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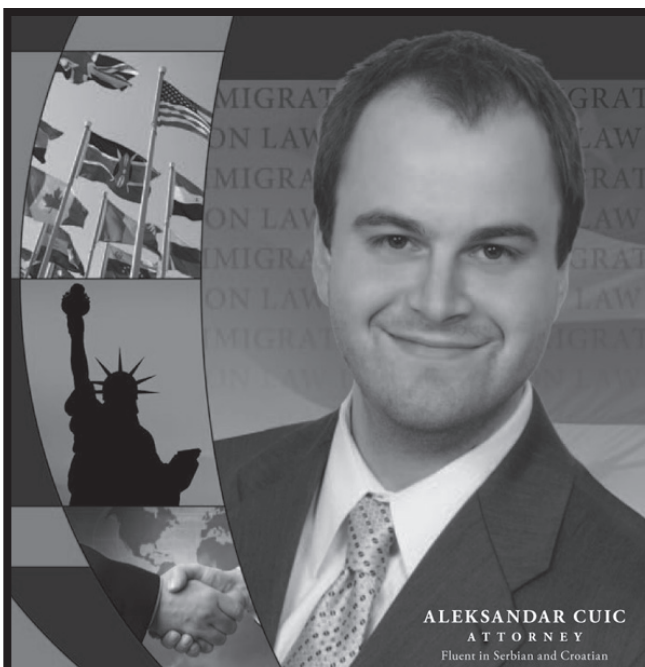
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ON STAFFThe next issue of the
American Srbobran is November 6th.
Deadline for articles is October 18th.**UNVEILED
NIKOLA TESLA
MONUMENT in
Long Island,
New York**

by Milos Rastovic

On September 23, 2013, President Tomislav Nikolic of Serbia, unveiled a monument dedicated to Nikola Tesla in front of the only preserved Tesla laboratory on Long Island, New York. Initiated by the Tesla Science Foundation, Philadelphia, the monument was built by Serbian artist Nikola Koka Jankovic.

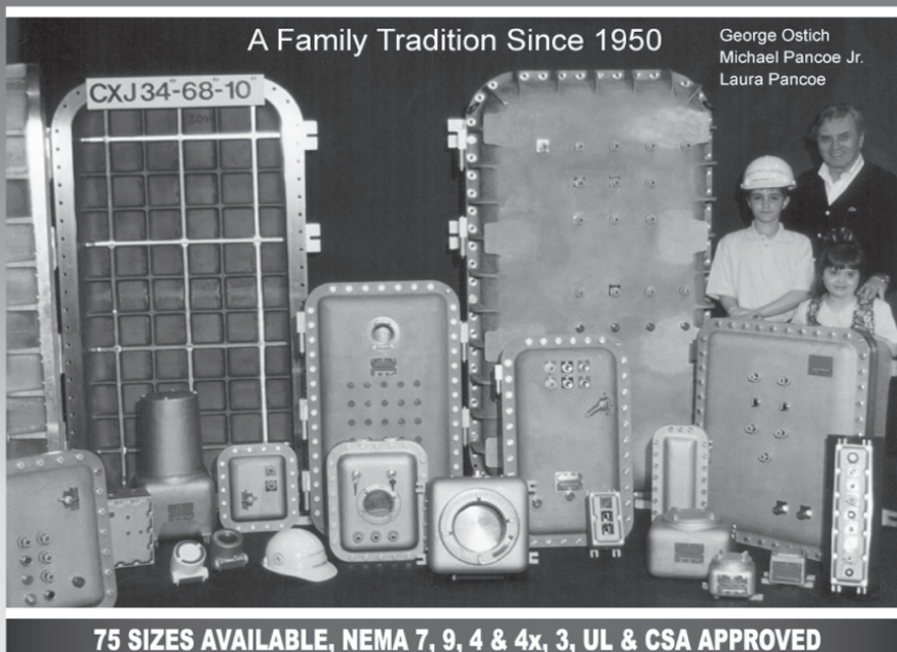
At the opening ceremony, President Nikolic described Tesla as a "Prometheus of the contemporary age," who gifted lights to mankind without looking for material benefits from his inventions. The sole motive of his work was his love of mankind. Nikolic further described him as a phenomenon who endowed mankind with a new philosophy of living, a new understanding of human possibilities, and a new development of societies. Nikolic emphasized that Tesla was born as a Serb, and died as an American, yet another historical link that binds these two nations together.

Tesla was born in 1856 in the village of Smiljani, Lika, located in present-day

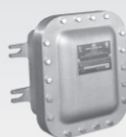
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**NOVAK
RENEWS SCHOOL
IN SERBIA**

Earlier this year in July, a fundraising dinner was organized by Novak Djokovic in London at which 1.4 million Euros were served up by the celebrities and guests in attendance. In September, the Novak Djokovic Foundation raised another \$2.5 million during a similar event in New York. World famous donors include the likes of Tommy Hilfiger, Donna Karan, Goldie Hawn and Ricky Gervais.

The Novak Djokovic Foundation, founded in 2007, has a special project within it called the Little School of Life. It's designed specifically to raise money for reconstruction of schools throughout Serbia.

The first school on the list was at Kadina Luka near Ljig. Novak's girlfriend Jelena Ristic, who serves as president of the foundation, lived there as a child. She was quoted in Blic saying, "We want to help and encourage municipalities and locals to take care about the children. This project...covers children with handicaps and the Romas. We want to provide room for every child where he or she can learn and develop."

Neighboring municipalities of Knjic, Kraljevo and Raska will also benefit from the project. Much of the ruin from flooding that devastated the area just two years ago is still apparent in this vicinity, and reconstruction is a welcome relief to the residents.

Discovering serbian jewels

continued from page 13

their meetings at the SAMS, as does the Chicago Tesla Society when they are active. Occasionally the Lifeline Chicago organization has conducted their own board meetings at the site. They co-hosted the Royal Reception last June, and they have reserved the space for a "Night at the Museum" on December 12, 2013 where they will draw the winner of their annual Super Bowl Raffle.

The Museum is operated by their independent board elected by a small membership comprised of people from many different walks of Chicago-area-Serbian life. They meet monthly. Their mission is to showcase Serbs. Their goal is to keep the Serbian Museum in the cultural spotlight, just as with other ethnic museums that dot the City of Chicago map. They especially want Serbs everywhere to know about it. "We would love our membership to grow," said Noble. "There are so many Serbs in Chicago who have never met each other. We can meet here, too. It's a wonderful place to show off who we are and what we have contributed everywhere we have been."

In that line, and in addition to the coach house coffee/gift shop she'd like to see, she also looks to create a portrait room of prominent Serbs who have made exceptional contributions. It's a lofty goal, one that will take years of research and stiff criteria for

admission to the walls of fame. But, she is not daunted by negativity. She is simply patient. "It will come."

Indeed, they have already come a long way over an often rocky road since 1952. Their relatively recent designation as a 501(c)3 and pending exemption from property taxes leaves them in a much better financial position to move forward. "The taxes have been unbelievable," said Dr. Pavlovic. From an original tax bill of about \$8,000, the latest assessment was well over \$46,000. "But now, we can put that behind us and concentrate on making this the best for everyone. We just need them to know about it."

Ms. Noble added later, "We received notification on July 8th that we were granted a property tax exemption from the State of Illinois for 2012 going forward. We got the rope of our neck finally!"

They welcome visitors during regular hours, and answer calls any day of the week regarding inquiries for bookings and presentations. Their website offers even more information on membership and its benefits. Parking is available at a nearby lot with reasonable fees, unlike downtown locations.

Their current exhibit, Edict of Milan, will continue through October 24th. "It's a great opportunity to come and see us," said Noble. This exhibit is sponsored by the Serbian Minis-

try for Culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Archaeological Park Viminacium and will be in New York and Boston before coming to Chicago.

QUICK INFO

Serbian American Museum
St. Sava is a non-profit 501(c)3

Location
448 W. Barry Avenue, Chicago, IL

Current Exhibit
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Open Friday through Sunday
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Museum Admission is free

Learn more at
serbianamericanmuseum.org.

UNVEILED NIKOLA TESLA MONUMENT in Long Island, New York

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Croatia of Serbian parents. His father was a Serbian Orthodox priest and his mother was a homemaker who taught him traditional Serbian folk poems. Tesla studied in Graz and Prague. He worked in electric companies in Budapest and Paris. In 1884, he came to the U.S. and worked with Thomas Edison. Rivalry between them was created because Tesla believed that alternating current is a more efficient method for delivering electricity than Edison's direct current method. Tesla's great inventions in radio and electricity are the foundation of today's telecommunication, internet, television, and space exploration. He died in poverty in New York in 1943.

From 1903 to 1917, Tesla worked in the Wardenclyffe Laboratory in Shoreham, Long Island, which was purchased by the Tesla Science Center this year when they raised \$1.3 million from an internet

campaign by Matthew Inman, who created The Oatmeal, a comic website. The statue is the first step in making this laboratory a museum in honor of Tesla.

Aleksandar Vlajkovic, president of the organization committee that unveiled the monument, said that the Wardenclyffe Laboratory should be a popular place for using science and amusement as a means of new technology. Vlajkovic believes that this place will become Tesla World, and will be visited by millions of people in order to learn about this brilliant scientist and his contribution to today's technological world.

For more information about the Tesla monument and the Wardenclyffe Laboratory, navigate the website of Tesla Science Center of Wardenclyffe at: <http://www.teslasciencecenter.org/>.

