



Ashley Pudil, Janna Waters, Little Sister Tori Knight and Branden Knight are shown at the St. Joseph's Day Dance in Walford. A new Royal Court will be crowned during Houby Days. (photo/Cindy Hadish)

SUMMER 2015

Editor

Sara Jacobmeyer

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Subscriptions to *Naše České Dědictví* (*Our Czech Heritage*) are not sold. Members of the Czech Heritage Foundation receive the newsletter free of charge. Annual dues are \$10.00 per person and are renewable on January 1 of each year and expire on December 31. Contributions go toward preserving our cherished Czech heritage.

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CzechHeritageFoundation.com

Got News?

Want to see your story or photo in this newsletter? Contact Sara Jacobmeyer by email at CzechHeritageNewsletter@gmail.com, or send your article to the Czech Heritage Foundation PO box. Your ideas, photos, and stories are always welcome.

CHF 2015 Officers

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Recipe: Summer Potato Salad

Prep Time: 15 min, plus overnight Yield: 8+ servings



6 potatoes
4 carrots
3 stalks of celery
4 eggs
1 small onion, diced
2 pickles, diced
Small container sour cream
Mayonnaise
Mustard
Lemon juice, pickle juice (to taste)
Salt, pepper (to taste)

Boil the potatoes, carrots and celery the day before (whole, unpeeled and let sit overnight). The next day hard boil the eggs and peel and cut the potatoes into small cubes. Do the same with the eggs. Peel the carrots and dice both the carrots and the celery. Put these all into a large bowl. Add a finely diced raw onion and the diced pickles.

In a separate smaller bowl, mix a small container of sour cream and about the same amount of mayonnaise, plus a squirt of mustard. Add a little lemon juice and a splash of pickle juice. Mix together, add salt and pepper to taste, then mix this into the potatoes and celery and carrots and onions and pickles.

From CzechInTheKitchen.com.

Help Czech Heritage Foundation go green!

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New to the Czech Heritage Foundation board



Emily Weber is the Membership & Database Manager at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library (NCSML). A native of St. Louis, MO, she moved to Cedar Rapids in 2009 to attend Coe College and graduated in 2013 with a degree in English and history. During her time at Coe, Emily enjoyed the opportunity to do research on 20th century Cedar Rapids, and through the research she discovered an interest in the local Czech population. Emily is a small percent Czech, through

an ancestor she never knew. However, through her research and studying her family history she became very interested in her Czech history and culture and began to take Czech language lessons. In 2013, she applied to become a Fulbright Scholar in the Czech Republic and was a runner-up in the competition.

In April 2013, Emily started to work at the NCSML. Within two months, she was able to meet Secretary Madeleine Albright and Captain Eugene Cernan. In her first year she was able to meet both the Czech and Slovak ambassadors. Every day of work is a reminder that the museum does important work telling the Czech and Slovak stories of freedom and cultural identity. Emily decided to get involved with the Czech Heritage Foundation because she loves Czech culture and wants to make a difference in the Cedar Rapids community by being involved.

Emily volunteers for the Cedar Rapids Public Library, the Cedar Valley Humane Society, and the Linn County Trails Association. Her hobbies, clearly, are reading, animals, and bicycling! She lives in southwest Cedar Rapids with boyfriend Curtis Stochl and her adopted cat, Brogan.



**HOUBY DAYS
FESTIVAL**
MAY 15, 16 & 17
www.CzechVillageCedarRapids.com

Friday, May 15 5-10 p.m.	Saturday, May 16 (Czech Day) 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.	Sunday, May 17 (Kids' Day) 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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2015 38th Annual

Gearing up for 2015 Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa Pageant

Submitted by Bonnie Rohlena

The annual Houby Days Festival in Czech Village brings with it the 2015 Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa Pageant. This year, two candidates will compete for the title and the chance to represent Iowa at the national competition in Wilber, Nebraska this summer.

The pageant will be held inside the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in the Mitvalsky Room. The public is invited to attend select pageant events on May 16: 1:30 p.m. – Kroj Modeling; 1:45 p.m. – Oratory; 2:15 p.m. – Talent.



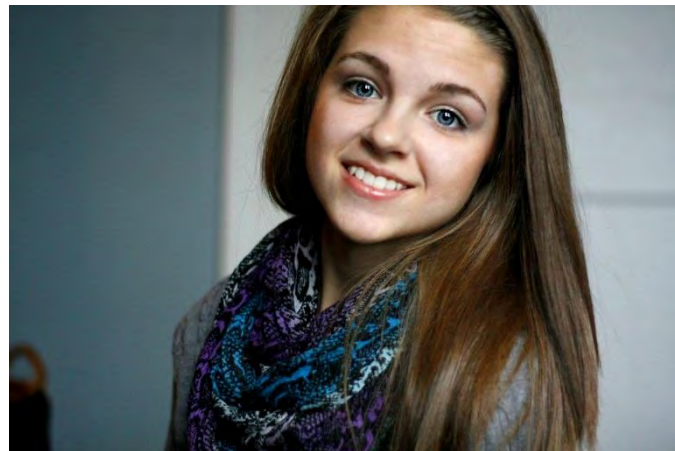
Candidate Ashley Pudil is the daughter of Kevin and Denise Pudil of Cedar Rapids, IA. She is a freshman at Loras College in Dubuque, IA, declaring a major in English-Creative Writing as well as Spanish.

Ashley is involved in the Student

Ambassador Program, sharing her passion and enthusiasm for Loras with prospective students and their families. She is currently the news editor of *The Lorian*, Loras' school newspaper, combining her love for writing with her future ambitions.

She hopes to find a job in the fields of editing/editorial work, communication, advertising and mass media, or using her languages in international work or travel writing.

Ashley preserves her family's heritage by volunteering for Czech School of Cedar Rapids every summer. When asked why she wants to be Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa, Ashley said: "Because I want to serve as a role model for younger generations and inspire others to take an interest in their heritage."



Candidate Hannah Van Deusen is the daughter of Ray and Terri Van Deusen of Fairfax, IA. She is a freshman at Coe College, planning to major in music education. She is also taking Suzuki teacher training to be a better qualified Suzuki violin/viola teacher. She has been a member of the Světlušky youth ensemble since the age of 12.

In addition to her passion for music, Hannah loves photography and taking photos for different family events. She enjoys traveling (including past mission trips to Mexico and Honduras), working out, and cooking healthy meals.

Hannah attributes her interest in her heritage to her grandfather, who took her to many events like Houby Days in Czech Village. When asked why she wants to be Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa, Hannah said: "It would mean continuing to preserve my family's heritage and I know it would make my grandpa proud".

Czech Royal Court ends reign on high note

Article and photos by Cindy Hadish

The Czech Royal Court experienced a “first” this spring, with a St. Joseph's Day radio interview on the Z102.9 Schulte and Swann morning show.

Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa Janna Waters, Czech Prince Sam Uthoff and Mladší Princ (Younger Prince) Branden Knight were interviewed about Czech culture and their Czech heritage, as well as events surrounding St. Joseph's Day. The three brought kolaches donated by Sykora Bakery, which were a hit with the morning show crew.

Members of the Royal Court also participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, St. Joseph's Day Parade and St. Joseph's Day Dance in March.

A new Royal Court will be crowned during Houby Days in Czech Village. The ceremony will be 1 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at the Kosek Bandstand. Sam Uthoff and Czech Princess Ashley Pudil, who served as outstanding representatives for the Czech Heritage Foundation program over the past year, will end their reigns with the crowning of the new prince and princess.



Janna Waters, Sam Uthoff and Branden Knight prepare to be interviewed on the Z102.9 Schulte and Swann morning show.

Czech Heritage Foundation Board Members Donna Gruntorad, Bonnie Rohlena, and Denver Dvorsky, along with Janna Waters, served as judges for the new Czech prince and princess candidates in April. Candidates for the Little Sister program also appeared in front of the judges.

The Czech Royal Court will expand in the coming year, with the announcement of a new title – another first - at the crowning ceremony. The public is encouraged to attend.

Upcoming Events

Houby Days (May 16 – 17) in Cedar Rapids

Live music, vendors, folk dancers, and more! Visit CzechVillageCedarRapids.com for the full schedule.

Prague Days Chicago 2015 (June)

Save the date for the Prague Days, including the Golden Prague Gala (Friday, June 12). Visit praguedayschicago.com for details! Events this year include film screenings, live music from Eggnoise and other Czech musicians, a Havel sculpture dedication, the art of Alphonse Mucha, and more.

Emil Viklický Trio (June 26 at 7:00pm) in Oak Park. IL

Enjoy an evening of Moravian jazz with this renowned Czech pianist and his two friends. Tickets at NCSML.org, \$10.

Jan Hus Celebration & Fundraiser (July 11 from 5:00 – 7:00pm) in Milwaukee, WI

Learn about Jan Hus at this fundraiser for Diaconia. Email _____ for details, or visit www.hrp.diaconie.cz/en.

Events at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library include summer camps (for kids or grandkids), walking tours, Czech That Film, and more! Visit NCSML.org for details or call 319-362-8500.

Cedar Rapids float-maker continues award-winning tradition for Czech Heritage Foundation

Article and photos by Cindy Hadish

Tim Pfeifer is carrying on the legacy of his father.

The Czech Heritage Foundation float decorated by Pfeifer won the Jerry Harrington award at this year's SAPADAPASO Parade on St. Patrick's Day in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The traveling trophy is given to the "Most Wholesome/Heartfelt" private entry in the parade.

This year's float included a Czech castle scene featuring geese, with an Irish flair in green. The float was reworked in red for the St. Joseph's Parade just days later in Czech Village and New Bohemia.

Pfeifer assumed the float-making duties from his late father, Leonard Pfeifer, a past president of the Czech Heritage Foundation, who became the organization's float-maker in 1989.

A self-taught artist, Leonard Pfeifer created glittering scenery, towering castles, and otherwise brought Czech fables to life through his creations. He died of cancer in 2011, just before his final float was entered in the Holiday Parade in Cedar Rapids. Even after he was told he had just a few months to live, he continued to work on his creations and deliberately chose the theme for his final parade entry: Stairway to Heaven.

Students at the elementary school in Cedar Rapids where he worked staged their own parade for Leonard Pfeifer before he died, with each class creating a float with a theme from one of his projects. The children paraded their creations during a school assembly in the gym.



Leonard Pfeifer had lost all of his supplies and parade vehicles when his home next to the Cedar River was inundated by floodwaters in 2008, but managed to rebound with more floats for the Czech Heritage Foundation.

Members of the Czech Royal Court – the Czech Prince and Princess, Little Sisters and Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa – ride on the creations in several area parades throughout the year, with Tim Pfeifer continuing the tradition started by his father. John Rocarek, president of the Czech Heritage Foundation Board, said the floats are a positive way to attract attention and help promote the organization.

"It's especially meaningful that Tim has been able to continue what his father started," Rocarek said. "The contributions they've made to the Czech Heritage Foundation are impossible to measure." The Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival, a multi-week event that leads up to the Fourth of July, has named the Leonard Pfeifer Award for Best Original Float in Pfeifer's honor.

Czech School enrolling for summer

By Julie Wiedner, Czech School board member

The Czech School Board has been busy planning for this summer's sessions of Czech School & Adult Czech Language. We welcome those who are just beginning to explore Czech language and look forward to seeing past students again:

- The 5 week session of Czech School 2015, for children age 6 - 14+, will begin on Monday, June 15 at 8 a.m. at Grant School. Students will be studying about Czech culture, heritage, history and language. The first language of the teachers' is Czech. The session concludes with the traditional Final Program and Ice Cream Social in St. Ludmila Social Hall on Friday evening, July 17 at 7 p.m.
- Pre-registration is required and space is limited for the Adult Czech Language classes which will be held for (5) consecutive weeks from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the St. Wenceslaus Church campus: Thursday - June 18, 25, July 2, 9 and 16. The focus of study is basic Czech language.

If you have any questions or would like to receive a Registration Form for either of the above, please e-mail: czechschool@gmail.com or call Julie at

Better yet, stop by our table at Houby Days on Saturday, May 16! This is a great chance for you to brush-up on your Czech language greetings/farewells and other language basics, and to share tales of your houby hunting expeditions.

Be sure to visit the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library during the next couple of months and most especially: The Library. Through their community-curated exhibit program we will be providing a display all about Czech School. We thank Library Director Dave Muhlena and all the staff and volunteers at the museum for this great opportunity!

See you at Houby Days and in the Czech language learning opportunities we are offering this summer!



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