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## Bits & Pieces

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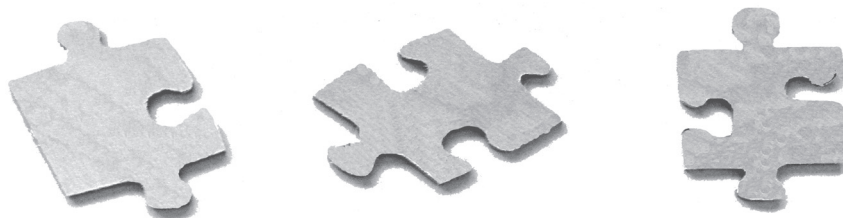
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# Bits & Pieces



## Recent records are closed to genealogists in Finland

According to a press statement from P. T. Kuusiluoma, the general manager of the Genealogical Society of Finland (*Genealogiska Samfundet i Finland*), the Evangelical Church of Finland has decided to close all records younger than 100 years to all genealogical researchers. The only way to get information is to write to the parish offices. Mr. Kuusiluoma also mentioned that genealogists, asking for information, have to pay 30 Euros/hour (about \$42), but people just wishing for a certificate for some legal reason, only have to pay about \$6. (*Mail conversation between Mr. Kuusiluoma and the SAG Editor March 2011*).

## Midsummer will come!

And you can celebrate it at *Gammelgården* in Scandia, MN, on the 25th of June. *Link on p. 30!*

## Christina Johansson leaves Swenson Center

Christina Johansson, who for many years has been the librarian at the Swenson Center in Rock Island, IL, has now decided to move back to her native Sweden with her family.

Christina starts a new job at the Chalmers University of Technology Library in Göteborg in May. SAG wishes her the best of luck in her new life, but she will be missed!

## The 2011 New Zealand census is cancelled

The New Zealand government has decided to cancel the planned 2011 census for the country. Due to the big earthquake on the Southern Island, there would have been too many gaps in the census, and other things are more important now.



## The Swedes in Canada project goes on

*Elinor Barr*, who is the chief writer and researcher for this project, recently sent out an update in which she told that the final manuscript is now under consideration by the University of Toronto Press.

She hopes that the book will appear "in real life" before the end of 2011.

## Genline's pictures now on Ancestry

The almost 20 million pictures at Swedish company Genline are now available on ancestry.com and Genline will slowly disappear from your screens. The pictures are still the same, but the viewer is ancestry.com's and works a bit different, but should not be difficult to use. To work with the pictures you need to have a World Deluxe subscription.

## The 2011 Peter Cassel Days in Sweden

Every two years the *Peter Cassel Days* are arranged in Kinda and Ydre communities in southern Östergötland to commemorate the emigration of Peter Cassel and his followers in 1845 from Kisa, and of Andrew Peterson in 1850 from Västra Ryd to Minnesota, where he wrote his famous diary. The America Week in Kinda and Ydre starts on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July, and is followed on the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> by many events. More details in the next SAG.



## The American Swedish Institute will close

The American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, MN, will be closed to the public during the period of May–October due to the construction of the new premises, and additional work to the Turnblad mansion.

April 2011: Groundbreaking ceremony at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 16. Site work begins.

May 2011: Construction for the Nelson Cultural Center begins. Lower level renovation begins; museum closes to the public (May 2), and many ASI activities are relocated.

*Link on p. 30!*

## First Great Achievement Award presented to Siri Eliason

Swedish Council of America is proud to present its first *SCA Great Achievement Award* to *Mrs. Siri Eliason*. The award will be presented in conjunction with the SCA board meeting in Portland, OR, at an awards banquet on Saturday, April 9, 2011. Her involvement with the promotion of Swedish business and culture includes leadership roles within the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce, the American Scandinavian Foundation NY, California Lutheran University, and the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation CA, along with Swedish Council of America. She also served as honorary Consul General of Sweden in San Francisco.

*(SCA eUpdate, March 2011)*