Bits & Pieces

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The oldest man in the U.S. dies
His name was Conrad Johnson, but he was born in Kymbo, Skaraborg län, on 19 Jan. 1904 as Karl Konrad Oskarsson. His parents were Oskar Natanael Jansson and his wife Ida Maria Antoinetta Gahnström, who were farmers at Hulegården.

He immigrated 24 Feb. 1923, at age 19, under the name Jansson, with a ticket for New York, but finally settled as a carpenter in Rockford, IL, where he lived the rest of his life.

He passed away as the oldest verified male in the U.S. on 23 Dec. 2014, almost reaching 111 years. (Fred Olsson Funeral Home, Rockford, obit). Thanks to Annelie Jonsson for the information.

The Vikings are coming to Chicago
The Field Museum in Chicago is opening a large exhibition about the Vikings on 27 Feb. which ends on 4 Oct. 2015.

Through new archaeological discoveries and hundreds of rare Scandinavian artifacts, you can explore the power of mythology and the symbolism of Viking ships, gain fascinating insights into domestic life and death rituals, and understand the importance of travel and trade. The exhibition is organized in cooperation with the Swedish Historical Museum in Stockholm. (www.fieldmuseum.org)

Newborn Swedes 2014
Girl's names       Numbers
Elsa           850
Alice          806
Maja           732
Agnes          673
Lilly          646
Olivia         626
Julia          610
Ebba           603
Linnea         594
Molly          579

The source for this list of the most popular names for newborns is the annual name statistics from the Central Bureau of Statistics of Sweden.

The most common names for all females are Anna and Eva; for all males Lars and Anders.

Kerstin Lane awarded the Sandburg medal
The Swedish-American Historical Society has awarded its Carl Sandburg Medal for 2014 to Kerstin Lane of Chicago for her services to the Swedish community. She was the first salaried executive director of the Swedish American Museum in Andersonville, Chicago. During her time there the museum grew in members and space. Congratulations from SAG! (SAHS Newsletter Nov. 2014)

Newborn Swedes 2014
Boy's names      Numbers
Lucas           860
William        851
Oscar          805
Oliver         754
Liam           728
Elias          721
Hugo           696
Vincent        641
Charlie        634
Alexander      630

It is Semla time!