**Letter of Introduction to Publishers:**

The attached public service notice is being submitted to you for publication by the Czech Heritage Partnership (CHP), a 501 c 3 not for profit Iowa Corporation whose mission statement is to “Preserve, promote and further the ethnic culture and heritage of the area, in conversation with the contemporary world, through educational service and intellectual and physical endeavors.” Your publication has been of service to the CHP over the past several years, helping us fulfill our mission statement, and we hope you will continue to see fit to do so.

The past several years the CHP has noticed an increase in the destruction of historic documents as elderly people die and the younger generations do not wish to keep the old cards, letters, diaries etc. left behind. These documents are often a historically valuable first-hand record of the hardships our ancestors endured as they left an uncertain life in Bohemia and Moravia, and traveled to the United States in search of a new life for themselves and their families. This correspondence may also be a valuable record of the successes they attained.

There can be many reasons why these papers are not kept by family members. Perhaps the survivor does not know where a proper depository would reside; the CHP is just such a depository. Perhaps they are written in Czech, German, or some other language the survivors do not understand; the CHP has the capacity to translate these items..

While we hope you will see fit to publish the attached request as a free public service item, please be aware that the CHP has obtained a small grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic to assist us in this project. Your publication is distributed in our target area and we want to get broad distribution. As such, if you require a fee, please contact me at s.klimesh@mchsi.com or call me at 563.562.3594 so we can discuss.

The CHP thanks you for your support in the past and looks forward to it in the future as well.

Best regards

**Steven A. Klimesh, President**

**109 Pleasant View Drive - Box 127**

**Spillville, Iowa 52168**

