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Battle of Berestechko, glorious Kozak legacy recalled by thousands

by Marta Kolomayets
Kiev Press Bureau

PLIASHEVA, Ukraine — In June 1651, this field near the town of Berestechko was the site of a bloody battle between the Kozak army led by Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky and the Polish forces. The armies were of imposing proportions — each 150,000 men strong. But the Kozaks were defeated when, on the day of the decisive battle, their allies, the Tatars, abandoned the field and kidnapped the Kozak leader, who as a result of this defeat was forced to sign the Treaty of Bila Tserkva.

Now, 340 years later on June 16, Ukrainians from northern, western and central lands converged upon the Kozak graves to celebrate — not the Berestechko defeat, but the glory of their Kozak past.

"We should stop and think: for what did the Kozaks give their lives? For freedom, for independence, for their lands. It is here on this sacred resting place that we should feel strength, ability and courage to follow along the road paved by our ancestors," Leonid Kravchuk, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR, told the hundreds of thousands who had traveled to this region to witness the unveiling of a Kozak memorial on this historic field.

Mr. Kravchuk, who is a native son of this area, arrived on Sunday morning to take part in a memorial service celebrated by Patriarch Mstyslav I of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. Together, the leader of the state and the leader of the yet-to-be-recognized Ukrainian Church walked to the cordoned off graves and asked young children to assist them in laying wreaths to honor the memory of their ancestors.

Amidst shouts of "Glory to Ukraine," "Glory to our Kozak past," some onlookers also chanted "Shame to Kravchuk," reacting to his recent discussions on the topic of the union treaty. Others took advantage of the moment and shouted: "Away with the union treaty," "Shame to the union treaty."

Undaunted by the shouts and placards such as one reading "The Kozak bulava only for pure hands," Mr. Kravchuk, who has presidential aspirations (elections are planned for the fall of this year), continued his patriotic address.

Sounding very much like a candidate campaigning for office, he said: "We should fight for the sovereignty of our Ukraine, because it belongs to us by

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Marchers in Kiev say "no" to union treaty



Levko Lukianenko leads anti-union treaty march down Kiev's main boulevard, the Khreshchatyk.

by Marta Kolomayets
Kiev Press Bureau

KIEV — "People of Ukraine, unite in your struggle for state independence." "Dear countrymen: demand real sovereignty for Ukraine: its own currency, border control, its own army." "Kievites: only consolidation of all democra-

tic forces will bring real sovereignty to the Ukrainian state." "Freedom for Ukraine."

"Boys and girls: the future of Ukraine is in your hands. Cast off Pioneer and Komsomol dreams. Be conscious of your mission, of your nation: work for it by studying, working hard and being

steadfast in your convictions." "Only unity among the national liberation and workers' movements will guarantee independence."

These are just a few examples of the slogans that boomed over loudspeakers up and down the Khreshchatyk, Kiev's main boulevard, on Sunday afternoon, June 23, as thousands of Kievites and guests in this capital city, undaunted by

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UNA pays \$1.2 million in dividends

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — By the end of June, the Ukrainian National Association will have mailed out approximately 50,000 dividend checks totalling \$1.2 million to its members in the United States and Canada.

Along with the checks, the UNA has included leaflets about its one-year-old UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine, asking UNA members to use their dividend checks to support this endeavor. Members are asked to simply endorse their checks and return them to the UNA as their donations to the fund. (Personal contributions may also be made by making checks out to: UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine.)

It was last year, at the UNA's 32nd Regular Convention, that the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine was created. Fund-raising began in

earnest during the annual mailing of members' dividend checks. It was noted then by the Supreme Executive Committee that the intention was to establish, during the next four years, "a \$1 million fund that will be managed by the Ukrainian National Association without any additional expenditures for administrative needs" that will help provide for "the significant needs of the Ukrainian nation today."

This year, Supreme Treasurer Alexander G. Blahitka said: "Such a fund is necessary at this time, given the course of events in Ukraine. Independence may not come as soon as we would have hoped, but we can help Ukraine." He continued, "Long-range, serious economic reform is a prelude to any independence. Thus, the UNA is focusing its support on economic and educational projects."

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Parliament delays further discussion of union treaty

by Marta Kolomayets
Kiev Press Bureau

KIEV — The Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR voted to postpone further discussion of the Gorbachev-imposed union treaty until September 15, demonstrating that the republic will not kowtow to the demands of Moscow.

After a full day of heated debates in Parliament on Thursday, June 27, 307 deputies (out of 397 present) voted to send the draft of the union treaty, introduced by Mr. Gorbachev on June 17 to standing committees, where it will

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Marchers in Kiev...

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thundershowers, took to the streets to protest Ukraine's intent to sign the union treaty in Moscow this summer.

The meeting demanded that the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR categorically reject the draft of the union treaty presented on June 17 by Moscow and label it as enslaving, cynical and hopeless, and adopt a Constitution of Ukraine as an independent nation. Only after a constitution is adopted, stated the resolution passed at the meeting, can Ukraine realize its right to conclude any treaties or agreements advantageous to Ukraine.

The meeting also unanimously decided that its goal is an independent, democratic Ukraine with full and exclusive rights to its people's economic and scholarly-technical potential created on its territory; with its own national currency, financial-credit system, Ukrainian customs service, national armed forces; and with its own full-fledged political, economic and cultural contacts with other states of the world.

Citizens of Kiev, as well as participants in two conferences over the June 22-23 weekend — the world congress of the politically repressed and the all-Ukrainian union of workers' solidarity, (stories on these two organizations will appear in upcoming issues of The Weekly) met at the Republican Stadium at 4 p.m. under cloudy skies to listen to deputies of the National Council speak out against the union treaty and call on the Parliament to not make a decision about it until the Ukrainian SSR passes its own Constitution.

Within an hour after the meeting started, torrential rains began, and although some people dispersed, about 5,000 joined the march from the Republican Stadium down the Khreshchatyk to October Revolution Square (Independence Square).

Organized by the Popular Movement of Ukraine, Rukh, and the Ukrainian Republican Party, the meeting was led by Levko Lukianenko and Ivan Drach and featured not only people's deputies of the Ukrainian SSR, but also leaders of the Green Party, Rukh activists and other democratic groups.

The rain subsided and the marchers — armed with blue and yellow flags, as well as placards urging "Say no to the union treaty," "Shame to the Communist-totalitarian regime" — walked down the Khreshchatyk.

Mr. Lukianenko, dressed in a light beige suite and an intricately embroidered shirt, walked at the head of

the procession, carrying a bunch of peonies in his hands. He led the people, many of whom had come for the congress of persons once politically repressed. They carried signs identifying their places of imprisonment: Vorkuta, Kazakhstan, Magadan, Arkhangelsk, Perm, Kuchino. Some even wore prison garb, complete with identification numbers. Among those in the front lines were Oles Shevchenko, a former political prisoner who had spent more than seven years in labor camps and exile, Yevhen Proniuk, who heads the Ukrainian Society of the Politically Repressed, and Les Taniuk, head of the Memorial Society.

A blue and yellow banner, proclaiming "Freedom for Ukraine," led the marchers to October Revolution Plaza, and many curious spectators joined the crowds to hear people's deputies tell them that their support was of the utmost importance if they did not want to continue to be a colony of the Kremlin, if they wanted to be masters on their own lands.

And, although many of the people in the front lines of the demonstration were physically broken because of the long years they had spent in exile, their enthusiasm for an independent Ukraine ran high. They were for most of the crowd living history, evidence of a people who will not be suppressed by a Communist-totalitarian regime.

Their spirit was contagious for participants of the newly formed workers' movement, which has been labeled the Ukrainian Solidarity, as well as students, many of whom plan to mobilize their forces this fall if indeed danger of the signing of a union treaty continues to mount. The students, now united in the Union of Ukrainian Students, have already sent the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR a memo indicating that they are ready to begin a new hunger strike if the Supreme Soviet votes to sign the union treaty.

Despite the inclement weather, the people were responsive to this latest strategy planned by the National Council of the Supreme Soviet. Tens of deputies spoke at the meeting, urging the people to come out and support the democratic movement, and convince the chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament that this is not the right time to sign a union treaty.

Ihor Yukhnovsky, head of the National Council, as well as his vice-chairman, Volodymyr Filenko, told the people that the National Council will follow the people. Mr. Filenko added that if Ukraine were to enter any union, it would be as a full-fledged member of the family of nations in Europe.

Inter-Party Assembly Chairman Yuriy Shukhevych arrives in U.S.



Yuriy Shukhevych (holding bouquet of flowers) is welcomed at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport by Ukrainian community representatives.

CHICAGO — Yuriy Shukhevych, chairman of the Ukrainian Inter-Party Assembly, arrived in the United States June 16 to seek medical treatment for his eyes and to visit Ukrainian American communities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

The 58-year-old Mr. Shukhevych is the son of Gen. Roman Shukhevych — Taras Chuprynka — commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, which fought both the Nazis and the Red Army in World War II. At his refusal to denounce his father and the cause he represented, Mr. Shukhevych was arrested at the age of 15, forced to spend 30 years in Soviet concentration camps and 11 years in exile.

His four decades of incarceration and exile have left Mr. Shukhevych blind.

Mr. Shukhevych arrived in Chicago with his colleague Dmytro Kaluzhny at the invitation of the Society of Soldiers of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and was greeted by Bohdan Fedorak, chairman of the Ukrainian government (Ukrainske Derzhavne Pravlinnia) in

exile; Wolodymyr Mazur, on behalf of the Organizations of the Ukrainian Liberation Front in the U.S.; Orest Baranyk, president of the local Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Lev Futala, the Society of Soldiers of the UPA; Ola Korol, national executive board of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM-A); and others.

While in the United States, Mr. Shukhevych will visit Detroit, June 30; Cleveland, July 2; Philadelphia, July 3-4; Newark, July 5; Glen Spey, N.Y., July 6; Passaic, N.J., July 7; New York, July 8; Yonkers, N.Y., July 9; Hartford, July 10; Los Angeles, July 11-12; Phoenix, Ariz., July 13; Toronto, Winnipeg and Ottawa, July 14-21; Washington, July 22-27; Syracuse, N.Y., July 28; Rochester, July 29; and Buffalo, July 30. He has already visited Chicago and Minneapolis.

Mr. Shukhevych also plans to meet with members of the youth organizations Plast and SUM-A and representatives of various political organizations.



Former Soviet political prisoners dressed in inmates' garb, among them Oles Shevchenko (far left), during anti-union demonstration.

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Battle of Berestechko...

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right. But we must be united to make this long and difficult road... For us, this battle of Berestechko is a symbol of the steadfastness of our people: when our people fought for their liberty. This is a glorious page in our history, an example of a people's behavior in difficult times. History reminds us: victory is possible when we are united, when a people stand together, whole. Ukraine should not divide into groups or parties, east and west, south and north."

Criticism of Mr. Kravchuk continued, however. He was defended by Patriarch Mstyslav, who told the gathered crowds: "I do not want to be a participant in an ordinary meeting on the graves of our ancestors. ... Do you understand?"

The 94-year-old primate said, "My life's experience, which is one of many years, my understanding of virtue, my servitude to God and man hold me back from reacting to the fact that we make political shenanigans out of our national tragedies."

Patriarch Mstyslav, who was a member of the Polish Sejm (Parliament) in the 1930s, when western Ukraine was under Polish rule, told the attentive crowds: "I began my journey to Ukraine (he arrived in late March) and thought, how should I prepare myself? I remembered Shevchenko's words: 'Listen to the Ukrainian graves, graves of those who suffered, graves of martyrs, graves of those who lived not only for themselves, but for the glory of God...'"

Patriarch Mstyslav recalled his days as a parliamentarian and continued:

"We came here today, with us is the highest representative of the Ukrainian nation, the magistrate of the Ukrainian government. Yes, you may like him, or not like him, but my dears, a government that admits that it is time to be rid of all that is inhuman, foreign, a government that understands the mood of its nation, its roots, deserves respect."

"And because of this, I bow my head before all those who had the courage to come listen to the graves, to respond and to talk with our ancestors, the Kozaks. Listen, put your ear to the graves and they will talk to you, saying: 'Pray, embrace one another, look each other in the eye. Shake hands, forget those little things that divide you. Blood does not separate you. And this is why, respected Chairman Kravchuk, I give you my hand.'"

Many of the assembled lingered a while longer at the graves of the Kozaks, singing Ukrainian national songs and old Kozak ballads before following the procession to the unveiling of the

monument to the Kozak heroes. An honor guard of Kozaks fell to its knees as the patriarch and Ukrainian state leader made their way to the statue, designed by Anatoliy Kushch and erected thanks to funding from the Rivne Oblast Council and citizens' donations. (The oblast donated 1.5 million rubles and citizens collected 100,000).

The monument, which depicts a hetman and two Kozaks back to back, stands in the middle of the field, along the way to the famous Museum of Kozak Graves and the chapel, which continues to be of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church rite (formerly Moscow Patriarchate). Thousands — some estimate the crowd at 300,000 (the same number as took part in the Battle of Berestechko) — witnessed this event, as deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR laid flowers at the base. Among these deputies were Mr. Kravchuk, Levko Lukianenko, Ivan Zayets, Vasyly Chervoniy and Mykola Porovsky, both from the Rivne region, and Oleh Hudyma, to name but a few.

Other guests of honor at the ceremony included U.S. Consul John Stepanchuk, now based in Kiev, and Larysa Khorolets, the new Ukrainian minister of culture.

Members of both the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches took part in the blessing of the monument but Patriarch Mstyslav, as usual, had the final word.

Hundreds of thousands of people came by bus in the scorching heat to witness an event that was impossible to organize just two years ago.

Mr. Chervoniy, who was on the Rivne Oblast organizing committee this year, recalled that in 1989, a group of young Rukh activists had decided to renew a tradition practiced in the 1930s by Volyn residents. More than 25,000 people gathered in 1933-1934, from all of Volyn, Polissia and Halychyna to pay tribute to the Kozaks who died in Berestechko.

And in 1989, under the auspices of the Prosvita University of Rivne and Rukh in Rivne, the organizers of the Days of Kozak Glory were able to organize about 5,000 people. "Although the numbers don't sound so grand, it was the first time since before World War II that we were able to gather such a large crowd," said Mr. Chervoniy. "This was the first step we in Volyn took to awaken our national consciousness."

However, after the event, the organizers, among them Mr. Chervoniy, were fined 200 rubles each.

But things have changed so much in this two-year period. The village of Plasheva was stunned to host so many visitors. Many walked five kilometers



Marta Kolomayets

Kozak places wreath at the foot of a monument to Kozak heroes unveiled in the field where the Battle of Berestechko took place.

because their buses were not allowed to park closer to the Kozak hills. The highest-ranking Ukrainian statesman and the head of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church came

together to honor their ancestors. "We have a different situation here than in Zaporizhzhia," Mr. Chervoniy said. "After all, in Volyn we did not live

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Patriarch Mstyslav addresses crowd at the site of a memorial service offered at Kozak graves. Also in the photo (to right of the patriarch) is Leonid Kravchuk.



Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman Leonid Kravchuk and Patriarch Mstyslav I greet each other.

Ottawa Friends of Rukh hosts evening with Les Taniuk

by Lesya Grange
and Lubomyr Chabursky

OTTAWA — The Ottawa Friends of Rukh on May 5 hosted an evening with Les Taniuk, a member of the Ukrainian Parliament and chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Culture. He is well-known for his theatrical and cinematographic work that was always on the cutting edge of creativity. Recently, he has expended considerable effort to popularize the accomplishments of Ukrainian poets and writers who have suffered from Soviet repression.

Mr. Taniuk described the politics that rage in the Ukrainian Parliament. He first emphasized the importance of reaching out to the inhabitants of town and villages that are far from centers of national renewal, for these citizens are not yet acquainted with the benefits of democratization and the strengthening of nationhood. Mr. Taniuk maintained that increasing national self-awareness through the dissemination of information is the key to a national and cultural renaissance.

Mr. Taniuk said he is convinced that the Soviet empire is falling apart. Even today, every Soviet republic forges ahead with its own political, economic and governmental program, without regard for the wishes of the central Soviet government in Moscow. The Ukrainian government, for example, is moving towards the Canadian parliamentary model, Mr. Taniuk noted.

Mr. Taniuk contended that the central government is helpless to stop these centrifugal forces, despite a military that numbers over 5 million. The morale in the military has been considerably undermined among both the ranks of soldiers and officers, due to a lack of sufficient personal security in the form of income or adequate accommodation. Seeing that the Soviet system is in decline, high-ranking officers and generals hasten to use their positions of power for the aggregation of personal wealth. Indeed, they may become the newest bourgeoisie as a result, he said.

Mr. Taniuk insisted that the command economy cannot survive or develop on the basis of the fear and repressions that accompany central directives. The village will not feed the city under orders from government; it must first feed itself. Productivity will return only when the village is allowed

to flourish culturally and spiritually through the reinstatement of Ukrainian schools and churches. Mr. Taniuk asserted that villages will progress towards prosperity once the populace believes that their fate and fortune is in their own hands.

According to the rules of the Ukrainian Parliament, any matter or issue may be reconsidered only five years after it was previously raised and considered in Parliament. Therefore, it is important not to rush the consideration of matters that are still maturing; otherwise, an Act of Parliament or a decision of Parliament may fix an undesirable status quo, Mr. Taniuk explained. For example, given the rapid change in attitudes, the Land Act that was passed in the fall would most likely have been more favorable had it been considered today. And yet, now it cannot be amended to reflect the more progressive current attitudes until five years from its passage.

Mr. Taniuk cited as another example the issue of the emblem and national flag of Ukraine. If the Democratic Bloc raises this issue in the Ukrainian Parliament prematurely, the conservative majority would most likely affirm the current Soviet flag for Ukraine. Then nothing could be done to change this matter for five years. Thus he explained it would be much better to wait until the trident and blue-yellow Ukrainian flag receive more wide spread endorsement in cities and municipalities across Ukraine, and thus to generate support for this national symbolism among a majority of the deputies in Parliament.

Today, the majority of the populace in Ukraine is concerned with social issues related to life on a day-to-day basis. Mr. Taniuk said he believes that the Democratic Bloc of deputies in the Ukrainian Parliament should take up the cause of these social issues in order to prevent the conservative Communist Bloc of deputies from championing the well-being of the common citizen.

However, Mr. Taniuk asserted that it is imperative to feature the issue of sovereignty and the formulation of a new Ukrainian Constitution. Every social issue should be explicitly related to sovereignty in such a way as to convince the general populace that its well-being is inextricably linked to the creation of true sovereignty for Ukraine, he stated.

St. John the Baptist Shrine becomes site of first pilgrimage

by Chris Guly

OTTAWA — It took a papal decree and a copy of the miraculous icon of the Mother of God of Perpetual Help to make it official. St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church and National Shrine is now also a pilgrimage site.

More than 450 parishioners and guests packed the four-year-old church over the weekend of June 1-2 to attend the first official annual summer pilgrimage.

Celebrations began on Saturday night, with a sacred choral festival featuring three groups. The 21-member parish choir, opened the program with M. Fedoriv's rendition of "Bohorodyse Divo" (Hail Mary).

Toronto's Verkhovyna a capella trio (Natalia Saranchuk, Marichka Hlibovych and Roma Jaciw), wearing traditional costumes, filled the church with a wide range of tempo and harmony. They brought a near perfect blend of life and solemnity to their repertoire, which included "Prayer to the Mother of God" by A. Hnatyshyn.

The 80-minute concert concluded with a rousing performance by Ottawa's famed Cantata Singers. To his credit, conductor Lawrence Ewashko was able to use phonetics effectively enough to capture the enormous talent of the non-ethnic vocal troupe. Vedel's "Otoche Nash" (Our Father) and Diletsky's "Voskresnyi Kanon" (Resurrection Canon) were given stunning interpretations which could easily rival the best Ukrainian-language choir in the country.

The Rev. Andriy Chirovsky, director of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky

Institute for Eastern Christian Studies in Ottawa, served as concert host. Keeping true to the Marian theme of the evening, he read from early Christian writings on the devotion to Mary.

The following morning, Toronto's Bishop Isidore Borecky led the procession which brought the sacred icon into its new home. Now declared the "Icon of the Mother of Perpetual Help of Ottawa" by pastor the Rev. Vladimir Shewchuk, the historic reproduction will reside within a red maple frame on the left front wall of the church's interior.

In an interview prior to the pilgrimage, the Rev. Shewchuk explained that the icon was ordered after Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk of Winnipeg announced the pilgrimage distinction last fall. The original, whose veneration dates back to 15th century Crete and western Ukraine, rests in Rome's Church of the Holy Redeemer. The Ottawa copy was blessed by Pope John Paul II in April.

Bishop Borecky also celebrated a pontifical divine liturgy in a day which also included a rosary recitation, a moleben and a luncheon.

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church now joins other pilgrim places across the country, including the Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes in Cooks Creek, Manitoba. As Mary March, one of the event organizers said, the parish's new distinction "makes it a people place." She added, "You can't have an empty shrine with no one coming."

Pilgrimages are expected to be held each year, during the first weekend of June.



The icon of the Mother of God of Perpetual Help of Ottawa in procession at St. John the Baptist Church.

VOA director names Bilajiw chief of Ukrainian Branch

WASHINGTON — Voice of America Director Richard W. Carlson has named Wolodymyr Bilajiw chief of VOA's Ukrainian Branch.

As chief, Mr. Bilajiw will be responsible for overseeing VOA's Ukrainian-language programming on shortwave to the USSR, which has an estimated audience ranging between 4 to 5 million. The primary target of VOA Ukrainian broadcasts is Ukraine, with a population of 51.7 million.

Mr. Bilajiw replaces Mykola Francuzenko, who has retired.

Mr. Bilajiw, a native of Ukraine and a long-time resident of Philadelphia, joined VOA in 1984 as a writer in the Ukrainian Branch. Shortly thereafter, he became Far East program leader and worked as news editor, evening and breakfast shows coordinator, and feature editor.

In the fall of 1989, Mr. Bilajiw was

appointed deputy chief of the Ukrainian Branch.

Prior to joining VOA, Mr. Bilajiw served as an aide to the editor-in-chief of the Ukrainian monthly Literary-Scientific Herald and editor-in-chief of the monthly Meta and worked as a freelance correspondent and contributing editor for numerous Ukrainian periodicals. He also worked at various times on contract for Radio Liberty and VOA.

Mr. Bilajiw is the author of two books of poetry in Ukrainian and of one monograph on a famous Ukrainian opera singer. He has also authored numerous essays on Ukrainian topics and holds memberships with PEN International and the Association of Ukrainian Writers Abroad.

Mr. Bilajiw studied English, American literature, history, political science and international relations at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Wasylyk promoted at State Department

WASHINGTON — Myron W. Wasylyk joined the staff of the State Department's executive secretary on May 28 as a special assistant to the ambassador at large and United States coordinator for refugee affairs.

Since July 1989, Mr. Wasylyk has been a special programs assistant in the Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs within the department's Political Division. In that capacity, Mr. Wasylyk served with distinction as the bureau's principal expert on human rights cases in the Soviet Union.

He participated in the U.S.-USSR Bilateral Human Rights Working Group during three ministerial-level meetings between Secretary of State

James Baker and former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Mr. Wasylyk was also instrumental in the organization of several rule of law programs throughout Eastern Europe, particularly in Romania.

Before joining the Department of State, Mr. Wasylyk was a public affairs specialist at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Prior to government service, Mr. Wasylyk was director of the Ukrainian National Information Service in Washington. He is a graduate of Kent State University in Ohio (B.A., 1984), and is currently enrolled at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Washington.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM



The Fraternal Corner

by Andre J. Worobec
Fraternal Activities Coordinator

More about UNA branches

Recently 24 UNA branches, whose month of founding is August, have been reminded about commemorating this founding event in some small way, as with a religious service for the departed members and a gathering of the members over coffee. The UNA Home Office is willing to provide assistance for such activity.

There are some important facts worth mentioning about these branches. Of these 24, two branches are having milestone anniversaries. Branch 426 from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, was founded 30 years ago, and Branch 75 of Detroit was founded 75 years ago and, thus, this is its diamond jubilee.

According to the 40th Jubilee Book of the UNA (1934), Branch 75 was an integral part of the Detroit Ukrainian community. Its contribution to the Ukrainian community was that it was instrumental in founding a Horozhansky Kliub (Ukrainian American Citizen's club). Such organizations were important in helping early Ukrainian immigrants move into the mainstream of the American society. It meant arranging for English language classes for new immigrants, learning about the U.S. political and legal system, American customs and aiming toward preparing our people to become U.S. citizens.

Members of this branch cooperated with other Ukrainian organizations, especially with UNA Branch 175 and 292, in fraternal work and in recruiting new UNA members.

In the 40th UNA Jubilee Book, it is evident that almost every branch was involved in some sort of fund-raising to support Ukrainian causes in the U.S. and the homeland. These took the form of levying dues on the membership, voluntary collections, and holding picnics, concerts, or similar events and donating their proceeds to a designated cause.

Today, while it is possible to single out some UNA branches that still are active and are continuing this tradition, it is regrettably not as prevalent among our branches now as it had been 50 or more years ago.

Another interesting fact about these branches is that half of them have anniversaries in the over-50-years category.

- Seven were founded more than 80 years ago: Branch 123 of Scranton, Pa., and Branch 127 of Cheektowaga, N.Y., are 86 years old; Branch 191 of Troy, N.Y., is 83; Branch 283 of Auburn, N.Y., and Branch 316 of Rochester, N.Y., are 82; and Branch 192 of Herkimer, N.Y., and Branch 296 of New Kensington, Pa., are 81.

- Two branches are in the over 70-year old category: Branch 330 of Little Falls, N.Y., is 79 years old and the above-mentioned Branch 75, is 75.

- Two branches are over 60 years old: Branch 305 from Delano, Pa., 67, and Branch 204 from New York City, 66.

- Branch 468 of Niagara Falls, Ontario, is 51 years old. Why are we

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Obituaries

William Polewchak, youth league president

COLTS NECK, N.J. — William Polewchak, former president of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, director of Ukrainian folk dancing in New York City and adviser for the Ukrainian Heritage Foundation, died on April 11 after a long illness. He was 63 years old.

Mr. Polewchak was born in Northampton, Pa. He was a 1950 graduate of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and attended Harvard Law School.

Mr. Polewchak was a civil engineer for the Shell Oil Co. in Woodbridge until his 1985 retirement. Prior to that,

he was manager of real estate and land development in Houston for 12 years.

A communicant of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church in Elizabeth, Mr. Polewchak was also a member of the New Jersey Society of Professional Engineers and the Ukrainian National Association.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Fedirko; daughters, Lisa Anne and Mrs. Evan Josinski; brother, Edward; and sister, Alice Senchy.

A funeral liturgy was offered at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church in Elizabeth, N.J. Interment followed at St. Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia, N.J.

John Kudrysch, UNA activist

BERWICK, Pa. — John Kudrysch, a longtime secretary and delegate of Ukrainian National Association Branch 164, the Brotherhood of Mykhailo Hrushevsky, died on April 27 after suffering a heart attack. He was 67 years old.

Born on September 27, 1923, in the village of Pryslyp, near Turka, western Ukraine, Mr. Kudrysch was the son of Ivan and Tetyana Kudrysch.

He immigrated to the United States in 1950 and worked at Wise Borden for 32 years, retiring in 1988.

Mr. Kudrysch was an active member of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church and served as its

caretaker for 22 years. He also belonged to the Ukrainian American Citizens Club of Berwick.

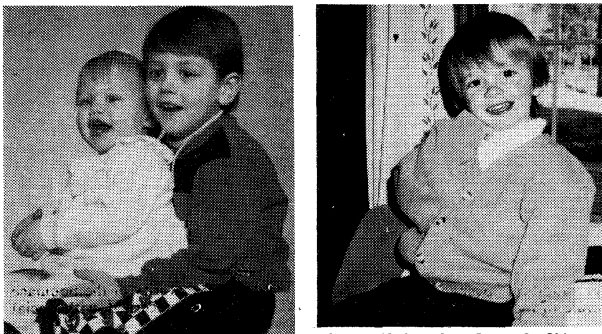
He is survived by his wife, Anne Pleiner; son, John Jr.; daughters, Mrs. William Livzey Jr., Maria Whitmire, Mrs. Wayne Hoyt, Mrs. Lewis Allen and Betty Kudrysch; brothers, Sam and Nicholas; sister, Anna Kudrysch in Ukraine; 11 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

A funeral liturgy was offered by the Rev. John Beckage, pastor of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church; interment followed at the parish cemetery in Briar Creek Township.

Young UNA'ers



Michael and Christine Platosz are the two newest members of UNA Branch 254 of New Britain, Conn. They are the children of Alderman and Mrs. Adam Platosz.

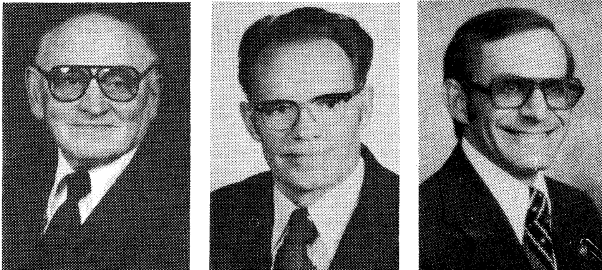


Anne E., I., and Joseph J. Farrone, 4, children of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Farrone of Ashland, Pa., are new members of UNA Branch 382. They were enrolled by their grandmother Olga Farrone.



Marko Christopher Czernyk, 2½, son of Borys and Mary Czernyk of Montville, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 194. He was enrolled by his grandparents Lidia and Jaroslaw Czernyk.

UNA cites organizing champions



Michael Kihiczak

Stefan Hawrysz

Joseph Chaban

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Michael Kihiczak, Branch 496 secretary, is the UNA's May 1991 organizing champion. He was able to sign up 20 new certificate holders in that month. The first runner-up was Supreme Auditor Stefan Hawrysz with 10 new members. The UNA Executive Committee has extended congratulations and sincere thanks to both.

In the first five months of 1991 the drive for new membership was spearheaded by the following organizers: Branch 496, Mr. Kihiczak, 82 new members; Branch 242, Joseph Chaban, 30 new members; and Branch 231, Supreme Auditor William Pastuszek, 14 new members.

Two secretaries signed up 11 members each, namely: Branch 174, Dr. Atanas Slusarczuk and Branch 184, Barbara Baczynski. The next two

secretaries show 10 new members each: Branch 217, Stephen Prymak, and Branch 375, Petro Tarnawsky. Then follow two branch secretaries with nine new members, five secretaries with seven, 10 secretaries with six, nine secretaries with five, and the rest between four and one members each.

The UNA membership increased by 607 certificate holders in the five-month period of 1991; they were insured for the sum of \$4,368,000. The Supreme Executive Committee extends sincere thanks to each and every organizer for their important work devoted to the growth of the UNA.

Among all UNA district committees, the organizing leader is the Shamokin District Committee headed by Branch 242 Secretary Mr. Chaban. His district's annual organizing quota is already attained at 63 percent.

THE Ukrainian Weekly

Support the rebirth

In her report to the 1991 annual meeting of the Ukrainian National Association's Supreme Assembly, Supreme President Ulana Diachuk noted "the extraordinary needs existing in all branches of the economy, science, culture and education" in Ukraine, and said that it was with this fact in mind that delegates to the 32nd UNA Convention had voted to create a Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine.

The hope was that UNA members and others would contribute \$150,000 per year, while the UNA would donate \$100,000 annually for the next four years and, thus, establish a \$1 million fund to help Ukraine at this crucial time in its history.

During the first year of its existence, the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine has collected nearly \$180,000, in addition to the UNA's own pledged amount. And, we are proud to say, \$50,000 of that amount came from Weekly subscribers alone who responded to a fund-raising Christmas card mailing late last year.

Now as the UNA fund is entering its second year, at the same time that UNA dividend checks are being mailed out to UNA members (i.e., holders of UNA life insurance policies), the Supreme Executive Committee is once again asking members to endorse their dividend checks and return them to the UNA as donations toward the Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine. This is a simple and quick way for UNAers to support this worthwhile endeavor that has already provided funds for several notable projects.

UNA Supreme Treasurer Alexander Blahitka has explained that the fund focuses its support on economic and educational projects as "long-range, serious economic reform is a prelude to any independence for Ukraine" and educational support truly is an investment in Ukraine's future.

That is why the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine has donated monies for publication of an economics textbook and a Ukrainian-language economic dictionary, and for the shipment by the Sabre Foundation to Ukraine of scientific, educational and professional books.

Funds have also been applied to help cover travel expenses, and teaching aids for an instructor of English language courses being given this summer in Ukraine, for counselor training of Plast members from Ukraine, and for study of a deserving Lviv resident at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The donations have ranged from \$1,000 to \$15,000, the latter amount being used as seed money for the Foundation for Democracy in Ukraine which is now being established to apply for American foundation grants for aid to Ukraine.

Surely, the above projects represent a good start for the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine. With more money the fund, obviously, will be able to do even more good. We are certain that UNA members this year will once again respond generously to ensure the fund's further growth toward its \$1 million goal and thus play a part in securing a brighter future for Ukraine.

July
7
1659

Turning the pages back...

On July 7, 1659, Hetman Ivan Vyhovsky routed the Muscovite army at Konotop.

The events leading up to this historic battle are described in Dr. Orest Subtelný's "Ukraine: A History." An excerpt from the book follows.

Vyhovsky was one of the most sophisticated and best educated of the Kozak leaders. An Orthodox nobleman from the Kiev region, he had studied at the renowned Mohyla Academy. In 1648, while serving with the Poles, he was captured at Zhovti Vody. Because he valued his education and experience, Khmelnytsky freed him and Vyhovsky joined the Kozaks, quickly rising to the post of secretary-general.

The new hetman soon made it clear that he favored the rising starshyna. In international relations, his preference was for the establishment of an independent Ukrainian principality. However, Ukraine was too weak for such a step, so Vyhovsky concentrated on finding a counterbalance to Muscovite influence in Ukraine. For this reason, he established closer ties with Poland.

While the Kozak and ecclesiastical elite supported the rapprochement with Poland, the masses, suspicious of any understanding between the Kozak sack officers and the Polish nobles, vehemently opposed it. Vociferous in their opposition were the Zaporozhians, led by Iakiv Barabash, and the Kozaks of the Poltava regiment whose colonel, Martyn Pushkar, had ambitions to become hetman. Just as Vyhovsky hoped to play the Poles off against the tsar, the Muscovites, quick to observe the social tensions in Ukrainian society, began to agitate the masses against the hetman.

By the end of 1657, a large part of the Kozak rank and file rebelled against the hetman and in June 1658, two opposing Kozak armies clashed in a bloody battle near Poltava. Vyhovsky emerged victorious, Pushkar was killed on the battlefield along with 15,000 rebels, while Barabash was later captured and executed. For the hetman, it was a Pyrrhic victory, for the total cost of the fratricidal struggle was about 50,000 Ukrainian lives.

(Continued on page 12)

Helsinki Commission report

National minorities and Ukraine

by Orest Deychakiwsky

Following is part of a forthcoming report on national minorities prepared for the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission). National minorities is also the topic of a 34-state meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe that is to take place in Geneva on July 1-19. Orest Deychakiwsky is a staff member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

PART I

As Ukraine itself is part of a larger entity, the Soviet Union, that is dominated by Russians, Ukrainians can be viewed as a national minority within the USSR. Decades of Russification have made Ukrainian culture a minority culture in the Ukrainian republic. But Ukrainian cultural life is now enjoying a remarkable reawakening as Ukraine gains greater control over its own affairs.

The reassertion of Ukrainian political sovereignty and cultural identity has gone hand-in-hand with efforts to preserve and develop the language and culture of the over 100 minorities residing in Ukraine. Both Ukraine's government and democratic movement are taking measures to promote equal rights for all minorities. Though their cultural life is beginning to flourish, there is still a considerable way to go to meet their diverse needs. Ultimately, the situation of national minorities in Ukraine will depend on the outcome of the political struggle between "the center" and the increasingly assertive republics. Based on developments to date, there is reason to believe that a democratic, sovereign Ukraine will address the concerns of national minorities more equitably than the highly centralized Soviet state.

Ukraine in the Soviet context

An examination of the national minority issue in Ukraine must take into account that Ukraine itself is part of a larger entity, the Soviet Union, in which Russians have historically played a dominant role. In this light, Ukrainians can be viewed as a national minority.

Ukraine's history has been characterized by centuries of foreign domination, chiefly by Russia and Poland. As the largest Slavic nation after the Russians, Ukrainians have historically posed the greatest potential threat to the existence of the Russian empire and later the Soviet Union. Consequently, as a people, they have suffered severe repression for asserting their cultural, religious and national identity.

Both under the tsars and Communists, manifestations of this identity were suppressed, often brutally. Knowledge of Russian, the main medium of communication in the Soviet Union,

virtually has been a requirement for career advancement and social mobility, and Ukrainian-language schools in the highly Russified cities of eastern and southern Ukraine are few and far between. Ukrainian culture, thus, has been a minority culture even in the Ukrainian republic; only now is the policy of Russification beginning to be reversed, and Ukraine's previously restricted cultural life is enjoying a remarkable reawakening.

However, the republic's current attempt to determine its own fate is not primarily that of a national minority seeking to assert its rights. Rather, it is the attempt of a nation to assert its identity as a political entity, either as an independent state, a member of a commonwealth of Soviet or former Soviet republics or, at the very minimum, a more autonomous political entity within a Soviet federation or confederation.

Although within the last few years Ukraine has made major steps toward seeking greater sovereignty, the most levers of power still reside in Moscow—in what is commonly called "the center." Therefore, the Ukrainian government's influence with respect to national minorities within Ukraine remains limited and will grow only as it gains greater authority.

Ukraine's assertion of control over its own fate and growing independence from Moscow have manifested themselves in several ways. Among the most significant are: the relatively free March 1990 Ukrainian Supreme Soviet elections; the adoption of the Declaration of State Sovereignty by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet on July 16, 1990; and the various follow-up laws aimed at implementing the declared sovereignty. But full implementation cannot be realized until the issue of where power resides, whether in Kiev or in Moscow, is decided.

At the same time, Ukrainians also figure as national minorities in other Soviet republics, as some 5 to 7 million Ukrainians reside outside the Ukrainian republic. The rights of this Ukrainian minority, like those of other minorities, were severely circumscribed by Kremlin policies of Russification. It is only under the somewhat freer conditions of the last five years that their rights are slowly beginning to be respected. Cultural opportunities for them, however, as well as for other non-Russians, are still very limited. As republics gain control over their internal affairs, the issue may be addressed more favorably.

Minorities in Ukraine: historical background

Until the 19th century, over 90 percent of the population of Ukraine was ethnically Ukrainian. During the

(Continued on page 15)

UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine



The Home Office of the Ukrainian National Association reports that, as of June 27, the fraternal organization's newly established Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine has received 6,888 checks from its members with donations totalling \$179,690.80. The contributions include individual members' dividend checks and interest payments on promissory notes.

NEWS AND VIEWS

The silent Chernobyl

The shocking reality of hospital-acquired (nosocomial) HIV infection in the Soviet Union is outlined in a recent New England Journal of Medicine editorial. (HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus known to cause AIDS, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.)

Dr. George Gellert of the Harvard Institute of International Development notes that until 1988 AIDS was not a national concern in the Soviet Union. In 1987 only 200 cases of HIV infection were reported in the Soviet Union. In contrast, AIDS has been an international concern since first discovered in 1982. Could it be that the Soviet Union is devoid of high risk populations for AIDS? No, this is unlikely; homosexuality and intravenous drug abuse are illegal and, thus these citizens are not officially recognized.

A more upsetting fact is that another source of HIV infection in the Soviet Union is the hospital reuse of inappropriately sterilized hypodermic needles. Two reports have indicated that 96 children acquired HIV infection from reuse of hypodermic needles in the cities of Elista and Volgograd. A diphtheria epidemic in Moscow has surfaced because mothers fear vaccinating their children with AIDS contaminated needles.

While the Soviet Health Ministry has stated that annual single-use hypodermic

Oleh S. Slupchynskyy M.D. is a June graduate of New York Medical College in Valhalla, N.Y.

Museum of Civilization focuses on Ukrainians

HULL, Quebec — From August 29 to February 21, 1993, the Canadian Museum of Civilization will be featuring "Art and Ethnicity: The Ukrainian Tradition in Canada" — one of the most prestigious events organized to mark the centenary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. There are today over 500,000 Ukrainians living in Canada.

The exhibition, divided into 11 thematic zones, will enable visitors to appreciate the various aspects of the Ukrainian Canadian experience, such as immigration, religion, folklore and art. There are works by over 100 artists and artisans from across Canada. The exhibition is further enhanced with audio-visual presentations.

In "Coming to Canada," visitors will understand the hardships encountered in the new land and the turmoil and despair that drove the emigres away from their homeland. "Legacy of Faith" highlights their Christian beliefs with displays of icons, an age-old tradition. "Celebration" focuses on Ukrainian customs and rituals as well as music, song and folk dance and their role in Ukrainian festivities. In "Pysanka" (Easter egg), visitors will be fascinated with the display of close to 1,000 colorful eggs!

Highlights surrounding the exhibition include, in the context of Cultures Canada, an indoor/outdoor Ukrainian festival over the long week-end in September featuring dances and concerts, site animation and workshops in the Children's Museum and a full-stage production in the Theater. Programming will continue into the fall and winter months.

needle production will reach 3 billion by late 1992, only 192 million single-use syringes were produced in 1989 and 300 million were imported. This year production is expected to be 354.6 million single-use syringes; only 10 percent of the national requirement. It is highly unlikely that syringe production in the Soviet Union will increase by 90 percent within the next year.

Preventive medicine is the number one weapon in the fight against AIDS. There is no known cure for this disease which kills in the prime of life. Now due to primitive public health practices, AIDS has spread to an innocent population not considered high risk for HIV infection.

Dr. Gellert proposes that the international community has a responsibility to avert a crisis from nosocomial HIV transmission in the Soviet Union. He also suggests that a multinational effort should establish manufacturing capabilities for single-use syringes in the Soviet Union and supply enough syringes in the interim to meet the national demand.

If the government continues to ignore the AIDS epidemic, many people will die. The deadly virus is passing silently during routine vaccinations and daily administration of intravenous medicine. Similar to the Chernobyl disaster where ghostly radiation is contributing to a rise in cancer deaths, so too will AIDS contribute to increased deaths from opportunistic infectious disease (non-fatal infections in healthy individuals).

However, unlike the Chernobyl disaster, the AIDS epidemic cannot be visualized with satellite photos and radiation sensors. This silent Chernobyl is another example of how the Soviet government has minimized a growing national disaster.

In light of the Soviet Union's recent diplomatic efforts to resolve the problems of the Gulf War, I believe the world should express its gratitude by donating syringes and initiating disposable syringe production within the Soviet Union. Hopefully the Soviet Union would accept such a gracious offer, even if it means dealing with capitalist entrepreneurs.

by Adrian Karmazyn
UNA Washington Office

WASHINGTON — As opportunities for citizens of Ukraine to travel abroad increase, it's important to remember that no trip can take place without the permission of the U.S. and Soviet governments.

To visit the United States, Soviet citizens must obtain a U.S. entry visa. The entry visa classifications most likely to be used are the B-1 visa (for those persons traveling to attend business and professional meetings), the B-2 visa (for those visiting family or friends as a tourist or for those traveling to receive medical treatment) or the H-type visa (for those coming to the U.S. to render service or labor — including musicians and singers — or to receive training).

The State Department Visa Office explains that new classifications are currently being designed for performers. These new classifications, which are slated to go into effect in October,

Centennial sojourn

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA — Awarding Richmond, British Columbia, native Helen Tokarek one of 25 "Citation for Citizenship" awards last month, the Canadian Multicultural and Citizenship Ministry has perhaps paid one of the best tributes to the Ukrainian Canadian community during this centennial year. Mrs. Tokarek, 77, a mother of two and a grandmother of four, is a living link to our heritage.

A long and active member of her ethnic, gender and community groups, the Saskatchewan native spent the post-World War II years working with Ukrainian immigrants arriving in Canada. In a telephone interview from her West Coast home, she explains that she would go out and meet the trains loaded with displaced East European refugees.

If Mrs. Tokarek is an example of Canada's reputed open-door society, she is also a symbol of its citizens' community awareness, involvement and participation.

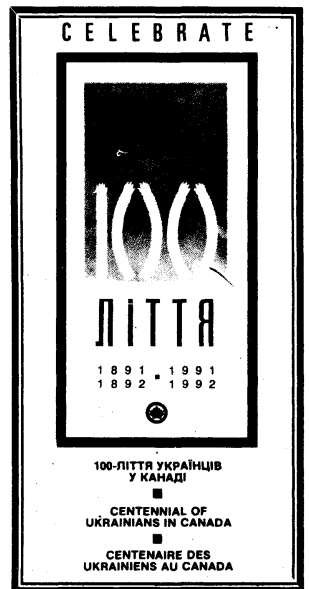
Reading her biography provides an exhaustive list of achievements: a 50-year member of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada; a founding member and first president of the British Columbia Ukrainian Women's Provincial Council of that same organization; a member and vice-president of the Vancouver branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee.

There's more: president of the Vancouver Council of Women and recipient of a life membership in the National Council of Women of Canada; president of the Vancouver Citizenship Council.

Mrs. Tokarek's day job was equally impressive. A teacher of French language and culture, she regularly organized student exchanges between British Columbia and Quebec and spent time in Canada's Francophone province mastering her craft.

As an educator, her love for learning and for her students appears boundless. She devoted her career to working with kids with learning disabilities.

But this is an unnecessary litany for a woman whose life and work speak for themselves.



Taking life a little slower these days as a result of diabetes, Mrs. Tokarek figures her work with Ukrainian women is her greatest accomplishment. "I encouraged (them) to move out of their circles, to move out to other nationalities, and not just be a tight little group ghetto of their own," she says.

That alone qualifies her for the Canadian medal. In its criteria, the citizenship citation recognizes Canadians for awareness of their rights and responsibilities and "for assisting their fellow Canadians to participate fully in society."

It goes on: "(and who) demonstrate the fundamental values of Canadian citizenship — freedom, justice, equality and respect for diversity."

Mrs. Tokarek must take some personal comfort in knowing that her activism has produced this tribute, in addition to the length of her curriculum vitae. Although she gets to spend more time these days with her 82-year old husband, William, to whom she's been married since 1939, Helen Tokarek is gathering no moss.

She's keen on writing more, (why not?) and is part of a group publishing a centennial book on the history of Ukrainians in her province.

U.S. visas: Don't leave Ukraine without 'em

are designed to limit work visas for musicians and singers to those who are "internationally recognized."

Students traveling to the U.S. for study fall under two visa categories: those that are participating in an official program sponsored or approved by the U.S. government (they require a J-type visa) and those in unofficial programs (they require F-type visas).

Soviet citizens can obtain the appropriate visa application forms at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. As part of the application process for a non-immigrant visa the Soviet citizen is required to prove his or her intent to leave the U.S. upon completion of their temporary visit.

It is very important to note that anyone in Ukraine who wishes to obtain a U.S. entry visa must travel to Moscow to receive it in person, prior to leaving for America. Sometimes, Ukrainians traveling to Canada with plans to later continue on to the U.S. apply only for a

Canadian entry visa, thinking that they can obtain a U.S. entry visa during their stay in Canada. In fact, once in Canada, it is virtually impossible for Soviet citizens to get visas for entry into the U.S. To borrow a phrase from the American Express travelers' checks commercials, when it comes to U.S. entry visas: "Don't leave home (in this case Ukraine) without them."

Besides getting permission from the U.S. government to enter the country, Soviet citizens also need permission from their government to travel abroad. The would-be traveler from Ukraine must receive an invitation letter or "vyklyk" ("vyzov" in Russian) from his or her American relative, friend or sponsor which they, in turn, must submit to the local office of visas and registration or militia office.

For more information and specific application instructions, please contact the State Department Visa Office at (202) 647-0510.

Yavir Quartet, Nina Matvienko highlight Father's Day program at Soyuzivka

by Andre J. Worobec

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The seventh annual Father's Day weekend was successfully celebrated at Soyuzivka this year. The Ukrainian National Association is thankful to two visiting groups of artists for enriching this festive occasion. These artists from Kiev, Ukraine, Nina Matvienko and the Yavir Men's Quartet, demonstrated why they were winners, worthy of the Shevchenko State Prize and true national artists of Ukraine.

At the 8 p.m. concert on Saturday, June 25, Ms. Matvienko singlehandedly dazzled the small but appreciative audience with her renditions of Ukrainian folk songs. After being introduced by the mistress of ceremonies, OIia Chodoba-Fryz, Ms. Matvienko acted as her own announcer and commentator. This gave the audience an added dimension in appreciating the meanings and feelings behind each of her numbers.

Through her comments and introductions of songs, the audience got to appreciate how the singer's family background influenced her to become the professional artist that she is. It got to know three Matvienko generations, her daughter, Tonia, who demonstrated her own talent when she sang three numbers as part of the concert.

Her concert was attended by an appreciative audience of about 150, an impressive number when one realizes that this event was competing with the popular Ukrainian Festival at the Garden State Arts Center in Holmdel, N.J., held that same day.

A dance followed immediately after Ms. Matvienko's concert. The dance hall was tastefully decorated and created a cozy atmosphere. This was further enriched by the Ukrainian dance music coming from "Sounds of Soyuzivka," the dance band featuring Hryts Hrynovets and Stepen Ben.

On Sunday, after divine liturgies in the respective Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox church and chapel, an ecumenical moleben was celebrated by the Rev. Marian Struc, pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Rev. John Kulish, pastor of the Ukrainian Orthodox congregation at Kerhonkson.

The service was held at St. Volodymyr Chapel for the intention of all Ukrainian fathers in the diaspora and in Ukraine. The choir of St. Volodymyr's congregation sang during the ceremony. The moleben was concluded by the singing of the prayer "Bozhe Velykyi Yedynyi" (O Great and Only God). About 100 people attended.

The Yavir quartet was the highlight of the entire Father's Day weekend celebration. The mistress of ceremonies, OIia Chodoba-Fryz, began the program by introducing Ulana Diachuk, supreme president of the Ukrainian National Association. In her opening remarks Mrs. Diachuk greeted everyone in the packed-to-overflowing Veselka auditorium. She welcomed UNA seniors on the occasion of their convention and thanked the guests for coming in such large numbers.

She gave special thanks to the following: Tekla Moroz, UNA supreme advisor, for organizing a bus excursion from Montreal-Lachine, first of its kind from

Canada; the leaders of the Watervliet group from the Albany, N.Y., area; and Dmytro Sarachmon, for organizing a bus excursion from Woonsocket, R.I.

She welcomed Dr. John Flis, past supreme president of the UNA, as well as members of the UNA Supreme Assembly, chairpersons of the UNA district committees and the UNA branch secretaries.

Mrs. Diachuk paid tribute to all fathers and to "Batko Soyuz" who, she said, has been father-protector of Ukrainians in the diaspora for almost a century. She also exhorted everyone to recruit more members for the UNA and to support the UNA, so that it could continue in its work as protector of Ukrainians abroad. This includes sponsoring concerts such as the one that day, improvements and modernization at Soyuzivka, support of Ukrainian publications and other assistance to Ukrainians in North America and abroad.

Before turning the program over to Ms. Chodoba-Fryz and Yavir, Mrs. Diachuk reported that Yavir had donated \$1,000 from their tour to the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine.

The Yavir quartet began its program with the singing of "Bozhe Velykyi Yedynyi" followed by "Mnohaya Lita" in honor of all fathers.

To paraphrase the mistress of ceremonies, the performance was something one has never experienced in any Ukrainian concert. To say that it was excellent would not suffice. It was the work of true professionals who had perfect rapport with the public. They held the audience's attention near hypnotically to the end of each concert half.

There was an intermission, during which Yevshan Communications Inc. from Montreal, which acted as Yavir's impresario on the North America tour, sold audio and video cassette tapes and CD recordings. After the intermission, two solo numbers were performed by the quartet's accompanist and musical director, Anatoly Mamalyga to supplement the 24 numbers sung by the quartet. Mr. Mamalyga carries the honor of "Merited Artist of Ukraine."

The quartet certainly lived up to its title of "National Artists of Ukraine," and its reputation as winner of the Shevchenko Prize. Through the song-by-song introductions and comments of Oles Kharchenko, first tenor, the audience got to know each of the members of the group more closely as individuals. Each of them is a full-time professional singer. Mr. Kharchenko is from the Cherkasy area; Evhen Prutkin, second tenor, is from the Dnipropetrovske region; Volodymyr Diduch, baritone, from Podillia; and Valentin Reus, bass, the Sumy area. Mr. Mamalyga is from Kamianets Podilsky.

Upon the quartet's completion of their last song the audience spontaneously stood up and sang "Mnohaya Lita" for the performers. After the standing ovation, the quartet reciprocated by singing "Shehe Ne Vmerla Ukraina" (the Ukrainian national anthem) in three verses.

This Father's Day weekend was a success, as some 600 attended the Sunday concert, while Soyuzivka was visited by some 800 guests.



Nina Matvienko with her daughter, Tonia.



The Yavir Quartet: (from left) Oles Kharchenko, Evhen Prutkin, Volodymyr Diduch and Valentin Reus.

Soyuzivka ready for summer season — its 38th

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — Its 38th summer season is just around the corner, and a spruced-up Soyuzivka awaits its guests.

Summer camps at the Ukrainian National Association's year-round resort have already begun as tennis campers arrived last week and preschoolers (who attend Plas' s day camp at the resort) are due here Sunday.

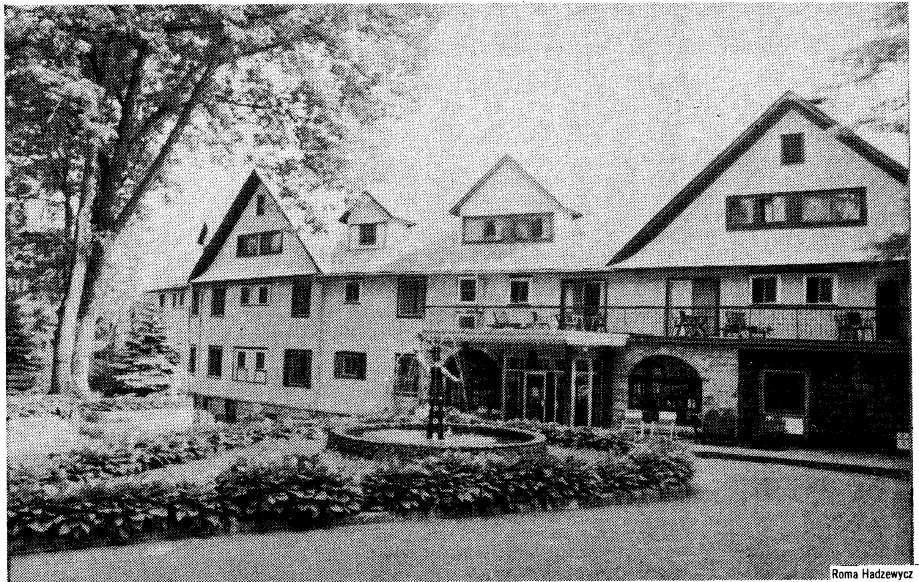
Then come the summer vacationers, many of whom will arrive in time for Soyuzivka's July 4 holiday weekend.

Also during the summer season, Soyuzivka will host children's camps for boys and girls in July and Roma Pryma Bohachevsky's Ukrainian Folk Dance Workshop in August.

The guests and campers may or may not notice the many renovations and innovations at the resort, thanks to the diligent work of Soyuzivka manager John A. Flis and his dedicated staff.

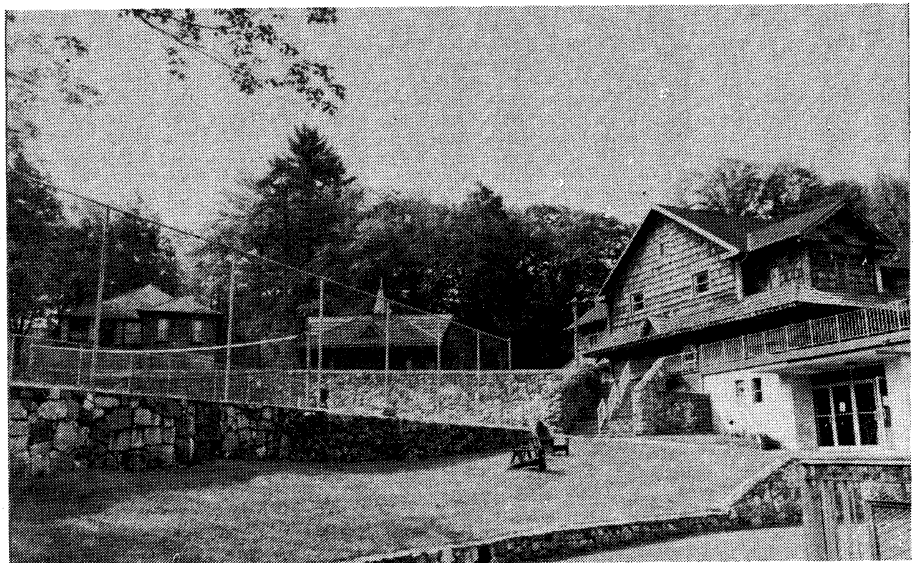
Fully 75 percent of the rooms at the resort have new curtains, bedspreads, carpeting, etc. The Main House ("Hostynnytsia" as it is called in Ukrainian) lobby and library sport new carpeting. And the kitchen has been modernized to enable chefs and cooks to better pre-

(Continued on page 14)



Roma Hadzewycz

Soyuzivka beckons: above, the Main House or "Hostynnytsia"; below, the Veselka recreational complex.



Roman Iwasivka

Soyuzivka manager John A. Flis..

Season opening at Soyuzivka focuses on music and art

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian National Association's upstate New York resort,

kicks off its 38th summer season during the Independence Day holiday weekend, July 4-7.



Among the featured artists at Soyuzivka during its season opening weekend on July 4-7 will be the Leontovych String Quartet and sculptor Zenon Holubec. From left are: Yuriy Kharchenko, Semen Kobets, Mr. Holubec, Volodymyr Panteleyev and Borys Deviativ.

The festivities begin on Thursday evening, July 4, with Soyuzivka's traditional "Hutsul Night" featuring a guest appearance by cabaret singer Alex.

Later that evening at 8:30, guests will be treated to a merger of art and music as the Leontovych String Quartet of Kiev entertains at the opening of an art exhibit by Zenon Holubec of Glen Spey, N.Y.

The quartet is composed of Semen Kobets, first violin, Yuriy Kharchenko, second violin, Volodymyr Panteleyev, cello, and Borys Deviativ, viola.

Mr. Holubec's works, which include sculptures and bas-reliefs, will be on view at the resort through July 7.

At 10 p.m. there will be a get-together in the Trembita Lounge with music provided by Soyuzivka's house band called, appropriately enough, Sounds of Soyuzivka. The

(Continued on page 13)



Roma Hadzewycz

Cabaret singer Alex will make a special guest appearance at the resort on July 4.

New England media focus on Ukrainian relief efforts

by Alisa Kerel

HARTFORD, Conn. — Recent organizing efforts coordinated by the Connecticut chapters of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund have resulted in a dramatic increase in news coverage of Ukrainian issues in southern New England. Over the past six months, more than 50 news articles focusing on Ukrainian American projects have appeared in newspapers in the Hartford and New Haven areas, and radio and television news programs throughout the Connecticut River Valley have also featured dozens of stories about Ukrainian community concerns.

The Hartford Courant, the nation's oldest continuously published news daily, has run seven major news stories and numerous short stories pieces about Ukrainian activities, including an April 27 front-page color-photo spread of the fifth anniversary commemoration of the Chernobyl disaster at the Connecticut State Capitol.

The New Haven Register, the Springfield Union News, the New Britain Herald, the Journal Inquirer and the Burlington Post have all run front-page feature stories on various aspects of the Ukrainian community's response to the Chernobyl disaster. In addition, a number of other newspapers, including the Boston Globe, the Providence (R.I.) Journal, the Norwalk Hour, the Manchester Herald, the New London Day, the Hartford News, and the Meriden Record have all run major stories with accompanying photos about the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and its Connecticut affiliates' efforts.

The broadcast media has also become increasingly receptive to Ukrainian American campaigns addressing the environmental crisis in Ukraine. Since December, Connecticut's ABS, CBS, and NBC affiliates (WTNH-Channel 8; WFSB-Channel 3; and WVIT-Channel 30, respectively) have all run at least three feature stories on local Ukrainian organizing efforts. Similarly, ABC and NBC affiliates in Western Massachusetts (Channel 22 and 40) and Channel 26 in New London have each carried at least two lengthy features.

Hartford's Fox Network newscast (WTIC-Channel 61) led its competitors with six news stories, including a February interview with Rukh activist Serhiy Koniev, Ukrainian community reactions to the March 17 referendum, and extensive news footage of preparations for the March 18 airlift to Chernobyl victims.

The stage for this extensive media coverage was set last December when the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund announced plans for a major airlift of medical supplies out of Bradley International Airport, 20 miles north of Hartford. Ironically, the postponement of the airlift until March actually helped to increase public awareness of the Chernobyl campaign and aroused

more sympathy for the Ukrainian American community.

Channel 61 aired extensive footage of a food collection drive at local Ukrainian churches and the Hartford Courant carried a very favorable, in-depth commentary: "Ukrainian Americans Hard at Work on Relief Effort," by popular columnist Dennis Horgan, on page 2 of its December 26, 1991, edition.

Following the departure of the "Mria" airlift on March 18, local Ukrainian activists capitalized on the growing public interest in the issue. The New Haven-based Veselka dance troupe staged an invitational concert titled "Children for Children," featuring dance ensembles from various ethnic communities, including Lithuanian, Greek and Swedish, as well as Ukrainian dancers from New Britain, Conn., Yonkers, N.Y., and Willimantic, Conn.

Over 700 people attended the performance and an ad-book campaign in advance of the concert yielded thousands of dollars for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. The CCRF's efforts were enhanced even further when a television crew from New Haven station WTHN-Channel 8 filmed the arrival of "Mria" in Lviv, and documented the delivery of medical supplies to their proper destination.

On the fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, most area churches held a commemorative moleben which drew media coverage from Channels 3, 8 and 61. The Greater Hartford Committee for Aid to Ukraine, local CCRF affiliates, and the Hartford Chapter of the Ukrainian Congress Committee followed up on the moleben with a candlelight vigil at the State Capitol, which included representatives of Ukrainian American groups from New Britain and Hartford, as well as peace and environmental organizations.

The keynote speaker was Volodymyr Tykhy, a nuclear physicist and leading member of Zelenyi Svit, the Green World Ecological Association. Mr. Tykhy is the son of former political prisoner and Ukrainian martyr, Oleksiy Tykhy, who died in the notorious Perm Camp, No. 36 in 1984.

Mr. Tykhy spoke at length about the health crisis and the immediate environmental challenges posed by the Chernobyl disaster. He was interviewed by the Hartford Courant's environmental correspondent, Daniel P. Jones, and quoted extensively in the Saturday morning edition under the headline: "Chernobyl called catalyst for independence movement."

Mr. Tykhy was brought to the United States under the auspices of Promoting Enduring Peace, an organization based in Woodmont, Conn., which is becoming increasingly involved in Chernobyl-related activity and outreach. The group has sponsored fact-finding tours to Chernobyl resettlement villages along the Dnieper River and is scheduled to bring thousands of dollars'

establishing our link with it. There are probably many interesting stories of our members and their communities with their struggles, setbacks and accomplishments, which collectively will enrich the 100-year story of the UNA as well as add to the historical material for our present generation of Ukrainians as well as non-Ukrainians.

While they are still among us it is important for our seniors to get their story recorded and for our younger members to get that story from them. These Branch histories and histories of Ukrainian communities will greatly enrich the celebration of our UNA centennial.

worth of medical supplies to Ukraine this summer. PEP spokesperson Judi Friedman gave an impassioned plea for aid to Ukraine at the commemoration when she told of meeting women along Ukraine's principal river who had been encouraged by government authorities to abort their unborn children, due to radiation found in their breastmilk or their miscarried fetuses' placentas.

The Rev. Jakiw Norton of St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in New Britain concluded the evening's program by relating equally moving accounts of his visit to Chernobyl treatment centers during last fall's visit to Ukraine by Orthodox Patriarch Mstyslav. The Rev. Norton told attendants of the vigil how he had touched the hands of children dying of cancer and how their mothers had begged him for medicines and painkillers. The Rev. Norton's comments were also featured in a front-page article in the April 26 edition of the New Britain Herald.

The weekend commemorating the fifth anniversary of Chernobyl in Connecticut ended on a more upbeat note, with a benefit concert at the University of Hartford's Lincoln Theater on Sunday evening, April 28. The concert had attracted considerable media attention due to its guest artist, Peter Ostroushko, the popular Ukrainian American musician who performed frequently on National Public Ra-

dio's "A Prairie Home Companion" with Garrison Keillor.

The New Britain Herald gave Mr. Ostroushko its top billing with the announcement that, "the weekend's musical spotlight shines on Lincoln Theater," and music critic Janet Chayes wrote of the concert line-up in glowing terms. The Journal-Inquirer also carried an in-depth arts feature on the concert, including a photo of Mr. Ostroushko and lengthy excerpts from an interview with Alex Kuzma, the musical director of Hartford's Ukrainian Choir Dibrova.

Perhaps just as importantly, local radio stations played a heavy volume of Mr. Ostroushko's songs and public service announcements leading up to the concert, culminating in a live interview with Susan Forbes-Hanson, a respected folk music critic in the Connecticut River Valley region, and host of the Folk Hour on WFCR in Northampton, Mass.

The Greater Hartford Chapter of the CCRF has reprinted a complete press kit of news articles and press releases covering the first six months of its activities. Copies may be obtained by writing the Greater Hartford Committee for Aid to Ukraine, c/o the Ukrainian Selfreliance Hartford Credit Union, 961 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford, CT 06114, or by calling Alisa Kerel at (203) 666-2997.

Windsor raises \$40,000 for Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund

by Vera C. Kap

WINDSOR, Ontario — The Windsor Branch of the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund, which has been in existence since February 1990 and is chaired by Halyna Mordowanec-Regenbogen, has raised close to \$40,000 for the nuclear accident's victims.

The group has participated in an airlift of much-needed medical supplies to Kiev and the Chernobyl area. The committee has also sponsored events to raise awareness about the serious health, ecological, economic consequences of the disaster.

The members' goal for 1991 is to contribute to the establishment of an independent diagnostic center in Kiev. This facility together with the U.S.-sponsored hospital in Lviv, will be involved in the study, diagnosis and treatment of radiation related illnesses. It will be organized by the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund, in conjunction with the University of Toronto, University of Manitoba and McGill University Medical School.

On April 13, the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund committee held another fund-raising event. It took place at the Beach Grove Country Club in Windsor, Ontario. The Country Club is located on the Detroit River/Lake St. Clair, a majestic old English tudor setting and a wonderful place for an "Evening with Alex Holub."

The tables were elegantly designed by the club staff and the committee, chaired by Irene Momotiuk, fund-raising chairperson. Opening the show were two sets of dancing couples from Sonyshnyk Dance Ensemble from Chatham, Ontario, with their beautiful costumes and acrobatic movements, they delighted the audience.

Then Alex was introduced to the Canadian and American crowd. This was his first time in Windsor and for some in the audience, it was their first opportunity to hear Alex in concert. He entertained the audience in an intimate

cabaret setting, singing some of his standards, quite a few numbers from his international repertoire, and several special requests.

The audience was so entertained by Alex that they wanted him to keep singing. With his usual charm and charisma, Alex obliged. He was accompanied by Paul Batticky on electric keyboard, who also played for everyone dancing pleasure after the show.

The evening ended with desserts and coffee prepared by the country club chefs. There were five tables of desserts-pastries, tortes and fresh fruits. It was quite an artistic presentation following such an evening of entertainment.

North Port CCRF sponsors concert

by P. Turula

NORTH PORT, Fla. — The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund of North Port sponsored a benefit concert on March 15 at the Community Center in nearby Venice.

Over 500 people, mostly of Ukrainian descent, attended this commemorative concert. The opening remarks and introductions were made by Anna Mariani.

The well-known Ukrainian opera tenor Vasyly Melnychyn, who now lives in North Port, performed several arias from Stradella, Donizetti and Flotow, as well as songs by Ukrainian composer A. Hnatyshyn. He was accompanied on the piano by Iraida Cherniak, also of North Port.

A video presentation of the Chernobyl tragedy was made by Dr. Zenon Matkivsky.

The local newspapers were supportive as demonstrated by a March 17 article on the editorial page of the Sarasota Herald Tribune (an affiliate of The New York Times Company).

More about...

(Continued from page 5)

talking about celebrating anniversaries? Why point out ages of the branches? The answer is that in light of UNA's own 100th anniversary, many of the older branches have a story to tell about their past, and anniversaries are a way of

JOIN THE UNA

Ukrainian Computer Club expands Ukrainian BBS, business directory

by Michael Koziupa

IRVINGTON, N.J. — The Ukrainian Computer Club is stepping into the future, dealing with the present, and reviving the past. For the last two years members have been coming from New Jersey, New York and Connecticut to help each other to understand and deal with the computer.

Starting in April 1989 at the Ukrainian Community Center in Irvington, N.J., members have been getting together to discuss computer hardware, software and application programs. Members could find out what the differences between an IBM and a McIntosh was; a XT and an AT; a VGA, EGA and VQA monitor; a nine pin, 25-pin and a 36 pin printer.

Members could also find out how to use a word processor, how to use a spreadsheet, how to use a database, how to use a graphics program, how to use a communications program, how to use a file manager, how to use a backup program, how to use a virus checker, how to use a defragmenter, how to use a disk defragmenter, how to use a disk formatter, how to use a disk partitioner, how to use a disk compressor, how to use a disk decompressor, how to use a disk defragmenter, how to use a disk partitioner, how to use a disk compressor, how to use a disk decompressor.

speakers would explain computer-related topics. Even computer company representatives have come and talked about their products and handed out sample programs.

Members of the Ukrainian Computer Club have developed over 14 different Ukrainian fonts that can be used with nine-pin, 24 pin or even laser printers, with a number of word processing and publishing programs. The club has also developed an extensive library of computer application, utility and game programs. The important feature is that there's always someone that can provide help on how to use these programs.

Late in 1989 an integrated bulletin board/electronic mail system — BBS was started. This allows anyone with a computer, a telephone line and a modem to be able to communicate with other members. As a result, a lot of information is being shared and a lot of help is being given.



Some of the members of the Ukrainian Computer Club based in Irvington, N.J., at a recent meeting.

Ukrainian-related information. By calling (201) 416-8300, interested persons are able to contact with a fellow Ukrainian person's computer program.

The club also has a business directory which lists the names of various businesses and their addresses and telephone numbers. This directory will be available on the BBS and also in a printed form.

of articles about Ukraine and EM discussions on Ukrainian-related topics from the U.S., Canada, Europe and other areas.

The club also has a community calendar which lists various events and activities in the Ukrainian community. This calendar will be available on the BBS and also in a printed form.

The club also has a community calendar which lists various events and activities in the Ukrainian community. This calendar will be available on the BBS and also in a printed form.

Another service that will be on line in the near future is a Ukrainian business directory. This directory will list various professions and then give the names of the companies, owners, addresses and telephone numbers, everything from accountants to zoo keepers (if there are any Ukrainian zoo keepers). To be listed, interested persons may send information by electronic mail or conventional mail.

The Ukrainian Computer Club meets the last Tuesday of every month at the Ukrainian Community Center, 140 Prospect Ave., Irvington, N.J. 07111, at 8 p.m. Prospective members are invited.



Bohdan Porytko

Eighty-six youngsters between the ages of 6 and 11, members of "novatstvo" enrolled in the Newark, N.J., branch of Plast, participated in this year's spring fest (Sviato Vesny) at Lewis Morris Park just outside Morristown, N.J., on May 19. The event, organized by youth leaders Roksoliana Misilo and Nestor Maksymowych with the assistance of numerous youth counselors and parents, featured games, sports and a "bonfire" (simulated due to park regulations). Above the happy youngsters are seen decked out in T-shirts and sunglasses specially prepared for the occasion.

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8:30 p.m. — Main House Lobby
Opening of art exhibit of ZENON HOLUBEC
Entertainment: LEONTOVYCH STRING QUARTET
10:00 p.m. — SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER in the "Trembita" Lounge
Music: "SOUNDS OF SOYUZIVKA"

Friday, July 5
8:30 p.m. — CONCERT — Vocal-instrumental ensemble "IKA"
10:00 p.m. — DANCE — music provided by "SOUNDS OF SOYUZIVKA"

Saturday, July 6
8:30 p.m. — CONCERT — LEONTOVYCH STRING QUARTET from Kiev
10:00 p.m. — DANCES — music provided by "TEMPO", "ODNOCHASNIST"

Sunday, July 7
2:30 p.m. — Veselka Pavillion
OUTDOOR CONCERT

Mistress of Ceremonies: OLIA CHODOBA-FRYZ

Turning the pages back...

(Continued from page 6)

Realizing that a break with Moscow was imminent, Vyhovskiy intensified his efforts to come to an understanding with the Poles. He was greatly aided by Yuriy Nemyrych, a Ukrainian aristocrat who had studied extensively in Europe and who espoused the idea of a sovereign Ukrainian principality whose independence would be internationally guaranteed like that of Holland or Switzerland. But Vyhovskiy, who was preparing for war with Moscow, was in no position to insist that the Poles recognize Ukrainian independence. In 1658, after lengthy debate, the Ukrainian and Polish envoys reached a compromise solution known as the Treaty of Hadiach...

Although the Treaty of Hadiach has fascinated historians because of its potential impact on Ukrainian, Polish and Russian history, its actual influence was minimal because it was never implemented. Even before it was signed, a huge Muscovite army of about 150,000, led by the able Prince Aleksei Trubetskoi, invaded Ukraine. Hastily gathering his forces and uniting with his Polish and Tatar allies, Vyhovskiy moved to the northeast to confront the invaders. ... The Russian historian Sergei Soloviev described its effect: "The flower of Muscovite cavalry perished in one day and never again would a Muscovite tsar be able to field such a splendid army. Tsar Aleksei Mikhailovich came out to the people dressed in mourning and panic seized Moscow... There were rumors that the tsar intended to leave for Iaroslav beyond the Volga and that Vyhovskiy was expected to advance directly on Moscow."

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Tryzubivka holds season's first tourney



Participants of Tryzub's third annual spring tennis tournament.

HORSHAM, Pa. — Sixteen tennis players, some from as far as Boston, participated in the third annual Spring Tennis Tournament held here at Tryzubivka on May 4-5. The tournament was sponsored by the USO Tryzub Tennis Club.

The women's division was won by Marijka Tatunchak, who defeated Luba Buhaj, 6-1, 6-2 and Natalka Popel, 6-0, 6-3. Ms. Buhaj took second place.

In the men's division, George Sawchak successfully defended his title by winning the final over George Hrabec, KLK Boston, 6-1, 6-1. Last year's finalist, Paul Rollick, took third place by defeating Alex Olynec, 8-4, in the consolation group final.

There were some interesting and hard-fought matches during this year's tournament. One of the finest matches ever seen at Tryzubivka was a two-and-one-half-hour semi-final match between Messrs. Rollick and Hrabec with the latter emerging victorious, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Ihor Buhaj fought hard in the quarter finals before losing to more experienced Mr. Olynec, 5-7, 6-2, 6-2. Mr. Buhaj also gave Mr. Rollick a scare in consolation semi-finals by taking the match to a tiebreaker and losing, 9-8 (7-2).

Presenting the trophies to winners and finalists were two guests from Ukraine, Yaroslav Kendzior and Yulian Kordiak; Ihor Chyzowych, USO Tryzub president; and Mr. Sawchak, tournament director. Mr. Kendzior is president of the Committee on Physical Fitness, Sports and Tourism of Ukraine and Mr. Kordiak is director of the program celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Ukraina Sports Club in Lviv. Both were in the United States making final arrangements for the June trip to Ukraine sponsored by the Ukrainian Sports Association of the USA and Canada (USCAK).

The next tennis tournament will be the USCAK-Eastern championships to be held at Soyuzivka on July 6-7; the next tournament at Tryzubivka will be held September 28-29.



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Season opening...

(Continued from page 9)

band members are Hryc Hrynovec, Stepan Ben and Roman Kurylo.

The next day, Friday, July 5, will feature a concert by the newly formed vocal-instrumental ensemble IKA (Inya Bonacorsa, Ksenia Kyzzyk and Andrij Wovk) at 8:30 p.m. and a dance with Sounds of Soyuzivka immediately afterwards at approximately 10 p.m.

The highlight of the weekend entertainment programs will be on Saturday evening, July 6. The Leontovych String Quartet will perform beginning at 8:30 p.m. At 10 p.m. two bands — Tempo and Odnochasnist — will play for guests' dancing pleasure.

Sunday, July 7, will bring even more entertainment in the form of an outdoor concert at the Veselka Pavilion.

And, of course, during its opening weekend the resort will also host its first tennis tournament of the summer season, the Eastern Championships of the Ukrainian Sports Association of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK).

During the course of the season, Soyuzivka will host many an entertainment program. Details will be given in each issue of The Weekly. However, here is a preview of some of the offerings.

Among the individual performers and ensembles that will grace the

Soyuzivka stage will be the Dumka Chorus of New York, the Chaika Dance Ensemble of Yonkers, N.Y., soprano Lidia Hawryluk, violist Halyna Kolessa, soprano Lileya Volansky, caberet singer Alex and the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Workshop participants.

Music for evening dances during weekends will be provided by a variety of bands, including Alex Chudolij, Vatra, Dva Kolory, Vodohray and the Oles Kuzyszyn Trio.

All programs are conducted by Soyuzivka's mistress of ceremonies in residence, Olia Chodoba-Fryz. Anya Dydyk-Petrenko is the program director responsible for booking and scheduling performers who appear at the resort.

In addition, the UNA estate will hold exhibits of fine and folk arts. Among the artists whose works will be on display will be Oksana and Lavro Polon, Slava Gerulak and the late Jacques Hnizdovsky. Artists from Ukraine, too, will be featured, as will young up-and-coming artists whose works will be highlighted in a group show.

The annual Miss Soyuzivka weekend — culminating in the crowning of Miss Soyuzivka 1992 — has been slated for August 17-18. And, then there is the annual end-of-summer gala Labor Day weekend that brings the entire exciting season to a close. But more on that later...

For reservations or program information, readers are advised to call Soyuzivka, (914) 626-5641.

UNA pays...

(Continued from page 1)

He added, "Traditionally, UNA'ers have risen to the occasion at times of need. The Supreme Executive Committee is confident that the UNA's current membership will meet this present challenge as well."

Thus far, members of the Ukrainian National Association and others have contributed more than \$178,000 to the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine. A substantial portion of that amount came from dividend checks returned to the UNA in 1990. Approximately \$50,000 came from readers of The Ukrainian Weekly who responded to the UNA's 1990 Christmas card mailing.

Mr. Blahitka noted that, "A lot is being done, but a lot more is needed."

Among the projects supported by the Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine he cited: transport to Ukraine by the Sabre Foundation of books donated by American publishing houses; publication of an economics textbook for Ukraine; English language courses for students in Ukraine; seed money to establish a Foundation for Democracy in Ukraine which will, in turn, seek donations from American foundations; as well as a scholarship (jointly with the Ukrainian American Bar Association) for a law student from Ukraine studying at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

In addition to members' contributions, the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine receives an annual allocation of \$100,000 from the Ukrainian National Association's own treasury.

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Battle of Berestechko...

(Continued from page 3)

through the great famine of 1932-1933, we did not live through decades of Russification, our intelligentsia was not completely wiped out."

But even here in Volyn, some people are only now awakening to their heritage.

One man tells the story of how a local bus was organized for the people of Volodymyrets, a few hours north of Rivne. The people piled onto the bus with their red and blue Soviet Ukrainian flags, ready to celebrate a Kozak holiday organized by their Communist majority oblast center. As they neared the scene of the festivities they noticed an ocean of blue and yellow flags in the field; quickly they folded the Soviet flags, put them aside, and piled out of the buses to join in on the Days of Kozak Glory.

The celebrations of the Kozak legacy began on Saturday, June 15, in the city of Rivne. (It is now officially Rivne, not Rovno, and Rivnenska Oblast, not Rovenska oblast, by a June 11 decision of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR.)

Soyuzivka ready...

(Continued from page 9)

pare foods on Soyuzivka's updated menu.

Meanwhile, the volleyball court will be a sand court in time for the summer onslaught of athletes. Odessa, the motel-style accommodations down the hill from Soyuzivka's resurfaced tennis courts, is being refurbished after a tornado did some damage to that building during the off-season months.

A new playground is being readied for children and there is new Adirondack-style patio furniture around the pool and Veselka pavilion areas.

Of course, there are other, less visible renovations involving the plumbing and electrical systems at the estate.

As regards summer employees, Mr. Flis reports that a full complement of workers — from bus boys and waiters/waitresses, to life guards, groundskeepers and snack bar personnel — is ready to serve arriving guests.

So, Mr. Flis extends an invitation to one and all: Vitayemo — Welcome to Soyuzivka.

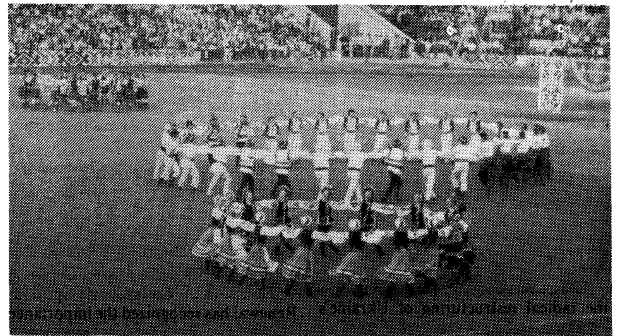


Marta Kolomyayets

In the evening, folk ensembles, dance groups and the most popular singers of the Ukrainian stage entertained over 25,000 people gathered in Rivne for the festivities. Among the guests were Mr. Kravchuk, Patriarch Mstyslav and Mr. Stepanchuk. Rivne People's Deputies Volodymyr Pylypchuk, Mr. Chervoniy and Mr. Porovsky were also present as was Col. Vilem Martyrosian, a deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from Rivne.

The evening continued with a solemn note as the participants of the extravaganza came out on the field and lit candles in memory of their Kozak ancestors. A salute of fireworks lit up the evening skies and all those present stood up to sing the Ukrainian national anthem, "Ukraine has not yet perished."

Scenes of the festivities in Rivne: above, a Kozak contingent enters stadium to the applause of onlookers; below, a folk dance troupe performs.



Parliament delays...

(Continued from page 1)

be rewritten to comply with the principles outlined in the Declaration on State Sovereignty of Ukraine and the republic's Law on Economic Independence.

The draft will also go to the Cabinet of Ministers and the Academy of Sciences, where government officials and experts will also examine the economic aspects of the union treaty. It will then be turned over to a working commission, which will summarize, edit and prepare a final version of the proposal, which will then be presented to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet during its fall session.

This three-point proposal, submitted by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR, came at the end of a full day of arguments from the Communist majority and the democratic deputies and was seen as the best possible solution for the democrats, given the circumstances.

Although Leonid Kravchuk, the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR, had stated earlier on a number of occasions that Ukraine would not sign a union treaty at this juncture, and on October 17, 1990, the Parliament had passed a resolution that

obligated it to examine the union treaty only after the Ukrainian SSR adopted its new constitution, a few tense moments developed during the Thursday session.

Democratic deputies learned that 30 Communist legislators had submitted a proposal to accept the union treaty in principle, but this proposal did not come up for a vote, as was feared by the democrats.

This caused trepidation among the nationally conscious population as no one knew what the day in Parliament would bring. About 500 people from Kiev, Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne, as well as Crimea and Sicheslav (Dnipropetrovsk) met in October Revolution Square at 8 a.m. and were prepared to march on the Parliament building.

Initially they were blocked by militia and OMON (about four times as many militia and special forces were bussed into the area as there were people marching), but Mr. Kravchuk granted them permission to meet near the Supreme Soviet building. During the day their numbers swelled to about 2,500 and incidents of the militia hitting some of the marchers and using tear gas in the crowds were reported by the demonstrators.

Various deputies from the democratic faction came out to meet with the crowds, who continuously chanted: "Away with the union treaty," "Freedom for Ukraine." But when they could not be calmed, Mr. Kravchuk came out to talk to the masses. He explained that the deputies were now engaged in a deep analysis and debate on the draft of the union treaty.

"Currently, we are not posing the question of whether we should sign the union treaty; we are now concerned with analyzing the document," he said.

"We will not do anything that will go against the interests of Ukraine or its Declaration on Sovereignty.

But the crowds were anxious to see what the Parliament would do and students began pitching tents near the Parliament building, threatening to hunger strike if indeed the Parliament voted to sign a union treaty on Thursday.

"Of course, the best situation would have been if we had just rejected the union treaty altogether, because it makes us slaves on our own land; it keeps us a colony of Moscow," said Oles Shevchenko.

"It is not a question of whether or not Ukraine will be a part of the union of sovereign states," said Stanislav Hurenko, the Ukrainian Communist Party boss. "The people voted for this on the March 17 referendum."

But Levko Lukianenko, the head of the Ukrainian Republican Party, reminded the people, "once again there are people who want to sell us, sell Ukrainians into slavery. Let us remember the union treaties of 1654 and 1922. History should teach us a lesson."

Nostra culpa

In the June 23 issue of The Weekly it was reported that Volodymyr Molodecky of Toronto was present at the unveiling in Yaseniv, Ukraine, of a monument to the Ukrainian soldiers who fought at the Battle of Brody. Mr. Molodecky's rank was incorrectly cited in that story. In fact, he was a corporal at the time of the Battle of Brody. Mr. Molodecky spoke at the monument unveiling as a representative of the Brotherhood of Galician Division Veterans and the World Congress of Free Ukrainians.

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National minorities...

(Continued from page 6)

course of the 19th century, the proportion of Russians, Jews and other minorities increased dramatically, primarily as a result of industrial and commercial growth in the Russian empire, especially in southern Ukraine. By 1897, Russians constituted over 10 percent of the population. Most of the Russian newcomers were concentrated in the industrializing cities, which, as a result, became Russified.

The Jewish population numbered well over 2 million by the end of the 19th century, with the majority residing in the cities or shtetls (small Jewish towns or villages). Many left the Russian empire, including Ukraine, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries fleeing the discriminatory policies of the tsarist government.¹

The ruthless Nazi extermination campaign and mass evacuations further reduced the Jewish population of Ukraine from approximately 2.7 million before World War II to about 800,000 afterwards. Jews continue to emigrate from Ukraine, further reducing their numbers to about 500,000 today.

Poles participated in the colonization of Ukraine, when large parts of it were under Polish rule in the 16th to 18th centuries. They, too, experienced a reduction in population following World War II, as Soviet authorities allowed nearly 1 million Poles from western Ukraine to move to Poland. The population of the ethnic Germans and Crimean Tatars, Bulgarians, Greeks and Armenians also decreased as a result of Stalin's brutal deportations of these minorities to Central Asia.

Thus, according to a recent study, "In the radical restructuring of Ukraine's ethnic composition that took place after the war, peoples such as the Poles, Jews, and Crimean Tatars, who had long played a crucial role in the history of Ukraine, adding greatly to its cultural and ethnic mosaic, faded in importance or practically disappeared. Their places were taken largely by Russians."²

The population of Russians in Ukraine has increased dramatically since World War II. In 1926, there were 3 million Russians in Ukraine; by 1990, there were nearly 11 million out of a total population in Ukraine of 52 million. While much of this increase is due to in-migration, another factor has been the assimilation of minorities such as the Jews, Greeks, Bulgarians, as well as Ukrainians, into the Russian nationality.

Minorities in Ukraine today — general

The reassertion of Ukrainian identity has slowed the process of Russification and has gone hand in hand with efforts to preserve and develop the language and culture of minorities residing in Ukraine. But though their cultural life is beginning to flourish, there is still a considerable way to go to meet the diverse needs of the some 110 national and ethnic groups residing in Ukraine.

There are currently over 80 national-cultural associations in Ukraine representing the Jewish, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian, Armenian, German, Crimean Tatar, Moldavian and Romanian minorities in the republic (as of late 1990).³ Some minorities are reviving organizations which existed during the pre-Soviet period, such as the Society for Romanian Ladies in Bukovina, whose founding conference was held in Chernivtsi in April 1991, in the presence of delegates from Romania. Others are holding congresses, such as the first congress of Poles in May 1991 in Kiev attended by 340 delegates and guests.

Several oblasts are introducing

television and radio programming in minority languages or are making efforts to publish newspapers and books and open schools in the languages of local minorities.

Minorities and the Ukrainian government

The Declaration on State Sovereignty of Ukraine, adopted by an overwhelming vote in the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet in July 1990, commits the government to respect "...the national rights of all peoples." The section on citizenship guarantees equality before the law to all citizens regardless of, among other things, their ancestry and racial or national identity, and in its provisions and cultural development, the declaration asserts that: "The Ukrainian SSR ... guarantees to all nationalities living on the territory of the republic the right to free national and cultural development."

The Ukrainian government appears to be increasingly taking seriously the commitment to respect the national rights of all peoples. Two recent illustrative examples: In spring 1991, the Ukrainian Minister of Education approved the establishment of a Department of Hebrew Language at Kiev University, as well as the University of Odessa.⁴ And on May 31, 1991, Ukraine and Hungary signed a consular convention in Budapest and a statement on bilateral relations which guarantees the rights of national minorities and supports the preservation of the minorities' ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity. Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk pledged that the republic will strive to create a genuine home for the 200,000-strong Hungarian minority.⁵

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet's Commission on Cultural and Spiritual Renewal has recognized the importance of providing opportunities for minority cultures in Ukraine. This commission has supported the cultural activity of minorities and has encouraged their ties with countries or republics with which they share a common national heritage, for instance, Polish minority ties with Poland. In February 1991, the chairman of the commission's Subcommittee on the Development of National Cultures, Petro Osadchuk, spoke of the difficulties faced by minority associations, most notably the lack of premises, resources and access to publishing

facilities and media, especially radio and television.

One of the key problems is a lack of paper for publishing, a reflection of the deteriorating economic situation and, more significantly, the command of resources by the still powerful Communist Party apparatus. Jewish, Polish and Romanian associations, for instance, are requesting the return of historical, cultural and religious artifacts and premises that had been confiscated earlier under Soviet rule, many of which are now being used as museums, theaters, buildings for military officers, etc.

Mindful of the problems that exist for national minorities, Mr. Osadchuk has urged the establishment of a national program for the advancement of minority cultures. Other projects are also under discussion, such as a republic publication devoted to problems of national minorities and the training of cadres of national minority languages and cultures. Some national minority associations are urging that a governmental committee for national minority affairs be created.

Mr. Osadchuk also has called for a law on national minorities which would further "develop guarantees and protections for the uninhibited functioning and development of all national and ethnic groups which constitute the people of Ukraine."⁶

Indeed, a recent draft law on national minorities, prepared by Rukh deputies, guarantees a wide range of political, economic, social and cultural rights to national minorities in Ukraine and includes provisions on minority language teaching in schools and other measures to foster minority cultures. The law envisages the creation of an administrative network at different levels of government for the practical

realization of minority rights. National minorities would be represented in a council of the Ukrainian Parliament which would have a voice in legislation affecting minority issues. The law foresees the creation of administrative-territorial units in areas with compact settlements of national minorities. In areas where a national minority constitutes a majority, the language of the minority would be used together with Ukrainian in governmental administrative bodies and in enterprises. The draft law is expected to be debated and adopted in the Ukrainian Parliament before the end of 1991.⁷

Nevertheless, these efforts apparently have not satisfied all national minorities. At June 1991 meeting of Romanian/Moldavian associations from northern Bukovina and southern Bessarabia issued an appeal calling for "an end to intimidation and oppression by local and all-union authorities", the re-establishment of Romanian language schools and equitable representation of Romanians/Moldavians in state and public bodies."⁸

1. Subtelny, Orest, "Ukraine: A History," University of Toronto Press (1988), p. 27.
2. Ibid, p. 484.
3. Osadchuk, Petro, "Siayvo Rodynnoho Vohnyscha," Literatura Ukraina, Kiev, February 21, 1991, p. 2.
4. Newsbreak, National Conference on Soviet Jewry, May 1991, p. 6.
5. See Oltya, Edity, "Hungary and Ukraine on Minority Rights" and Sokranyk, Roman, "Kravchuk and Hungarian Minority," Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Daily Report, No. 103, June 3, 1991.
6. Osadchuk, Literatura Ukraina, p. 2.
7. Svitukha, Mykola, "Law on National Minorities of Ukraine," Svoboda, June 15, 1991, p. 2.
8. Socor, Vladimir, "Romanians in Ukraine Set Up Umbrella Body, Issue Demands," Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Report, No. 109, June 11.

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SUM-A estate plans July 4 festival

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. — The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM-A) Estate here has finalized plans for its first four-day Ukrainian Festival, over the extended July 4 weekend, July 4-7.

Appearing every day at the festival will be the Kashtan Ukrainian Dancers from Cleveland, Veselyi Lviv from Ukraine, the Mamai Ukrainian Kozak ensemble from Ottawa, the Lileya Trio from Toronto, Cheremshyna from Toronto and vocalists Vasyi Kavasiuk formerly of Kiev, Andriy Shkurhan from Lviv, Natalia Melnyk from Kiev and accompanist Liubomyr Bohoslavets from Ivano-Frankivske. The estate's general manager Myron Bytz, says additional acts are still being booked.

The master of ceremonies for all of the programs is the well-known Ukrainian bandleader Iryneus Kowal of the popular Tempo Orchestra. Concerts

will be held every day, with two on Saturday.

A special attraction for youngsters of all ages will be Ukrainian magician Michael Melnyk from New Jersey, who will be performing his feats of prestidigitation under a separate tent.

Five dances will be held during the course of the festival: Thursday, July 4, and Friday, July 5 — "Tempo"; Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6 — "Nove Pokolinnya" from Toronto; and Saturday, July 6 — "Veselyi Lviv."

The four-day admission fee is \$10, on Sunday — \$5. Net proceeds from the festival have been earmarked for renovations at the SUM-A estate, the site of a new, soon-to-be-completed camp for youth.

In New York, buses for the festival will leave Sunday, July 7, at 7 a.m. For reservations call Club Dibrova, (212) 473-2955.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

July 2

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites its members and the public to a lecture by Dr. Oleh Kupchynsky — "The Status of the Shevchenko Scientific Society: Plans for Research and Publication." Dr. Kupchynsky is the society's academic secretary in Lviv and editor of "Zapysky N.T.Sh." The lecture will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., between Ninth and 10th streets.

July 6

ROANOKE, Texas: The Ukrainian American Society of Texas will hold its annual summer picnic at the home of Frank and Martha Fehrenbach, 784 Stonewood Blvd. at 3 p.m. The society will provide sausage, varenyky and beer. Everyone is requested to bring a covered dish. There will be swimming, volleyball, bocce, and horseshoe pitching. There is no admission charge. For information, please contact Michael or Michele Bezney, (214) 827-5010.

July 8-12

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation of the Lower Anthracite Region is sponsoring a dance workshop to be held at the Ukrainian Homestead. The workshop is under the direction of Halya Kozak with assistant instructors Paula and Michael Duda and Sandra Minarshick. The workshop is geared for both beginner and more advanced dancers. The camp will run daily from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the Homestead. The cost for instruction and recreation is \$50. Registration deadline is July 1. For information call, in Allentown area, (215) 262-0807, in Pottsville area, (717) 622-8056, in Philadelphia, (215) 659-7955.

July 13

HUNTER, N.Y.: Opening of the exhibition of traditional Ukrainian folk shirts at the Grazhda at 8 p.m.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS, a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public, is a service provided free of charge by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. To have an event listed in this column, please send information (type of event, date, time, place, admission, sponsor, etc.), — typed and in the English language — along with the phone number of a person who may be reached during daytime hours for additional information, to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, N.J. 07302.

ADVANCE NOTICE

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: St. Andrew's Ukrainian School will be accepting applications for the coming school year for all grades from kindergarten to grade 12. For further information please call director Christine Syzonenko, (201) 895-4868, or Nina Wedmid, (908) 563-2690.

WASHINGTON: The Martin Luther King Memorial Library presents "Chornobyl: What the Children Saw," a memorial exhibit of drawings and paintings of Ukrainian children to be held at 901 G St. N.W., in the second floor exhibit areas through July 25. This art exhibit is sponsored by the Chornobyl Committee of Washington and was organized to coincide with the fifth anniversary of the tragic nuclear explosion in Chornobyl. This exhibit is free and open to the public during regular working hours. For additional information call Debra Truhart, (202) 727-1186, or Danusia Wasyliwka, (301) 652-3938.

HULL, Quebec: In celebration of the centenary of the Ukrainian settlement in Canada, a dinner and dance Gala will be held in the Grand Hall of the Canadian Museum of Civilization, 100 Laurier Street, at 7 p.m. The evening will include a cabaret featuring Luba Goy; dancing will follow with Toronto's Solovey orchestra. Admission is \$100 of which \$50 is tax-deductible. Proceeds will be used in part to fund other events throughout the centennial year linked to the presentation of the exhibition "Art and Ethnicity: The Ukrainian Tradition in Canada," which opens on August 28. Sponsors donating \$300 or more will receive two tickets and a tax rebate for the amount donated less \$50 per ticket received. Details on sponsorship opportunities are available by calling Ann Sochan at (613) 591-0124 (evenings) or Chantal Beaudoin at (819) 776-7186, during Museum office hours. For other information on the Gala, please call the Museum Information Desk, (819) 776-7000.

The Weekly Ukrainian perspective on the news



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