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Bits & Pieces

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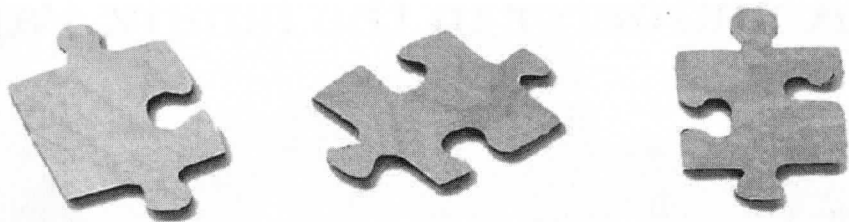
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Bits & Pieces



City of Lindström gets its “Ö” back!



The city of Lindström in Minnesota was founded in the early 1850s and named for immigrant Daniel Lindström from Hassela. It is not a large town, but it is well-known among Swedish-Americans for its history and friendly atmosphere.

But this year there was almost an uprising in the city because when highway crews last updated the road signs leading into town, they removed those little twin dots that hover over the O.

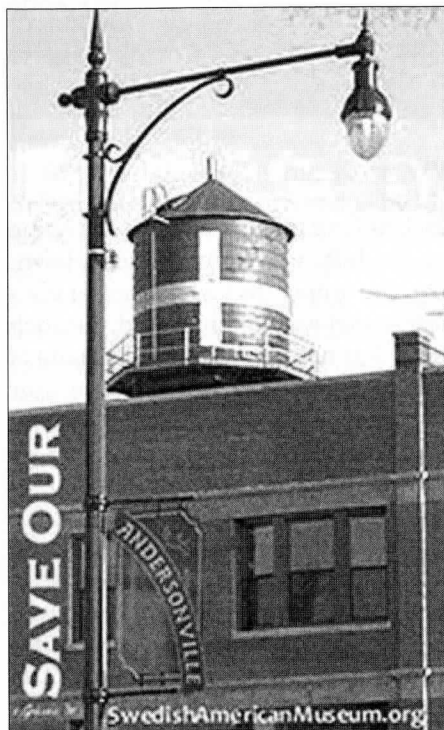
Lindström became Lindstrom, and did not feel as home any more. Local people protested and several groups on Facebook were full of angry comments.

So on 15 April, the governor Mark Dayton predictably set things right by ordering the *umlaut* to be put back on the green highway signs that welcome tourists.

Wilmington’s Old Swedes Church becomes part of Delaware’s national park

Built in the late 17th century, the Old Swedes Church in Wilmington is the oldest church still standing in the nation. The church was built by descendants of the Swedish colonists who crossed the Atlantic aboard the *Kalmar Nyckel* in 1638.

With a signature and a stamp Monday, it was officially deemed part of the First State National Historical Park, one of six sites up and down the state. Delaware had long been the only state in the nation without a national park.



New Restaurant in Andersonville sponsors Water Tower

At the ribbon cutting for the new Andersonville outpost of Giordano’s, a Chicago pizza chain, the Swedish American Museum received a generous contribution for the Water Tower Fund. Giordano’s CEO Yorgo Koutsogiorgas presented Museum Executive Director Karin Moen Abercrombie with a check for \$5000 that includes proceeds from a sneak preview event held last week, as well as a matching gift by the famed Chicago pizza company. The company also honored the neighborhood landmark by including a depiction of the Andersonville Water Tower on one wall of the newly-opened restaurant. Thank you, Giordano’s – and welcome to the neighborhood!

(Facebook 2015 20/4)



A newly discovered Scandinavian museum

The *Scandinavian East Coast Museum* is to be found in Brooklyn, New York.

“The Scandinavians who settled in the New York City area have a history just as rich as the Midwest. They were involved in the labor movement, WWII, the development of New York as the world’s premier harbor, and also in establishing many social institutions which still exist.

“The establishment of The Scandinavian East Coast Museum, formerly the Norwegian American Collection in Brooklyn, in December 1996, has ended this void.”

They have an informative web site (see p. 30) and lots of activities.

Lutheran records on Ancestry

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) has digitized some Lutheran records, and they are available on Ancestry.com. This is NOT records from the Swedish-American churches, but rather Norwegian and German churches. But they are searchable, and a search with keyword “Sweden” resulted in 3445 hits. So this can be a way to find the missing person!

For instance, on 12 April 1924 *Knut Wilhelm Almquist* (age 35) born in Sweden, married *Martha Marie Nilssen* (age 35) born in Norway, in the Bethlehem Norwegian Church in Chicago. He could be Karl Wilhelm Knut Almqvist, born 22 Feb. 1889 in Norra Sandsjö (Jönk.), immigrating in 1898 with parents and siblings.