

DUMBRAVA



Local Council Office: Dumbrava no. 336, telephone/fax 0256/325553;

Coordinates:

45°49'25" N lat.;

22°07'03" E lat.;

Historical landmarks:

-1453 - historians say that there were two small settlements on the current location Dumbrava village: **Alsó Igazfalva** (1464)

and **Felső Igazfalva**, names that might have been imposed by the Hungarian nobles, seeing that Hungarian people did not live in those two settlements;

-the XVIIth century - the names **Igaz** and **Ighaz** were mentioned in documents;

-1893 - the locality of **Igazfalva** was founded by the reformed Hungarian settlers, most of them coming from the Szeged area;

-1911 - the public library was founded (with books in Hungarian) by the book donations received from **Nemes Elemér**, composer, reformed protopope;

-1924 - Răchita was a rural commune with 1,576 inhabitants;

-1936 - Dumbrava had 1,617 inhabitants (Hungarian), 346 households, a primary school, a men's choir, a reformed women's club, a mill, a weekly fair;

-6 November 1936 - **Margareta Vamoș-Gulyaș** was born in Dumbrava, teacher, poet, memorialist;

-2002 - the commune of Dumbrava had 2,725 inhabitants;

-2007 - the first edition of the festival "The Days of Dumbrava" was held;

Total population on 1 January 2010: 2,699 persons, of which:

- male = 1,355 persons

- female = 1,344 persons

Number of households on 1 January 2010: 942

Member villages: Dumbrava, Bucovăț

(1440, Bujocz) and Răchita (1393, Rekettyés);

Educational institutions: Elementary Schools (I-VIII): Dumbrava and Răchita; Primary Schools (I-IV): Bucovăț; Kindergartens with normal hours: Dumbrava, Răchita and Bucovăț;

Health facilities: Local clinic: Dumbrava; Drugstore: Dumbrava; Sanitary-veterinary practice: Dumbrava;

Cultural institutions:

- Community centres: Dumbrava, Răchita and Bucovăț; Library: Dumbrava (founded in 1974);

Fitness and sports facilities: Sports grounds: Dumbrava; Gymnasiums: Dumbrava.

Churches:

Romanian Orthodox Churches: Răchita (1894), Bucovăț (1780 - the first record from 1935) and Dumbrava (1996); Reformed Churches: Dumbrava (1898); Baptist Churches: Dumbrava (2000) and Bucovăț (1905); Pentecostal Churches: Răchita (1993) and Bucovăț (2006);

Annual Church Festivals and other cultural and religious events:

- Bucovăț (15 August - the Assumption of Mary) and Răchita (8 September - the Nativity of Virgin Mary); The Days of the Village of Dumbrava (29-30 September); The Commemoration of the village of Bunea Mică (11-12 August).

THE CITY HALL AND THE LOCAL COUNCIL OF DUMBRAVA

Ihász Ioan**Gherghina Petru**

Bălu Călin Ioan, LC member

Curățiu Petru, LC member

Daminescu Ioan, LC member

Deák Ștefan-Tiberiu, LC member

Mayor**Vice Mayor**

DLP

DLP

SDP

DUHR

Drăgan Tomița, LC member

Ghergely Francisc-Irimie, LC member

Gherghina Nicolae, LC member

Goagă Marian, LC member

Szabó Adalbert, LC member

Vasiloni Ion, LC member

CDNPP

DUHR

SDP

IND

DUHR

CDNPP

DUMBRAVA

THE STORY OF LADY VAMOȘ-GULYAS

In 2005, the memorialistic book called “The Memories of a Teacher” (“Din amintirile unei educatoare”) was first published at “The Almanac of Banat” Publishing House. The author, **Margareta Vamoș-Gulyas**, was an inhabitant of Dumbrava and was born in a family of hard-working people. Her father was the smith of the commune and had his own workshop even during the times of the collectivisation, being “the best in the area”, as his grandchildren remember...

Margareta studied to become a teacher at the Pedagogical High School from Lugoj, at the beginning of the '50s of last century. She worked as a kindergarten teacher, first in Dumbrava, then in Timișoara. The best period as a teacher, according to the author, was under the management of **Mărioara Șimlovici Jude**, the mother of writer **Adriana Babeți**. The book of Margareta Vamoș-Gulyas is full of honest memories. She did not forgive the ones who made her life as a teacher very difficult, but she also expressed her gratitude for the real teachers with whom she had worked.



The sons of Margareta Vamoș-Gulyas are famous figures of the Timișoara mass-media: **Emeric Vamoș Barbu**, a cartoonist and a charming author of anecdotes, and his brother, **Zoltan Vamoș - ZOFF**, a talented illustrator and cartoonist, student of master Ștefan Popa-Popa'S.

The world described in the book of lady Vamoș Gulyas is a small world, the world of the enchanted grove (“Dumbrava” in Romanian) of Banat in the first half of the XXth century. The settlement had been founded only several decades before the author's birth: “Dumbrava, a village located in a hilly region between Lugoj and Făget. Its streets are guarded by old trees, locust trees, mulberry trees, chestnut trees... The walls of the houses are entirely white, as are the painted trunks of the trees; only the edges are coloured in green, gray (concrete) and, rarely, red. The local people are simple, hard-working and kind-hearted. They love work, but also having fun. (...) Every one of them had poultry, and the domestic animals, like cattle and sheep, were given to the shepherds, from spring till autumn. The villagers worked the land. They all had fruit trees and vines, thus all the weddings in autumn always served plum brandy and sparkling wine with a bouquet specific of Dumbrava.” The pictures that illustrate this book come from the personal archive of the Vamoș-Gulyas family.

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THE FESTIVAL OF THE STEW

The most expected event of “the Days of Dumbrava” from September 2009 was the “Festival of the Stew”, held in Dumbrava for several years. Here, chefs from all over the area and from abroad come to cook. The beef, mutton or duck stew was cooked by Romanian and Hungarian chefs from the villages of Țipari, Bodo and Dumbrava from Romania, but also from Vesző, Nagydorog or Makó from Hungary. According to mayor **Ioan Ihász**, the guests from the commune of Totovo Selo, the Serbian Banat, obtained the Romanian visa at the last minute because of the bureaucracy within the Romanian Consulate from Belgrade. They could not prepare for the festival from a technical viewpoint and prove their skills as chefs. They still came to Dumbrava to support their friends from the Romanian Banat, but not to compete. The winners of the “Gold spoon” trophy were the chefs from Makó - Hungary: **Nagy György J. and Szabó Ferencz**.



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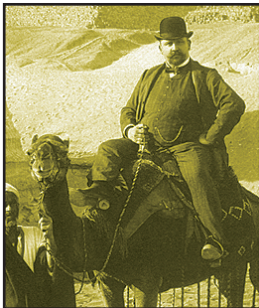
DUMBRAVA

THE PEAR
OF THE QUEEN

One can reach Bunea Mică at 14 km from Dumbrava, passing through Răchita. All the old inhabitants of the village gather here at a commemorative festival held in August. Nothing remains of the old settlement (founded in 1924 by the Hungarians - the Hungarian Bunea - Bunyaszekszárd, which belonged to the town of Făget). The settlement started to die in the second half of the '80s of the last century. Nowadays the houses are no longer standing, the reformed church was sold and mounted in another commune as a roman-catholic church. The grandparents of the mayor Ioan Iháșz from Dumbrava were the last family to leave Bunyaszekszárd for Dumbrava, in 1984. They tore down the wooden house and used the recovered materials to build a barn and a stable in Dumbrava. In the past, the village of Bunea Mică was famous for its fruit trees, especially apple trees and pear trees. They had rare species preserved from the time of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, like the one named **"the Pear of the Queen"** by the local people.



A FUTURE HISTORICAL MONUMENT



The reformed church from Dumbrava is the creation of a famous architect, **Alpár Ignác** (see image) who designed important buildings in Central Europe. The place of worship was built in 1898. The church from Dumbrava was visited by international associations of architects and archeologists, who came from Austria, Germany, America, on a tour to visit the buildings designed by the architect Ignác. "The church is not declared a monument, because, if we ask this, we will not be able to renovate it. After the renovation, we will transform it into a historical monument", declared mayor **Ioan Iháșz** in the summer of 2009.

Alpár Ignác (1855-1928) ran an architecture office in Budapest. He designed more than a hundred buildings, of which 38 are located on the territory of Transylvania and Banat. These buildings are eight churches, fifteen schools and universities, six city halls and county administrative offices, four balneal and physical therapy centres, a castle, a post office building. The county office buildings from Cluj, Brașov, Deva, Sighișoara, Târnăveni were also built based on the designs of the architect Alpár Ignác. The most important work of the architect Alpár Ignác is the eclectic building housing the Museum of Agriculture from Budapest, elevated in 1896. In Banat, besides the Palace of the Post Office from Timișoara, "the Széchenyi monument" was also built after the design of Alpár Ignác. It is located on the Călnic rock from Cazane. It is dedicated to Count István Széchenyi, a strong supporter of the construction of the Chain Bridge from Budapest, inaugurated in 1849. Alpár Ignác also designed the former building of Szapáry Baths on the right bank of the Cerna river from Băile Herculane, as well as the neo-baroque building of the Boys' High School from Timișoara, the present-day "C.D. Loga" Theoretical High School.

