Nations. Rudy commented that he wasn't aware of all of her accomplishments, but said she is a very good dancer.



Madeleine Albright & Rudy Pivic at the West Park Slovenian Home

After her presentation Madame Albright took time from her busy schedule to answer questions, pose for photos and sign autographs for those in attendance.

The West Park Slovenian Hall is located at 4583 West 130th Street Cleveland, Ohio 44135. Music was provided by Wayne Tomsic and Joe Reboudo.



Autograph session



Phil Hrvatin, Madeleine Albright, Kenny Yuko



Phil,
 here are some photos from Saturdays' Martinovanje and 50th anniversary of Stajerski and Prekmurski klub in SNH Cleveland. There were about 450 people, the Klobuk Show Band was playing and also took care of 'official'



blessing of 'most' (mosht, young wine, grape juice) which became wine (Martinovanje = St. Martin's celebration on November 11). The bird in the photo is



the 'Storklja' (shtorklja), mostly settled in the Prekmurje region.

Zvone

Also, our Cleveland based Kres dance group performed at the event.



St. Mary's Parish

Halloween Dance

Friday,
 October 31, 2008
 featuring

Show Band Klobuk

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Donation is \$10.00



Faith, Family
 Freedom: The Foundation
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Slovenian American TIMES

Published in
 Cleveland, Ohio U.S.A.



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Številka: 01/08
Ljubljana, 22. oktober 2008

Izjava Nadškofije Ljubljana ob sklenitvi sporazuma o Blejskem otoku

Nadškofija Ljubljana se s sporazumom, sklenjenim 14. oktobra 2008 med *Župnijo Bled* in *Ministrstvom za kulturo*, odpoveduje zahtevku za vrnitev Blejskega otoka, eventualnim pripadajočim odškodninskim zahtevkom in v zadevi umika pritožbo pred Evropskim sodiščem za človekove pravice v Strasbourgu. V posest Župnije Bled bodo vrnjene še preostale stavbe na otoku, ki omogočajo nadaljevanje večstoletne tradicije duhovnega in kulturnega utripa na tem prostoru. Ob tem bo župnija upravičencem povrnila vlaganja, ki so povečala vrednost predmetnih stavb in objektov.

Katoliška Cerkev je na otoku navzoča že 942 let. Briksenški škofje so blejsko posest z otokom prejeli v dar od cesarja Henrika II. leta 1004. Otok je leta 1688, po dolgotrajnih prizadevanjih ljubljanskih škofov, prešel v last in posest Škofije Ljubljana in s tem tudi upravno postal sestavni del slovenskega narodnostnega prostora. Vse stavbe in objekti na otoku, vključno z baročno cerkvijo, so dobile današnjo svetovno znano podobo v času, ko je bil otok že pod upravo ljubljanske škofije. Velika večina vlaganj v objekte je bila izvedenih iz darov vernikov in iz drugih prihodkov župnije oziroma škofije. V času upraviteljstva blejskih župnikov in drugih duhovnikov ljubljanske nadškofije je Blejski otok postal povezovalni narodnostni simbol slovenstva, romarsko in kulturno središče, odprto za vse obiskovalce. Otok je ostal v lasti Župnije Bled do leta 1946, ko ga je *Federativna ljudska republika Jugoslavija* nacionalizirala. S posebnim sporazumom je v novejšem času Župnija Bled upravljala z otokom od leta 1992 dalje. V aktualnem sporazumu sta se udeleženi strani dogovorili, da se Župniji Bled za dobo 45 let izroči v zakup nepremičnine na otoku, ki so v lasti Republike Slovenije, kar bo omogočilo nadaljevanje celostnega upravljanja otoka.

Nadškofija Ljubljana bo kot dober gospodar stavb in objektov in upravitelj nepremičnin dosledno spoštovala in varovala varstveni režim kulturnega spomenika, ki velja za območje celotnega otoka. Ob tem bo skladno z določbami sporazuma zagotavljala, da bo na otoku potekala splošno koristna kulturno – umetniška dejavnost in da bo Blejski otok ostal javno dostopen za vse domače in tuje obiskovalke in obiskovalce.



Tiskovni urad Nadškofije Ljubljana

Dr. David Turk writes:

Date: Monday, October 20, 2008, 11:36 PM

I had the pleasure of meeting Mirjam Gremes and her husband, Chuck at the Cleveland National Air Show and Slovenska Pristava, courtesy of Dr Zvone Zigon. Here is a truly talented Slovenian, whom we should all be proud of. Her website is in progress, but as you can see from her paintings, this is a very talented artist. Her website will also give lessons in Slovenian, as well as many interesting facts. Mirjam is from Minnesota and does most of the translation services for the consul general and embassy. Check it out. It is worth it.

<http://mirjamsworld.com>



Reminder,

For those who still need tickets: On November 1 2008, there is a Saint Vitus Slovenian School Reverse Raffle Benefit For Graduates' Trip To Slovenia Doors Open at 6 pm with Open Bar. Dinner at 7:30 pm. For those interested in attending and supporting your slovenian school students, let me know if you still need tickets. Dinner tickets are \$20. Main Board Tickets are \$55 and include dinner. The event will take place at the Saint Vitus Auditorium. Please let me know if you need tickets by Tuesday October 28, so I can mail them out to you.

Thanks,
David Turk

Retired University Heights, Ohio fireman Lieutenant John Turk

and his fellow Slovenian counterparts stay in touch on both a personal and professional basis

Hi! I am Boris Popovic, a higher fire fighting officer and lieutenant in PGD Maribor-mesto or in English VFD Maribor-city. Because I was asked to tell (or write) something about our activities due to a link, that I sent per email to my friend John, whom I know, because he by chance visited our fire station in city of Maribor, which is the second biggest city (or town, if you like it better) in Slovenia, here we have now a small article..



Well, in Slovenia October is the month of fire safety. So we firefighters have a lot's of activities like for example: announced and unannounced exercises, presentations of fire safety and life of firefighters on schools, kindergartens, homes (from residences for students till the old people's homes),... and of course days of open doors... well, this last thing we had on 22-nd and 23-rd of October this year... especially kids from schools and kindergartens are invited... and they come in big numbers... we show them our fire station, our engines and tools, our equipment, the procedures how to react in case of emergency... and of course, we try to invite young people to join our voluntary, but also honourable and humanitarian work of helping other people...

And just for info:

PGD Maribor-mesto is the oldest fire unit in Maribor and one of the oldest in Slovenia. In City of Maribor in Official fire service Maribor or in FD Maribor we have 11 voluntary and one professional - full-time fire unit or FD. That means, that we have 12 fire stations and approximately 60 apparatus with

400 firefighters for so something like 120.000 people of Maribor... But all together with youth and with veterans we have so something like 1000 members of fire organization. General in all Slovenia fire organizaion is very developed. From 2 million of residents of Slovenia we have so something like 140.000 members, from that about 60.000 operative firefighters... We have a saying: You are a real Slovenian, if you were on Triglav and if you are at FD...

If you want to learn more abot VFD MBC, you can go to our website at www.pgdbmesto.si . For more info you can write also to me at gasilecmb@yahoo.com .

Respectfully yours

Boris Popovic

Spoznavanje gasilskega dela



Dnevi odprih vrat so namenjeni predvsem mlajšim, ki jim želijo približati delo prostovoljnega gasilca. Ob mesecu varstva pred požari je Prostovoljno gasilsko društvo Maribor mesto včeraj na sedežu društva na Koroški cesti v Mariboru pripravilo dan odprtih vrat. Društvo je možno obiskati še danes, sicer pa obiskovalcem predstavijo dejavnost društva, jih seznanijo z zgodovino gasilstva v mestu, omogočijo ogled gasilsko-reševalne opreme, vozil in muzejske sobe. Boris Popovič, gasilski vodnik v omenjenem društvu, je ob tem dejal, da želijo predvsem mlajšim približati delo prostovoljnega gasilca in jih morda navdušiti za včlanitev ter obenem opozoriti na pravilne postopke ob požaru.

www.vecer.com/clanek2008102305372736

www.vecer.com/clanek2008102205372721

Koncert na Slovenski pristavi

Odbor Slovenske pristave vabi vse člane in prijatelje na zanimiv koncert dveh mladih harmonikašev iz Slovenije. Na zahvalni dan vikend obiščeta Ameriko Miha Debevec in Tomaz Rožanec, zmagovalca na mnogih tekmovanjih v Sloveniji. Debevec igra na diatonično harmoniko, Tomaž pa na klasično. Prireditev bo v nedeljo 30. novembra ob 3. uri popoldne v Lauschetovi dvorani na Slovenski pristavi. Po kratkem koncertu bosta muzikanta igrala za ples. Za pijačo in jedačo poskrbljeno.

Concert at Slovenska Pristava

Members and friends of Sloveska Pristava are invited to attend an interesting concert of two accordion virtuosos from Slovenia. Tony Petkovšek and the Slovenian Radio club will host Miha Debevec and Tomaz Rožanec during the Thanksgiving weekend. Both are winners of numerous competitions in Slovenia. Miha is an expert on button box and Tomaz on classic accordion. The performance will be held on Sunday November 30, 2008 at 3 pm in the new Lausche Hall. After the concert Miha and Tomaz will join with our local Pristava musicians for your dancing and listening pleasure. Food and drinks will be available. See you there.

American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies

From The Society For Slovene Studies on the 2008 AAASS National Conference
October 2008

Veronica E. Aplenc, Program Officer, Society for Slovene Studies

Every year, members of the Society for Slovene Studies – an academic organization for scholars whose work focuses on Slovene issues – present their recent scholarly work at national conferences. The national meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) is perhaps the most important venue for academic exchange of scholars working on East and Central Europe, and annually attracts several thousand scholars. **This year's AAASS meeting will be held November 20 to November 23 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.** Members from the Society for Slovene Studies will be presenting their work **on Slovene-related topics in 19 panels.** In addition, **the Society is the main organizer for a new, special event – a joint reception for Central European scholars** from the Society, the Czechoslovak Studies Association, the Hungarian Studies Association, the Polish Studies Association, the Slovak Studies Association, and the Society for Romanian Studies. Special thanks are due to the Government of Slovenia, Office of Slovenians Abroad, for awarding the Society a grant to help make this reception possible.

Please note the panel sponsored by the Society, **Aspects of Slovene Identity: New Research by Young Scholars in the Field**, and the Society's annual business meeting, **Society for Slovene Studies (Meeting)**, on Saturday afternoon at 1:30pm.

As in previous years, the Society is honored and delighted to have Ambassador Samuel Zbogor participate in a roundtable on Slovenian foreign policy. And, this year the Society has arranged for a film screening, followed by a panel, on scholar Janko Lavrin.

A summary of the 19 panels with Society participants follows, with dates, times and session numbers. This information was taken from the AAASS's Preliminary Program. Please be sure to check the Final Program, which will be distributed at the conference, for any changes in panel meeting times and their locations.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008

SESSION 11:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

1-06 Contrasting Views of the Yugoslav Wars of Succession: Past and Present Assumptions and Beliefs

1-33 Information Technology and Political Processes in Southeastern Europe

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008

SESSION 23:15 P.M. – 5:15 P.M.

2-30 Populism in Post-Communist Europe

2-42 The Other End of History: Three Central European Novelists on History and the Individual -

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

SESSION 38:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

3-07 Slovenian Political Emigration – From Past to the Future

3-10 Gendered Memories of Socialism in the Former Yugoslavia

3-34 Stalinist Terror in Eastern Europe

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

SESSION 410:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.

4-04 The Demise of Anti-Communist Opposition in Poland, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia: The Early Cold War Years

4-06 Aspects of Slovene Identity: New Research by Young Scholars in the Field

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

SESSION 51:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

5-02 Policy Making and Policy Actors in Post-Accession East Central Europe

5-27 Politics and Religion in Central Europe since 1990

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

SESSION 63:45 P.M. – 5:45 P.M.

6-48 Imagined Identities by and about Slovene Immigrants Expressed through Artistic Archetypes, Literary Nonfiction/Documentation, and Firsthand Testimonies

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

7:30pm on EVENING

Joint Reception for Central European scholars, members of the Society for Slovene Studies, the Czechoslovak Studies Association, the Hungarian Studies Association, the Slovak Studies Association, the Polish Studies Association, and the Society for Romanian Studies.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008

SESSION 810:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.

8-15 Assessing Slovenian Foreign Policy: The Impact of the EU Presidency and Beyond

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008

SESSION 91:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

9-31 The Impact of Political Parties, the EU and NGOs on Women's Issues: Research on Russia, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovenia

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008

SESSION 91:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Session 9 / TBA – Screening of film on Janko Lavrin

Session 9 - Society for Slovene Studies – Annual Business Meeting

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008

SESSION 103:45 P.M. – 5:45 P.M.

10-19 Writing the Self in Central Europe and North America

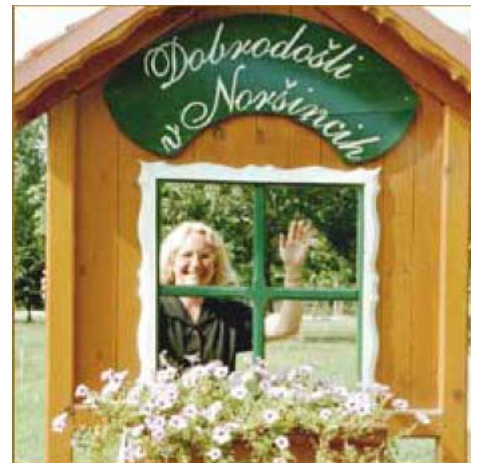
10-33 Gender and Religion in the Post-Communist Era

10-37 Janko Lavrin in Russia, 1908-1918



We encourage everyone to go to Slovenia to discover, rediscover, and enjoy its culture and heritage. But it's easiest to remember and share Slovenia in the US through beautiful handcrafts and gifts brought back for you by Home From Slovenia®. Simply go to the website www.HomeFromSlovenia.com to take the opportunity of holding a bit of Slovenia in your hand, and share it with pride in knowing that your gift authentically expresses and supports Slovenian heritage.

Elizabeth Talian, a second generation American of Slovenian grandparents, sought to reconnect with her "old country" heritage. She was inspired by Slovenia's beauty, by the generosity and strength of its people, and by memories and stories of her four grandparents who bravely left a country they loved for the chance at a better life. Elizabeth takes a tremendous amount of pride in operating this website to help keep the Slovenian heritage alive in the United States. She personally selects and imports these high quality gifts directly from Slovenia. Most of the items are handmade by the craftsmen and craftswomen of Slovenia. They include beautiful hand-kneaded honey-dough ornaments and delicate and detailed cornhusk figurines. Other wonderful Slovenian items include a potica pan, sea salt, and an award winning English language cookbook. In addition, several Slovenian-American organizations' cookbooks are made available. All items can be securely ordered on the internet or by phone or mail, and all are available for immediate delivery in the USA and to Canada.



Visit www.HomeFromSlovenia.com to place an order or contact HFS at 203-775-0853 with questions or to request a color catalog. You may also mail your request to HFS, P.O. Box 193, Hawleyville, CT 06440.



Current Events

September 25 - November 10 - *A River's Gifts:*

Archeological Excavation of the Ljubljanica River in Photographs. Embassy of Slovenia, Washington, DC, Guided Tour: 5:00 p.m., opening: 6:00 p.m.

October 9 - November 9

- Kids Euro Festival 2008: A celebration of European Arts and Culture for Kids! Washington, DC (various venues). See the article below or [check the official website](#).

October 22 – November 30

- *"Honey Brown Eyes"*, play about two soldiers during the conflict in Bosnia. Written by *Stefanie Zadavec. Theater J, Washington, DC.*

Queen Elizabeth II Pays Historic Visit to Slovenia

Ljubljana/Brdo pri Kranju, 21 October (STA) - Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, arrived in Slovenia Tuesday for a historic three-day state visit that celebrated the long and rich history of relations between the United Kingdom and Slovenia.

The royal couple received a stately welcome by Slovenian President Danilo Türk and his wife, Barbara Miklic Türk, at the

Brdo estate north of Ljubljana, a picturesque setting with a dramatic view of the Alps.



The Queen arrives to Slovenia.

After the talks, the Queen and her host exchanged state honors and gifts.

President Türk decorated the Queen with the Order for Exceptional Services of the Republic of Slovenia, while he received the Most Honorable Order of the Bath.

Making the toast at the banquet at Brdo Castle, President Türk noted that an interest in nature, a topical subject at present, bonded the two nations as early as the 17th century, when the London Royal Society admitted Valvasor.

The Queen also mentioned Valvasor, noting that a scholarship for Slovenian students wishing to study in the UK was named after him.

The president drew attention to Britain's role in World War II and its "decisive contribution to peace and coexistence" in Europe, including in the resolution of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia,

which he said were both vital for Slovenia.

Türk highlighted cultural ties, noting that Shakespeare, Scott, Byron and Shelly inspired the great Slovenian poet France Prešeren, while his generation experienced the cultural revolution associated with the Beatles.

The Queen meanwhile underlined Slovenia's success as EU president, saying it was all the more striking considering that Slovenia had become an independent country only 17 years ago. "Slovenia's transformation since 1991 is a remarkable tribute to the country's energy, vision and determination."



Queen Elizabeth and President Türk at the banquet at Brdo Castle

Touching on bilateral relations, the Queen said that the UK had strongly supported Slovenia throughout the 1990s in its bid to join the EU and NATO.

"The close ties established with your government, judiciary, police and armed forces continue to flourish".

Earlier in the day the royal couple were guests at a reception hosted by the British Ambassador to Slovenia Tim Simmons.



The Queen with the school children from a musical

At Grand Hotel Union, where the royal couple stayed, the Queen also enjoyed a musical performance by children from the British International School in Ljubljana and from the school hosting the British school.

In the meantime, the Duke of Edinburgh joined a workshop in which four teams of professionals involved in city planning searched for the best solution to improve the quality of life in Ljubljana.

Slovenia gives Britain's queen a Lipizzaner horse

Lipica, Slovenia, October 22, 2008 (APW) Slovenia gave Britain's queen a prized Lipizzaner stallion during her visit to this Alpine nation Wednesday -- but she won't be taking the horse home to meet the rest of the royal menagerie.

The 16-year-old horse, 085 Favory Canissa XXII, is so precious to the identity of this tiny nation of 2 million that Queen Elizabeth II decided to leave him in the care of the Lipica stud farm in western Slovenia. The meticulously trained horses are known for being able to perform highly

stylized prancing, jumps and other moves.

"He's a real stallion: Sometimes, he cannot concentrate on training because he thinks about mares all the time," said the horse's chief trainer, Igor Maver.

The symbolic gift becomes another addition to a tradition of feathered, furry or four-legged presents. In the past, the royals have been given sloths, tortoises, pygmy hippopotami -- among other creatures.

Most end up in zoos and sanctuaries -- so it seems fitting the latest addition will remain back at the stud farm for horses so ingrained in the national culture their image is stamped on coins.

The queen took instant pride in ownership though.

"Let me see the stable," she told the stud farm's director, Matjaz Pust, before marching away toward the stall.

He explained that the stallion's stall had just been renovated, "so he has a royal room now."

The queen beamed.



085 Favory Canissa XXII with Queen Elizabeth

The 428-year-old stud farm dates to the time of the Austria's ruling Habsburgs, who went to Spain to buy horses for an empire that stretched across much of Europe.

They founded the farm in the village of Lipica -- or Lipizza in the Italian spelling -- in what is now Slovenia.



The Queen during her stroll in Ljubljana.

Later Wednesday, the queen had a lunch with prominent Slovenes at the Castle on a hill overlooking the capital, Ljubljana.

She and Prince Philip then took a walk downtown, waving to several hundred people gathered in a central square to see her.

The queen left Thursday morning for Slovakia.

Kapitalska družba visits the Embassy

Washington DC, October 21, 2008 - The representatives of the state owned fund *Kapitalska družba* (Capital Company) visited the Embassy of Slovenia while on a study tour in Washington, DC. Apart from asset management, *Kapitalska družba* also manages mutual pensions for government employees in Slovenia.



In Washington, they met with US counterparts Thrift and Savings Plan as well as Department of Labor.

Witnessing War Through 'Brown Eyes'

Washington Post - The story of two soldiers during the conflict in Bosnia, written by *Stefanie Zdravec*, is playing out in a **Theater J** in Washington from October 22 to November 30. The whiff of authenticity in "Honey Brown Eyes," from colloquial snippets of Serbo-Croatian to the anguishing plights of ordinary souls, points to a work rooted in memory and personal travail.

But that is not even close. The nearest connection that the 40-year-old Zdravec -- a New York stage actress born in Washington and raised in Chevy Chase -- could claim was that her father's parents came from Slovenia, the sliver of an alpine republic that was the first state to break away from the former Yugoslavia.

She had done a lot of homework, of course, researching the wars and atrocities that convulsed the disintegrating Yugoslavia in the early 1990s, and collecting the accounts of Croatian and Serbian émigré friends in New York.

And yet, with "*Honey Brown Eyes*," which opened on Wednesday in its world-premiere run at Theater J, the fledgling dramatist seems at the very least to have struck a nerve. One indication of the play's persuasiveness might be the swiftness with which it found a company willing to put it on.



Theater J, which has demonstrated an appetite for original, topical plays with a geopolitical bent, was the first troupe to be shown the piece -- and scooped it up. In an era when a new American play can spend years in development -- or, simply, in a pile on a literary manager's desk -- the fast-track pace for Zdravec's drama is remarkable.

For the information on schedule, go to the [Theater J](http://TheaterJ.org) web site.

Web Portal for Slovenians Abroad

We would like to attract your attention once again to a new web site, Slovinci.si, which has recently been started for all Slovenians who live abroad, to provide joint information on the work and engagements of Slovenian communities around the world.



One of the web site's goals is to introduce people from the homeland to the rich cultural activities of their fellow

Slovenians abroad, as well as informing them of pertinent cultural events around the globe. The web site will also aim to give access to institutions responsible for cooperation with Slovenians abroad, and to publish updates on their work, such as seminars, conferences, open calls, etc. Information should thus from now on all be gathered on the web site Slovinci.si.

In the future, Slovenian societies and institutions around the world will be able to individually access the web site and arrange for much more efficient postings of news.

The web site will especially try to attract younger generations and individuals who are currently not active in the life of Slovenian organizations abroad. The aim is to bring Slovenia closer to Slovenia's descendents who do not speak the Slovenian language. The web site will for this reason soon be available also in the English language.

Kids Euro Festival 2008

As it has been announced in previous Embassy's Newsletters, Washington is currently hosting a Kids Euro Festival 2007, with more than 100 free performances taking place around the D.C. metro area. The festival started on October 9 and will continue until November 9, 2008.



Mr. Andrej Rozman Roza

Among numerous European performers, Slovenia is presenting its own children entertainers, namely Mr. Andrej Rozman Roza and Ms. Lila Prap, who both enjoy great recognition among Slovenian young generations.

We would kindly like to invite you to view the official web site of the festival with the updated schedule of performers, at <http://kidseurofestival.org/>.

You may also stop by at the Slovenian Embassy to pick up a program of scheduled events.



Ms. Lila Prap

We hope to see you there!

Newsletter is available [online](#). To subscribe or unsubscribe to the e-Newsletter please send an e-mail to: vwa@gov.si.