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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Justice Minister at odds with acting prime minister over anti-corruption drive

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Minister of Justice Serhii Holovatyi on July 8 accused factions within the Cabinet of Ministers of attempting to sabotage his anti-corruption effort. He also made public a feud between himself and Acting Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets, who had publicly chastised the justice minister at a Cabinet of Ministers meeting over the pace of reforms.

"The battle against corruption has hit a critical point. Inaction by government leaders tells me that there is no desire to see the program implemented," Mr. Holovatyi told reporters.

He said he could not state specifically who was derailing the process. "I am not able to give you specifics because of the position I hold," said Mr. Holovatyi, but declared that after a meeting he has requested with President Leonid Kuchma he may be more forthcoming.

Mr. Holovatyi is the father of the "Clean Hands" anti-corruption program, which he conceived and then developed after President Kuchma expressed support for it. The program foresees a step-by-step implementation of programs to ferret out the corrupt elements in government and to reorganize various sectors of government to make them more accountable for their actions and less susceptible to criminal activity.

Minister Holovatyi said many government ministries have moved slowly to meet target dates for reviewing worker performances and implementing guidelines that were developed in the anti-corruption campaign launched by President Kuchma on April 10. Of the 21 targets that were to have been met by July 1, seven have not.

"Government funds are not being allocated, officials in the executive branch are providing only superficial responses to our inquiries, and the implementation of many measures has been delayed," explained the justice minister.

Mr. Holovatyi said he has been stymied in his efforts almost from day one.

Drafts of the document had been disseminated to the various Cabinet ministries for review and feedback in

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Ukraine and NATO sign partnership charter

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine and NATO entered into a historic special relationship on July 9 when President Leonid Kuchma and the leaders of the 16 NATO countries signed the "Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Ukraine."

It was a "day for Ukraine," said Anton Buteiko, Ukraine's vice minister for foreign affairs, speaking at a press conference in Kyiv. "I cannot remember a day in history when all the political leaders of Europe, the United States and Canada spoke extensively only about Ukraine," explained Mr. Buteiko, who played a key role in the negotiations that led to the charter.

The signing occurred at the summit in Madrid, where the prime ministers and presidents of the NATO countries gathered on July 8-9 for their annual consultations. It followed by a day the equally historic invitation to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to become full NATO members.

President Kuchma, speaking to Ukrainian reporters upon his arrival in Madrid, said "Ukraine has obtained what it wanted," according to Interfax-Ukraine.

But the four-page document does not give Ukraine military treaty status with NATO, which Ukraine had originally pushed for. It does, however, carry the status of a politically legal document much like the Helsinki Accords, signed by 35 countries in August 1975 to monitor human rights enforcement. "The charter makes the 16 subjects that signed it responsible for its enforcement," explained Mr. Buteiko. He also said that document will not need ratification by any Parliament.

The charter re-emphasizes the obligations and commitments undertaken by the NATO countries and Ukraine in the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which arose from the Helsinki Accords. Most notably, the document reads that NATO members and Ukraine recognize that "the security of all states in the OSCE area are indivisible, that no state should pursue its security at the expense of that of another state."

The charter also mentions the Budapest Accord of 1994, in which NATO members, the United States, the United Kingdom and France, along with Russia, gave Ukraine security assurances against nuclear attack. However, the charter does not offer such assurances from NATO itself.

Furthermore, the charter assures Ukraine that NATO



Sergy Spasokukotsky/UNIAR

NATO Secretary General Javier Solana and President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine during a recent meeting in Kyiv.

will not position nuclear weapons on the territories of its new members. In addition, there are various enumerations of specific means and areas of consultation and cooperation, including a provision that Ukraine will have a military liaison mission as part of the Ukrainian mission in Brussels, where NATO has its headquarters.

After the signing ceremony, President Kuchma explained that the most important item in the charter, in his opinion, is NATO's explicit recognition of Ukraine as a Central-Eastern European nation. "This is a key issue of the document," he said, according to Interfax-Ukraine. The charter wording reads: "... Noting NATO's positive role in maintaining peace ... and its openness for cooperation with the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, an inseparable part of which is Ukraine."

Later that day President Kuchma expounded on what such recognition meant. "As President Jacques Chirac told me," he said, "We cannot allow anything to happen to Ukraine. We will defend it both by political and economic methods."

All 16 leaders of NATO as well as NATO Secretary General Javier Solana spoke at the charter signing, recognizing Ukraine's integral role in maintaining security in Europe and urging Ukraine to continue its economic reform effort. All were generous with praise in their statements.

According to Interfax-Ukraine, Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chrétien noted that more than 1 million Canadians are ethnically Ukrainian, and that Canada was the first country to recognize an independent Ukraine. He said that what now needs to be done in Ukraine-NATO relations is to create the machinery for consultations. "Ukraine has strengthened her position in the Euro-Atlantic space and presents today a cornerstone of security," said Mr. Chrétien.

France's President Jacques Chirac said, "We are holding our hand out to a new partner," and praised Ukraine's peacekeeping effort in Bosnia.

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Ukraine's population drops precipitously

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine has experienced a precipitous decline in its population since independence, according to Ukraine's chief health official.

"During the last six years Ukraine's population has declined by 1.15 million," said Andrii Serdiuk, Ukraine's minister of health, on July 8.

Speaking at a Verkhovna Rada "Government Day" session dedicated to the state of Ukraine's health, Dr. Serdiuk blamed the decline on a steady rise in the mortality rate and a simultaneous decline in the birth rate.

Ukraine's Ministry of Statistics puts Ukraine's current population at 50.9 million.

Minister Serdiuk said that in the past six years the average life expectancy at birth for males had

declined by 3.5 years down to 61.2 years of age, and for females to 72.7 years. Almost one-quarter (24.3 percent) of reported deaths in that time are among working-age individuals. The most prevalent causes of death among able-bodied individuals are various traumas, accidents, malignancies and disorders of the circulatory, respiratory and digestive systems.

The health minister underscored the adverse effects on health that low-grade food stuffs and the popularity of moonshine distilled spirits were having on the population.

Also on the increase is the incidence of infectious diseases; 8.5 million cases were registered last year, said Dr. Serdiuk.

He also pointed out that there are 1.3 million disabled persons in Ukraine today — 60 percent of whom are of working age. Disabled children number 135,000.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Ukraine changes prime minister, again

by Taras Kuzio

A July 2 presidential decree released Pavlo Lazarenko from the post of Prime Minister of Ukraine after only one year in office. He is the sixth prime minister to have led the Ukrainian government since it became an independent state in January 1992 – roughly one new prime minister each year. None of them, including outgoing Mr. Lazarenko, were radical reformers. During the same period of time there were 11 first vice prime ministers and 28 vice prime ministers.

This rapid turnover in personnel has damaged Ukraine's economic transition in two areas. First, through a lack of consistency on the part of government and state policy in the socio-economic fields. Secondly, it has served to damage Ukraine's credibility vis-à-vis international financial institutions and potential foreign investors. That credibility was already severely damaged by the Verkhovna Rada's cancellation of tax benefits for joint ventures, removed from the company profit tax law, which went into effect on July 1.

The entire saga of Mr. Lazarenko's dismissal reflected a scenario reminiscent of the Soviet era. On June 19, the same day that an International Monetary Fund delegation arrived in Kyiv to discuss a new loan for Ukraine and only a few days after the prime minister returned from a tour of Canada in search of business contracts, President Leonid Kuchma issued a decree appointing First Vice Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets as acting prime minister "for the duration of Prime Minister Lazarenko's illness." This was curious because only the day before Mr. Lazarenko had seemed perfectly healthy meeting striking coal miners in Kyiv.

The claim that Mr. Lazarenko was too ill to perform his duties enabled President Kuchma to avoid demanding his immediate resignation which would have led to the resignation, of the entire Cabinet of Ministers. Although Mr. Lazarenko was diagnosed with vein varicosity and chronic thrombophlebitis, his condition was never described as serious. The manner in which Mr. Kuchma tackled the PM's dismissal reflected his fear of openly sacking Mr. Lazarenko and thereby causing a rupture with a powerful regional clan tied to the energy sector whose support the president may need during the elections. Hence the decree releasing the PM was only issued after a meeting last Saturday failed to patch up their differences and Mr. Lazarenko himself then petitioned for his own resignation.

Mr. Lazarenko will not disappear from the political scene: he remains a national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada and chairman of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Council.

Between June 19 and July 1 Messrs. Kuchma and Lazarenko attempted to reach a "gentleman's agreement" whereby Mr. Lazarenko would remain as prime minister, provided he showed greater loyalty to the president. Mr. Kuchma was quite prepared to keep Mr. Lazarenko as prime minister, despite widespread criticism of him both at home and abroad, but only on condition of his absolute loyalty. Throughout most of this period President Kuchma continued to both criticize Prime Minister Lazarenko for past

Taras Kuzio is a research fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Birmingham and editor of Ukraine Business Review.

mistakes as well as deny that there were any grounds for a change of government. After being unable to reach a "non-aggression treaty," as the Kyiv newspaper Zerkalo Nedeli put it, the presidential decree merely talked of Mr. Lazarenko's health as the reason for his resignation.

Now there are two major questions: Who are the likely candidates for prime minister? Will they introduce anything radical in the socio-economic field? Any new prime minister, coming in on the eve of parliamentary and presidential elections, must have three qualities: loyalty to the president, acceptability to the Parliament and loyalty to the Kuchma policy since 1995 of a "state-regulated transition to a social-market economy." These conditions will be difficult to fulfill because most Ukrainian prime ministers since 1992, Mr. Kuchma included, had also used their posts as presidential campaign headquarters. It is difficult to find any candidate with the support of over 220 members of Parliament.

Serhii Holovaty, the young, energetic and reformist minister of justice, has been touted as a candidate. But he, like Boris Nemtsov in Russia, is still too radical for most national deputies.

Acting Prime Minister Durdynets, head of the State Committee on Corruption and Organized Crime, could be another logical candidate, although he is considered to be rather weak.

Four other potential candidates are Oleh Diomin, chairman of the Kharkiv Oblast State Administration; Vadym Hetman, head of the Interbank Currency Exchange (and a close ally of Viktor Yushchenko, chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine); Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council; and Ivan Pliushch, former chairman of Parliament (1990-1994).

Of these potential candidates, Messrs. Diomin and Pliushch are both members of the pro-presidential National Democratic Party. The Verkhovna Rada would be unlikely to approve of Messrs. Holovaty and Hetman, because of their support for radical reform, or Mr. Horbulin, whose appointment would signal that the government had come under the control of the powerful Security Council. Messrs. Messrs. Durdynets, Diomin or Pliushch would all be acceptable to the Parliament.

President Kuchma – who, according to the Constitution, has to appoint a new Prime Minister within 60 days – promised to present a new prime minister within the next 10 days.

Why had Mr. Kuchma waited so long to dismiss Mr. Lazarenko? The National Democratic Party and pro-reform parliamentary factions had openly called for the prime minister's dismissal, as did the Federation of Trade Unions, whose leader is allied with Socialist Party Chairman and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksandr Moroz. Since early June most visitors to the presidential administration had demanded Mr. Lazarenko's removal. The growing wage arrears had brought coal miners and communists out into the streets of Kyiv to protest government policies. A majority of the members of the Council of the Regions also had voted for the PM's dismissal. There were also five compelling factors that finally led to Mr. Lazarenko's resignation.

• First, the growing perception both at home and abroad of Ukraine's poor record on combating corruption and of a government tainted by corrupt practices. The

(Continued on page 13)

NEWSBRIEFS

Kravchuk tapped for advisory panel

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma on July 7 authorized the creation of a State Committee on Administrative Reform and appointed former President Leonid Kravchuk as chairman. The committee's mission is to develop concepts and strategies as to administrative reforms, introduce rational administrative divisions and propose ways to restructure the state financial system. Mr. Kravchuk hinted that entire ministries and departments could be dissolved and that the committee's proposals should be ready by the end of the year. (Eastern Economist)

NATO-Ukraine Crimea exercises moved

KYIV — The Defense Ministry announced on July 7 that Ukraine has decided not to hold land exercises with NATO on the Crimean peninsula in August. A ministry spokesman told journalists that the military had decided to move the exercises elsewhere because Crimea lacks the necessary infrastructure. A spokesman for the U.S. Sixth Fleet confirmed that the U.S. has agreed to the change. He said he was unaware of the reason for the switch. Pro-Russian groups in Crimea have recently protested

the plan to hold land exercises there. At one point, an anonymous spokesperson claiming to represent Crimean prostitutes said that her colleagues would refuse to accept NATO soldiers and sailors as clients. The U.S. Sixth Fleet and other NATO navies will still carry out sea maneuvers off the Crimean coast in an operation named "Sea Breeze." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Interest rates lowered to record 18 percent

KYIV — The National Bank of Ukraine on July 8 lowered interest rates from 21 percent to 18 percent. The move is seen as a positive one and the rate now stands lower than at any time in the last few years. Lower interest rates may help Ukrainian businesspeople obtain sorely needed credit, according to NBU officials. (Eastern Economist)

Camp children struck by mystery illness

KHARKIV — Fifty-six children and one adult were hospitalized on July 7 as a result of poisoning at the "Lisova Kazka" children's camp near the city. The cause of the poisoning has not yet been determined. The camp has been isolated and the Kharkiv procurator has started an official investigation. No fatalities were reported. (UT-2, Eastern Economist)

An appeal from the city of Dnipropetrovsk

Below is an appeal from the Dnipropetrovsk City Administration for aid related to the June 6 landslide in that city, which left thousands of persons homeless and many others without basic utilities. It was submitted by the City Administration through the Embassies of Ukraine to the United States and Canada.

A terrible disaster took place in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine, on June 6, 1997. Due to a landslide, a multi-story apartment building, a nursery and a school were completely destroyed. A number of other apartment houses were also damaged. More than 2,500 people were left homeless, many of whom are at present left without clothes and furniture. Utilities and communications facilities were destroyed.

A special state committee has been created to liquidate the consequences of the disaster. The city is working on the problem 24 hours daily and the victims have been given temporary housing and food.

The people who were left homeless need immediate financial help and also have to be fed and clothed. The city is in urgent financial need to buy housing facilities, for the immediate construction of buildings and the reconstruction of utilities and communications. There is a need for construction materials. Special technical equipment is needed to build a dike and reinforcing wall and for deep earth observation in the vicinity of the catastrophe.

Any help and assistance will be very much appreciated. Please accept our gratitude.

Mykola Shvets

Mayor of the City of Dnipropetrovsk

Contributions may be sent to:

Banker's Trust Company
New York
Swift: BKT RUS 33
acc 04094040

Укрсоцбанк
м. Дніпропетровськ
аос 1070892
Міськвиконком

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Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Assistant editor: Kristina Lew
Staff editors: Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)
and Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj (Toronto)

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FOR THE RECORD: NATO-Ukraine Charter on a Distinctive Partnership

Following is the text of the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership Between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Ukraine, signed in Madrid on July 9.

I. Building an Enhanced NATO-Ukraine Relationship

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and its member-states and Ukraine, hereinafter referred to as NATO and Ukraine,

- building on a political commitment at the highest level;
 - recognizing the fundamental changes in the security environment in Europe which have inseparably linked the security of every state to that of all the others;
 - determined to strengthen mutual trust and cooperation in order to enhance security and stability, and to cooperate in building a stable, peaceful and undivided Europe;
 - stressing the profound transformation undertaken by NATO since the end of the Cold War and its continued adaptation to meet the changing circumstances of Euro-Atlantic security, including its support, on a case-by-case basis, of new missions of peacekeeping operations carried out under the authority of the United Nations Security Council or the responsibility of the OSCE;
 - welcoming the progress achieved by Ukraine and looking forward to further steps to develop its democratic institutions, to implement radical economic reforms, and to deepen the process of integration with the full range of European and Euro-Atlantic structures;
 - noting NATO's positive role in maintaining peace and stability in Europe and in promoting greater confidence and transparency in the Euro-Atlantic area, and its openness for cooperation with the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, an inseparable part of which is Ukraine;
 - convinced that an independent, democratic and stable Ukraine is one of the key factors for ensuring stability in Central and Eastern Europe, and the continent as a whole;
 - mindful of the importance of a strong and enduring relationship between NATO and Ukraine and recognizing the solid progress made, across a broad range of activities, to develop an enhanced and strengthened relationship between NATO and Ukraine on the foundations created by the Joint Press Statement of September 14, 1995;
 - determined to further expand and intensify their cooperation in the framework of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, including the enhanced Partnership for Peace program;
 - welcoming their practical cooperation within IFOR/SFOR and other peacekeeping operations on the territory of the former Yugoslavia;
 - sharing the view that the opening of the Alliance to new members, in accordance with Article 10 of the Washington Treaty, is directed at enhancing the stability of Europe, and the security of all countries in Europe without recreating dividing lines;
- are committed, on the basis of this Charter, to further broaden and strengthen their cooperation and to develop a distinctive and effective partnership, which will promote further stability and common democratic values in Central and Eastern Europe.

II. Principles for the Development of NATO-Ukraine Relations

NATO and Ukraine will base their relationship on the principles, obligations and commitments under international law and international instruments, including the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent OSCE documents. Accordingly, NATO and Ukraine reaffirm their commitment to:

- the recognition that security of all states in the OSCE area is indivisible, that no state should pursue its security at the expense of that of another state, and that no state can regard any part of the OSCE region as its sphere of influence;
- refrain from the threat or use of force against any state in any manner inconsistent with the United Nations Charter or Helsinki Final Act principles guiding participating States;
- the inherent right of all states to choose and to implement freely their own security arrangements, and to be free to choose or change their security arrangements, including treaties of alliance, as they evolve;
- respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all other states, for the inviolability of frontiers, and the development of good-neighborly relations;
- the rule of law, the fostering of democracy, political pluralism and a market economy;
- human rights and the rights of persons belonging to national minorities;
- the prevention of conflicts and settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with UN and OSCE principles.

Ukraine reaffirms its determination to carry forward its defense reforms, to strengthen democratic and civilian control of the armed forces, and to increase their interoperability with the forces of NATO and Partner countries. NATO reaffirms its support for Ukraine's efforts in these areas.

Ukraine welcomes NATO's continuing and active adaptation to meet the changing circumstances of Euro-Atlantic security, and its role, in cooperation with other international organizations such as the OSCE, the European Union, the Council of Europe and the Western European Union in promoting Euro-Atlantic security and fostering a general climate of trust and confidence in Europe.

III. Areas for Consultation and/or Cooperation between NATO and Ukraine

Reaffirming the common goal of implementation of a broad range of issues for consultation and cooperation, NATO and Ukraine commit themselves to develop and strengthen their consultation and/or cooperation in the areas described below. In this regard, NATO and Ukraine reaffirm their commitment to the full development of the EAPC and the enhanced PFP. This includes Ukrainian participation in operations, including peacekeeping operations, on a case-by-case basis, under the authority of the U.N. Security Council, or the responsibility of the OSCE, and, if CJTF are used in such cases, Ukrainian participation in them at an early stage on a case-by-case basis, subject to decisions by the North Atlantic Council on specific operations.

Consultations between NATO and Ukraine will cover issues of common concern, such as:

- political and security related subjects, in particular the development of Euro-Atlantic security and stability, including the security of Ukraine;
 - conflict prevention, crisis management, peace support, conflict resolution and humanitarian operations, taking into account the roles of the United Nations and the OSCE in this field;
 - the political and defense aspects of nuclear, biological and chemical non-proliferation;
 - disarmament and arms control issues, including those related to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty), the Open Skies Treaty and confidence- and security-building measures in the 1994 Vienna Document;
 - arms exports and related technology transfers;
 - combating drug-trafficking and terrorism.
- Areas for consultation and cooperation, in particular through joint seminars, joint working groups and other cooperative programs, will cover a broad range of topics, such as:
- civil emergency planning and disaster preparedness;
 - civil-military relations, democratic control of the armed forces and Ukrainian defense reform;
 - defense planning, budgeting, policy, strategy and national security concepts;
 - defense conversion;
 - NATO-Ukraine military cooperation and interoperability;
 - economic aspects of security;
 - science and technology issues;
 - environmental security issues, including nuclear safety;
 - aerospace research and development, through AGARD;
 - civil-military coordination of air traffic management and control.

In addition, NATO and Ukraine will explore to the broadest possible degree the following areas for cooperation:

- armaments cooperation (beyond the existing CNAD dialogue);
- military training, including PFP exercises on Ukrainian territory and NATO support for the Polish-Ukrainian peacekeeping battalion;
- promotion of defense cooperation between Ukraine and its neighbors.

Other areas for consultation and cooperation may be added, by mutual agreement, on the basis of experience gained.

Given the importance of information activities to improve reciprocal knowledge and understanding, NATO has established an Information and Documentation Center in Kyiv. The Ukrainian side will provide its full support to the operation of the center in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between NATO and the Government of Ukraine signed at Kyiv on May 7, 1997.

IV. Practical Arrangements for Consultation and Cooperation between NATO and Ukraine

Consultation and cooperation as set out in this Charter will be implemented through:

- NATO-Ukraine meetings at the level of the North Atlantic Council at intervals to be mutually agreed;
- NATO-Ukraine meetings with appropriate NATO

Committees as mutually agreed;

- reciprocal high-level visits;
- mechanisms for military cooperation, including periodic meetings with NATO Chiefs of Defense and activities within the framework of the enhanced Partnership for Peace program;
- a military liaison mission of Ukraine will be established as part of a Ukrainian mission to NATO in Brussels. NATO retains the right reciprocally to establish a NATO military liaison mission in Kyiv.

Meetings will normally take place at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. Under exceptional circumstances, they may be convened elsewhere, including in Ukraine, as mutually agreed. Meetings, as a rule, will take place on the basis of an agreed calendar.

NATO and Ukraine consider their relationship as an evolving, dynamic process. To ensure that they are developing their relationship and implementing the provisions of this Charter to the fullest extent possible, the North Atlantic Council will periodically meet with Ukraine as the NATO-Ukraine Commission, as a rule not less than twice a year. The NATO-Ukraine Commission will not duplicate the functions of other mechanisms described in this Charter, but instead would meet to assess broadly the implementation of the relationship, survey planning for the future, and suggest ways to improve or further develop cooperation between NATO and Ukraine.

NATO and Ukraine will encourage expanded dialogue and cooperation between the North Atlantic Assembly and the Verkhovna Rada.

V. Cooperation for a More Secure Europe

NATO Allies will continue to support Ukrainian sovereignty and independence, territorial integrity, democratic development, economic prosperity and its status as a non-nuclear weapon state, and the principle of inviolability of frontiers, as key factors of stability and security in Central and Eastern Europe and in the continent as a whole.

NATO and Ukraine will develop a crisis consultative mechanism to consult together whenever Ukraine perceives a direct threat to its territorial integrity, political independence, or security.

NATO welcomes and supports the fact that Ukraine received security assurances from all five nuclear-weapon states parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapon state party to the NPT, and recalls the commitments undertaken by the United States and the United Kingdom, together with Russia, and by France unilaterally, which took the historic decision in Budapest in 1994 to provide Ukraine with security assurances as a non-nuclear weapon state party to the NPT.

Ukraine's landmark decision to renounce nuclear weapons and to accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state greatly contributed to the strengthening of security and stability in Europe and has earned Ukraine special stature in the world community. NATO welcomes Ukraine's decision to support the indefinite extension of the NPT and its contribution to the withdrawal and dismantlement of nuclear weapons which were based on its territory.

Ukraine's strengthened cooperation with NATO will enhance and deepen the political dialogue between Ukraine and the members of the Alliance on a broad range of security matters, including on nuclear issues. This will contribute to the improvement of the over-all security environment in Europe. NATO and Ukraine note the entry into force of the CFE Flank Document on 15 May 1997. NATO and Ukraine will continue to cooperate on issues of mutual interest such as CFE adaptation.

NATO and Ukraine intend to improve the operation of the CFE treaty in a changing environment and, through that, the security of each state party, irrespective of whether it belongs to a political-military alliance. They share the view that the presence of foreign troops on the territory of a participating state must be in conformity with international law, the freely expressed consent of the host state or a relevant decision of the United Nations Security Council.

Ukraine welcomes the statement by NATO members that "enlarging the Alliance will not require a change in NATO's current nuclear posture and, therefore, NATO countries have no intention, no plan and no reason to deploy nuclear weapons on the territory of new members nor any need to change any aspect of NATO's nuclear posture or nuclear policy – and do not foresee any future need to do so."

NATO member-states and Ukraine will continue fully to implement all agreements on disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control and confidence-building measures they are part of.

The present Charter takes effect upon its signature.

The present Charter is established in two originals in the English, French, and Ukrainian languages, all three texts having equal validity.

Ostroh Academy students receive Kopach Scholarships

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – Approximately 15 months ago, a scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Oleksandra Kopach was established and the first scholarships from this fund have been awarded to Ostroh Academy students in Ukraine.

Last year, on April 27, 1996, former students of the Hryhoriy Skovoroda Ukrainian School in Toronto held a dinner in honor of Dr. Oleksandra Kopach, a pioneer in the field of Ukrainian secondary education in Canada. Organized by Dr. Kopach in 1951, the Skovoroda Ukrainian School in Toronto, a five-year secondary school, was the first of its kind in Canada. In addition to former students, the dinner's sponsors included the Shevchenko Scientific Society, the Writers' Association Slovo, Ukrainian Writers for Children and the Ukrainian Canadian School Board – all organizations in which Dr. Kopach has been active.

Although, it has been almost 20 years since Dr. Kopach retired from teaching, and the Skovoroda School closed in 1978, more than 250 former students showed up at the dinner to honor their former director and teacher and letters and greetings were received from around the world. That evening the Dr. Oleksandra Kopach Scholarship Fund received its first donation.

On the recommendation of the rector of Ostroh Academy, Prof. Ihor Pasichnyk, the money donated from the fund was divided into \$100 scholarships. The recipients were chosen by a special committee which included Bohdan Kolos from Toronto as the representative of the Dr. Oleksandra Kopach Scholarship Committee. Sixteen recipients were awarded the scholarships at a special ceremony on January 28, in Ukraine. The recipients of the scholarships were: Hryhoriy Oliynyk, Ihor Pokhleba, Serhiy Hlynianchuk (department of history); Eduard Balashov, Serhiy Onoshko, Natalia Hrynevych, Halyna Tkachuk, Tetiana Brui (department of economics); Natalia Vetvinska, Oksana Brydko, Roman Tereshchuk, Iryna Krasnovska, Olha Barylko, Tetiana Tovshchuk, Natalia Kibita, Iryna Ostrovska.

Located in the ancient town of Ostroh in Rivne Oblast, the Ostroh Higher Collegium was created in 1994, and renamed the Ostroh Academy in 1996, as the successor of the Ostroh Academy founded 420 years ago by Prince Konstantyn Ostrozsky. Its working languages are Ukrainian and English and it attracts students from all of Ukraine. It is an affiliate of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

The Dr. Oleksandra Kopach Scholarship Committee (Tania Onyschuk, Marika Hurko and Taras Zakydalsky) hopes to provide scholarships to Ostroh students on an annual basis and invites former students and friends of Dr. Kopach to send their donations to: Dr. Oleksandra Kopach Scholarship Fund, 505 Annette Street, Toronto, ON M6P 1S1 Canada.

Ukrainian community fetes Joseph Lesawyer

by Mary E. Pressey

NEW YORK – On June 8, despite a day of graduations, weddings and cemetery pilgrimages, the turnout for Joseph Lesawyer's testimonial banquet held at the Sheraton New York Hotel was an outstanding success as many friends and organization members came to pay tribute to this community leader for his life-long contributions to various Ukrainian causes. The dinner was sponsored by the Ukrainian Institute of America, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and Ukrainian National Association.

The afternoon vibrated with much interest, resonating with seriousness and lightheartedness. Walter Nazarewicz, the dinner committee chairman, a member of the board of directors of the Ukrainian Institute, opened the program by welcoming the guests and introduced the personable master of ceremonies, Julian Kulas, member of the Chicago UCCA's executive board. The invocation followed by the Rev. Roman Tarnawsky of St. Volodymyr Orthodox Cathedral, who represented Archbishop Antony.

Following a luncheon in an elegant setting decorated with candelabra and roses the guests witnessed a superb musical program executed by the Lesia Hrabova, soprano, Oleh Chmyr, baritone, and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, pianist.

The guest speakers constituted a roster of well-known organization leaders whose remarks encompassed the work of the honoree. One could not help but see the delight in Mr. Lesawyer's countenance upon hearing all the honors bestowed upon him, even though he has been awarded numerous prior honors and awards – among them the Shevchenko Freedom Award, the World Congress of Free Ukrainians Award and the Ukrainian Institute Recognition Award.

Guest speakers Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee, and Stefan Hawrysz, chairman of the Auditing Committee of the Ukrainian National Association, touched upon the honoree's invaluable counsel and profound dedication to organizations. Their words of praise were a constant reminder of how much time and effort were expended by this public servant and leader.

Speaking on behalf of the Democratic Party, Marcanthony Datzkiwsky, president of the Ukrainian American Democratic Association of Essex County, New Jersey, and Helen Cheloc, chairlady of the Ukrainian American Democrats of New Jersey, noted Mr. Lesawyer's dedication to Democratic causes.

Representing the Ukrainian American Veterans, Sir Harry Polche, a Knight of St. Gregory, briefly depicted Mr. Lesawyer's life in the U.S. armed forces in World War II and his prowess as a baseball player – careers in which he excelled by winning a Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service and hitting home runs too many to mention. "Mr. Lesawyer



Longtime community leader Joseph Lesawyer (right) accepts a plaque presented by Walter Baranetsky, president of the Ukrainian Institute of America.

has always hit home runs in all his life's endeavors," said Mr. Polche.

The principal speaker was Walter Baranetsky, president of the Ukrainian Institute of America, who spoke eloquently of Mr. Lesawyer's special contribution to the institute's success since its inception in 1954, as well as his many activities in the Ukrainian community.

Mr. Baranetsky observed: "Being born, raised and educated in the United States, Joseph Lesawyer retained the love instilled in him by his Ukrainian émigré parents to his Ukrainian heritage, which he not only preserved and cherished, but enriched by perfecting his Ukrainian language and involving himself in the organized life of Ukrainian Americans, in the defense of human rights in Ukraine and the struggle for the rights of Ukrainian people to self-determination."

Spanning a life of civic and national work for over three-quarters of a century, Mr. Lesawyer's ability to grasp situations predictably, has invariably thrust him into many leadership positions. To mention a few, he held positions as an executive in the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, executive vice-president of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians, president of Ukrainian National Association for 17 years, executive director of the Shevchenko Memorial Committee, national chairman of Ukrainian American Democrats. He was also a leader in the real estate business, and an active member of scores of other civic American and Ukrainian organizations. To be fair, however, it should be noted that Mr. Lesawyer's success in these undertakings was not his alone. Standing faithfully at his side throughout the years was his charming

and dedicated wife, Mary.

In recognition and appreciation of Mr. Lesawyer's services and innumerable contributions to the Ukrainian community, two plaques were presented to him, one by Mr. Lozynsky, on behalf of the UCCA, the other by Mr. Baranetsky on behalf of the UIA.

Presented also by the master of ceremonies were myriad congratulatory letters and telegrams, among others, warm greetings from President Bill Clinton, Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak (who could not attend as the main speaker due to ill health), Bishop Basil Losten, Ambassador Roman Popadiuk, and Michael Starr, former Canadian minister of the department of labor.

In conclusion, the honoree expressed his heartfelt thanks to all the guests for attending and to the speakers for their kind remarks, and elaborated briefly on some of his activities and experiences during his crusade for Ukrainian causes. As he put it, none of his good works would have borne fruit without the dedicated effort of thousands involved in those his undertakings.

He also gratefully acknowledged the efforts of Walter Nazarewicz, Walter Baranetsky, Mary Pressey, Andrew Paschak and Harry Polche, dinner committee members, and Jaroslav Kryshtalsky, Natalie Chuma and Bill Chirash for their help in making the event a cherished occasion.

In closing, Msgr. Leon Mosko, representing Bishop Losten of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford, Conn., expressed his gratitude to the honoree and his devoted wife, and conferred upon them his blessings for good health and continued good works.



We Need Your Help...

Over the past year, CCRF has airlifted over \$3 million worth of priority medicines and medical technology to save the lives of young children in Chernihiv, Vinnytsia, Luhansk, Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv and other oblasts in Ukraine. Your donation is urgently needed to continue this life-saving mission.

To get involved, mark your calendar for September 13-14.

Plan to attend the **CCRF National Convention '97** at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in East Hanover, New Jersey. We need your help! Become a volunteer!

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Vernon plaque acknowledges unjust internment of "enemy aliens"

by Stefan Lemieszewski

VERNON, British Columbia – As children played soccer in MacDonald Park next to the Seaton High School here on a recent sunny Saturday morning they were unaware of the plaque unveiling taking place within earshot of their cheers.

On June 7, about 150 people gathered to unveil a plaque commemorating the unjust internment by the Canadian government of 8,579 "enemy aliens" in 24 concentration camps across the country in 1914-1920. Over 5,000 of the so-called "enemy aliens" interned were Ukrainians. Another 80,000 individuals (of whom the vast majority were also Ukrainians) were not interned, but were classified as "enemy aliens" and required to report regularly to Canadian officials.

The commemorative marker reads: "Vernon Internment Camp. Thousands of Ukrainian Canadians and other European immigrants were unjustly imprisoned as 'enemy aliens' during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920. This plaque is dedicated to the memory of the men, women and children who were held at the Vernon internment camp, on this location, now known as MacDonald Park, between September 18, 1914, and February 20, 1920."

As they played in MacDonald Park, the children doubtless were also not aware that both the high school and the soccer field on which they were running were once the site of an internment camp that imprisoned women and children along with their husbands and fathers.

The Ukrainian men had been forced to work as cheap laborers in the nearby Edgewood and Mara Lake camps. Some refused the heavy road work and as punishment had their food rations reduced and were placed in solitary confinement. Twelve internees escaped from the Vernon concentration camp by digging a 100-foot tunnel under the barbed wire fence. At other camps internees were not so lucky, and six paid the ultimate price for their unjust internment when they were killed trying to escape.

City officials unaware

Playing children are not the only ones ignorant of this little-known history. As recently as February, Vernon city officials had denied there were ever any women and children in the camp nearby. At the June 7 unveiling, they were no doubt surprised when the Vernon camp's only known survivor, Fred Kohse (internee No. 5019), showed up in person to do the honors.

The plaque was consecrated jointly by the Revs. George Podtepa and Peter Blazuk of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Rev. Volodymyr Bilous of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Wreaths were laid by members of the Canadian Ukrainian Youth Association (SUMK) and the Zirka Ukrainian Dancers.

Mr. Kohse was only 1 year old when he and his mother were interned in 1915. They spent six years in the camp along with his father, Frederick. Mr. Kohse recalls that his father's personal assets, including his fishing boat, were confiscated by the Canadian government. To this day, the Canadian government has never returned such wrongfully confiscated assets to internees or their descendants.

Communicating with the outside world

Mr. Kohse's mother, Hilda, was an Englishwoman. Mr. Kohse told The Weekly how she managed to get news of their predicament to the outside world. First, she wrote a formal protest and presented it to camp officials, who tore it up before her eyes. Then, she hid a letter in a tennis ball and hurled it over the barbed wire fence to a friend. This letter eventually made its way to the Parliament of England – Canada was still considered a "Dominion of the British Empire" at the time – and the case was raised in the House of Lords in London.

Mr. Kohse expressed his conviction this was the reason his family was released earlier, albeit by only a few months, than most others who finally regained their freedom in 1920. Nevertheless, for six long years the camp was all the young child could call home.

As a reminder of those days the octogenarian treasures a two-foot "swagger stick" given to him by a fellow camp internee. Carved into it are his nickname, "Fritzy," and the year 1916. Mr. Kohse brought it with him to the ceremony.

Key organizers of the commemorative plaque's unveiling were Roman Chez, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's Vernon Branch; Andrea Malysh, a Vernon-based researcher; and the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

Those who attended the ceremony included Liberal



Fred Kohse (left), a survivor of the internment camp in Vernon, with his brother, Gerald.

member of the British Columbia Provincial Legislative Assembly Dr. April Saunders; the acting mayor of Vernon, Councilor Klaus Tribes; Kari Moore, president of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Association's Victoria Branch; Councilor Ron Morgan from the Greater Vernon Parks and Recreation District; Borys Sydoruk of Calgary, representing the UCCLA; and Julia Stashuk, representing the UCC's British Columbia Provincial Council.

The official ceremony was followed by a reception at the local Ukrainian Orthodox church hall across the street, where a display of old newspaper clippings and other archival material was set up.

Stories of the internment

Gerald Kohse, 69, Fred Kohse's younger brother, shared anecdotes about the internment related to him in his youth by his parents. Ms. Malysh outlined details about the Vernon concentration camp's operations gleaned from public archives and periodicals of the day.

Mr. Sydoruk gave an overview of the community's project to have plaques placed at internment camp sites (seven of 26 have now been marked). The UCCLA's director of special projects told the audience that

Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's promise to deal with the issue of redress for internees and their descendants remains unfulfilled, despite a unanimous mandate given by Parliament in 1991.

Informative brochures prepared by the UCC's Vernon Branch were distributed to the audience. These contained photos of the camps and their internees, and provided historical information. One brochure was particularly relevant; on its cover was a photo of the military police's brigade building fronted by a bed of flowers that spelled out "Vernon Concentration Camp – 1916 – B.M.P." – irrefutable evidence with which to confront anyone who claims that these were never called concentration camps.

Ironically, during the night of June 6, even before the plaque was unveiled, the memorial experienced its first act of vandalism. Someone pulled all the flowers out of the cairn that stands behind it. Fresh flowers were replanted in time for the ceremony. As Mr. Kohse laid another bouquet by the plaque, one could only wonder what was going through his mind during his first visit to the Vernon camp's site after 77 years.

For further information about Canada's national internment operations of 1914-1920, visit the website at: <http://www.infoukes.com/history>



Clergy officiate at consecration of the memorial plaque.

Stefan Lemieszewski is a member of the UCCLA in Vancouver, British Columbia. His e-mail address is: stefanl@direct.ca

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

No more Yaltas

Events in Madrid this week marked the start of a new era in Europe as NATO members voted to offer membership to three Central European states and signed the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Ukraine. Secretary General Javier Solana called the meeting in Madrid "a defining moment" for the alliance and said it would be remembered as the time when "North America and Europe came together to shape the course of a new century."

After the current 16 NATO members voted to invite Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary to join them, President Bill Clinton said "This is a very great day, not only for Europe and the United States, not simply for NATO, but indeed, for the cause of freedom in the aftermath of the Cold War." And rightfully so, as the decision marked the beginning of the construction of a new framework for security, in what has come to be called the "Euro-Atlantic area," based on openness and partnership.

The summit was significant also because, as Secretary of State Madeleine Albright emphasized, "no European democracy will be excluded because of its position on the map." (It should be noted that the final communiqué specifically mentioned the countries perceived to be next in line after the first tier of new members: Romania and Slovenia, as well as the Baltic states.)

In a June editorial we had worried that if NATO caved in to Russia's demand to stop membership at the borders of the former Warsaw Pact, then Ukraine would once again be left to fend for itself against its larger neighbor. Now we can worry less.

The NATO-Ukraine charter notes that "an independent, democratic and stable Ukraine is one of the key factors for ensuring stability in Central and Eastern Europe, and the continent as a whole," and emphasizes that Ukraine is "an inseparable part" of that region. It affirms that "no state can regard any part of the OSCE region as its sphere of influence," lists principles for NATO-Ukraine relations, notes areas of consultation and cooperation, and provides for practical arrangements for such activity.

And, Ukraine did get what Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko had said earlier this year it required: confirmation of the openness of the alliance to new European democracies, including Ukraine, and "non-acceptance" of any claims for a new division of Europe into spheres of influence or domination."

The words of President Clinton in regard to the partnership charter with Ukraine, were well-chosen: "... we have come to Madrid to build a new Europe, where old divides are bridged by new ties of friendship and cooperation; where we recognize no spheres of influence, but instead the influence of shared ideals. This charter ... welcomes Ukraine as our partner in building an undivided Europe." Here was a strong acknowledgement of the failure of Yalta.

And so, we welcome the results of the Madrid summit, which opened the door to three new members and to other members in the future, and firmly shut the door on an era that recognized the discredited concept of "spheres of influence." As President Kuchma said: "Madrid '97 will undoubtedly go down in history as a city where a dividing line left by the Cold War in the very center of Europe was eliminated."

July
14
1995

Turning the pages back...

Two years ago on July 14, Patriarch Volodymyr (Vasyl Romaniuk), a political prisoner persecuted for his religious beliefs during decades of Soviet repression who later went on to be elected

primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate died at the age of 69.

Patriarch Volodymyr (the name he chose for himself when he was consecrated a hierarch of the Church in 1990) was a Ukrainian Orthodox priest and member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group. In 1992, when the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church merged with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church headed by Metropolitan Filaret, he was consecrated archbishop of Lviv and Sokal, and later became metropolitan of Chernihiv and Sumy, and a member of the Church's Holy Sobor (Council).

Following the death in June 1993 of Patriarch Mstyslav, Volodymyr was elected in October of that year as the first patriarch of the newly created Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate. A promoter of unity between the Orthodox Churches in Ukraine, including the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, in the last months of his life Patriarch Volodymyr had appealed to the former to break with Moscow. However, his calls fell on deaf ears.

Vasyl Romaniuk was, born on December 9, 1925, in western Ukraine. He was first arrested in 1944 at the age 19 for "nationalist and religious activities," and was subsequently exiled to Siberia for 10 years, along with his family. His father died there and his brother was shot while trying to escape. In 1946 he was convicted of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" on testimony coerced from other prisoners. After his release, Mr. Romaniuk began his theological training. He was ordained a deacon in 1959 and five years later became a priest.

As a priest, the Rev. Romaniuk fought against church corruption and state suppression of religion. After writing a letter in defense of political prisoner Valentyn Moroz in 1972, the Rev. Romaniuk was once again arrested. During his time in labor camp, the Rev. Romaniuk, a Ukrainian nationalist and a devout Orthodox Christian, addressed numerous appeals to Western organizations on behalf of other imprisoned believers – both Christian and Jewish – and human rights activists. He frequently went on hunger strikes and was punished for his recalcitrance.

In 1976, shortly before he was to go into exile, the Rev. Romaniuk renounced his Soviet citizenship and declared his desire to emigrate to the West, where he said he could worship freely. While in exile, he continued to appeal to Western organizations as a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, which he joined in 1979.

In August of 1988, the Rev. Romaniuk and his son Taras (his wife, Maria Antoniuk, died in 1985) emigrated to Canada, settling briefly in Winnipeg. The Rev. Romaniuk returned to Ukraine in 1990, after Ukraine declared sovereignty.

(Continued on page 13)

NEWS AND VIEWS

When pigs fly..., or a report from the field

by Dianna Derhak

For me, Ukraine is a place where dreams have faces. Mine is a privileged vantage point. I am charged with the responsibility of finding the innovators, creators and dreamers who take risks in the face of overwhelming obstacles. This isn't merely a job. It's a passion. I am convinced more than ever that the answers to Ukraine's big issues are underfoot, and in the hearts and minds of her citizens.

I am one of three field coordinators for Community Connections, a U.S. government program financed through the United States Information Agency (USIA) and administered by the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX). Together we are part of a larger IREX/USIA team that believes this program is very significant. We approach our task with the gusto of an Indiana Jones and the zeal of a Don Quixote.

The mission of Community Connections is to identify and select by open competition business, law, government and NGO professionals for short-term, focused internships in the United States. Candidates receive individually tailored placements by American host organizations. The concept is to target and support the efforts of individuals in key sectors who are taking a lead in the process of change in their communities.

Community Connections exposes participants to American practices and gives them information, know-how and contacts. Herein lies the key to action. If the leaders at the top are slow to respond to burning issues, then why not empower a wider segment of the population to take action and agitate for change?

After completion of the 1996 and 1997 recruitment cycles, over 1,100 Ukrainians will have participated or will be slated to participate in the internship programs. The exchange process is already under way. Groups bound for various destinations across the United States began departing in October 1996. American host communities and their new Ukrainian friends are in the process of forging personal and professional ties.

It is also significant to note that the program is first and foremost focused at the regions, as Kyiv has been saturated with various programs. In the first round the following cities were included: Cherkasy, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Khmelnytskyi, Lviv, Mariupol, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Poltava, Sevastopol, Symferopol, Ternopil, Uzhhorod and Zaporizhia. The next round will include Chernihiv, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kirovohrad, Kryvyi Rih, Lviv, Luhansk, Lutsk, Rivne, Sevastopol, Symferopol, Slavutych, Vinnytsia and Zhytomyr.

Upon her return from an internship in Chicago hosted by Heartland International, Oksana Sapeliak, a Lviv activist and opinion leader, was so energized by the experience that she immediately recorded a series of broadcasts for "Radio Nezalezhnist" (Radio Independence) in order to share her insights. Although she was impressed with the external trophies of a prosperous economy, she was deeply moved by the generosity of people, the spirit of volunteerism, everyday common courtesies and acts of kindness. Ms. Sapeliak speaks of her opportunity to live in the

Dianna Derhak is IREX field coordinator for Community Connections and is based in Lviv.

home of Patty Crowley in glowing terms. Her visit put to rest years of Communist programming that portrayed America as a greedy and immoral place.

Community Connections gave Judge Bohdan Poshva a new goal: to create "a little bit of Delaware in Ternopil." The judge was so impressed with the substance of the law program that the University of Delaware set up for his group that he has put together a legal task force of program participants. They are meeting regularly and developing an action plan to influence legal reform in the oblast and throughout Ukraine. He has even written a draft law for the Verkhovna Rada on criminal law and procedure based on an American model.

I think a program of this nature is important to both Ukraine and the United States because it touches people's lives in a deeply personal way. Host organizations knock themselves out to create meaningful internship experiences for Ukrainian participants. Participants, moved by the generosity of their hosts, feel compelled to do something worthy and worthwhile upon their return.

IREX and USIA are vehicles for this endeavor. It is an endeavor that inspires all sides to be better and do better. Granted, not every player in the scenario personifies the highest ideals and hopes for this program. Yet the sheer numbers constitute a critical mass of action-oriented voices that can challenge the notion that things in Ukraine should be done a certain way because that is how they have always been done.

The experience of Community Connections dramatically changes individuals. It opens people to a world of possibilities. Resistance falls away, and inspiration seeps in.

Volodia Dron, manager of the Lviv-based internet service provider International Data Systems, says he has been "busy changing everything" since his return from a business internship with Megsinet Inc. of Chicago.

The Uzhhorod Sewing Factory has been a frenzy of activity since Iryna Diachenko completed her program in Syracuse, N.Y., with Liarbury Clothes and Eleganza Custom Tailoring. It is rumored that personnel training and information sessions have become standard procedure in her technology and quality control department.

Community Connections is not a one-way street. Many participants have invited their American families and colleagues to Ukraine to experience some Ukrainian hospitality. Host organizations such as Project Harmony hope to establish a presence in Ukraine.

Will the dreams take root or turn to dust? Let's not make the mistake of waiting patiently, and idly, for an answer.

IREX and USIA want to tip the balance by creating a follow-up program that supports the candidates during the vulnerable time after they return. We hope to develop a mechanism to maintain communications links with the American host communities. We hope to build a network of working groups in cities across Ukraine to create an informal yet dynamic structure to continue the effort. This network can serve as a point to draw more participants into the change process.

This approach will safeguard and build upon the initial investment made by the American taxpayer. Although funding for this phase of the program is limited, we will do everything in our power to capture

(Continued on page 11)

Ukraine and NATO...

(Continued from page 1)

Helmut Kohl, chancellor of Germany, expressed support for Ukraine's reform efforts and said the NATO-Ukraine partnership has a greater role to play in the effort to create a European security structure.

Prime Minister Tony Blair of Great Britain said the accord gives Ukraine the full right to completely integrate itself into all European structures. "Kyiv was a European city for many years," he added.

Italy's Prime Minister Romano Prodi emphasized that "the common objective of Ukraine and NATO is to no longer be divided."

Spain's Prime Minister Jose Maria Asnar underscored that the signing of the document "would have been impossible without the political and economic reforms in Ukraine."

And U.S. President Bill Clinton applauded the recent agreements between Ukraine and its neighbors, Russia, Poland and Romania.

President Kuchma met one-on-one with most of the leaders of the NATO countries, including President Clinton during the two-day summit.

He did not meet with President Boris Yeltsin or Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin because the Russian leaders decided not to attend the summit to protest NATO's expansion. Russia signed its own special charter with NATO in May.

However, President Yeltsin voiced his support for the Ukraine-NATO agreement when he signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation with Ukraine in June.

Even Russia's often anti-Ukrainian Parliament expressed support for the Madrid accord, although in a rather convoluted manner. According to Interfax-Ukraine, on July 9, the chairman of the

Russian State Duma, Gennadii Selezne, said: "I believe it correct that Ukraine has secured such an agreement. It is a sovereign state beleaguered by the NATO countries, and it must take care of its security." He said the accord would not change relations between Ukraine and Russia.

But in Ukraine on July 8, scores of Communists signed a petition criticizing the Ukraine-NATO charter. National Deputy Yevhen Marmazov, who chairs the "Ukraine Outside NATO" group in the Verkhovna Rada said they were protesting the signing of the agreement and "expressing their disagreement and indignation with the fact that the decision has been made without previous consultations with the Parliament. At the July 8 daily session of the Verkhovna Rada, Communist deputies proposed that discussion take place that day on the value and need for the charter, which was voted down by legislators.

Before the vote, Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko read a statement that said, "One of the most important provisions of the Declaration of Ukraine's State Sovereignty, proclaiming her non-alignment, neutrality and nuclear-free status, is canceled by a stroke of the pen." It continues, "Obviously, under this pretext, NATO has reserved for itself the right to meddle in Ukraine's internal affairs."

The following day the Communist faction refused to register; thus, a quorum was not attained and that day's session was canceled.

In Madrid, Ukraine also signed on to the newly created Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council. The council is the representative body of the 28 member-countries of the Partnership for Peace program. The program provides for enhanced relations between former Warsaw Pact countries and the ex-republics of the Soviet Union with NATO through exchanges of information, common military maneuvers and the standardization of military specifications.

Justice minister...

(Continued from page 1)

the spring after President Kuchma had given an initial okay to the program and had praised the work of the Ministry of Justice – only to be extensively marked up by government officials. "The changes were not proposed to strengthen and embellish the program, but to weaken the document," said Mr. Holovaty. He said he went to Vasyl Durdynets, head of the Committee on the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime, and currently acting prime minister, who supported only the reinstatement of some of the requirements that had been cut. The document was left intact only after President Kuchma intervened.

So Mr. Holovaty was quite taken aback, he explained, when on July 5 the acting prime minister responded to his report on the problems in the anti-corruption effort by attacking him for failing to forcefully implement the anti-corruption campaign. At the meeting Mr.

Durdynets said the plan that Mr. Holovaty was pursuing "had essentially been remade, both in its structure and its content," and that Mr. Holovaty "should be more critical in the assessment of his activities," reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Mr. Holovaty emphasized at the July 8 press conference that the Ministry of Justice is not responsible for implementing anti-corruption policies. "That is what law-enforcement bodies do," he said.

He explained that Mr. Durdynets had been critical of his work since the initial program had begun and especially after a press conference on April 11 in which the justice minister had blamed organs of the Cabinet of Ministers for resisting the fight against corruption.

"Mr. Durdynets called me that evening and said 'any more of that and I will smear you against the wall.'"

Acting Prime Minister Durdynets could not be reached for comment.

The pressure on the Ministry of Justice has continued, said Mr. Holovaty, most recently with an audit by the State Control and Revision Department critical of purchases. "They blamed us for buying a book for \$300 without obtaining some kind of permission. My God, we bought a book, not a \$100,000 Mercedes," explained Mr. Holovaty. "This is merely revenge from the Cabinet apparat who did not believe that we would follow through with the anti-corruption campaign."

The justice minister also announced that a proposal has been submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers for a national congress on a long-term anti-corruption program to be held in September, which Mr. Holovaty said the World Bank has said it would endorse, and for which it would offer organizational and technical services.

Schaffer, not Schaefer

In The Weekly (July 6) one member of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus was incorrectly identified in the story headlined "Ukraine's Embassy to U.S. marks first anniversary of Constitution." The story and photo caption wrongly listed Rep. Dan Schaefer (R-Colo.-6th Congressional District). The congressman should have been identified as Rep. Bob Schaffer, also a Republican from Colorado, but from the 4th Congressional District. (N.B.: Rep. Schaffer was correctly identified in the accompanying story, "House of Representatives forms Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.")

NEWS AND VIEWS

Ukrainian women's federation gains consultative status with UNICEF

by Olga Stawnychy

NEW YORK – The World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organization (WFUWO), as a development and humanitarian non-governmental organization in consultative status with ECOSOC, was informed by the chief of the NGO Section of UNICEF in New York that "in view of objectives of your organization, we take great pleasure in welcoming the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations into consultative status with UNICEF."

This consultative status entitles the WFUWO to receive communications from UNICEF on policy and priorities and enables the organization to be represented at executive board sessions both in New York and Geneva. Prior to this time, the interests of Ukrainian children were represented by the international organization, World Movement of Mothers and its NGO representatives, Helen Prociuk and Iryna Kurowyckyj.

UNICEF, the United Nations children's fund, was founded in 1946 by special mandate of the U.N. General Assembly to bring food and urgent medical relief to the children of war-torn Europe. Today, in addition to responding to emergencies, UNICEF's main focus is long-term development designed to make families less vulnerable during difficult times.

In over 140 countries, including those of Eastern Europe, UNICEF supports programs for children at particular risk. As a U.N. agency, UNICEF works with national governments and people at every level to work towards meeting the needs of their children.

At UNICEF's executive board meeting in New York on June 2-6, Ukraine was represented by Minister of Families and Youth Suzanna Stanik. The WFUWO's public relations chairwoman and NGO representative, Olga Stawnychy met with the minister to discuss the WFUWO's new relationship with UNICEF and the desire to cooperate with Ukraine on behalf of the welfare of Ukrainian children. Minister Stanik mentioned specific needs for food, clothing, books, vitamins and toys for the poorest orphanages in Ukraine. She will provide the WFUWO with a list of the most needy institutions in each oblast of Ukraine.

During her meetings with UNICEF board members and the WFUWO, Minister Stanik emphasized three critical areas that need attention from the interna-



Suzanna Stanik, Ukraine's minister of families and youth.

tional community: nutrition and clean drinking water; medical assistance for vaccinations against preventable diseases; and halting the alarming growth of AIDS.

AIDS is of particular concern for Ukraine because compared to 1994, during 10 months of 1995 the number of reported HIV-infected persons increased sixfold. Most of the HIV infected persons – more than 70 percent – were between the ages of 20 and 29. If little is done now, the spread of infection in cities is destined to follow the same path as in other parts of the world, she underlined. Just like radiation, the consequences of HIV infection are usually invisible at the start.

To reduce the pace of HIV spread throughout the country, immediate intervention is necessary among intravenous drug users who spread the disease to their sexual partners and introduce it into the general community. Minister Stanik expressed concern that, due to the limited financial resources of the Ukrainian government during this period of economic instability and limited resources of such international agencies as UNICEF, the health of Ukrainian children is at great risk.

Its new status with UNICEF will enable the WFUWO to cooperate with that world body in promoting better health and living conditions for the children of Ukraine, as well as all children throughout the world.

For more information please contact: Olga Stawnychy, at fax, (201) 933-8609, or e-mail, yvsdds@viconet.co



Ukrainian women at UNICEF headquarters (from left): Olga Stawnychy and Iryna Kurowyckyj; Ellen Mouravieff-Apostol, president of the NGO Committee on UNICEF; Janet Nelson, chief of the NGO section; and Helen Prociuk.

Newark school graduates eighth graders and kindergartners

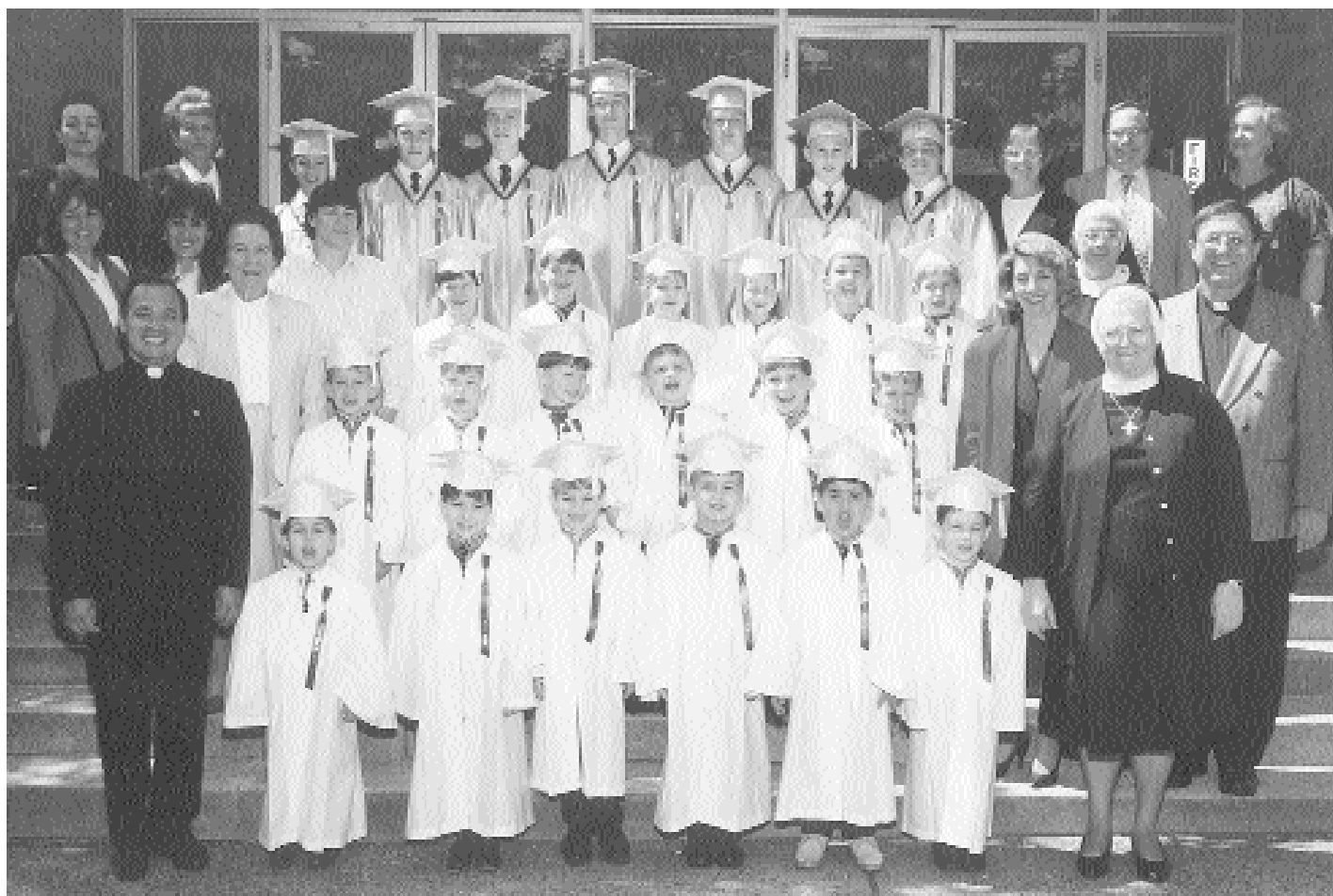
NEWARK, N.J. — St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School celebrated the achievements of two graduating classes during the month of June.

On June 2, the parochial school bid farewell to the eighth grade class of seven boys: Andriy Brukh, Bobby Cpin, Paul Jarymowycz, Roman Lukiw, Alexander Lyashchenko, Mark Vitvitsky and Bohdan Yaremko.

The commencement program was preceded by a special divine liturgy celebrated by the Very Rev. Frank Szadiak CSSR, pastor of St. John's. During a ceremony in the church hall, the graduates, their families and friends, and faculty were addressed by the school's principal, Sister Chrysostom OSBM, and the Rev. Szadiak, who presented the diplomas.

The valedictory address was delivered in the Ukrainian language by Mr. Yaremko, while the salutatorian, Mr. Jarymowycz, spoke in English. Both graduates recalled their days at St. John's with both sentiment and levity. A particularly touching moment came when the entire class of young men sang the well-known theme song "Where Everybody Knows Your Name" as a tribute to their alma mater. Their teacher, Helen Milanytch, proudly looked on.

Several days later, on June 10, St.



Kindergarten and eighth grade graduates of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School with faculty and clergy.

(Continued on page 12)

Detroit Ukrainian Language School's children present "Koza Dereza"



Koza Dereza Adriana Kuprianchuk (right) addresses a pack of wolves.



The duo who played the lead role in "Koza Dereza": Adriana Kuprianchuk and Nastusia Novachynska (right).

DETROIT — Each spring, the Ukrainian Language School (Ridna Shkola) of Detroit honors Ukraine's literary genius with a performance program by the school's children. Thanks to the efforts of a rejuvenated corps of dedicated teachers, talented students and supportive parents, this year's program, held on May 17, eclipsed all recent artistic performances in Detroit's Ukrainian community.

A noon time audience was treated to a stunning hourlong presentation of the traditional Ukrainian children's story "Koza Dereza." The operetta, with a cast of over 60 students from grades kindergarten through 6, included song, dance, humor and mild drama. It featured a repertoire of composer Mykola Lysenko's traditional Ukrainian songs and melodies as selected and arranged by Ridna Shkola's music teacher, Myroslava Boryschuk.

The play opened with the fifth and sixth grade choir singing a traditional Lysenko selection. As the curtain rises, the young Koza Dereza, played by kindergarten student Nastusia Novachynska, stands innocently at mid-stage. The audience was immediately taken with this impish kid-koza. A young lad, played by first grader Demyan Hryciw fell for the goat-essa and convinced his elders, played by Lubko Berezovsky (fourth grade) and Dimitra Leheta (third) to invest in goat ownership, but not before a hilariously thorough dental inspection that left both the performers and audience with dropped jaws and wide smiles. As the story goes, the investment soon turns sour as the cute but chronically exaggerating Koza repeatedly accuses her keepers of malnourishing her. The casting in this opening scene was superb. Lubko Berezovsky and Dimitra Leheta were the quintessential "Did i Baba" and the toothless Mr. Hryciw appeared to be thoroughly enjoying his newfound friend. Miss Novachynska thrilled the audience with her enchanting performance and indescribably delightful goat-esque voice.

After a brief interlude, a now mature Koza Dereza, played fluidly by fourth grader Adriana Kuprianchuk, staked her claim to the home of the meek and soft-spoken Lysychka (fox), played eloquent-

ly by third grader Victoria Krajnc. First a group of hopping Zaichyky (rabbits) played by second graders Andriy Sereidiuk, Alex Polansky, Roman Baranyk, Maxim Nestorowich and Adrian Panasiuk; then nimble dancing Vovky (wolves) played by fourth graders Stefko Dzul, Victor Polansky, Roman Lawrin, Petro Onyskiw and Jurko Woloszczuk; and finally a group of slow-moving, honey-eating Vedmedi (bears) played by third graders Peter Sawka, Bohdan Kindzelski, Oles Slywynsky and Adrian Skalchuk failed to evict the stubborn Dereza from the Lysychka's home. With each eviction attempt, the stellar Miss Kuprianchuk broke into the operetta's trademark "foot-stomping, tailsweeping" song.

The various animal legions were successively forced to back off as the hapless Lysychka looks on. The tale's climax began with the arrival of the brightly costumed protagonist Rak-Neborak (crayfish) played by fourth grader Dmytri Hryciw. The Rak's superb dance, song and crustaceous movements rallied the animals to finally overcome the pesky Koza Dereza. The full cast and choir, including both Derezy, celebrated with a thunderous victory anthem met with rousing applause from the audience.

The stage decorations were masterfully prepared and augmented with live swaying trees (Tolya Zubryckyj, Markian Stakhiv, Marko Thomson) and mushrooms (Mykola Mursky, Andriy Loginsky, Pavlo Szkilnyk, Danylo Stakhiv). The operetta included traditional Ukrainian dances performed by the aforementioned wolves and classical dances by groups of Flowers (Olga Rudichenko, Leeza Kossak, Elizabeth Dzul, Natalka Bohay, Natalka Taras, Lesia Pichurko); Butterflies (Alexandra Beswerchij, Luba Terleckyj, Christina Eliashevsky, Larissa Kunynskyj, Maria Lawrin) and Honey Bees (Katherina Stewart, Renee and Sara Cholyway, Lesia Onyskiw, Marta Zubar). The tale was masterfully narrated by sixth graders Julia Kurta and Alexandra Leheta. The "Koza Dereza" operetta was produced and directed by Ridna Shkola teachers Myroslava Boryschuk, Vira Kurta, Lusia

(Continued on page 12)

Immaculate Conception High School honors 35th graduating class

HAMTRAMCK, Mich. – Commencement exercises for the 35th graduating class of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School began after a divine liturgy celebrated by Bishop Innocent Lotocky OSBM, the Rev. Roberto Lucavei OSBM and the Rev. Basil Salkovski OSBM on Sunday, June 1, at Immaculate Conception Church in Hamtramck, Mich. Msgr. Stephen Chrepta served as chaplain to the bishop.

Bishop Lotocky reminded the class of 1997 to be goal-oriented but to choose their paths wisely with dedication and commitment. He said, "Do not be tricked into the temptation of the moment ... be discriminating. Great changes may come into your life when only Christ may come to your rescue."

The pastor and superior at Immaculate Conception Parish, the Rev. Lucavei, greeted the 18 seniors as Bishop Lotocky conferred diplomas.

Michaeline Weigle, principal of Immaculate Conception High School, congratulated the students on their accomplishments and distributed scholarships to the seniors.

Special honors were conferred on Valedictorians John Fedynsky, Katherine Korbiak, Petro Lisowsky and Larissa Stacey, and on Salutatorian Natalia



Graduates during the commencement ceremony at Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church.

(Continued on page 12)

Syracuse School of Ukrainian Studies presents diplomas to two graduates

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Members of the local Ukrainian community gathered for the graduation ceremonies of the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies on June 7.

The school, which has an enrollment of almost 50 students in kindergarten through Grade 12, presented diplomas to two graduates. Ulana Chmara and Andrea Nedoshytko were honored at ceremonies held at the Ukrainian National Home in Syracuse.

The two were congratulated for their accomplishment by Lesia Fensor, director of the school, as well as representatives of various Ukrainian organizations,

among them was the Ukrainian National Association, which was represented by Advisor Walter Korchynsky.

Mr. Korchynsky congratulated the graduates for their hard work and dedication, and presented each of them with a gift from the UNA. He encouraged them to continue their studies and to remain active in Ukrainian American life.

The graduation ceremonies included a very enjoyable concert featuring the school's teachers and students. Celebrations continued with a banquet and "zabava," at which everyone danced the night away to lively Ukrainian music.



UNA Advisor Walter Korchynsky congratulates graduates Ulana Chmara and Andrea Nedoshytko.

Parma parish school graduates 17



Nicholas Juriw receives awards from the Rev. Andrew G. Hanowsky and Msgr. Michael B. Rewtiuk.

PARMA, Ohio – Seventeen eighth graders processed into St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral here, as they graduated from the parish school on June 10. Msgr. Michael B. Rewtiuk, pastor, and the Rev. Andrew G. Hanowsky, associate pastor and school administrator, concelebrated a divine liturgy of thanksgiving for the graduates, their parents, members of the faculty and staff, and friends of the families.

Students who read the scripture for liturgy were Vsevolod Horodyskyj in Ukrainian and Nadia Peskar in English.

Diplomas and awards for the graduates were presented by Msgr. Rewtiuk, the Rev. Hanowsky, and Sister Miriam Claire OSBM, principal.

Students were honored in the following areas:

- academics – Peter Moysaenko and Nicholas Juriw (courtesy of Men's Club);

- citizenship – Joanna Wankewycz and Yuriy Firmanchuk (courtesy of the St. Josaphat PTU);

- music – Jennifer Oseredczuk (courtesy of Luba Trusz);

- art – Mr. Horodyskyj, Olena Gudz and Christina Stachur (courtesy of the Rev. Hanowsky);

- religion – Mr. Juriw (courtesy of Msgr. Rewtiuk);

- outstanding altar boy – Mr. Juriw (courtesy of St. Josaphat Parish).

The graduation ceremony concluded with all assembled singing "Mnohaya Lita."

A reception for the graduates and guests followed in Sheptytsky Hall. Class advisor and eighth grade teacher Maria Pocztar, as well as all other teachers and staff, were presented with flowers in appreciation for guidance and loving support to all St. Josaphat students.

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Ukraine's first president scheduled to attend ODUM's annual convention

MINNEAPOLIS – Leonid Kravchuk, the first president of independent Ukraine, will attend the annual convention of the Association of American Youth of Ukrainian Descent. ODUM/AAYUD will host its annual convention in Minneapolis on August 29-31.

The weekend will feature the theme "Chervona Kalyna" and will include a three-day schedule of events beginning with an opening social evening with music provided by the musical group Trubka from Edmonton. Saturday's events include a golf tournament and lakeside recreational activities.

A fund-raising forum will feature a discussion session with Mr. Kravchuk. This forum, to be held at St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, will offer limited seating for an interactive discussion with Mr. Kravchuk. Saturday evening's highlight will be a banquet, featuring Mr. Kravchuk as the keynote speaker, to be followed by a dance to the music of Trubka.

On Sunday, church services will be held at St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, followed by a "defiliada." A concert and lunch will follow at the Ukrainian American Community Center. The weekend will conclude with a starlight boat cruise through Minneapolis on the Mississippi River, featuring the musical talent of Charivnyky of Minneapolis.

In addition to participating in convention events, Mr. Kravchuk will meet with economic and business leaders in the Twin Cities community. Since Minnesota is home to many companies with business interests in Ukraine, part of his visit will be coordinated with the support of the World Trade Center located in St. Paul.

The Minneapolis Hilton has been designated the host hotel for the convention. Rooms may be reserved at AAYUD convention rates prior to August 8 by calling (612) 376-1000 or 1 (800) HILTONS. For more information, contact Valentina Yarr, (612) 378-1676, or Christina Pasichnyk, (612) 560-4644.

Team of Ukrainian students to compete in 28th International Physics Olympiad

SUDBURY, Ontario – The 28th International Physics Olympiad, a prestigious competition for high school students from around the globe, will be held in Sudbury, Ontario, on July 13-20. This event has been held annually since 1967. Teams from over 50 countries will participate this year, including a five-member group from Ukraine.

Ukraine has been taking part in the Physics Olympiad since 1992. Its members have done very well at these competitions, winning one gold, three silver and one bronze medal at the 1992 Helsinki competitions. The Ukrainian team was third in over-all standing behind China and Russia.

At the 1993 Physics Olympiad held in Williamsburg, Va., the Ukrainian team won one gold, two silver and one bronze medal, as well as a certificate of merit. It was seventh in over-all standings, just ahead of the team from the U.S.

Beijing was the venue for the 1994 Olympics. The Ukrainian team was sixth over all, two places ahead of Russia.

In 1995 Ukraine's team won one silver and two bronze medals in Canberra, Australia.

Only individual achievements, not team standings, have been acknowledged officially since 1995. The most recent competition was held in Oslo, Norway, in 1996. Competitors from Ukraine won one gold, one silver and one bronze medal, as well as two certificates of merit.

This year's Ukrainian participants have been chosen through country-wide competitions that were held during the past few months. The 1997 squad from Ukraine is made up of the following: Kostyantyn Zakharchenko, 17, from the town of Zhovti Vody (the site of Khmelnytsky's famous victory over Polish forces in 1648); Oleksander Solovyov, 17, from Kyiv; Bohdan Lozynskyj, 17, from Lviv; Andriy Didovych, 16, from Vinnytsia; and Oleh Miroshnychenko, 15, from Dniprodzerzhynsk.

They will be accompanied by three supervisors: Ihor Pinkevych, professor of physics at Kyiv State University; Oleksander Liashenko, professor of pedagogy at the same institution, and Borys Kremynskyi of Ukraine's Ministry of Education, who is an official observer at the Olympiad. The Ukrainian Ministry of Education is covering the cost of participants' airfare, while the Canadian organizing committee is responsible for local arrangements in Sudbury.

The five-man team and their supervisors will spend six days in the Toronto area, on July 21-26, immediately following the Sudbury Olympiad. Their stay in Toronto is being sponsored by the Canadian Friends of Ukraine, Toronto Branch.

Further information about the visit of the Ukrainian team may be obtained from Jurij Darewych at (905) 848-6997, or fax, (905) 270-1530.

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When pigs fly...

(Continued from page 6)

the momentum. We will draw upon the creativity, enthusiasm and efforts of the alumni to rise to the occasion of creating something great. I believe that this experiment in participatory democracy will resonate widely because Ukrainians have the capability and desire to make it succeed. The Sapeliaks, Poshvas, Drons and Diachenkos of Ukraine are just getting started. Change needs to bubble up from the bottom, not just trickle down from the top.

Community Connections is fortunate to have dedicated leadership both at home and in the field. In Washington, the dedicated, hard-working Community Connections team at USIA is headed by Michael Weider and includes Anthony Klutz, Bill Millman, Janine Draschner and Ruth Everett. Closer to the field we have an outstanding champion in James Seward, U.S. cultural attaché (USIS/Kyiv) who will soon be leaving for a New York post. Mr. Seward has provided unyielding support on the issue of open competition for the selection process and worked closely with IREX on program development and resolving various situations. Lydia Matiaszek, IREX director for Community Connections (as well as director of the IREX office) in Ukraine and her assistant, Julia Stefanyshyna, deserve kudos for their execution of this program. They help keep the whole team together and on target in a program that is truly multifaceted and complex. Many of you are already familiar with the other field coordinator, Yarema Bachynsky, from the pages of this publication.

When the concept for such an ambitious program was first pitched, it was greeted with guffaws. Few could envision such a massive government program meeting tight recruitment schedules while simultaneously creating substantive internship programs and juggling complicated documentation and travel arrangements. Thanks to the herculean efforts of many, Community Connections is turning out to be one big synergistic happening.

On a personal note, it is my secret thrill that so many Ukrainians will be exposed to American optimism. That crazy notion and "can do" attitude that is so uniquely American and so misunderstood by many in the rest of the world. Americans are different in some ways. We dream big. We stubbornly refuse to give up. We naively pick ourselves up when we stumble, regroup and try again. If 10 percent of our program participants understand and adopt this approach, we will have been part of the start of a revolutionary change in thinking.

America is unique, but so is Ukraine. I am convinced that Ukraine's struggles and uneasy transition to democracy and a market economy will ease. I believe that during these critical years Ukraine will rise to the challenge of dealing with its most vexing problems with a soulful zest that will both please and inspire its American mentor and partner. Ukraine has already had some victories that confound her detractors: five peaceful years of independence, adoption of a constitution, introduction of a national currency, formation of a constitutional court, stabilization of the inflation rate and a rather smooth transition to non-nuclear status.

In many towns and cities, shops, cafes and mini-factories are springing up like mushrooms after the rain. People feel comfortable complaining loudly about difficulties. Public officials are starting to acquire some experience and savvy within the new political system and are feeling pressure from the citizenry to show results. "Made in Ukraine" labels can be spotted at stores in the U.S.

So, if somewhere in Ukraine you meet a stranger wearing a battered outback hat and a big grin, you'll know why she's smiling. It's a great job to be part of a dream machine. Dreams do come true. Change is possible. Transformation occurs in the moment. Community Connections encourages this process because, in a heartbeat, it breaks decades of outdated Soviet thinking.

Readers of The Ukrainian Weekly will have a chance to hear from the trenches. My colleague Mr. Bachynsky and I will periodically brief you and introduce you to the people we encounter in our adventures.

Yes, Virginia, pigs can sometimes fly. A Community Connections experience can give them wings. It will be a pleasure to share the experience with you.

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Re: Mail delivery of The Weekly

It has come to our attention that The Ukrainian Weekly is often delivered late, or irregularly, or that our subscribers sometimes receive several issues at once.

We feel it is necessary to notify our subscribers that The Weekly is mailed out Friday mornings (before the Sunday date of issue) via second-class mail.

If you are not receiving regular delivery of The Weekly, we urge you to file a complaint at your local post office. This may be done by obtaining the U.S. Postal Service Consumer Card and fill-

Newark school...

(Continued from page 8)

John's School marked yet another milestone, with the graduation of its kindergarten class of 16 boys and two girls.

The graduates — most of whom will return next year to St. John's as first graders — were: Adam Boyko, Dillan Gawlik, Paul Hadzewycz, Daria Hapon, Michael and Roman Jablonskyj, Alexander Kleban, Mark Kochan, Markian Martynetz, Patrick McNally Jr., Joanna Podberezniak, Justyn Pyz, Sviatoslav Serediak, Justin Stasiuk, Dennis Torielli, Taras Varshavsky,

Volodimir Vlasyuk and Lev Wolansky.

During the graduation program in the school auditorium, the littlest graduates of St. John's demonstrated some of what they had learned during their first year of full-day schooling thanks to the guidance of their teacher, Olga Stasiuk. The program took the audience around the world via a series of skits, dances and songs presented in English and Ukrainian by the children attired in appropriate hats and costumes.

The program ended with the distribution of diplomas to the children, now dressed in white caps and gowns, as their schoolmates from the higher grades applauded.

Immaculate Conception...

(Continued from page 9)

Tarnavsky.

Seven seniors, Mr. Fedynsky, Miss Korbiak, Mr. Lisowsky, Nannette Meyette, Kathryn Pszenyczny, Miss Stacey and Miss Tarnavsky received the 1997 Presidential Scholar Award, a merit scholarship to Wayne State University in Detroit (a full, four-year academic tuition scholarship).

Certificates of recognition awarded by the Michigan State Board of Education and the Michigan Higher Education Assistance Authority recognized Mr. Fedynsky, Miss Korbiak, Mr. Lisowsky, Miss Meyette, Miss Pszenyczny, Miss Stacey, Miss Tarnavsky, Orest Tarnavsky and Emily Twomey for outstanding academic achievement in the State of Michigan Competitive Scholarship Program.

Additional city, county and academic scholarships were awarded. Private scholarships granted by numerous Ukrainian organizations included the Buhay Chapel, Ukrainian Future Credit Union, Ukrainian Selfreliance Credit Union, Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Frank and Frances Kreck, Mrs. Liskiwsky, the estate of Ann Horbush, the Ukrainian National Association, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School Parents Club, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Ukrainian Engineers' Society, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High

School Alumni Association, Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 76 and the Order of St. Basil the Great.

This was the 35th graduating class to leave Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School. As 18 seniors leave, 24 freshmen have registered for the upcoming 1997-1998 school year.

Detroit Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 8)

Prasicka Hryciw, Olia Novachynska, Nadia Sutar and Luba Vyhanska.

Prior to the "Koza Dereza" operetta, the seventh, eighth and ninth grades, under the direction of teachers Tania Kindzelska, Valentyna Boyko and Ridna Shkola's Principal Dr. Jaroslaw Berezovsky, presented a montage of renowned Ukrainian historical figures and read works by Ukrainian poets, Lesia Ukrainka, Taras Shevchenko and Ivan Franko. The afternoon's performance was brought to a close with Dr. Berezovsky thanking the students for their diligence, the teachers for their tireless efforts and the parents for their support. The performance program culminated a highly successful school year which witnessed growth and enhanced programs of study. Detroit's Ridna Shkola is indeed on an upswing with even greater achievements foreseen for the 1997-1998 academic year.

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Ukraine changes...

(Continued from page 2)

Ukrainian media had been full of reports of government members involved in privatizing dachas, ensuring very preferential loans and holding foreign accounts.

• Second, the IMF had threatened to cancel a crucial \$2.9 billion loan to Ukraine because of the lack of a 1997 budget, remaining export restrictions, a long list of small-and medium-sized firms exempted from privatization, the failure to adopt tax laws and reform of pensions. President Kuchma had promised to ensure that these would be fulfilled by July.

• Third, Mr. Lazarenko was not perceived as a committed reformer which, coupled with accusations that he himself was corrupt made it difficult for reformers to support his government.

• Fourth, Mr. Lazarenko's arrogance and unwillingness to work and cooperate with the Verkhovna Rada had hindered the adoption of the 1997 budget. It cannot be any coincidence that this budget, which had been introduced initially as a draft in late 1996 and then was again introduced as a new draft on the day the IMF delegation arrived in Kyiv and Mr. Lazarenko became "ill," was finally adopted only eight days later. The budget, with a projected deficit of 5.7 percent of the GDP, was welcomed by the IMF, but the IMF insisted on passage of the tax laws before the loan was released.

• Finally, Mr. Kuchma was reluctant to dismiss Mr. Lazarenko because of the approaching elections and the possible usefulness of his clan. President Kuchma is preparing a decree postponing the parliamentary elections until 1999 – the same year that the presidential elections are to be held. Mr. Kuchma is still the most popular politician in Ukraine with a 26 percent approval rating, with other likely candidates polling only 2 to 6 percent. Mr. Kuchma was reluctant to release the PM also because of close business ties in the energy sector which have national security ramifications.

There are others factors at work also. Yevhen Marchuk, whom Mr. Lazarenko replaced as prime minister, is likely to be President Kuchma's main opponent in the

1999 presidential elections. There are strong rumors in Kyiv that he has financial backing from Gazprom, which helped him establish a leading Kyiv newspaper Den (Day) that was at the forefront of the anti-Lazarenko campaign in the media. Energy companies allied with Mr. Lazarenko had diverted gas distribution in Ukraine towards companies closely tied to him (such as United Energy Systems) and away from Gazprom.

Mr. Kuchma, whose presidential candidacy in 1994 was backed by Russia, may now be concerned that history will repeat itself and Moscow will back Mr. Marchuk, his main rival, in 1999.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

Patriarch Volodymyr's funeral on July 18 in Kyiv was marred by violent clashes — first at the intersection of Shevchenko Boulevard and Volodymyr Street, and later at St. Sophia Square — between riot police and some 3,000 participants of the funeral procession. At issue was the clergy and laity's wish to bury the remains of their patriarch at St. Sophia Cathedral, despite the decision by the Presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers that Patriarch Volodymyr be interred at either Baikiv Cemetery or on the grounds of St. Volodymyr Cathedral. A grave was dug in the sidewalk next to the main gates of St. Sophia, and the body was interred there.

A memorial to the patriarch was later constructed on that site.

Source: "Ukrainian Orthodox Patriarch Volodymyr Dies"; "Riot police and mourners clash" by Khristina Lew; *The Ukrainian Weekly*, July 23, 1995 (Vol. LXIII, No. 30).

Correction

In the June 29 edition of The Weekly, in the story "Golf challenge slated for October," the acronym for the Ukrainian Golf Association of America should have read "UGAA." Checks should be made payable to the UGAA.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Student honored by bar association

CLEVELAND - Vsevolod Horodyskyj an eighth grade student at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral School in Parma, Ohio, was honored recently at the Cleveland Bar Association's Award Luncheon at The Renaissance Cleveland Hotel.

Mr. Horodyskyj and Christina Stachur, another eight grade student at St. Josaphat's who was honored, along with principal Sister Miriam Claire and art teacher Judith Mincek, heard the 1997 Law Day Address given by attorney Daniel M. Petrocelli. Mr. Petrocelli recently obtained a jury verdict and judgment for the plaintiffs in the wrongful death action against O.J. Simpson.

Karen L. Jackson, chair of the Student Art Contest, presented awards that were co-sponsored by The Cleveland Bar Association, The Cleveland Bar Foundation, The Plain Dealer and The Cleveland Indians for students in grades 6-12.

Mr. Horodyskyj won first place for his drawing "Freedom of Expression." For his efforts, he was presented with a \$100 bond, a \$50 gift certificate from a Cleveland art store, a plaque and four tickets to an Indians home game.

St. Josaphat School received a plaque to be displayed in the trophy case denoting the achievement of both Mr. Horodyskyj and Miss Stachur.

Mr. Horodyskyj also was recognized by The Cleveland Regional Council of Science Teachers for his excellent science project in physics and was presented with the Sanford Eisler Memorial Award for Physical Science, which is given in memory of Sanford Eisler, a lifelong science teacher and supervisor from the Cleveland area.

Mr. Horodyskyj will display and explain his project at the CRCST Conference for science teachers on October 18, at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History along with two other major winners from the area.

Mr. Horodyskyj is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Horodyskyj of North Royalton, Ohio. He is a member of UNA Branch 472.

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Vsevolod Horodyskyj and Christine Stachur (seated) during the awards luncheon held by the Cleveland Bar Association.

Graduates from Naval Academy

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - Ian Alexander Rainey, son of Roma (Babiuk) and Hugh Rainey, graduated from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis on Friday, May 23.

Mr. Rainey belonged to Plast in New

York and attended Plast camps at East Chatham, N.Y., from early childhood through his teenage years. He says Plast gave him an advantage at Annapolis, where the academic and physical training was rigorous.

Ensign Rainey has been assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Paris.

His grandfather, Roman Babiuk, was a member of the UNA and a well-known Ukrainian community activist.

Receives award for music activity

DETROIT - The Ukrainian community of the Detroit area had an opportunity to see one of its members, Iryna Shamraj, receive the 1997 award for outstanding contributions in music on April 20. The presentation was made by the Warren Cultural Commission at a concert of the Warren Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Shamraj is the music director at Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic School in Warren, Mich., teaches private piano lessons and is a member of the Ukrainian Music Institute of America. Her select choir and private

piano students often perform at community functions and events.

She has been music director and accompanist for musical productions of "West Side Story," "Oklahoma," and "My Fair Lady" in California and Detroit area schools, and participates in every aspect of production, including set design and choreography.

She also is involved in other aspects of Ukrainian cultural life and recently appeared on TV 2 news in an exclusive interview about the Ukrainian art of making pysanky. Among Ms. Shamraj's varied contributions are her dynamic Christmas and spring concerts, which are met with great anticipation every year.

She is a member of UNA Branch 174

SCOPE 1997 UKRAINE TOURS table with columns for dates, destinations, and costs. Includes contact info for SCOPE TRAVEL and a warning 'УВАГА Пластуни УВАГА'.

Named to council of credit unions

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Gov. George V. Voinovich of Ohio appointed Marta Liscynsky, a Republican from Parma, Ohio, to the Credit Union Council for a term ending on June 30, 2001.

The Credit Union Council advises and makes recommendations to the Superintendent of Financial Institutions or the Deputy of Credit Unions on matters relating to credit unions. Members are compensated for expenses only.

Gov. Voinovich continues to work closely with the leadership of Ohio's various nationality communities in an effort

to increase representation from those communities.

"We are very proud of the fact that Ms. Liscynsky has agreed to serve on the Credit Union Council," stated August B. Pust, special assistant to the governor for multicultural affairs and international relations. "Ms. Liscynsky brings valuable experience to her new position on the council. Ms. Liscynsky is well known not only in our Ukrainian community but also around many northeastern Ohio nationality communities. She is a great role model for our young generation as a professional who makes a difference in Ohio."

Ms. Liscynsky is a prosecutor with the City of Parma Prosecuting Attorney's Office. She is a member of UNA Branch 240.

Appointed librarian in West Hurley, N.Y.

WEST HURLEY, N.Y. – Halyna Barannik of Ulster, N.Y., was appointed director of the West Hurley Library in February.

Born in Germany, Ms. Barannik came to the United States after World War II and grew up in Wellesley, Mass. She graduated from Smith College with a degree in Russian literature. She received a master's degree in Slavic languages from Brown University, and in 1986 received a master's of library science from the State University of New York at Albany.

Ms. Barannik has worked at the Library of Congress, the Harvard University medical library, the Marist College catalogue library, as a translator and freelance writer, and, most recently, as director of the medical library at Keller Army Hospital in West Point, N.Y.

As the new director of the West Hurley Library, Ms. Barannik plans to bar code the library's entire collection. She is also organizing a collection of photographs of the building of the Ashokan Reservoir, which she and Hurley town co-historian Dave Baker want to see preserved.

Ms. Barannik is a member of UNA Branch 88.

Marks 20 years of work for NASA

HOUSTON – In November of 1994 McDonnell Douglas won a contract with Motorola to design and build the Orbital Services component of the ground control center for the Iridium satellite system. Motorola was impressed with the many years of NASA experience the McDonnell Douglas team could bring to the Iridium project. The Iridium satellite system is a constellation of 66 satellites in 11 different orbital planes destined to provide worldwide cellular telephone service.

Dr. Lubomyr V. Zyla was part of a McDonnell Douglas team responsible for navigation, vehicle ephemeris and event generation, ground back-up, ascent and station keeping guidance, and vehicle state vector maintenance. Dr. Zyla was the chief technical engineer responsible for design of the ground-based tracking navigation system, vehicle drag state estimator, vehicle maneuver efficiency factor estimator and onboard clock maintenance.

Other members of the McDonnell Douglas team were responsible for software architecture, real-time software development issues, guidance and maneuver planning and system testing and verifi-


cation. A large technical and software development project of this magnitude (over 300,000 lines of software code) is very much a team effort with all members of the team performing a vital function.

The first launch of the Iridium satellite system occurred on May 5. The launch was a success and the Orbital Services component of the Iridium ground control center has performed well. There have been some technical problems to solve in the initial vehicle acquisition, ascent and station keeping phase, but this is to be expected in the early flights for a system of this complexity.

Dr. Zyla has had 20 years of experience at NASA and with commercial contractors designing navigation systems for spacecraft and ground support facilities. He first began work at NASA Johnson Space Center in 1977 when he was involved in developing changes to the Mission Control Center in Houston to support Space Shuttle Operations.

He later went on to make significant contributions as part of the NASA McDonnell Douglas, Draper Laboratories team responsible for the design of the shuttle on orbit and rendezvous navigation system. That system is still flying today and successfully bringing the shuttle to a rendezvous with the Russian space station Mir.

Dr. Zyla is a member of UNA Branch 25.



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 10:00 p.m. DANCE – music provided by LUBA and MYKOLA
- Saturday, July 26**
 8:30 p.m. CONCERT – Dance Ensemble DUNAI, vocalist VOLODYMYR TSIMURA
 10:00 p.m. DANCE – music provided by KRYSH TAL
- Saturday, August 2**
 8:30 p.m. CONCERT – Folk Ensemble LVIVSKI MUZYKY
 10:00 p.m. DANCE – music provided by BURLAKY
- Saturday, August 9**
 8:30 p.m. CONCERT – CABARET – OLYA CHODOBA-FRYZ
 10:00 p.m. DANCE – music provided by LUNA
- Saturday, August 16**
 8:30 p.m. CONCERT – Vocalist OSTAP STACHIV
 10:00 p.m. DANCE – music provided by FATA MORGANA
 11:45 p.m. Crowning of "MISS SOYUZIVKA 1998"
- Saturday, August 23 UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**
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5. 3:00 p.m. Swimming Tournament
6. 7:00 p.m. Closing of Games and distribution of prizes and medals

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, July 14

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute is sponsoring a lecture and slide presentation, "Ukrainian Participation in the Glory of Byzantium," by Dr. Olenka Pevny of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. The presentation will be at Harvard University's Emerson Hall, Room 210, at 7:30 p.m. For information call (617) 495-4053.

Thursday, July 17

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute is sponsoring a literary evening with readings by noted authors Askold Melnyczuk and Volodymyr Dibrova. Titled "Here's Looking at You, Kid!" the evening will consist of Messrs. Melnyczuk and Dibrova reading from their latest books, respectively, "Sustainable Losses" and "Burdyk". The presentation will be at Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, Seminar Room 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 7:30 p.m. For information call (617) 495-4053.

Saturday, July 26

PRIMROSE, Pa.: St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church invites all to the 63rd annual Ukrainian Seminary Day, to be held from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at St. Nicholas Grove, off Route 901. The event is held annually to raise funds to benefit the St. Josaphat Ukrainian Seminary in Washington. It will begin at 11 a.m. with a divine liturgy at the grove. The St. Michael's Ukrainian Dancers of Frackville, Pa., and the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble of McAdoo will perform at 1:30-3:30 p.m. Burya, known as "the best Ukrainian band in North America," will then perform at 4-8 p.m. The picnic will also feature ethnic foods, vendors, crafts displays and rides for children. Admission

and parking are free. For more information, call (717) 874-3777.

Sunday, July 27

TUCSON, Ariz.: The newly formed Tucson chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America will hold an indoor beef barbecue dinner at 2 p.m. at the Heidelberg, 4606 E. Pima, at Swan. Donation: \$6 per plate. The event will benefit UNWLA charities. For reservations call Irene Drewnicky, (520) 795-6689, or Pauline Farrell, (520) 294-1835.

Saturday-Sunday, August 17-18

LEXINGTON, Pa.: The Ukrainian Homestead on Route 209 is proud to host its annual Ukrainian Folk Festival, celebrating Ukraine's independence and vibrant culture. Events both days include live entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, ethnic foods, refreshments, sports and swimming. The gates open at noon on Saturday with the main stage show at 3 p.m., featuring the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Philadelphia, the Toronto Ukrainian Dance Soloists, The Luna Orchestra of New York, and the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The fun continues into Saturday night with the Luna Orchestra playing at a dance from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday events run from noon to 5 p.m. with two main stage shows at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday's performing highlights include the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Toronto Soloists, Kazka Ensemble, and a special guest appearance by the Original Male Byzantine Choir from Northeastern Pennsylvania. Parking is free; admission to the festival is \$5 per person, \$8 for two-day admission; children 14 and under admitted free. For information, call (610) 377-4621, (610) 377-7750 or (610) 432-0734.

At Soyuzivka: July 19-20

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The Ukrainian National Association Estate invites all to spend a satisfying weekend in the Catskills Mountains, so similar to Ukraine's Carpathians.

Early birds arriving on Friday, July 18, may taste fare from the sea at Odesa Night, Soyuzivka's newest addition to its theme dinners, commencing at 6 p.m. on the Veselka Patio. Following dinner, guests may bide their time at the fine Trembita Lounge as Lvivyany, Soyuzivka's house band, strike up theme music for the evening's relaxation.

On Saturday, July 19, nature aficionados, culturati, sporty types and lounge lizards may all partake in the multifaceted Soyuzivka experience, which offers wooded trails, art and culture exhibits, tanning at poolside and beach

volleyball, as well as friendly conversation on the Veselka Patio and adjacent Trembita Lounge.

At 8:30 p.m., guests are invited for a presentation of Ukrainian song and music by Luba and Mykola at the Veselka Pavilion. This pair has charmed countless audiences throughout North America with their original renditions and compositions based on varying musical themes.

Following concert's end, at approximately 10 p.m., all may dance under the stars as Luba and Mykola provide the music.

On Sunday, July 20, before departing, guests may take full advantage of Chef Andriy Sonevsky's brunch and all of the resort's other amenities.

For room reservations and general information, call (914) 626-5641.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, and the like – we receive from our readers.

In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.

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