Happy Norwegian Constitution Day from the Norwegian American Weekly

Question of flags

Ålesund faces complications surrounding use of foreign flags in 17th May parade

DENISE LELAND
Seattle, Wash.

Last week, heated debates began over flag policy as the Ålesund 17th May Committee faced a difficult decision on waving foreign flags in this year’s Constitution Day parade. The problem arose as Aspøy primary school asked the committee’s permission to use student-made flags that featured the Norwegian flag on one side and the flag of their country of origin on the other. Believing that things were be-

See > FLAGS, page 6

Queen opens exhibit

Munch – Warhol exhibit is opened in NYC by HM Queen Sonja

Norway Post

Norway’s Queen Sonja this week opened the exhibition entitled “Munch | Warhol and the Multiple Image” in New York City. The exhibition brings together the works of two of the greatest printmakers of the 20th century.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) presents MUNCH | WARHOL and the Multiple Image, an exhibition featur-

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Norwegian American Weekly
Vol. 124 No. 18 May 10, 2013
Established May 17, 1889 • Formerly Western Viking and Nordisk Tidende

NTA
Business
A new mail delivery method
Read more on page 4

Special Issue
Happy 17th of May!
Special Issue 2013
Read more on page 8

I mai er treet en sang
vinden synger
– Jan Erik Vold

How’s the currency?

$1 = NOK 5.8283
updated 5/6/2013

In comparison
4/6/2013 5.7305
11/6/2012 5.7172
5/6/2012 5.7997

Happy Norwegian Constitution Day from the Norwegian American Weekly

Gratulerer med dagen!
Flere voldteksanmeldelser

Politiet etterforsker fire anmeldte voldteker i forbindelse med russetreffet i Kongeparken i Rogaland

Jeg kan bekrefte at vi har registrert to nye voldteksanmeldelser natt til søndag. I tillegg til overfallsvoldteket som skjedde utenfor parkområdet natt til lørdag, registrerte vi enda en voldteksak i går, sier politiinspektør Fredrik M. Soma i Rogaland politidistrikt til NTB.

De to siste skal ha skjedd natt til 5. mai. Bortsett fra overfallsvoldteket har alle sakene skjedd inne på parkområdet hvor russeholdet oppholder seg, sier Soma.

Han sier det ikke er noen sammenheng mellom de tre sakene innen på festivalområdet og overfallsvoldteket som skjedde noen hundre meter utenfor.
Norway has allocated NOK ten million to the preservation of the stave churches

Norway Post / NRK

The Ministry of Environment has set aside an additional NOK 10 million in order to better secure and fireproof Norway’s ancient stave churches.

Around 1000 of these unique wooden churches were built in Norway between 1100 and 1300.

When Fantoft stave church near Bergen was set on fire and burned down in 1992, it became clear Norway’s stave churches were in need of more security measures. The NOK 10 million are meant to help speed up the process of installing modern fire and sur-

More to Syria

Norway to give additional NOK 100 million to help Syrian refugees

Press Release

“The refugee crisis in Syria is on its way to becoming the worst since the Second World War. The Government is therefore increasing Norway’s assistance by NOK 100 million,” announced Minister of Foreign Affairs Espen Barth Eide.

The humanitarian situation in Syria and its neighbouring countries is becoming more serious than the worst prognoses at the beginning of the year. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) recently described the scale of crisis as comparable with refugee situations witnessed in form of the corporate tax regime, aimed at reducing the rates and broadening the tax base. In March, the Government appointed a commission (the Scheel-Commission) to consider the corporate tax system in light of international developments, taking into account the need for adaptation.

SAS sells Widerøe to investor group

The SAS Group has announced that it has signed an agreement to sell 80% of its shares in its domestic airline Widerøe’s Flyveselskap AS to a group of Norwegian investors. The group of investors consists of Torghatten ASA, Fjord1 AS and Nordland Fylkeskommune (together referred to as the “Investor Group”). SAS will retain a 20% share in Widerøe but will have the intention to transfer full ownership of Widerøe in 2016. In a press release, SAS says the sale of Widerøe represents an important step in the improvement of SAS’ financial position with a significant reduction of SAS’ financial leverage.

SAS and Widerøe will have a continued close commercial cooperation after the transaction, with Widerøe remaining an important regional partner to SAS. (Norway Post)

Berge’s Munch-collection reopens

The Bergen Art Museum re-opened their Munch exhibition on May 4, after ten years of extensive restoration of several damaged works of the famous Norwegian painter. The Art Museum in Bergen has the world’s third largest Munch collection, but due to extensive restoration work the drawings have not been available for several years. The collection consists of 100 drawings and 50 paintings. Most of them come from Rasmus Meyer’s private collection. One of Munch’s works that will be shown is a unique version of Scream painted with ink. The drawing has not been displayed since the 1980s, and will be one of several highlights when Rasmus Meyer’s collection opens again on May 4. (Norway Post)

Wintry surprise in the West

Motorists in Western Norway who had finally decided it was time to change to summer tires after a longer than usual winter season, were caught by surprise the morning of May 3. During the night the predicted rainfall had turned to snow, and slush and icy roads quickly brought the traffic to a standstill, particularly in the Bergen area, where many had to wait in lineups for up to two hours. Snow clearing crews and tow trucks had a busy morning, hauling cars out of the ditch, but there were no reports of serious accidents. (NRK)

Norwegian-American Constitution Day is right around the corner on May 17. Honor your heritage – subscribe or give a gift subscription today!

Celebrate Syttende Mai with us!

Norwegian Constitution Day is right around the corner on May 17. Honor your heritage – subscribe or give a gift subscription today!

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Address: ____________________________
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Phone: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________
Given by: ____________________________
Is this a gift? Yes No
Join our enewsletter list? Yes No

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Norway's central bank will sell 300 million Norwegian crowns ($51.52 million) a day in May for the country's Government Pension Fund Global, which invests surplus oil wealth to save for a future when the country's oil and gas resources run dry.

(Reuters)
Landscapes and transportation

The change in perception of Norway’s natural landscape played a major role in the development of new travel routes in Norway.

**Research Council of Norway**

In the project “Routes, Roads and Landscapes,” a research group headed by Professor Mari Hvatum of the Oslo School of Architecture and Design has studied how the modern Norwegian landscape has been given increasing aesthetic value from the 1800s to today.

The project received funding under the Research Council of Norway’s Research Program on Assigning Cultural Values (KULVER).

**Burgeoning sense of nature**

The project was carried out by a group of researchers who had previously studied the understanding of landscape and nature respectively, from a variety of disciplinary perspectives such as architecture, art history, history of science and philosophy. The project team discovered some exciting links between the development of new roads, railways and paths and the emergence of a new aesthetic view of the landscape.

“...the development of new travel routes in Norway...”

-- Professor Mari Hvatum

**Link between view of nature and development of infrastructure**

At the same time as the concept of nature was changing, the wide-ranging expansion of Norway’s roads and railways was noticeably altering the landscape. The research team concluded that the reciprocal relationship between road design and the concept of landscape was a core element in the processes of change taking place.

“Others have studied either road-and-railway development or changes in the conception of nature separately, but the connection between these elements has not received much attention. This change is well studied internationally, but has received much less attention in a Norwegian context.”

-- Professor Mari Hvatum

**Aesthetics as part of the communication revolution**

“...art and aesthetics played a central role in the communication revolution that was so essential to Norway’s evolution into a modern society. The new roads were in themselves important symbols of aesthetic ideals. At the same time, they were very significant in that they allowed access to the landscape so it could be perceived and staged in new ways.”

-- Professor Mari Hvatum

**Knowledge applicable today**

Knowledge about the relationship between aesthetics and road design in the 19th century is also useful in modern road design.

“...the reciprocal relationship between road design and the concept of landscape was a core element in the processes of change taking place.”

-- Professor Mari Hvatum
< FLAGS
From page 1

ing blown out of proportion, the committee stated that Alesund would “prefer to have only the Norwegian flag in the 17th May parade.” According to Lindin, the Aspøy school does not have a big issue with this decision and he feels things have been blown far out of proportion.

Two members of Norway’s Progressive Party (FrP) became involved in the debate, standing on opposite ends of the controversy. Oslo’s fifth candidate for Parliament, Aina Stenset, stated, “We believe it is completely insane that people will use flags other than Norway’s when we celebrate our national day.”

Member of the Bergen City Council for the Progressive Party, Morten Myksvoll feels that the rights granted in Norway’s Constitution are of the greatest importance. “Now someone must put their foot down. We cannot ban flags, even on the 17th of May. Remember that we will be celebrating a liberal democracy,” wrote Myksvoll on his blog.

Svein-Rune Johannessen, group leader for the Labor Party was appalled by the issue. “I am very surprised that so many can be hurt by the fact that children should have other flags in addition to the Norwegian in the 17 May parade.” From a more traditional viewpoint, the Christian Democratic Party leader Tore Johan Øvstebø believes that displaying the Norwegian flag back-to-back with any other flag is disrespectful to both.

The tension in this debate largely boils down to independence and freedom of speech versus exclusive respect for the symbol of Norway’s independence and governmental history. The entire holiday is a celebration of the formation of Norway’s Constitution and birth as an independent nation, all the while still supporting such personal and national histories. The entire holiday is a celebration of the formation of Norway’s Constitution and birth as an independent nation, all the while still supporting such personal and national histories. The entire holiday is a celebration of the formation of Norway’s Constitution and birth as an independent nation, all the while still supporting such personal and national histories. The entire holiday is a celebration of the formation of Norway’s Constitution and birth as an independent nation, all the while still supporting such personal and national histories.

Many Norwegians feel that it is useless to wave a flag other than Norway’s on a day that is all about the nation. Others are passionate about the freedom of speech and expression that the nation was built on, respecting both Norway and the foreign nations that shape these newer communities who now call Norway their home. As for this year’s 17th May parades, it will be sely Norway’s flag that is flown and proudly waved in its own glorious spotlight as we take time to honor the nation we love so much.

17th of May Greetings from Ambassador Wegger Chr. Strømmen to readers of the Norwegian American Weekly

Dear Readers,
The 17th of May is always a happy occasion for me as a Norwegian. Our national day is filled with pomp and circumstance, community spirit and fun. It’s a day that brings out the child in all of us.

And I always welcome the opportunity to address you, the readers of the Norwegian American Weekly. People like you who form the backbone of the Norwegian American community, is one of the most dedicated and enthusiastic groups of people I’ve ever had the pleasure to know.

But while addressing this wonderful group of people on this day of celebration brings me joy, I find writing this letter bittersweet, as it will be my last as Ambassador of Norway to the United States.

This summer, after a wonderful six years as ambassador, I will move, along with my wife, Cecilie, back to Norway, where we will search out new adventures.

As we prepare for the future, I also find myself looking back upon the last six years, which are filled with so many good memories. In my time here I developed a deep affection for two particularly American institutions: college football and Thanksgiving. Both unite the country and help define something unique about the indomitable American spirit, I think. This November I may find myself absentingly turning to NRK in a futile search for an Auburn-Georgia game, remote control in one hand and turkey leg in the other.

I will also miss American politics. The United States’ political system has fascinated me since I was a boy, and to this day Thomas Jefferson remains the statesman I most respect and admire.

But what I will miss most about America is not its institutions but her people, for you are what make this country special. I have had the good fortune as ambassador to travel extensively throughout this great land, and one thing I’ve learned is that, no matter where I go, I’m never far from a Norwegian American family or community that cares deeply about its heritage and makes me feel welcome. I would like to thank each and every one of you who has ever uttered a Norwegian phrase, prepared a traditional Norwegian holiday dish, or traveled to Norway. Thank you for demonstrating your pride in where you come from, and please know that Norway is proud of you, too. The bond between the United States and Norway is very strong and very genuine, and continues to strengthen as time goes by and our two nations face additional challenges together. As I fond of mentioning, there are now more Norwegian Americans in America than there are Norwegians in Norway.

You haven’t seen the last of Cecilie and me — of course we plan to return to the U.S. again from time to time. I look forward to it, and I hope to see many of you upon my return. And I hope many of you will also make plans to visit Norway in the near future — she is always very welcoming to her sons and daughters.

Enjoy the 17th of May. Be sure to hold your flags high and sing at the top of your lungs, and celebrate what it means to be a Norwegian American. And thanks again for six very special years.

Very truly yours,
Wegger Chr. Strømmen
Dear Editor,

Larrie Wanberg’s article in your April 12 issue on “A conversation with playwright, Tony Kushner,” brought me back to the time when I had studied here in the States, because he had studied here in the States, because he had studied here in the States, because he had studied here in the States, because he had studied here in the States.

I was more than a little disturbed to hear that there was prejudice exhibited in the Tromsø area toward some Sami people living in the area. The schools in New York state, incerted by the suicides of wonderful young students who had faced intolerance and prejudice from their classmates, have now accepted school and state-wide programs to stop prejudice and bullying. I recommend Tromsø investigate doing the same.

It was fascinating to hear how they can keep the temperature warm at night. It was as if that pencil was alive!

“Just look in your own backyard, everybody. It is for sale by mailing me an order and a check for $15.00 (Look for my ad on page 6 of this paper’s issue).”

Sincerely,

Dear Editor,

It is so excellent that he could have been a TV or radio announcer. Naturally, the other Tromsø students picked up on that teacher’s criticism and also joined in on bullying. The student was mortified.

Note – my own Sami relatives are beautiful and smart. I suggest Tromsø officials enforce non-prejudicial education for both teachers and students in their schools.

Most sincerely,

Rose Marie Kleinspehn
Teacher, 31.5 years Fillmore, N.Y.

< AMAZON
From page 3

people and was afforded a unique glimpse into the tribe’s culture and way of life.

All 120 inhabitants live in a large circular communal building and sleep in the hammocks hanging from the ceiling. Small fires keep the temperature warm at night. King Harald was given his own hammock to use during his stay.

The tribe survives by hunting, fishing, gathering edible plants in the forest, and cultivating its own gardens. King Harald ate their traditional diet and was served wild boar and wild turkey, as well as palm fruit and root vegetables from the communal gardens.

The King had the chance to accompany the village’s best hunters into the rainforest. The hunters demonstrated how they use the calls of the prey of the animals they are hunting.

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Sincerely,
CAPTIVATING SCANDINAVIA
June 7–19
Denmark & Sweden only: June 11–19
Featuring Bergen, Oslo, Copenhagen, Stockholm, the Norwegian fjord country, Sweden’s Kingdom of Crystal and the colorful region of Dalarna. Optional extensions to Helsinki and St. Petersburg are available.

GRANDEUR OF NORWAY
July 7–17
Cruise the fjords, ride the trains (Flåm Railway & Raumabanen) and see the highlights Norway has to offer. Enjoy free time for relaxation or optional activities in Norway’s fjord country.

SPLENDOR OF NORWAY
June 8–16 | August 14–22
with Baltic Cruise Optional Extension
Capture the unique beauty of Norway with a tour through the impressive fjord country featuring visits to the Sognefjord, Hardanger and Telemark Regions. Optional Baltic Cruise roundtrip from Copenhagen.

NORWAY: SCENIC & HISTORIC
July 24–August 4
A scenic and historic journey through Norway featuring Oslo, Lillehammer, Bergen, the Atlantic Ocean Road, Norway’s awesome fjords and Trondheim, where you have the chance to attend the 2013 St. Olaf Festival!

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Visit us along the Syttende Mai parade route in Ballard on May 17 for pølse med lompe, Solo and other treats!

We have Syttende Mai pins, sløyfer, flags of many different sizes and other Norwegian novelties available at our store.
From seaboard tabloid to cultural treasure

This 17th of May is the Norwegian American Weekly’s 124th birthday, and the newspaper comes from a long Norwegian-American press tradition.

Judith Gabriell Vinje
La Crescenta, Calif.

Mentioned in nearly every historical account of the Norwegian American immigrant experience, the early Nordisk Tidende was a colorful, integral part of the tapestry woven by the immigrants, recording milestones in their lives and fostering the growth of the community. It was a reassuring bridge to the homeland at the peak of immigration, and it lived on, week after week, decade after decade, to connect new generations with their living heritage.

Nordisk Tidende was established in 1891 by Emil Nielsen, a printer from Horten, Norway. It was noted that when Nielsen stepped off the boat in 1887, he was wearing a white hat on his head and a parrot on his shoulder. A colorful man, he had reportedly left his homeland out of boredom and, being an unemployed printer who didn’t think highly of his homeland out of boredom, and, being an unemployed printer who didn’t think highly of the existing Norwegian-American press, he decided to start his own newspaper. Thus was born Nordisk Tidende, which published its first issue on Jan. 3, 1891.

To win the eye of readers, Nielsen initially filled the pages of his new weekly with rumors, scandals and murder stories. His penchant for sensationalism led to several lawsuits and threats, but it also enhanced circulation. As historian Odd Lovoll put it, “On occasion, Nielsen turned the newspaper into a scandal sheet.” The love of reading was thereby increased considerably in the Norwegian colony, it was claimed.

But higher standards of journalistic professionalism ultimately prevailed, and Nordisk Tidende soon evolved into a respected publication, winning praise as a “well-edited” and “well-established” newspaper providing a vital forum for cultural exchange between two continents.

The early 1900s were not easy years for the immigrants. It was a time of economic depression and psychic crisis, particularly for new-comers who found themselves strangers in a foreign land. Historians point to the church and the press as being the two most important institutions, providing vital information and a sense of community to the immigrants, shaping up their identity, helping them understand their adopted country, and keeping Norway alive in their daily lives.

In 1900, Greater New York counted about 11,000 Norwegians, a number which rose quickly to 63,000 by 1930. The majority of them – 23,000 – lived in Brooklyn, the borough directly across the East River from Manhattan. The metropolis quickly became the most urban center of Norwegians outside Norway. Immigration in the early 1900s, won its independence in 1905, the celebrations in Little Norway and the banner headlines in Nordisk Tidende proclaimed with joy the dawn of a new day.

Probably the most influential editor of Nordisk Tidende over the years was Carl Søyland, who came to America in 1920 to study music, but who said he found the life of a “tramp-journalist” more interesting. After traveling the world and writing for several newspapers, he joined the staff of Nordisk Tidende in 1926, and served as editor-in-chief from 1940 to 1962.

In 1917, as World War I hysteria cast a chilling effect on even the most everyday expressions of ethnic separation in America, a presidential order required all editors of non-English periodicals to file an English translation of all political stories and editorials with their local postman. Nordisk Tidende complied, demonstrating unwavering loyalty to the United States of the entire community, as well as determination to preserve and maintain the language and culture of its readers.

Nordisk Tidende was the largest Norwegian-language newspaper outside Norway, and the most influential. It was to play a key role during the war.

When the German army invaded Norway in April 1940, the paper became a key source of information about the Norwegian war effort. Because the Norwegian press was strictly censored, the newspaper also became a vital link, not only on paper but also over the radio for getting news to Norway.

As Norway’s free press was tied down by the Nazi occupying forces, Nordisk Tidende became the semi-official mouthpiece of the Norwegian resistance and the exiled government. The newspaper relayed messages and printed letters from Norway that had been smuggled out by the merchant fleet.

The Nordisk Tidende offices served as a virtual Norwegian embassy, with members of the community arriving at its door almost immediately after learning of the invasion, laden with gifts of money and goods to help embattled Norway.

By 1914, almost 600 periodicals in the Norwegian language had been started, most having a short life, with many mergers and absorptions.

In 1946, only 40 were still in circulation, and by the 1980s, three Norwegian-language newspapers were being published – including Nordisk Tidende – with much of the material now in English. Norway Times – was the only publication still publishing under the name on its original masthead until it merged with Western Viking and emerged anew as The Norwegian American Weekly in 2006.

Reprinted from the Oct. 18, 2001 edition of the Norway Times with permission of the author. See also: the story of the Western Viking on page 10.

Happy 17th of May!
From the Norwegian American Weekly
Three celebrations

You may be surprised to learn that Norway technically has not one, but three, “independence” days.

When did the U.S. become independent?

If you said 1776, you’d have to stay after class. But you would be right if you said one of two years. In 1781 after the British were defeated at Yorktown, VA. Or in 1784 when the Congress ratified the peace treaty.

History has a way of fooling us doesn’t it?

Like when President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 freeing African Americans in the South. They weren’t really free. Not until 1865 when the ‘War Between the States’ was over. (The brilliant 2012 movie, ‘Lincoln,’ touches on this.)

The 16th president believed the Southern States were like rebellious children. Rebelious but nonetheless still a part of the family Lincoln believed. Or in this case the union.

Which brings us to Norway, a country that celebrates not one but three independence days. Two on the same day in May and a third earlier this month.

Three you say? Yes three. This writer may be wrong – and nothing like the printed word to cause some doubt – but Norway may very well be the only country to celebrate not one but two independence days on the same day.

Among Norwegians, the day is referred to simply as syttende mai (meaning May Seventeenth), Nasjonaldagen (The National Day) or Grunnlovsdagen (The Constitution Day), although the latter is less frequent. Constitution Day refers to when the country’s constitution was written and adopted at Eidsvoll, Norway on May 17, 1814. Similar to when the U.S. Constitution was adopted in Philadelphia on Sept. 17, 1787.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Lawrence Crispo spoke in 1995 about this at the Syttende Mai (17 May) celebration of the Half-Norwegian American Bar Association.

Crispo was half-Norwegian on his mother’s side.

At the beginning of his remarks, Crispo, who is Italian American on his father’s side, joked that he speculated that as the Norwegian Vikings passed through Italy and Sicily, they acquired these traits from the Romans, that is, the Italians.

First Independence or Constitution Day

The first independence or Constitution Day, said Crispo, happened after 400 years of rule by Denmark. By 1814, Denmark was penalized for supporting France’s Napoleon during the Napoleonic Wars and at the end of the conflict had to give-up Norway to Sweden. Sweden was on the winning side of these wars. Before the transition was carried out, Norway declared itself ‘independent’ from Danish rule on May 17, 1814. However, Norway was still under a foreign rule of Sweden.

Second Independence Day

Fast forward to May 17, 1905. Norway and Norwegians finally breathed freedom from a foreign power after declaring its full independence from Sweden, 99 years after waving goodbye to the Danes. After 1905, the day’s focus has been centered around the Norwegian royal family.

Third Independence Day

The third Norwegian independence observance occurs also in May. May 8th, after almost five years of occupation by German forces (1940-1945), the German flag was lowered and the Norwegian flag once again waved prominently without the German swastika throughout Norway. This was following the Allied nations beating Germany.

See > THREE, page 11

Happy Syttende Mai!

Dregne’s Scandinavian Gifts

Celebrating Syttende Mai with us!

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An important piece of the puzzle: The Western Viking story

Written by Henning C. Bøe, editor and publisher of the Washington Posten / Western Viking for 32 years, and originally printed in the May 17, 1989 issue of Western Viking.

It was the year 1889. Oscar II was king of Norway. In Northern Seattle some people were busy with plans for building the city’s first Norwegian church, at 4th & Pine, where now the Bon Marche building sits. In the center of town, what now is Yesler Way between First Avenue and Post Street, the Post Office was located. The Postmaster and four office clerks represented the whole staff; but there were also five mail carriers. Two of the staff members were the brothers Frank and Richard Oleson from Trondheim, Norway. Frank was distribution clerk and handled personally all the mail to Seattle and surrounding areas. He noticed that a considerable number of the Norwegian-language newspaper Skandinaven, Decorah-Posten, Budd-stikken and others from the East Coast area arrived to subscribers in the Seattle area.

Some local people had at that time started talking about having a local Norwegian-language newspaper, and all those papers coming from the Eastern states proved that there was a need for such a venture.

Frank Oleson had a strong desire to start a paper, and he also got his brother Richard interested. They were both older than most of the younger fellows who had arrived from Norway and the prairie states. Frank was 26 and Richard a couple years younger. Neither of them had any knowledge of how to start a paper or edit one.

One day Frank met a “Tromnder” with the name P.T. Juleuth who came from the Dakota Territory where he had been editor for the paper Fram, an offspring of Fargo Posten. He had several years experience in all branches of the newspaper business, and thus could give good advice. But he himself didn’t want to be involved in the newspaper business in Seattle. He had become a printing contractor and was happy with his new profession; but he was of great help to those who planned a newspaper.

Another important man for the new venture was Julius Sunde, a printer who previously had worked for Illustrert Ugleblad in Minneapolis. He wrote articles for that “weekly” after he came to Seattle, and proved himself a good writer. It was his articles that influenced Frank Oleson to move to Seattle from Omaha, Nebraska. When Oleson met Sunde in Seattle, the latter was working as a fisherman, but he wanted to get back to his profession as a printer. Therefore, it was an easy task to get him involved in establishing a newspaper plant, and his advice was followed exclusively.

Following many complications, Washington Posten came with its first issue on May 17, 1889. Even though it was modern in typefaces, its appearance was far from perfect, thanks to a shortage of certain types, letters. Frank Oleson jokingly stated inhumorously in his speeches that when Norway changed its spelling of the language, they used Washington Posten’s first edition as a guide! The new paper was received with great interest, however, in spite of its appearance… it filled a long-felt need, it was stated.

The company was dissolved in 1902. Frank Oleson withdrew from the business, and it was a difficult time for Seattle and the paper. But it continued to publish, even though several owners and editors came and left. Gunnar Lund purchased Washington Posten in 1905. In the years following 1905 and the dissolving of the union with Sweden, patriotic Norwegian feelings helped promote the newspaper among the Norwegians.

In 1905 the Washington Posten was sold to Henning C. and Ragnhild M. Boe. After Henning C. Boe became editor and publisher of the paper, it was re-named Western Viking, a name better suited to a growing nation-wide circulation. January 1, 1973, Western Viking took over Decorah-Posten which had been published in Decorah, Iowa and was the oldest and largest of the Norwegian-American newspapers, only one year short of its 100th anniversary.

A few years later, the Minneapolis based Norwegian weekly Minnesota Posten also was purchased and added to Western Viking’s subscription list. And when the Norwegian-language weekly Norrøna in Vancouver, B.C., Canada stopped, the editor/publisher Gunnar J. Warolin also submitted his subscription list to Western Viking.

It has been stated many times, by oldtimers and others active in the Norwegian-American colony in Seattle: “If we had not had Washington Posten / Western Viking, we never would have been able to organize and build Norway Center, Norse Home, or Leif Erikson Hall...our Norwegian-American newspaper is one of the most valuable institutions within our colony and deserves full support by the community.”

Editor’s note: In 2006 Western Viking merged with Norway Times to create the Norwegian American Weekly.
The evolution of the flag

Photos courtesy Scott Larsen

Norway’s flag has morphed down through the centuries into today’s flag. Here are three examples to show how the flag has changed to become the flag Norwegians wave on syttende mai, or May 17, this month.

Likely flag of the Old Kingdom of Norway with the traditional ‘Norwegian Lion’ motif. Used from 1318 to the 18th century but probably much older. Used as royal standard since 1905.

In 1844, a union badge combining Norwegian and Swedish colors was placed at the hoist of both countries’ flags. The badge was popularly called *sildesalaten* or ‘the herring salad’ from its resemblance to a herring salad. Initially, the union flag was popular in Norway, since it clearly denoted the equal status of the two nations. But as the union with Sweden became increasingly less popular, the Norwegian parliament abolished the union badge from the national (merchant) and state flags in 1899. At the dissolution of the union in 1905, the badge was removed from the navy flag as well. Sweden kept it in all flags until 1905.

The current flag of Norway was designed in 1821 by Fredrik Meltzer, a member of the parliament (Storting). However the King of Sweden refused to sign the law making the flag official. The “pure” flag was first flown in 1899, but the sildesalaten union mark had to be kept on flags of war on Norwegian vessels. After the dissolution between Norway and Sweden, the union mark was removed from the navy flag as well on June 9, 1905.

(However, the Danes had one of the most active underground movements, the Danish Resistance. Denmark was the only occupied country to save almost all of its Jewish citizens from the German concentration camps and certain death). The Norwegian government wired Berlin after the Germans invaded: ‘We will not submit voluntarily; the struggle is already underway’ said Crispo.

Even though the Norwegians for over 500 years have been under the rule of the Danes, Swedes, and Germans, the Norwegian people’s spirit and endurance persevered. A spirit that continues today. Regardless of which independence ‘day’ you remember, 68, 108 or 199 years ago.

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< THREE
From page 10
in the costliest and bloodiest war in world history.

“When World War II began,” in 1939 said Crispo “Norway proclaimed its neutrality. However, on April 9, 1940, Nazi forces invaded the two neutral nations of Norway and Denmark under the guise of protecting them against an ‘Anglo-French Occupation’ and ‘To Protect Their Freedom and Independence.’

“Germany’s true motivation (in 1940) was to maintain its access through Norway to its ports on the North Sea. Denmark acquiesced to the Nazi demands, but not Norway”

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This remarkable group of UND students believes that everyone has the capacity to lead

Most everyone likely has a fond memory of excellent youth programs in schools, churches and civic service organizations that impacted their lives as students. Today, dozens of excellent student leadership programs line up along a virtual parade that carries the flags of citizenship, patriotism and service to our country.

One student leadership organization appears to me, as an educator, to break out of the pack and find its way to the vanguard of a parade of youth leadership programs.

Referred to as “STLF,” the organization is a dedicated group of students with a broad spectrum of service whose motto is “Leadership revealed by service, relationships and action” – “Students Today, Leaders Forever”

Photo: UND STLF

A group of students, part of the STLF group, on the “Pay it Forward” tour.

LARRIE WANBERG
Feature Editor

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See > LEADERS, page 16

Seattle Hallings will be hosting the 2013 Hallingdal Stevne

Date: 22nd – 25th of August 2013 • Place: Seattle Pacific University • 3307 3rd Ave W. Seattle, WA 98189

$40-$44 per night per person • Meals $6-$14

Come join the Fun Bus! August 20 – 28th, 2013

Minneapolis – Fargo – Billings – Spokane – Seattle – Round Trip! We can pick up anywhere along the route on Highway 94 in MN and ND, and Highway 90 in MT and WA. Three big days at the Stevne in Seattle. Contact Carrol T. Juven for brochures and travel plan: 1-800-343-0093.

Please contact: Diana Erickson dianagale1945@hotmail.com

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The season of the bunad

For Aina Fjellanger of MollyMe clothing company, springtime ushers in the busiest season of the year

“The best part is when they try on the bunad for the first time, when I have just finished it,” says Aina Fjellanger. “Most people look great in their bunad, because it is measured and fitted just for them, and to see how beautiful and happy they look – wonderful!”

The season of Syttende Mai is both Fjellanger’s busiest and most rewarding. It is when she delivers bunads she has made herself to her customers to wear on the holiday. “I have been working 24/7 for two months now!” says Fjellanger.

For many young people, this will be their first bunad; a very important coming-of-age symbol that goes along with their springtime (or autumn) confirmations. It’s also, of course, a symbol of national pride to wear one on the 17th of May.

A little background information, for those who may not know: “bunad” is an umbrella term that encompasses all sorts of national folk dress costumes, from all different regions of Norway. The popularity and cultural importance of the bunad in Norway today is tied to the 19th century national romanticism movement, which spread not only throughout Norway but also in other parts of Europe, including Germany and Denmark.

However, Norway has held on to the tradition as a mark of national pride, and bunads are still today increasing in popular use. They are considered an acceptable alternative to formal wear – but are more often worn for festive occasions, such as weddings, anniversaries, confirmations, and holidays, the 17th of May in particular.

The creation and production of bunads in Norway is closely monitored; there are strict rules for patterns, and it is a hotly debated topic as to whether it is acceptable to deviate from these traditional standards.

There is even a group, known as the “bunad police” in some circles, who keep a sharp eye for any violation of bunad-rules!

Aina Holsten Fjellanger, however, is familiar with the ins and outs of this complicated trade: she started on her bunad-making journey 12 years ago, when she got a job as a manager for a bunads shop, Husfliden, one of Norway’s largest and most respected bunad manufacturing company.

In April 2008, she started her clothing company, MollyMe in Lindås, Hordaland, Norway, and acts as the owner and manager of the store. She has two employees, one who helps take care of the shop, and one who helps make bunads. MollyMe sells women’s fashion, bunads, and yarn, as well as other locally produced products.

This wasn’t, at first, the business Fjellanger thought she would pursue. When she started at Husfliden, “I could not sew much, but was very interested and curious about making bunads,” she says.

In fact, she’d been hired to do marketing for the company, a field in which she had some previous experience.

She worked for the husfliden for seven years, and came away from the position with much more than marketing experience.

“During the years I spent there, it turned into quite a great business, and I learned a lot from the women working there. After a couple of years I made my own bunad, and I also made one for each of my kids – one boy and one girl,” Fjellanger says.

Now, with MollyMe, Fjellanger makes over 30 bunads per year. She also does repairs. And of course: “Some bunads ‘shrink’ in the closet, and I have to make them bigger...” she says.

Kelsey Larson
Managing Editor
With a full day of activities on May 17, the streets of Ballard come alive with music and celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day!

**Kids games at Nordic Museum** – 10-2 p.m.
Free admission all day at Nordic Heritage Museum (3014 NW 68th St). Enjoy Scandinavian food and beverages, and crafts for the kids.

**Luncheon at Leif Erikson Hall** – 12 p.m.
Tickets: $30 / person. RSVP to (206) 783-1274

**Entertainment at Bergen Place** – 2-5 p.m.
Live entertainment! Free admission

**Nordic Cafe at Leif Erikson Hall** – 3-5 p.m.
Purchase Scandinavian food and drink, and learn about Scandinavian groups in the area

**17th of May Parade** – 6-8 p.m.
Come early to save a spot or better yet, march with us! (Begins at NW 62nd St. and 24th Ave. NW all the way to Ballard Ave. and Dock St.)

**17th of May Celebration Dance** – 8-11 p.m.
Live music by “The Silverbacks” (local Seattle Ballard band). Tickets available at the door: Sons of Norway members – adults $5 (must show membership card) Kids under 15 are free with adult supervision. Non members – Adults $8 / Kids under 15 are free with adult supervision. No host bar.

Learn more at www.17thofmay.org
< BUNAD

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Fjellanger specializes in bunads from Northern Hordaland, Sogn og Fjordane and Hardanger for women, and the Nordhordland bunad for men. It takes about three months to make a bunad, she explains.

“I also have several ‘home workers,’ making the difficult and time-demanding pieces of the bunad, like the chest cloth and the embroidery on the shirt.”

Her 17-year-old daughter and her mother-in-law also help out occasionally, making the work a family effort (her sister’s knit embroidery on the shirt).”

Even though bunad making can be time-consuming and demanding, for Fjellanger, the work is a joy.

“I foresee doing this for the rest of my life,” she says. “It is so rewarding having your hobby as a job. The days spent on work goes too fast, and I really enjoy sewing!”

Fjellanger has big plans for the future of her business, including a desire to take her business overseas to service the Norwegian-American population.

“My dream is to help people in the States if they want a bunad,” she says. “Or to fix an old bunad that does not fit anymore.”

For more information about MollyMe, visit www.mollyme.no. To inquire about a bunad, you can send an email to mollyme@mollyme.no.

INTERESTING FACTS about the bunad

On bunads worn by the royal family: Princess Maud of Wales, on holiday in Hardanger with her Danish husband, thought that the Hardanger bunads were so beautiful that she had one made for her. At that time, she had no inking that a decade and a half later she would return to Norway as its queen, the matriarch of a new dynasty of Norwegian kings. She later wore this Hardanger bunad at numerous public appearances in Norway, a tradition maintained by the present Queen Sonja, the Crown Princess Mette Marit and Princess Martha Louise, although Queen Sonja and her daughter wear the East Telemark bunads, Telemark being the ancestral county of the Queen’s own family.

Due to ongoing discussions on the status of bunads, it is not possible to state accurately the number of different types of bunads in Norway, but most estimates place the number at around 200.

Some bunad traditions were lost for hundreds of years. Setesdal in Southern Norway had a folk costume tradition dating back to the 1300s that remained relatively untouched in the modern bunad movement until the middle of the 20th century, when the pattern was created. Norwegians from Setsedal now wear this time-honored traditional costume as a bunad today.

Few Norwegians still use the headdress and headpieces that were a part of the traditional costumes, preferring instead to show their hair, in accord with modern, western fashions. Ironically, these headdresses would often have been seen as the most important part of the costume for native practitioners of the customs as the headdress often indicated an individual’s social or marital status.

Criticizing that only wealthy people can afford to purchase a bunad and to carry out this tradition, Norske Bunader moved the production of some Norwegian bunads to China. This shift has lowered the price and made the national costume more affordable. It has also caused major concerns by patriotic citizens who believe the Norwegian national costume should be completely authentic and only produced domestically.
Cat Wash

Get out the hose and special soap, a sponge or rag or brush, preparing for this special day, that’s an important must.

Buffed and clean it must all be, seats and dash and floor, wheel rims and tires black, the hood and trunk and door;

Side view mirrors, grill work too Until no dirt or grime. Wash the mats and toss the trash, then do it one more time.

Because a little dirt won’t do on this “redest” of all days; so wash your car to make it shine for the 17th of May parade!

By Heidi Håvan Grosch

Why not wash your car today in honor of Norway’s independence day!

There is no word (det er ingen ord) in English (på engelsk) that really means the same thing (som betyr det samme). A dugnad is like an old-fashioned (gammeldags) barn raising, a volunteer event (frivillig arbeid) and an obligation (en forpliktelse). Parents are required (foreldrene må!) to do it on behalf of their school-aged children (barn i skolealder), friends do it when someone needs help (når noen trenger hjelp) and organizations (organisasjoner) do it for events as a way to raise funds (som en måte å skaffe midler på).

The 17th of May is no different (er ikke annerledes). We think about the parades (parader) and ice-cream eating (iskremspising) and bunad-wearing festivities, but there are also those who make the food we buy (de som lager mat vi kjøper), organize the parades we see and clean up after us (rydder opp etter oss). For many events, those behind the scenes (de som star bak kulissene) are doing it as a dugnad-type event. So as I write this on the 1st of May (labor day/arbeidernes dag) I remind us all (jeg minner oss alle om) to say thank you (å si takk) on the 17th of May for all those that make our celebrations possible. Hurrah! (Hurra!)
What’s remarkable about this organization is that there is no hired executive positions, like president, vice, or sec-treasurer. Rather, a few students are endorsed by the group to form a “leadership team” based on collaboration, teamwork, and a consensus model for decision-making.

The core concept is that everyone in the group has the capacity to lead. This quality is revealed in multiple ways – in the performance of service, forming quality interactive relationships in communities, and energizing innovations into action. A student plan of action is not debated or delayed by obstacles – the action simply gets done and done effectively.

The group is fun-loving, energetic, service-oriented, resolute and reliable. They function like the proverbial business example of a flock of geese, in that if one student leader fatigues or falls behind from class work responsibility, another fills in. They all know their “destination” as a leader and organize themselves systematically to make their mission and purpose happen.

One of STL’s most popular activities is an annual “Pay It Forward” tour during Spring break, when students organize bus tours for learning about distant places and diverse cultures. For example, the University of North Dakota (UND) STLFs organized a bus tour for nine days to Washington D.C. to experience the Nation’s capitol and intervening points of interest. This past weekend, a bus tour of tribal youth from the Band of Chippewa’s at Belcourt visited Grand Forks and on to Duluth with stops to learn about their mission and purpose happen.

Destinations often change the world when I was a student. “And we can help our veteran-peers transform their new skills to gain employment and empower others to achieve what they do best.”

The current project is to assist student-veterans, who are recent returnees as peers, to produce one-minute digital stories that are used as visual “résumés” for posting on a dedicated Web portal. These video-type résumés are not simply facing into a lens with an appeal for a job, but tell a narrated story with photos of the person, their skills, experiences, and career goals in a crafted personalized story.

The “filmmaking” program, which has been planned over three years, will launch after school is out and operate with some planned internships from Memorial Day until Veterans Day.

Student “film crews” in the region will also begin to produce short documentaries on Legion members in their home communities that served in wars over the generations.

New American Legion Posts are being organized with on-campus peer groups at UND and ND State University in Fargo, where 1200 student-veterans are currently attending.

Several Legion Posts in the area have sponsored students to participate as film crewmembers in the program start-up. Stories of Veterans and pioneers produced over the summer will be shown at a “Film Festival” at summers end, and again as a virtual “parade” on computer screens on Veteran’s Day.

Fellow students who have seen the world in a different way can guide us in making the world a better place,” said Jon Rylander, a student facilitator. “We give voice to our peers and empower others to achieve what they do best.”

On a tire-removal service project.

< LEADERS

From page 11.

Gratulerer så mye med dagen!
Happy 17th of May from your friends at Whidbey Island Bank
**Songs for Norway**

Two songs loved by Norwegians around the world to celebrate Constitution Day

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**Ja, vi elsker dette landet**

Yes, we love this country – Norway’s national anthem

*Written by Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, music by Rikard Nordraak*

Ja, vi elsker dette landet, som det stiger frem, furuet, værbitt over vannet, med de tusen hjem. elsker, elsket det og tenker på vår far og mor og den sagannat som senker drømmer på vår jord. Og den sagannat som senker, senker drømmer på vår jord.

Norske mann i hus og hytte, tåk din store Gud! Landet ville han beskytte, skjønt det mørkt så ut. Alt, hva fedrene har kjempet, modrene har grøtt, har den Herre stille lempet, så vi vant vår rett.

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**Norge i rød, hvit, og blått**

Norway in Red, White and Blue – Norway’s favorite song

*Written by Finn Bo, Bias Bernhøft and Arild Feldborg, music by Lars-Erik Larsson*

Hvorhen du går i li og i fjell en vinterdag, en sommer kvell ved fjord og fossevell
Fra eng og mo med furutrær til havets bryn med fisker vær, og til de hvite skjer
Møter du landet i trefarvet drakt svøpt i et gjenskinn av flaggets farveprakt.

Se en hvitstammet bjerk oppi lien
Ja, så hvit som det hvite er kjolen
Men en lørdag i en solskinns stund
Det er en kveld i en solskinns stund
Det er Nor en sommerkveld ved fjord og fossevell.

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**< STAVE**

*From page 3*

veillance equipment in all of Norway’s 28 preserved stave churches.

“Last year we were given a report that shows a great need for fireproofing of the stave churches. They are not at a satisfactory level today. We should not take any unnecessary risks with these buildings,” says Minister of Environment Bård Vegar Solhjell (SV/Socialist Left Party).

21 out of 28 stave churches have already undergone renovations as part of a larger restoration project, but security flaws and the need for more fireproofing have also been discovered in these churches.

Some churches are more exposed than others, and the work with securing them will start first.

“We fear fire, period,” says Solhjell. “We are talking about buildings that will be very exposed if a fire occurs.”

The Minister of Environment estimates that the work will be completed around the same time as the general restoration project, in 2015.

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**< SYRIA**

*From page 3*

the Second World War. Some 8,000 refugees are arriving in the neighboring countries every day. The UN estimates that the total number of refugees is now more than 1.4 million.

“A large part of this additional funding will be used to support UNHCR’s efforts to assist refugees in Syria’s neighbouring countries. This assistance is crucial for the people affected, but it is also important for maintaining political stability in the region,” said Mr. Eide.

Humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees is severely underfinanced. The huge flow of refugees is affecting Jordan and Lebanon in particular.

If the current trend continues, the number of refugees will have increased to 3.5 million by the end of the year. In addition, more than 4.25 million Syrians are internally displaced within the country. Some of Norway’s additional funding will be used to assist these people.

This additional contribution brings Norway’s total pledged funding for humanitarian assistance to the victims of the Syrian crisis in 2013 to NOK 310 million.
Feast for a fest: 17. mai treats

A gourmet twist on the traditional 17. mai fare from Outside Oslo

Syttende Mai—it’s been a part of my Norwegian-American identity for as long as I can remember. Heading down to Ballard where Market Street would be lined with thousands of people from throughout the greater Seattle area, I’d watch the parade as a child with my parents and both sets of grandparents. That was when the heart of Ballard still distinctly felt like a Scandinavian neighborhood, when Market Street still had a Scandinavian goods store, before Ballard became a destination not only for the maritime and mill industries but also for its trendy restaurants and nightlife.

We’d stop to order a pølse og lefse from a sidewalk vendor and wash it down with Solo. Grandpa Lauritz would give me the year’s commemorative Syttende Mai pin. For a day the streets of Ballard were filled with Norwegian flags and people wearing bunads and other traditional clothing.

I suppose you may detect a hint of nostalgia in what I write, a yearning for the past. That is true, to an extent. I miss those grandparents who have departed and the Scandinavian touches that are fading from the neighborhood. But I also love what it today: a place continuously being rejuvenated while retaining the history of generations of Norwegian immigrants. That can be seen most clearly on Syttende Mai, when the festival and parade draw crowds with just as much enthusiasm as I can remember in past years. Norwegian or not, Seattleites flock to the neighborhood for what is an event full of community spirit.

The first Syttende Mai festival in Washington took place in 1889, the same year the state was admitted to the union. It’s also one of the largest Syttende Mai parades outside of Norway and said to be one of the largest ethnic parades in the United States.

In honor of Syttende Mai, I’ve been sharing some special Norwegian food recently on my food blog, Outside Oslo (www.outside-oslo.com); you’ll find everything from rhubarb desserts and traditional Norwegian waffles to foods perfect for a parade picnic. I’ve also created an original recipe for cardamom ice cream with milk chocolate chunks to share with you here. I’m not sure whether ice cream or hot dogs are more popular on Syttende Mai, so go ahead and roll up some pølse in lefse – don’t forget to serve it with some good, Scandinavian mustard and a sparkling orange Solo – and whip up a batch of ice cream for dessert.

Hardly requiring a recipe, simply roll up polse or any other similar sort of sausage in a lefse. Serve with mustard and a cold bottle of orange soda.

Hipp Hipp Hurra
for Syttende Mai!

FREE
Museum Admission on May 17
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Nordic Café | Crafts for Kids | Fjord Horses
Nordic Express Kid Train

www.nordicmuseum.org
3014 NW 67th St. in Ballard 206.789.5707

Hipp Hipp Hurra
for Syttende Mai!

“Kindle” your travel fun! Hidden Falls by Carla Danziger
Mystery and Romantic Suspense in Norway
Kindle edition $5.00 • www.amazon.com
Print edition $18.95 • iUniverse 1-800-288-4677
www.carladanziger.com

Hot dogs with Lefse

Pølse med lefse

Hardly requiring a recipe, simply roll up pølse or any other similar sort of sausage in a lefse. Serve with mustard and a cold bottle of orange soda.
Cardamom Ice Cream with Norwegian Chocolate Chunks

*Is med kardemomme*

An Outside Oslo original

Roughly crush the cardamom seeds in a mortar. Split the piece of vanilla bean lengthwise using the point of a knife and split open, scraping out the seeds. Combine milk, cream, cardamom, and vanilla seeds and the bean in a medium saucepan and place over medium heat, whisking frequently until it reaches a simmer. Remove from heat and cover, letting the spices steep for about 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large, heatproof bowl, combine the egg yolks and sugar and vigorously whisk until the sugar dissolves into the eggs and you have a creamy, pale-yellow mixture.

Stirring constantly, slowly pour the milk and cream into the egg mixture. Transfer the custard back to the saucepan and bring it to a simmer over medium heat until the mixture has thickened to a consistency that could coat the back of a spoon, about 6 to 8 minutes. (Take care not to let it come to a boil. If you accidentally do and the eggs form clumps, you can remedy the situation with a food processor.)

Pour the custard through a strainer to remove the cardamom seeds and to ensure a smooth ice cream. Refrigerate until completely chilled, at least 1 hour, then freeze according to your ice cream maker’s instructions. A few minutes before the ice cream is frozen, add chopped chocolate and churn until mixed and the ice cream is the consistency you desire.
May 16 – 19: Little Norway Festival in Peterborough celebrates our Norwegian heritage by honoring Norwegian Independence Day. May 17. One of our biggest events, the entire community celebrates with food and craft booths, a parade, seafood dinner, dancing, and much more! Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Call (909) 772-4636.

May 18: Syttende Mai Celebration. Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church in Chicago. 7:00 p.m. Featuring the Church Choir, the Norwegian Ladies Singing in the Bijtorn Music Chorus, the Chicago Nordic Voices and Chicago Spelmanslag. Information: (773) 252-7335.

May 18: Norwegian Constitution Day Banquet. Hosted by the Norwegian National League. Chevy Chase Country Club in Wheeling. Guest Speaker – Zenia Chryssostomou. Social Hour 6:00 p.m., dinner 7:00 p.m., dancing to the Dave Kyle Trio. $50.00 per person. Reservations: Carol Hoidahl (847) 358-1527.

May 18: Norwegian Constitution Day Parade. Presented by the Norwegian National League, Park Ridge. Stepping off at 1:00 p.m. at Talcott and Cumberland, ending at Hodges Park. Pre-parade festivities in Hodges Park beginning at 12:00 p.m. Parade Grand Marshal Perry C. Talcott and Cumberland, ending at Hodges Park. Parade – follow the parade, a wonderful buffet & ice cream, games and social time will conclude with a rousing parade. To cover expenses admission is $5.00 for non-members. All are welcome. Please call Catherine at (440) 979-0681 for more information. Special Music provided by the Norwegian Ladies Club. Proceeds will be donated to the Wheeling High School Marching Band.

May 17: 10th Annual Flag Raising, 11:30 a.m. Parade Grand Marshal Perry C. Talcott and Cumberland, ending at Hodges Park. Parade – follow the parade, a wonderful buffet & ice cream, games and social time will conclude with a rousing parade. To cover expenses admission is $5.00 for non-members. All are welcome. Please call Catherine at (440) 979-0681 for more information. Special Music provided by the Norwegian Ladies Club. Proceeds will be donated to the Wheeling High School Marching Band.

May 19: Our Syttende Mai Fest will be held at Lakefront Park at Lake and Bunts Rd. from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share for the children, a wonderful buffet for adults, wine and beer for the children, graffles raffle for everyone. Adult Members: $10. Adult Non-Members: $17.50. Children 12 and under are $5. Under 3 are free. Please call (708) 581-0716 or datsnorg@gmail.com for more information. Visit our website at www.norskcarolina.org.

May 17: 20th Annual Norwegian Constitution Day Parade. The cost to attend is $15.00 per person. Reservations are required. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8th. For more information go to www.norskecarlina.org.

May 17: 6:00 p.m. Syttende Mai Lodge’s Syttende Mai Celebration Location: Danish Cultural Center in Minneapolis. The cost to attend is $7.00 per person. RSVP: Please contact Dennis Rusinko (612) 789-2272 or dennish.rusinko@aol.com.

May 18: Celebration at Mindekirken (The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, 924 East 21st Street, Minneapolis). 10:30 a.m. prelude concert, featuring the Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis. 11:00 a.m. Syttende Mai Festival Service (Norwegian and English service) Rev. Kristin Sundt, The Mindekirken Choir, trummes. Official greeting from the Palace brought by Knut Bramer. $40.00 per person. Reservations: (612) 674-0716 or www.mindekirken.org.

Maine: May 18: Maine Nordkom will hold their Syttende Mai celebration from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Maine Wildlife Park, Gray, Maine. Come and enjoy a parade, music, games, cook out and time with friends and Maine’s Wild Animals. Guided tour of the park for children and adults at 11:00 a.m. Please bring a kattlebird item or a dessert and a portable chair. Maine Nordkom will provide the rest. Special $3.50 entry fee for the parking. Park free. All are welcome. Find directions to the park at http://www.maine.gov/or/wed/wildlife/emuseum. For more information, contact Carolyn Browne at (207) 622-3096 or Carolynbровne@gmail.com.

Michigan: May 18th: Sons of Norway Nordkap Lodge is hosting the celebration of the 99th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution at the Swedish Club in Farmington Hills. The festivities include the general store, gathering around the July 22 Memorial Tree, raising of the flags, singing of the national anthems, parade led by live dirigiert, speeches by Norway’s honorary consul to Michigan – Dennis Flessland, bunad presentations, more food (desserts), face painting, activities for small children and games – including the traditional Cod Toss Competition. 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. More information: (248) 649-2799 (pm), datnumorg@gmail.com, or visit http://www.detroitnorwegians.org/index.html.

Minnesota: May 17: Celebrate Your Norwegian Heritage at Old Muskego Church. 3:00 p.m. Church Service at Lutheran Seminary. 2481Como Ave. St. Paul. Professor Gracia Grinadal will lead a brief church service, including Norwegian hymns in translation and some Scripture readings in Norwegian. Afterwards, coffee, lemonade and lefse will be served on the lawn. May 17: 2013 Syttende Mai Minnesota Banquet. 5:00 p.m. Reception, 6:15 p.m. Dinner & Program at Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington. 6:15 p.m. dinner & program. Order one of the Norway’s best occasional dress encouraged. Food: open face sandwich dishes, roll with gjetost and/or jarsber bread, Weiner wollef or bun, rummegrot, bloat-kake, almond pastry, beverages and pop, including Norwegian Solo. Available for purchase in the Bergen Waterfront Dining Room. Grand Flag Parade: starts at 6 p.m., complete with fjord horses, Westys, tussing, and surprise activities for children; ice cream provided by the Norwegian Ladies Club. Raffle: in the Grand Ballroom at approximately 7 p.m. after the parade. Public invited, free admision. More information at www.norskecarlina.org. For more information contact: Lasse V. Syverson, (951) 641-7908, lasse@flagship.com.

Wisconsin: May 19: Sons of Norway, Wergeland Lodge 05/28 at La Crosse, Wis. at 9:00 a.m. will hold a Norwegian Flag Raising at La Crosse City Hall, followed by a breakfast at Aelvies Restaurant, and a memorial at Capitol Cemetery of an immigrant. May 19 – Westby, Wis. holds their 45th annual 17. mai festival! Events start at 7 a.m. on May 17 and nonstop fun continues throughout the weekend. Events include a tractor pull, silent auction, bicycle tour, 5k walk/run, meals, concerts, etc. For details contact Visit Wisconsin at www.westbytendemai.com/Home.php.
Happy Syttende Mai!

Happy Graduation!

Kirsten Elise Larson
May 18

To Kirsten: you've worked so hard and done so many amazing things. Congratulations on graduating from California Lutheran University! We love you!

From,
your whole family

Community Connections
GRATULEREN!

Happy Birthday!

Every year for the 17th of May parade, the Swedes line up on one side of the road for the parade, the Norwegians on the other side. Those crazy Swedes would throw firecrackers at the Norwegians. Of course, the Norwegians would get mad and light the firecrackers and throw them back.

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In Loving Memory

Henry Haugen
Born June 28, 1933

Henry Haugen, Norwegian to the core and born to Norwegian emigrants Niels and Hildur Haugen on June 28, 1933, left to captain his own ship on April 25, 2013. Growing up living in many coastal communities from Hawaii, Alaska, New London and Florida while his father pursued his Coast Guard career, Henry followed his father’s career path and was accepted into the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, graduating in 1955. His first assignments were on the icebreaker Northwind, where he toured the Arctic and Antarctic. He then served on the Coast Guard cutter Mallove, a buoy tender on the Oregon coast. He attended George Washington University and obtained his law degree in 1964. He subsequently served on special assignment to the admiralty and shipping section of the US Dept. of Justice in San Francisco, receiving many commendations for his work. Henry considered his best assignment as commanding officer of the buoy tender Buttonwood while stationed in Hawaii. He then served on tours as legal officer in Seattle and as West Coast military judge. He retired from the Coast Guard in 1975 after 20 years of service. He then practiced maritime law in Seattle, focusing on fisheries and other maritime matters before retiring from the practice in January of 2012. As a member of Ballard Rotary, the Norwegian Commercial Club, the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce, and on the board and president of the Norse Home, Henry was very involved with civic volunteerism. Henry was a family man, taking great pride in his family and children.

Henry Haugen, his wife, Charlotte Haugen, four children from his first marriage, Kari Haugen (Carl Bottendorf), Lisa Haugen (Greg Smith), Marc Haugen (Jill Goldring) and Hayes Haugen (Mindu Brown-Haugen) and eight grandchildren, Maggie, Anna, Benjamin, Elsa, Stuart, Henry Christian, Solveig and Porte. Two sisters also survive him, Margaret Farstad from Aalesund, Norway, and Anne Haugen, Seattle.

< CUTS
From page 3

account the coherence of the overall tax regime. The Government will propose corresponding tax cuts on business income for self-employed and persons participating in partnerships. The specific design of these provisions will be presented in the 2014 budget this autumn.

Reduced tax rates on corporations and self-employed a.o. will reduce the tax revenue from mainland businesses by approximately NOK 3 billion.

The special tax rate on petroleum extraction and the special tax on economic rent stemming from hydropower plants will be increased by 1 percentage point to 51 percent and 31 percent respectively. Thus, the combined marginal tax rate will remain unchanged for these companies.

To further stimulate investments, the Government will introduce a first year additional depreciation allowance of 10 percent of investment costs for machinery, cars, equipment etc. This implies that these assets for tax purposes can be written off by 30 percent instead of 20 percent in the year of purchase. The economic value for businesses over the long run is estimated at approximately 400 million NOK.

The taxable value of non-owner occupied houses and business property for net wealth tax purposes will be increased from 50 to 60 percent of estimated market value. Increasing the taxable value of non-owner occupied houses could also help dampen the upward pressure on residential property prices. The changes will increase tax revenue by about 500 million NOK.

The overall level of taxation remains unchanged, in line with the Government’s declaration to keep the overall tax level unchanged.

The proposals will be further elaborated in the Revised National Budget for 2013, to be presented Tuesday, May 7. The Government will formally submit the proposals to Parliament in the 2014 tax bill this autumn.

In addition, the Government presents changes to the tax regime for petroleum companies. The purpose is to increase the companies’ cost awareness. These changes are proposed to enter into force as of today.

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Annual Essay Contest Topic:
Sharing Our Norwegian Traditions
October 2013

New Virtual Museum Exhibit
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Crab Boat Tours

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To benefit the Nordic Heritage Museum

The afternoon includes a VIP tour of Pacific Fisherman Shipyard and numerous king crab boats in the shipyard including the Hansen family’s F/V NORTHWESTERN as featured on the Discovery Channel show “Deadliest Catch.” (F/V NORTHWESTERN tour dependent upon salmon season opening, others available)

For more details and how to reserve your place, visit the events page at www.nordicmuseum.org

Saturday, June 1, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: $100 per person
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