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Ukrainian independence marked on Capitol Hill

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON — Praising Ukraine's accomplishments in the sixth year of its independence, the speakers at this year's congressional Ukrainian Independence Day reception called for further strengthening America's strategic partnership with Ukraine, and continued support of its political and economic reform process.

The reception, held on September 17 at the Rayburn House Office Building, was co-sponsored by the newly formed Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC) and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA).

The estimated 150 members of Congress and their staffs, diplomats, military officers and Ukrainian Americans who came to the event heard a cautionary note from Ukraine's ambassador that the failure by Congress to pass the earmarked \$225 million aid package for Ukraine "will play into the hands of Ukrainian anti-reform forces" in the 1998 parliamentary elections. They were the first to hear the news that First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton would visit Ukraine in November. And they also heard from Slava Stetsko, Verkhovna Rada national deputy and head of the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists.

Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Yuri Shcherbak, thanked the members of the House and Senate for their support of Ukraine. In what he termed this "crucial moment" in Ukraine's history, he appealed to U.S. lawmakers to continue their support of President Leonid Kuchma's reform efforts and approve the \$225 million earmarked assistance package for Ukraine.

"In case the earmark is not adopted," he cautioned, "it will play into the hands of the Ukrainian anti-reform forces who strongly oppose the political reforms and seek to change the political course of Ukraine."

"Your support would help the reform and democracy forces to win the parliamentary election in Ukraine next year," said Dr. Shcherbak.

Ambassador Shcherbak also read a message from Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko, who could not attend the reception because of his new duties as president of the 52nd session of the United

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Kuchma pledges support for United Nations reform

by Khristina Lew

UNITED NATIONS — Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma pledged his country's support for the reform efforts of Secretary-General Kofi Annan in an address to the General Assembly on September 22.

The Ukrainian president arrived in New York on September 21 to attend ceremonies marking the opening of the 52nd session of the General Assembly, whose president, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko, was elected on September 16.

President Kuchma told delegates to the opening session of the general debate that "Ukraine actively supports the measures aimed at bringing the structure and tasks of the organization in line with new realities."

"The package of proposals of the secretary-general aimed at the wide-scale reorganization of the U.N. structure and its program activities ... constitute, in fact, the first real attempt to overcome the standstill in reforming the organization."

The Ukrainian president congratulated Mr. Udovenko on his election to "the highest political post of the international community," noting that Ukraine interprets international support for Mr. Udovenko's candidacy as "a manifestation of a high level of confidence in Ukraine's foreign policy, its peaceful initiatives, and commitment to the ideas and the objective of reviving and strengthening the U.N."

In his 20-minute speech, President Kuchma proposed that the enlargement of the Security Council, an issue that will be discussed during the 52nd session, be guided by three general principles: all regional groups, including the Eastern European group to which Ukraine belongs, should enlarge their representation in the Security Council; enlargement should not adversely affect the efficiency of the council's work; and the process of enlargement should not be subject to strict time constraints, although a decision on expansion should be reached in the nearest future.

He once again reminded U.N. delegates that the consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion are a global problem "whose solution is simply impossible without large-scale international assistance." President Kuchma reiterated that Ukraine has made a political commitment to decommission the Chernobyl plant by 2000 and has taken measures to fulfill its obligation. "We expect that other countries will also meet their commitments in this regard," he said.

In a private meeting with Secretary-General Annan following his address, President Kuchma said that since the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by the Group of Seven industrial states in 1995, no real efforts to resolve financing of the sarcophagus protecting damaged Chernobyl reactor No. 4 have been made. According to Dmytro Markov, the president's spokesman, Mr. Kuchma urged the secretary-general to support Ukraine's



Khristina Lew

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan (left) thanks Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma for supporting his efforts to reform the United Nations.

inclusion in future talks related to resolving Chernobyl problems.

For his part, Mr. Annan applauded Ukraine's efforts to establish good-neighborly relations with Romania, Poland and Russia, pointing out that global security will come from regional security. He also thanked the Ukrainian president for sup-

porting his proposals for reforming the United Nations.

Events marking the opening of the 52nd session of the General Assembly included a reception in honor of President Bill Clinton and an official dinner at the U.N. Plaza

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Parliament passes election law after nine months of wrangling

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — After nine months of many attempts, Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada finally shed itself of its archaic and ineffective electoral system on September 24 and pushed through a new election law that observers say will strengthen the role of political parties in Ukraine but still leaves room for non-aligned legislators elected from electoral districts. The feat wasn't accomplished without some controversy, however.

The vote, called historic by many national deputies, will give the next elected legislature a composition of 225 deputies elected directly from districts and 225 deputies picked by parties. The distribution of deputies from the varying parties will be proportional to the percentage of support the party receives.

"This is the civilized evolution of the political system of Ukraine," said National Deputy Yevhen Marchuk after the voting. "We are moving toward European standards. A mixed system is more progressive. It will help the political development of Ukraine."

That step forward took 13 attempts over more than six months — and six votes at the

September 24 session alone — before the Verkhovna Rada finally passed an election law by a vote of 230 to 73.

A majority of Parliament members had long agreed that the old system could not remain but could not agree on a new one. Three proposals, a strictly proportional system like in most of Europe, changes to a majority system that made it impossible to elect a full legislature in 1994, and the mixed system that finally won out, split the deputies to the point that no single proposal could get the needed 226 votes.

Six months ago, a revamped majority system looked to hold the edge. A bill supporting changes but leaving the old system in place was passed in its first reading in March. But questions arose about whether that bill, which did not change the old law but merely attached amendments to it, would be legal under the new Constitution. The bill hung in committee for several months as the Verkhovna Rada battled with the legal question surrounding the bill as well as with a 1997 budget.

On September 10 a new bill suggesting a mixed election system with 25 percent turnout needed in a district to elect a deputy (and not the 50 percent called for in the old

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Ecumenical patriarch calls on Russian Church to lead reunification of Ukrainian Churches

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople on September 24 called on the Russian Orthodox Church to lead the way toward reunification of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches. His statement has caused another stir in the already badly divided Orthodox community of Ukraine.

The leader of the worldwide Orthodox Church, Patriarch Bartholomew, while speaking after he had arrived in Odesa for an international ecological symposium, the culmination of a cruise on the Black Sea to highlight the ecological problems of the region. He said the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople recognizes as canonical on the territory of Ukraine only the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate, which is subservient to the Russian Orthodox Church. He called on the leader of the Russian Church, Aleksei II, to "do his utmost for a successful resolution of the issues of Orthodox Church unity in Ukraine," according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Patriarch Bartholomew's visit to Odesa, his first to Ukraine, was part of a cruise along the Black Sea he undertook to highlight the ecological problems of the region. Other scheduled stops were Yalta and ports in Bulgaria and Romania. In Odesa he attended the international symposium "Science, Religion and the Environment," held under the aegis of the Ecumenical Orthodox Church and the European Commission. Commission President Jacques Santer and approximately 200 religious and political leaders also were present.

In Odesa the church leader was met by Patriarch Volodymyr Sabodan, Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate, Moscow Patriarch Aleksei II and Mayor of Odesa Eduard Hurvitz. Not invited were the leaders of the two other Orthodox Churches in Ukraine,

Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate and Patriarch Dymytryi of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

The two uninvited leaders quickly responded to Patriarch Bartholomew's remarks and also to a statement by Patriarch Aleksei II that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church should unite under Patriarch Volodymyr Sabodan of the Moscow Patriarchate.

Patriarch Dymytryi said his Church has no intention of "uniting with the Russian Church," while Patriarch Filaret called the Russian patriarch's words an effort to "resubjugate" Ukraine.

"The visit of the Moscow Patriarch Aleksei II in Ukraine is not wanted and harmful to our country and Church," said the leader of the Kyiv Patriarchate. "It is amoral in its substance and form. The 'visit' is a continuation of the Luzhkov-Baburin journeys, the politics of chauvinistic lies, provocation and territorial pretensions."

Patriarch Filaret said at a press conference on September 25 in Kyiv that he believes Patriarch Bartholomew met with his Moscow counterpart to resolve political differences surrounding the recent move by the Estonian Orthodox Church toward Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and away from Moscow Patriarch Aleksei II, not to talk about ecology, or science or general religious matters.

"In the end both came out of the meeting satisfied: Aleksei, because there was no discussion about establishing an independent Ukrainian Church and Bartholomew because relations with Moscow were again normalized after the Estonian affair," said Patriarch Filaret.

What also irked Patriarch Filaret was that only Patriarch Volodymyr of the Moscow Patriarchate was invited to the Odesa conference. "We were not invited,

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International experts' report critical of safety at Chernobyl

Eastern Economist

KYIV — The International Association of Operators of Atomic Energy Stations, a non-governmental organization, has produced a negative report on safety conditions at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

A group of international experts who visited Chernobyl in July at the invitation of the station's management was critical of Chernobyl staff's approach to safety procedures. The experts noted that the implementation of measures to increase safety at the station was unsatisfactory and the resulting level of safety unacceptable.

The association has carried out several dozen similar inspections at Chernobyl in the past, but this is the first time it has come to such damning conclusions.

According to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety, the association made serious mistakes in assessing the state of the reactor and equipment and the situation with measures to improve safety. The association's remarks are not new and some are already included on the list of reasons for completely shutting down the Chernobyl plant by the year 2000.

Experts from non-government nuclear organizations, who preferred to remain anonymous, have suggested that the

association's conclusion could have been designed to intensify Western pressure on Ukraine to close down Chernobyl by 2000, even though full financing for completing construction of two new compensatory energy blocks at the Rivne and Khmelnytskyi nuclear power plants will not be forthcoming. The source pointed out that the conclusions of a non-governmental organization could not provide grounds for a decision on the Chernobyl shutdown.

The Chernobyl Information Service reported on September 11 that, in view of the conclusions of the International Association of Operators of Atomic Energy Stations, corrective measures would be included in previously planned work to improve safety. With technical support from the G-7 countries and the European Union, the Chernobyl plant is not only working to prepare the station for eventual shutdown but also taking measures to improve safety at the third energy block.

Specific measures to be taken shortly include improvements in: radiation control and control over metals in the reactor; fire safety measures; and quality of equipment maintenance and repairs. According to the information service, the introduction of new safety measures should significantly enhance the reactor's reliability.

NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma says CIS is flawed, but necessary

ALMATY — Addressing Kazak journalists in Almaty on September 18, President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine said the CIS's shortcomings include its focus on political, rather than economic, problems and its attempts to unilaterally resolve unspecified problems between member-states. He said all CIS member-states share the blame for this state of affairs but that Russia is the biggest culprit. He also stressed that Kyiv favors "more active" bilateral relations between members of the Commonwealth of Independent States and rejects attempts to transform the CIS into a supranational organization. At the same time, he conceded that the CIS had facilitated the peaceful demise of the USSR and is "necessary," despite all its faults. President Nursultan Nazarbaiev of Kazakstan has frequently expressed similar reservations about the CIS. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian helicopter crashes in Bosnia

KYIV — A Ukrainian UN MI-8 helicopter crashed Sept. 17 near the Bosnian city of Fostnitsa, 50km from Sarajevo, the Croatian Embassy reported. According to the Foreign Ministry, four Ukrainian crew and 12 passengers from Great Britain, the U.S., Poland, and Germany were on board. All four Ukrainians survived and are now recovering in a hospital. All the passengers were killed. An investigation is under way. (Eastern Economist)

Daewoo signs deal with Avtozaz

KYIV — South Korea's Daewoo Group on September 17 signed a deal creating a joint venture with Ukrainian car manufacturer Avtozaz. The venture, which will also involve the U.S. company General Motors, is to produce 255,000 cars a year, half of which will be for export and the other half for the domestic market. Some \$1.3 billion will be invested over the next six years to modernize the Avtozaz plant in Zaporizhia, increase production capacity, and build a sales and service network in Ukraine. An Avtozaz official told the Interfax-Ukraine news agency that Daewoo will put up half of the venture's \$300 million starting capital, and the 85 percent state-owned Avtozaz will offer the other half in property. The Daewoo Corp. also has factories in Poland, Romania and the Czech Republic. In related news, the Verkhovna Rada voted by 234-25 to free foreign companies investing more than \$150 million in the Ukrainian automobile industry from import duties and tariffs for the next 10 years, Ukrainian Television reported on September 19. President Leonid Kuchma is expected to sign the bill, which observers regard as aimed at benefiting the Daewoo Group. In exchange for the tax

exemption, Daewoo will hire 90 percent of its workers from among Ukrainians and contract for at least 70 percent of its parts from Ukrainian firms. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Crimean tourism official fatally shot

SYMFEROPOL — Crimean Vice Minister for Tourism Dmitrii Goldich was shot twice in the head by unidentified assailants in Symferopol on September 18, Reuters reported. The 26-year-old Goldich died on September 22 after being in a coma for several days. Interfax quoted investigators as saying they suspect the attack was a contract hit. Crimean news media have recently reported on several scandals involving the privatization of holiday resorts on the peninsula, which was once the favorite vacation destination of the Soviet elite. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine reports unexpected rise in GDP

KYIV — Premier Pustovoitenko confirmed a 1.3 percent GDP rise in the Gross Domestic Product in August, the first month of growth for 1997. August also saw zero growth in the price of consumer goods and services for the first time in 1997. Mr. Pustovoitenko said he believes the annual inflation will not exceed 15 percent. Mr. Pustovoitenko said as of August 1, payables equaled 95 billion hrv and receivables accounted for 66 billion hrv. More than 60 percent of total receivables and payables fall on enterprises in Luhansk, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv and Kyiv oblasts. As of Sept. 1, back wages debts for budget workers equaled 900 million hrv which is 32 percent less than on September 1. (Eastern Economist)

Shpek believes Rada damages credibility

KYIV — The Verkhovna Rada's rejection of a credit agreement with the World Bank on a loan to finance housing construction in Odesa, Lviv and Kharkiv will inflict financial and moral damage to Ukraine, as well as jeopardize Kyiv's relations with the WB, according to National Agency for Reconstruction and Development Head Roman Shpek. A housing construction project was to have been implemented in 1997-1999 in these cities, with repayment due next century. It involved construction of apartment blocks and renovation work on existing housing stock. The Parliament explained its decision by saying that in the light of the current economic crisis in Ukraine, the country should not take on an additional financial commitment. Mr. Shpek stressed that loan repayments would have been made from income received from the sale of apartments and would not bur-

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Udoenko re-emphasizes commitment to process of reforming United Nations

by Irene Jarosewich

UNITED NATIONS — Two days after being elected as the new president of the 52nd session of the General Assembly, Hennadii Udoenko re-emphasized his commitment, originally outlined in his acceptance speech, to make this session of the assembly pivotal in the process of reforming the United Nations.

In opening remarks at his first press conference, held on September 18, as well as in response to questions, Mr. Udoenko noted that reform is the "No. 1 agenda item" and reiterated his support of U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan's proposals to streamline both the budget and administrative structure of the U.N. Secretariat, (the Secretariat and its programs employs approximately 14,000 people, developed by 185 member-states; the total U.N. system employs close to 53,000 people worldwide); to evaluate and establish new priorities for existing programs and development projects; and to change policy-making organs, such as the Security Council, to bring the U.N. into line with the political realities of the post-Cold War period.

Furthermore, "the role of the General Assembly must be strengthened," he stated, "it should not be only ceremonial ... (and) should influence the process of reform." Mr. Udoenko added that he remains "committed to the goals and principles of the U.N. Charter," and emphasized that as the leading international body, the U.N. has a responsibility to function well, and is often the only organizational vehicle through which small or less developed countries have a voice in an increasingly interdependent world. As an example he cited Ukraine, where as recently as 10 years ago "the U.N. was the only possible way for us to deal in any way with 'the other world.'"

He also noted that a certain lack of discipline has become pervasive throughout the functioning of the U.N., reducing its effectiveness in the world, as well as inviting disrespect. Mr. Udoenko stated that Secretary-General Annan has noted that the roles of the General Assembly and Secretariat (equivalent to the legislative and executive branches) have become blurred, and need to be made more distinct. Mr. Udoenko also said that "the member-states must be guided by the resolutions they adopt" — in short, stop saying one thing, then doing another.

Among the events that confronted Mr. Udoenko during his first day on the new job was news that a U.N. helicopter crashed in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was piloted by a four-member Ukrainian crew, and carried 12 members of the United Nations International Police Task Force and the Office of the High Representative. He was also asked to react to new clashes in East Jerusalem and unequivocally state his position on the current situation in the Middle East, which Mr. Udoenko refused to do, citing lack of time to have been properly briefed.

After receiving compliments for doing a masterful job in managing Ukraine's foreign policy this past spring, Mr. Udoenko credited President Leonid Kuchma for much of the effort. Mr. Udoenko will continue to serve as Ukraine's foreign affairs minister and stated that he will communicate with his office in Ukraine by e-mail, fax and phone; Anton Buteiko, the vice minister for foreign affairs, will be the "man on the ground" during Mr. Udoenko's absence from Kyiv during the next few months. After the General Assembly session ends in December, Mr. Udoenko stated that he will come to New York on an as-needed basis.

Reaction to Turner's \$1 billion pledge

UNITED NATIONS — The president of the General Assembly, Hennadii Udoenko, was at the United Nations Association dinner on September 18 when Ted Turner, the vice-chairman of Time Warner Inc., announced he would contribute \$1 billion to support the goals of the United Nations.

Mr. Udoenko said he has high hopes for the current session of the General Assembly to become a watershed event in the process of reforming the United Nations. But, for the reform of the U.N. to be successful, the organization needs both symbolic support and practical contributions, he added.

Alex Taukach, spokesman for the General Assembly president, said: "As for Mr. Turner's pledge, it was definitely a billion-dollar symbolic gesture, if there ever was one. The president has known Mr. Turner to be a steadfast and vocal supporter of the United Nations, but with the announced contribution of \$1 billion Mr. Turner has certainly put his money where his mouth is."

Kuchma expected to open new Embassy building in London

by Tony Leliw

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

LONDON — President Leonid Kuchma is expected to officially open the new Ukrainian Embassy building here early next year. It will be his second trip to Britain.

Speaking exclusively to The Ukrainian Weekly, Ukraine's Ambassador Serhii Komissarenko said: "At the beginning of next year we are expecting the president to visit the United Kingdom to participate in the European Union (EU) summit and to take the opportunity to inaugurate our new Embassy building."

Mr. Komissarenko had hoped the Embassy would be ready for the sixth independence anniversary last month, but this had been delayed due to building work.

The new Embassy in Holland Park was bought with funds provided by the president during his previous trip to Britain in December 1995. The current Embassy building on Kensington Park Road, which was donated by the Federation of Ukrainians in Great Britain, will be used as a consulate and trade mission once the move has been made.

Mr. Komissarenko said that much had been achieved since Ukraine celebrated its last independence anniversary. Last year a Constitution was adopted, a national currency (the hryvnia) was introduced and a new government that is much more pro-reform was put in place.

Ukraine has also signed a partnership charter with NATO as well as treaties

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Ukraine's first lady visits Staten Island University Hospital



Irene Jarosewich

Liudmyla Kuchma (center), wife of Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, listens to comments from guests attending the luncheon organized in her honor at Staten Island University Hospital in New York City.

by Irene Jarosewich

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — Liudmyla Kuchma, wife of the president of Ukraine, traveled to the southernmost borough of New York City, Staten Island, to formally thank the staff and board of directors of Staten Island University Hospital for the donation of a diagnostic laboratory and medications, as well as the establishment of a physicians' training effort and the initiation of a program to support designated orphanages in Ukraine.

Staten Island University Hospital (SIUH), ranked as one of the best teaching hospitals in the U.S., is donating a complete diagnostic laboratory that will be set up in Kyiv at a specialized facility, the Center for the Protection of Maternal and Child Health (known in Ukraine as "Okhmadit"). The hospital will also begin a program to support the professional training of two doctors from Ukraine for six months, who will travel to SIUH to study primary care and geriatric medicine.

In addition, members of the University Physicians' Group affiliated with the hospital have pledged to donate \$150 per year, per child to support approximately 65 orphans from newborn to age 3.

Five years ago, Dr. Eugene Holuka, a young physician of Ukrainian heritage, who is affiliated with SIUH, provided some medications to a patient from Ukraine whom he was treating. From this relatively modest beginning, a broader program of aid has been developed.

Dr. Holuka is credited by the staff and board of SIUH with generating the momentum to bring about this current donation (the lab equipment is valued at approximately \$200,000), as well as facilitating the beginning of the teaching program and the orphan-support initiative. He was given an award earlier this year by President Kuchma in recognition of his many years of work to bring medical equipment and medications to Ukraine.

After a tour of the hospital during the morning of September 23, approximately 60 people attended a luncheon for Mrs. Kuchma, co-hosted by Staten Island Assemblywoman Elizabeth Connelley and Barbara Varone, wife of SIUH president and

CEO, Rick J. Varone.

Greeting the guests, Mr. Varone promised that SIUH will "build a bridge between Staten Island and Ukraine ... and though it will be a long one ... [it will be] based on good feelings and the desire to help others."

Mrs. Kuchma, in a warm and sincere greeting that touched her audience, expressed her gratitude for the donation made by the hospital, and expressed her admiration for the facilities of SIUH, which has been listed among the top 100 hospitals in the U.S. by industry reports.

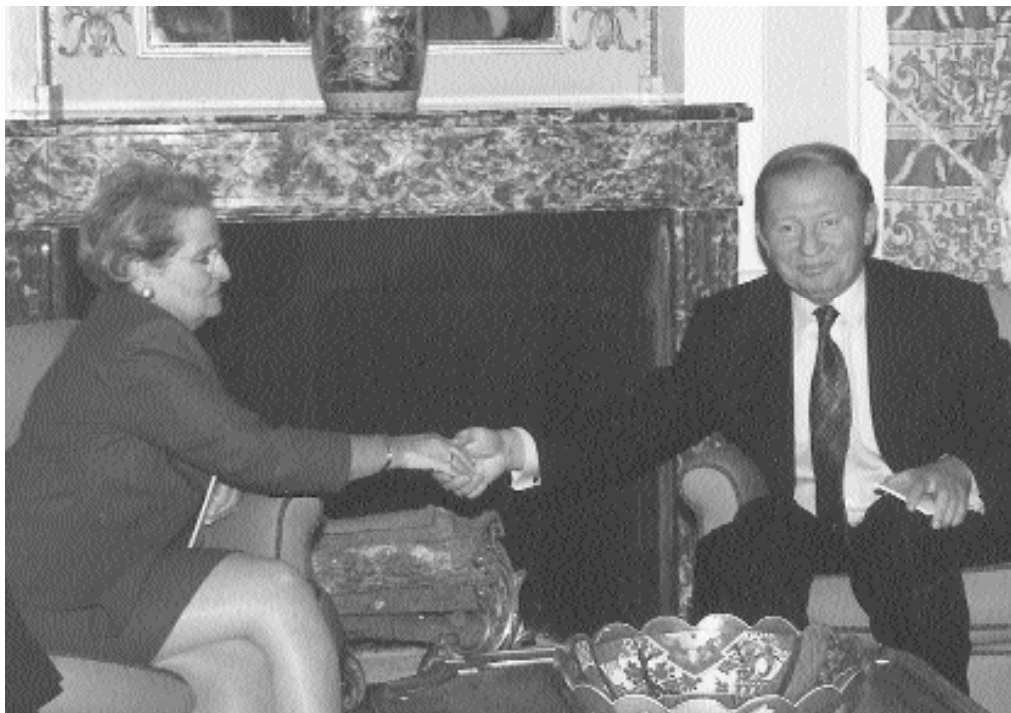
She also directly addressed representatives of Johnson and Johnson, who were attending the luncheon, with a personal promise: upon hearing that the corporation was hesitant about making donations to Ukraine for fear that their products would end up on the black market, and not in the hands of intended recipients, Mrs. Kuchma pledged that for all donations sent through her authority, she would personally guarantee that the donation would reach those for whom it was intended.

Mrs. Kuchma was in New York City as a member of a delegation from Ukraine that includes President Kuchma and other high-ranking Ukrainian officials attending the 52nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Hennadii Udoenko, Ukraine's foreign affairs minister, was elected as president of the 52nd session on September 16.

Mrs. Kuchma's schedule also included the season's opening night performance of "Carmen" at New York City's Metropolitan Opera, also attended by President Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton, as well as other international dignitaries, and a trip to Hyde Park, N.Y., to view President Franklin Roosevelt's family home and Presidential Library, as well as the nearby Vanderbilt mansion.

Accompanying Mrs. Kuchma on her visit to SIUH was Dina Udoenko, wife of the president of the U.N. General Assembly, and Liudmyla Zlenko, wife of Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the U.N. Anatolii Zlenko.

On September 24, the delegation continued to Mexico for an official visit.



Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma meets with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.



President Leonid Kuchma (left) discussed military-technical cooperation with Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif at the United Nations.



President Leonid Kuchma (left) presents former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger with the State Medal of Ukraine at Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations.



President Leonid Kuchma presents Ulana Diachuk, president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, with an award "for weighty contributions to building and strengthening the Ukrainian state" during a brief ceremony at Ukraine's Consulate General in New York. Looking on is Eugene Stakhiv, UACC vice-president, who was similarly honored.

Kuchma pledges support...

(Continued from page 1)

Hotel on September 21, a luncheon hosted by the secretary-general for heads of states on September 22, and a dinner in honor of President Kuchma hosted by General Assembly President Udovenko at the New York Palace Hotel on September 23.

The opening session also afforded the Ukrainian president an opportunity to hold bilateral talks with leaders of the United States, India, Pakistan and Andorra.

On September 21 President Kuchma, Minister Udovenko and Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak met privately with President Clinton to discuss U.S. quota limits and duties on Ukrainian steel. As of September 24, the two sides were still negotiating.

The meeting also focused on Ukraine's increasingly poor relationship with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. President Clinton promised to intervene in resolving Ukraine's relations with the international financial institutions.

President Kuchma's September 22 meeting with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel did not fare as well. According to Mr. Markov, the two sides did not agree on the pace of Ukraine's economic reform. "The president," said Mr. Markov, "views the pace of reform as a normal process in rebuilding a state. All countries go through this. The president categorically did not agree that economic reform is moving slowly in Ukraine." Ms. Albright would not comment on the hourlong meeting.

President Kuchma told the secretary of state that Ukraine is in the process of privatizing large-scale enterprises, and complained that Daewoo of South Korea is the only foreign company to invest substantial capital. According to Mr. Markov, the Ukrainian president insists

that in order for large-scale privatization to be successful, it must be transparent and based on cash investment, not on a fictitious hand-over of state property.

The Ukrainian president also told Secretary Albright that Ukraine has not received any money from the IMF.

Mr. Markov said Secretary Albright told President Kuchma that the U.S. views Ukraine as an important partner. The issue of corruption was not raised during the meeting, he said.

President Kuchma invited Ms. Albright to visit Ukraine to observe first hand how the country is reforming its economy and evolving politically. Both sides agreed to continue consultations.

President Kuchma, accompanied by Ambassador Anatolii Zlenko, Ukraine's permanent representative to the United Nations, also met with Indian Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral in the halls of the United Nations on September 22. Mr. Markov characterized the meeting as "a warm exchange of ideas."

Both leaders agreed to visit each other's country in an effort to bolster the weakened Ukrainian-Indian bilateral relationship. During Soviet times, India was a strong economic partner of the Soviet Union, particularly with Ukraine. A Ukrainian-Indian commission was created to facilitate the visits of both leaders.

During a U.N. meeting with Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, the two sides discussed diversifying cooperation in the military-technical sphere. Prime Minister Sharif indicated Pakistan's interest in establishing Pakistani-Ukrainian joint ventures. President Kuchma said the doors to cooperation between the two countries are opened in all spheres and accepted the prime minister's invitation to visit Pakistan.

President Kuchma extended an invitation to Andorran Prime Minister Marc Forné Molné to visit Ukraine during their September 22 meeting on expanding trade and economic relations. Andorra, a mountainous country

located between Spain and France, recently hosted 25 Ukrainian children suffering from the aftereffects of Chernobyl, and in the future plans to invite additional children and their families for a visit.

Kuchma honors Americans

On September 23 Mr. Kuchma awarded former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger the state medal of Ukraine in a ceremony at Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations "for being one of the first to recognize the importance of Ukraine." Mr. Kissinger noted that "it is not too much to say that problems in Europe began when Ukraine lost its independence," and emphasized that the "key to European security is that Ukraine maintains its independence."

The former secretary of state personally congratulated President Kuchma for his efforts to bring Ukraine into the international arena. "I admire what you're doing for reform, for strengthening the state, and for establishing the firm position of Ukraine in the community of nations," he said.

Prior to departing for a two-day visit to Mexico on September 24, President Kuchma presented presidential medals to the Ukrainian Americans he had honored "for strengthening the Ukrainian state" during Independence Day celebrations this year in Kyiv: Ulana Diachuk, president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council; Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Eugene Stachiw, vice-president of the UACC; and Julian and Maria Bachynsky, benefactors of orphanages in Ukraine.

The ceremony was hosted by Consul General Victor Kryzhanivsky at Ukraine's Consulate General in New York.

During his September 21-24 visit to New York President Kuchma also met with American business leaders at a dinner sponsored by Credit Suisse First Boston and visited the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund holds third national convention

by Roma Hadzewycz

EAST HANOVER, N.J. — The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund held its third national convention here during the weekend of September 13-14 with 45 delegates from 10 chapters participating and pledging to continue the mission of helping victims of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident.

The convention featured an address by Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak; panel presentations on a variety of topics, ranging from women's and children's health in Ukraine to a session on public relations and marketing geared toward helping CCRF chapters succeed in their work; and a banquet attended by nearly 250 people during which special awards were presented to chapters, individual activists and supporters of the CCRF's work.

It was an occasion also to announce a major contribution: an unrestricted gift of \$350,000 from John Deere & Co., \$250,000 of which will be used by the CCRF to establish an endowment fund. A portion of these funds will be used also for the relief organization's 19th airlift of medical supplies and equipment which is due to leave for Ukraine in November, as well as to support the CCRF's Women's and Children's Health Initiative in the Dnipropetrovsk region of Ukraine whose first sponsor was the Monsanto Co.

Delegates to the biennial convention — who came from CCRF chapters in Hartford, New Haven and Danbury, Conn.; Buffalo, Rochester and Hudson Valley, N.Y.; Newark and Bound Brook, N.J.; Chicago and Boston — elected a new 14-member board of directors. The board of directors met immediately after the convention's adjournment on Sunday afternoon and elected Orest Dubno, who has served on the CCRF board since 1993, as its chairman. Mr. Dubno, who also served as chair of the 1997 convention, is chief financial officer for the Lex-Atlantic Corp., a shipping and international trade corporation based in New Haven, Conn. (See sidebar for information on the new CCRF board of directors.)

The convention heard greetings and expressions of support from Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-N.J.) and State Sen. Jim McGreevey, who is also mayor of Woodbridge, N.J., and is the Democratic Party's candidate for governor of New

Jersey. Gov. Christine Todd Whitman sent a representative, Frank Maske of the Governor's Office of Volunteerism, to deliver a message of support.

Also addressing the convention were: Yuri Bohaievsky, deputy representative of Ukraine to the United Nations; Corbin Harney, spiritual leader of the Western Shoshone Nation; Maria Drach, president of the Zhinocha Hromada, a national women's organization in Ukraine; and Dr. Olga Bobyliova of Ukraine's Ministry of Health.

The convention was officially opened by Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, president of the CCRF, who reviewed the fund's recent accomplishments and encouraged chapters to continue fulfilling its mission of saving the lives of children who suffer as a result of the world's worst nuclear accident.

Ukraine's ambassador speaks

In his address during the convention's opening session, Ambassador Shcherbak stated: "All of us present here are united by Chernobyl, the worst technogenic environmental disaster of the 20th century, which took place in Ukraine 11 years ago, but which has scorched all nations in the world, leaving no one indifferent. For a catastrophe of this scale there are no boundaries, no political or national barriers. The Chernobyl catastrophe is like a cancerous tumor on the bodies of Ukraine, Belarus and Russia with many metastases in a number of other countries such as Poland, Lithuania, Sweden, Germany, Great Britain, Turkey, Georgia and others."

The ambassador, who is known for his work as both a physician and a writer, was one of the first to visit the area around the stricken Chernobyl nuclear power plant soon after the April 26, 1986, disaster.

"Being here today with you," he continued, "I feel very emotional, as Ukraine will never forget you, those who do a lot of good for Ukraine, who save the children, our common future. The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund is a small miracle of our big and sometimes cruel world, a miracle of kindness created by highly dedicated people, like the charming Nadia Matkiwsky, the vigorous Zenon Matkiwsky, the wise Alex Kuzma and the smart Ksenia Kyzyk, who have devoted their lives to this noble course."

"On behalf of the Ukrainian government, I wish the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund every success, and to its members —



Roma Hadzewycz

Olena Bodnarskyj of the Ukrainian Students Club at the University of Buffalo accepts youth achievement award from Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky (left), CCRF president, and CNN anchor Martin Savidge.

sound health, inspiration and good luck. Let me express also our gratitude to President Bill Clinton, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, the government and Congress of the U.S., and the American people for their outstanding efforts to rescue the victims of Chernobyl. May God bless you in your noble endeavors," he concluded.

Later, during the Saturday afternoon luncheon, Ambassador Shcherbak presented certificates of honor in recognition of "contributions to strengthening ties between Ukraine and the United States" to Dr. Matkiwsky and his wife, Nadia Matkiwsky, CCRF executive director; the Hartford chapter of the CCRF; Joseph Vena, outgoing chairman of the CCRF board; and Orest Fedash, general manager of the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center.

Life in post-Chernobyl Ukraine

Also during the luncheon, Dr. Bobyliova, chief of the Chernobyl-Related Medical Problems Division at the Ministry of Health, offered a synopsis of the dire statistics that characterize post-Chernobyl life in Ukraine: 80 percent of Ukraine's population suffers as a result of the accident; 90 percent of the country's children are unhealthy and 60 percent have serious illnesses. "Since World War II," she underscored, "there has been no bigger or more disastrous catastrophe than Chernobyl."

Dr. Bobyliova returned to the podium during the first of four panel presentations held during the convention, "Strategies for Improving Infant Survival in Ukraine," moderated by Dr. Matkiwsky. Dr. James Hagen of the Benedictine University Public Health Program spoke of his experiences with the public education outreach program in Dnipropetrovsk, which is geared toward helping pregnant women and women of child-bearing age. Joyce Major of the department of nursing education, and Loisanne McKenna, director of nursing-pediatric services, both of Saint Barnabas Medical Center, focused on methods to combat infant mortality and how these could be applied in Ukraine.

Dr. Lyudmyla Porokhnyak Hanovska of the Institute of Radiology in Kyiv offered information on infectious diseases, blood disorders and other maladies that affect Ukraine's population today, while Mr. Harney spoke of radiation's impact on the native American population and the hazards of uranium mining and continuing nuclear bomb tests at the Nevada Test Site.

"Corporate Outreach: Taping the Resources Within and Beyond our Community" was the title of the panel chaired by Mr. Dubno. Panelists — John Caruso of Goldenbarr Inc., Paul Speaker of

(Continued on page 13)



Nadia Haftkowycz accepts certificate of honor presented by Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak to the Hartford chapter of the CCRF.

Dubno elected chairman of CCRF board

EAST HANOVER, N.J. — The new chairman of the board of directors of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund is Orest Dubno, chief financial officer for the Lex-Atlantic Corp., a shipping and international trade corporation based in New Haven, Conn. He is former commissioner of the Department of Revenue Services for the state of Connecticut, former president of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and former assistant vice-president of the First New Haven National Bank, as well as a member of the University of New Haven board of governors and the Yale-New Haven Hospital Advocacy Council.

Others elected at the 1997 national convention to the CCRF board were: Stephen Baker, M.D., chairman of the department of radiology at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ); Silvia Bilobron, D.M.D., clinical instructor with

the department of oral pathology, UMDNJ; Thomas Denny, assistant professor of pathology, laboratory medicine and pediatrics at the UMDNJ; Christine Durbak, M.D., founder and chief financial officer, World Information Transfer; Paul Dzul, M.D., president of the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations; Orest Fedash, general manager, Ramada Hotel and Conference Center; James Hagen, Ph.D., associate professor of public health at Benedictine University; Mark Harwanko, M.B.A., Rutgers School of Management, first vice-president of investments at Janney Montgomery Scott; Andrew P. Kyzyk, managing director for European business development at the New York Stock Exchange; Gregory Rokocz, D.O., vice-president of medical affairs, Union Hospital; Laryssa Barabash Temple, U.S. representative, National Olympic Committee of Ukraine; Joseph Vena, partner in



Orest Dubno, the new chairman of the CCRF board of directors.

the law firm of Mandelbaum, Salsburg et al in West Orange, N.J.; and Leo Wolansky, M.D., associate professor of clinical radiology and chief of MRI at UMDNJ.

OBITUARIES

Harriett Dusanenko of Clarkstown, N.Y., activist in the Republican Party, 78

NEW CITY, N.Y. — Harriet T. Dusanenko, a Clarkstown, N.Y., Republican Party activist, died of ovarian cancer in Nyack Hospital on June 17. She was 78.

In March 1994 Mrs. Dusanenko traveled to Kyiv and Lviv with the International Republican Institute to monitor elections to Ukraine's Parliament. She was recommended to the post by Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.).

Mrs. Dusanenko was born on February 26, 1919, in Manhattan to Steve and Katherine Yalowega. She grew up on Sixth Street and attended St. Cecilia's School. In 1940 she married Teddy B. Dusanenko at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church.

She became active in Clarkstown Republican politics in 1956 and served as a party poll watcher and election inspector. She was Republican committeewoman of District 13 for 30 years as well as secretary

of the town committee.

Mrs. Dusanenko also was president of the New City I Senior Citizens Club for 14 years, a member of the Rockland County Embroidery Guild, president of the PTA for Clarkstown elementary, junior and high schools, and a member of the Clarkstown Schools Building Program.

She was well known for instructing young people in the art of pysanka-making.

Mrs. Dusanenko is survived by her husband, Teddy; two sons, Clarkstown Legislator Theodore Dusanenko and Gerald Dusanenko; a daughter, Andrea Hartwick; three sisters, Joan Hamilla, Julia Huzzar and Ann Gibson III; three grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were offered at St. Augustine Church in New City on June 19; interment followed at Ferncliff Cemetery in Hartsdale, N.Y.

Peter Pucak Sr., 76, founder of Trident printing in Amherst, N.Y.

AMHERST, N.Y. — Peter Pucak Sr., founder of the Trident Associates printing business and a leader in the Ukrainian American community of western New York, died of a heart attack in Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital here on June 8. He was 76.

In addition to founding Trident Associates, a foreign-language printing business, Mr. Pucak worked as a printer for the newspaper Courier-Express, served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, and taught printing at Burgard and McKinley vocational high schools.

Mr. Pucak, whose parents both came from Ternopil Oblast, was born in Niagara Falls, N.Y., and graduated from the former Trott Vocational School there.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1941 and served in the South Pacific. He joined the first American aid group sent to Australia and New Guinea in 1942.

An Air Force cadet school graduate, Mr. Pucak was assigned to the 19th Squadron, 22nd Bomb Group, Fifth Air Force. He was a sergeant at his discharge from the military in 1945. After the war Mr. Pucak sponsored many Ukrainian families in the United States.

He founded Trident Associates in 1945 and began an apprenticeship with Baker-Jones-Hausauer, printers of yearbooks and journals for the U.S. Military Academy in

West Point, N.Y., and the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. He joined the Courier-Express in the late 1950s and retired in the early 1980s as a master tradesman in charge of the monotype room.

Mr. Pucak earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Buffalo in 1965 and began teaching printing in the late 1960s. He retired from teaching in the early 1990s. In 1987 he turned Trident Associates over to his sons, Peter Jr. and Oris Michael.

Mr. Pucak was a life member and past commander of Joseph Hriczko Post 6245, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a member of Ukrainian American Veterans Post 23. He also was a member of the Ukrainian Senior Citizens of Buffalo, the Typographical Union, the Retired Buffalo Teachers Association and Branch 127 of the Ukrainian National Association.

An Amherst resident for the past 47 years, he was a longtime member of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, where he served as Friday night bingo coordinator for 18 years.

In 1995 Mr. Pucak and his wife, the former Sophia Ciopyk, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Ukraine.

A funeral service was offered at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church on June 12; interment followed at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

Illinois governor sponsors exhibit on Great Famine of 1932-1933



CHICAGO — Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar sponsored an exhibit in the James R. Thompson Center to commemorate the 64th anniversary of the Ukrainian famine of 1933. Some 120,000 persons had an opportunity to view the display, which was on view for 10 days in September. Seen above are Pat Michalski (left), assistant to the governor for ethnic affairs, and Lida Truchly, exhibit chairperson.

State Sen. McGreevey marks Ukrainian Independence Day



NEWARK, N.J. — New Jersey State Sen. Jim McGreevey sponsored a resolution in the New Jersey Senate on the sixth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine. Theodore Romakow, president of the League of Ukrainian Voters of New Jersey, thanked Sen. McGreevey for his issuance of the Ukrainian Independence Day resolution. Pictured above (from left) are: Dora Leo, Walter Bodnar, Maria Polanskyj, Bozhena Olshaniwsky, Sen. Jim McGreevey, Lev Khmelkovsky, Lida Bekesewycz, Alexandra Khmelkovsky. Mr. McGreevey, who is also mayor of Woodbridge, N.J., is the democratic candidate for governor of New Jersey.

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.
- ▶ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ▶ 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 (i.e. no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ▶ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ▶ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ▶ 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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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Detroit UNA'ers host annual picnic

by Stephen M. Wichar Sr.

MILFORD, Mich. – Heavy thunderstorms did not prevent UNA'ers in Michigan from taking part in the traditional annual UNA Family Picnic. On August 16 last, approximately 50 officers and families assembled at the popular Dibrova Estate in Milford for this occasion.

After early cocktails and dinner, Dr. Alexander Serafyn, chairman of the Detroit/Toledo/Windsor District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association and a member of the UNA General Assembly, opened the festivities by welcoming all officers, spouses and friends. Many of his introductory commentaries dealt with national UNA issues as they relate to the sale of the UNA building in Jersey City, N.J., and the purchase of new headquarters in Parsippany, N.J. Mr. Serafyn also elaborated on the UNA scholarship program and the forthcoming 1998 UNA Convention in Toronto.

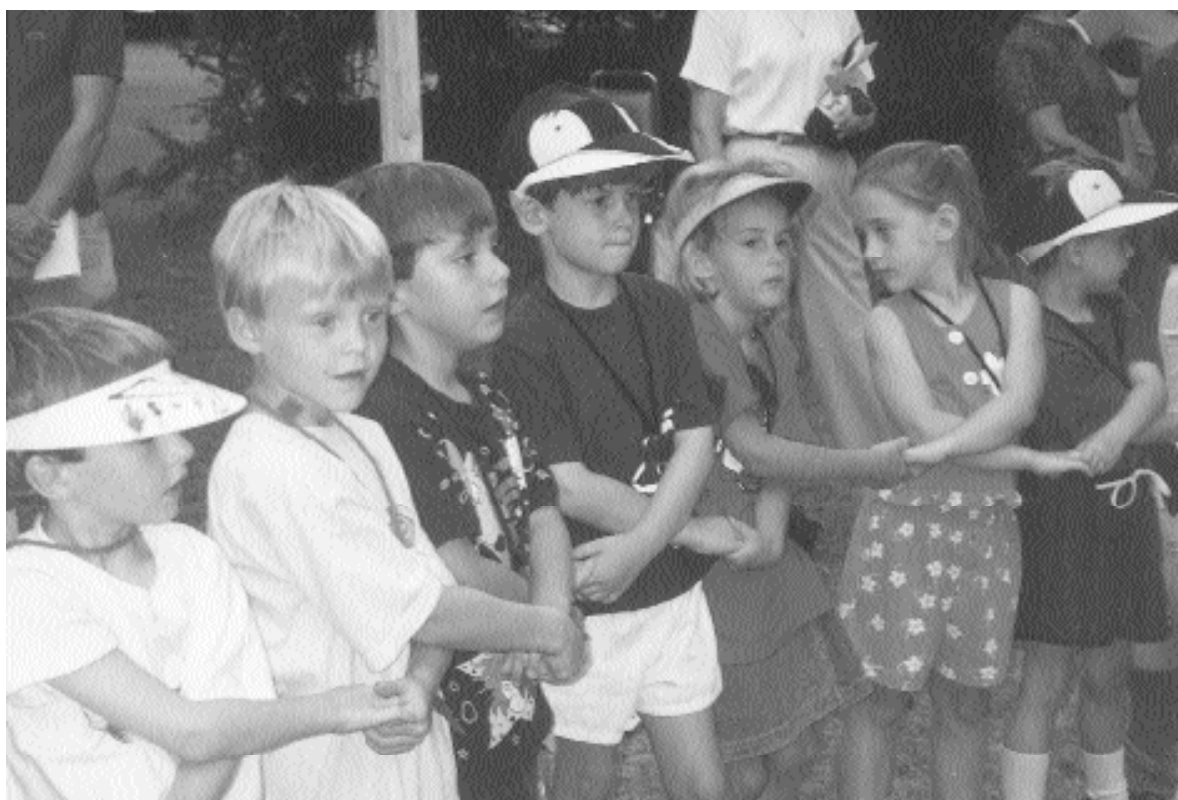
(Continued on page 17)



Officers and guests at the Detroit/Toledo/Windsor District Committee's annual picnic at the Dibrova resort.

Preschoolers enjoy week of fun and learning at UNA resort

Fifty-six children from 27 families from all over the United States, including Colorado, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts, New York, Virginia, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Florida, Maryland and the District of Columbia, participated in the Plast camp for preschoolers age 4-6, "Tabir Ptashat," held at Soyuzivka on July 5-12. (The camp, organized by the "Pershi Stezhi" sorority of Plast, was held in two sessions: June 28-July 4 and July 5-12. A story about the first session of camp, directed by Andrianna Hawryluk Shchuka, was published earlier in The Ukrainian Weekly.) The camp director for the second session was Areta Siryj-Kuritza of Park Ridge, Ill. The photos on this page show some of the little campers' activities. On the right, paying attention during story time are (from left) Sofia Zacharczuk, Kalyna Sperkacz, Paul Klufas, Larissa Szyszka and Julia Dykyj; bottom right, Natalia Vecerek competes in the frisbee event during the camp olympics, as Julian Chernyk, Jurij Sendzimir, Lala Chopivsky Benson and Areta Bojko look on; bottom left, Alex Roik, Andrew Gerbehy, Nicholas Wells, Mykola Murskyj, Diana Kuritza, Andrea Waters and Alex Klek sing "Dobranich" (Good Night). At the camp's closing ceremonies, the Ukrainian National Association's resort presented each camper with a Ukrainian book.



THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Big honor, big task

The election of Ukraine's foreign minister, Hennadii Udovenko as president of the 52nd session of United Nations General Assembly brings politically prestigious international recognition to Ukraine, and is both personally and professionally a big honor for Mr. Udovenko.

However, this big honor comes with a big task attached: reform of the United Nations. The U.N. is in a period of transformation, and a package of proposals to reform the organization has been put forth by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan. The General Assembly, which Mr. Udovenko heads, is the equivalent of the U.N. legislative branch and thus is ultimately responsible for debating and approving this package of reforms. If this package goes through, Mr. Udovenko, who has repeatedly stated that he supports the proposed reforms and believes approval is the No. 1 priority of his tenure, will be remembered as the president who successfully presided over the "reform session" of the U.N., as this session is already being called.

While reform is not a glamorous issue, it is nonetheless an essential one. The U.N. is a vital forum for networking, a more or less neutral territory for debating bi- and multi-lateral issues without the pressure of direct relations, a mechanism through which less developed and less influential countries can play a role. At this point in international relations, if the U.N. did not exist, it would need to be created.

The goal of the new proposed reforms is an overhaul to make the core of the organization, chiefly the Secretariat and its programs, more efficient, thereby more effective and more fiscally responsible. The package includes changes to administrative procedures, cuts in personnel, upgrades in technology, streamlining of databases and information systems, changes to program priorities, creation of new managerial positions to diversify authority and responsibility, such as the position of deputy secretary-general, and, most importantly, putting the organization on sound financial footing.

The success of the reform process and the long-term financial health of the organization depend largely upon convincing member-states that are not paying to pay up and keep paying. Of the 12 member-states that are in payment arrears, the one with the largest debt to the U.N. is the U.S., which owes the organization \$1.5 billion. Small countries that pay in full each year, and on time, are frustrated with the debtor member-states, some that carry debt loads so large that they threaten the financial health of the organization and push it perilously close to the edge of bankruptcy.

Approving the package of U.N. reforms is a big task with little time, since the regular session of the General Assembly ends in December, while the spring and summer months are used for special and emergency sessions, and work in commissions. However, Mr. Udovenko has wide-ranging experience with the U.N., having devoted much of his professional career over the past three decades to the organization, including tours in Geneva, as well as several in New York, representing the Ukrainian SSR and later independent Ukraine. He has often stated his commitment to its ideals. He is respected by his colleagues and feels obviously comfortable with journalists. He also appears comfortable in his new job, giving the impression of a "common sense, no nonsense" confidence. We're confident that he'll meet the challenge of the big task ahead of him.

Sept.
28
1886

Turning the pages back...

Mykyta Mandryka was born in Kyiv on September 28, 1886. During the brief revival of Ukrainian independence early in this century, he served as a member of the Central Rada, then traveled

abroad as a diplomat of the Ukrainian National Republic, stationed in the Far East, Turkey, Bulgaria and finally Prague.

There he attended the Ukrainian Free University, earning a doctorate in law (1925), serving as a lecturer in international law and publishing studies of national minority rights in international law and a history of consular law. While in the Czech capital, he joined an anti-Soviet faction of the Ukrainian Party of Socialist Revolutionaries led by Mykyta Shapoval. In 1928 the party leadership sent Dr. Mandryka to Canada to undertake organizational work.

Backed by the Winnipeg-based Ukrainian National Home, Dr. Mandryka embarked on an extensive, yearlong speaking tour, laying the groundwork for the Union of Ukrainian Community Centers in Canada and the Ukrainian Labor Association. Dr. Mandryka helped establish and edited the newspaper *Pravda i Volia* (Truth and Freedom) and organized a Ukrainian educational-economic conference in Winnipeg. In the 1930s, he became active in the Prosvita Reading Room, edited and wrote a number of its publications, and in 1936 was involved in the launching of the second English-language Ukrainian Canadian publication, the monthly *Ukrainian Review*.

Dr. Mandryka also continued to be politically active, particularly in the Ukrainian National Council (also known as the Ukrainian Central Council of Canada), which served to unite those organizations, such as the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League, the Brotherhood of Ukrainian Catholics, the Ukrainian National Federation and the United Hetman Organization, whose anti-Bolshevik positions were peaking in the aftermath of the 1932-1933 famine. This was the precursor organization to the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (set up in 1940 to urge Ukrainians to join the war effort), which Dr. Mandryka helped to organize. He was closely involved in the debates over the UCC's formation and purpose and also served on its first presidium.

Dr. Mandryka was also president of the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences in Canada (1970-1973) and wrote a history of Ukrainian Canadian literature (published 1968). He died in Winnipeg on August 20, 1979.

Sources: "Mandryka, Mykyta," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 3 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993); Michael H. Marunchak, "The Ukrainian Canadians" (Winnipeg: Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in Canada, 1982).

BOOK REVIEW

Ukrainian security questions in the regional context

Keystone in the Arch: Ukraine in the Emerging Security Environment of Central and Eastern Europe by Sherman W. Garnett. Washington: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1997. ISBN 0-87003-101-5, viii+145 pp., \$14.95.

by Taras Kuzio

This book is an important addition to the growing volume of literature dealing with Ukrainian security questions. Sherman Garnett is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington where he specializes in the security policies of the successor states to the former USSR with particular emphasis on Ukraine and Russia. Before joining Carnegie he was employed for a decade in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and in 1993 he became deputy assistant secretary of defense for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia. (Tor Bukkvall, author of "Ukraine and European Security" another recent valuable publication worked in the defense sector as well, in Nowary.) Mr. Garnett is critical of the traditional Western approach to view Ukraine as a part of Russia, arguing instead in favor of having more Western governments both appreciate Ukraine's strategic centrality to European security and treat Ukraine as an entity in its own right.

The book is divided into six individual chapters that discuss the domestic sources of instability, Ukrainian-Russian relations, the newly emerging security environment in Central and Eastern Europe, the failed policies of Western governments and proposals for a new relationship between Ukraine and the West. Mr. Garnett argues early on in his study that, "...Ukraine is the keystone in the arch of the emerging security environment in Central and Eastern Europe. It is a state that is too large and too geographically central to this emerging security environment to be ignored" (p.7).

The author backs Zbigniew Brzezinski's now well-known linkage of an independent Ukraine to Russia's continued democratic transition where Ukraine's strategic importance is paramount in view of the fact that Russia can be an empire with only Ukraine's incorporation. Despite widespread dire predictions about Ukraine's impending disintegration in 1992-1993, the country's stability has been its enduring feature (p.36).

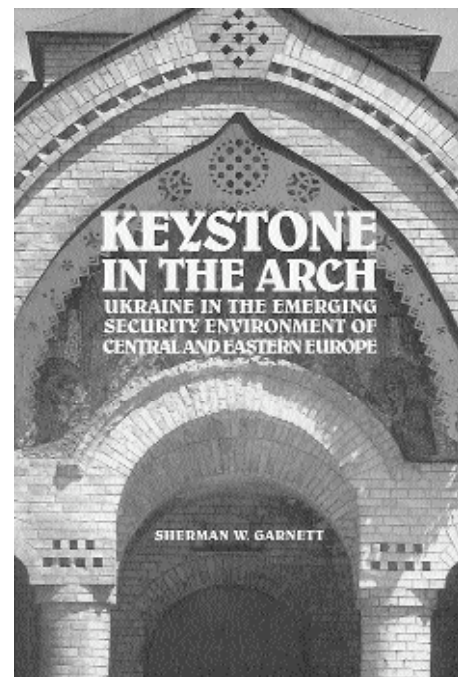
Although Mr. Garnett discusses the alleged "Great Divide" in Ukraine along "deep ethnic, cultural and economic faultlines" (p.15) he, like Mr. Bukkvoll (but contrary to most earlier Western analyses of Ukraine), believes that the inherited divisions are not a threat to Ukraine's independence. This is not only because there are no clear-cut faultlines, but also because all regions are in competition for scarce resources. Like Mr. Bukkvoll, therefore, Mr. Garnett argues that separatism is largely a myth and is exaggerated in eastern Ukraine; the only exception to this rule is in Crimea.

In addition, this inherited regionalism has both negative and positive features because it rules out Ukraine ever attempting to build an exclusive, ethnic state while these, "divisions within Ukrainian society are an effective restraint against extremist politics" (pp. 23-24). But here Mr. Garnett's analysis becomes confusing when he rejects Ukrainian nationalism as the glue that could be used to unite Ukraine (p.124). Much, of course, depends upon one's defini-

Taras Kuzio is a research fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Birmingham and author of "Ukrainian Security Policy" (Washington: Praeger and the CSIS, 1995).

tion of "nationalism."

Purely civic states do not exist in practice. All democratic states, including Switzerland, the U.S and Canada, are a combination of both civic and ethnic elements, and here Ukraine will be no different. Political-economic reform are closely bound up with nation-state building in Ukraine because civil society cannot exist without national identity or where national consciousness is either weak or non-existent. State-building and the problem of fashioning new elites from the "party of power" is a problem peculiar to all of the Soviet successor states, not only to Ukraine. Mr. Garnett outlines Ukrainian security policy as "defensive," aiming to "preserve a favorable external situation that supports, or at least does not interfere with, state-build-



ing and internal consolidation. To complete these tasks Ukraine needs time" (p.43).

At a time when Russia is still relatively weak, Ukraine has sought to obtain Russia's recognition of Ukraine's sovereignty and territory integrity, thereby ending the historical cycle of mistrust and suspicion. Ukraine has consequently not opposed NATO enlargement seeing in it a counterweight to Russia that "helps to preserve Ukraine's breathing space and permits it to consolidate its independence" (p.101). Unfortunately, Mr. Garnett's excellent discussion of Ukraine's border and other problems with Russia and Romania were resolved just after the book was published when both their presidents signed inter-state treaties with Ukraine (although these are still subject to parliamentary ratification in all three countries). Nevertheless, this does not damage the coherence of his arguments.

The monograph ends with a call to Western governments to not treat Ukraine only within the context of NATO enlargement or its relations with Russia. Instead, Mr. Garnett offers six proposals for Western governments: defining Western interests in the former USSR, expanding vehicles for cooperation and dialogue, encouraging Western Europe to take a more active interest in Ukraine (to date only Germany and the United Kingdom have), preserving military stability, determining clear policies and views on CIS integration, and strengthening bilateral U.S.-Ukraine relations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More on successes of USA/USA efforts

Dear Editor:

I wish to thank The Ukrainian Weekly for its very generous article on the USA/USA program. It is a tribute to the students who keep it going from year to year. This article and the accompanying editorial take our program to a higher level of visibility and thus responsibility. So I would like to make a few additional points.

First, our students come from all regions of Ukraine. This year we had students from 18 cities in Ukraine from Chernihiv to Kerch, and from Lviv to Alchevsk in the Luhansk Oblast. Only two came from Kyiv. Entry into our program is based on merit alone. (Our average pre-TOEFL score this year was 610.) Very few of our seminar participants come from privileged backgrounds; none of our scholarship winners do. (It is simply too much work for a student with an easier path ahead of him.) I estimate that about 50 percent of our students here help support their parents back home. Most of our seminar participants and scholarship winners are women. So we are developing a woman-dominated leadership group – something that institutions of higher learning in Ukraine have not yet been able to do. We also have very bright and non-chauvinistic young men.

Our students are pursuing studies in a variety of fields, from art history to economics, and from astronomy to biochemistry. They are broadening the idea of what it means to be Ukrainian. We are not promoting a brain drain. Rather we are adding value and skills to some of the brightest young talent Ukraine has to offer.

The students mentioned in the article, Yuliya Komska and Yaroslava Babych, go to Colby College and Franklin and Marshall, respectively. Our other students go to Yale, Brown, Stanford, Grinnell, Middlebury, Lafayette, Smith and Mt. Holyoke. So I wish to acknowledge these colleges also for their generosity and investment in Ukrainian talent. These schools, and many others, have funds dedicated to international students, thus our students do not compete for scholarship funds dedicated to American students. In addition, these colleges have, in some cases, even paid for years abroad for our students. As a result, in 1997 three of our students will spend at least a semester at the Sorbonne, on the London campus of Grinnell College and at the University of Mainz in Germany.

I do not want to take credit for the success of Alexander Ponomarenko. We were able to help (thanks to a contribution by E.T. Mallyck of Myrtle Beach, S.C.) Mr. Ponomarenko to the tune of \$300 when he was at Cornell. But this dynamic young man raised close to \$50,000 in loans (through bonds in his own recognizance) to pay for his tuition, room and board at Cornell. Likewise, our students here must work to pay for their books and all activities relating to Ukraine.

I also seek to network and assist the 30 other equally capable full scholarship students from Ukraine who are at many of the same colleges our students attend. With better funding we could serve all these students better and expand our program.

The newly forming Ukrainian Foreign University Alumni Association based in Kyiv is taking the lead in reintegrating students from Ukraine who ventured to study abroad. Over 100 students have already returned, mostly from America, and have joined this organization. Their address is: 52b vul. Bohdana Khmelnytskoho, Room 413, Kyiv, Ukraine; telephone, 044-224-7975. Their e-mail address is ufuaa@carri-

er.kiev.ua; their home page is www.yale.edu/rees/tmp/uaa.html.

I am very grateful to Shop-Vac for providing funds for this year's seminar. But this was a one-time grant. Ultimately, the burden of educating its young will fall upon the shoulders of the Ukrainian community. This program can survive indefinitely on about \$10,000 per year. We have already earned \$1.4 million in scholarships, which we are utilizing. So we represent a very good return on the diaspora's investment. I underline that we are an investment and not a charity. No country offers as many opportunities to international students as the U.S.

For those disillusioned with events in Ukraine since independence, this program provides a new beginning and new hope. The diaspora literally has the opportunity to mentor the future leaders of Ukraine right here in its own comfortable backyard called America. For many of the students in the program this is their once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to realize their dreams, and talents. Without their dreams Ukraine will not develop normally. History has shown that students educated abroad become highly influential upon their return home.

Our organization is not affiliated with Columbia University (as some may think) and our complete address is USA/USA, P.O. Box 250093, Columbia University Station, New York, NY 10025-1531. Since we have 501(c)3 status, contributions to our program are fully tax-deductible.

Bohdan Oryshkevich
New York

Consider what we are concerned about

Dear Editor:

I find reading The Weekly fascinating, yet sometimes perplexing. I am at times astonished about what grabs the interest of readers and what doesn't. Perhaps this indicates the state of our community, or perhaps we have yet to understand what is truly important and what isn't.

The original editorial by The Weekly criticizing the New York City event for President Leonid Kuchma was an interesting perspective. I also found Askold Lozynskyj's response interesting. What I didn't expect is the number of people grabbing this issue and running with it. Why?

The most recent response by my friend Myron Kuropas prompts me to address the issue. One can disagree and state why, but Dr. Kuropas is wrong when he states that employees of The Weekly are paid by the UNA, not by the community. Essentially who supports the UNA, the community does. Who pays the insurance premiums, the government? Some foundation? No, it's the members of the community.

What I found perplexing is the shift from Mr. Lozynskyj's letter to 1980? I don't see the connection of the letter to Valentyn Moroz. Is the real issue the convention of 1980 and not the recent letter? Sounds like it.

Yet, when issues are addressed that are crucial to our community are discussed, very few letters are seen in The Weekly. There doesn't appear to be concern by the readers about the decreasing use of Ukrainian in the Ukrainian military, no apparent concern about the elimination of Ukrainian at the U.S. military language institute.

In the same issue, The Weekly asks, "Can we talk?" Yes, the importance and survival of our communities far outweighs a meeting with President Kuchma which in the final analysis will mean very little in our lives.

Roman G. Golash
Schaumburg, Ill.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Third Rome revisited

The first step towards the formal re-institution of the three pillars of Russian messianic imperialism may soon be taken by the Kremlin.

New legislation passed by the Russian Duma, the lower house of Parliament, and supported by the Federation Council, the upper house, would severely limit religious freedom in Russia. The measure is only slightly different from legislation vetoed by Boris Yeltsin this past summer. The Russian president is being pressured by the Russian Orthodox Church to sign the new legislation, billed by the president's office as a compromise measure among various faiths and all branches of the government. Many believe Mr. Yeltsin will give in to the pressure, regardless of his past reticence.

According to Richard C. Paddock of the Los Angeles Times, the latest legislation would create two tiers of religious status: religious "organizations" and religious "groups." Organizations that could prove they were in existence in Russia for the past 15 years or more would be granted full status to practice their faiths, buy property and receive tax breaks. Judaism, Buddhism and Islam would be recognized as "organizations," however, the Russian Orthodox Church would remain the Russian government's religion of choice.

"A church 'group,'" according to Mr. Paddock, is defined as "one that could not prove 15 years of operation in Russia, should not be considered a legal entity, and would not be allowed to own property, conduct religious education, or publish or disseminate literature. Groups would also not be able to invite foreigners into Russia, meaning missionaries from other countries could not obtain visas to work" in Russia. By this standard, Roman Catholics, Baptists, Pentecostals, Mormons, and, of course, Ukrainian Catholics would be left out in the cold.

Patriarch Aleksei II of the Russian Orthodox Church, while in Odesa on September 20, expressed his view that the draft – euphemistically titled "On the Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations" – is not unconstitutional. "This law has evoked certain criticism from destructive totalitarian sects that try to fill the spiritual vacuum in people's souls," the patriarch said when questioned about its provisions.

Patriarch Aleksei also expressed his concerns about disagreements that exist among Orthodox believers in Ukraine. Overcoming the division of Church is vital for preserving the unity and strength of the Russian Orthodox Church, he said.

Significantly, it was Patriarch Aleksei who severely criticized Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople in 1995 for his reception of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. into his jurisdiction. In his response, Patriarch Bartholomew noted that the acceptance of the UOC-U.S.A. recognizes the Church's "right to seek the protected shelter of the Mother Church of Constantinople with which they have historically unbroken bonds." The response made clear that "those received were obligated to formally declare that they will not seek autocephaly of the Ukrainian Church." The four-page response also expressed Patriarch Bartholomew's "deep bitterness and even grave disappointment" over the Russian prelate's inquiry.

During tsarist times, Russian imperial power was predicated on three basic principles: the autocracy of the tsar, the messianic

orthodoxy of the Russian Orthodox Church, and "narodnichestvo," a peculiar brand of Russian nationalism that venerates the Russian people (narod) as the embodiment of the Russian religious soul and the guardian of truth and light.

Messianic Russian Orthodoxy is based on the belief that Moscow is the "third Rome," an idea first articulated by the Russian monk Filofei in a letter to Tsar Ivan III soon after the fall of Constantinople, the second Rome, in 1453. "Take note, oh religious and gracious tsar," wrote Filofei, "that all Christian kingdoms are merged into thine alone, that two Romes have fallen, but the third stands, and there will be no fourth." From that moment on, the tsar was viewed as Christ's vice-regent on earth and the Russian Orthodox Church as the shrine in which true Christianity is treasured.

Nicholas Berdyayev argued that much of the messianic underpinning for tsarist imperialism was merely transferred to Soviet imperialism. The Soviet Union was founded on the autocracy of the Communist Party, the orthodoxy of Marxism-Leninism, and the narodnichestvo of the proletariat. Now that Marxism-Leninism has collapsed, religious orthodoxy, supported by all segments of the Russian political spectrum, is making a comeback.

Russian scholar Sergei Ivanov notes Russia "has always been an empire ... It was never a nation-state ... Russianness is a matter of belonging to an empire." That is why many prominent Russians yearn for a resurrected imperial state that includes Ukraine.

The Russian Orthodox Church remains stridently opposed to the existence of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which it accuses of "inadmissible violent methods [never identified] to restore their legal parish life after an 'underground' existence." What hypocrisy! One needs to remember that it was the Russian Orthodox Church that wholeheartedly supported the abolition of the Ukrainian Catholic Church by Soviet authorities in 1946, an act that forced Ukrainian Catholics to go underground in the first place.

Russian Orthodox Church leaders still argue that Ukrainian Catholics broke away from Orthodoxy four centuries ago and must return to the "true" Church to be recognized. Other Orthodox Churches disagree. In 1993, after years of ecumenical dialogue, representatives of the Vatican and nine Orthodox Churches met in Belamand, Lebanon, and drafted a compromise document that recognized the existence of Eastern rites within the Catholic Church. At the same time, however, the document declared that the kind of proselytization which resulted in the establishment of the Eastern rites originally, (identified as "unitism") would no longer be accepted as a model for Christian unity. The Russian Orthodox Church has yet to react favorably to the document.

Given its history, and with some 6,000 parishes in Ukraine, the Russian Orthodox Church remains a Trojan horse within Ukraine. If the proposed legislation is signed into law by President Yeltsin, thousands of Ukrainian believers living in Russia – Baptists, Pentecostals and Catholics alike – will be deprived of spiritual sustenance and the Russian Church will move one step closer to its former pre-eminent position at the spiritual center of Russian messianic imperialism.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

Bryttan appointed conductor of Vassar Orchestra and New Jersey Youth Symphony

by Ika Koznarska Casanova

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Adrian Bryttan has recently been appointed conductor of the Vassar Orchestra at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and of the New Jersey Youth Symphony (NJYS) in New Providence, N.J.

Mr. Bryttan brings to the podium extensive experience as conductor and music director of national and international orchestras and opera companies.

At NJYS, Mr. Bryttan will conduct the advanced orchestra made up of 95 superior high school students. Under his direction NJYS musicians will be working on unique and innovative programs. The NJYS premiere performance in November will include a multi-media production of Gunther Schuller's "Seven Studies on Themes of Paul Klee." In February the full orchestra will provide the musical score by Carl Davis for a showing of the silent film "The Flesh and the Devil" starring Greta Garbo and John Gilbert. The final concert of the season will be a gala concert at Rutgers University in May.

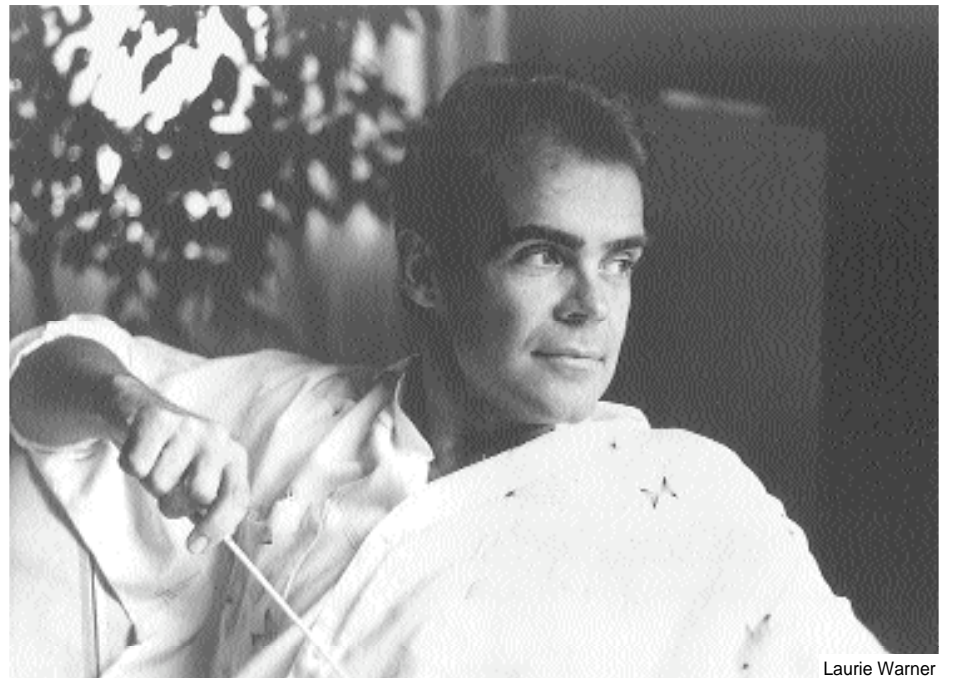
The first concert of the Vassar Orchestra will be held December 6 and will feature Haydn's symphony No. 104, his last.

Mr. Bryttan will also perform two solo violin recitals: in Vassar's Skinner Hall on October 10 and in a benefit concert for NJYS, as part of the symphony's chamber music series, at the NJYS Building, Burgdorff Hall, in Berkeley Heights, N.J., on October 18.

A graduate of the Manhattan School of Music, Mr. Bryttan began his conducting career with the Notre Dame Opera of which he was founder and music director (1979-1984). Since 1994 he has been conductor of the New Rochelle Opera and has served as conductor of the New Haven Opera, Tulsa Ballet, New York Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Opera Theater as well as music director of the Orchestra Nova (Pittsburgh) and La Porte Symphony in Indiana.

In addition, Mr. Bryttan has been conductor of the Kharkiv Opera since 1996 and of the Lviv Opera as well as principal guest conductor of the Lviv Philharmonic since 1992. He has also served as conductor of the Bielefeld Opera (1991) in Germany and the Sinfonia Varsovie (1989) in Poland.

His opera repertoire includes, apart from Italian, French and German classics, such works as Bernstein's "Trouble in Tahiti," Ulehla's, "Sybil, of the



Laurie Warner

Adrian Bryttan

American Revolution," and Wolf-Ferrari's, "Le Donne Curiose." His conducting of Handel's "Acis and Galatea" was recorded on CD and video on the Schwann Koch label.

A solo violinist, Mr. Bryttan was con-

certmaster with South Bend Symphony and soloist with the Lviv Philharmonic and the Paul Price Percussion Ensemble. He was also a member of the symphonies in Memphis and Knoxville, Tenn., and Grand Teton, Wyo.

Terech Scholarship is awarded to two journalism students

NEW YORK — The Michael Terech Scholarship was awarded in August to two undergraduate students: Zenon Zawada, a senior at the American University in Washington, in the amount of \$4,000; and Colleen Carey, a senior at Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communication, in the amount of \$1,000.

Mr. Zawada of New York is majoring in international studies with a minor in communication. He has written for four newspapers, including the Baltimore Sun and more recently The Washington Post. Mr. Zawada will spend the fall semester studying at Kyiv State University. He plans to become a newspaper reporter upon graduation.

Ms. Carey of Loudonville, N.Y., is a third-generation Ukrainian American. She is majoring in magazine journalism. Ms. Carey writes for the university newspaper and enjoys writing about music.

All applicants were required to submit work samples, transcripts of all undergraduate work, an autobiography as well as a 500-word essay on a contemporary Ukrainian topic of their choice.

The Michael Terech Scholarship, administered by the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City, was founded in November 1995 by the Reuters news service as a tribute to its employee and his work with the Ukrainian institute. The scholarship is for undergraduate-level, U.S.-based journalism students of Ukrainian heritage. Reuters will donate \$5,000 annually to maintain the fund.

Information requests about the scholarship may be faxed to the institute at (212) 288-2918.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

den the national budget. Nevertheless, Mr. Shpek confirmed that similar proposals to commence housing construction projects have been received by NARD from Poltava, Zhytomyr, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, as well as Kyiv and Sevastopol. Such projects would alleviate housing problems in Ukraine. Official statistics released by the State Committee on City Construction confirm that 87,000 families are on the waiting list for apartments in Lviv, 114,000 in Odesa and 96,000 in Kharkiv. (Eastern Economist)

Five Ukrainian miners killed in Norway

BARENTSBORG, Norway — Five Ukrainian citizens died as a result of an explosion on September 18 at a mine in Barentsburg, Norway, that belonged to ArcticUgola, a Russian enterprise. According to the Emergencies Ministry, 49 miners were in the mine at the time of the explosion. Although 13 miners died and 26 were rescued, 10 more are still missing. President Leonid Kuchma expressed his grief at the deaths and sent his condolences to the leaders of other countries whose miners were among the dead. He praised the courage and dedication of the victims. (Eastern Economist)

Moroz speaks on death penalty

KYIV — Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz told Interfax on September 23 that "Ukrainian society is not ready for the legislative repeal of the death penalty." When Ukraine joined the Council of Europe in 1995, Kyiv committed itself to abolishing the death penalty, but the Parliament has been unwilling to pass the necessary legislation. As a result, President Leonid Kuchma is likely to be subjected to close questioning on the issue when he attends the Council of Europe summit in Strasbourg on October 10-11. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine seeks to host regional summit

UNITED NATIONS — President Leonid Kuchma told the United Nations General Assembly on September 23 that Ukraine wants to promote good relations with all its neighbors. To that end, Mr. Kuchma said, Kyiv now seeks to hold a summit of countries in the Baltic-Black Sea region in 1999.

That meeting would be a follow-up to the summit earlier this month in Vilnius. As he had promised before leaving Kyiv, the Ukrainian president called for Eastern European representation on the U.N. Security Council. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S. invests \$1.2 M in tax system reform

KYIV — The U.S. Treasury Department has invested a total of \$1.2 million in reform of the Ukrainian tax system. According to the U.S. Ambassador William Green Miller, the Treasury Department and USAID have provided a grant of \$600,000 for the establishment of a national center for training tax workers. Equipment worth \$300,000 has already been supplied to the center. U.S. experts are working on preparing study plans and are acting as consultants to the center's Ukrainian employees. Mr. Miller said that the second part of the grant would be given at the end of this month. (Eastern Economist)

Lviv railways to extend corridor

ODESA — The Lviv Railway Administration on September 11 proposed the extension of the European transport corridor that connects cities of Germany, Finland, Greece and Ukraine by constructing a new line connecting Odesa to the Polish port of Gdansk. This will mean that Poland will be included in the corridor. The project, which was presented in the World and European Banks of Reconstruction and Development, has attracted considerable interest from investors. (Eastern Economist)

Tarasiuk named representative to NATO

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma signed a decree on September 13 appointing Ukraine's ambassador to Belgium, Borys Tarasiuk, as head of the Ukrainian mission to NATO, the Presidential Administration reported. (Eastern Economist)

"Kozatskyi Steppe" maneuvers held

KYIV — A weeklong peacekeeping exercise involving some 420 paratroopers from the United Kingdom, Poland and Ukraine began at a military base in southern Ukraine on September 16. The paratroopers are taking part in a simulated ethnic conflict at the Shyrokyi Lan military base, 400 kilometers south of Kyiv. Defense Ministry spokesman Ihor Melnychuk said the paratroopers will practice trying to prevent such a conflict from developing into civil war. Named

"Kozatskyi Steppe '97," this is the second major military exercise in Ukraine within the last month to involve NATO troops. "Sea Breeze '97" took place off the Crimean coast in August, with the participation of troops from the U.S., Turkey, and Eastern Europe. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Call for union with Russia, Belarus

KYIV — On September 10, 86 legislators in the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada called for the creation of a union with Russia and Belarus, Interfax reported. The deputies issued a statement stressing the need to tighten ties between "brotherly Slavic peoples." They vowed to work for closer political and economic ties. In May, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a long-awaited friendship and cooperation treaty, but Ukraine has steered clear of agreements that would link the country with Russia and Belarus in a union. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Izmail International Airport opens

ODESA — A new international airport has opened in Odesa oblast. The city of Izmail, located on one of the most southern tips of Ukraine, is also the site of one of the Danube River's largest ports. Initially, the airport will primarily serve flights to the Balkans and other countries in the western Danube region. (Eastern Economist)

Romania reopens Ukrainian school

CHISINAU — Romanian President Emil Constantinescu on September 15 reopened a high school in the northern town of Sighetu Marmatiei, two kilometers from the Romanian-Ukrainian frontier, for Romania's 300,000-strong ethnic Ukrainian community, Reuters reported. The school, named after Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko, was opened in 1945 and closed by Romanian authorities in 1968 on the grounds that there were too few pupils. Some 200 students have enrolled for the current academic year. Mr. Constantinescu said the reopening demonstrates Romania's respect for its ethnic Ukrainian minority. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moldova, Ukraine discuss customs union

CHISINAU — A Ukrainian government delegation spent two days in Chisinau to discuss the creation of a proposed customs

(Continued on page 16)

Record number of students from Ukraine attend Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute

by James Clem

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – A total of 21 students from Ukraine – twice the highest number of previous years – attended the 27th annual Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute in Cambridge. Even more impressive was the geographical diversity of the Ukrainian group: students came not only from previously represented cities such as Kyiv and Lviv, but also from Chernivtsi, Dnipropetrovsk, Khmelnytsky, Odesa and Sevastopol.

Undergraduates, graduate students and professionals from as far away as Taiwan, Germany and Austria joined their counterparts from the U.S. and Canada for the program of language and Ukrainian studies courses.

A record number of scholarships was awarded through the generous sponsorship of the International Renaissance Foundation, the Kotur Scholarship Fund (administered by the Ukrainian Fraternal Association), the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey, the Self-Reliance credit unions of New York and Passaic, the Ukrainian American Center Foundation of Michigan, the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine, and private benefactors.

HUSI Director Vera Andrushkiw led a veteran teaching team from the U.S., Canada and Ukraine. Ms. Andrushkiw herself taught a new course, "Advanced Ukrainian for Business," along with Yuri Shevchuk's "Intermediate Ukrainian" and Natalya Shostak's "Beginning Ukrainian" courses.

This year, the Ukrainian studies component of the summer curriculum offered three disciplinary perspectives on Ukraine in the 20th century. Joining this non-language part of the program was Bohdan Krawchenko, vice-rector of the Academy of Public Administration, Office of the President of Ukraine, who taught a course on Ukrainian politics. Solomea Pavlychko, of the Institute of Literature, National Academy of Sciences, Ukraine, taught a course on "20th Century Ukrainian Literature," and Roman Szporluk, Hrushevsky Professor of History at Harvard and director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute,

Dr. James Clem is executive director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.



Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak listens as HUSI Director Vera Andrushkiw poses a question to students.

taught a course on "20th Century Ukrainian History."

As always, the academic program was balanced by a schedule of lectures, video and arts presentations, workshops and trips around the Boston area. Lectures on Ukrainian historical and political topics were given by Drs. Myron Kuropas and Marta Dyczok on Ukrainian immigration, Dr. Olena Bekh on Ukrainian language and diplomacy, and Dr. Mariusz Sielski on Russian-Ukrainian relations.

The arts were represented by Julian Kytasty, who performed traditional and original compositions on the bandura; Dr. Olenka Pevny, who presented a slide show on the Ukrainian section of the acclaimed "Glory of Byzantium" exhibition at The New York Metropolitan Museum of Art; and Virko Baley, who discussed contemporary Ukrainian music and his own role as a composer.

A literary evening was organized with the participation of Askold Melnyczuk and Volodymyr Dibrova, who read from their latest works.

Finally, Ms. Andrushkiw moderated a

roundtable on the media and Ukraine, with the participation of journalists from Ukraine, Canada and the United States.

The theater workshop, conducted by Virlana Tkach of the Yara Arts Group, offered a unique way to study Ukrainian language: the HUSI students presented a wonderful finished product, the performance of "Hothouse," for their peers and the Boston community.

Summer school students also took advantage of all that Harvard and the Boston area has to offer. Students went on field trips to the Museum of Fine Arts, the Boston Arnold Arboretum, the Cambridge Courthouse, Harvard museums and local beaches. A highlight was the traditional Boston Pops performance and fireworks display on the Fourth of July.

Another highlight was the visit of Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Yuri Shcherbak. Ambassador Shcherbak gave a short presentation on the goals of Ukrainian foreign policy, and then fielded questions from the audience of HUSI students and faculty. He then went to

lunch with a group of 15 students at a special reception room at the Annenberg dining hall on campus.

The summer program came to a close with the typically irreverent student skits (those HUSI faculty and staff in the audience who were satirized were good sports). Finally, the presentation of the Senkowski student prizes was completed by new awards generously created by Nadja Aminoff, herself a summer school student this past summer. Ms. Aminoff, inspired by the dedication of her fellow students, created 12 prizes for students from Ukraine. All of the awards and final diplomas were handed out at a farewell ceremony at the Ukrainian Research Institute on August 15.

As always, there was a bittersweet ending to the summer program, as the students said good-bye to new friends and left with their own special memories of their summer at Harvard.

For information on next year's summer program, contact Patricia Coatsworth via phone, (617) 496-5651, or e-mail, pcoatsw@fas.harvard.edu.



HUSI students from the "Beginning Ukrainian" course perform end-of-summer skit. They are (from left): Markus Glodek, Tanya Polazkowsyj, Edele Marchinko, Audrey Benvenuti and Alexander Demkiw.



Bandurist Julian Kytasty (seated) with summer school students (from left) Viktor Kurylyk, Olga Volosova, Roxana Synyshyn, Roman Shevchuk, Tan Mandzy and Andrii Zaiarniuk.

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Parma cathedral organizes Vacation Church School



PARMA, Ohio – The fourth annual Vacation Church School of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedra was held from July 28 through August 2. This year 60 children participated in the program. Along with learning the teachings of the Orthodox Church, the children were made aware of the tragedy that Ukrainians suffered under communism. They visited the Famine Memorial Room in the school building and placed flowers and recited prayers at the Famine Monument on the grounds of the cathedral. In the photo above, children prepare to place flowers at the monument.

Chicago professionals hold annual debutante ball



The 42nd annual banquet and debutante ball, sponsored by the Chicago branches of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America and the Ukrainian Veterinary Medical Association of America and Canada, and the Illinois branch of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, was held in the Grand Ballroom of the historic Palmer House in Chicago. The master of ceremonies for the evening was the president of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society, Roman Byskosh, and the choreography was arranged by Roxana Dykyj-Pylypczak with the assistance of Tania Karawan. The musical arrangement for the presentation was provided by John Steciw, and music for the ball was provided by Nove Pokolinnia of Toronto and Dzherelo of Chicago. The debutantes and their escorts are seen in the photo above (from left): Larissa Poluchowicz and Eric Burachinsky; Laryssa Rudawski and Toma Antonovych; Michelle Polywka and George Kihiczak; Julie Czornobil and Yuri Fedoriw; Tania Petrasz and Jeremy Hrynewycz; Roxolana Kashuba and Taras Belej; Natalie Neczwid and Andrew Kalin.

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Children of Chernobyl...

(Continued from page 5)

NFL Properties, the Rev. Luke Mihaly of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church of Danbury, Conn., and Alex Kuzma, CCRF's director of development — shared ideas and provided concrete examples on how to approach the corporate world for support of charitable activities and how to maintain that involvement.

The third panel of the day, "Empowering Our Partners: Fostering Dialogue Related to PVO/NGO Partnerships" was devoted to highlighting the work of private volunteer organizations and non-governmental organizations with an emphasis on networking and cooperation toward a common goal. The presentation brought together Mrs. Drach, Dr. Hagen, Irene Lasota of the Institute for Democracy in Eastern Europe, Natalie Belzer of the Pylyp Orlyk Institute and Olga Stawnychy, who serves as NGO representative to UNICEF for the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations. Acting as moderator was Irene Jarosewich, staff reporter for The Ukrainian Weekly.

A presentation on "Keeping Chernobyl in the Public Eye: Public Relations and Marketing" was held as the concluding session of the convention. Chaired by Mr. Speaker, the panel offered a practical approach on how to "break barriers" in order to tell the compelling story of Chernobyl and its aftereffects, and how to make the children of Chernobyl relevant to those outside the Ukrainian community. The presenters were Martin Savidge, anchor and correspondent for CNN's "Early Edition" program; Andrew Melnykovich, environmental reporter for the Louisville Courier-Journal of Kentucky; Paula Hunchar, director of development for "Jazz 88," WBGO Radio in Newark, N.J.; and Tom Hawrylko of Tom-a-Hawk Promotions based in Clifton, N.J.

After the panel presentation, which was augmented by lively audience participation, Mr. Melnykovich showed slides from his 1996 trip to Ukraine which resulted in a highly successful five-part series of articles on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. The series was published by his newspaper and disseminated by the Gannett News Service to at least 20 newspapers, including USA Today, which has 2 million readers. The photographs for the series and the slides shown at the convention were the work of Jim Wilson of Gannett, who was assigned to the story along with Mr. Melnykovich.

During brunch on Sunday, convention participants also heard a concise update on the foreign aid bill now before the U.S. Congress. Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the Ukrainian National Information Service, noted that tough negotiations lie ahead between the House and Senate con-



Paula Hunchar (right) offers tips during panel on "Keeping Chernobyl in the Public Eye" as fellow panelists (from left) Tom Hawrylko, Martin Savidge, Paul Speaker and Andrew Melnykovich listen.

ferences who have to agree on a final version of the bill. He also spoke about the growth of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, which now has approximately 20 members.

Banquet: thank-yous and motivation

The convention banquet provided an opportunity for the CCRF to recognize its dedicated volunteers and to present special awards to supporters of its cause.

After the invocation was delivered by Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and an ecumenical prayer was offered in English and in his native Shoshone language by Mr. Harbin, the audience heard greetings from State Sen. McGreevey and Mr. Bohaievsky of Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the U.N., and viewed a video message from Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.).

A video of the CCRF's relief work set the stage for the awards that followed, as the footage included scenes from the organization's 1992 humanitarian aid mission, which was covered by that evening's principal honoree, Mr. Savidge. While still at WJW-TV in Cleveland, the television news reporter had flown on the giant Mria cargo plane with the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund's airlift from Columbus, Ohio, to Ukraine, and later prepared a five-part news report on that mission.

Mr. Savidge was honored for his work as a news correspondent, as well as for his continuing support of the CCRF, which he and his wife, Blis, have designated as their charity of choice along with the National Osteoporosis Foundation.

In the banquet's keynote address Mr. Savidge movingly recalled his first visit to Ukraine where he saw "a hospital filled with hundreds, probably thousands of children of Chernobyl. ... You could see that they were not well, ... that they were terrified because they didn't know what the future held," he said.

Mr. Savidge, who now anchors CNN's morning news show, said he saw his trip with the CCRF airlift as "a chance to help." He described how the much-needed medical supplies were distributed to hospitals and noted the irony inherent in the fact that one hospital kept Chernobyl relief supplies locked in a former nuclear bomb shelter.

Two of Chernobyl's children — both of whom came to this country in 1990 — were next to take center stage to thank all CCRF donors via word and song. Vova Malofienko, 12, whose leukemia is now in remission, delivered a brief message of thanks to all who support the work of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. Maria Kavatsiuk, once a pre-leukemic baby and today a healthy 7-year-old, sang "The Wind Beneath my Wings" ("Did you ever know that you're my hero...") and then delivered big hugs to Dr. and Mrs. Matkiwsky. It was Dr. Matkiwsky who personally brought Maria at the age of 6 months to the United States for treatment. Maria was accompa-

nied on keyboards by her proud father, Vasyi, one of thousands assigned to do hazardous clean-up work at the Chernobyl plant.

Special achievement awards were then presented. The Chapter of the Year Award went to the Hartford branch of the CCRF, which raised over \$100,000 in the past year, and was accepted by Nadia Haftkowsky and Michael Matiash. Also honored were: Olena Bodnarskyj and the Ukrainian Students Club at the University of Buffalo; Prof. Wolodymyr and Oksana Bakum of Highland, N.Y.; and Messrs. Fedash and Vena.

As neither Sen. Lautenberg nor Rep. Christopher Smith (R-N.J.) could be present that evening, CCRF spokespersons said they would be presented awards recognizing their efforts on the Chernobyl issue at a later date in Washington.

The banquet ended with a benediction delivered by Msgr. Joseph Fedorek of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.



Maria Kavatsiuk offers a singing thank-you to the CCRF and its supporters. At the keyboards is her father, Vasyi.

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Ukrainian independence...
 (Continued from page 1)

Nations General Assembly.

In his message Mr. Udovenko noted Ukraine's role as "an important stabilizing geopolitical factor" and as "a link between the post-Soviet states and the developed Western European democracies."

"Our strategic goal is to fully integrate into European and trans-Atlantic structures and to play an important role in the economy of Central and Eastern Europe," he added.

Mr. Udovenko "highly assessed" the development of U.S.-Ukrainian relations into a strategic partnership and the "significant role" in this process of the U.S. Congress, which, through various assistance programs, contributed to the building of a sovereign and democratic Ukraine.

He also used the occasion to "wholeheartedly congratulate Americans of Ukrainian origin who managed to carry through all those years the Ukrainian national idea and whose generous support has always been felt in Ukraine."

Most of the evening's speakers were members of Congress, among them three of the four co-chairs of the newly formed Congressional Ukrainian Caucus: Reps. Louise McIntosh Slaughter (D-N.Y.), Sander M. Levin (D-Mich.) and Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.).

Rep. Slaughter characterized the past year for Ukraine as "exciting and challenging," with two milestones in the development of U.S.-Ukrainian relations: the cementing of their strategic partnership through the Binational Kuchma-Gore Commission and the signing of the NATO-Ukraine charter.

"As exciting as these developments are," she added, "over the next year, we - the friends of Ukraine in the United States - must redouble our efforts to help

Ukraine continue to move forward, particularly in the economic sphere.

For her part, the New York congresswoman promised to do her share to secure continued U.S. aid to help Ukraine make this transition and to work with Ukrainian Americans and others engaged in humanitarian aid for Ukraine. "Yes, there is much to do," Rep Slaughter said, "but Ukrainians in America have much to celebrate as well."

Rep. Levin pointed to a few areas in which he, his democratic colleague from Michigan, Rep. David E. Bonior, and others in the Ukrainian caucus had worked to strengthen U.S.-Ukrainian cooperation: in helping preserve and improve Ukraine's environment, and increasing the participation of young people in the electoral process.

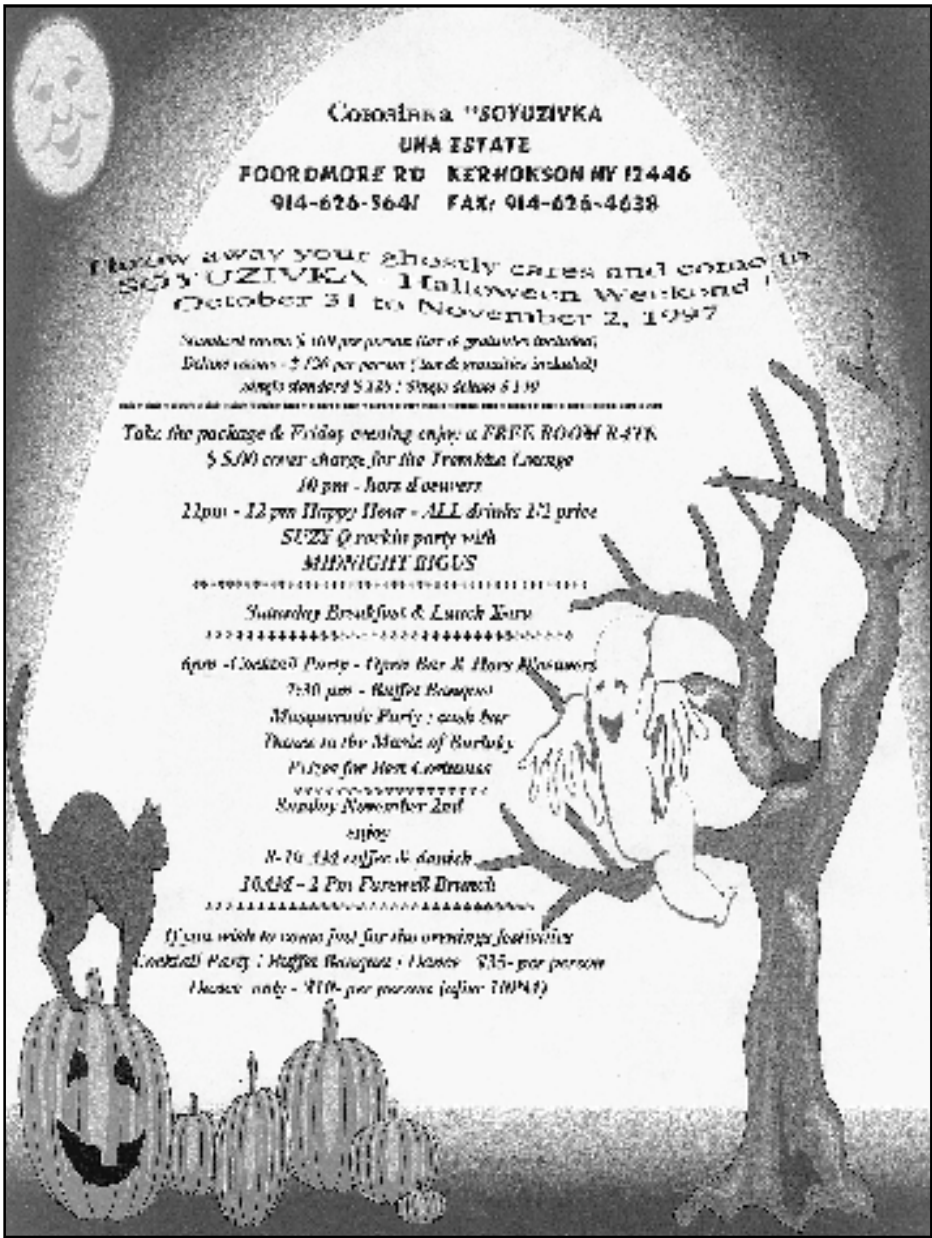
The Congressional Ukrainian Caucus was formed to ensure that Ukraine receives American assistance "as it develops its free-market, democratic way of life," Rep. Levin said.

"We cheered as Eastern European countries became free. We cheered the heroes, many of whom had their lives threatened, when they stood up to the former Soviet Union and demanded freedom," he said. "And it was just a small measure on our behalf to say to people who had struggled for freedom that we, Americans, are still with you in spirit and some small amount of resources."

Ukraine's friends in Congress won that battle last year and this year, Rep. Levin said, and will win it next year "because the cause of the growth of democracy and the free market in Ukraine is worth every measure of reasonable American support."

Rep. Schaffer read a statement on Ukrainian independence he had inserted that day into the Congressional Record, in which he praised Ukraine's political and

(Continued on page 15)



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Ukrainian independence...

(Continued from page 14)

economic progress over the past six years. He also relayed greetings from the fourth co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Rep. Jon D. Fox (R-Pa.), who was back in his district that evening.

Caucus member Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich (D-Ohio) said that as someone who comes from an ethnic community (Cleveland) he understands the importance of a strong relationship between the United States and Ukraine, and of U.S. assistance in fostering peace and prosperity in Ukraine.

"We are a great nation," he added, "and as long as we stay true to our commitment to peace, to liberty, to justice, we are going to continue to be a great nation."

Another caucus member, Rep. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), said that as a Cuban American he understands the yearning of the Ukrainian people, and as a member of the House International Relations Committee he recognizes "very clearly what is in our mutual strong interest."

"As a member of the International Relations Committee," he said, "I want you to know that you have my hand in friendship and the power of my office to make sure that we keep the Ukrainian people on the path that they have decided they want to be on — free, independent and moving continuously in the democratic tradition."

The only senator in attendance, Frank R. Lautenberg (D-N.J.), who witnessed the last airlift of assistance for the children of Chernobyl, said he was impressed with the Ukrainian American community's commitment to helping the children who suffered in that tragedy. He also spoke about the successful effort to stop the deportation of the family of Volodymyr "Vova" Malofienko, the only survivor in a group of eight Chernobyl children brought to the United States in 1990 for cancer treatment.

Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) assured Ukrainian Americans that they have "many friends" in Congress and its committees, and thanked the community for its efforts to move Ukraine towards a democracy, a free market and denuclearization.

Also attending the reception were U.S. Rep. David E. Bonior and Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.).

The news about the first lady's planned visit to Ukraine was announced by her deputy chief of staff, Melanne Verveer. With no firm dates set yet, the 10-day trip would be in early November, with stops also in Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, she said.

Commenting on the meaning of Ukraine's sixth anniversary, Ms. Verveer, who is of Ukrainian descent, said that it is "a time for all of us to recommit to what this represents ... to help build the democracy, which — we know after 220 years in our own country — is a very difficult process and a never-ending process."

Ukrainian National Information Service Director Michael Sawkiw Jr., who was master of ceremonies of the reception, expressed the Ukrainian American community's gratitude to the administration, the Congress and especially the members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

"We thank you for your support and dedication for the expansion of ties between the United States and Ukraine. Your work is truly appreciated by the Ukrainian American community, and our extreme thanks to you for your continuing efforts to provide Ukraine a spark of hope for a better and brighter future," Mr. Sawkiw said.

Ihor Gawdiak, Washington Office

director of the co-sponsoring UACC, also thanked the administration, Congress and the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus for their support and commitment to Ukraine. Even though Ukraine still faces many obstacles ahead, he said, Ukrainian Americans celebrate each anniversary "with optimism and faith in the future."

"We also hope that our friends in Congress will also remain steadfast in their commitment towards Ukraine, for we believe that a politically stable and economically prosperous Ukraine serves the best interests of the United States and world peace," Mr. Gawdiak said. "We, in turn, pledge our support to those members of Congress who will continue to help us achieve these goals," he added.

Speaking on behalf of the UCCA and its president, Askold Lozynskyj, Federal Judge Bohdan Futey applauded Ukraine on its many accomplishments during the past year, and especially the adoption of the Constitution, which, he said, "serves as a fitting tribute to this year's anniversary of Ukraine's independence."

"We are also mindful of the number of difficulties that Ukraine is facing at the present time, especially in the area of economic reform," Judge Futey said. "But we are optimistic and confident that President Kuchma and his government will overcome these challenges. The Ukrainian people depend on the government's firm commitment to, and implementation of, reforms in order to improve their quality of life."

He, too, expressed the gratitude of Ukrainian Americans to President Clinton and the U.S. Congress for their support of Ukraine, which he said is in the national interest of both countries. Judge Futey also commended Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak for his work on behalf of Ukraine in the United States.

The last speaker of the evening, Ukrainian National Deputy Slava Stetsko said Ukrainians are very grateful to the United States for all it has given to Ukraine. "But, above all," she added, "we are grateful to God, (who) gave us such a beautiful country and great wealth."

Its greatest wealth, she said, is the "Ukrainian nation — this unconquerable, this heroic nation ... now very conscious of its heroic past." The nation is now venerating its heroes, she said, which gives it the strength to carry on their work.

"And I can assure you that (the) Ukrainian people (are) conscious of (their) responsibility" to become, as the entire world expects of it, a large, strong and democratic country, and to be the guarantor of peace and stability of this part of the world, Mrs. Stetsko said.

In addition to Ms. Verveer, also attending the reception from the Clinton administration were Ambassador William Courtney, the recently appointed special assistant to the president and senior director for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council; Jack Segal, director of the State Department's Office of Ukrainian, Belarussian and Moldovan Affairs; and Christine Stanek of the White House's ethnic outreach office.

Also among the guests were Maria Shcherbak and members of the Ukrainian Embassy staff in Washington; Polish Ambassador Jerzy Kozminski; about 20 senior officers from the Ukrainian Armed Forces Academy who were visiting military schools and installations in the United States; Col. Iona Kwicien, military attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv; and the former American naval attaché in Kyiv, Cmdr. Stephen Szyzka.

The Rev. Petro Semenyh of the Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Shrine delivered the invocation.



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Award recipients will be decided by a 3 member Committee within each oblast.

CFU is appealing to members of the Ukrainian Diaspora to support the rebirth of the Ukrainian language in Eastern Ukraine by donating generously to this grassroots campaign. CFU donors of \$260.00 or more will have an Award named in their honour.

For further information regarding the Teaching Fund, contact:

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Parliament passes...

(Continued from page 1)

law), and a requirement that a party needed to achieve at least three percent of the vote to gain representation, came to the legislative floor.

Acting Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Viktor Musiyaka suggested that the non-controversial aspects of the bill be worked through article by article and the more difficult passages be left for later.

He also suggested that the Parliament vote in principle for the majority electoral law, the mixed law or a third law that had been introduced, which would have allowed parties to be represented by deputies proportionally to the votes the party gathered in elections. The straw voting in the Verkhovna Rada, termed a "rating vote," took place several times because none of the proposals could attain a majority.

Until September 24 that did little to break the logjam, but it did give deputies a clearer picture of where the body stood on the three proposals. After each vote, the legislature recessed for meetings of factions and of faction leaders to work out compromises and gather support.

Then, with Chairman Oleksander Moroz back from a month's leave due to illness, the bill on the mixed system came up for a second reading, after having been approved in its first reading on September 10 and with only the controversial features of the bill left to be resolved. Mr. Moroz, it seems, was determined to get a bill passed - preferably the one on a mixed system, perhaps to show that he still retained firm control over the legislative body.

After a rating vote in which the mixed system gathered 185 votes, close but not enough to attain a simple majority, and after the chairman called for a break and a meeting with the faction leaders, several more rating votes were attempted. With each one, the mixed system proposal gathered more support. The fourth vote fell a vote shy, but on the fifth try exactly 226 deputies voted "yes."

Then, in a controversial move that some deputies are calling a breach of parliamentary procedure, Chairman Moroz called for a final vote on the bill on a mixed system in its entirety, without a completed second reading, which passed with 230 deputies voting for. Volodymyr Stretovych, chairman of the Committee on Legal Policy and Judicial Reform, said the bill required no third reading because "no outstanding provisions have been left."

But Mykhailo Syrota of the Constitutional Center faction said after the vote that the results were forced. "If the issue can be put to a vote 12 times in a row, and the required 226 votes squeezed out, then I must congratulate Oleksander Moroz on his democratic victory," said a sarcastic Mr. Syrota. Mr. Syrota was a proponent of a majority system for the 1998 elections and had proposed that a mixed system be implemented in succeeding elections.

The new law supercedes the old statute that required a majority from at least 50 percent of voters in an electoral district to elect a national deputy. That law had

dragged out the elections of 1994 for almost three years because certain electoral districts could not achieve a 50 percent turnout or the 50 percent vote required to elect a candidate. Many feared that without electoral reform the next Verkhovna Rada would not be seated for lack of a constitutional majority of 300 elected parliamentarians.

Because even a completely rewritten law for a majority electoral system was considered constitutionally questionable by many legal scholars and because President Leonid Kuchma, who supported a mixed electoral system, retains the power to dismiss the Verkhovna Rada, much of the discussion that took place on the legislative floor revolved around the notion of the political survival of the legislative body.

Serhii Soboliev of the Reform faction said, "Vote for any of the proposals, so that a law is passed. If not, we will be left with the old law - and that is a direct path to the dismissal of the Parliament. The old law is not in line with the Constitution and that will play directly into the hands of the executive branch."

Vladyslav Nosov, who is non-aligned, commented: "Deputies, don't play with the Constitutional Court because it will play with you. It is a cat-and-mouse game and you will be the mouse. If you do not vote for a new system, this Parliament will be dismissed."

The new law requires that the 450 current electoral districts be restructured into 225, which must occur 120 days before elections, and that electoral commissions for the new districts must be formed within 90 days of the elections. New elections to the Verkhovna Rada are scheduled for March 29, 1998.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 10)

union between the two countries, Nezavisimaya Gazeta reported on September 16. Viktor Hladush, Ukrainian first vice minister for foreign economic relations and trade, and Moldovan Vice Minister for the Economy Dumitru Bragis signed a protocol on setting up the planned union. They also agreed on the composition of working groups to achieve that goal. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Entrepreneurs council created by Cabinet

KYIV - The Cabinet of Ministers created an Entrepreneurs Council on September 16. The council is meant to create conditions for effective cooperation among businesses and with the Cabinet and other bodies of executive power to implement state policies on developing entrepreneurship and creating a market infrastructure. Orlan President Yevhen Chervonenko is to head the structure. The council also includes Shelton President Ihor Kyriushyn, Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Deputy President Andrii Dashkevych, and representatives of the Ukrainian Agricultural Commodities Exchange and the Council of Employers. (Eastern Economist)

A Ukrainian Wedding...



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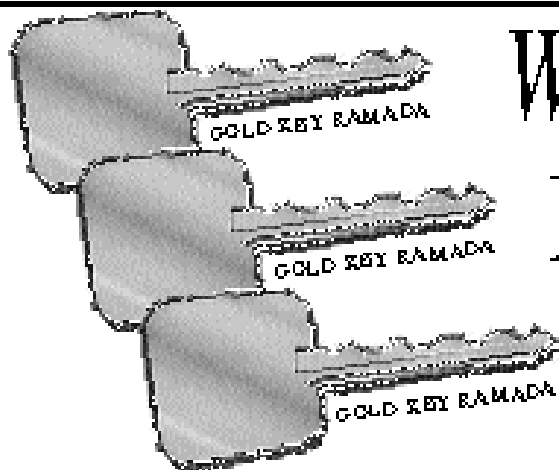
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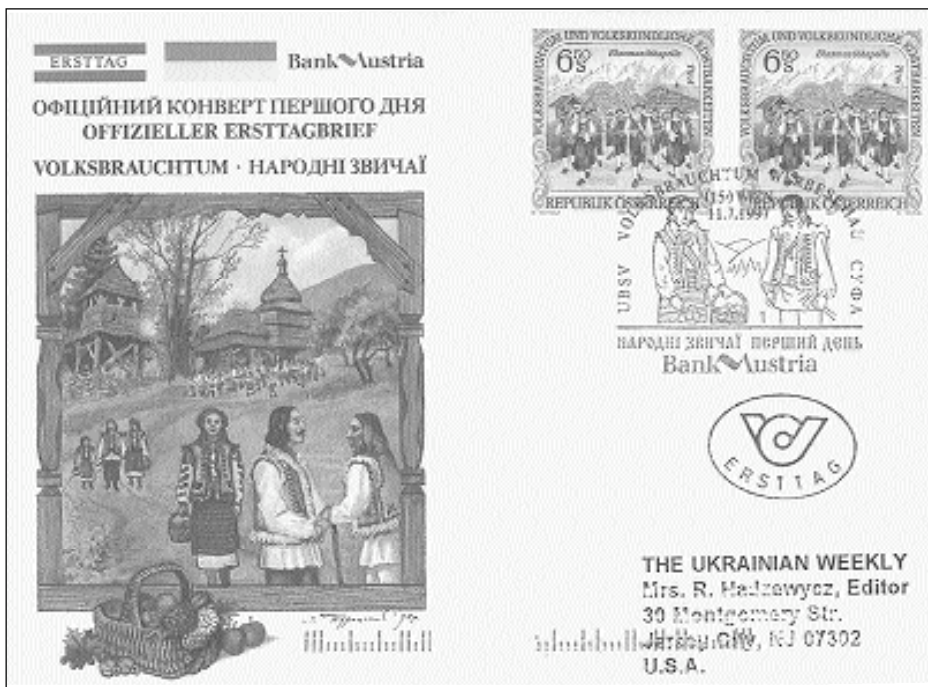
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Austrian postal issue features Ukrainian customs



VIENNA – The Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria, based in Vienna, presented a first-day cover and a special bilingual (German-Ukrainian) cancellation on the occasion of the first day of an issue of the second stamp in the seventh set of the Austrian postage stamp series “National Customs and Folkloristic Treasures.” On the first day cover reproduced above, Lviv artist Ivan Turetskyi depicts a Ukrainian custom: on the feast of the Transfiguration of Christ (August 19 according to the Julian calendar), fruits, mushrooms, flowers and bread are brought to church to be blessed.

Detroit UNA'ers...

(Continued from page 7)

Dr. Serafyn did not exclude “bad news” in respect to the poor organizing performance of Detroit UNA'ers, as only eight new members were enrolled. This could partially be attributed to the long illness of Dr. Atanas Slusarchuk, always a key organizer.

Dr. Serafyn concluded his remarks by thanking the women for an excellent dessert table and Jaroslaw Baziuk for his “hospitality bar.”

The toastmaster then introduced the featured speaker for the afternoon, Lubomyr Tatuch, who had just returned from an extended trip to Ukraine and Armenia. Mr. Tatuch's son has been assigned to the latter country as a U.S. consular officer. In a lucid talk about the positive and negative aspects of living conditions in Ukraine, Mr. Tatuch covered experiences in Kyiv and Lviv, and made some analogies with the situation in Armenia.

The speaker commented on building programs, transportation, the huge McDonald's restaurant in Kyiv, the dominance of the Russian language on the streets of Ukraine, operas, a soccer game between Ukraine and Germany, and other facets of life in Ukraine. Mr. Tatuch said he was especially impressed

with the professional skills in printing establishments, and he displayed several examples of Ukraine's fine printing craftsmanship.

After Vera Krywyj delivered a recitation, Olha Dubrivna Solovey organized a singing group to lead a community sing-along. With Ms. Solovey at the keyboards, UNA'ers enjoyed a songfest late into the afternoon.

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Serafyn thanked all participants for making the UNA event so successful. He also reminded all members to check the schedule for screenings of the “Hryvnia Story” that will be organized under the auspices of the Detroit District.

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The Western NIS Enterprise Fund, an early stage venture capital fund, seeks an investment officer to join the investment staff in the Fund's main office in Kyiv, Ukraine. Candidates should have three to five years experience in corporate finance, an MBA or equivalent, and an interest in working with local managers to develop growth strategies for their companies. Responsibilities would include identifying investment opportunities, structuring and negotiating transactions, monitoring investments, and recommending exit strategies. Work experience in emerging markets and fluency in Russian or Ukrainian would be advantageous.

The Western NIS Enterprise Fund, capitalized initially with \$130 million, invests in small- and medium-sized private enterprises in Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. The Fund's strategy is to identify the best companies operating in what are expected to be the fastest growing sectors of these emerging economies. The fund provides portfolio companies with capital and the necessary management tools to evolve from entrepreneurial ventures to professionally managed companies. The fund currently has a portfolio of eighteen companies operating in a variety of industries.

Western NIS Enterprise Fund

Interested parties should submit a cover letter with a resume to: 1547-26 St. Schroeder, Chief Investment Officer, 10 New York at (fax) 212-680-9242 or e-mail: western@wnis.fund

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Ukrainian physiologist to lecture in Canada

MONTREAL — Dr. Platon G. Kostyuk, an internationally renowned physiologist and director of the Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kyiv, will visit Canada in October under the auspices of the Royal Society of Canada-National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) Exchange Lectureship Program.

Dr. Kostyuk, who works in the field of neuroscience, has carried out pioneering studies on the role of calcium in neural behavior. He has written over 400 scientific papers and 11 books on his area of expertise. Dr. Kostyuk is vice-president of the NASU and foreign member of several science academies in Europe.

Dr. Kostyuk will give lectures at universities in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Calgary on October 9-23, and will also have the opportunity to meet with Ukrainian Canadian groups in these cities.

The inaugural Ukrainian lecturer under the exchange program was physicist Prof.

Anatolii Zagorodny who came to Canada in 1995. This was followed by the visit of Sherbrooke chemist Prof. Andrei Bandrauk to Ukraine in 1996.

The costs for the exchange lectureship program are covered from donations to the Royal Society of Canada-Ukraine Exchange Endowment Fund. The fundraising committee for the fund is co-chaired by Profs. Jurij Darewych at York University and Lawrence Mysak at McGill University. Dr. Darewych is a physicist and foreign member of the NASU; Dr. Mysak is climate specialist and past president of the Academy of Science of the Royal Society of Canada.

A major donation to the fund has come from the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Canadian Foundation.

Tax-deductible donations to the RSC-Ukraine Exchange Fund may be sent to: Sandy Jackson, Administrative and Financial Coordinator, Royal Society of Canada, Suite 308, 225 Metcalfe St., Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1P9; telephone, (613) 991-6990; e-mail, sjackson@rsc.ca

Manor slates 20th Ukrainian Festival

JENKINTOWN, Pa. — Manor Junior College will celebrate its Ukrainian heritage during its annual Ukrainian Festival on Sunday, October 5, to be held from noon to 5 p.m. here on the college's campus.

In its 20th year, the Ukrainian Festival this year boasts a "new and improved" format, featuring Ukrainian dance and vocal performances on two stages, one indoors and one outside; new varieties of ethnic and other foods; traditional folk costumes, folk art exhibits, demonstrations, by master craftsmen and more craft vendors; and more children's activities, including pony and hay rides and a petting zoo.

The program will feature several returning performers and some new entertainers. This year Manor will welcome the Prometheus Male Chorus in its first appearance at the Ukrainian Festival, as well as a bandura group.

The Prometheus Male Chorus, founded in 1962, performs a repertoire of religious, classical and folk compositions with a rich, full-bodied, modern tone. In addition, pianist Irene Pelech-Zwarych performs solo works by Ukrainian composers.

The Bandura Group, together for about a year, consists of 10 children from St. John's Ukrainian Catholic School who play traditional Ukrainian folk songs on the bandura. The group's leader is Sister Bernarda OSBM.

Returning are the internationally acclaimed Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and School of Dance with its complement of 35 dancers and repertoire of over 40 traditional dances from all regions of Ukraine. The troupe has performed at such venues as the Pennsylvania Governor's Heritage Affairs Commission Christmas Show, the Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebration and at Lincoln Center.

Also returning to this year's festival is the Vesna Dance Ensemble. With dancers

ranging in age from 4 to 18, the group has appeared at state fairs throughout the Delaware Valley, performing traditional Ukrainian dances from the central and Carpathian regions of Ukraine in colorful, traditional costumes.

Named for the principal river that flows through the mountainous Hutsul region of Ukraine, Cheremosh, a group that sees its primary purpose as perpetuating the traditional arts of the region, brings its traditional music and dance back to the festival this year. Cheremosh members are skilled artists who occasionally display their work in weaving, embroidery, wood carving and metal and leather working in public exhibitions. The dances are usually performed by sets of four couples, accompanied by a three-piece musical ensembles. The musicians play melodies passed from one generation to the next by ear.

Also returning to the Ukrainian Festival is the Soloveyky Children's Vocal Ensemble. Originating in Philadelphia, the group has performed traditional Ukrainian folk and religious songs at international festivals or church and school festivals for over 10 years under the direction of Prof. Zoya Markowycz.

The day will conclude with the drawing of a raffle, the grand prize of which is a four-day, three-night vacation for two in Orlando, Fla. Second prize is a basket of cheer. (Tickets will be on sale throughout the afternoon at three for \$25 or \$10 each.)

The college will celebrate a divine liturgy at 10:30 a.m. in the college chapel.

Tickets to the Ukrainian Festival, which will be held rain or shine, are \$4 for adults and \$1 for children. Parking is free. For more information call (215) 885-2360.

Manor Junior College is a private, coed, two-year Catholic college founded in 1947 by the Ukrainian Sisters of St. Basil the Great that offers associate degrees and transfer programs within three divisions: business, liberal arts and allied health/science and math.

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Please include a resume with three references (preferably one from a pastor).

Please forward applications to:
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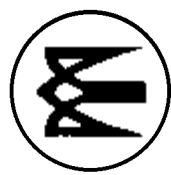
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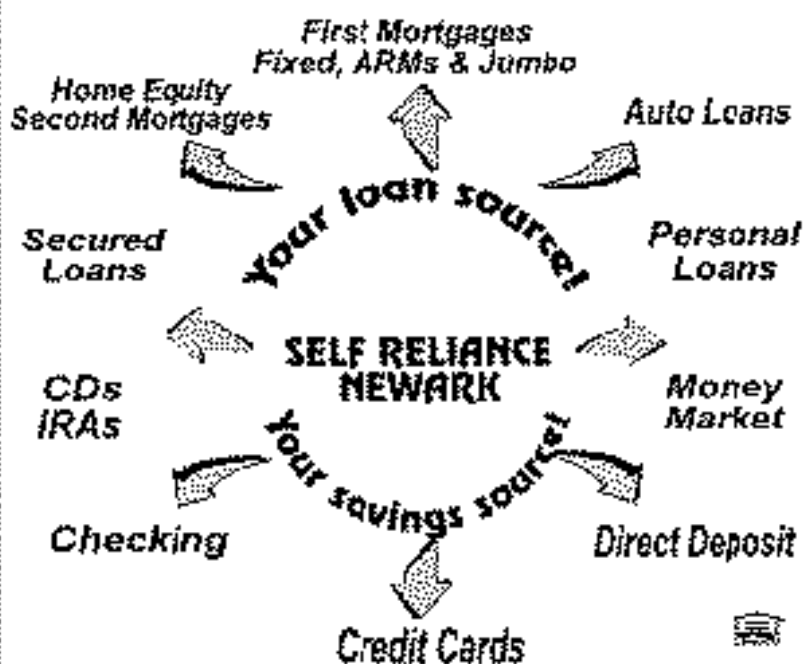
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, September 28

NEWARK: Religion classes at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School, Ivy Street and Sanford Avenue, resume September 28. Subsequent classes will be held on the fourth Sundays of October, November, and January through April. Classes are being held for kindergarten and grades 1 and 3-8. For additional information call Roxolana Misilo, (973) 376-4807.

Friday, October 3

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America will hold a screening, as part of its "Film Night at the Institute," of the satirical Ukrainian film titled "The Hunt for Kozak Gold," directed by Vadim Kostely. A wine and cheese reception follows. The screening will be held at the institute, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m.

Saturday, October 4

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America presents Maria Stefiuk, lead soprano of the Kyiv Opera, in a solo recital, with piano accompaniment by Volodymyr Vynnytsky, in a program of works by Mozart, Donizetti, Rossini, Verdi and Ukrainian repertoire by Stepovyi, Lysenko, Liatoshynsky, Kropyvnytsky, Kos-Anatolsky and Sonevtsky. The concert will be held at the institute, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m. For additional information call the institute at (212) 288-8660.

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art is holding the "Friend of the Institute Award Dinner." Recipients of this year's award are: Jaroslaw Strutynsky, Yuriy Sambirsky, Yuriy Kawka and Yuriy Ozga - engineers and architects who were instrumental in the building and design of the UIMA. Guest speaker at the event is Radoslav Zuk, architect and professor of architecture at McGill University, Montreal. The event will be held at the institute, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., with cocktails at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7 p.m. Donation: \$100.

BRYN MAWR, Pa.: The Monique Legaré International Dance Company of Willow Grove, Pa., presents The Chamber Orchestra of Lviv University, Serhiy Burko, conductor, in a joint performance with Slaveja, The Bryn Mawr Haverford Slavic a cappella choir. The concert will be held at Bryn Mawr College, The Great Hall, Thomas Library, at 8 p.m. For additional information call Peggy Leiby, (215) 643-4397. The Monique Legaré International Dance Company, which specializes in folk dances from countries throughout the world, was in Ukraine in 1995 at the invitation of the Chamber Orchestra of Lviv University and has now reciprocated the invitation by presenting a series of concerts for the chamber orchestra in the greater Philadelphia area.

Sunday, October 5

NEW YORK: An afternoon of storytelling for children between the ages of 2 and 5, titled "Zhaba" (The Frog), presented by Marta Sawycky, director of Pre-School Music in Irvington, N.J., will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 2-5 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Monday, October 6

PHILADELPHIA: The Monique Legaré International Dance Company presents The Chamber Orchestra of Lviv University, Serhiy Burko, conductor, in concert on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania, 38th and Chestnut streets, in the Cathedral Church of the Savior, at 8 p.m.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute presents, as part of its seminar series, a lecture by Mark Bassin, lecturer in geography, University College, London, titled "Between Europe and Asia: The Geography of Russian National Identity." The lecture is co-sponsored by the Davis Center for Russian Studies. The lecture will be held in the HURI seminar room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m.

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta

presents a lecture by Dr. Andriy Homjatkevyc, University of Alberta, titled "Zinovii Shtokalko's 'Kobza' " (in Ukrainian). The lecture will be held in the CIUS library, 352 Athabasca Hall, at 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 8

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute presents the Ukrainian Bandura Chorus in concert with Oleh Mahlay, conductor. The concert will be held at Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., at 8 p.m. The 45-voice chorus will perform folk and art songs, liturgical chants, and recently composed musical works. For details and ticket information, contact the Sanders Theatre Box Office, (617) 496-2222, noon-6 p.m., seven days a week.

PHILADELPHIA: The Chamber Orchestra of Lviv University, under the direction of Serhiy Burko, will appear in concert at the Settlement Music School, 3745 Clarendon St., at 7:30 p.m. The concert is sponsored by the Monique Legaré International Dance Company of Willow Grove, Pa.

Friday, October 10

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center jointly with the Monique Legaré International Dance Company present a concert featuring Stepan Stepan, lead baritone of the Lviv Opera and The Chamber Orchestra of Lviv University, under the direction of Serhiy Burko. The concert will be held at the center, 700 Cedar Road, at 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$10.

Sunday, October 12

NEW YORK: Stepan Stepan, lead baritone of the Lviv Opera, will appear in concert at the Ukrainian National Home, 140-142 Second Ave., at 2 p.m. The concert program will include arias and songs of West European classic and Ukrainian repertoires.

WASHINGTON: Peter Ostroushko, renowned fiddler and mandolinist of Garrison Keillor's popular "Prairie Home Companion" program on National Public Radio will perform along with guitarist Dean Magraw at The Washington Group Leadership Conference brunch, which will be held at the Georgetown University Conference Center, 3800 Reservoir Road NW, at 11:30 a.m. Tickets for the brunch and performance: \$35; reservations must be made by October 8 by e-mail, gmasiuk@aol.com, or by fax, (703) 960-7459. The event is sponsored by The Washington Group Cultural Fund. For more information contact Larysa Kurylas, (202) 797-8236.

Sunday, October 19

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art presents a concert by Valentina Lisitsa and Alexei Kuznetsov, piano duo, in a program of works by Mozart, Brahms, Rachmaninoff and Saint-Saens. The concert will be held at the institute, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 2 p.m.

Monday, October 20

WINNIPEG: Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak, department of history, George Washington University, and the National Endowment for the Arts, is the 1997 lecturer for the fourth annual J. B. Rudnycky Lecture at the University of Manitoba. She will speak on the topic: "Women in Independent Ukraine: Prospects of Power" at 3:30 p.m., 118 St. John's College, 92 Dysart Road, University of Manitoba. A reception will follow in St. John's Common Room. Best known for her award-winning book "Feminists Despite Themselves: Women in Ukrainian Community Life" (1988, 1990), Dr. Bohachevsky-Chomiak has published widely on women's organizations and the women's movements in Ukraine and Russia. She is currently a Fulbright lecturer at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv. For information, contact the event sponsors: the Department of Archives and Special Collections, University of Manitoba Libraries, (204) 474-9986; or the university's German and Slavic studies department, (204) 474-9370.