



CHF ROYALTY



2012-2013 Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa Queen, Holly Stepanek, is pictured with Little Sisters l-r: Delynn Pokorny and Victoria Knight. They were crowned May 19 at Kosek Bandstand during Houby Days weekend.

Fall 2012

Editor

Karen Lehmann

Memberships

Subscriptions for *Our Czech Heritage* are not sold. Members of the Czech Heritage Foundation receive the newsletter free of charge. Contributions may be sent anytime. Annual dues are \$10.00 and renewable on January 1 of each year and expire on December 31.

Website

www.czechheritagefoundation.com

Got news?

Contact Karen Lehmann at:

CHF 2012 Officers

President - Frank Edmunds
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New Book Coming Soon

"Czech Touches" is an updated version of previous books

Czech Touches, by National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library Guild Member, Pat Martin, will be launched at a book signing event at NCSML the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, Nov. 23, at 1 p.m.

The public is invited to this event, and if you purchase a book you may collect all the autographs you desire! Contributors include: Diana Baculis, Kitty Chadima, Irene Hamous, Amanda Russ, and Zelda De Hoedt; Carolyn and Holubar, John and Sandra Hudson, Stefanie Kohn, Donna and Guenter Merkle, Dave Muhlena, Gail Naughton, Marj Nejd, Bob Stone, and myself.

Young people featured in the book will be acknowledged: Kidizens volunteers, Světlušky folk

Czech Touches

Recipes • History • Folk Arts
• North Americans Coast to Coast •



by Pat Martin

"Czech Touches" is Martin's third book. It will be launched with a book signing by local Czech contributors on Friday, Nov. 23, at 1 p.m. in the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library NCSML gift store.

Nearly all of the classic recipes from *The Czech Book* are re-printed, with updated biographies in this new book.

music ensemble, and participants in cultural queen and other royalty competitions. Recipe contributors include Guild members Fern Fackler, Janelle McClain, Marj Nejd, and Jessie Stastny.

Included in the book are major Czech/American museums, including NCSML; kroje, glass collections, folk and fine arts, music and dancing, the cultural queen competitions, Sokol, Czech festivals.

Czech Touches replaces the out-of-print *Czech and Slovak Touches*. Both books are successors of *The Czech Book* published in the early 1980's.

PAT MARTIN

Czech Joke

A lawyer invites his cousin from the Czech Republic to come and stay with him in Canada. The Czech cousin arrives, determined to enjoy himself. Soon they decide to go rambling. They're right out in the middle of the forest when a big grizzly bear appears. The bear hugs the poor Czech cousin

to death and then eats him!

The lawyer runs to the nearest village and tells everybody what has happened. The villagers form a search party and return to the forest. They come across some bears and ask the lawyer to identify the one that killed his cousin.

'It's that male bear over there.'

They kill the bear and rip open his stomach, but there is nothing there. They decide to kill the female bear nearby, and when they rip open her stomach, they find the poor Czech cousin.

So it all goes to show: 'Never trust a lawyer when he says, "The Czech is in the male!'

New Queen

Holly Stepanek crowned Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa



Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa 2012-13, Holly Stepanek, will represent the Czech Heritage Foundation and Iowa at the Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant August 2 in Wilbur, NE.

Hello everyone! My name is Holly Stepanek and I'm excited to be Miss Czech-Slovak Iowa 2012-2013.

My parents are Tom and Sheila Stepanek. I am from Cedar Rapids and as a kid I attended Czech School for eight years. After my junior year of high school I had the opportunity to go to Prague for the Czech Homestay Program over the summer for a month. These experiences have really changed my life, and I am proud to be a Czech in Cedar Rapids and share the same background with other people in Cedar Rapids.

I am a junior at the University of Iowa and I am studying Political Science and Russian. I am also a pharmacy technician in Cedar Rapids, and hopefully someday I can work for the U.S. State Department.

I hope to see everyone at the upcoming Czech events and parades during my reign as Czech Queen! Na shledanou! (Until we see each other again!)

HOLLY STEPANEK



NewBo City Market

Year 'Round Indoor Farmers Market Opened in NewBo District



The NewBo City Market located at 1100 3rd St. SE Cedar Rapids had its grand opening Saturday, Oct. 27. The year 'round farmers market featured 24 vendors selling an exciting array of Iowa foods including everything from the everyday to the exotic. The Market features locally farmed produce and meats, handcrafted breads and baked goods, pasta, flowers, cheeses, and yummy prepared foods, including some of the best ethnic dishes around. It's all fresh. It's all fun. Your taste

buds will be continually tickled.

Every trip to the Market promises a new experience thanks to a changing assortment of seasonal vendors designed to make your visit like no other shopping experience around.

Business hours are Thursdays 4-9 pm, Saturdays 8 am-1 pm, and Sundays 10 am-4 pm. A Holiday Market featuring holiday vendors will be Nov. 1, 3, and 4. For more information go to: info@newbocitymarket.com.

KAREN LEHMANN

“History of Czechs in CR”

Volume III being compiled

The Czech Heritage Foundation Board has commissioned Mark Stoffer Hunter, Cedar Rapids area historian, to research and compile *The History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids: Vol. III*. The book will cover Cedar Rapids Czech history from 1982 - present.

Stoffer's progress thus far has involved careful analysis and proofing of the first two volumes covering local Czech related history through the year 1982.

This has been followed by a thorough examination of additional historic details not included in the earlier publications that relate to the local Czech community from 1982 and going back as far as the earliest settlement periods of the mid-1850's and early 1870's.



Mark Stoffer
Hunter

Then, careful research into the newest developments over the past 30 years, establishing corresponding time lines to the changes in Cedar Rapids from 1982-2012 with the evolution/changes of specific components of the Czech community (i.e. organizations, events, businesses, etc.)

A series of interviews within the community is the next step in the process of writing the book.

The new text writing involves minor adjustments to the first edition detailing developments up to 1942; major revisions of information presented in Volume II; as well as detailing all developments from 1982 to 2012, culminating with the opening of the newly expanded (and located!) National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in July 2012.

Completion of work on the book is still anticipated by the end of the year.

MARK STOFFER HUNTER

Old Prague Christmas Market

3rd Annual Event Nov. 30 & Dec. 1

Outdoor holiday shopping, fire juggling, music, hot food, children's activities and more are featured during the 3rd Annual Old Prague Christmas Market on Friday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 1. This unique event, presented by the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library (NCSML) brings festive shopping of international treasures and artisan gifts to Cedar Rapids. This year the market will be held at 1400 Inspiration Place SW in Czech Village. It is sponsored by GreatAmerica Leasing.

Shoppers can visit the large, heated market tent anchored outdoors where they will find an assortment of gift ideas. Although the festivities begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, a tree lighting ceremony at 6 p.m. officially opens the market.

"A new event this year is a Saturday morning Christmas brunch at the museum and library for all ages. Families will delight in visiting with Sv. Mikuláš, Anđel, and a Čert (St. Nicholas, the Angel, and the Devil) at this program," said Diana Baculis, of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library.

Throughout Europe and in large American communities, outdoor shopping during the holiday season has become a popular destination for locals and tourists. Vienna, Austria; Mu-

nich, Germany; Bratislava, Slovakia; and Chicago, New York and Baltimore in the US are noted for their spectacular Christmas markets.

Gift ideas at the Old Prague Christmas Market include dolls, sweaters, candy and toys from the Czech Republic; jewelry and scarves; Russian gift items and ornaments; paintings; stained glass; pottery; pillows; featherbeds; hand sewn beaded jewelry; artistic photography; musical CDs; art from district artisans and more.

Additionally, shoppers will enjoy hot beverages; Guláš (Goulash); hot sandwiches; and homemade cookies, candies and more. On Saturday beginning at 10 a.m., free trolley rides are provided between Czech Village, the Cherry Building and the NewBo City Market. Also on Saturday, there's free horse drawn wagon rides through Czech Village and photo opportunities with the reindeer and baby camel.

Hours for the Old Prague Christmas Market are Friday 4 - 8 p.m. and on Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information contact the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 319-362-8500, www.NCSML.org.

DIANA BACULIS



Last year hundreds of people shopped the outdoor market. Over 20 vendors set up shop in a heated tent located on 16th Avenue in Czech Village. This year's event promises to be just as big.

Back by popular demand!



Christmas Wreath Raffle

CHF needs your help! We are looking for crafters, individual or organizations, that would like to spread Christmas cheer by donating a decorated Christmas wreath to be displayed and raffled off at our booth at the Old Prague Christmas Market Nov. 30 & Dec. 1. Last year we had 21 wreaths.

We hope to have even more this year!
How can you help?

1. Make a wreath(s)!



2. Buy a raffle ticket to win a wreath!



3. Do both!



Please contact Barb Edmunds at

or

to make a donation.

Open Committee Chairs

As we move into winter, many committee chair positions have opened within our organization. If you are interested in teaching, outreach, exchange programs, or working with our royalty, please visit our Open Committee Chairs page at www.czechheritage-foundation.com or contact Barb Edmunds at _____ or _____ to learn more about the opportunities! This is a great chance to get involved in the Czech community and to help our organization grow. We look forward to hearing from you!

Prince & Princess Candidates Wanted

We are accepting applications for the 2013 Prince and Princess.

The Czech Heritage Foundation Prince and Princess preside over a number of Czech events in the local area and at the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library throughout the year. These events include parades, festivals, and memorial services. The judging of the competition is based on an essay and interview, and the winners receive a traveling crown and sash along with a scholarship. For an entry form and rules go to czechheritage-foundation.com.



Kelsey Pokorny
2012 CHF Princess.

There's "snow" better time to
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Summer Snapshots!



CHF held the Annual Potluck Picnic August 14 at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, NC-SML, Naxera Terrace.



2012 CHF Scholarship winners Hailee Raue, Austin Frerick, and Leah Podzimek were special guests at the Annual Picnic. CHF awarded each student \$750 to apply towards their undergraduate or graduate degrees.