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President Bush sends message to all nations

U.S. President George Bush sent the following message to all nations on the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11. The message was sent to The Ukrainian Weekly on September 10 by the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv.

My country will always remember the outpouring of friendship and support from nations around the world in the wake of September the 11th. On behalf of all Americans, I thank the millions of people from every nation who share our grief over the loss of innocent life, and who share our resolve to lift the dark cloud of terror from our world.

Many nations and many families have lived in the shadow of terrorism for decades, and during years of mindless and merciless killing. September the 11th was not the beginning of global terror, but it was the beginning of the world's concerted response. History will remember that day not only as a day of tragedy, but as a day of decision, when the civilized world was stirred to anger and to action. And the terrorists will remember September the 11th as the day their reckoning began.

We face an enemy of ruthless ambition, unconstrained by law or morality. The terrorists who attacked on September the 11th despise other religions and have defiled their own. And they are determined to expand the scale and scope of their murder. The terror that targeted New York and Washington one year ago could strike any center of civilization.

Against such an enemy, there is no immunity, and there can be no neutrality. A mighty coalition of civilized nations is now defending our common security. Terrorist assets have been frozen; terrorist front groups have been exposed. A terrorist regime has been toppled from power. Terrorist plots have been unraveled from Spain to Singapore. And thousands of terrorists have been brought to justice, or are in prison, or are running for fear of their lives.

In the current stage of our campaign, our coalition is not opposing a nation, but a network. Victory will come over time, as that network is patiently and steadily dismantled.

There's a great divide in our time — not between religions or cultures, but

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Ukraine joins U.S. and the world in remembering events of 9/11

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine joined most of the world in commemorating the first anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, including a special conference hosted by Islamic Ukrainians, which on September 9 kicked off a weeklong series of memorial events in Kyiv.

The United States Embassy took part in many of the observances, including concerts and a photo exhibit, while Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada issued a special declaration and announced that it would fund a plaque for Ground Zero in Manhattan.

The week of remembrance in Ukraine's capital, dedicated to the nearly 3,000 victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon unexpectedly began with a conference by the regional branch of the Ukrainian Islamic organization, Arraid, at the Islamic Community Center in Kyiv. About 2 million members of the Islamic faith live in Ukraine, constituting some 4 percent of the population.

Ukrainian Islamic political and religious leaders, as well as state government representatives, discussed Ukraine's reaction to the September 11 terrorist attacks and how the events affected Muslims in Ukraine. From the outset, participants made it clear that no one was going to excuse the action of the Al Qaeda terrorists who organized and carried out the attacks.

"We, the Muslims of Ukraine, condemn the terrorist acts and we also condemn extremism in the name of Islamic principles," said Mufti Suleiman Mukhamedzianov, the spiritual head of Kyiv's Muslims in opening the conference.

Mufti Mukhamedzianov noted that among the dead victims of the four airliner attacks were many innocent Muslims as well (a later speaker claimed these victims numbered 500 victims). He demanded that the Ukrainian and the world's mass media make a better effort to separate the terrorists from the Islamic religion.

Yurii Kochubiyi, head of the Ukrainian Organization of Foreign Affairs and editor-in-chief of the magazine Eastern World, explained that, counter to the pronouncements by many experts and academics after the calamitous events of September 11, a "clash of civilizations," did not begin, as some were quick to label a new era they said would ensue. Instead, the result was more understanding and more cooperation than was evident earlier.

"Those who predict that the 21st century will be the century of the clash of civilizations also forget that as history progresses civilizations have tended to coalesce," explained Mr. Kochubiyi.

The former Ukrainian diplomat to the Middle East said, however, that members of the Islamic faith must do more to allow non-Muslims to better understand Islamic traditions, laws and principles in order to overcome an ever-stronger negative stereotype that is developing regarding the average Muslim. "It seems that every other bad guy in Hollywood today is either an Ahmed or an Omar," said Mr. Kochubiyi. "These stereotypes need to be destroyed by us."

National Deputy Refat Chubarov, a leader of the Tatar community in Crimea, which comprises 13 percent of the peninsula's population, and a member of the Our Ukraine faction in Parliament, said that he was pleased the Ukrainian government has maintained its pro-Tatar policies and that the country's mass media have retained their objectivity.

"We must give due respect to Ukrainian politicians and to the mass media who restrained themselves from primitive reflexes," said Mr. Chubarov.

The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine also organized official commemorations, most prominently an exhibition of photographs of the devastation in lower Manhattan by Joel Meyerowitz titled "Images From Ground Zero," which was organized by the City of New York and

managed by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. State Department.

Among those present at the opening on September 11, held at the National Museum of Art in Kyiv, were Ukraine's First Vice Prime Minister of Humanitarian Affairs Volodymyr Semynozhenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatolii Zlenko, National Deputies Hennadii Udovenko and Les Taniuk, Head Mufti of Ukraine Sheikh Ahmed Tamin, and Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate, along with representatives of the international diplomatic community stationed in Kyiv.

In opening remarks, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual stated that the commemoration is actually a celebration "of peace, freedom and prosperity for the entire world."

"The tragic events of last September were our fate, but they will not be our destiny," said Mr. Pascual.

He noted that the 3,000 who died as a result of the September 11 attacks, included people from more than 90 countries. He underscored that the globe has united in the war against terrorism and said that 160 nations have frozen the

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Voice of America program spotlights Soyuzivka's jubilee

by Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Celebrations of the 50th anniversary of Soyuzivka, the beloved Ukrainian resort in the Catskill region of New York state, went international thanks to the Voice of America program "Kaleidoscope of the Diaspora."

Aired on August 3, before the resort officially began celebrations of its golden jubilee, the program informed listeners around the globe about the history of Soyuzivka, owned and operated by the Ukrainian National Association since 1952, and presented fond reminiscences of the resort and its multifaceted programs as shared by Soyuzivka regulars.

A weekly Ukrainian-language program about the life of Ukrainians in various countries around the world, "Kaleidoscope" is hosted by veteran VOA correspondents Anya Dydyk-Petrenko and Theofil Staruch.

The first guest on the broadcast was a former advisor of the UNA (once the youngest member of the UNA General Assembly) and a former band leader at Soyuzivka, Alexander Chudolij. Mr. Chudolij, today an accomplished and

polished accordionist, recalled how he first came to Soyuzivka as a young boy and how his musical career began there.

"Soyuzivka is where I first became acquainted with the Ukrainian community, learned about Ukraine's culture and understood that this was not only interesting but also important to me in my life," Mr. Chudolij remarked.

That's why," he continued, "I married a Ukrainian and why my son [7-year-old Peter] continues in my footsteps."

For features on Soyuzivka's traditional Labor Day festivities, please turn to the centerfold.

Daniel Slobodian, one of two co-managers of Soyuzivka after the UNA purchased the resort on Foordmore Road, took listeners back to Soyuzivka's beginnings. "The UNA found a 450-acre parcel of land that was reminiscent of Ukraine. ... We built Veselka [the pavilion that comprises a deck overlooking the scenic

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ANALYSIS

Is the president of Ukraine sincere about political reform?

by **Taras Kuzio**

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

President Kuchma used the anniversary of the declaration of Ukrainian independence on August 24 to announce his support for political reforms. How genuine was he?

Mr. Kuchma has always supported a presidential system modeled on Russia's and has opposed a law on proportional elections. The highly flawed April 2000 referendum aimed to transform Ukraine into a presidential republic and create a smaller, bicameral, puppet parliament. Last year, Mr. Kuchma vetoed a law on fully proportional elections five times.

President Kuchma announced his intention to launch political reforms because the opposition plans to hold mass demonstrations on September 16, with Our Ukraine holding a forum of democratic forces the day before. Worse still for Mr. Kuchma, and a sign of the rising public hostility to his regime, is the decision by the moderate business group Razom – the “pragmatic” and “constructive opposition” within Our Ukraine – to support a referendum on early presidential elections. (The speed with which events are moving can be seen in the fact that a failed referendum drive by Yulia Tymoshenko in spring 2001 was not then backed by Our Ukraine.) Mr. Yushchenko also wrote his most critical open letter to date to President Kuchma on August 29.

Mr. Kuchma's representativeness in parliament, Oleksander Zadorozhnyi, admitted two reasons for Kuchma's new policies in an interview in the August 31-September 7 issue of the Dzerkalo Tyzhnia weekly. First,

“[Kuchma] was forced to move to this [supporting political reform] because opposition forces in parliament had adopted as their program the movement toward a parliamentary-presidential republic,” Mr. Zadorozhnyi said.

Second, Kuchma had an eye to the 2004 parliamentary elections. Mr. Zadorozhnyi argued that Ukraine has no individual to whom the extensive range of powers that Kuchma enjoys today could be transferred, i.e., neither to an oligarch nor to Yushchenko. “That is why these powers require serious modification,” he said.

A move toward a parliamentary-presidential republic would reduce the power of the next elected president, which, as polls consistently show, would be Mr. Yushchenko. If the Constitution is changed by the next presidential elections, the Parliament, which has a pro-presidential majority, would elect the next president by a majority vote, a system in place in Estonia and Moldova. This would resolve the problem of a pro-Kuchma presidential candidate not being subjected to a popular vote and would deal with the lack of any popular oligarch who could be elected by popular vote as a successor to President Kuchma and would give Mr. Kuchma immunity from prosecution after his retirement. The pro-presidential parliamentary majority would simply elect one of its own to replace Mr. Kuchma.

In Ukraine, the pro-presidential blocs fought the elections in support of a presidential system and the implementation of

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Can glasnost policy save Kuchma and his regime?

by **Taras Kuzio**

RFE/RL Newsline

Incumbent Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma faces three insurmountable problems in the 2004 presidential campaign that de facto begins next month and heralds the approach to the post-Kuchma era. (The Constitution of Ukraine precludes him running for a third presidential term).

First, Mr. Kuchma is finding it impossible to arrange a transfer of power to a chosen successor along the lines of that from Boris Yeltsin to Vladimir Putin in Russia in 1999-2000. Mr. Kuchma has no oligarch ally who has any public support. Worse still, anybody whom he anointed as his successor would automatically be discredited. Ukrainian polls in the last two years have consistently placed Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko and Communist Party (CPU) leader Petro Symonenko in the second round of a presidential election with Mr. Yushchenko winning.

Who then will provide President Kuchma with immunity from prosecution and protection for his family's business empire? And who will protect other oligarchs from a bona fide campaign against corruption if Mr. Yushchenko becomes president? Volodymyr Yavorivsky, head of the Writers' Union and Our Ukraine deputy, said he believes this is a life-or-

death struggle for those such as the Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU), led by presidential administration head Viktor Medvedchuk, which is accused of being the most corrupt oligarchic clan.

Second, Mr. Kuchma's recent actions suggest that he is no longer indifferent about widespread public hostility to his administration. In a poll released on the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, the Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies (UCEPS) found that 92 percent of Ukrainians feel that they have no influence over the authorities. The same number believe human rights are routinely infringed upon and 80 percent feel their standard of living has worsened since 1990, while 72 percent want the president to resign and 52 percent would support his impeachment.

For the first time ever, four opposition groups – Our Ukraine, the Communists, the Socialists, and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc – are coordinating mass protests scheduled for September 16 calling for early presidential elections, the second anniversary of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze's abduction. The UCEPS poll found that 43 percent of Ukrainians supported the protest.

Third, as the opposition has long argued, a serious crisis of power exists in Ukraine and there is very low public trust in state institutions. President Kuchma and his oligarchic allies have little public support and live completely separate lives from the population; there is a lack of public

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NEWSBRIEFS

Rada pays tribute to 9/11 victims

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on September 11 honored the victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States with a minute of silence, the UNIAN news agency reported. The Parliament adopted a resolution on establishing a memorial plaque in New York with the names of Ukrainian citizens who were killed in the attacks. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Opposition mobilizes Kyiv residents

KYIV – Some 3,000 people took part in a rally on Independence Square in Kyiv on September 10 organized by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party, UNIAN reported. The three opposition leaders – Yulia Tymoshenko, Oleksander Moroz and Petro Symonenko – called on Kyiv residents to back the protest campaign that is scheduled to begin on September 16 and seeks to oust President Leonid Kuchma. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Sevastopol holds pro-Kuchma rally

SEVASTOPOL – Some 4,000 people rallied in Sevastopol on September 10 to express support for President Leonid Kuchma and his initiative to reform the political system in Ukraine, UNIAN reported. In an adopted resolution, the demonstrators condemned “the provocative actions of the so-called opposition oriented toward discrediting the president of Ukraine and destabilizing the socio-political situation in Ukraine.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko to participate in protests

KYIV – Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko said during an Internet chat hosted by Ukrainska Pravda on September 10 that he and “his political partners” will be on Independence Square in Kyiv on September 16 to take part in the anti-presidential protest. Commenting on the democratic forum that Our Ukraine plans to hold on September 15 in Kyiv, Mr. Yushchenko said its goal is to find an answer to the question of how to overcome the political crisis in Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Pro-presidential groups prep majority

KYIV – Parliamentarians of the nine pro-presidential groups – the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs-Labor Ukraine (41 members), Ukraine's Regions (37), Social Democratic Party-United (36), European Choice (18), Democratic Initiatives (18), National

Democratic Party (17), Power of the People (18), Ukraine's Agrarians (16) and People's Choice (15) – as well as some unaffiliated deputies, have been given blank forms to declare their willingness to join a parliamentary majority, UNIAN reported on September 11. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said leaders of the nine pro-presidential groups would meet with Our Ukraine head Viktor Yushchenko later that day to discuss the formation of a “viable” parliamentary majority. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Opposition leaders tour regions

CHERKASY – Yulia Tymoshenko, Oleksander Moroz and Petro Symonenko met with some 1,000 people in Cherkasy, located in central Ukraine, on September 7 and with 1,000 people in Bila Tserkva, Kyiv Oblast, the following day to seek regional support for the opposition protest campaign “Rise Up, Ukraine!” which is planned to start on September 16, UNIAN reported. Ms. Tymoshenko told journalists in Cherkasy that the protest campaign aims at holding early presidential elections and completely changing the executive branch in Ukraine. Some 10,000 people attended a meeting with the three leaders in Zhytomyr on September 4, with participants in the rally voicing “whole-hearted support” for the opposition protest campaign. Later the same day, the three met with some 9,000 people at a similar rally in Rivne. (RFE/RL Newsline)(RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma to accept coalition Cabinet?

DONETSK – President Leonid Kuchma told journalists in Donetsk on September 6 that he will agree to a coalition Cabinet formed by a parliamentary majority centered on Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc, UNIAN reported. “Yushchenko is free to organize a [parliamentary] majority. I will shake his hand and carry out everything I promised without waiting for amendments to the Constitution,” Mr. Kuchma said. While last month announcing his proposal for constitutional reform, the president had called on the Verkhovna Rada to form a coalition Cabinet without waiting for relevant constitutional changes. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Thousands mourn airshow victims

LVIV – More than 10,000 people took part in a solemn gathering in Lviv on September 5 in memory of the victims of

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Ukraine joins...

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accounts of terrorists, while another 90 nations have detained or arrested terrorists. He said there have been other successes in the last year, most obviously the return of 1.5 million Afghans to their homeland.

At a press conference that preceded the opening of the exhibit, Ambassador Pascual thanked Ukraine for the role it has played in supporting the war in Afghanistan and the effort against terrorism as a whole.

"From the early days right after September 11, Ukraine was a major partner in the effort in the United Nations to condemn the actions of terror, and more importantly terror in general," explained Mr. Pascual.

The U.S. ambassador also noted the more than 3,000 overflights that Ukraine has allowed over its air space by the United States and its allies fighting in Afghanistan, as well as its own contribution of a force of military cargo airliners to the war effort. He also lauded the extensive exchange of intelligence between the United States and Ukraine regarding terrorist activities and Ukraine's decision to investigate and freeze the bank assets of possible terrorist groups.

Mr. Pascual announced that the U.S. would add \$5 billion to its foreign aid budget to support the development of

those countries that have supported the war against terrorism, such as Ukraine, if they continue to maintain their own reform efforts.

Earlier that day, Ambassador Pascual met with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma to discuss various aspects of U.S.-Ukraine cooperation in the common fight against terrorism and the results thus far achieved. Mr. Pascual thanked the president for Ukraine's cooperation in support of the effort.

The Verkhovna Rada commemorated the tragic events of September 11 with a moment of silence at the beginning of the morning session that day and the reading of a proclamation that expressed condolences to the American nation and called for global solidarity in fighting worldwide terrorism. The Parliament announced that it would fund a plaque to be placed at Ground Zero in Manhattan on which would be engraved the names of the dozen Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans who perished in the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center as a result of the September 11 attacks.

In the last major event of the memorial week, on Friday, September 13, President Kuchma and Ambassador Pascual were to attend a requiem concert at the Taras Shevchenko National Opera House in Kyiv, where the Ukrainian National Opera Choir and the Russian National Orchestra conducted by Volodymyr Spivakov were slated to perform to a full house of diplomats, politicians and paying public.

President Bush...

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between civilization and ruthless violence. People of all cultures wish to live in safety and dignity. The hope of justice and mercy and better lives are common to all humanity. Our enemies reject these values, and by doing so they set themselves not only against the United States, but against the entire world.

None of us would ever wish the evil that was done on September the 11th. Yet out of that great evil can come great good. I see a day when the threat of organized terror is

broken. When that day comes, many old conflicts will appear in a new light. Without the constant fear and cycle of bitterness that terrorists spread with their violence, we will see then that old and serious disputes can be settled peacefully, within the bounds of reason, goodwill and mutual security.

We have a chance to write a new and hopeful chapter in human history, a story of courage defeating cruelty and light overcoming darkness. This calling is worthy of any life, and of every nation. So let us go forward confident, determined and unafraid. Together we will face the peril of our moment, and we will seize the promise of our times.

Embassy of Ukraine hosts reception on Independence Day



Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – The Embassy of Ukraine marked the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's independence with a reception on Thursday, September 5. Among the many diplomatic, government, business and Ukrainian American guests who filled the chancellery's two reception halls and courtyard was Steven Pifer (right), former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and now deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian affairs. He is seen here conversing with Ukrainian Ambassador Kostiantyn Gryshchenko.

Ukraine stands together with America: Commemorating the tragic events of September 11

Below is the text of a statement issued on September 11 by the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States.

The tragic events of September 11, 2001, made this date one of the saddest and most tragic anniversaries of mankind. On this solemn day, the Ukrainian people stand together with American friends in commemorating the victims of attacks that took thousands of lives.

Ukrainians are profoundly impressed by the dignity and courage of the American people who withstood and responded to the attacks not only against America, but also against universal democratic values and principles. The terrorists challenged not only the United States, but the whole international community.

Today, as a year ago, Ukraine stands together with the United States in strug-

nership served as a decisive factor for providing support for United States endeavors to fight international terrorism. He also expressed the willingness of the Ukrainian nation to remain an active participant of the anti-terrorist coalition in terms of its state policy, as well as in terms of Ukraine's readiness to make a real contribution to the fight against international terrorism.

Today, on September 11, 2002, the members of the Parliament of Ukraine opened its first session with a minute of silence in remembrance of the victims of the September 11 acts of terror in the United States. The Ukrainian Parliament released a statement on the occasion of the first anniversary of those tragic events.

Taking into account the lessons of the September tragedy, Ukrainian parliamentarians drew the attention of the global community to the importance of consoli-

At this time of remembrance and mourning, Ukrainians stand with the great American nation, with all people of good will throughout the world.

gle against the international terrorism. Since the very beginning Ukraine provided its assistance to the operations against terrorists in Afghanistan. Ukraine opened its airspace to aircrafts of the international coalition, which crossed Ukraine's airspace more than 3,000 times. The Ukrainian military and transport aviation have been enabled to accomplish our common goal, and we hope to provide further assistance in this struggle against evil.

The president of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma, expressed his condolences to the people of the United States of America. On September 10, during his meeting with Carlos Pascual, the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, President Kuchma emphasized that these tragic events joined the efforts of advanced world in fighting terrorism for the sake of humane values. The president of Ukraine underlined that Ukrainian-American relations of a strategic part-

tion and reinforcement of efforts to overcome the global challenges of the 21st century.

In Kyiv a series of events were held in commemoration of September 11, among which are a memorial concert and photography exhibitions, among them the photo exhibit "America: Still Life II" by Ukrainian photographer Ivan Dudkin, which opened in Kyiv yesterday. Countless articles, TV programs and talk shows centered on the expression of solidarity by Ukraine and its people with the United States. The requiem concert organized by the Embassy of the United States in Ukraine in cooperation with the Ukrainian TV Company ICTV and the newspaper Fakty in commemoration of the victims of 9/11 will take place at the National Opera of Ukraine.

At this time of remembrance and mourning, Ukrainians stand with the great American nation, with all people of good will throughout the world.

OSCE statement on solemn anniversary

Following is the text of a statement on the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States issued on the first anniversary of 9/11 by the chairmanship of the organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

One year ago, terrorists launched the horrendous attacks against New York and Washington in which more than 3,000 innocent people died. Since then, the world community has committed itself to bringing to justice those responsible for the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. For its part, the United Nations Security Council called upon all states to hold accountable those persons who aided, supported or harbored the perpetrators, organizers or sponsors of those crimes.

During the last year, the world has made progress in fulfilling the task set out by the United Nations, although there is clearly much more to be done.

It is, therefore, fitting that we reflect on these horrible events as the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, one of the world's foremost human rights fora, convenes in Warsaw. We recall that the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting adopted a message condemning the attacks on September 25, 2001.

If we want to defeat the terrorists, then we must attack them from the highest moral plane, ensuring that human rights are protected, and that the universal human rights that we all believe in are observed. There is no inconsistency in pursuing terrorists with human rights in mind – in ensuring that the campaign against terrorism, is neither used to suppress legitimate dissent nor to suppress people presenting their views to their governments. If we are to prevail over terrorism then we must do it in a way that respects both human dignity and the rights of men and women.

Yushchenko and Our Ukraine will join mass protests on September 16

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko announced on September 10 that he would join mass protests by the Ukrainian opposition movement scheduled for September 16.

After wavering for weeks on whether his political bloc, Our Ukraine, which has the second largest faction in the Verkhovna Rada, should commit to the opposition or pursue a political agreement with Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, Mr. Yushchenko said he would join the Socialists, Communists and the Tymoshenko Bloc on the streets of Kyiv on that day.

Mr. Yushchenko explained that he planned to continue to pursue all available political recourse to return the share of power that he believes rightfully belongs to the Our Ukraine parliamentary faction.

"We have been proceeding systematically," explained Mr. Yushchenko in explaining why he delayed his decision to join the demonstrations even as his

political partners in Our Ukraine clamored for his participation. "We must, however, be aware that a September 17 and a September 18 will follow and must know what we will do then," he added during an Internet press conference.

Mr. Yushchenko has complained bitterly that Our Ukraine was underhandedly usurped of political power in the Verkhovna Rada after pro-presidential powers illegally twisted arms and offered bribes to ensure that their political bloc, For a United Ukraine, attained a majority in order to elect its own parliamentary leadership.

The Our Ukraine leader has, however, maintained contact with the pro-presidential representatives and President Kuchma, who have continued to woo him because they need the 110 lawmakers in the Our Ukraine parliamentary faction to establish a strong majority. One reason is that on August 24 President Kuchma said he was ready to cede some presidential authority – and to eventually back it up with Constitutional changes – if the Verkhovna Rada could form an effective majority, which he would then allow to form a government and appoint a prime minister.

At the same time, Mr. Yushchenko has kept up his call for a forum of democratic political organizations, which is slated for September 15-16, to unify Ukraine's democratic movement and set a united agenda on how to proceed further. Mr. Yushchenko has called the forum the political solution to the "crisis of leadership" that erupted after the pro-presidential lawmakers stole the power in the Verkhovna Rada, according to Mr. Yushchenko. He has said all along that if the forum was a failure he would immediately join the opposition.

The leaders of the three opposition parties, Petro Symonenko of the Communist Party, Yulia Tymoshenko of the Tymoshenko Bloc and Oleksander Moroz of the Socialist Party – and especially Mrs. Tymoshenko – had publicly and privately pleaded with Mr. Yushchenko to join their effort. A somewhat less enthusiastic Mr. Symonenko suggested during a press conference just prior to Mr. Yushchenko's announcement that the opposition could do without the

Our Ukraine leader.

"The forum organizers have invited the president, his associates and cohorts to take part as delegates," explained Mr. Symonenko. "We do not understand one thing – why have we not been invited – unless [Mr. Yushchenko's] point is to compromise us or to force us to give up our course."

The three opposition leaders said they

had information that some 35,000 law enforcement officials would be ordered onto Kyiv's streets to control the crowds on September 16, but also to incite them into acts of civil disobedience.

"We know they will be trying to provoke the participants. It is to their advantage to show the crowd to be unruly," explained

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Opposition leaders make their case before the people

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus, and Ukraine Report

Last week Ukraine saw a fairly unusual occurrence: Yulia Tymoshenko (a former oligarch) and Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko (the most prominent defender of the Ukrainian proletariat) stood arm in arm at rallies in the Ukrainian provinces and called for people to take part in the anti-presidential protest campaign that is scheduled to start on September 16.

UNIAN reported that last week, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Symonenko, jointly with Socialist Party leader Oleksander

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FOR THE RECORD: "Requiem 2002" pens open letter to President Bush

Following is the text of a letter to President George W. Bush initiated by the organizers of the mass action and vigil "Requiem 2002: Face the Truth." The following information was excerpted from the website www.gongadze.org.

The Gongadze Foundation is a non-governmental organization, working to protect journalists' rights, political and intellectual freedoms; provide legal assistance; develop continuing education programs for journalists; and help the families of reporters who have unjustly suffered while performing their professional duties. The Gongadze Foundation was established in 2001. At this point its primary goal is to seek a logical conclusion to the investigation of kidnapping and murder of the Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze and to create a legal precedent that would prevent further crimes against Ukrainian reporters and political activists. The leader and founder of the Gongadze Foundation is Myroslava Gongadze, Heorhii's widow.

The Forum of Ukrainian Students in America is a non-governmental organization that brings together Ukrainian youth studying in the United States. Established in December 2000, the forum's first initiative was sending an open letter signed by 60 students in America and Europe to Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, demanding his resignation. The Forum also appealed to Ukraine's students and businessmen urging support for democratic forces during the 2002 parliamentary elections. The forum's goals are: to give students an opportunity to influence social life in Ukraine while studying abroad; to maintain and encourage interest in political, economic and cultural processes in Ukraine through discussion and exchange of information; and to maintain a network of students returning from studying abroad to Ukraine.

(Editor's note: At press time, spokespersons for "Requiem 2002" had not responded to The Weekly's queries about the number of signatories to the open letter.)

Dear Mr. President:

We, a group of American scholars, civic activists and Ukrainian students studying in the U.S., are writing to urge you to support the Ukrainian people in their determination to defend their rights and freedoms, endangered by the country's current regime. We hope that your administration will make it clear to President Leonid Kuchma and other top Ukrainian officials that there can be no progress in U.S.-Ukrainian relations, or in Ukraine's relations with NATO, unless they allow for freedom and democracy

to flourish in their country. Ukraine can contribute to peace and stability on the European continent only if its government respects basic democratic values. Therefore, actively promoting the emergence of a truly democratic Ukraine is in U.S. vital national interests.

Today, on September 16, 2002, Ukraine commemorates two years since the disappearance of the independent journalist Heorhii Gongadze. He vanished without a trace after a series of his articles had exposed far-reaching corruption at the highest levels of Ukrainian leadership. Several months later, a former presidential security officer provided recordings that implicate President Kuchma and other top officials in planning the journalist's murder. The government's investigation of the crime instantly turned into a farce, since the primary suspects were also the ones overseeing the investigation.

Gongadze's brutal murder and its aftermath touched every Ukrainian in the same profound way that the terrorist attacks of September 11 affected Americans. However, while the organizers of last year's terror against the U.S. were uncovered and relentlessly pursued, the assault on the rights of free-thinking Ukrainians remains unpunished. After two years of empty promises, cover-up attempts and pure inaction by the Ukrainian authorities, we come to only one conclusion: the perpetrators of Gongadze's murder, as well as of numerous other "accidental" deaths of opposition journalists and politicians, will never be found as long as Ukraine is ruled by a few unaccountable individuals bent on keeping power at all costs. The regime, which denies the people of the second largest country in Europe basic rights and human dignity, is incapable of providing justice. Therefore, we call on you to insist on its fundamental transformation, which would give way to the genuine representatives of the people's choice.

Mr. President, in your speech in Warsaw last year you pledged to reward Ukraine's aspiration to become a European nation. The Ukrainian people all share this goal and resolutely strive to achieve it. However, they still remain separated from the rest of Europe by a wall of brutal, unchecked power exercised for the benefit of the privileged few. This wall of oppression is certainly doomed to fall for, as President Ronald Reagan affirmed while speaking at the Brandenburg Gate, "it cannot withstand faith, it cannot withstand truth, and it cannot withstand freedom." Now is the time for America to act decisively and extend its hand to the people of Ukraine so that we together can tear down this wall!

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Courses held for secretaries and organizers

by **Christine E. Kozak**
UNA National Secretary

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The UNA Secretaries and Organizers Courses were held at the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka resort on Monday and Tuesday, August 19-20, with the secretaries or organizers of 21 UNA branches participating.

The courses opened on Sunday evening, August 18, with a "Getting to Know You" wine-and-cheese reception welcoming all participants.

The courses began in earnest the next morning with UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj welcoming all attendees and underlining the role of the UNA both as a fraternal organization – its place in the Ukrainian community and its many charitable donations to that community – and as an insurance company that provides quality products and service to its policyholders who are referred to as members.

Mr. Kaczaraj also said that the UNA supports Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly, Soyuzivka and many other membership benefits for UNA'ers. He focused special attention on the various problems facing Soyuzivka and on the immediate steps being taken by the Executive Committee, and he assured his audience that the UNA membership and the community at large will be notified of any plans for the resort via the UNA's official publications.

Because of the wealth of their experience and knowledge, former UNA President Ulana Diachuk and former



Participants of the Secretaries and Organizers Courses at Soyuzivka.



View of a training session in the Main House Library.

(Continued on page 15)

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Remembrance, and resolve

No one in America could help but be moved by the scenes on our television screens of memorial ceremonies dedicated to the victims and heroes of 9/11.

Broadcasts from New York showed grief-stricken family members and loved ones walking down into a hole where the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center once stood to place tributes, mementos and offerings to the 2,801 killed on that very spot. It was almost too much to bear. In Washington the mood was somewhat celebratory as the ceremony marked the reconstruction of the Pentagon – its rising from the ashes of 9/11 (in fact, it is known as the Project Phoenix Site). The quick rebuilding of the center of America's power served for many as a tangible manifestation of America's resolve. And in Shanksville, Pa., local residents along with family members of the 40 people killed aboard Flight 93, gathered together to pay tribute to a group that was referred to as the first citizen-soldiers in America's war on terrorism. "In a field in rural Pennsylvania, right prevailed over wrong, and hope was born again," said Tom Ridge, the former Pennsylvania governor who now is the president's adviser on domestic security.

September 11, 2002, was a day to focus on the heroes of September 11, 2001, both dead and alive: the firefighters and police officers who went above and beyond the call of duty, the people who sacrificed their own safety to help others at a time of crisis. It was a day to recall the passengers of Flight 93, ordinary people who became extraordinary when they took charge in a heroic act above the skies of Pennsylvania and will forever be remembered in the phrase "Let's roll."

In addition to the moving commemorations held at Ground Zero, at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, there were countless local ceremonies attended by Americans of all ethnic backgrounds, of all faiths, from all walks of life, of all ages. On September 11, 2002, our country was united, perhaps like never before.

As President George W. Bush put it in his address to the nation: "In the ruins of two towers, under a flag unfurled at the Pentagon, at the funerals of the lost, we have made a sacred promise, to ourselves and to the world: we will not relent until justice is done and our nation is secure. What our enemies have begun, we will finish."

President Bush also issued a message of thanks to all the nations of the world. "On behalf of all Americans, I thank the millions of people from every nation who share our grief over the loss of innocent life, and who share our resolve to lift the dark cloud of terror from our world," he stated. And he reassured people around the globe: "We have a chance to write a new and hopeful chapter in human history, a story of courage defeating cruelty and light overcoming darkness. This calling is worthy of any life, and of every nation. So let us go forward confident, determined and unafraid. Together we will face the peril of our moment, and we will seize the promise of our times."

It has been said repeatedly that the post 9/11 world is different. Indeed, in a flash the entire world had changed. But in the wake of this terror came a new cooperation and a new determination to fight evil. Thus, it is clear to all the world that – though our losses are immeasurable – the terrorists did not win on 9/11.

Sept.
16
2001

Turning the pages back...

The Ukrainian Weekly's issue of September 16, 2001, carried a journal about activities surrounding the historic world gathering of the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM) in Ukraine at the time of the country's 10th anniversary of independence. The two principal authors of the article were Nelia Lavrynenko of Kyiv and Lesya Skoryk of Dnipropetrovsk. The following information is from that journal.

A worldwide zlet (gathering) marks an extraordinary event in the life of SUM, or the Ukrainian Youth Association. It is organized every few years to encourage comradeship, friendship and cooperation of SUM members from many countries and continents, through the opportunity to gather together in one locale. The 2001 World Zlet, which took place in Ukraine on August 16 through 24, held special significance as it commemorated the 10th anniversary of the declaration of Ukraine's independence.

On August 16, under a sunny sky in view of the Lviv Opera Theater, with well over 200 delegates from three continents present, the sixth SUM World Zlet was officially declared open. SUMivtsi in uniform paraded along the historic streets of this city. Leading the procession were the flags of the countries in which SUM is represented.

Day 2 of the Zlet began with liturgy at St. George Cathedral, the seat of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. The head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, presided over the divine liturgy. The patriarch greeted the SUMivtsi warmly because he had watched over the youth association for a long time – 32 years ago, while a priest in the United States, he had been chaplain of SUM's summer camps in Ellenville, N.Y. Zlet participants laid flowers at the graves of the Ukrainian Galician Army infantry at the Lychakiv and Yaniv cemeteries. During subsequent days the SUMivtsi visited various destinations, such as Ternopil, Kalush and Yamin, a village near Yaremche in the Carpathian Mountains.

On Day 6 the Zlet participants – all 230 of them – arrived in Kyiv, where they took in the city and a soccer match between Kyiv's Dynamo and Romania. A visit to Cherkasy, the heartland of Ukraine, and the Shevchenko memorial in Kaniv was the highlight of the next day. Zlet participants also traveled on Day 8 to Baikove Cemetery and to Askold's Tomb, where they laid flowers in commemoration of those who fought for Ukraine's freedom.

The last day of the World Zlet was August 24. On the Khreschatyk the SUMivtsi watched Ukraine's armed forces march in the Independence Day Parade. Massive military vehicles passed before them, and aircraft flew overhead. Behind the armed forces marched Ukraine's best performing groups and sports teams.

(Continued on page 13)

UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

Ukraine 2002: much to celebrate

Following are remarks delivered by Myron B. Kuropas at the UCCA-sponsored Ukrainian Independence Day Commemoration in Chicago on August 25.

As we commemorate the 11th year of Ukraine's independence, we can rejoice. Positive changes are taking place, and there is more reason for optimism than for pessimism.

For the first time in its history, Ukraine has a democratic Constitution freely articulated by elected officials. During the past two years, economic growth has overtaken stagnation. The former command economy is being liberalized. Following the last parliamentary elections, the Communist Party is no longer a major power. The will of the people is being exercised in the voting booth and parties of reform are gaining support. These are highly significant gains.

Another notable change in Ukraine's societal structure is the emergence of a civil society. We all know that one of the first things the Bolsheviks did upon conquering Ukraine was to outlaw freedom of association. Non-governmental organizations or NGOs, which included various religious, humanitarian, cooperative, economic and cultural societies, were abolished. Today, all of that is changing. Although the present government in Ukraine still over-regulates the activities of NGOs, their number has grown from some 4,000 in 1995 to 35,000 in 2001.

Religious, gender and ethnic diversity is also being promoted in Ukraine today. In 2001 Ukraine had 25,000 religious organizations representing 80 churches and sects. Some two-thirds of Ukraine's people say they are believers. With the exception of the Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate and a few Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic fanatics who insist that only their faith is the true faith, religious tolerance is becoming the norm.

Ukrainian women are slowly returning to center stage in Ukraine, as well. There are some 700 separate women's societies in Ukraine today, most of which belong to three national umbrella organizations.

Some 40 ethnic groups have created their own civic and cultural NGOs. The most active are those established by Crimean Tatars, Jews, Russians, Hungarians, Poles and Romanians.

Finally, we can be thankful for the emergence of semi-private institutions of higher learning such as the national universities of Mohyla and Ostroh. A new, nationally conscious elite is being educated in these academies, and this augurs well for Ukraine's future.

This is not to say that Ukraine has solved all of its problems. Leonid Kuchma is still president. If the Supreme Court rules that he was elected prior to the adoption of the present Constitution, which limits presidents to two terms, Mr. Kuchma can run again, he could win again, despite his current 13 percent approval rating. Mr. Kuchma has adopted some of the Soviet-style tactics of the past, especially in the arena of press freedom. The rule of law is almost non-existent. Ukraine's justice system is corrupt, making it difficult for honest Ukrainians to feel safe and secure as they go about their daily affairs. Recent revelations by the Ministry of Internal Affairs point to specially created death squads operating in Kyiv, Odesa and Lviv, suggesting, of course, that many so-called "accidents" and disappearances involving journalists and politicians were pre-arranged.

Moscow is increasing its involvement in Ukrainian affairs, behaving as if Ukraine is still an integral part of the

Russian empire, still "Mala Rus." Moves are now under way to coordinate Ukrainian and Russian history in textbooks and to have the Ukrainian Parliament consult with Russia's Parliament before any new legislation is introduced. Ukraine's population has shrunk by some 3 million people since independence. We've just learned that the percentage of AIDS cases in Ukraine is the highest in Eastern Europe.

A recent poll taken by Our Ukraine indicates that 56 percent of the respondents do not believe Ukraine is a truly independent state. And finally, Ukraine's image in the democratic West has been badly tarnished during the past three years. A two-year study of Ukraine by Cognita Ukraine, an independent consulting firm, has concluded that Ukraine is perceived as a state run by the mafia, a corrupt, unreliable, rather distasteful place.

Each of us needs to adopt a small piece of Ukraine...

There is a debate raging in our community these days regarding the role of the diaspora in Ukrainian affairs. We are faced with a dilemma. Should we condemn the outrages of the current administration at every opportunity or should we accentuate the positive and ignore the negative? If we consistently condemn Ukraine, some community members argue, then the United States will abandon Ukraine, pushing it closer to President Vladimir Putin's Russia. Others believe that ignoring Ukraine's blemishes will only lead to more corruption, more theft, and a nation totally controlled by oligarches and the mafia.

I believe we have a moral obligation to point to Ukraine's shortcomings because if we don't, who will? Ukraine does not have a free press. We shouldn't fear that our criticism will turn America against Ukraine because the only people who can influence American foreign policy towards Ukraine is the Ukrainian government itself. America will always do what America believes is in its best interest and what we say or do will have little effect. We learned this lesson during the Cold War. The U.S. government knows what is going on in Ukraine far better than we do. To pretend that all is well over there only hurts our credibility with U.S. government officials.

At the same time, however, we need to realize that our influence on events in Ukraine is rather limited. Let's face it. If the Ukrainian people decide that they want to join the Russia-Belarus axis there is little we can do about it. But knowing this doesn't mean we bury our heads in the sand and only moan, groan and complain.

There is much that we, as individuals, can do to help, not on a grand scale, but in some small ultimately meaningful way. Each of us needs to adopt a small piece of Ukraine – a school, a library, a university, an NGO, a church, a town, a family, an author, a student – some trustworthy institution or person – that we can assist directly. Just think of the impact we will have if each and every one of us here today did just that. The mechanisms for assistance are in place. Many, many opportunities exist. We need to seize this moment in Ukrainian history and act on it.

Ukraine lives. Better days are on the horizon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Canadian-American reflects on September 11

Dear Editor:

As the names of those who perished a year ago today (September 11) at the World Trade Center were read off, I was seized by a desire to write to my former colleagues at The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, as well as the folks at the UNA.

I'm writing to express my thanks for the opportunity to work with everyone at the former UNA building in Jersey City, across the river from the two towers that are now, unbelievably, gone. Thanks to this work, the WTC and its concourse became an indelible part of my life and experience, and its loss and the loss of the lives of those who worked there I feel as a personal loss, since I lived with many of them, passing through there on my way to The Weekly's editorial offices, and on the way back to a place that I called home for three years, in the greatest city on earth, New York City.

I grieve with the survivors and with you, and offer my condolences to you and my solidarity with you.

I do so because since the early 1980s I've considered myself a New Yorker, and also since the mid-1980s I have been a U.S. citizen, and these two identities pulse through me with considerable strength today, in fact, catching me by surprise.

Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj
Toronto

Why wasn't the media at Drumthwacket event?

Dear Editor:

Immediately after 1,300 Ukrainian Americans gathered at the New Jersey governor's mansion for a celebration of Ukrainian Independence Day, I looked for a story in the American press. With no press coverage, I was frustrated that, once again, Ukrainians were being ignored by the press. I contacted The Star-Ledger and was told that they would look into it. I was surprised that the editor of The Star-Ledger, Jim Willse, called back personally. I was shocked when he informed me that the newspaper knew nothing of the event either before or after it took place. He went on to point out that his newspaper had not received any press advisory or release from either the governor's office or any Ukrainian American organization.

I am a bit confused about the purpose of spending time and money for organizing 1,300 Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian officials for such an event. Do we really need to preach to the choir and pat ourselves on the back? Or should such events be used to educate our fellow New Jersey citizens about Ukraine and Ukrainians?

It seems that The Star-Ledger, New Jersey's largest newspaper, would have covered the event, including the words of support for Ukraine voiced by Gov. McGreevey had they been made aware of the gathering. Gov. McGreevey's words were import to report in the state's newspapers – not only for New Jersey citizens to hear but, more importantly, to be heard by the state's U.S. senators and representatives, who actually vote on issues affecting

Ukraine, including foreign assistance, trade relations and sanctions, treaties and bilateral agreements.

We often, justifiably, complain that Ukraine receives either no coverage or negative reporting in the media yet, when we had a chance for positive coverage, nothing was done. Was this lack of media coverage part of the agreement with the governor for the event or was it an oversight? I find it hard to believe that the governor's office and our own leadership somehow forgot to inform the media; politicians are just too eager for press coverage.

I can only conclude that the event was staged for 74,000 Ukrainian Americans in New Jersey and not for the general public, which reduces our community to little more than a political prop. I had hoped we were beyond that.

Anna H. Iwanciw
Chatham Township, N.J.

Re: director's attack on reviewer of his film

Dear Editor:

Director John Paskievich, in his response to Orysia Tracz's August 18 review of his film, "My Mother's Village," is doing exactly what he accuses her of doing – trying to silence a differing opinion.

I was disappointed in his personal attack against her. It was very unprofessional and mean-spirited. His is not the first film to get an unfavourable review, in fact many have received much harsher treatment in the press. When one puts out something as public as a film, one has to appreciate, if not expect that, for whatever reason, some people may not like it, and that such people have a right to say so publicly or privately. That comes with the turf. A professional should realize that and accept it graciously without taking it personally.

While I enjoyed the film, and don't necessarily share Ms. Tracz's opinion of it, I nevertheless respect her right to express it and welcome the opportunity to dialogue. So should Mr. Paskievich.

Paulette MacQuarrie
Coquitlam, British Columbia

Non-traditional sports features were delightful

Dear Editors:

It was with delight and great interest that I read the recent articles featured in The Weekly about the Scuba Club at Soyuzivka (July 21), and also the mountain climbing excursion at Denali (September 1).

My husband and I are avid scuba divers, traveling the world for unique dive experiences. We wish to congratulate and say "Welcome" to the newest members of the Ukrainian diving community! And, what an innovative way to maximize "pool time" at Soyuzivka.

Thank you for including these "non-traditional" sports activities in your newspaper.

We will be looking for those tryzub decals underwater on our future dive trips!!

Renata (née Wynnyk) Ockerby
Arlington, Mass.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Seen and overheard at Soyuzivka during Labor Day weekend 2002

by **Andrij Chornodolsky**

Once again the end of summer ritual has come and gone. Soyuzivka attracted all age groups to meet, talk, enjoy, politic, criticize, praise, dance, eat, imbibe and prepare to face school or work, fall and winter. There was much joy and laughter, lots of hugs, some tears, for some infatuation, for some love, for others abandon, and for others resignation.

For almost all there was a hope that Soyuzivka would continue to be a Mecca for Ukrainian Americans next year and for perpetuity. Overheard were hundreds of conversations with criticism based on perception of the way things are and an equal number of enthusiastic suggestions of how things should and could be. There were even questions like "Where is the suggestion box?" And there were retorts like what good would suggestions do, it seems that a never ending series of ideas and plans in the past have quietly gone away.

Nowhere to be seen was the Save Soyuzivka table. Maybe that was a good sign.

The greatest attribute that Soyuzivka offers is the opportunity for people to talk. And indeed every direction you looked people were talking. Some conversations were subdued and personal but most were vibrant and animated. Noticeable was the fact that less conversations centered on problems of the homeland. It seems that more Ukrainian Americans have developed a *laissez-faire* attitude toward problems in Ukraine. The prevailing attitude seems to be that only time, a long time at that, will help Ukraine overcome economic and political problems. The heated discussions have mostly become a thing of the past. Once upon a time the political emigration believed that only violent force from the outside could topple the Soviet Empire. They (we) were proven wrong. Now an evolutionary process of democratization and capitalism is seen as the ultimate tool of nation-building. Perceptions change over time, and many of us have changed.

The Saturday evening concert of the "Syzokryli" ballet-dance ensemble was absolutely breathtaking and enthusiastically appreciated by all. The costumes, choreography and execution were flawless. A great positive is the noticeable increase in attendance of the so-called "Fourth Wave" of Ukrainian Americans. (They don't yet call themselves that). It was regrettable that Prima Ballerina Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky could not be present to again hear the accolades of the entire community for her tireless work, professionalism and accomplishment in choreography and dance instruction.

Equally wonderful was the solo performance of soprano Lesia Hrabova with the superb accompaniment of pianist Andrij Stasiw. The "surprise" duet with tenor Bohdan Chaplynsky was marvelous, and the audience loved the performance.

It's a shame that more young people do not attend the concerts, I guess they are recovering from the prior night's festivities and preparing for the evening's zaba-va. Oh well, each age has its priorities.

The program's introductory and welcoming remarks by Soyuzivka Office Manager Sonia Semanyshyn were well

received and the announcing of the program by Dora Hapij was flawless. Her smooth transition from Ukrainian to English and vice-versa, and her command of both languages, was refreshing to witness. For a change the microphones and sound systems cooperated. (Ukrainians, you know, have a genetic predisposition to make sound systems malfunction. "Testing, testing, one, two, three...")

Missing this year at Soyuzivka were the many vendors of music, T-shirts, souvenirs, ceramics, and arts and crafts. Most of us had gotten so used to them that they were like the annual return of the cranes to their nests on the roofs of houses in the villages of Ukraine. For some Ukrainian Americans the cranes are an essential part of folklore of their parents homeland, for others a genuine memory. Folklore further alleges that if the cranes do not return this portends potential disaster. For whatever reason, the absence of the vendors left a void and cannot be seen as a good omen.

Significant in assessing the great unfulfilled potential that Soyuzivka has were the great number of Ukrainian Americans who filled the accommodations of all neighboring motels, principally the Hudson Valley Resort. Half or more of the deficit that Soyuzivka suffers would easily be covered by the hundreds of rooms sold at three-star-plus hotel rates. Granted, everyone realizes that a resort or hotel cannot survive on one extended weekend per year. However, a lesson must be learned from the neighboring resort with 350 rooms and a flourishing year-round business.

Thousands of meals were consumed in the vicinity, unfortunately most not at Soyuzivka. In fairness, it must be noted that the Q-Café did a marvelous job serving an endless stream of varenyky, kovbasa and bigos, etc. The staff worked tirelessly, and they must be commended. The food was great and the prices were very fair. However, some guests wondered out loud; how come, as always, the Trembita Lounge was out of Ukrainian beer? Can you imagine an Irish Pub without Guinness? Something is wrong with this picture.

Soyuzivka is naturally beautiful. But even Mother Nature sometimes needs some help. The physical plant is in dire need of a major facelift, landscaping enhancement and building renovation. Because we view Soyuzivka as "nasha," most Ukrainian Americans are very forgiving of its short-comings. The reality is that its inadequacies affect the bottom line, i.e., deficits.

When the post-World War II political émigrés arrived in the major cities of the United States they were often welcomed by the prior generation of Ukrainian Americans in their "Narodni Domu" Most of these centers of Ukrainian American cultural life were built in the 1920s and 1930s and were slowly deteriorating. Rather than renovate and build upon what was already there, most new émigré groups proceeded to build new centers and ignored the old. Further, they criticized the prior generation for failing to leave a sustainable lasting presence.

We now are at the same threshold of potential collapse of structures and institutions that were established in the 1950s and are struggling for membership, financial resources and impetus to move forward in this century. To accomplish this

(Continued on page 13)

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.

Andrij Chornodolsky of Maryland is a past activist of the student and human rights movements, and now mortgage broker and business consultant.

SPORTSLINE

Shooting

• Australian Natalia Rahman won the silver medal at the 2002 Manchester Games in the skeet category on August 2. Rahman beat Edith Barnes of Scotland, who took third place in the event, but lost to fellow Aussie Lauryn Ogilvie. Rahman is of Ukrainian descent and along with her family regularly attends the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in North Melbourne, Australia, according to the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations.

The chairman of the AFUO, Stefan Romaniw, said on August 6, "We salute her and are proud that an Australian Ukrainian can achieve success."

Rahman, along with Australian teammate Lauryn Ogilvie, also won the first-ever gold medal in the team event on July 29. The Australian pair beat Susan Bramley and Pinkey le Grelle of England, who took second place, and bronze medalists Linda Conley and Susan Natrass of Canada.

Tennis

• Sixteenth seed Mykyta Kryvonos of Flushing, N.Y., fell to 18th seed Travis Helgeson of Overland Park, Kan., 6-3, 6-2 on August 8 in quarterfinal play at the United States Tennis Association's boys 16 event.

The New York Times featured the 15-year-old Ukrainian in an article on August 5. "Kryvonos's indomitable work ethic was forged among the steel factories of Donetsk, Ukraine," The Times said. Nick Brebenel, a former Romanian national team member and current coach of Kryvonos, was quoted by The Times as saying, "Mykyta has a big chance to become the next American superstar."

Chess

• Ukrainian Ruslan Ponomarev lost an eight-game exhibition match to Viswanathan Anand of India, held in Mainz, Germany, on August 15-18. Anand defeated Ponomarev, the current International Chess Federation FIDE champion, by a score of 4 1/2-3 1/2. The exhibition was the feature match during the Chess Classic also held in Mainz, Germany.

Track and field

• Ukraine's Zhanna Pintusevich-Block took second place in the 100-meter sprint at the Norwich Union British Grand Prix at Crystal Palace in London on August 23. American Marion Jones took first place with a time of 10.97 seconds, while Chryste Gaines of the United States took third place with a time of 11.12 seconds, just 0.01 behind Pintusevich-Block.

Also at the Norwich Union British Grand Prix, two Ukrainians tied for fourth place in the women's high jump event on August 23, while teammate Inga Babakova took third place. South Africa's Hestrie Cloete finished first with a jump of 6 feet, 5 1/2 inches. Marina Kuptsova of Russia took second place, also with a jump of 6-5 1/2. Inga Babakova, Iryna Mykhalchenko and Viktoria Palamar all jumped 6-4 1/4, however, Mykhalchenko and Palamar took fourth place.

• American Marion Jones beat Ukraine's Zhanna Pintusevich-Block twice at the Van Damme Memorial track meet in Brussels on August 30. Jones won the 100-meter sprint in 10.88 seconds, finishing 0.02 ahead of Pintusevich-Block, who is the current world champion. Jamaica's Tanya

Lawrence took third place in the event with a time of 10.93. In the 200-meter sprint, Jones finished in 22.11 seconds, 0.13 ahead of Pintusevich-Block, who finished in 22.24. Debbie Ferguson of the Bahamas finished third with a time of 22.58.

In the high jump event at the Van Damme Memorial track meet, Ukrainians Iryna Mykhalchenko and Inga Babakova took fourth and fifth places, respectively. Sweden's Kajsa Bergqvist took first with a jump of 6 feet, 6 1/4 inches while Hestrie Cloete of South Africa jumped 6-5 1/2 for second place. Marina Kuptsova of Russia also jumped 6-5 1/2 but took third place. Mykhalchenko and Babakova both jumped 6-4 1/4, however, Mykhalchenko took the higher spot.

• Serhiy Lebid of Ukraine took third place in the men's 5,000-meter running event at the European Championships in Munich on August 11 with a time of 13:40.00. Alberto Garcia of Spain took first place with a time of 13:38.18, while Frenchman Ismail Sghyr took second place with a time of 13:39.81.

Ukraine took second place in the four-man 100-meter relay at the European Championships with a time of 38.53 seconds. Britain took first place with a time of 38.19 and Poland took third place with a time of 38.71.

In the men's long jump in Munich, Oleksii Lukashevych of Ukraine captured first place with a jump of 26 feet, 6 1/4 inches. Teammate Roman Schurenko, who took the bronze medal from Lukashevych in Sydney 2000, finished fourth with a jump of 26-1 1/2. Sinisia Ergotic of Croatia finished in second place with a jump of 26-3 and Yago Lamela of Spain took third place with a jump of 26-2 3/4. Lukashevych, who

lost an Olympic medal in the final round two years ago in Sydney, had better fortunes this time, as only one other jumper, Sinisa Ergotic, could manage eight meters.

On the women's side in Munich, Ukraine took fifth place in the 100-meter four-man relay with a time of 43.38 seconds. France's time of 42.46 gave it first place, while Germany took second with a time of 42.54. Russia finished third with a time of 43.11.

• Oleksii Lukashevych of Ukraine finished second in the men's long jump at the Raiffeisen Gugl-Meeting in Linz, Austria, on August 19. His jump of 26 feet, 3 1/2 inches beat Saudi Arabia's Hussein Al Sabee, who took third place with a jump of 26-0. American Dwight Phillips finished in first place with a jump of 27-6.

Also in Linz, Serhii Osovych of Ukraine finished in fifth place in the men's 200-meter sprint with a time of 20.86 seconds. Frank Fredericks of Namibia finished in first place with a time of 20.15, while Aziz Zakari of Ghana took second place in 20.52. Troy Douglas of the Netherlands finished in third place with a time of 20.56.

Olena Krasovska of Ukraine captured third place in the women's 100-meter hurdles in Linz. Her time of 12.90 seconds put her behind Jamaican Vonette Dixon, who took first place, and American Jenny Adams. Both finished in 12.85.

• Krasovska also took second place in the 100-meter hurdles at the Rieti 2002 track meet in Rieti, Italy, on September 8. American Anjanette Kirkland took first place with a time of 12.85 seconds. Spain's Aliuska Lopez finished in third place with a time of 13.06, just 0.01 behind Krasovska's time of 13.05.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

the July 27 airshow crash, the UNIAN news service reported. The ceremony – which took place 40 days after the disaster in keeping with Ukrainian Christian tradition – was attended by Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko and Yulia Tymoshenko, the leader of the eponymous opposition bloc. Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz and Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, although in the city that day, did not attend the gathering. The organizing committee of the mourning ceremony had warned Messrs. Moroz and Symonenko that their attendance could lead to "unforeseeable political consequences." Some 12,000 people attended a rally in Lutsk earlier the same day at which Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Moroz and Mr. Symonenko solicited support for the upcoming opposition protest campaign. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Air show officials to go on trial

KYIV – Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun said officials who were responsible for the Sknyliv airshow crash on July 27 will go on trial in October. Unplanned maneuvers by the pilots and organizational mistakes are being blamed for the disaster. (The New York Times)

Government reports on poverty

KYIV – Labor and Social Policy Minister Ivan Sakhn on September 10 reported to the Verkhovna Rada on the government's progress in implementing

the program called "The Strategy for Combating Poverty in Ukraine," UNIAN reported. Mr. Sakhn said the main condition for overcoming poverty in Ukraine is to maintain macroeconomic stability and growth of the gross domestic product (GDP). According to the minister, Ukraine's GDP rose by 4.4 percent in January-July 2002, while the real incomes of Ukrainians in January-August 2002 increased by 26.8 percent. Mr. Sakhn said the average monthly wage in June was 377.4 hrv (\$70.80) and had exceeded the subsistence minimum (365 hrv) for the first time in the past several years. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Internet journalist requests protection

KYIV – Olena Prytula, the editor-in-chief of the Ukrainska Pravda website, has sent an open letter to Procurator-General Sviatoslav Piskun, Security Service of Ukraine Chairman Volodymyr Radchenko and Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Smyrnov, asking them to provide her with protection. The news was reported on the Ukrainska Pravda website. Referring to a source in the Procurator General's Office, Ms. Prytula wrote that her life may be in danger in connection with the investigation into the death of journalist of Heorhii Gongadze, who worked for Ukrainska Pravda before his disappearance in September 2000. Ms. Prytula noted that the murderers of Mr. Gongadze may be also interested in killing her since, according to the source in the Procurator General's Office, she is an "important witness" in the Gongadze case. Ms. Prytula recalled that Mr. Gongadze had asked the Procurator

General's Office for protection in July 2000, but the office ignored his request. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Leftists protest Iraq policy of U.S.

KYIV – Some 500 representatives of the Progressive Socialist Party, the Russian Bloc and the Justice All-Ukrainian Association of Leftists staged a picket in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv on September 9 to protest U.S. policies with regard to Iraq, the UNIAN news service reported. According to the agency, the protesters threw an effigy of U.S. President George W. Bush to the ground, pelted it with tomatoes and "pierced it with a scythe of the grim reaper." Progressive Socialist Party leader Natalia Vitrenko said it is necessary to create a "triangle of justice" consisting of the Slavic world (Ukraine, Belarus and Russia), the Arab world, as well as China and India in order to oppose "U.S. aggression" against Iraq. Participants in the meeting adopted a resolution with demands to declare U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual persona non grata and expel him from the country, stop the blockades of Iraq and Cuba, and make President Bush accountable for "crimes against humanity" before the war crimes tribunal at The Hague. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Paper prints Tymoshenko motion

KYIV – The Kyiv-based newspaper called 2000 on September 6 published on six full pages a request by Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun to the Verkhovna Rada to lift the deputy's

immunity of opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko. Ukrainska Pravda suggested that the request – which has not yet been addressed by Parliament – was publicized following an instruction from either the presidential administration or the Procurator General's Office in order to start an anti-Tymoshenko campaign in the state-run media. According to the published request, prosecutors suspect Ms. Tymoshenko of bribery, abuse of office, forgery, embezzlement of property and tax evasion. The charges are connected with her work as head of United Energy Systems of Ukraine in 1995-1997 and her position as deputy prime minister in Viktor Yushchenko's Cabinet in 1999-2000. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Poland invited to join gas consortium

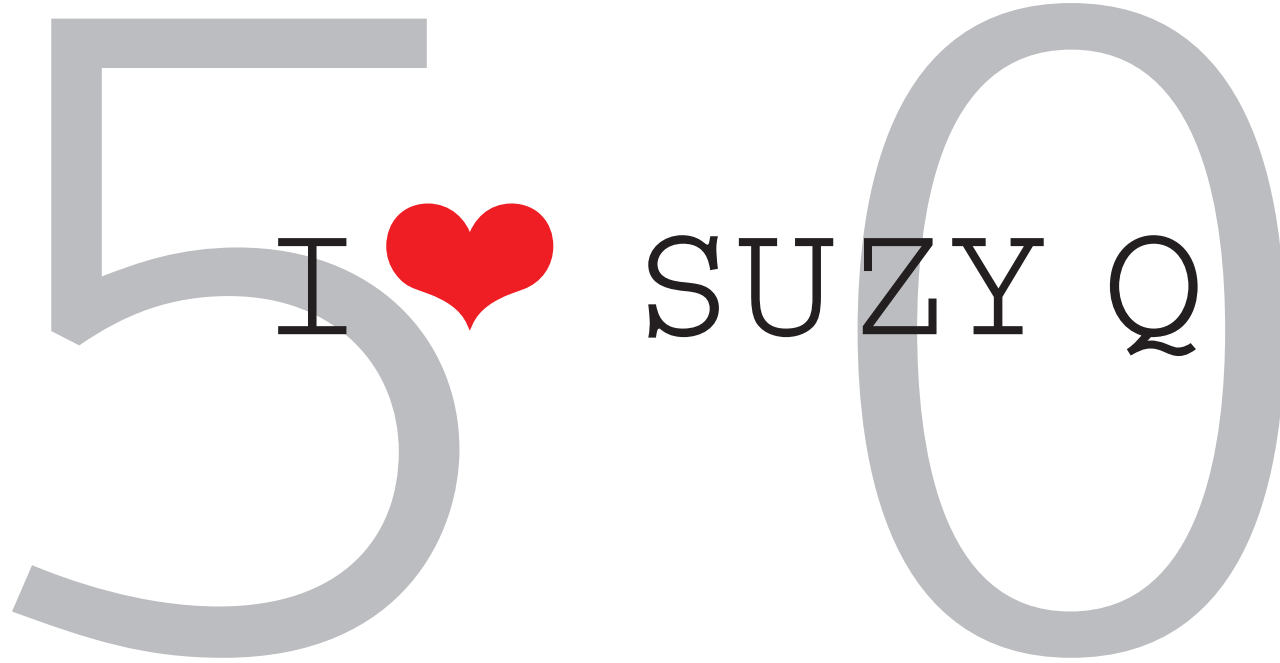
KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh has invited Poland to participate in the creation of an international consortium to operate the Ukrainian gas-pipeline system, Interfax reported on September 5. Mr. Kinakh made this proposal at a meeting with Polish Prime Minister Leszek Miller in Krynica Gorska on the sidelines of the Central European economic forum. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Prosecutor arrested in Gongadze case

KYIV – The Ukrainian Procurator General's Office arrested the local prosecutor in the Taraschyn Raion of Kyiv Oblast on August 29, according to RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service. A decapitated body presumed to be that of jour-

(Continued on page 16)

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Soyuzivka hosts annual Labor Day weekend festivities

by Andrew Nynka

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Soyuzivka came alive with many hundreds of guests this past Labor Day weekend hosting musical programs, athletic events and get-togethers. Youngsters played, older folks reminisced and, all around, friends celebrated the closing of another summer season.

While the turnout seemed somewhat smaller than in years past – perhaps due in part to poor weather Sunday night – many of those present said Soyuzivka put on a great party.

“I love coming here,” said Roma Klymkovych of Chicago. “Everyone gets together here at the end of the summer before going back to work, school or wherever it is people go back to when the summer ends.”

While people began gathering at Soyuzivka earlier in the week, the official Labor Day program began on Friday night, August 30, with bands entertaining guests at the Veselka complex. Playing late into the night the Luna band provided music and entertainment for guests on the Veselka terrace. Meanwhile, the local New Paltz-

based Saints of Swing performed selections of swing, New Orleans-style Dixieland, blues and Gospel in the packed lounge.

On Saturday evening the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble directed by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky performed to a capacity crowd in the Veselka Auditorium. Nearly 400 to 500 people watched the group perform traditional Ukrainian dances such as “Pryvit,” “Kozachok,” and “Hopak” as well as more contemporary pieces such as “Vohon” and “Three-man Buko,” a tango done to the song “Chervona Ruta.”

The emcee for the night, Dora Hapij – also a member of the Syzokryli ensemble – introduced solo performances by soprano Lesia Hrabova, accompanied on the piano by Andriy Stasiw. For her final song Ms. Hrabova told guests she wanted to perform for them a selection from Verdi’s “La Traviata” but said that without a tenor to accompany her she would be unable to sing the piece. A man from the crowd, later identified as tenor Bohdan Chaplynsky, emerged to put on a crowd-pleasing performance.

It is also interesting to note that although the “surprise” duet may have been planned earlier that day, Mr. Stasiw showed his musical talent by playing the piece without notes. Also, Mr. Stasiw said, the melody was given to him only seconds before by Ms. Hrabova and Mr. Chaplynsky, who hummed it to him.

Following the performance, guests danced and socialized to the sounds of Soyuzivka’s two featured bands. Both Tempo and Fata Morgana played late into the evening.

During the day the Ukrainian National Association’s resort hosted the Zenon Snylyk Memorial Tennis Championships and the annual Labor Day weekend swim meet held by the Carpathian Ski Club of New York under the aegis of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada.

Many guests noted that their holiday weekend at Soyuzivka was a pleasant experience and said the opportunity to see old friends and make new acquaintances at the Ukrainian National Association’s 50-year-old getaway in the beautiful Shawangunk Mountains was time well spent.



Inside the Veselka lounge are (from left): Andrew Demidowich, Alex Kryzaniwska, Andrew Olesnycky and Lelia Holinskyj.



The Ukrainian Weekly’s Ukulodeon reporter “Petro Pytaye” on assignment at Soyuzivka.



Enjoying Soyuzivka’s nightlife on the Veselka patio are (from left): Daria Melnyk, George Fedoriw and Adriana Bamber.



The view from Veselka’s patio provided Marusia Welhasch (left) and Christina Melnyk with pleasant scenery.



The well-dressed Damian Matuziak before an evening at Soyuzivka.

Photos in this series by Daria Melnyk, Andrew Demidowich and George Moraczewski.



Soyuzivka guests enjoy the company of old friends.

Interviews show interest but little knowledge of UNA resort's current financial standing

by Peter Steciuk, Andrew Olesnycky and Andrew Nynka

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — As Ukrainians, and some non-Ukrainians, descended on the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka resort during the long Labor Day weekend for a traditional parting-with-summer festivity, The Ukrainian Weekly wanted to know what people knew about Soyuzivka's current situation and their views about the resort's future.

Were they aware, for instance, that the 35th UNA Convention held in Chicago in May of this past year made clear that Soyuzivka's current deficit of more than \$500,000 was sufficiently serious enough to be a danger to the UNA's well-being? (It is important to note, however, that in a statement printed on September 8 in The Ukrainian Weekly, UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj made clear that the organization has no intent to sell the resort. As a matter of fact, Mr. Kaczaraj highlighted the new administration's resolve to keep Soyuzivka.)

Did they know that delegates at that convention decided that an authoritative decision must be made, within one year, on whether it would be viable to save the resort and how that could be done?

The Weekly also wanted to know how people valued the resort and what they thought could be done in order to improve upon the half-century-old Soyuzivka.

Here are their answers. (In the case of persons interviewed as a group, the answers published reflect the input of the entire group.)

Christian and Andrew Kulba, 31, Philadelphia:

Are you aware of the new developments regarding Soyuzivka's financial situation?

We had no idea.

What are your reactions to news that the UNA might be forced to consider selling Soyuzivka?

It would be devastating. We worked here for five years in the summer as waiters and bartenders, and believe me if we didn't love it we wouldn't have worked here for five years. It's a place for all to go. Where would the kids go? Where would the young people meet? Our parents got married here in 1967, we want to get married here also.

What needs to be done to help Soyuzivka get on its feet financially?

Ukrainians need to get more involved. People can't just say things need to be done but need to actually take pride in it, act and give back. A lot just come for the weekend, but it's time for some action.

What would be the effect on the Ukrainian American community if the UNA were forced to sell Soyuzivka?

It's a great place to meet, so without Soyuzivka a big part of the summer would be lost. And things like "Tabir Ptashat" and dance camp would no longer have a place to be held.

Lubko and Darka Luzniak, in their 50s:

Have you heard about the recent developments regarding Soyuzivka's financial troubles?

Yes. It's sad after 50 years for them to be in such dire straits, considering all the Ukrainian American professionals and millionaires.

What needs to be done for Soyuzivka to turn things around?

First of all, renovations are needed. Some of the place is in ill repair, but we overlook it. There's no TV and there are no phones in [some of] the rooms. Even though we're used to it, they need to update the facilities. We've been coming here since 1956, and in all the years not much has changed. Now there's only so much time to do it. One year and then a decision. To non-Ukrainians it's not bad, but you won't have many non-Ukrainians at Soyuzivka because there are better places to go. They need conference facilities for instance. We're at an age where we want first class.

What would be the effect on the Ukrainian American community if Soyuzivka were sold?

It would be sad, but I think people would find other places to stay in touch. The SUM resort is one place. Plus, Verkhovyna was just renovated.

Orysia Zobniv and Ulana Luciw:

Have you heard about Soyuzivka's recent financial troubles?

No.

What's your reaction to the news that Soyuzivka might need to be sold?

It would be a tragedy if there was nowhere for people from around the country to get together. We'd miss Labor Day since it's the big bash before school starts.

What needs to be done to turn things around?

They need to update the rooms and facilities, and maybe step up their marketing. And they could use a health spa. They need people to want to stay there because it's nice. Maybe there could be conferences and banquets during off-times. They might be able to establish some kind of partnerships with local businesses and set up some tours in the area for guests — maybe something with the wine trail. Besides that, they could look into corporate sponsorship.

Paul Hlynsky, 48, Akron, Ohio:

Have you heard about Soyuzivka's financial troubles?

I've heard about the financial problems but not about the recent developments.

What would be the impact on the Ukrainian American community if Soyuzivka were sold?

It would have a tremendous impact if it were sold. It's the flagpole of the Ukrainian community. It's a rallying

center. I hope every effort is made to hold on to it.

What needs to be done to turn things around?

Prices on everything need to be raised. Plus, there should be an extra dues fee for UNA members in return for using the resort. Also, conferences would be a definite attraction. Maybe some Ukrainian corporate sponsors could be found. I'm sure they're thinking of alternatives. No one wants to lose this place.

What would be the effect on the Ukrainian community if Soyuzivka were sold?

It would decentralize the Ukrainian community. But I think there's hope of saving Soyuzivka because Ukrainians will always rally around other Ukrainians. It's just a beautiful place to hear the Ukrainian language and see Ukrainian tradition. It hasn't changed much over the years. There are a lot of young people ready to take on the tradition.

Olexa Casanova, 17, New Jersey; Mark Babiak, 16, Washington; Yaroslav Vynnytsky, 17, New York; Deanna Kochan, 16, New Jersey:

Have you heard about Soyuzivka's recent financial troubles?

No.

How can Soyuzivka improve its financial situation?

They should have more Labor Days. A few more big events would be great for Soyuzivka. Besides that, they need to charge more at the gate per person, and they have to make it harder for people to sneak through without paying. A raffle would probably be a good way to raise money. And maybe they could do more to make things interesting for teenagers, like if they made one of the buildings a hotel for teenagers for Labor Day weekend. Or if they had a party with a D.J. and some newer music somewhere. It could have a fee for unlimited food and drinks, and I think people wouldn't mind paying more. Soyuzivka could have an end-of-tabir-party for kids. Besides all that, they need to make the rooms more appealing.

Do you think people would lose touch if Soyuzivka were sold?

Yaroslav: Lose touch? I wouldn't even make touch.

What would you be willing to do to help Soyuzivka?

We'd be willing to pay more for

things.

Roma Klymkovych, 28, Chicago:

What does Soyuzivka mean to you?

Soyuzivka means home. It's a place we can always go to see friends and family whether next year or in 10 years.

Orest Zakydalsky, 20, Toronto:

What are your thoughts about Soyuzivka?

This is my third or fourth Labor Day. I love it because I see a bunch of people I only see here and at Malanka. My favorite part though is that it's a cultural mosaic.

Adrian Kutko, 37:

What makes Soyuzivka so special?

I come here to see friends I first made 10, 20 years ago. You can come here and pretty much pick up where you left off.

What are your thoughts on a struggling Soyuzivka?

It's a shame that they are really talking about closing Suzy-Q. It really wouldn't be the same to spend Labor Day anywhere else. It's hard to understand how Q isn't making money. There are weddings every weekend and other events like Labor Day should be bringing in money.

Bohdan Pechenyak, 20, formerly of Lviv, now of New Haven, Conn.:

What does Soyuzivka mean to you?

Suzy-Q is a great place to relax and get together with friends. It's very important to have a cultural center like Suzy-Q. It's such a great place to have camps, to speak Ukrainian and to keep up customs and traditions.

Christina Popovich, 17, New Jersey:

What do you find special about Soyuzivka?

It's a great meeting place. There's a lot of history here. My grandparents came here and my parents worked here.

What is your favorite aspect of Soyuzivka?

My favorite part is the freedom and relaxation, and that you feel like you're among your own people.

What are good ways for young people to help Soyuzivka?

Coming up as much as possible is a good way to help. Also little things like buying something at the gift shop.



A view of the path leading to Soyuzivka's Veselka Pavilion.

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Opposition leaders...

(Continued from page 4)

Moroz, sought support for the protest campaign in Zhytomyr, Rivne, Lutsk, Bila Tserkva, Cherkasy and Dnipropetrovsk. As the three opposition leaders told a news conference on September 2, the protest campaign will continue until President Leonid Kuchma and "other representatives of Ukraine's top authorities" resign their posts.

The three leaders also called for an early presidential election. "We cannot wait for another two and a half years [for the regular presidential election in 2004] because then we will get Mr. Kuchma or his successor," Ms. Tymoshenko commented. The state-controlled media, quite understandably, have not reported on the tour of Ukrainian regions by Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Symonenko, and Mr. Moroz.

The demand to oust President Kuchma seems to be the only unifying factor for the three opposition leaders, who, quite naturally, have avoided mentioning their ideological differences during rallies.

The Ukrainska Pravda website reported that at the rally in Zhytomyr on September 5, Mr. Symonenko, in line with the Communist Party program, spoke about ensuring free-of-charge education, high pensions and wages, inexpensive transportation, the repayment of savings lost due to the break-up of the Soviet Union, the "termination of criminal privatization and the return of enterprises to the people's ownership." Mr. Moroz stressed the need for the democratization of the power system and quoted sums that were allegedly embezzled by President Kuchma to the detriment of the Ukrainian people.

Ms. Tymoshenko blamed Mr. Kuchma for the failure of reforms in the country.

In general, all other Ukrainian failures were blamed on the president as well. Mr. Moroz, the website noted sardonically, even tried to place responsibility on Kuchma for not lifting the ban on producing moonshine (unlicensed production of alcohol) in Ukraine.

It is understandable that the opposition wants to muster support for its "Rise Up, Ukraine!" protest action among as many people as possible. Therefore, the three leaders have appealed primarily to what seems to be the most probable motive for popular discontent: the dire economic situation in Ukraine and people's natural yearning to pin their hopes on someone who promises to improve it.

But, on the other hand, it is also obvious that, to a significant extent, the message voiced by the opposition is politically irresponsible and practically inapplicable. It is no wonder that Viktor Yushchenko prefers not to associate with Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Symonenko and Mr. Moroz too closely. Even he - dubbed a "Ukrainian messiah" - would find it rather hard to accelerate privatization in Ukraine efficiently and to ensure "the return of enterprises to the people's ownership" at the same time.

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Is the president...

(Continued from page 2)

the April 2000 constitutional referendum. This has now been dropped and changed five months after the elections when the executive ordered them to support a parliamentary-presidential system. Lacking any ideology and objectives other than maintaining power, centrist oligarchic parties can very easily change their programs.

Of Ukraine's virtual, centrist oligarchic parties, only the Kyiv oligarchic clan has attempted to create a functioning party, the Social Democratic Party-united (SDPU) led by Viktor Medvedchuk, who now heads the presidential administration. The SDPU is de facto becoming the new "party of power" and heads of raion administrations are being replaced by SDPU loyalists. The National Democratic Party (NDP) failed to fulfill this role after the 1998 elections, and For a

United Ukraine disintegrated almost immediately after the March 2002 elections.

Our Ukraine leader Mr. Yushchenko claims that Mr. Medvedchuk has become Ukraine's "Rasputin." The SDPU has openly bragged that it is behind Mr. Kuchma's political reforms, working behind the scenes. Mr. Medvedchuk is reputed to be the most intelligent and "ruthless" (i.e., in Mr. Kuchma's view, the most efficient) among Ukraine's oligarchs, especially in comparison to the weakness shown by former presidential administration and For a United Ukraine head Volodymyr Lytvyn. Messrs. Medvedchuk and Kuchma have a major factor in common: They both hate Mr. Kuchma's enemies, especially Mr. Yushchenko.

The SDPU is the only oligarch party that has always supported a fully proportional election law. Mr. Medvedchuk – the leader of the SDPU, which was the last of the par-

ties that made it through the four percent threshold in the March elections when it won only 6.27 percent of the vote – is behind the attempt at tampering with the election results in the Parliament by creating what Mr. Yushchenko calls an "artificial administrative [pro-presidential] majority."

The nine factions from the former For a United Ukraine and the SDPU that have created this majority are unlikely to obtain agreement from Our Ukraine to join it because this would contradict Mr. Yushchenko's long-held argument that a "democratic majority" can only be built around his bloc, which won the elections. In addition, Mr. Yushchenko has ruled out joining a majority "created by the SDPU."

Regardless of the truth behind Mr. Yushchenko's arguments, they have no resonance with centrist political forces steeped in Soviet political culture. Such a political

culture defines those in opposition as illegitimate, i.e., "destructive forces"; attempts to co-opt political groups, trade unions and non-governmental organizations to help "consolidate society"; and still uses the security service to collect information on the opposition in the same manner as the Soviet KGB. Such views prefer an authoritarian, corporatist state and have little to do with a liberal democracy.

In January 1999, 237 parliamentary deputies voted in favor of abolishing the presidency, a reflection of how the presidency had already by then been discredited by President Kuchma. Mr. Kuchma's political reforms aim not to replicate this move from three years ago but to consolidate the former Soviet Ukrainian nomenklatura as the country's ruling elite and to marginalize the opposition by ensuring that a safe successor is elected from among the pro-presidential parliamentary majority.

Can glasnost...

(Continued from page 2)

accountability and transparency, and they attempt to stay in power through undemocratic methods.

As oligarch and former presidential adviser Oleksander Volkov pointed out in Den on May 21, the presidency is ideologically amorphous and, therefore, unable to explain to the public what its policies are. One of Kuchma's answers is to reintroduce a Soviet-style policy in accordance with which, beginning this year, his state of the state address to Parliament is studied in all educational institutions.

Mr. Kuchma is accused of changing the outcome of the March parliamentary elections when four opposition groups won 58 percent of the vote, compared to only 18 percent obtained by the SDPU, and For a United Ukraine. Other parties who lost the elections, the Winter Crop Generation party and the Christian Democratic Party, have been promoted by Mr. Kuchma into the presidential administration and together with the SDPU and factions that have grown out of For a United Ukraine continue to run the government. Thus, it is not surprising that 59 percent of Ukrainians, according to the UCEPS do not believe that the March elections were democratic while 51 percent do not believe the forthcoming 2004 elections will be any improvement.

President Kuchma has resorted Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of glasnost in a doomed attempt to overcome these three problems and win back public confidence. As Kuchma admitted in an interview in Den on August 2, normal societies have a high level of trust in the authorities. "It is no secret that such trust today is lacking," he admitted. In effect, Mr. Kuchma's policy of glasnost is a tacit admission that pro-presidential groups lost the parliamentary elections.

The "new Kuchma" now expresses concern for his citizens. President Kuchma interrupted his holiday following the Lviv airshow disaster on July 27 that killed 74 people, and he demanded the arrest of military officers "guilty" of that catastrophe.

Coal-mine directors deemed guilty of negligence leading to 13 accidents that have killed 187 miners this year alone also are being targeted. Presidential decrees issued on August 1 and 20 outlined new steps to make Ukraine's political system more transparent and reorganized the presidential administration. Although these decrees are portrayed as major steps in political reform, they are no different from three earlier attempts last year that ended up being largely ignored by Ukraine's bureaucrats and the presidentially appointed state administration.

In his Independence Day speech, President Kuchma came out in favor of transforming Ukraine into a parliamentary-presidential republic, a demand that most opposition groups have long supported and pro-presidential blocs in the elections opposed. Mr. Kuchma recently described Parliament as a "center for the country's destabilization." Mr. Kuchma also backed opposition calls for an election law that is fully proportional, something he vetoed five times last year because he claimed society was insufficiently "mature" and parties "inadequately developed."

Mr. Kuchma has successfully created an artificial pro-presidential "parliamentary majority" of 228 through bribery and by blackmailing businessmen who can now appoint a new government and safely introduce his political reforms. Such a policy would sideline the opposition by wooing the "constructive opposition" Our Ukraine from opposition protests and discrediting them in the eyes of the population, while branding the "radical opposition," whom the president already accuses of existing only due to "black funds," as a destabilizing factor and stripping Ms. Tymoshenko of her immunity from prosecution.

Although the aim of this new policy of glasnost is to regain public support, it may also undermine the foundations of the regime built up by President Kuchma since 1994. The new policies are the first signs that Mr. Kuchma is desperately searching for a way out of a predicament that he has himself created as he approaches the end of his term in office.

this opportunity will mean the creation of a void in Ukrainian American social life, a missing element that will be irreplaceable.

Soyuzivka is more than a resort, or simply a place in the Catskill mountains. Soyuzivka is a meeting of generations, of families and of friends. It is a living memory indelibly imprinted into thousands of Ukrainian's souls because of the opportunity it gave to be with our own. There is no other place where all age groups find comfort and happiness.

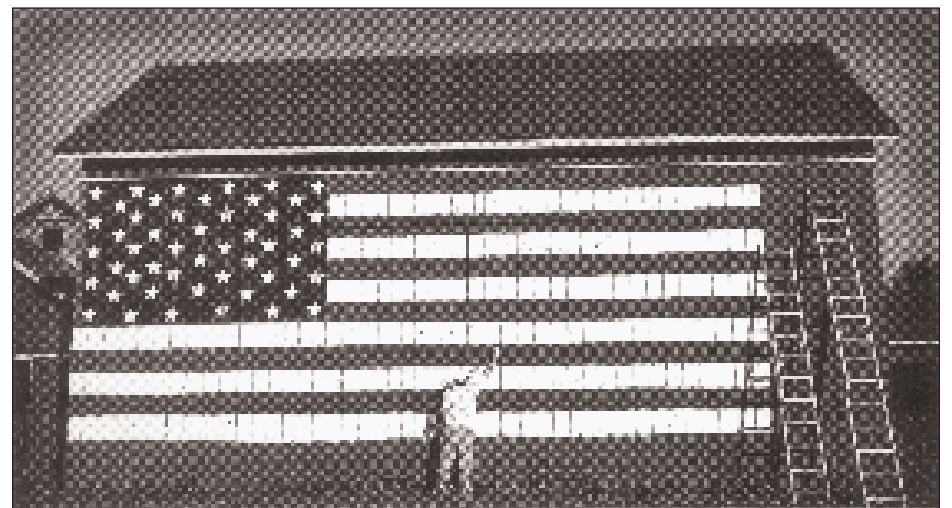
Indeed it is not trite to repeat the slogan "Nema to yak na Soyuzivtsi" – "There's no place like Soyuzivka."

Turning the pages back...

(Continued from page 6)

For the second half of the day the group moved to Shevchenko Park, where the SUMivtsi took part in the official closing ceremonies of the sixth World Zlet. During this ceremony they were addressed by Andreas Hajdamacha, head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists; Oleksander Kulyk, head of Kyiv's Family and Youth Ministry; Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress; and Eugene Czolij, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. The final ceremonial act was the traditional "Nich Vzhe Ide" and bidding farewell to friends and colleagues.


Source: "SUM holds sixth World Zlet in Ukraine: a daily journal," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 16, 2001, Vol. LXIX, No. 37.



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Seen and overheard...

(Continued from page 7)

transition successfully, and not repeat the mistakes of the past, a new partnership and resolve of purpose must meld out of a merger of the last émigré group and the current one. The finger-pointing and separatism must stop, and the benefit of a new partnership must become apparent.

Soyuzivka and the Ukrainian National Association can serve as the model of building a joint base for the future. The benefits are immense. The failure to grasp



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Listed in guide of top surgeons

PHILADELPHIA — Andrew S. Olearchyk, M.D., Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery in the specialty of thoracic and cardiac surgery, is listed by the Washington-based Consumers' Research Council of America in the "Guide to America's Top Surgeons," 2002-2003 Edition. The guide includes the best 8 to 10 percent of all surgeons in the United States.

Dr. Olearchyk was born in the city of Peremyshl (Przemysl) on the Ukrainian-Polish borderland. Upon graduating from the Medical Academy in Warsaw in 1961, he worked in the city and regional hospitals in Starachowice and in Kielce, respectively, where he became a first-degree specialist in anesthesiology and in general surgery.

Upon emigrating to the United States in 1966 and becoming a U.S. citizen in 1972, he became a licensed physician, certified by the American Board of Surgery (1976-1987) and the American Board of Thoracic (and Cardiac) Surgery (1982).

Since 1982, he has been practicing thoracic and vascular surgery in Philadelphia and Cherry Hill, N.J.

Dr. Olearchyk is a member of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North



Andrew S. Olearchyk, M.D., F.A.C.S

America, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S., is an honorary member of the Association of the Cardiovascular Surgeons of Ukraine, and a member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S.A. He is also a member of the Ukrainian National Association Branch 83.

Dr. Olearchyk is the author of numerous papers and monographs, and of the book "A Surgeon's Universe ("Medytsyna Svitu"), Lviv, 2002 (in press.)

Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.

Courses held...

(Continued from page 5)

UNA National Secretary Martha Lysko, who now serves at the UNA's first vice-president, were invited to address the course participants.

Mrs. Diachuk covered the topics of the UNA Charter and By-Laws, and loans on UNA insurance certificates and UNA mortgages. Mrs. Lysko spoke about the principles of life insurance, UNA membership plans, and how these plans constitute a legal contract between the UNA and the individual members. She also explained how premiums (dues) are calculated and how a policy accumulates cash value.

Newly elected UNA National Secretary Christine E. Kozak spoke about the purpose of the training at secretaries courses and on the duties and ever-changing role of the branch secretary. She explained the UNA's monthly billing systems, as well as the various reports mailed to all branch secretaries and how they should be used to help provide service to members.

Ms. Kozak underscored the importance of customer service provided by both the branch secretaries on the local level and UNA Home Office personnel. She also outlined the procedure for filling out life insurance applications and the steps involved in processing new applications at the Home Office, as well as the general operations of the Home Office and the professional service rendered to both branch secretaries and members.

A guest speaker on the topic of life insurance was Robert G. Mitchell, executive vice-president of sales with Western Catholic Union, a fraternal organization similar to the UNA. Mr. Mitchell, who has 30 years' experience in the insurance field and a proven track record in recruit-

ing, teaching seminars and sales of insurance, focused on the practical aspects of selling life insurance and annuities, including various sales techniques. His remarks were enthusiastically received by the course participants.

Oksana Trytjak, the UNA's special events and fraternal activities coordinator, spoke about the UNA Scholarship Program, the Teaching English in Ukraine Program, the annual Christmas card project and other UNA-sponsored programs, as well as the myriad fraternal activities that can be conducted by branches and/or districts. Fraternal activities, she emphasized, are the backbone of the UNA; they help keep the UNA a vital and viable organization.

The course participants were: UNA Advisor Barbara Bachynsky, secretary of Branch 184; Cyril Bezkorowajny, Branch 256; Nina Bilchuk of the UNA Home Office; Genet Boland, secretary of Branch 409; Christine Brodyn of the UNA Home Office and secretary of Branch 27; Joseph Chabon, secretary of Branch 242; Yuri Darmograi, secretary of Branch 127; Nadia Demczur, secretary of Branch 86; Michael Felenchak, secretary of Branch 271; Paul Fenchak, secretary of Branch 320; Nicholas Fil, Branch 13; Joseph Hawryluk, secretary of Branch 360; Stefania Hawryluk, secretary of Branch 88; Valia Kaploun, of the UNA Home Office and Branch 269; Roman Kuropas, Branch 20; Myron Kuzio, secretary of Branch 277; Oksana Lopatynsky, secretary of Branch 194; UNA Advisor Vasyl Luchkiw, secretary of Branch 16; UNA Advisor Eugene Oscislawski, secretary of Branch 234; Ulana Prociuk, secretary of Branch 397; Natalia Shuya, secretary of Branch 452; and Ms. Trytjak, secretary of Branch 25.

UNA officers who conducted the courses received extremely positive feedback from the participants.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 8)

nalist Heorhii Gongadze was found in the same raion in November 2000. According to RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, the local prosecutor was arrested on August 30 in conjunction with the Gongadze murder. (RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Watch)

Corruption index released for 2002

BERLIN – Transparency International (TI), an international NGO dedicated to the battle against corruption, released its "Corruption Perceptions Index 2002" (CPI) on August 28 in Berlin. TI said that "The goal of the CPI is to provide data on extensive perceptions of corruption within countries. The CPI is a composite index, making use of surveys of businesspeople and assessments by country analysts. It consists of credible sources using diverse sampling frames and different methodologies. These perceptions enhance our understanding of real levels of corruption from one country to another." TI Chairman Peter Eigen, addressing the problem of corruption in the former Soviet Union, added: "The recent steps by President Vladimir Putin to introduce tax reforms and new laws fighting money-laundering are beginning to show the prospect of a lessening in perceived corruption in Russia, but the CPI 2002 indicates that Russia has a long way to go and remains seriously corrupt, together with Uzbekistan, Georgia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Azerbaijan, all of which score less than 3 out of 10." Bangladesh was perceived to be the most corrupt country in the world with a score of 1.2. The least corrupt was deemed to be Finland with a score of 9.7. (RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Watch)

Semynozhenko: prolong Kuchma's term

KYIV – Deputy Prime Minister Volodymyr Semynozhenko has said that Leonid Kuchma's presidential term should be prolonged by two years beyond 2004 in order to give him time to fulfill the systemic reforms he announced last month, UNIAN reported on September 4. "Prolonging the term of presidential powers in the process of the constitutional reform will provide an additional resource of stability under circumstances when the legislative power will be subject to qualitative changes," Mr. Semynozhenko said in a statement. According to Mr. Semynozhenko, the presidency in Ukraine could be abolished altogether after the conclusion of the constitutional reform and Mr. Kuchma's prolonged presidential term in 2006. "Those opposing this idea do not want to change anything in Ukraine apart from replacing the president with another figure," Mr. Semynozhenko added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

McDonald's to expand in Ukraine

KYIV – The McDonald's Corp. said it plans to invest \$50 million to double the number of its restaurants in Ukraine by the year 2007, reported Bloomberg News. McDonald's said it planned to open 14 restaurants in Kyiv, Odesa and other large cities through 2003 and to double its staff to 6,000 in five years. The corporation has already spent \$76 million in building 49 restaurants in Ukraine. Its first restaurant was opened in Kyiv in 1997. (The New York Times)

Kyiv wants EU market-economy status

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma requested on September 3 that the European Union grant his country market-economy status as it did for Russia earlier this year, the Associated Press

reported. Mr. Kuchma made the request at a meeting with European Commission President Romano Prodi at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa. Mr. Prodi reportedly responded that the European Commission will issue its opinion in six months. (RFE/RL Newsline)

\$24 M loan to aid Lviv's water system

LVIV – The World Bank announced on August 28 that it will provide a loan of \$24 million to refurbish the water-supply system in Lviv, western Ukraine, the Associated Press reported. The loan will help pay for a \$40 million project to repair the city's decrepit water pipes, secure a stable water supply and purify the water for some 800,000 residents. A grant from the Swedish International Development Agency will provide \$6 million, while the city will pay the remaining \$10 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Paper says oil and gas key for Russia

MOSCOW – Russian policy toward its neighbors in many instances is dictated only by a desire to control the oil-and-gas export infrastructure, Komsomolskaya Pravda wrote on August 27. This conclusion stemmed from the daily's analysis of President Vladimir Putin's policies toward the former Soviet republics and, especially, his recent about-face in relations with Belarus. The paper wrote that Belarus, Ukraine and Georgia seem to be nothing more than oil-and-gas transit corridors for Russia. However, it warned that this policy might cause Russia to lose both control over the oil-and-gas infrastructure there and its political influence as well. If Belarus agrees to Mr. Putin's proposal to incorporate it into the Russian Federation, it would simply be an apposite illustration of the thesis that Russia has always con-

ducted a "cynical colonial policy," the paper wrote. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Finance minister restricts spending

KYIV – Finance Minister Ihor Yushko has imposed a ban on more than 2 billion hrv (\$375 million) worth of government programs in September-October to avoid overspending Ukraine's 2002 budget, Interfax reported on August 27. According to Mr. Yushko, this spending restriction intends "not to increase debts of state institutions by the end of the year and, in this way, not to transfer some current [financial] problems to the next year." The country's 2002 budget sets revenues at 45.4 billion hrv and spending at 49.6 billion hrv. Mr. Yushko also said that the government is planning a zero-deficit budget with revenues and spending set at 60.6 billion hrv for 2003. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Socialists want reform without Kuchma

KYIV – The Socialist Party has said the reform of Ukraine's political system proposed by President Leonid Kuchma in his address to the nation on August 24 could be implemented much quicker if Mr. Kuchma resigned his post, the UNIAN news service reported on August 27. The Socialists noted that President Kuchma's proposals to move Ukraine's political system toward a parliamentary-presidential republic replicate their party-program goals and stressed that the implementation of those goals has thus far been blocked by the president. (RFE/RL Newsline)

20,000 Ukrainians immigrated to U.S.

WASHINGTON – During fiscal year 2001 there were 20,975 immigrants from Ukraine. That number represents 2 percent of all immigrants for that period. (Immigration and Naturalization Service)



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Voice of America...

(Continued from page 1)

Shawangunk Mountains, and the auditorium where concerts are held], a pool, tennis and volleyball courts, a soccer field.

"Two thousand guests came for the weekends," Mr. Slobodian recalled. "Soyuzivka was very popular among the young and the old."

Next the program interviewed Sonia Semanyshyn, Soyuzivka office manager for the past 13 years. She offered "thanks to the UNA for foresight in purchasing a resort that would attract youths and keep their hearts Ukrainian."

Ms. Semanyshyn recalled how as a little girl she first came to Soyuzivka for vacations with her family and later, as a young lady, came for the dances. Now the generations who grew up with the resort are attending "christenings, all types of gatherings and conferences, weddings and, unfortunately, funerals, too," Ms. Semanyshyn said.

"Everyone returns here as if to their own home. It's a unique resort where everyone feels at home. There's no place like Soyuzivka," she underlined, repeating the resort's famous slogan.

Soyuzivka's importance in the upbringing of Ukrainian youth was the focus of interviews with "Kaleidoscope's" next two guests. First, Aristida Staruch, a long-time leader in Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, spoke of the beginnings of the Plast program for pre-schoolers called "Ptashata" (literally, little birds) in the late 1970s. After explaining that the first day camps for children so young were organized by Plast educators, she said that "Soyuzivka is an ideal place for such activities – the only place really" – as it allows parents to be with their children in

a very special setting.

Fellow Plast activist Neonila Sochan, founder of the "Tabir Ptashat" day camps that have been held under the aegis of the Pershi Stezhi Plast sorority at Soyuzivka since 1989, underscored that "these camps for children age 4-6," are the first steps of organizational life for our children. Twenty-seven camps [two tours have been held each year since 1990] have been held at Soyuzivka, which means that more than 1,500 children have gone through our program."

"The children who attended the first 'Tabir Ptashat' are now in college, and they are active in our community, especially as youth counselors. It is significant that their first community involvement was at Soyuzivka, at 'Tabir Ptashat.'"

"We wish Soyuzivka another 50 years so that our children and youth can continue to grow there," Mrs. Sochan concluded.

The attraction of Soyuzivka was succinctly described by Stephanie Hawryluk, a former UNA advisor who also worked in the resort's colorful gift shop. "Soyuzivka is like our dear home, where we meet our dear friends, where we hear the Ukrainian language and Ukrainian music. And all segments of our community are welcome here. There really is no other place like this anywhere in the world," she stated.

The special program aired by VOA also featured musical selections that highlighted instrumental music by Mr. Chudolij and a song performed by Oles Kuzyszyn, leader of the Luna band, which often plays at Soyuzivka for dances and other occasions.

Fittingly, the broadcast ended with music by the Tempo orchestra, a Soyuzivka regular of long standing, and the mellifluous voice of the group's leader, the late Ireneus Kowal, announcing the last dance of the evening.



Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America



The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America commemorates the tragic events of September 11, 2001

* * *

Although the lives and achievements destroyed that day cannot be replaced, they remain in our memory.

Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America
2. East 79th Street
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The Weekly's collection of materials about the Famine

The Ukrainian Weekly's official website contains the largest collection of materials on the Internet dedicated to the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

Located at www.ukrweekly.com, the special section includes a chronology of the Famine years, eyewitness accounts, editorials, media reports, stories about observances of the Famine's 50th anniversary in 1983, scholarly articles, interviews with journalists who reported on the Famine, transcripts of testimony on the Famine commission bill ultimately passed by the U.S. Congress, texts of statements before the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, references and other documentation, as well as the full text of The Ukrainian Weekly's special issue on the Great Famine published on March 20, 1983. The section is completely searchable.

Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood: Roundtable III: "Ukraine and the EuroAtlantic Community"

October 8/9, 2002
JW Marriott Hotel
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Tuesday, October 8th

9AM - Opening Remarks
10AM-1PM- 3 Panel Discussions- Session I -
Assessing the Progress of Ukraine's Transition to
EuroAtlantic Structures
1PM-2:30PM - Working lunch
"Promoting Knowledge of Ukraine in the
EuroAtlantic Community - An Investors Vantage
Point"
2:30-6PM - 3 Panel Discussions - Session II
"Assessing the State of European Union-Ukraine
Relations"
7:30PM-10PM - 25th UNIS Anniversary Gala

Wednesday, October 9th

9AM - Keynote Address
10AM-1PM- 3 Panel Discussions- Session III-
Assessing the State of U.S.-Ukraine Relations
1PM-2:30PM - Working lunch
"Promoting Knowledge of Ukraine in the
EuroAtlantic Community- A Journalist's View"
2:30-6PM - 3 Panel Discussions - Session IV
"Assessing the State of NATO-Ukraine Relations"
REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____
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Affiliation: _____

I will attend the 2-day conference = \$150
(12 panels & 2 working luncheons)

I will attend the first day only = \$100
(6 panels & 1 working luncheon)

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Anniversary Gala Evening Reception on
October 8th
(\$50/conference participant/\$75 guest)

Enclosed please find a check in the amount of
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for the conference.

Please send check/money order made out to:
UCCA-Roundtable III and mail it to:

UCCA
203 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10003

All donations are tax deductible
For further information please contact the
UCCA's National Office at (212) 228-6840.

Just steps from the White House, a veritable "who's who" of foreign policy establishments from the United States, Ukraine, the European Union and NATO will gather to evaluate Ukraine's prospects for eventual integration into the structures of the EuroAtlantic community. Over 70 government leaders, international foreign policy experts, and prominent figures from research centers and academia are slated to participate at the third annual "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood" roundtable series.

The subject of Ukraine's 'EuroAtlantic future' has been broached on a theoretical level at the conference's two predecessors, Roundtables I and II. Roundtable III: "Ukraine and the EuroAtlantic Community" will take into account Ukraine's efforts to move matters from theory to practice, as exemplified by its firm backing of the U.S.-led struggle against global terrorism, its various probes to stimulate serious discussion concerning its entry into the EU, and its formal request, announced on May 24, 2002, to be considered a candidate for NATO membership

The two-day conference, which will be held in heart of our nation's capital, will feature twelve panels, held during the course of four regular sessions, two working luncheons, and four special focus sessions. Additionally, Roundtable III will play host to two evening receptions – including a celebration dedicated to marking a special event for the Ukrainian American community – the 25th Anniversary of the Ukrainian National Information Service.

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Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union supports student internships in Washington

by Miriam Bates

WASHINGTON – The Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union sponsored the internship of Russell Sage college student Tonya Kornlyo at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation office in Washington this past summer.

Ms. Kornlyo, a junior majoring in political science at Russell Sage, learned about USUF's Internship Program from her friend, Tamara Denysenko, general manager and CEO of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union and member of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's board of directors. Upon acceptance to the foundation's Internship Program, the RUFUCU awarded Ms. Kornlyo a \$2,000 stipend for her housing and living expenses incurred during the internship.

Ms. Kornlyo's internship responsibilities included research on the problem of illegal human trafficking in Ukraine, with hopes of the eventual development of an anti-trafficking project which would provide education to the population, relief services and medical care through direct assistance and collaboration with NGOs in Ukraine.

The internship also introduced Ms. Kornlyo to public policy, international affairs and U.S.-Ukraine relations. She

and the five other USUF interns attended briefings and tours at places like the U.S. Capitol, the Department of State, the Helsinki Commission, the Embassy of Ukraine, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Since the successful completion of Ms. Kornlyo's internship in early July, the RUFUCU has agreed to team up each summer with the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation by providing a stipend to a student from the Rochester area to intern at USUF's Washington office.

The RUFUCU has also given financial support for the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Youth Leadership Program, a weeklong program that gives U.S. college students an introduction to leadership in government, international relations and the private sector through meetings with professionals from a number of governmental, international and private institutions.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation said it is grateful for the RUFUCU's support of its Internship Program and Youth Leadership Program and looks forward to meeting and working with the students of Rochester, N.Y.



Summer intern Tonya Kornlyo (third from right) with three U.S.-Ukraine Foundation staffers and other interns at the studio of CNN's "Crossfire."

Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 4)

Mr. Symonenko. "That is why we ask maximum restraint of our supporters."

Ms. Tymoshenko said that the opposition movement, which will march under the banner "Arise Ukraine," would demand access to the city center and Independence Square. She said that the organization had filed all the proper paperwork and met all deadlines, while adding that the law allows national deputies to hold public meetings with constituents on the streets of the capital.

On September 9, Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko told reporters that he would push to have the demonstration held in the Chaika Aerodrome, where Pope John Paul II said Mass during his visit to Kyiv in 2000. Mr. Omelchenko said he had no recourse because the expected crowds – some are estimating a turnout of 30,000 protesters – would paralyze the city center. The Kyiv mayor said that municipal law bans major events on the Khreschatyk, except those associated with Christmas, New Year's Day, Victory Day, Independence Day and Kyiv Day.



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The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

Wedding Announcements

will appear in October 27, 2002.

For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by October 15, 2002.

Along with wedding announcements, we will include greetings from friends, family members, bridesmaids and ushers – from all those who wish to share in the excitement of a new marriage.

We hope you will announce your wedding in The Ukrainian Weekly, or send a greeting to your favorite newlyweds.

Rates for announcements and greetings:

One-column wedding announcement: \$100

Two-column wedding announcement: \$200

Wedding greeting: \$75

For further information or to request a brochure, please call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 (Maria).

Visit www.ukrweekly.com to view a wedding announcement sample page.

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The subscription rate for this special offer for the academic year is only \$40 (\$35 if the student is a member of the Ukrainian National Association).

To take advantage of this special offer, just fill out the form below and mail it with a check to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Or, you may phone The Ukrainian Weekly's Subscription Department at (973) 292-9800, ext. 3052, and charge the subscription to your credit card.

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UNA member subscription price — \$35.00/yr. Non-member subscription price — \$40.00/yr.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, September 20

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), New York Metro Chapter, announces that a general membership meeting will be held for members and interested colleagues at 6:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. For further information contact Dr. Marta Kushnir, (508) 855-2245.

Sunday, September 22

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Famine Foundation of the U.S.A. invites the public to attend the 70th anniversary commemoration of the Moscow-engineered Terror-Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, with observances slated to begin at 1 p.m. A memorial "Holodnyi Obid" and choral presentation will follow at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Cultural Center, 300 E. Army Trail Rd., Bloomingdale, Ill. Guest speaker at the memorial observance will be Prof. Olexander Sydorenko of Arkansas State University. Donation for "Holodnyi Obid" and memorial program: \$10. For additional information contact Nicholas Mischenko, (847) 699-9484.

NEWARK, N.J.: Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Newark-Morris County Branch, opens its year of activities with the celebration of a divine liturgy at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Sanford Avenue, in Newark, N.J. at 9:30 a.m. (Note: Please make dues payment at meeting following the opening ceremony. Elections of branch officers will be held on Friday, October 4, at the Ramada Inn, Route 10, East Hanover, N.J., at 7:30 p.m.) For additional information call Roksolana Misilo, (973) 376-4807.

Sunday, September 29

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago is hosting a jubilee banquet, celebrating its 50 years and the blessing of the new wing of the museum. The museum will be open from 11 a.m.

The dedication will take place at 12:45 p.m. at the museum, 721 N. Oakley Blvd., and the banquet will follow immediately at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. Donation per person: \$75; senior citizens, \$50. Reservations will be accepted through September 16. For additional information call (312) 421-8020, Thursday through Sunday.

ONGOING

IRVINGTON, N.J./NEW YORK: Muzychne Doshkillia – Music & Me, has commenced its activities and is holding sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Ukrainian Community Center, 140 Prospect Ave., Irvington, N.J. Sessions are also being held in New York at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., on Thursdays. For more information call Marta Sawycky, (908) 276-3134.

YONKERS, N.Y.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 30 of Yonkers informs parents about the opening of its Ukrainian Pre-School (Svitlychka), for children age 3 and 4. The Svitlychka, which commenced September 14, will meet on Saturdays at 10 a.m.-noon at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church on Shonnard Place. For additional information or to register call Nadia Cwiach, (203) 975-8388.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Friday-Saturday, October 4-5

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: In celebration of Ukrainian Museum Week, Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 67 in Philadelphia invites the public to attend the opening of an art exhibit by Baltimore artist/sculptor and professor of art at McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College), Wasyl Palijczuk. The exhibit opens on Friday, October 4, at 8 p.m. and continues through Sunday, October 6, in the Gallery of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road. For more information call (215) 663-1764.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$10 per submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$10 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.