

MAGYAR STUDIES OF AMERICA

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Meet Erika Papp Faber of Magyar News Online

By

Dr. Robert D. Kranyik

A distinguished-looking woman with glasses, graying hair, and a sunny smile sits on the Editorial Board of Magyar News Online. She is a woman of many talents, and a fascinating background. On a warm autumn day, we sat in her apartment, remarking on the fact that the leaves had not yet turned, and wondered whether this phenomenon might be related to global warming. But soon, the conversation shifted to the interesting



and productive life of this native-born Hungarian woman who came to the United States at an early age.

Like many of us who lay claim to the Hungarian heritage, Erika Papp Faber reflects diverse origins. The turbulent history of the Hungarian Basin has created a people whose ethnic roots span Europe and beyond. Erika's paternal grandfather derived from the Armenians and, in fact, from Church people of the oldest Christian Church group on earth, the Armenian Church. Her paternal grand-mother was of German, Polish, and Slovak stock. Grandfather Papp rose to become the Hungarian Under-Secretary of the Treasury, and busts of both grandparents may be

viewed in the Armenian Church Museum in Budapest.

Erika's maternal grandfather was of German origin, and one of her ancestors was knighted by the famous Wallenstein. Her grandfather changed his name to Vajk, a rather quintessential Magyar surname. Her maternal grandmother was of the Transylvanian Hungarian lower nobility.

Both her father's and her mother's family lived in Transylvania until the end of World War I and were repatriated to Budapest,

where Erika's father became a civil

engineer. As there were no engineering jobs available in Hungary in the mid-1920's, he got a job in Berlin. With the onset of the Depression, he returned to Budapest.

Erika showed me a striking photograph of the house her father built, where she lived as a child, with the great bend of the Danube River in the background. But, tranquility was not to last. In fact, Erika spent much of her childhood in the midst of World War II. To escape the Russians, they fled to Berlin in 1944, where

her father had engineering contacts. To get out of Berlin, Erika's father wrote his own pass, and the family then escaped to the Harz Mountains of Germany, where they were bombed out.

The war ended and the Americans came. Things appeared to be getting brighter. But then, there was a reassignment of the occupation zones, and the family found themselves facing imminent Russian occupation.

Fortunately, her Dad's employer helped them to leave, and they arrived in the British Zone. It was a difficult time: the currency was not worth the paper it was printed on,

and food was very scarce. But the family survived, in spite of malnutrition and pneumonia. Things began to look up only when Mr. Papp began working for the British, although it was not exactly in his field, since he was supervising the neutralizing of bunkers! Fortunately, Erika had an uncle in America, who had worked for Standard Oil in Hungary, and he sent the family green coffee beans, which they roasted. As Erika explained, "We'd ride the streetcar to the end of the line, and where we saw chickens in the yard, we'd knock and say, 'We have two ounces of REAL coffee, and the price is six eggs or a pound of meat!' It helped us pull through."

Arriving in America

In 1948, currency reform was brought about in post-war Germany. Erika was now attending the "Gimnasium", i.e., prep school. She recalls shopping for food, and being given matches for change, as initially there was little currency in circulation when the Deutschmark was introduced. The uncle in America sponsored the Papp Family to emigrate to the United States, where they settled near Princeton, New Jersey, in 1949.

At that time, only agricultural workers were admitted to the US from Central Europe. Mr. Papp and his son were to start work in a dairy, but due to a drought, those jobs did not materialize. Instead, they began working as janitors at Princeton University. Erika's father soon became a draftsman in New York, and after the family moved there, he worked his way up to Associate in an engineering firm. (As Erika said, "Only in America!") This reminded me of my great-grandfather, who had been a schoolmaster and cantor in Europe, but started as a sweeper in Bryant Electric, in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Erika lived in New York for 38 years. She graduated from Georgetown University's Foreign Service School, took a position doing economic research for Irving Trust on Wall Street, and later worked as a writer for the National Board of Fire Underwriters, distributing fire prevention literature. She became Managing Editor of a missiology magazine founded by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

It was while she was working in New York City that she also worked temporarily as a freelance reporter during Cardinal Mindszenty's two visits to the United States. One of these included a stop at our Saint Emery's Church in Fairfield, where Mindszenty Square commemorates his visit. It was during this time that Erika met her future husband, Oscar, who offered her a ride to church, from Queens where she was living, to Manhattan.

They were married in New York by Fr. Emeric Szlezak, OFM, who later became Associate at St. Emery's Church in Fairfield, CT. Oscar had a Doctorate in Law in Hungary, but began working for Pan American World Airways on the loading dock. Four years later, he was in charge of the training department. (Again, "Only in America!") Erika proudly showed me a plaque on the wall of her apartment given to Oscar on his retirement. He passed away in 1992, after they had moved to Sandy Hook, CT.

New Ventures

Dr. Gyula Egerváry, the grand old man and founder of Magyar Studies of America, then invited Erika to teach and become Principal of the Hungarian School in Fairfield. As she said, "Gyula twisted my arm, but I enjoyed it!" I met Erika at that time, as a student at the School. I might add

that it was not my first time at the Hungarian School; I had also attended in the early years when it was run at the Church on Clinton Avenue, in Bridgeport. It was during her tenure as Principal that the whole School worked together to plan and present a program on Hungarian history and culture at the Fairfield Public Library. Erika developed a wonderful timeline of Hungarian history, and the program contained poetry, music, and mini-lectures on things Hungarian. My topics was on Hungarian humor. It was certainly a high point for the Hungarian School, and Erika was a driving force behind it! (A few weeks later, she organized a bus trip to the annual Hungarian Day in New Brunswick, NJ.)

A prolific writer, Erika is particularly drawn to Hungarian and religious topics. For years, she has been writing articles, often for Catholic publications. She also ran a small mobile business, Peter's Boat Catholic Books, for 12 years, which focused on bringing Catholic books and items to parish fairs. A couple of years ago, she recorded some 30 original religious songs, in a CD entitled "Lifting Us To Heaven", for which she wrote the lyrics as well as the music.

She is the author of several books. The first was "Keeping Our Eyes Fixed

On Him: Reflections On Gospel Events By A Lay Catholic". Her second was "God Sustains Widows: A Scriptural View". "A Sampler of Hungarian Poetry", for which she translated poems and received the Cleveland Árpád Academy's gold medal, is still in manuscript form. "Mary's Lifeline: The Twenty Rosary Mysteries", is illustrated with stained glass windows from various churches which focus on the Rosary. The book includes the five new "Mysteries of Light" added by the late Pope John

Paul II, and still awaits a publisher.

Erika's latest book, titled "Our Mother of Tears: Ten Weeping Madonnas in Historic Hungary", was published by The Franciscan Academy of the Immaculate. Not one to tarry, she is presently preparing a version of this latest work in Magyar, which will include two additional weeping Madonnas.

Sometimes I wonder how she finds time to do all of this in addition to being a mainstay on the Magyar News Online Editorial Board. It is truly amazing how productive Erika is. But, then, she is a Hungarian, and as Joseph Balogh, our Editor-in-Chief will tell you, ungaris Hungarians are very special people.

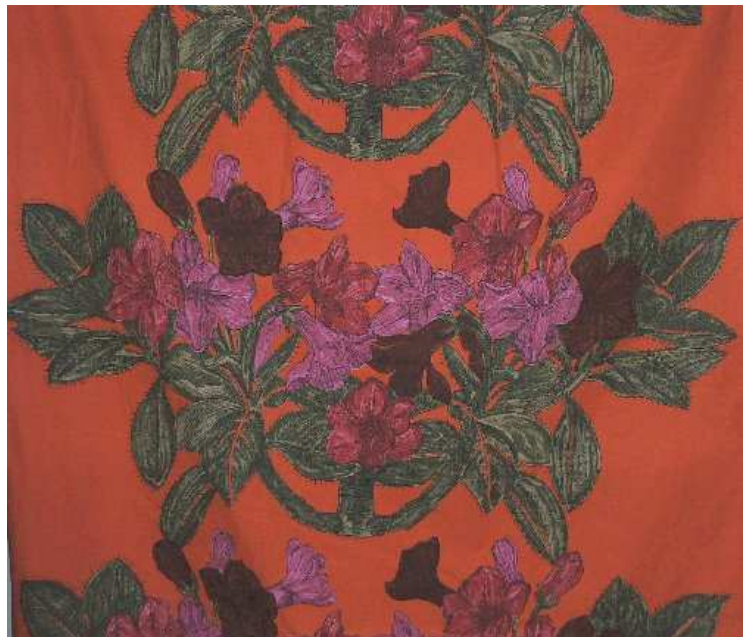
Shakespearian Fabric Designs by Tibor Reich

Marian J. Pringle, Special Collections Librarian writes about a Hungarian

When the Shakespeare Centre opened in 1964, attention was drawn to the art features in glass, stone, timber and metal, about which articles have already appeared in Shakespeare at the centre. Textiles throughout the building were also specially commissioned and their designer and creator was the internationally known fabric artist, Tibor Reich. Tibor Reich was born in Budapest in 1916 and, after studying textile design in Vienna, he came to study for five years in the Textile Department of Leeds University, before working on rayon cloth for Tootal Broadhurst Lee in Lancashire. In 1946, soon after he had patented a device for controlled pattern weaving, he settled at Clif-

ford Chambers near Stratford-upon-Avon, setting up his weaving looms at Clifford Mill. He worked on a wide range of cloths, experimenting with color and yarn combinations, and fabrics were created for many special commissions including the Commonwealth Woolgrowers' wedding gift to Elizabeth II in 1947. When the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre was altered and refurbished in 1951 Tibor Reich created fabrics for seating, curtains and hangings in the front-of-house areas. These strongly textured materials included 'Macbeth' (a heavy bouclé with gold thread in brilliant scarlet on dusty grey, in the bar), 'Cymbeline' (dull scarlet with square spots of gold thread), and 'Cardinal' in burgundy for auditorium seats, and in forest green for the dress circle bar couches. Clifford Mill employed over 40 weavers on both hand and powered looms and 'Tibor' cloth was sold at major department stores across the world and featured in public buildings nationally and in London, including both 10 and 11 Downing Street. A major wall-hanging entitled the 'History of Shapes' was woven for ICI, and screen-printed with a series of sketches depicting incidents in British history from ancient times. In 1963 the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust chose Tibor Reich to create carpets and curtains for the new Shakespeare Centre. His skill as a photographer had inspired many of his textured cloths with: for example, images of tree bark, stones or

straw, translated through the 'Fotexur' system. In the Centre Library's catalogue room and reading room, the offices and the Conference Room the carpets were inspired by an aerial photograph of woodland, with its harmony of greens, grey and black. This carpet, made by William Goodacre of Kendal in Cumbria, can still be admired today. For curtains a light weight greenish grey 'taslan slub' named 'Cleopatra', with a texture of bark or papyrus fibers, was chosen. This fabric survives today in rooms such as the Stratford Room and the Shakespeare Centre Library reading room. Tibor's other commissions for the Shakespeare quatercentenary year included 'The Age of Kings': a pattern of marching medieval armies, on a brightly colored mercerized cotton satin in several colorways. The blue and green version was chosen for the stage curtains of the Stratford Room, and the design was also sold in a bold orange and red fabric for the 1964 exhibition and the souvenir market. Another new fabric in 1964 was the lively 'Agincourt' created from a drawing by 15-year-old Anthony Reich. Its style



of tight and clear colors was used again for the fabric named 'A Tournament' in 1967, and for the 'Garrick' designs for the 1969 200th anniversary of the Stratford Jubilee.

Tibor Reich was also interested in tapestry wall-hangings, and a panel design for curtains or for framed display was printed on cloth hand-woven at Clifford Mill. This featured scenes from Shakespeare's plays: Coriolanus greeting Volumnia, Hamlet musing over Yorick's skull, Romeo duelling with Tybalt, and wooing Juliet on her balcony, and Malvolio displaying his stockings to Olivia. These are depicted against a background of theatrical architecture from Italy and Britain. The fabric was commissioned for the 1964 anniversary celebrations and a length was later hung on the landing of the Shakespeare Centre, adjacent to the Conference Room. Tibor's fabric designs continued to develop in new directions in response to commissions for the Cunard liner, QE2, and for Concorde airliner, which shared 1969 for their maiden voyage and first trial flights. Lotus cars used his fabrics, as did G-Plan and Ercol furniture. The 1970s were devoted primarily to fabrics for schools, hospitals and colleges, and in 1973 Tibor was awarded the Textile Institute Medal for design. Tibor Reich was a man of many enthusiasms. In the 1950s he designed a range of pottery, 'Tigoware', for Denby ceramics, while his collection of miniature cars was exhibited at the Tiatsa Gallery in Ely Street in Stratford where his wife Freda presided over the fabric sales floor. Tibor's designs for Royal Mail's

First Day covers were collected across the world. Tibor Reich always acknowledged three dominant influences in his textile work. He remembered colorful motifs from the traditional costume of his native Hungary and from visits he made to his father's factory where yarns were spun for brightly dyed ribbons. He studied the textile designs associated with the Bauhaus school created in the 1920s and 1930s for mass production, and his Leeds studies of weaving technology with Jacquard and other Dobby looms led to experimental work with different new fibers such as rayon and Lurex, exploring the complexities of Jacquard looms for fabric creation. As methods and sizes of loom changed the Clifford Mill workshop was closed and the weaving was transferred to Cumbria. But the fabrics continued to be sold at the Tiatsa showrooms until his retirement. Towards the end of his life Tibor presented several thousand samples of woven and printed fabrics to his old university at Leeds where a Tibor Reich Collection has been established at the International Textiles Archive. Tibor Reich died in his 80th year in 1996. Tibor's work is now highly collectable and the family is shortly setting up a website where it will be possible to view and buy Original samples of the fabrics. For more information contact Linda Fraser at fraserjl@hotmail.com.

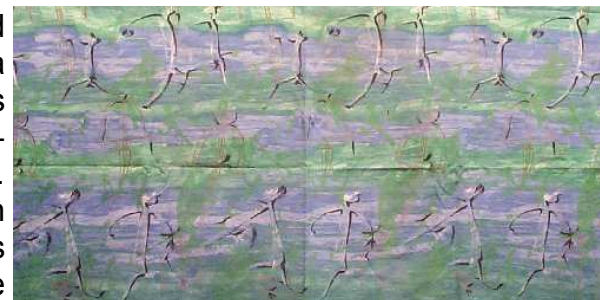
Tibor Reich fabrics



"MUCHADO" design # 170.



"JESSICA" design # 307.



Twenty Feet Under For Eight Million Years

By Joseph Balogh



Fortunately, it is not a human being. But it is organic and has a structure, and a long time ago, it took in other matter and grew. It is a tree, a Swamp Cypress. In fact there are sixteen of them, uncovered trees – which range from approximately thirteen to twenty-one feet tall, and from five to ten feet in circumference. They are oddities because they did not petrify, or turn to stone, as preserved trees usually do. These trees remained intact, under unfavorable conditions, for eight million years. Some readers might expect me to say that it is the doing of the Hungarians. Well, I say, the Hungarians had nothing to do with it! They were not around eight million years ago!

When the Hungarians moved into the Carpathian Basin, there were already people living there. But, long before that, in fact many millions of years before, there existed the Pannonian Lake which submerged much of present-day Hungary, and its neighbors. Slowly it began to retreat, especially in the southwest, which was composed of higher land. Meanwhile, global sea levels had begun to

Black Sea and not the Mediterranean.

Recently, miners digging for lignite, or brown coal, near the village of Bukkabrany in northeastern Hungary, close to Mezokovesd, found an eight million year old swamp cypress forest buried in the ground. The real rarity about these trees is that their original wood was preserved. They did not become petrified!

The discovery is exceptional because the trees kept their wooden structure. They turned neither into coal, nor did they become petrified!

The workers first uncovered several tree trunks that had turned into coal, a common occurrence in this type of environment. But as they dug deeper, they discovered sixteen

fall, as much of the trees that had remained where they earth's water was had grown, for some eight million years, and, in fact, were very well preserved! Catching a glimpse of Eventually much of these ancient tree trunks, one can see the Mediterranean that they might look like they belong Sea dried up. on the set of a science fiction film!

Meanwhile, the waters of the Pannonian Lake broke through the south end of what is now the Hungarian Basin, and its waters emptied into the

All that is left of the trees is their trunks, ten feet in diameter and twenty feet in height, although the complete trees must have been as much as 120 feet tall. The process began over ten million years ago when the region was covered by the muddy, marshy shores of the Pannonian Lake. The trunks were preserved in their original form. The exceptional state of preservation of the trees was due to a sudden sandstorm which covered the forest with sand up to a height of twenty feet. All above that disintegrated over time, but the parts buried under the sand remained beautifully intact. The trunks cannot be moved, as they tend to crumble when exposed to air and sunlight, given the wood's age. So, we have another natural wonder in Hungary!



Eva's Recipe

Kohlrabi chicken tenders with polenta:

I know polenta is not your average Hungarian staple, but it is a refreshing light side dish that compliments this meal. Serve with a garden salad of Boston lettuce, sliced peppers and tomatoes, top with a vinaigrette of your choice. This is a fulfilling as well as a refreshing meal!

Peel and grate 4 pieces of kohlrabi
Add 2 eggs, 2 tablespoons of sour cream, a pinch of salt and pepper and flour to form a light batter/breading for the chicken

Let batter rest in the refrigerator for 1 hour

Dip chicken tenders in batter and fry in hot oil until golden brown and slightly crunchy

Polenta:

Add 1 medium finely chopped Spanish onion to pan with butter and sauté

Cook corn meal to desired consistency (should not be too thick, as it will be put in the oven to bake)

Add sautéed onions and mix

Put mixture into a baking dish, crumple farmers' or goat cheese on top and bake until golden brown. Serve with a side of sour cream.

Finish this dinner with vanilla ice cream with fresh fruit sauce and a nice glass of Hárslevelü. Enjoy!

CELLDÖMÖLK

Karolina Szabo

Kemenesalja Vas megye egyik legszebb tájegysége, melyből bazaltkupjával emelkedik ki a sajátos növény- és madárvilágú

Ság-hegy. Jó minőségű bor terem a vulkánikus eredetű talajon, de a nagyüzemi szőlőtermesztés nehezen oldható meg, így évszázadokon keresztül csak az inyencek asztalára kerülhetett. A Ság-hegy lábánál fekszik a terület legjelentősebb települése,



Szüreti táncok Cellb

Celldömölk. A város története öt kis önálló település történetével kezdődik: Pördömölk, Nemesdömölk, Alsó-Ság, Izsákfa és Kis-Cell. Bár az ember jelenlétéről itt 5000 éves leletek árulkodnak, az első írásos emlékek 1200-as évekből származnak. Később bronzkori, majd római kori régészeti leletek tanúskodnak erről. A rómaiak után a hunok, majd az avarok, a Honfoglalás előtt pedig szlávok éltek Kemenesalján. A Kodó-patakon átvezető híd építéséért 1584-ben engedélyezett vámszedési jog tényéből következtetni lehet arra, hogy ezen a vidéken fontos kereskedelmi útvonalak vezetnek keresztül.

III. Károly uralkodásának vége felé nagy erővel támad fel ismét a Mária-kultusz. Ennek a vallásosságnak köszönheti

létezését a csodatévő Mária-képeről híressé vált búcsújáráhely, Kismáriacell.

1739-ben Sajghó Benedek pannonhalmi főapát Koptik Odót nevezi ki dömölki apáttá. Koptik Odó elkészítette és elhozta

magával a Nagy-Mariacelli kegyszobor mását, minek elhelyezésére a kápolnához helyet keres. A pápai országúthoz közel egy pázsitos dombra építi fel szobra számára a kápolnáját. Koptik apát a helységet az ausztriai Maria-Zell mintájára és hasonlatosságára Kismáriacellnek nevezte. (Levélcímzésen olvasható az, hogy: "Czell, Dömölk mellett".) Az 1840-es évektől használatos a Kis-Czell elnevezés, majd Nemesdömölkkel, Pördömölkkel való 1904-es egyesítés óta a Celldömölk név.

A kápolna kezdetben csak szerény deszka és faépület, mellette a remetekunyó és soványkút, körülötte földhányás, sánc, ez védte kerítés helyett. A kút ásása közben a kútásót baleset éri és halottnak hiszik. "Ember előtt

érthetetlen módon" mégis meggyógyul és ez elég ahhoz, hogy zarándokok ezrei keressék fel egyre nagyobb számban e csodás helyet.

Ő hozza létre a település magvát képező Szent Anna kápolnát, majd a csodatörténet után ideérkező húsz-harmincezer fő számára az új barokk jellegű templomot. 1755-ben kiegészül a búcsújáráshely: felépül a Kálvária, majd 1760-68 között bencéskolostor. Ezzel apátsági székhellyé alakul a település.

A lakosság szorgalmas jobbágy nép; de a zavaros évszázadok és a magas adó nem kímélték e környéket sem. Ez elől az 1700-as években sok szabadköltözésű jobbágy más vidékre költözött.

1768-ban már nem csak búcsújáráshely emeli a helyiség forgalmát és jelentőségét, hanem maga az államhatalom is, mely a kedvező fekvésű új telepre helyezi a sóhivatalt. Így bizonyos kincstári jelleget nyer az eddig kizárólagos búcsújáráshely.

A település életében az 1780-90. közötti évek hanyatlást jelentettek. Tűzvész, járvány, sáskajárás, dögvész pusztít. Ennek ellenére olyan jelentős mezőgazdasági központ lehetett, hogy 1787-ben mezővárosi rangot kapott.

Az 1800-as években újra növekszik az elszegényedett rész, nő a zsellérek száma, a lakosság egy része ismét elvándorol, ki egészen Amerikáig. Elmarad a búcsújáráshely, elszegényedik, szinte kihál a település.

Az átmeneti mélypontról az 1790. évi vásártartási kiváltság megszerzése jelentette az újbóli fellendülést a most már mezőváros életében. A jó üzleti érzékkel bíró polgárok új lehetőséget keresnek a

helyiség forgalmának fellendítésére. 1786-ban már folyamodnak a császárhoz kiváltság-kérelemmel. Végül, 1790 december 30-án adományozza II. Lipót a mezővárossá nyilvánító oklevelet. Országos vásárai híressé váltak. Kiscell fejlődését tovább segítette 1802-ben az apátság visszaállítása, a búcsújáráshely újbóli megindulása és

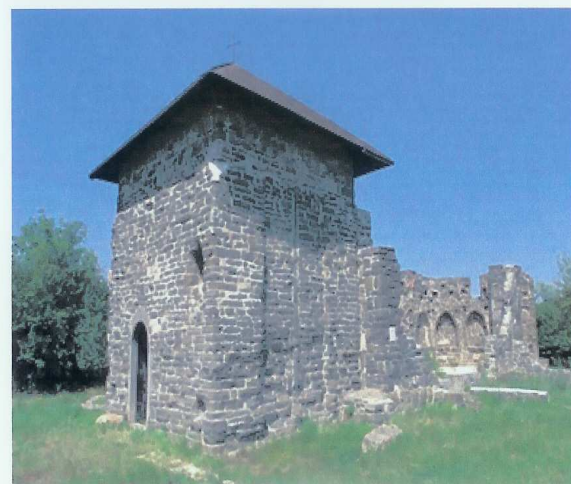
a céhék megalakulása. A század elején fellendülő gazdasági élet

pedig Kemenesalja központjává tette a döntő fellendülést a város és a környék életében 1871. jelentette, amikor a Magyar Nyugati Vasút Kiscellt érintő szakasza elkészült.

Ezt követte a székesfehérvári, csáktornyai és a soproni vonal megépülése. Így rövid időn belül a kis vásártelepülés vasúti csomóponttá vált.

A vasúti foglalkoztatottak száma rohamosan emelkedett, épültek a lakóépületek és a vasúti üzemi épületek is.

Ekkor kezdett a település valóban városias külsőt felvenni, de a 1871. évi XVIII. és 1886. évi XX. törvény a mezővárost közönséges nagyközséggé minősítette vissza. Ettől független a falú növekedett, és Kiscell, Nemesdömölk és Pördömölk Celldömölk néven



Felső: Kápolna Középen: Templom rom a Koptik Odó út végén

Alsó: Ság-hegy—Dénestó - akvarell

1904-ben közigazgatásilag is egyesült. Gimnázium, szakmunkásképző és kórház épült. A városközpontban épült a Kemenesaljai Művelődési Központ és Könyvtár, mely az egész országban ismert, rangos rendezvények színtere.

Az évszázados álomból felébredt város méltó intézményekkel őrzi a vidék szülőtteinek és az ezen a tájon lakott híres embereknek emlékét. Itt született Berzsenyi Dániel, Petőfi Sándor is élt itt, és Eötvös Loránd itt hajtotta végre híres ingakísérlését, mellyel világhírnévre tett szert.

Ha Szombathelyről Győrbe utazol, állj meg Celldömölkön, menj fel a Ság-hegyre, nézd meg a Trianoni emlékművet, a szőlőskertet, kóstold meg a hegy jó borát. Menj el a Vulkán fürdőre. Érezd jól magad!

Felhasznált anyagok:

Nádasdy Lajos: Pórdömölk-től Kis-Czellig

Tungli Gyula: Izsákfa évszázadai

Büszkén jegyzem meg, Tungli Gyula tanárom volt a pápai Türr István Gimnáziumban.

CELLDÖMÖLK

One of Vas County's most picturesque areas is Kemenesalja. The basalt cone of Ság-hegy (Ság Hill) proudly rises from the plain, with its unique plants and bird-life. In the volcanic soil of its slopes grow good wine-producing grapes, but large-scale wine making is not feasible.

At the foot of Ság-hegy lies the most important city of the region, Celldömölk. The city is the result of the merging of five small communities: Pórdömölk, Nemesdömölk, Alsó-Ság, Izsákfa and Kis-Cell. Although there have been archeological finds of 5000-year old settlements, we have written records going back only to the AD 1200's. Archeologists have found traces of life from the Bronze Age and from the Roman era; Huns and Avars lived there after the Romans; before the Conquest (896AD), Slavic peoples lived here. Important trade routes led through here.

After the rule of Karoly III (1711-1740), Marian devotion was revived, and that was when Kismáriacell became a famous place of pilgrimage.

From the abbey of Pannonhalma, the archabbot sent Koptik Odó to Kiscell in 1739. Abbot Koptik had made a copy of the statue of the Virgin Mary of Mariazell of Austria. He found a small hill at the side of the road leading to Pápa, where he built his chapel for the statue, and called it Kismáriacell (Small Mariazell). Letters were often addressed to "Czell, near Dömölk".

The original chapel was built of wood. Next to the chapel, a small hermit's hut was erected, and a well was dug. While digging, the worker had a fatal accident, but was miraculously revived. News of the prodigy spread, and pilgrims by the thousands came to Kis-máriacell. Abbot Koptik had established the center of the settlement by building the St. Anna Chapel, followed by the new baroque-style church to accommodate the ten-to-twenty thousand pilgrims, and later the open-air Stations of the Cross and the Benedictine monastery.

The population of the area consisted mostly of the lower gentry and of hard-working serfs. The bloody centuries and unbearably high taxes affected the lives of the people, and the free serfs moved to other areas of the country in the 1700's.

In 1768, the government placed the "sóhivatal" (the Salt Revenue Office, salt being a State monopoly) in this favorable location.

The 1780's and '90's, the fortunes of the settlement declined. Fire destroyed many homes, epidemics decimated the population, pestilence and locusts wrought havoc. Against all odds, the town was raised to the rank of market town. Nevertheless, the population grew poorer, and many again moved to other areas, some as far away as America. Pilgrims stopped coming, the town was almost desolate.

Its fortunes revived when the town received a patent to hold country fairs in 1790. These fairs achieved national fame. The abbey was restored, pilgrims returned and guilds were formed. Decisive improvement came about when the railroad lines reached Kiscell, followed by rail links with Székesfehérvár, Gőcsej and Sopron. In a short while, the small market town became a railway hub.

The small settlements merged under one administrative authority and became Celldömölk in 1904.

The gimnázium (prep school), trade school, hospital, Kemenesalji Cultural Center and Library were built in the center of the city. The Cultural Center has a national reputation for high class programs.

The city awoke from a century's sleep, and remains faithful to the memory of its great sons: Berzsenyi Dániel who was born here, Petőfi Sándor who also lived here, and Eötvös Lóránd, the physicist, who did his experiments on gravitation and the torsion balance. He laid the foundation of a general theory of relativity, without which, it has been suggested, Einstein would not have been able to create his theories.

If you are on your way from Szombathely to Győr, stop in Celldömölk, go to Ság-hegy, visit the Trianon memorial statue, the vineyards, taste the



Trianoni emlékmű a Sághegyen

wine. Go to the Vulkán Fürdő. Have a nice time!

Did you know...?

... that NINE breeds of Hungarian dogs are accepted by the FCI (the World Canine Association)?

They are:

- the **short-haired vizsla**, or pointer
- the **wire-haired vizsla**, or setter
- the **puli**, a sheepdog
- the **pumi**, a guard dog for the home
- the **komondor**, a guard dog for live stock
- the **kuvasz**, a “town” guard dog
- the **magyar agár**, or Hungarian greyhound, a hunting dog
- the **mudi**, a sheepdog
- the **erdélyi kopó**, the most endangered hunting dog

Only the **long-legged erdélyi kopó** is accepted by the FCI.

Efforts are being made to have the **short-legged erdélyi kopó** accepted as the 10th Hungarian breed.



A vizsla és a puli



Gary Gianetti

Steamboat cyclist completes 5,000 miles across 50 states

Steamboat Springs — Gary Gianetti boarded the flight from Montana to Las Vegas in his self-described “Ozzy Osbourne-like zombie mode.” He was a little weary after riding 4,800 miles over 48 straight days across the continental United States and Alaska. When the flight attendant asked about the Freeburger family in

row 18, Gianetti’s mind jumped and his furnace of a stomach — accustomed to burning 5,000 calories a day — growled.

“Will there be free fries in row 19?” Gianetti asked.

Since Aug. 18, Gianetti has crossed the country one day and one 100-mile bike ride at a time. His goal: ride 5,000 miles across all 50 states in 50 consecutive days to raise money and awareness for cancer research and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

On Saturday, he reached mile 5,000 by completing the 112-mile Ironman Triathlon World Championship bike course in Kailua Kona, Hawaii.



On Wednesday, he calmly enjoyed lunch in Honolulu. The meals are back to normal human portions, but Gianetti still wakes before dawn, not fully readjusted from the journey's hectic schedule.

"I was still nervous that something could go wrong until I was actually doing the last ride, and then I kind of felt better afterward," Gianetti said. "Since then, I've tried to have the 'hang loose' attitude here."

The final week proved to be the most trying, with a schedule that even Gianetti doubted he could complete — fly to Portland, Ore., ride, fly to Anchorage, Alaska, go back to Seattle to knock off Washington, Idaho and Montana, and fly to Las Vegas to drive to California in time to make it to Hawaii.

But it wasn't the logistics that bogged him down.

"The weather was unbearable — it started in Portland with four inches of rain during the ride where I got hypothermia three times," Gianetti said. The subsequent flight to Alaska didn't arrive until 1:30 a.m., just a few hours away from another 100-miler.

The rain continued and followed him back to Seattle.

"With the flights and all the time changes, by that point, I was just going on autopilot and it was a

matter of getting the rides done," Gianetti said. "We had days that were great and days that were tough, and I made a lot of great sacrifices, but we had so much support and positive people that were involved that made it work." Gianetti plans to write about the experience, and he's already hinking about how he will continue "to raise awareness that people can be physically ac-

His first stop when he returns from surfing in Hawaii is the Oct. 21 Moab Half Mara-thon.

For more details on Gianetti's trip, visit www.healthyaltitudes.com.

Brilliant Performance of Liszt

by Winifred Woods Gulyas

Christina Kiss, the Hungarian-born piano virtuoso, gave a brilliant performance of Ferenc Liszt's "Rigoletto Paraphrase" at a benefit concert in her hometown of Cresskill, NJ, on Monday evening, October 22nd. The event featured twenty-some professional concert musicians who reside in town and who donated their exceptional talents to raise funds for school-based arts programs in Cresskill.

Ms Kiss played the very demanding "Rigoletto Paraphrase" with masterful articulation and phrasing, creating a veritable "avalanche" of clear, beautiful musical sound, while the audience watched in enraptured amazement — after which they responded with a thunderous

ovation!

Being one of the foremost contemporary interpreters of Liszt, she has received acclaim for her performances at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall and the Kennedy Center, as well as for her solo work with the symphony orchestras of Cincinnati, Barcelona and Budapest. In April 2006, she received high praise for her performance of Bartok's "Piano Concerto No. 3" with the Greenwich Symphony, conducted by David Gilbert; and recently, she was a guest artist at the Second Annual Piano Festival in Shanghai, China.

Ms Kiss, who studied at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest and the Juilliard School of Music in New York, has seven Liszt CD's available on Amazon.com.

Winifred Woods Gulyás calls West Virginia "home", but has the distinction of having learned to speak Hungarian. She and her husband Stephen Gulyás, P.E. live in Cresskill, NJ.



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Éva's Recipe...

Kohlrabi chicken tenders with polenta:

I know polenta is not your average Hungarian staple, but it is a refreshing light side dish that compliments this meal. Serve with a garden salad of Boston lettuce, sliced peppers and tomatoes, top with a vinaigrette of your choice. This is a fulfilling as well as a refreshing meal!

Peel and grate 4 pieces of kohlrabi
Add 2 eggs, 2 tablespoons of sour cream, a pinch of salt and pepper and flour to form a light batter/breading for the chicken

Let batter rest in the refrigerator for 1 hour

Dip chicken tenders in batter and fry in hot oil until golden brown and slightly crunchy

Polenta:

Add 1 medium finely chopped Spanish onion to pan with butter and sauté

Cook corn meal to desired consistency (should not be too thick, as it will be put in the oven to bake)

Add sautéed onions and mix

Put mixture into a baking dish, crumple farmers' or goat cheese on top and bake until golden brown. Serve with a side of sour cream.

Finish this dinner with vanilla ice

cream with fresh fruit sauce and a nice glass of Hárslevelü.

Enjoy!

Kicsi a világ!

By Remy P. Papp

Remy P. Papp is a Hungarian-born Civil Engineer who completed his studies at Columbia University and NYU. In addition to the US, his work has taken him to Central and South America, as well as to Africa, or to be exact, to Nigeria. The following is excerpted from a story he relates in "Gleanings by a Construction Stiff", a collection of amusing episodes from his working career. It happened in the city of Jos, "a few hundred kilometers south of the Sahara", in northern Nigeria

"Jos lies at about 2500 feet above sea level, the climate is therefore somewhat better, meaning mainly that it is quite a bit drier than along the coast. As far as heat goes, temperatures do reach 100°F or about 38°C easily and with remarkable frequency, one could say it is hot: fit for 'mad dogs and Englishmen'.

The motel is quite nice and modern. It has a fairly decent lobby serving as a cocktail lounge as well. Needless to say, we expatriates, visitors, and our clients' people did spend some time there....

The same motel was also the scene of a rather amusing incident, that is, at least to me. Again, we were sitting in one of the 'booths' in the lounge, some six or eight of us, heavily engaged in discussing the work. The booths were created by the simple artifice of setting two sofas facing each other over a coffee table. The next booth would be set up in the

same manner, so that two couches were always back-to-back. There were also planters with palms or other vegetation at the end of the sofas, almost creating an illusion of really separate booths.

As I said, we were earnestly earnestly some work-related topic, when all of a sudden my ears picked up a strange wisp of conversation from the booth behind me. We were conversing rather loud, and as always, several people tried to talk at the same time, so I had to disengage my attention from my group and lean back, to try to get something of the conversation behind me. I succeeded, and imagine my surprise and amusement, when I heard clearly the next sentence uttered by a woman sitting almost directly behind me: '...and my whole body was covered with a rash...' – all in perfect Hungarian!

Had I heard this in New York, I would have thought nothing of it. But here, in the middle of Nigeria – „az Isten háta mögött”, as we would say (lit. „behind God's back”- i.e. in a VERY remote place!) -- it struck me as extremely funny. What are the chances of THREE Hungarians being in this out-of-the-way place at the same time? And not only in the same town, but in the same LOBBY, sitting back-to-back??? My group looked at me curiously as I doubled up with laughter apropos of nothing they could perceive – none of the poor benighted people could speak Hungarian. The group consisted of Americans, Brits, and Swiss plus at least one American who lived in Spain and whose wife was Spanish. Well, it is their loss; but I took pity on them and translated for them later what I had overheard, when the two groups were safely separated.”

You never know!

