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# NOVÝ DOMOV



THE NEW HOMELAND

Pravda vítězí!

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## CZECH GOVT COALITION INDICATES

The Czech government coalition politicians have indicated that they would not mind senior opposition Social Democrat (CSSD) chairman Jiri Paroubek becoming lower house chairman, but Prime Minister Mirek Topolánek stressed he has not offered it to Paroubek yet.

Topolánek, chairman of the Civic Democrats (ODS), today said this matter had not yet been discussed with the opposition.

Paroubek has so far commented on the option with reservations.

"I think that I am really not interested in this matter for the moment," Paroubek told ČTK, being asked whether the CSSD is considering the respective change in the post of Chamber of Deputies head which is now occupied by Miloš Věček (CSSD).

Věček indicated today that he was prepared to leave the post, but he said he did not like that his party colleague did not discuss the step with him.

"I would like to hear something from somebody because this concerns me," Věček said, hinting that CSSD politicians were negotiating behind his back.

Věček was elected to the post during the stalemate after the 2006 elections in which the ODS narrowly won. However, neither the centre-right coalition led by the ODS nor the leftist opposition held a majority in the lower house. The coalition then did not accept Paroubek as lower house chairman and Věček was finally chosen as a "temporary" chairman to prevent a parliamentary crisis.

The daily Mlada fronta Dnes

(MfD) reported today that the post of lower house chairman for Paroubek could be part of a broader agreement between the ODS and the CSSD, which would secure a "ceasefire" during the upcoming Czech EU presidency in the first half of 2009.

Topolánek said today he had not given Paroubek any similar offer. "I only admitted that this alternative was possible," he said.

Mirek Topolánek mentioned this possibility in a Czech Television (CT) discussion programme on Sunday.

Topolánek said a change at the Chamber of Deputies' helm would be also connected with the CSSD's victory in the regional election after which some CSSD deputies would leave the lower house to become regional governors. Junior ruling Christian Democrats (KDU-ČSL) chairman Jiri Cuhák pointed out that the post of lower house chairman is already filled

with a Social Democrat on the basis of valid agreements.

"If the strongest opposition party [CSSD] says it wants someone else in the post, it is up to us whether we will respect it or not. I think this can be respected," Cuhák added.

CSSD deputy group head Michal Hasek, who is to depart from the lower house to become new governor of the South Moravia Region, refused to comment on possible changes in the Chamber leadership at all.

Source *České noviny.cz* Author: ČTK

## CzechRep has spent 3.054 billion for EU presidency

Prague ČTK - The Czech EU presidency in January-June has cost the Czech Republic 3.054 billion crowns, including preparations, to date, European Affairs Minister Štefan Füle said in reply to a question by Gabriela Kalabková (Social Democrats, CSSD), in the Chamber of Deputies today. He said a number of invoices are still being paid and that the final accounting report is to be available in end-October.

According to previous calculations, the final sum should be somewhere around 3.3 billion crowns.

"I do not suppose that the presidency cost would exceed the originally considered 3.3 billion crowns," Füle said.

The Czech Republic took over the EU presidency from France and handed it to Sweden.

Source *ceskenoviny.cz*

## The Digital Era: the CD is now on life support

by Martin Mayer

Don't think the compact discs in your car or in the box in the attic are going to become relics... any time soon that is. While the CD is dying a slow death, it may still have enough fans out there to keep it on life support for some time. From illegal downloads through the old Napster to Apple's revolutionary iTunes store, how we get our music has dramatically changed since the new millennium. And while many of us would easily abandon our CD collection in exchange for a fully-loaded iPod, Country Music Television's Calvin Gilbert says one group of music lovers isn't quite as anxious as the rock crowd to embrace digital downloads.

"Country music fans are definitely the ones that are still giving CDs their much-needed lifeline, because 65% of people between the ages of 18-54 are still 'CD-Dominant.' And when you compare that against sales statistics on Carrie Underwood's last record, that still means a lot of physical product is being moved and bought."

While record companies and the likes of brick-and-mortar record stores scramble to revise their dated business models to remain current and afloat, as long as that CD at your local HMV is being still being snapped up, Gilbert says don't expect the labels to provide their entire catalogue in online music stores just yet.

"Remember, when the compact disc started taking over for cassette tapes in the early 90s? It wasn't really until the early 2000s that CD players were replacing tape decks in cars. But even then, cassettes dropped from some 442 million in 1990 to only 274,000 by 2008, so they're still out there today. It's pretty safe to say that while the CD is being phased out, it's far too early to write its obituary."

*Martin Mayer is a pianist and composer living in Vancouver, B.C. Currently on tour in Taiwan and China, you'll find his regular column a new addition to the New Homeland's English supplement. He can be reached at [music@martinmayer.com](mailto:music@martinmayer.com).*



## The mystery of 20 years

Old photograph is over

Prague - It is one of the most famous photographs that went around Germany as well as Europe, symbolizing the fall of the Berlin Wall as well as communism in the Old Continent.

It captures a citizen of former East Germany climbing over a fence of West Germany's embassy in Prague. It happened on October 2, 1989. A Czechoslovak policeman is trying to take the man down but in vain.

The name of the man who succeeded in his escape is Michael Fleischmann and he was among the thousands of Germans that decided to flee the totalitarian regime by climbing over the West Germany's embassy fence in Prague.

In June, this year Mr. Fleischmann published an announcement stating he would like to meet the policeman.

Now, symbolically, on the day

that Germany is commemorating the 20 years of freedom by organizing the Freedom Train, the mystery of the famous photograph is over.

The Institute for Study of Totalitarian Regimes had identified the man as "the embassy policeman" and helped Aktuálně.cz to track down the man.

He is 47 years old and still works in the police force. "I do recall we used to serve by the embassy but is that really me?" was his first response.

Source *aktualne.cz*

**WE did it!** see pg 6 & 7,  
and you can read on pg 8



The First Family  
**ROCKFEST**  
Jayz Beo & the great rock bands  
Masaryk Park  
September 23, 2012  
1:00PM - 7:30PM

# The First Family



# Rockfest 2009

**The First Family**  
**ROCKFEST**

1.00pm  
T.E.D.D. / Ulica

2.00pm  
Maynooth Station

2.45pm  
Jeanette Lee

3.30pm  
Swedish Fish

4.25pm  
T.E.D.D. / Ulica

5.20pm  
Tokyo Giants

6.15pm  
Rock Spirit Revival

September 13th, 2009

Las Vegas  
Toronto



# Rockfest finally happened

by Adriana and Lado Soudek

**We did it !!!** 13 of September on the grounds of Masaryktown park First Family Rockfest in Toronto. In alphabetical order we have for you the line up: **Jeanette Lee** is a Toronto independent folk/ pop singer-songwriter. Her songs move through morning papers and tough journeys, from starlit harbours to neon-lit bars. "After a Dark Horse



Year" is Jeanette's second record, a breezy acoustic EP. She is currently working with producer Scott Dibble (Hemingway Corner, Watertown, Juno-nominated for the song "Watch Over You") on her next project. Camellia Records is Jeanette's artist-owned record label. Her music is available on CDBaby, iTunes, eMusic and other services. **Maynooth Station**, is a cover band formed out of the love of playing great songs, old and new. From Neil Young to Gillian Welch to the Great Lake Swimmers, Maynooth Station offers you folk and rock to warm your heart and get your toes tapping. There's four acoustic guitars, harmonic vocals and percussion made from kitchen stuff. 3 guys, 2 girls and we're not telling you who's slept with who. **Rock Spirit Revival** is a collaborative band made up of students and friends of Tammy Frederick's Voice Studio. Tammy's studio focuses on contemporary vocal training and performance opportunities. Rock Spirit Revival was originally performed this past June at Lee's Palace in Toronto and features some of the best rock and roll songs from the late 1960's and early 1970's! For more information about the studio please visit the website at [www.tammyfrederick.com](http://www.tammyfrederick.com)

## Some of the Emails:

*Hi Fabulous Rockfest producers!  
I just wanted to say congratulations again on a FANTASTIC ROCKFEST!!  
It was absolutely perfect! Can't wait to do it again next year!  
Talk to you all soon! xoxox Tammy J  
I still can't stop grinning about our last set and our experiences today.  
I think this festival was a great idea and a great day for us to spend time together and really gel. Things are looking up! Thank you so much Jaro Jason... etc.*

[www.tammyfrederick.com/](http://www.tammyfrederick.com/)> **Swedish Fish** aren't Swedish and they're not fishy, although most of them can swim. What they are is a born-again 80's band who has found new life, new songs, a new direction, and a new CD released in January 2008. They are currently in the studio working on their next release due out early 2010. Their indescribable sound has had them play at the International Pop Overthrow Festival to the dark Velvet Underground and the Family festival in the Beaches for Canada Day.

**The Tokyo Giants** present the irresistible feel good rhythms of the powerful and sophisticated edge of Chicago - the syncopations of Earth, Wind and Fire. Also inspired by the Blues Brothers and the Commitments, the Giants' lively blend of R & B, blues and roots music has had audiences literally dancing in the street since 1995 at Toronto's Beaches Jazz Festival. **TEDD** became the name of a final school project with friends and classmates Phil, James and Adam after singer/songwriter Nika Smith had it appear in a late night dream. The TEDD sound of memorable pop melodies and music you can move to, would only become complete with the recent addition of James' father Jaro Jarosil on Cello. Rockfest is the follow up to TEDD's debut performance at the Horseshoe Tavern **Ulica** is the most popular bands in the Slovak and Czech's Ontario community. The band got together several years ago, for the fun of rehearsing together and playing for their friends. Finally this year they took the show on the road and enjoyed enormous success. Ulica plays popular songs with great vocals and a great beat. With that mix, you have the key ingredients to live up your next event or dance party. Ulica invites you to sing, and dance along with them. The Family Rockfest 2009 came finally to Masaryktown park? I really don't recall how exactly I got the idea. It could have been a discussion with Jaro Jarosil at the Masaryktown, meeting with Tammy & Chris, Lee's Palace, or seeing the band Cechomor in Phoenix... Another aspect of my decision was that lots of our friends have kids. They are always complaining about finding a babysitter, so they

either have to hurry home or don't attend many events. My thought was: they would love to find a way to share their love of music with their kids and family. How to create a fun and meaningful event that would also introduce Masaryktown to Torontonians?

We did it ! Beautiful day, excellent family event with fine musicians for parents and great kids entertainment. To top it all the father of all musical mischief Jaymz Bee was the ultimate host, the stage manger and amazing friend to everybody on this unforgettable Sunday.

**Thanks everybody who came to support:** First I would like to thank to *Martha Bouchier*, who with her vitality and smarts helped organized this event with me and also to my wife *Adriana* who kept organized "unorganizable". My thanks goes out to the wonderful couple *Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jecmen* for their help and ideas, members from the Group of *Slovak Youth*



*Theatre* for their best Kidzone, the MMI organization their friends and all volunteers a specialty *Mr. Jaro Jarosil, Peter Bachraty, Honza Smid, Petr Kohout, Milan Horvay and his buddy Maros also Liba & Milan Pejchl* because without them we won't have the the best stage tent ever and Ulica band for renting musical equipment sharing with all players on *Rockfest*, also *Peter, Dennise and Vera* for the capturing excellent pictures and good people from restaurant Prague. *Important thanks to Slovak embassy, Mirjana Sebek-Heroldova of Czech tourism and director MMI Dagmar Vavrusa for gifts, brochures about our native countries and donating interesting prices for raffle.* Special thanks to all the great talented musicians and all people involved in bringing music for our happy musical day. See you next year. Keep Rocking ! Lado Soudek, Director of event Organized by: MMI, Concord Media The Award " Star of the Rockfest 2009" provided by: [www.AwardsToronto.com](http://www.AwardsToronto.com) <<http://www.AwardsToronto.com>> Sponsored by: MMI (Masaryktown Park) Mr. Milan Kroupa Companies and AwardsToronto.com



## Masaryk Memorial Institute

**Masaryk Memorial Institute (MMI)** is a charitable organization founded by immigrants from former Czechoslovakia. Its goal is not only to preserve these immigrants' heritage by hosting Czech and Slovak educational and cultural events, but also to share the beauty of these two countries and their peoples with all Canadians. Named in honor of T. G. Masaryk, the founder of Czechoslovakia in 1918, and father of modern Czech and Slovak society, the charity continues to be true to his vision of improving lives of everyone through assistance, education, cooperation and tolerance. Information and contacts can be found at [www.masaryktown.org](http://www.masaryktown.org)

Masarykúv ústav je charitatívni organizace, kterou založili imigranti z bývalého Československa. Jejím posláním je nejen udržovat české a slovenské tradice, ale také obohatit kanadskou společnost o informace o krásách a historii české a slovenské země. Organizace je pojmenována po prof. Tomáši Garrigovi Masarykovi, prvním prezidentovi samostatného Československa, které vzniklo v roce 1918. MMI zůstává věrný jeho odkazu a nadále se věnuje aktivitám, které obohacují život lidí v naší nové domovině, a propaguje vzájemnou pomoc, vzdělání, spolupráci a toleranci. Informace: [www.masaryktown.org](http://www.masaryktown.org)

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