
LATVIANS ONLINE UPDATE #109 - October 9th, 2007
<http://latviansonline.com>

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FEATURE

Latvian hockey, and Latvian hockey fans, come to Ireland

by Viesturs Zarins

With the arrival of at least 20,000 Latvians in Ireland over the past several years, it is hardly surprising that their passion for hockey wasn't far behind. The Latvian Hawks, an amateur team consisting of only Latvian players living and working in Ireland, have joined the Irish Ice Hockey League in its inaugural 2007-2008 season. The Latvian Hawks intend to be contenders for the league championship.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/features/article/3303/>

Latvia's hockey juniors make their mark in Canada

by Viesturs Zarins

Last summer a record number of six hockey players from Latvia were drafted by Canadian Hockey League major junior teams in the European Entry draft. Approaching the end of the season, five of the six are still playing in Canada and continue to draw the support of Latvian-Canadian fans.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/features/article/2394/>

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Latvian groups nominated for MTV Europe award
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Newest ambassador to Canada presents credentials
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Bank of Latvia releases gold commemorative coin
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Latvian man dies in Ireland motorcycle accident
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Minister calls for end to language barbarization
<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/news/article/3302/>

Zatlers to address U.N. during New York visit
<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/news/article/3293/>

New work group considers dual citizenship proposals
<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/news/article/3289/>

Zatlers travels to Sweden for one-day visit

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/news/article/3284/>

Eurostat: Labor costs increase most in Latvia
<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/news/article/3283/>

REVIEWS

<http://latviansonline.com/reviews>

Saviesi album has favorites and more treasures

by Daina Bolsteina

When you find a compact disc with your favorite song on it—particularly when it's a less-often heard Latvian folksong—you buy it. This is precisely what happened when I saw the CD Pirmie 25 by Latvia's folk ensemble Saviesi. Fortunately, the CD contains a number of treasures and is worth buying for more than just one song.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/reviews/article/3322/>

Author emerges content after life as a victim

by Daina Grosa

Aina Segal's life was scarred, like that of thousands of other refugees the world over, displaced from their homeland by circumstances out of their control, compelled to start their life afresh in a new world with strange customs and little understanding of their plight. Segal was born in Latvia in 1934. After a picture-perfect childhood as an only child in a well-to-do family, World War II shattered her life into a million pieces. They needed to be put back together slowly, her psyche set back on an even keel, through the course of her later adult life in the United States. Hence the title of the book, Battered Heart. Thankfully, a heart that can be battered can also be healed.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/reviews/article/3319/>

Violent cyberthriller takes social protest to extremes

by Andris Straumanis

Alexander Garros and Aleksei Evdokimov, two Russian journalists working in Latvia, wrote a "cyberthriller" that in 2003 won the Russian Literary National Bestseller Prize. Headcrusher, now translated into English, provides an unsettling and at times absurd entrance into Riga's underbelly and leaves me wondering what I dislike most: the human garbage depicted in the book, the book itself and its authors, or myself for at times sympathizing with the book's anti-hero, Vadim Apletaev.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/reviews/article/3294/>

That wonderful scent from the kitchen

by Daina Grosa

If the word "Latvian" is associated with one certain scent, then first prize would go to the humble pirags. One of the unique Latvian symbols that foreigners discover about Latvians worldwide is the often mispronounced, but never forgotten, little bacon and onion delicacy that smells absolutely divine while baking and tastes like heaven when just out of the oven.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/reviews/article/3285/>

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COMMENTARY

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/commentary>

Six years on and Microsoft goes fully Latvian

by Arnis Gross

It started back in September 2001 when Microsoft Latvia launched the first Latvian version of MS Word 2002. Then two years later MS Excel, MS Powerpoint and MS Outlook in fresh 2003 versions joined the suite and got the Latvian treatment as well. The latest version of the most popular office software for Windows, MS Office 2007, released just before Jani this year, has now gone all the way. Not only has the complete suite of applications (Word 2007, Excel 2007, Powerpoint 2007, Outlook 2007, Access 2007, MS Publisher 2007, MS InfoPath 2007 and MS Groove 2007) been adapted for the Latvian language, but the underlying operating system, more commonly known as Microsoft Vista, has learnt Latvian as well.

<http://latviansonline.com/index.php/commentary/article/3321/>

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