

# NEWSLETTER



## Owner Miner Transition

In a move signaling a shift towards integration and development, Adriatic Metals BH has officially signed a settlement and termination agreement with mining contractor Nova Mining and Construction d.o.o. (Nova), and assuming full operations of control of mine operations at the Rupice mine. This strategic decision marks a significant milestone in the company's trajectory.

**The transition is expected to yield tangible benefits, including cost reduction, enhance efficiency and drive sustainable growth in the long term. Streamlining operations means stability, and Adriatic Metals BH is committed to acknowledging all the contributions, loyalty, and established relationships. As the sole operator of the mine Rupice, Adriatic Metals BH reaffirms its dedication to excellence, innovation, and responsible stewardship.**



As an important segment of the said decision, there is support for the local community, specifically for the employees of Nova Mining who will continue their professional journey within the company Adriatic Metals BH. With this move, Adriatic Metals BH confirms its social responsibility and alignment with the needs and aspirations of the community.



## CONSERVATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIP: Adriatic Metals BH and Vareš Forestry Jointly Engage in Reforestation Initiative

In line with dedication to preserving nature and promoting environmental responsibility, during the months of April and May, Adriatic Metals BH company partnered with Vareš Forestry to undertake highly significant reforestation actions.

The company's commitment to environmental conservation was evident through this initiative, resulting in the planting of an impressive 10,500 seedlings in the areas of Vlahinje (Breza Municipality), Vardište, and Kadarići (Vareš Municipality). **This reforestation effort will continue in the fall of 2024, with the goal of planting a total of 15,000 seedlings.** It is important to highlight the active involvement of employees from various departments of Adriatic Metals BH company in these reforestation efforts, diligently working towards the common goal of environmental preservation.

Their presence and engagement are crucial in realizing the vision of a healthier and more sustainable future. A healthy environment is a vital resource that must be preserved for future generations, and through actions like this, the company actively contributes to that goal. Adriatic Metals BH company remains dedicated to the principles of environmental awareness and continuous support for projects aimed at preserving natural resources.





# WORLD HEALTH DAY: "HEALTH FIRST, HEALTHY LIFESTYLE"



On the occasion of World Health Day, which is observed every year on April 7th, Adriatic Metals BH organized a lecture on the topic **Health First, Healthy Lifestyle**.

In the main hall of the Vareš Municipality, Dr. Muamer Berkovac, a specialist in family medicine, spoke to the audience about the prevention of chronic diseases and the impact of lifestyle on overall health. Dr. Berkovac emphasized how our life choices, including diet, physical activity, and stress management, significantly influence the occurrence of health conditions such as obesity, diabetes, heart disease, depression, and anxiety. However, by adopting minor adjustments in our daily habits, we can improve our well-being and reduce the risk of various health problems. Through providing access to quality health education, Adriatic Metals BH continues to promote health and healthy lifestyle choices, aiming to enhance the overall health status of the community.





# PUBLIC LIAISON COMMITTEE SEVENTH SESSION HELD IN MAY

In the Vareš Municipality Hall, on May 23, 2024, the seventh session of the Public Liaison Committee of Adriatic Metals BH was held. During the session, key information about current project activities and future plans was exchanged. The focus of the session was on the transition of ownership of mining operations, specifically the presentation of Adriatic Metals BH as an independent operator of the Rupice mine. Additionally, an initiative was introduced to establish a four-year mining and technical program at the "Nordbat 2" High School, aimed at providing quality education for young individuals aspiring to build careers in mining. Information was also shared regarding the implementation of health projects within the local community, including the announcement of free mammography screenings for 50 women from the local community. Speaking about technical aspects of the project, company employees emphasized ongoing testing of processing plant and process optimization. Furthermore, 5700 meters of exploratory boreholes were drilled at Rupice, and a laboratory for sample analysis was established at Tisovci. Another successful Public Liaison Committee underscores how effective communication lays the foundation for successful collaboration and creates lasting positive changes in society.



## FREE MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING FOR WOMEN



In the premises of the Radnički dom, on May 25, 2024, a significant health event was held in Vareš, attended by 50 women. On that occasion, free mammography screenings were conducted for the mentioned 50 women, which is a crucial step in breast cancer prevention.

The event was funded by the ThinkPink organization, which advocates for breast cancer awareness and prevention. The successful execution of the event was achieved with the support of the "Život" association from Zenica, which contributed to the organization. Adriatic Metals BH actively worked on informing women, ensuring their attendance and participation in the event. Thanks to the joint efforts of the ThinkPink organization, the "Život" association, Adriatic Metals BH and the Chairwoman of the Vareš Municipal Council, Mahira Brkić, this event was successfully realized.

# LIVING HISTORY PROJECT

## Jasna Mirčić

**At the outset, I would like to greet you and express my gratitude for agreeing to speak for our newsletter, which is part of the "Living History Project."**

**To begin, please tell us a bit more about yourself.**

I would like to thank you for choosing me for this interview. My name is Jasna Mirčić, and I live in the village of Pržići, in the municipality of Vareš. My entire professional life has been tied to the hospitality industry, and now I am retired. I am a mother of three, the president of the local community in Pržići (currently serving my second term), and actively involved in promoting and preserving the cultural heritage of this region.

**You are the founder of the Ethnological Museum in Pržići. How did the museum's story begin?**

Yes, the Ethnological Museum was established 14 years ago, quite by chance. The residents of the village of Mir were celebrating the tenth Mirjani gathering, and Dr. Goran Grabovac and I came up with the idea to set up a room in an ethnographic style in the basement of the Cultural Center. We cleaned up the space and displayed several items we had. Initially, it included an old cupboard, a few containers inside the cupboard, a bed, pillows, bed linens, and a traditional low round table called sinija. Afterwards, we started collecting other items related to agriculture, blacksmithing tools, and various accessories. Soon, everyone in the village learned about our initiative and joined in.

**Collecting, processing, and presenting museum artifacts require tremendous effort and dedication. Did you receive support, and from whom?**

My love and passion for cultural heritage inspired all the residents of Pržići and the surrounding villages, so their support has been crucial. Additionally, we received support from the Vareš Municipality, specifically from Mayor Fatić and Mayor Marošević, in securing the museum space. Prof. Dr. Mario Katić from the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology at the University of Zadar collaborated with his students to catalog the museum artifacts. Many others also contributed according to their abilities.

**You present the material and cultural heritage of this region to the public. Which period are we talking about, and how many artifacts does your collection contain?**

We are referring to a time span that extends hundreds of years back. For instance, we have traditional pants called "čakšire," woven from hemp, which are 300 years old. The complete collection comprises approximately 2000 artifacts.



**Each artifact has its own story. Which one is your favorite, and why?**

While I cannot single out just one artifact, I am particularly fond of and fascinated by traditional folk costumes.

**The lead, zinc, and barite mine is also part of the not-so-distant past of this region. Are any of the items from that time period part of your collection?**

Unfortunately, no. We only have a few photographs related to that era.

**Adriatic Metals BH opened a mine in March. What are your expectations, and what does the community expect?**

What matters to me, and what I will always insist upon, is environmental protection and the well-being of people. Just as you take care of yourselves, I would like you to take care of us too.

**What message would you give to young people who are just starting to build their careers?**

Well, I would love for everyone to come back home, but it would not be fair for me to send such a message considering that all my children are abroad, building their lives far from Vareš. So, in a broader sense, I want to tell them to believe in themselves, work hard, and know that we are here to support them.

**How would you describe your collaboration with Adriatic Metals BH so far?**

From the very beginning, we have had excellent communication, and I support your activities. Of course, there have been disagreements and differing viewpoints, but we have successfully resolved them. As a community, we are open to collaboration, and as a community representative, I am always at your disposal.

**Do you see the opening of the mine as an opportunity for Vareš to develop and progress?**

Certainly, progress is already noticeable. The ambience is different, and people are increasingly regarding the future with a sense of optimism and hope.

**In addition to actively preserving cultural heritage, you are also the president of the local community in Pržići. What are the daily issues you deal with?**

We manage various matters within the local community, primarily related to infrastructure, road construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of communal facilities, among others. Sometimes it can be challenging because the community's expectations do not always align with the capabilities and authority that local community presidents have. I must mention that our diaspora strongly supports the community. Ultimately, I am pleased that despite all the challenges, we always find time for socializing.

**Thank you for your time.**

Thank you as well.

