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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Rada OKs Ukrainian troops for Iraq

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Parliament on June 5 approved the deployment of a Ukrainian military force to take part in the U.S. stabilization force for Iraq.

By a vote of 273 for and 103 against, the lawmakers gave the go-ahead to an agreement meshed together between the United States, Great Britain and Poland in which 1,800 Ukrainian troops will be part of a 10-nation force that will perform peacekeeping operations and security work as the rebuilding effort in the war-torn country begins.

The Tymoshenko Bloc voted in near unanimity against the proposal, as did a majority of the Our Ukraine Bloc, while the Socialist and Communist faction did not participate in the voting at all.

The decision came a week after Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council had approved a request made by the United States, which was supported by the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Foreign Relations the day before the final vote.

Speaking before the Rada prior to the vote on June 5, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council Yevhen Marchuk made the case for Ukraine's par-

ticipation. He underscored that the recommendation by the NSDC to send Ukrainian troops came only after the United Nations Security Council had approved Resolution 1483, which lifted U.N. sanctions against Iraq and supported the development of an international force to stabilize the country.

"The requirements of Ukrainian law were fulfilled with the approval of Resolution 1483," explained Mr. Marchuk, whose purpose was to convince critics in the Verkhovna Rada of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq that Ukraine would not become part of an "occupying force."

And there were many such critics, led by representatives of the Communist Party. Heorhii Kriuchkov, a leading member of the Communist faction and chairman of the Rada's Foreign Relations Committee, said that while his committee approved the vote by 7-2 because Ukraine's participation in the stabilization force was "in the best interest of the country," he believed that the doubts that were being voiced need to be taken into account.

"Whether we realize it or not, this will make Ukraine part of the occupation of Iraq," explained Mr. Kriuchkov. "British Prime Minister Tony Blair today has been forced to explain to his people the reason

(Continued on page 9)

Yushchenko's visit to Canada offers vision of Ukraine's future

by Oksana Zakydalsky

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

TORONTO — Viktor Yushchenko, leader of the political coalition Our Ukraine, came to Canada with a purpose — to acquaint both the Canadian and Ukrainian communities with the current political situation in Ukraine and to show that Our Ukraine is a reformist and democratic body with a vision for the future.

His short but intensive working visit on May 10-17, included stopovers in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. He was invited to Canada by the East West Institute of Canada, a think-tank that promotes change in societies in transition whose current director is Derek Fraser, former Canadian Ambassador to Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko arrived with National Deputy Oleh Rybachuk, who has worked as Mr. Yushchenko's assistant since their banking days. Mr. Yushchenko's wife, Kateryna Chymachenko Yushchenko, accompanied her husband and, occasionally, they were joined in public by their two young daughters.

Our Ukraine was formed from an alliance of 10 political parties in January 2002 and received 24.7 percent of the vote in the parliamentary elections on March 31, 2002. Since the elections it has been involved with an opposition coalition that includes the Communist Party, Socialist Party and the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc.

At his press conference, Mr. Yushchenko described the purpose of his visit as follows, "Of course, we understand that Ukrainian problems can only be solved by Ukrainians themselves. They will have to make their choice, find within themselves the will and the strength to take the responsibility for changing that which is responsible for the ills of Ukrainian society. But also important to the political processes in Ukraine will be the position of our neighbors and our partners, those with whom we have friendly, traditional and historical ties. It is precisely with such a mission that I have made a number of visits to European countries — Poland, Germany, the Czech Republic, the Baltics — to the U.S.A. and Russia, and now to Canada. I have been describing our position to the current situation in Ukraine and explaining our plans on how to get out of the current quagmire. That is the mission with which I have come to Canada — to meet with members of the government and Parliament, with the business world and the Ukrainian community — in order to build a bridge of understanding."

Summing up, one can say that Mr. Yushchenko came to get what today is called "face time" — to make oneself visible in order to prepare the ground for



Viktor Yushchenko speaks in Toronto.

acceptance as a candidate for president of Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko met with several members of provincial Parliaments and provincial cabinet ministers, federal MPs and cabinet ministers, including Bill Graham, minister of foreign affairs, and he had dozens of business meetings.

Among those meetings was one with the president and members of the Ontario Beekeepers Association (Mr. Yushchenko is an amateur beekeeper). In Montreal Mr. Yushchenko met with a Ukrainian Canadian Congress delegation headed by President Eugene Czolij; in Ottawa he gave a lecture at the University of Ottawa on Ukraine's foreign relations; and in Toronto he spoke at a well-attended Empire Club luncheon where his talk was titled "Ukraine at the Crossroads: Democracy or Totalitarianism."

"The key question is: What ails Ukraine today? The image of Ukraine is a state with a corrupt government, where freedom of speech does not exist, where there is political harassment and censorship, where the Constitution is ignored. The government today has a 6 percent confidence rating — the lowest level in 12 years. The principal political conflict is not between the government and the opposition, but between the regime and the citizen," he said.

Mr. Yushchenko went on to describe the economic situation — the problem of the "shadowization" of the economy, where close to 40 percent of the economy is underground, widespread poverty, unemployment, a low quality of life

(Continued on page 6)

Support group established for St. George Schools in NYC

NEW YORK — Following more than a decade of financial troubles, the Ukrainian community centered around St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York City has formed a charitable foundation to lend support to both St. George School and St. George Academy.

On May 15 the New York Secretary of State accepted for filing the Certificate of Incorporation of a not-for-profit charitable corporation named St. George Ukrainian Catholic Schools Foundation, Ltd.

The list of incorporators includes: Bishop Basil Losten; the Rev. Philip Sandrick, pastor of St. George Church; Oksana Bodnar, chair of the St. George Parents' Association; as well as the principals of the two schools, Sister Chrysostom Lukiw and Peter P. Shyshka.

The foundation is in process of submitting an application for recognition of its tax-exempt status as a 501 (c) (3) entity under the Internal Revenue Code. This status will enable other not-for-profit or business corporations and the general public desiring tax deductibility to support the foundation.

In addition to addressing everyday financial needs, renovating school facilities, developing a pre-school program and registering new students, the foundation has formed a special Endowment Fund which will ensure not only the scholastic improvement of the two schools but also their long-term survival. The foundation seeks to garner a databank of alumni in order to establish an Alumni Association.

The legal work for the foundation was performed pro bono by Askold S. Lozynskyj, who is also in charge of its Endowment Fund.

All interested in joining the Alumni Association or contributing towards the Endowment Fund may contact the foundation at 24 E. Seventh St., New York, New York 10003 or Mr. Lozynskyj at 225 East 11th St., New York, NY 10003; telephone: (212) 254-2260; fax, (212) 979-1011; e-mail, Askold@erols.com.

The goal of the Endowment Fund is \$3 million which through investments will provide for the improvement as well as the long-term functioning of both St. George School and St. George Academy.

ANALYSIS

Bush in Krakow calls for trans-Atlantic unity

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

U.S. President George W. Bush visited Krakow where he delivered a keynote speech on U.S.-European relations at Wawel Royal Castle, the seat of Polish kings from the 11th to the 17th centuries. Speaking ahead of a meeting with European leaders at the Group of Eight (G-8) summit in Evian, France, Bush called for U.S.-European unity in the face of current challenges. He said there is no conflict between the United States and Europe. "This is no time to stir up divisions in a great alliance," PAP quoted him as saying.

"I have come to Krakow to state the intentions of my country," President Bush said. "The United States is committed to a strong Atlantic alliance, to ensure our security, to advance human freedom, and to keep peace in the world."

The U.S. president took an evidently conciliatory note toward European countries that opposed the U.S.-led war on Iraq, notably Germany and France, when he said, "We welcome, we need the help, the advice and the wisdom of our European friends and allies."

"Europe and America will always be joined by more than our interests," he added.

Mr. Bush praised the role of Polish soldiers in fighting terrorism. "In the battles of Afghanistan and Iraq, Polish forces served with skill and honor," he said. "Poland rose to the moment. Again you have lived out the words of the Polish

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motto: for your freedom and ours."

Apparently addressing the fears in Poland that the close U.S.-Polish partnership may tarnish Warsaw's relations with the European Union, Mr. Bush stressed that Poland's future was in the EU. "Poland struggled for decades to gain freedom and to fully participate in life in Europe," he said. "And soon you will be a member of the European Union. ... Poland is a good citizen of Europe and Poland is a close friend of America – and there is no conflict between the two."

In an interview with Polish Television before his address in Krakow, President Bush commented on French President Jacques Chirac's derogatory statement earlier this year that some Central and Eastern European countries that voiced official support for the U.S. action in Iraq missed an opportunity "to shut up."

"I think that it is unfortunate that some European states attempted to wipe Poland's nose in the dirt for standing up for its convictions," Mr. Bush said. "I don't think you will be isolated [in the EU]. I feel that Poland is too important a state. In my view, the days of sharp lectures have passed. I think that Poland will be an important member of the EU and that it will be received with open arms. And so I think that this was just a momentary explosion of emotional rhetoric."

In a step that has a chance to considerably contribute to healing the U.S.-European rift over Iraq, NATO decided on June 2 to provide support in intelligence, communications, logistics, movement coordination, and force generation to the Polish-led stabilization force in Iraq, Reuters reported.

Armenian cathedral in Lviv is reconsecrated

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

LVIV – Karekin II, catholicos of all Armenians and head of the Armenian Apostolic Church, reconsecrated the Armenian Cathedral of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Lviv on May 18. After 50 years in government possession, the historic cathedral was recently returned to the local Armenian community in the largest and most important city in western Ukraine.

Leonid Kravchuk, the president of newly independent Ukraine, Charles Aznavour, a French singer of Armenian descent, and other representatives of Armenia and the Armenian diaspora from around the globe were present at the ceremony. The ceremonial opening of the church began with a procession of about 1,000 people through Lviv's historic city center.

After receiving the keys to the cathedral from Nver Mkhitarian, president of the Society of Armenians in Ukraine, Catholicos Karekin performed the opening ritual, blessed the gates and the church, and celebrated a divine liturgy inside the church.

The catholicos presented Mr. Mkhitarian with the Order of St. Gregory the Illuminator (the founder of the Armenian Church) for his contributions towards the revival of the Church. He also knighted Messrs. Aznavour and Kravchuk.

The Armenian cathedral has a small number of parishioners, but in recent years it has served as a center for the Armenian community in Lviv, which, according to the Rev. Thaddeus Georgian, pastor of the cathedral, now numbers 1,500. According to the latest census of Ukraine, there are about 1,000 people of Armenian descent in the city.

The Armenian Cathedral of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Lviv was built 640 years ago. From the end of the 17th century to the end of World War II, it was in the possession of Armenian Catholics.

In 1953, with the Armenian Catholic Church forbidden by the Soviet regime, the cathedral was closed and the premises were used as a warehouse to store icons taken from churches throughout the area as well as artifacts from Lviv's National Museum.

In 1991 the Lviv City Council decided to give the cathedral to the local Armenian Apostolic community, but the process of removing the icons and other items was slow.

The community celebrated its first services, in the cathedral chapel, in the spring of 2000. In June 2001 Pope John Paul II visited the church.

In the spring of 2003, the rest of the complex was returned to the community and now the church has been consecrated for the second time in its history.

NEWSBRIEFS

Rada asked to approve troops for Iraq

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has requested that the Verkhovna Rada approve sending a Ukrainian peacekeeping contingent to the Polish-administered stabilization sector in Iraq, Interfax reported on June 2, quoting Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn. Kyiv reportedly wants to dispatch a brigade of 1,600 to 1,700 troops to Iraq that would include two motorized infantry battalions. The agency added that Ukraine's 448-strong anti-nuclear, -biological and -chemical (NBC) battalion currently deployed in Kuwait might be included in the Ukrainian contingent in Iraq. President Kuchma told journalists in Kyiv on May 28 that he is certain the Rada will endorse a decision taken earlier this month by the National Security and Defense Council to send a contingent of Ukrainian peacekeepers to the Polish stabilization sector in Iraq, Interfax reported. "I am convinced, taking into account the situation in Parliament, that the decision to dispatch [the contingent] will be adopted," Mr. Kuchma said. He said he is aware that such a decision will be "perceived ambiguously by Ukrainian society," but added, "We have no right to stay aside from global processes." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko signals bid for presidency

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, the leader of the eponymous opposition bloc, told the May 31-June 6 issue of the Kyiv-based weekly Zerkalo Nedeli that she might consider running for the post of Ukrainian president in 2004 if the opposition fails to agree on a single candidate. "I never tire of asking [Our Ukraine leader] Viktor Andriyovych [Yushchenko] when we will start full-fledged talks [on a single, opposition-backed presidential candidate]," Ms. Tymoshenko said. She said Mr. Yushchenko and Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz refused to discuss the issue during their joint visit to Germany last month. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Deputies divided over Volyn issue

KYIV – A group of 39 national deputies of the Verkhovna Rada published an open letter in Holos Ukrainy on May 29 to condemn the massacre of Polish civilians by the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) in Volyn in 1943, Interfax reported. The letter criticizes alleged attempts on the part of some current politicians to defend those who "sullied their hands with the blood of women and children" 60 years ago as "immoral and exceptionally cynical." Signatories included Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, Viktor

Musiyaka (European Choice), Nestor Shufrych (Social Democratic Party-United), Taras Chornovil, and Yuriy Karmazin (Our Ukraine). On May 16 Holos Ukrainy published a letter from a group of 33 predominantly right-wing lawmakers requesting that Poland abandon the quest for "one-sided apologies" for the Volyn massacre from Ukraine. "To achieve mutual understanding, Poland needs to revise cardinally its anti-Ukrainian prejudices," the letter said. That letter was signed by Hryhorii Omelchenko, Levko Lukianenko, Stepan Khmara, Yaroslav Kendzior and Andriy Shkil, among others. Polish and Ukrainian Presidents Aleksander Kwasniewski and Leonid Kuchma agreed in February to organize a joint commemoration of the massacre. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Issue of east-west divide resurfaces

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma said at a May 28 news conference that he fears there might be attempts in next year's presidential election to pit voters in the east of the country against those in the west, as was the case in previous presidential ballots in 1991, 1994 and 1999, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma added that such a negative, east-west division was reinforced during the 2002 parliamentary elections. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma: single opposition candidate

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma also told journalists on May 28 that opposition forces – Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party, and the Communist Party – are unlikely to field a joint presidential candidate in the 2004 election, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma suggested that Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko made a mistake by not siding with pro-presidential forces and not forming a pro-government majority in the Verkhovna Rada after the 2002 parliamentary elections. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Over 800 youths make pilgrimage to Univ

UNIV, Ukraine – Over 800 young pilgrims from throughout western Ukraine made a pilgrimage to the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Monastery of the Dormition in Univ, Lviv region. It ended on May 18 with a pontifical liturgy celebrated by Bishop Yulian Gbur of Stryi. "I am going to ask for forgiveness and God's grace" was a typical answer of the young people when asked: "Why are you making the pilgrimage?" On the first day, the pilgrims covered 45 kilometers, which was a

(Continued on page 14)

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U.S. expresses strong support of Odesa-Brody oil pipeline

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The United States came out strongly in support of completing the Odesa-Brody-Plotsk oil pipeline during an energy conference in Kyiv on May 28, giving reason to believe that oil could indeed soon flow through Ukraine from the Caspian Sea to Western Europe.

U.S. Ambassador Carlos Pascual stated during a major presentation that moving oil from the Caspian Sea to markets in Europe is now economically viable for Ukraine and in Europe's interest.

"Despite concerns that Odesa-Brody could never be commercially viable, global market trends now favor development of this project," explained Mr. Pascual.

The U.S. ambassador, speaking during the sixth international conference "Energy Security of Europe in the 21st Century," noted that global economic circumstances had changed since President Leonid Kuchma had decided to pursue the completion of an oil terminal at Odesa and a pipeline to carry crude oil to the Polish border in defiance of heated criticism from Ukrainian politicians. The voices in opposition had stated that there was no demand for the pipeline and that its construction would serve no purpose except as a pork barrel project.

Ambassador Pascual gave several reasons for the new opportunity for Ukraine, one of which was a recent analysis by the auditing firm PricewaterhouseCoopers, which showed the project could be profitable.

He noted that, more so than earlier, Europe was looking for diversification of its energy resources and that the demand for Caspian light-sweet crude oil in Central and Western Europe had been established, with Germany already importing the energy source.

Secondly, he stated that today it had become cheaper to ship via land than via the Bosphorus Strait, and, thirdly, the strait was extremely over-used and "reaching its historic limits," which required the development of an alternative route.

Finally, Mr. Pascual said that Central Europe had the refining capacity to handle about 11 million tons of Caspian oil from the Odesa-Brody pipeline without the need for additional investment.

"Germany and the Czech Republic have expressed an interest in importing about 7 million tons of light-sweet Caspian crude now and Odesa-Brody could deliver it without additional investment. Odesa-Brody could deliver an additional 4 million tons of Caspian crude oil to German and Austrian refineries with minimal investment," explained the U.S. envoy.

Mr. Pascual, in seemingly urging the Central European countries towards use of the Odesa-Brody energy transportation line, also noted that the land-based route was environmentally safer and more secure.

"The tanker accident off the coast of Spain heightened the already acute awareness that growing tanker traffic increases the chances of environmental disasters on Europe's shores, explained Mr. Pascual. "European environmental standards have also increased demand for higher value light crude oil."

In an interview published in Business World Week several days later, Mr. Pascual continued on the topic and said that while Odesa-Brody could operate profitably today, the most efficient option for transporting Caspian oil would be for Poland to complete the pipeline from Brody through its territory northwest to the city of Plotsk and on to Gdansk, the country's main port city on the Baltic Sea. This would give easy access to transit by water to Germany and the rest of Western Europe.

Mr. Pascual stated that a recent European Union contribution of 2 million euros to the project would do much to spur it forward. He also noted that two U.S.-based companies, Conaco Philips, which owns an oil refinery in the Czech Republic and ChevronTexaco, which has oil-extracting rights in the Caspian Sea, favored transporting oil via the Odesa-Brody line.

The U.S. diplomat said that if talks were "effective and aggressive," oil could stream through the pipeline by the end of the year.

During the Kyiv energy conference, representatives from the EU and Poland met with Ukrtransnafta officials, the state-owned public corporation responsible for the Odesa-Brody pipeline, to announce that a tripartite group had been established to carry out a business plan that PricewaterhouseCoopers had approved. It included the transportation of oil to the Czech Republic, Germany and Austria from the Odesa-Brody pipeline through an already functioning transportation line, the Druzhba pipeline, until the Brody-Plotsk segment was constructed.

UkrTransNafta Chairman Oleksander Todiichuk said he expected to have 4.5-5.0 tons of Caspian crude oil running through the Odesa-Brody pipeline on an annual basis by the end of this year and the first part of 2004, according to Interfax-Ukraine. He noted that one Czech refinery had already agreed to take 2 million tons from the pipeline and confirmed that Chevron and British Petroleum fully supported the effort.

"We have never been so close to a positive result," noted Mr. Todiichuk.

As The Weekly was going to press, Interfax-Ukraine reported on a development that would make the Odesa-Brody pipeline an immediate success. It stated that on June 4 Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Khristenko, who chairs an energy committee in the Russian government, had announced approval of a draft proposal that would provide for 84 million tons of Russian crude oil to flow through the Odesa-Brody line in an agreement that would run through 2018. The agreement must still receive full government approval.

Controversy continues over dismissal of commander of Ukraine's Naval Forces

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Controversy continued to surround the dismissal of Admiral Mykhailo Yezhel, commander of the Ukrainian Naval Forces, whom President Leonid Kuchma unexpectedly relieved of duty during a trip to Sevastopol at the end of April. On May 21 Admiral Yezhel was arrested on charges of corruption for the illegal transfer of military holdings.

The firing came on the eve of a trip by Russian President Vladimir Putin to the Crimean region, which has led to much speculation that the move was done in deference to the Russian leader's visit.

On May 22 Mr. Kuchma appointed Vice-Admiral Ihor Kniaz to replace Mr. Yezhel as head of the Ukrainian navy, but not before a wave of criticism had engulfed Admiral Yezhel's firing – most notably accusations by the editor of the local newspaper, Dzvyn Sevastopolia (Bell of Sevastopol), which is published by the Ukrainian Prosvita Society, that President Kuchma had bowed to pressure from his Russian counterpart in making the decision to fire the pro-Ukrainian admiral.

There are long-standing disagreements between the head of the Russian Black Sea Fleet (BSF), Vice-Admiral Vladimir Masorin, and Admiral Yezhel on various issues, including control of the navigational systems and traffic in and around the bays and ports of the area.

Last year, the Ukrainian navy ceded some authority to the Russian BSF over navigation within the four bays found in Sevastopol in order to better organize search and rescue operations. According to Volodymyr Prytula, director of the Monitoring Committee on Press Freedoms in Crimea, the Ukrainian naval forces and the Russian BSF were battling for control of navigational stations and equipment, and navigational dominance.

Dzvyn Sevastopolia charged that the presidential edict to dismiss Admiral Yezhel came after the friction between the two navy commanders came to a head over stories critical of the Russian presence in Sevastopol that had appeared in the Ukrainian naval newspaper, Flot Ukrainy (The Ukrainian Fleet), which the head of the Russian BSF wanted stopped. The stories included details of Russia's attempts to subvert the formation of the Ukrainian navy in the early 1990s.

"I believe that this was the last of a complex set of reasons, which led to his dismissal and was a result of Russian pressure from above," explained Volodymyr Prytula, the director of the Monitoring Committee on Press Freedoms in the Crimea.

Mr. Prytula explained that Vice-Admiral Masorin had written a letter to Admiral Yezhel in response to a recent story to demand that he maintain better control over publications over which he has influence, to "exclude publication of materials that do not stimulate the development of friendship and good neighborliness" between the two navies. The letter was obtained by Dzvyn Sevastopolia and published, which led to a broader piece on censorship by Radio Liberty.

Mr. Prytula explained in an exclusive interview with The Ukrainian Weekly that enmity on a professional level had long existed between the leaders of the BSF and the Ukrainian navy. For one, Admiral Yezhel out-ranked Vice-Admiral Masorin, even though the Russian BSF force in Sevastopol was much larger than the Ukrainian navy. Also, Mr. Yezhel was a dynamic figure in Sevastopol who had considerable influence, and many friends and interests, much more

so than his Russian counterpart.

Yet, what may have been most decisive was Admiral Yezhel's staunchly pro-Ukrainian stance in matters involving relations between the two navies in Sevastopol.

According to a commentary in Dzvyn Sevastopolia of May 18, written by its editor, Mykola Huk, Admiral Yezhel intentionally wrote all his holiday greetings to the Russian BSF during navy holidays in the Ukrainian language; demanded that his subordinates communicate in the Ukrainian language and built a memorial to the Ukrainian bard Taras Shevchenko on Prymorskyi Boulevard, while attempting to have 50th Anniversary Square in Sevastopol renamed Hetman Sahaidachny Square.

The newspaper noted that, with Admiral Yezhel's departure, the annual May 9 Victory Day celebrations in Sevastopol this year took on a Russian coloration: all commands to Ukrainian naval cadets were given in Russian, a Russian vice-admiral opened the parade and "Sevastopol, The City of Russian Sailors," was the song that began the official banquet in the evening.

Anatolii Danilov, assistant director of the Nakhimov Naval Institute in Sevastopol, which is a Ukrainian naval academy, would not comment on the specific reasons for the dismissal of Admiral Yezhel, a longtime acquaintance and his former boss. He said the only information he had was obtained in the press.

Mr. Danilov said he had seen no outward evidence of friction between the commanders of the Ukrainian navy and the Russian BSF. He maintained, however, that the Ukrainian Naval Forces and his academy continue to function in the Ukrainian language and that he had not noted any significant changes in policy after Admiral Yezhel's firing.

As for the charges against Admiral Yezhel – that he had abused his authority as a military official and had been derelict in his military service – Mr. Prytula observed that it was commonly rumored that the Ukrainian admiral had business and land interests. He also noted that Ukraine's Ministry of Defense in a major reorganization recently had given the navy charge over the property and land holdings formerly held by the Crimean Army Corps.

However, Mr. Prytula noted that even if Admiral Yezhel is found guilty of the illegal sale of government land and property, every military leader in every military district of Ukraine could be found guilty of the same charges and that, whether guilty or not, the real reason for Admiral Yezhel's troubles lie in the political atmosphere of Sevastopol and relations between Kyiv and Moscow.

Given that Sevastopol remains a bubbling cauldron of Ukrainian-Russian political and military disputes, Mr. Prytula said he was pleased that President Kuchma had chosen the Crimean-born Vice-Admiral Kniaz to replace Admiral Yezhel. He explained that the newly appointed naval commander is among the first higher-ranking officers to jump from the Russian Black Sea Fleet to the newly established Ukrainian navy in 1992.

"It was the most difficult period for the Ukrainian navy and so I believe he can be characterized as a true Ukrainian patriot," Mr. Prytula added.

Vice-Admiral Kniaz was commander of the Donuzlav Naval Base in northern Crimea before he was named to head the Navy by President Kuchma. Prior to that he was assigned to Naval Headquarters in Sevastopol. He left the Russian Black Sea Fleet for the Ukrainian Naval Forces in December 1992, six months after they were formed.

Quotable notes

"During the past 13 years in Poland, all ruling teams without exception have spoken so often and so much that there cannot be a strong, independent Poland without a strong, independent Ukraine, that all the Poles, including children, have become convinced about this."

– Jacek Cichoński, director of the Warsaw-based, government-sponsored Center for Eastern Studies, during a meeting with Ukrainian opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko in Warsaw, as quoted by the *Ukrainska Pravda* website on May 9 and reported by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.

CCRF's Hartford chapter honors individuals, institutions with awards

HARTFORD, Conn. – The greater Hartford chapter of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund on Sunday, May 18, hosted a gala awards dinner honoring several individuals and institutions for their outstanding support of the Fund's medical mission.

The honorees included Olympic and World Champion Viktor Petrenko, who launched the "Viktory for Kids" ice skating gala in 2001 that raised over \$120,000 for CCRF to create a neonatal intensive care unit at the Odesa Regional Children's Hospital.

Also honored was award-winning photographer Joseph Sywenkyj, a native of Windham, Conn., and a former intern

for CCRF whose riveting photos of Ukrainian orphans and children undergoing treatment for cancer helped to inspire new initiatives among CCRF donors and volunteers.

On behalf of the Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Danbury, Conn., the Rev. Luke Mihaly accepted an award for his parishioners who have organized a series of very successful fund-raisers, including the annual Holy Trinity 5-kilometer road race (now in its seventh year) to benefit CCRF. The Ukrainian National Home of New Haven, Conn., was honored for its generous gift of over \$71,000

(Continued on page 12)



Ulana Slabicky

Seen at the banquet are: (from left) photojournalist Joseph Sywenkyj, Svitlana Pohoreltsev, Connecticut state Sen. John Fonfara, Ukrainian ice dancing champion Olena Hrushyna, Consul General of Ukraine Serhiy Pohoreltzev, Nina Petrenko and World and Olympic Champion Viktor Petrenko.

The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section

Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement. And then there are those who graduate high school or complete the "matura" in our schools of Ukrainian studies.

The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – offers readers of The Ukrainian Weekly the opportunity to place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 6, 2003.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 25:

- your note of congratulations, in Ukrainian or English, which should be no more than 50 words, including names;
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IN MEMORIAM: Martha Kulchytsky-Andriuk, Ukrainian community activist, opera singer

by Yuriy Kulchytsky

PARMA, Ohio – Martha Kulchytsky-Andriuk (1935-2003) was born to and surrounded by music: her mother, Stefania, performed in the renowned Blavatsky Troupe in Lviv, her father, Yaroslav, had a beautiful tenor voice. At a very early age she took piano lessons.

Yet, the congenial atmosphere was soon broken by the clouds of World War II. Her father, a teacher, was arrested by the Bolsheviks in 1939 and executed in 1943. Her mother died in 1942 of typhoid. Together with her brother, Yuri, young Martha was left at the mercy of turbulent events and good members of the family, two maternal aunts and themselves only teenagers.

As the furious Eastern front moved westward, so did Martha, her aunts and her brother. Having escaped the Reds, they ended up in a displaced persons camp in Berchtesgaden. Circumstances forced the aunts to send the two orphans to a relative in America, where they hoped to eventually retrieve them. The relative, advanced in age, placed Martha and Yuri in the St. Basil Ukrainian Orphanage in Philadelphia.

When the aunts arrived in America, as promised they took the children from the orphanage and life began to appear more normal. Music could be heard again as Martha practiced her piano daily.

Of course, financially life was difficult. Both orphans were sent to attend St. Michael's School and had to work cleaning the cafeteria tables and floors as payment for their tuition. The cost of private voice instructors and Cleveland Institute of Music lessons kept Ms. Kulchytsky busy working as a secretary by day, and practicing and studying by night. Yet she was no novice – while still in Germany she had performed in "Koza Dereza," and later in Cleveland as Cio-Cio San in "Madame Butterfly."

In 1959, our "Butterfly" married her "Lt. Pinkerton," – Capt. Wasyl Andriuk. Their blissful years were interrupted by the Cuban Missile Crisis and fear of a nuclear war. Her husband was called into service, leaving her with two sons in hospitable Texas. But as the winds of the Cold War dissipated and with the return of her husband, life resumed as before, and the couple had a third son.

After settling in Washington, Ms. Andriuk taught a Ukrainian kindergarten



Martha Kulchytsky-Andriuk

class. She devoted her time to the Ukrainian community, the Church and Plast Ukrainian Scouting organization, in which all her sons were active. Devoted to her art, Ms. Kulchytsky-Andriuk would use every occasion to improve it. Her home was a song without end. She belonged to prestigious symphony clubs, opera societies and schools, participated in competitions and operas, operettas and plays.

Her mastery of complete operas included "Madama Butterfly," "La Traviata," "Rigoletto," "Lucia de Lammermoor," and Norma. In her repertoire were found famous arias from "La Bohème," "Tosca," "Marriage of Figaro," and the mad scene from "Ombra Lepere," about which Martha's reviewer wrote, "...would all madness were as enjoyable as her performance of this aria." Martha also performed lighter songs from "Porgy and Bess," and Steven Foster, which, according to a reviewer, displayed her, "... lovely, gracious warmth." The reviewer noted also that when she sang the Victor Herbert lyrics, " 'I want to be a prima donna; I want to shine upon the stage,' "she truly did."

Ms. Kulchytsky-Andriuk's Ukrainian repertoire was enormous. She was especially concerned with preserving and performing the songs that touched everyone, and especially her Ukrainian heart. Countless concerts, benefits and church events saw her perform to standing ovations. As a member of the Lysenko

(Continued on page 16)

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Commemorations of 1943 events in Volyn: perspective of Ukrainians in Poland

by Oksana Zakydalsky

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

TORONTO – The commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the so-called 1943 events in Volyn, during which the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) is accused of destroying Polish settlements and murdering from 30,000 to 60,000 Poles (see Taras Kuzio's article: "How Poland is commemorating the Volyn events of 1943 the wrong way," The Ukrainian Weekly, May 25) which are scheduled to take place in July of this year, are of great concern to Ukrainians living today in Poland.

As Dr. Kuzio wrote, the friendly relations since independence between Poland and Ukraine are coming under increasing stress, with the commemoration plans bringing to the fore issues that have not been adequately dealt with by either Poland or Ukraine. Petro Tyma, secretary of the Organization of Ukrainians in Poland (OUP) was in Toronto recently to explain the political context of the commemorations and outline their consequences both for Ukraine and Ukrainians in Poland.

Ukrainians in Poland not only believe that the consequences of the commemorations will weigh heavily on their community, but that they will have a long term impact on the image of Ukraine in Europe.

"Few Ukrainians outside Poland understand how important for Poles, for their image of Ukrainians and Ukraine today, have been the events which took place during the war and immediate post-war period on the territories in which both Poles and Ukrainians lived. These events, which are passed on from generation to generation, have, apart from historical memory, a political context (or even several political contexts)," Mr. Tyma said.

For Poles, the question of victims of Volyn is an important one, both for the elite and the general consciousness, Mr. Tyma said. And is not limited to a few engaged individuals. It is not organizations that are behind the July commemorations, but the president, the ministers and the public media, which ensures that it will have wide publicity.

During the years of Communist Poland, there was censorship of, not only the crimes of the Soviet or Polish Communists, but also the Ukrainian-Polish conflict on territories that after 1944 became part of the USSR. Yet one could always condemn Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists or the Ukrainian resistance which had been active in Zakerzonnia (ethnic Ukrainian lands that are part of Poland); there was no censorship on portraying the bestiality of Ukrainians in countless films and books. After the elimination of censorship in Poland in 1989, previously repressed memories flooded the market – stories of 500,000 victims of Ukrainian terror and a Polish genocide began to circulate.

The leading role in perpetuating the negative stereotype of Ukrainians has been played by Poles who were resettled from the eastern borderlands, called Kresy by the Poles. There is a whole milieu in Poland – organizations, families, testimonies, publications – which wants to foist its interpretation on others. The wide network of Kresy organizations became even more active after the fall of communism, and the Kresy organizations are powerful in Poland and can put on the pressure, Mr. Tyma explained. Their version of events during the war in Volyn is selective and many issues don't get included: pre-war Polish politics versus the Ukrainian population, German occupation policies, NKVD provocations, the participation of Poles in repressive actions against Ukrainians organized by the



Petro Tyma of the Organization of Ukrainians in Poland.

Germans and the subsequent revenge actions by Ukrainians.

The characteristics of the German occupation of Volyn were different from those in Halychyna. Volyn was in the Reichskommissariat, and there was no Ukrainian Central Committee influence. It was a more unstable region – it was in western Volyn that the UPA arose. After the creation of the UPA in 1942, Ukrainians who served in the local

German administration joined the partisans en masse – about 5,000 Ukrainian policemen left their positions for the UPA. The Germans then formed police divisions from local Poles. Thus, when the Germans began their pacification after the defeat at Stalingrad, it was mostly Poles who were in the administration.

Volyn was the region where both Ukrainian and Polish partisans (the Armia Krajowa, or AK) were very active. The behavior of the Polish underground towards the Ukrainian population was provocative and insulting (e.g., "go back to where you belong – east of the Zbruch river"). Both sides pursued policies that were mutually exclusive and fought over the same territory. By 1942 the AK was anticipating a war with Ukrainians over territory and the sizeable Polish partisan presence in Volyn could not but remind Ukrainians of Polish territorial claims.

Although there are scholarly publications in Poland that deal more objectively with Polish-Ukrainian relations, they come out in small editions and do not get to the general public, whereas popular literature, with its negative images of Ukrainians, is widely circulated – even through kiosks in churches. That is the literature that is used by parliamentarians and recommended in schools, Mr. Tyma related.

Why has the 60th anniversary of the Volyn events been given such a high profile and not the more significant 50th anniversary in 1993? Mr. Tyma gave some possible immediate reasons.

The first is the issue of Jedwabne, a town in northeast Poland, where Prof. Jan T. Gross, in his book "Sasiedzi" (published in English by the Princeton University Press in 2001 as "Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland"), charged that Poles murdered Jews in 1941.

In his review of the book for the Times Literary Supplement, Adam Brumberg wrote: "Gross's scrupulously documented study challenges another cherished myth: the noble attempts of most Poles to save Jews." This was a big shock for all Poles because it showed that Poles were not only victims of Nazi terror but, even without the inspiration of the Germans, had perpetrated their own atrocities against the Jews, and not Jews who had been brought into Poland from Germany, but Jews with whom they had lived side by side.


For this, Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski apologized in the name of the nation, but some politicians, and even the head of the Polish Catholic Church, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, claim that it never happened, that it was the Germans who

(Continued on page 15)

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Our most precious community resource

This week's issue of our newspaper carries a front-page story announcing the establishment of a not-for-profit charitable foundation whose goal is to support two community institutions with a long and illustrious history. We speak of St. George School and St. George Academy in New York City.

The elementary and secondary schools affiliated with St. George Ukrainian Catholic Parish – founded, respectively, in 1941 and 1946 – have been experiencing financial difficulties for over a decade. The situation reached a crisis point in November of 1999 when it was announced that the schools were to close down the following June. A group of determined parents, however, came to the rescue. Organizing a "save our schools" movement, they vowed to preserve the St. George schools and to raise the funds needed to accomplish that goal.

Apparently their work has borne fruit. The schools did not close down as had been threatened and serious work has continued to secure their future. The most recent establishment of the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Schools Foundation, Ltd., along with the announcement that the foundation has set up an Endowment Fund are sure signs that this is a vibrant school community. The fund, which seeks to raise \$3 million, aims to ensure not only the school's functioning in the near term, but also its long-term survival.

Perhaps the best news of all is that it seems all segments of the community are involved in the foundation: it includes not only parents and school administrators, but also the pastor of St. George Church and the leader of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bishop Basil Losten. Such a list of incorporators can only portend success in achieving the foundation's goals.

Across the Hudson River, in New Jersey, another school was in the news earlier this year: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark. Founded in 1939, the school was threatened with closing unless a newly organized yet extremely vocal group of parents and supporters could raise \$250,000 by April 15. If that feat was accomplished, the pastor and parish council promised, the school would be open during academic year 2003-2004. In mid-April it was publicly announced that St. John's would reopen for the next academic year as \$180,000 already had been collected and the prospects of collecting the remainder were excellent.

Since then, there has been some backtracking on the pastor's and parish trustees' part, but the parents' resolve remains strong and their efforts to maintain the school remain on track. Most recently, the Committee for the Development of St. John's School (as the ad hoc parents' group had been called) has been reconstituted as a school advisory board and its leaders were formally elected. That bodes well for the future of St. John's School.

The key ingredient, however, is support from sources outside the parish community, as it has been clearly stated that St. John's Parish alone cannot afford to keep the school functioning, and beyond the parents whose children are enrolled at St. John's, many of whom are members of the latest wave of immigrants to this country and right now cannot afford to pay full tuition.

Our sincere hope, is that members of our Ukrainian American community, our community institutions and our organizations will be ready and willing to step up to the plate and support our most precious resource: our children, whether they are in New York, or New Jersey, or anywhere else within our hromada. These are the next generations of our community, and their upbringing should be of concern to us all.

June
9
2002

Turning the pages back...

It was one year ago that The Ukrainian Weekly reported that Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.) had introduced House Resolution 4723 (H.R. 4723), proposing to graduate Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik amendment of the 1974 Trade Act, which limited

U.S. trade with countries that do not allow free emigration of their citizens.

The legislation was designed to protect the interests of Jewish communities in totalitarian regimes and ensure their freedom to emigrate. As a successor of the former Soviet Union, Ukraine, too, was required to adhere to the Jackson-Vanik Amendment with a yearly waiver enacted by the U.S. president. Since re-establishing independence in 1991, however, Ukraine has reformed its laws significantly and has successfully eliminated the obstacles to emigration of its citizens imposed by the Soviet Union.

Rep. Levin's House Resolution, 4723, which he introduced on May 14, 2002, proposed to relieve Ukraine from the required evaluation process. This resolution would have allowed Ukraine to expand trade with the United States, as well as to remove the Cold War-era stigma connected to the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

"Since gaining independence in 1991, Ukraine has taken important steps toward the creation of democratic institutions and free-market economy and, as a member-state of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), is committed to developing a system of governance in accordance with the principles regarding human rights and humanitarian affairs that are set forth in the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (also known as the Helsinki Final Act), stated H.R. 4723.

H.R. 4723 was a result of the Ukrainian National Information Service's active work on Capitol Hill advocating this issue. UNIS has met with members of the Trade Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee, as well as members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and provided them with information regarding the economic achievements and democratic reforms in Ukraine. The NCSJ (formerly known as National Council on Soviet Jewry), a U.S. organization dealing with the problems faced by Jewish communities in the former Soviet Union, agreed in mid-January of 2002 that the Jewish Ukrainian community is indeed experiencing a renaissance, while expressing hope for a speedier process regarding restitution of former synagogues and communal property.

To date, the provisions of Jackson-Vanik have not been rescinded.

Source: "Levin introduces bill to graduate Ukraine from 1974 Jackson-Vanik trade restrictions," by Serhiy Zhykharev, *Ukrainian National Information Service, The Ukrainian Weekly, June 9, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 23.*

NEWS AND VIEWS

Philadelphia community library marking its 45th anniversary

by Dzvinka Zacharczuk

PHILADELPHIA – The recent showing of the film "Music Man" on network TV – which presents the town's librarian as the guardian of culture and knowledge – brought to mind our own Ukrainian community library in Philadelphia.

Forty-five years ago a Plast troop named Chortopolokhy chose to maintain a book collection that became the Plast library. The troop evolved into the Chortopolokhy Plast sorority with, interestingly enough, a large number of librarians in it, membership. So, thanks to their dedication and meticulous professional handling of the book collection, it grew into what it is today: the Ukrainian Library at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Philadelphia.

Housing 16,000 volumes, today this is the largest Ukrainian community library in the United States.

The growth began when in 1964 the Chortopolokhy librarians made an alliance between the Plast library and Ridna Shkola, the historic Ukrainian Saturday school organization. Ridna Shkola, in need of school library, solved the problem by making annual contributions of a minimum of \$500 toward the purchase of books at the Plast library, hence satisfying the need of its students.

The collection became known as the Plast and Ridna Shkola Library and was housed in the parsonage next door to Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church in Philadelphia.

In the 1980s the Ukrainian community formed a special committee under the leadership of Dr. Alexander Chernyk and purchased a building which became known as the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa. By 1984, along with over 30 other Ukrainian organizations, the Plast and Ridna Shkola Library moved into the new facility. In 1991 the second president of UECC, Borys Zacharczuk established a nine-member Library Board, first headed by Martha Tarnavska, a distinguished librarian, as well as one of the original members of the Chortopolokhy troop.

Housed in the UECC and incorporated as a UECC program, the library grew and was modernized. Today, it offers the latest Ukrainian publications, as well as English-language publications about Ukraine, English translations of Ukrainian literature and periodicals from both Ukraine and the diaspora, videos, audiotapes and Internet services. It serves the reading needs of the Ukrainian school on Saturday, while on weekdays it hosts visits from nursery school children in its children's corner, which contains the latest selection of Ukrainian books.

The library is open four days a week with both day and evening hours. It gives parents on the go a place to catch their breath as they wait for their children – the library provides them with a comfortable chair and a look at Ukrainian publications from around the world. Many Ukrainian organizations and especially the senior citizens' groups are provided with a rich

(Continued on page 9)

Yushchenko's...

(Continued from page 1)

where people flee the country, forced to work illegally to survive. He laid the blame for the situation on the regime of President Leonid Kuchma. He pointed out that reform in Ukraine is possible and referred to the success he had as prime minister (from December 1999 to April 2001) with the "Reforms for Prosperity" program. But he was dismissed from his post, he said, "by the president, with the support of the oligarchs and the Communists. The first [group] did not want to lose its huge profits through the liquidation of shadow turnover, the second – its traditional electorate through the raising of the standard of living." He said that the only hope for Ukraine is to consolidate the reform and democratic forces and to get rid of the present corrupt regime.

Although the concerns raised by Mr. Yushchenko were not new to people who have been following the events in Ukraine in the last few years, his sharp criticism of the Kuchma administration and uncompromising stand on the need for regime change, were not entirely expected. Mr. Yushchenko's reputation, which preceded him, was one of a person who was not 100 percent certain of his position as the "leader of the opposition." After his public appearances in Canada, there is no doubt that the "Yushchenko for President" campaign is now in full swing.

The high point of Mr. Yushchenko's visit to Toronto was to be a banquet organized by the UCC and the UCC Toronto Branch and attended by over 1,000 people. The head table included members of the Canadian political elite in Toronto, headed by Premier of Ontario

Ernie Eves (who is as the guests learned, of Ukrainian heritage), as well as federal cabinet ministers Sheila Copps and Eugene Augustine, Sen. A. Raynell Andreychuk, and City Councillor Gloria Lindsay Luby.

As well, there were many friends-of-Ukrainians politicians among the crowd as there is a mayoral race on in Toronto, a provincial election around the corner and a federal "regime change" coming soon. In all, it showed that the Ukrainian community in Canada's largest city is well integrated into the larger Canadian society and influential in political processes at all levels.

Although the festivities began at 6 p.m. it was not until 10 p.m. that Mr. Yushchenko was allowed to give his keynote address (he took it in good humor – "what am I to say, as everything has already been said and people are still talking?" – he asked when he finally got up to speak).

The politicians who spoke were somewhat rambling, and there was excess verbosity from people who introduced them. Greetings from various Ukrainian organizations – which could have been left to next day's lunch, specifically organized for Mr. Yushchenko's meeting with the Ukrainian community – also took up a chunk of time.

The evening proceedings were further lengthened by the fact that many of the speeches, as well as the emceeing, were in two languages. However, there was no English translation provided for Mr. Yushchenko's keynote address, which was delivered in Ukrainian. For the duration of Mr. Yushchenko's speech, which went over 30 minutes many of the guests at the head table sat uncomprehending and stonefaced, staring over the somewhat embarrassed crowd.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Do not speak on my behalf

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Ukrainian community in the United States, I was shocked and offended by Yuriy Tarnawsky's and Zenon Mazurkevich's statements in The Ukrainian Weekly in which they equate their personal frustrations in Ukraine with the experiences and attitudes of "many of us," to quote Mr. Tarnawsky – meaning the Ukrainians of the diaspora. On the basis of their limited experience, which may be the result of their own individualism and not the flaws of "the mother country," the authors divide the Ukrainians into "us" and "them."

Mr. Tarnawsky complains that there are only a few individuals with whom he "managed to strike up a friendship," but he says that the "fact is that the difference between [him] and Ukraine is enormous." Furthermore, he says that he has "a hard time having a close relationship with many people [he] met in Ukraine." So Mr. Tarnawsky has a personal problem, but why elevate it to the national level?

After reading this long conversation, I am quite aware that the problem is not "the mother country," or the division into "us" and "them," but the problem of Mr. Tarnawsky as a writer who sees only his way of writing as the only way to the future. He makes his position clear when he says: "I've no doubt that, in a generation or two, assuming that Ukrainian culture survives that long, the contribution of the émigré Ukrainians [obviously referring to the New York Group of which Mr. Tarnawsky was one of the founding members, although I doubt that other members of that group share Mr. Tarnawsky's views] will be recognized as being key, such that it changed fundamentally the face of Ukrainian culture and has made it the way it'll be at that time. Because if this weren't true, then what would be called Ukrainian culture then wouldn't be worthy of that name." His message, bordering on messianism, tells the reader that this is the only correct way for the Ukrainian culture to develop. Obviously it would be unfair to accuse the author of modesty.

While one can discuss and disagree with Mr. Tarnawsky about the genre of modernism and its influence on society, his statement on the alleged "illiteracy" of the current Ukrainian literary 'elite' is shocking, leaving one speechless. His speaking in such harsh language about individuals with whom he should be debating various literary issues tells me that he is restricted to his imaginary creative world. There are other pearls of wisdom about the Ukrainian culture and society which leave one profoundly disappointed.

Mr. Tarnawsky's message was very clear to Mr. Mazurkevich who, in his letter to the Editor, wrote: "So there is a great fragility in the current cultural elite. As Mr. Tarnawsky points out, in many cases they are merely 'poseurs' mimicking culture." After this rude and insensitive statement, the author would have us "better educated, more cultured, more productive,..." separate ourselves from "them," the people of Ukraine, until they catch up with us. What utter nonsense!

As somebody who spent a lot of time in Ukraine, I would like to conclude by saying that I know quite a few individuals who contributed to the Ukrainian social and cultural life and found a lot of friends with whom they continue to cooperate on various projects. Only yesterday, for example, Bohdan Boychuk, one of the founders of the New York Group, who lives mostly in Kyiv, told me that he found many friends there with whom he

can cooperate in various literary projects. Please note that, unlike you, I do not claim to speak on behalf of the entire Ukrainian community. Therefore, gentlemen, do not speak on my and our behalf.

Taras Hunczak
Chatham, N.J.

A viewpoint from one of "us"

Dear Editor:

In response to the letter from Zenon Mazurkevich (May 11), I'd like to express my opinion.

Regarding the concept of "us" and "them" – this affects each reader. I consider myself an "us," as I have been experiencing the growth and tribulation of the turn-of-the-century emigrants. They came because of the oppressive life in Austro-Hungary or Poland. Very few were authorized to leave the Soviet Union. They couldn't better themselves at home, so they emigrated. Here in America they were recognized as "Polacks," Russians or "greenhorns." Although many were illiterate, they understood unity. So they got together, organized their religious way of life, then their fraternal organizations, which brought them Ukrainianization. With their lasting commitment to maintain their heritage, they taught their children so that today the "us" group has gained prestige.

After World War II, the new arrivals became "them." They brought their youth organizations, their educational societies, their charitable organizations and their self-identity. Their children knew Ukrainian life only at home. Verkhovyna was a reawakening center, once a year.

In the meantime, the hromadas (communities) were falling apart. Local interest was defeated, and nationally the attitude was "let someone else do it!"

With the demise of the "us" group, the "them" group has become the new "us," and with the arrival of the new immigrants since August 1991 the new "us" don't know how to defend their assimilation.

I'm happy that I'm still one of the old "us."

Wasyll Gina
New Haven, Conn.

Ukraine must elect patriotic people

Dear Editor:

When will Ukrainians be masters of their own country? Are we destined to forever be puppets of Russia? Our current Russian lackeys who control Ukraine will completely destroy the country. Are they unaware of the millions of victims who were murdered by the Russians? The answer is that, of course, they know! They are merely continuing Russia's plan to destroy Ukraine's independence. Ukraine must purge itself of these traitors and elect patriotic people who love Ukraine.

The Communist Party and the other political parties that support Russia's policy should be made illegal.

In memory of the millions of Ukrainians who gave their lives for their beloved Ukraine, we must cleanse our country and regain our freedom. It is time the Ukrainians united and followed the example of our Kozaks who formed a strong, proud and glorious nation.

Markian Solonyka
Matawan, N.J.



Washington Notebook

Ukrainian National Information Service

Re U.S. broadcasts to Ukraine

by Serhiy Zhykharev

WASHINGTON – Since the announcement in early February 2003 that the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) recommended a reduction in funds to the Ukrainian services of Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America's (UCCA) Washington bureau, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), has begun a feverish campaign to reverse this proposal.

The four-pronged approach brings forth the weight of the Ukrainian American community and its organizations, the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, other ethnic American organizations, as well as the non-governmental sector in Ukraine. Each group in its own capacity has informed the BBG about the inherent need to sustain international broadcasting programs to Ukraine for the near future, especially in light of the upcoming October 2004 presidential election in Ukraine.

In a statement released by the BBG on February 3, announcing the cutbacks in President Bush's FY 2004 budget request, BBG Chairman Kenneth Tomlinson stated that "the budget [reduction] means an end to most Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) broadcasting to the democracies of Eastern Europe where free speech is practiced and where the process of joining the NATO alliance is under way."

The statement stipulates the reduction of many Central and East European services, virtually eliminating many of them, while the Ukrainian services of VOA would be reduced by 50 percent (from two hours of broadcasting to a proposed one hour per day), as well as a reduction in operational costs in the RFE/RL Ukrainian service. Though many of the European services are being cut back, the overall budget for BBG is expected to rise by 9.5 percent with programming increases to the Middle East and Southeast Asia to fight the war on international terrorism.

Learning of the drastic cutbacks to the VOA and RFE/RL broadcasts, the UCCA penned a letter to Mr. Tomlinson. The letter, dated March 12, provided arguments in favor of maintaining the level of funding to VOA and RFE/RL. "The importance of Voice of America's and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's role as a provider of objective information to the public is even greater in the context of next year's presidential elections in Ukraine," stated the UCCA letter.

"Thus, at this critical juncture in U.S.-Ukrainian relations, a reduction of the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Ukraine services is ill-advised and signifies a lack of interest in sustained democratic development in Ukraine," the UCCA letter continued.

BBG Executive Director Brian T. Conniff responded to the UCCA letter by thanking the representative organization for its high regard and esteem of the Ukrainian broadcasts and assured that these items would be brought to the attention of the BBG members during the annual budgetary review meeting.

An influential component in the campaign to maintain VOA and RFE/RL Ukrainian radio services is the

Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. A letter signed by the caucus co-chairs and several caucus members was sent to the BBG chairman. In their letter, the caucus members indicated that "only Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty broadcasting services are capable of providing Ukrainians with a balanced and comprehensive perspective about events occurring in Ukraine. A democratic, market-oriented Ukraine, with a free and vibrant media, integrated with the Euro-Atlantic community remains a top strategic priority for the United States. The Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty must continue to play a fundamental role in facilitating such positive changes in Ukraine."

In response to the caucus letter, Mr. Tomlinson also welcomed the Members' "high evaluation of the role of U.S. international broadcasting" and agreed that "broadcasting to Ukraine remains important to the BBG."

Members of the caucus are also actively discussing the issue with their colleagues and urging them to contact the BBG and urge support of the Ukrainian broadcasts at previous levels.

Meanwhile, the UCCA Kyiv bureau coordinated a campaign among professional journalist unions and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Ukraine in order to inform them of the proposed budgetary reductions and forward the opinion of Ukrainian civic society members to the members of the BBG. The bureau received multiple letters from the non-governmental sector in Ukraine, which addressed the subjects of the proposed funding reductions and urged BBG members to reconsider their decision. Such letters were received from the National Journalists' Union of Ukraine, "Borysten" magazine, and several other organizations.

The common opinion expressed in all of the letters was that VOA and RFE/RL play an extremely important role as a tool shaping public opinion in Ukraine as an easily accessible source of independent, objective and unbiased information, which otherwise would be unavailable to many in Ukraine.

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America President Michael Sawkiw Jr. also provided testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary of the Appropriations Committee on April 11, regarding this issue. "Reducing funding to the Ukrainian service of the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty would reduce airtime and affect coverage of important issues in Ukraine," the UCCA president told the Subcommittee. "In combination with the current conditions in the Ukrainian media, such changes would deplete the influx of objective and diverse information to the Ukrainian public."

Citing the crucially important 2004 presidential election in Ukraine, the UCCA argued in its testimony that the reduction of funds to these radio stations "comes at precisely the wrong time." The UCCA recommended to members of the subcommittee that they refrain from authorizing the proposed budgetary reductions for the Ukrainian services of VOA and RFE/RL.

(Continued on page 14)

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Rada OKs...

(Continued from page 1)

for the invasion. This war has not yet been officially declared over. There are still attendant risks and they are considerable. Formally, our troops are going into an area that is still at war."

Mr. Marchuk rejected the assertions leveled by Mr. Kriuchkov and similar opinions expressed by other national deputies, including Oleksander Turchynov of the Tymoshenko Bloc.

Mr. Marchuk stated that the specific reason for sending Ukrainians to be part of the stabilization force was to maintain the peace, not to take part in war.

"There is no combat going on in Iraq today and there will not be any in the future, which the stabilization force will ensure," explained Mr. Marchuk.

The national security chief emphasized that Ukraine had previously had commercial interests in Iraq that amounted to \$293 million (U.S.), even while sanctions were in effect, with 36 Ukrainian companies working in the country. He said that with Iraq expected to receive some \$13 billion in oil exports in the next year, Ukraine would be wise to position itself to re-establish the trading partnership.

Mr. Marchuk added that if Ukraine expected to be part of the rebuilding of the war-devastated country it needed to make a peacekeeping commitment as well.

"If Ukraine does not take part in the stabilization force, it is axiomatic that no Ukrainian company will take part in the bid for rebuilding contracts," explained Mr. Marchuk.

Ukraine officially received an invitation from Poland to become part of the stabi-

lization force two weeks ago after unofficial overtures from Washington had been made several weeks earlier. Washington initiated the effort to provide Iraq an international stabilization force to reduce its presence in the country. Poland, as one of the active combatants – along with the United States, Britain and Australia – in the international coalition that overthrew the regime of Saddam Hussein, has control over one of the three administrative sectors into which the U.S. has divided the country.

The 1,800 troops that Ukraine will contribute to the stabilization force will be deployed in the Polish zone of responsibility, located southeast of Baghdad. The deployment will include two mechanized divisions, along with the 19th Special Battalion, which specializes in the neutralization of nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) threats and is already stationed in the neighboring country of Kuwait.

About 20 Ukrainian military officers will join the united command executing the U.N. resolution on the stabilization force. Ultimately, however, Ukraine's force will be subordinate to the General Staff of Ukraine's Armed Forces.

The Ukrainian troops who will deploy to Iraq will do so only voluntarily and after passing extensive physical examinations, noted Ukraine's Ministry of Defense. The troops are expected to be ready for deployment within 20 days, with part of the contingent on its way as early as June 12.

Mr. Marchuk noted that any political changes in the situation in Iraq could be cause to withdraw Ukraine's military force.

The United States Embassy issued a statement after the Verkhovna Rada vote in which it welcomed the decision to deploy troops as part of the Iraq stabilization force.

Philadelphia...

(Continued from page 6)

source of reading and research material. The most enthusiastic visitors to the library are the new emigrants from Ukraine, since they are the most avid readers.

The Ukrainian Library at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center is well-governed by a special board of directors, presently headed by Sofia Hewryk, managed by a dedicated librarian, Halyna Kluk, and helped by scores of volunteers. It firmly upholds the commitment to its charter: "To compile books, periodicals and other materials in the Ukrainian lan-

guage, as well as English-language publications with Ukrainian subject matter or authored by Ukrainian ethnics; make available the source of information about Ukraine to the general public; work fully with Ukrainian schools, youth groups or any other general or academic organizations providing them with whatever material is at the Library's disposal."

This library, which so richly serves the vast Ukrainian community in Philadelphia and the neighboring area is celebrating its 45th anniversary. May it grow and prosper for many years to come and be the "oceans of knowledge" as written by Ivan Franko and "give to those who dive into them riches beyond belief."

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Kyiv's traffic jams and cars signal a new reality in Ukraine



Traffic in Kyiv reflects the growing number of cars in Ukraine's capital.

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Less than a decade ago, a traffic jam even in this city of nearly 3 million was a novelty. A relatively modest number of cars cruised the streets of the capital, mostly pollution-spewing Soviet-era Lada, Moskvych and Volga models.

Today, the scene has changed quite dramatically. Traffic on the streets of the

city center of Kyiv barely inches forward during business hours. On a Friday afternoon, it can take more than 30 minutes to travel the Khreschatyk, a one-kilometer stretch of road considered the city's main thoroughfare.

The city has simply filled up with cars. People are buying new and used automobiles in ever greater numbers. But what is most striking is not so much the number of vehicles as the variety

found in Kyiv today – and throughout Ukraine, for that matter.

The Soviet (now Russian-made) Lada and Volga models remain, but they are much less apparent. Czech-made Skoda, German-made Volkswagen, Opel, Audi, BMW and Mercedes Benz automobiles, as well as models by Datsun, Nissan and Lexus made in Japan have displaced them to a large extent as the purchasing power of Kyivans has increased and banks have become comfortable with extending loans to automobile purchasers.

A recent surge in sales of imported cars has now been followed by the move of European car manufacturers into the Ukrainian market. Ukraine's auto industry, never much to speak of in the first place, has shown strong growth recently after a decade spent in the doldrums, with several of the European carmakers having announced in the last five months that they will begin doing final assembly in country.

The latest foreign automobile manufacturer to do so was Spain's little-known Seat, which produces a cousin of the Volkswagen. On May 21 the Spanish carmaker announced its intention to move into the Ukrainian market. It joins a host of other foreign manufacturers already here, including many of the largest corporations in Europe, among them Volkswagen, Opel and Daimler Chrysler, as well as Skoda and Daewoo.

An essential part of the reason these corporations have decided to make the move into Ukraine is that the auto manufacturing set realizes the economic potential contained within the country's population of 48 million and wants to prepare itself to harvest the treasure trove of potential auto buyers. No less important, by hauling in partially assembled car components and doing final assembly in plants located throughout the country, foreign car manufacturers bypass legislation that slaps on hefty value-added taxes and import tariffs, which can hike the cost of a car by nearly 30 percent.

Nonetheless, these moves remain risky. Simply entering the country market gives these firms no guarantees that car sales and market shares will increase, even if unit prices for their products decrease.

Volodymyr Punchak, 53, who has owned several Ladas over the years, greatly admires the elegant Mercedes Benz and husky Toyota Land Cruiser models that are plentiful in Kyiv. However, when it came time to purchase a new car he opted for the economical ZAZ Daewoo Lanos, produced since 1998 at the single plant of the Zaporizhia Auto Works (ZAZ) in joint production with the Daewoo Corp. ZAZ once was Ukraine's only automobile manufacturing plant and home of the country's only homegrown product, the Zaporozhets, today called the ZAZ- Daewoo Slavuta.

Mr. Punchak picked the Lanos, which goes for just over \$7,000, because that is what his budget realistically allowed.

"I would love to own a jeep, the Toyota Land Cruiser or an American car, but the Lanos is what I can afford," explained Mr. Punchak, who will wait six weeks to receive his new car as back-orders are processed.

Nonetheless, even the economical Lanos is a step up for most Ukrainian car buyers, who are more accustomed to paying anywhere from a couple of hundred dollars to a couple of thousand dollars, but little more, for used vehicles. They remain the most popular types of vehicles sold in the country.

Ukrainians, however, also keep buying the Russian Lada, the cheapest auto-

mobile sold in Ukraine with a sticker price of some \$5,000. The Lada, the dominant passenger vehicle in the Soviet era, remains the new car of choice in Ukraine, with a market share of 50 percent.

Increasingly, however, foreign cars have made inroads, with Daewoo, Skoda, Volkswagen, Toyota and Nissan following the Lada in registered sales over the last four months in a recent survey conducted by a Kyiv consulting firm. And that is an important reason behind the decision to move manufacturing operations, at least in part, into Ukraine.

"A core reason for this situation is the fact that economic indicators are truly on the rise and consumers are living better," explained Oleksander Ryabukhin, assistant general director of Inter Car, an importer of Volkswagens into Ukraine.

However, Mr. Ryabukhin noted that the most recent spike in import car purchases also coincided with reports in the mass media that Ukraine would again raise import tariffs in the near future to stimulate much-needed budget revenues and to deflate demand for imported products.

"Consumers who planned to buy cars in the near future are now attempting to do so as quickly as possible, to get them for the cheaper price," explained Mr. Ryabukhin.

It is the ability to produce a car more inexpensively in a market that has a huge potential that has led the European car manufacturers to Ukraine.

Volkswagen joined a growing list of carmakers in Ukraine on April 10 when it announced that it was shifting its priorities and would concentrate on producing its Golf, Passat, Bora and Polo models for sale in Ukraine in country, with production expected to begin in July of this year. Last year the Czech firm Skoda, which is wholly owned by Volkswagen, led the German giant into the Ukrainian market when it began assembling two models at a plant in the small town of Solomonovo in Zakarpattia Oblast, producing 2,010 vehicles in its first year.

A week before the Volkswagen announcement, another German firm, Adam Opel AG, signed a five-year agreement for a joint venture with AvtoZAZ, to assemble Opel's Astra, Vectra and Corsa model lines in Zaporizhia. Opel expects 4,000 to 4,500 vehicles to roll off the ZAZ assembly lines this year, with up to 20,000 vehicles in final assembly here within two years, according to Opel spokesman Richard Colcomba. By manufacturing in country the company hopes to save Ukrainian buyers 8 percent to 10 percent off the current sticker price for an imported version of its product.

The grandfather of foreign automobile manufacturers in Ukraine is Daewoo Motors, the South Korean conglomerate that is now bankrupt. Its Ukrainian operations, begun in 1998 also in conjunction with AvtoZAZ, never added up to much, although it did initiate production of the new Slavuta.

In January of this year, a Swiss investment firm, Hirsch and Cie, acquired Daewoo's Ukrainian assets, after such international multinationals as General Motors, Daimler Chrysler and Ford backed away from proposals offered them. The secretive and little-known Swiss firm, which many here suspect is simply a front organization for a Russian investor, entered into a joint agreement with UkrAvto, the company that owns 80 percent of AvtoZAZ, to continue to pro-



The old and the new on Kyiv's busy streets: a BMW passes a Soviet-era Lada.

(Continued on page 16)

New York native provides Absolute Adventures in California for outdoors enthusiasts

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – For Long Island native Taissa Kuncio, leaving the Ukrainian community in New York and moving across the United States to own and run an outdoor adventure company in San Francisco just seemed like the right thing to do.

After all, the 24-year-old had already climbed Bolivia's 19,870-foot-high Mount Huayna Potosi and traveled throughout Southeast Asia, Australia and South America.

Now, a year after having taken over the reins of Absolute Adventures with a college friend, membership in the company has tripled and the move, Ms. Kuncio says, was definitely a good

choice.

"There are so many great things to do and it's all so close," Ms. Kuncio said recently in New York City, referring to the various activities her company organizes in and around San Francisco.

From the more extreme skydiving, climbing and whitewater rafting outings to kayaking alongside leopard sharks or under a lunar eclipse, Ms. Kuncio says the company helps expose people to "all of the natural wonders that the [San Francisco] region has to offer."

"Absolute Adventures is all about connecting with others, making great new friends and enjoying the best the Bay Area has to offer," the Absolute Adventures website says.

The company, which Ms. Kuncio and her partner bought in early 2002, organizes a wide variety of events for people who might otherwise lack the time or inclination to do so on their own.

"They're busy people and don't have the time to plan out a weekend," Ms. Kuncio said about much of her clientele. "All they need to do is come – we take care of everything for them."

Currently, the group has some 200 dues-paying members and encourages guests to come and experience the atmosphere, whether it be through a more strenuous event, such as skiing and caving, or through a more social atmosphere, such as a night of fine dining and wine tasting. In the past the company has also organized moonlit steam train rides through the Santa Cruz Mountains and ski trips throughout the Sierra Nevada mountain range, often staying in a ski cabin on the shore of California's Donner Lake.

Many of the more social events, which are often done on weeknights, provide a way for the adventure company to build trust and a relationship with prospective clients. "Climbing with people you barely know can be unnerving," Ms. Kuncio said. "The dinners together give people an opportunity to get to know us, become familiar with us and trust us."

A member of the Ukrainian National Association, Ms. Kuncio had been traveling after graduating from Stanford University with a biology degree when her hiking buddy and college friend Carissa Zenorini, a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) spring board champion and member of the U.S. National Diving Team, contacted her about Absolute Adventures.

"I was thinking about doing some work with a wildlife rehabilitation center, working with gibbons in Thailand," Ms. Kuncio said. But after several weeks, Ms. Kuncio and Ms. Zenorini – a 25-year-old from Demarest, N.J., and also a Stanford University graduate – finally agreed to buy the adventure company.

It was a decision based largely on the type of lifestyle Ms. Kuncio wanted to live. "Get out and do it," the company philosophy says. And indeed, Ms. Kuncio has and does.

Though she says it was in college that backpacking and the outdoors first significantly influenced her, an introduction to nature and the outdoors came



An Absolute Adventures rafting trip down California's American River.



A skydiving instructor and an Absolute Adventures client (bottom) free-fall over California.



Taissa Kuncio of Absolute Adventures.

at an early age. As a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization she spent many summers at the organization's Vovcha Trova campground in upstate New York.

That same interest in the outdoors and travel led Ms. Kuncio to Australia, Thailand, Malaysia, Tibet, Nepal, Peru, Cambodia and Laos after her college graduation. At Stanford Ms. Kuncio was not only a member of an NCAA championship cross-country team but was also on the university's cycling and water skiing teams.

As much as it might seem to be a dream job – Ms. Kuncio and her partner both take part in the events the company organizes – Ms. Kuncio says the work, such as sailing under the Golden Gate Bridge or skiing in the Rocky Mountains for example, does have its downsides.

"Finding time to do this stuff for myself," Ms. Kuncio says, is difficult. There is also a matter of marketing, accounting and other business work that Ms. Kuncio says she doesn't really care for. Although she says business is not bad, the pair must also work second jobs in order to make ends meet.

But despite the downsides, the two have forged ahead with business and Absolute Adventures currently plans to expand. According to Ms. Kuncio, the company is looking into the possibility of organizing mountain bike tours in South America and would also like to hold more corporate events.

"People still want to get outside, but the economy has really hurt us," Ms. Kuncio said, referring to the number of corporate events the adventure company has organized. "[The outings] are great team-building activities, and we're hoping to expand on our corporate business."

While participation in the different outings is open to the public, a membership plan provides discounts on trips, as well as to local sports leagues, gear stores and fitness clubs.

Additionally, the company offers an online calendar of events to let people know about future trips, and, Ms. Kuncio says, special outings for groups of seven or more people can be organized.

To learn more about Absolute Adventures please visit the company's website at www.absoluteadv.com or call Ms. Kuncio at (415) 793-4948 or Ms. Zenorini at (415) 505-5964. The two can also be reached by e-mail at adventurestaff@absoluteadv.com.

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CCRF's Hartford...

(Continued from page 4)

to CCRF to purchase state-of-the-art medical technology for the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Children's Hospital.

The dinner was moderated by Hartford chapter co-chairs Irene Oleksiak and Natalie Korsheniuk-Pollock who thanked all the donors and guests who packed the banquet hall at the Ukrainian National Home in Hartford to celebrate the achievements of CCRF and to mobilize new support for medical programs in Ukraine. Ukraine's consul general in New York, Serhiy Pohoreltzev, and his wife, Svitlana, traveled from New York City to express their nation's gratitude for CCRF's work and to praise the efforts of Mr. Petrenko and the other honorees.

Since 1990, CCRF has launched 30 airlifts and 14 sea shipments, delivering over \$50 million worth of humanitarian aid, medical technology and training programs to Ukrainian hospitals and orphanages that specialize in the treatment of children stricken with thyroid cancer, leukemia, birth defects and life-threatening illnesses. Mr. Pohoreltzev acknowledged the fund as one of the most effective and professional organizations aiding Ukraine.

In accepting his award, Mr. Petrenko began his speech in Ukrainian, thanking the crowd for their warm greeting and for the award, then continued his remarks in English in deference to the culturally diverse audience. "Although I've traveled across the world as an international skater, I will always have a special place in my heart for Ukraine and for my hometown of Odesa," said Mr. Petrenko. He thanked all the volunteers and donors who contributed to the success of the Viktory for Kids program, and who helped him to realize his dream of creating a model neonatal unit in his homeland. "As the father of a young child, I know the importance of what you are doing," he said.

Mr. Petrenko received a standing ovation and was obviously moved by the crowd's response. After the program, he graciously signed autographs and met with well-wishers. Mr. Petrenko was joined by his wife Nina, also an accomplished skater and Olympic trainer, his agent Liz Desevo, and the Ukrainian ice-dancing championship pair of Olena Hrushyna and Ruslan Honcharov.

Speaking on behalf of the CCRF National Office, Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky praised the Ukrainian community of Connecticut as a "stronghold" and "an engine of ingenuity" for CCRF. "From Danbury to Willimantic, from Bridgeport to New Britain to New London, you have reached out to local corporations and political leaders, medical centers, universities and civic associations to find new sources of support from within and from beyond the Ukrainian community," Dr. Matkiwsky said. The co-founder and chairman of CCRF's board of directors went on to say, "In countless ways, you have made us stronger, and you have given us new hope that we can improve the lives of a new generation of Ukrainian children."

Most of the proceeds from the May 18 event were designated for the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Children's Hospital, to build on the success of the Ukrainian National Home of New Haven, Conn., that provided a generous grant of \$71,000 to modernize the local newborn intensive care unit. Attorney Irene Romanelli presented an award to the president of the Ukrainian National Home of New Haven, Conn., Paul Paluha who helped lead the association's campaign for CCRF. Dr.

(Continued on page 13)

CCRF's Hartford...

(Continued from page 12)

Matkiwsky announced that CCRF had just purchased a pediatric ultrasound and other vital equipment to supplement the large CCRF shipment that reached Ivano-Frankivsk last fall.

CCRF's Executive Director Alexander Kuzma presented the award to Mr. Sywenkyj for his photographic documentary work at the Zaluchia Orphanage for Disabled Children and his photographs of Ukrainian children suffering from AIDS. "You captured the essence of the orphans' lives at Zaluchia, and you portrayed them with heart-rending clarity," said Mr. Kuzma.

It was information from the Hartford chapter and Mr. Sywenkyj's photographs that helped draw international attention to the deplorable conditions in which the Zaluchia orphans lived. Since 2000, CCRF has mobilized an intensive campaign that provided the orphanage with major capital improvements, including a new roof and floors, industrial laundry equipment, medicine, clothing, bedding, and a variety of technical assistance.

In accepting his award, the Rev. Mihaly told the audience that it was a privilege to support the CCRF relief effort. "Truly, you are engaged in holy work," the Rev. Mihaly said. A graduate of Yale University and St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary, the Rev. Mihaly has worked closely with the business community in Danbury to secure corporate sponsorships and press coverage for the annual 5-kilometer road race.

Defying the small size of their parish, the 40 families active in Holy Trinity Orthodox Church have raised thousands of dollars for CCRF and helped attract support from this affluent area of Connecticut. In his introductory remarks before presenting the award, Andriy Rudko, the president of Vantage Enterprises hailed the Rev.

Mihaly and his parish for validating the observation of famed anthropologist Dr. Margaret Meade: "Never underestimate the power of a small, determined group of people to change the world."

Among the other celebrities attending the awards dinner were state Sen. John Fonfara, attorney Igor Sikorsky Jr. (son of the Kyiv-born aviation pioneer and inventor of the helicopter), acclaimed children's entertainer Rob Gottfried, and Moki Kokoris, who a month earlier became the first woman of Ukrainian descent to reach the North Pole.

At the conclusion of the banquet, several individuals stepped forward to offer additional financial support for CCRF. Among them were Ivan Zakoworotny of Winsted, Conn., who pledged \$5,000 for a medical program in Kharkiv, and Bohdan and Ella Sowa of New Haven, who donated \$1,000.

CCRF is continuing its campaign to expand its hospital partnerships in 14 Ukrainian oblasts. To support this effort, tax-deductible donations may be sent to CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078. To volunteer, please call (973) 376-5140 or (860) 652-0458, or consult the fund's website at: www.childrenofchornobyl.org.

Following the Hartford CCRF awards banquet, several honorees and guests greeted the crowd.

Corrections

• In the latest "Focus on Philately" column (June 1) the captions for Figures 7 and 8 were reversed.

• Due to a scanning error, the complete dates of the Conference on Ukrainian Subjects at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana were not properly listed. The dates for the conference are June 16-21.



It is with great sorrow, that we inform family and friends, that on Sunday, June 1, 2003, our beloved Mother, Baba, Sister and Aunt

Bohdana Topolnycky

born Bohdana Harmatij in Lviv, Ukraine, died peacefully at the age of 77 at her home in South Hero, Vermont, surrounded by her closest family.

She was the loving wife of the late Dr. Roman Topolnycky. She is survived by her sons: Dr. Ernie Topolnycky and his companion Joyce; Dr. Andrew Topolnycky and his wife, June; grandchildren Andrea, Diana, Nicholas and Alicia; sister Olha Mychajliw with her family; wife, children and grandchildren of her deceased brother Oleh Harmatij, and relatives in America and Ukraine.

Bohdana was an extremely devoted wife and mother as well as an active church parishioner. She was an accomplished needlepoint artist, who also expressed her creativity through floral arranging and collecting Ukrainian art.

Everlasting Memory/Vichnaya Pam'jat!

Funeral services were held at St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Tonawanda, N.Y., on June 6, 2003, followed interment at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Buffalo, N.Y., on June 7, 2003.

In lieu of flowers, family and friends are encouraged to make donations in memory of Bohdana Topolnycky to the Soyuzivka Renaissance Fund.

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<p>LOWEST airfares from JFK-KYIV on AEROSVIT</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">13 June - 14 Sept.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15 Sept. - 31 Oct.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NEW YORK-KYIV</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$840+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$635+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NEW YORK-Lviv, Symferopil, Iv. Frankivsk, Donetsk, Dnupropetrovsk</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$910+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$765+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>To KYIV from:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Atlanta, Boston</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$940+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$635+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pitt., Phila., Wash.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$880+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$635+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chicago</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$850+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$650+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dallas</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$1000+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$850+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Orlando, Tampa</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$990+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$650+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles, San Francisco</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$990+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$760+tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>San Diego, Seattle</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$990+tax</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$760+tax</td> </tr> </table>		13 June - 14 Sept.	15 Sept. - 31 Oct.	NEW YORK-KYIV	\$840+tax	\$635+tax	NEW YORK-Lviv, Symferopil, Iv. Frankivsk, Donetsk, Dnupropetrovsk	\$910+tax	\$765+tax	To KYIV from:			Atlanta, Boston	\$940+tax	\$635+tax	Pitt., Phila., Wash.	\$880+tax	\$635+tax	Chicago	\$850+tax	\$650+tax	Dallas	\$1000+tax	\$850+tax	Orlando, Tampa	\$990+tax	\$650+tax	Los Angeles, San Francisco	\$990+tax	\$760+tax	San Diego, Seattle	\$990+tax	\$760+tax	<p style="text-align: center;">AEROFLOT to KYIV from JFK-Wash. \$600 *til 15 June \$750 15 June-31 Aug. San Fran.-LA-Seattle \$740 *til 15 June \$930 16 June-31 Aug. + taxes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YOUTH FARES Ages 12 to 24 \$680+tax</p>
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Washington...

(Continued from page 7)

Furthermore, the UCCA, as a member organization of the Washington-based Central and East European Coalition (a coalition of ethnic representative organizations), expressed its concerns to high-ranking government officials in meetings held in Washington. The coalition disputed the BBG assumptions that all the countries of Central and Eastern Europe are on their way to becoming NATO members, whereby many aspirant countries to NATO rely on American support for increased citizen awareness of NATO goals and responsibilities.

In a letter to Sen. Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the coalition stipulated: "To close or reduce the European services in this age of uncertainty and terrorism is to invite serious misunderstandings about the American people and their policies, misunderstandings that may have serious

consequences for our nation and national security."

While the Ukrainian American community understands that U.S. homeland security and strategic interests in the Middle East as well as Southeast Asia have acquired new significance and importance, the Ukrainian National Information Service believes that reductions in strategically important factors for democratic development in Ukraine may result in negative repercussions and not only slow the progress of Ukraine's reforms, but compromise the achievements of previously implemented programs.

Maintaining the level of funding for the next several years would allow Ukraine to solidify its reforms and continue on the road to a well-developed society based on strong democratic principles. This outcome is a paramount goal of U.S. policy in the region and its realization would allow the United States to have a stable partner there.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

trial for many. On arrival at Univ, the pilgrims spent the night in prayer and, led by the monastery's Studite monks, processed with candles to Monastic Hill. During the underground period of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, liturgies were celebrated and religious were buried on the hill. At the liturgy on Sunday, three new priests were ordained, including one priest from the Belarusian Greek-Catholic Church. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Kyiv to recognize Moldova's customs seals

CHISINAU – The Moldovan Customs Department on May 22 notified the Transnistria authorities that, as of May 25, Ukraine will only recognize new Moldovan customs seals at border-crossing points on its territory, Infotag reported. The Ukrainian and Moldovan customs authorities signed an agreement to this effect in Kyiv on May 15 and the accord is to go into effect on May 25. Last year Moldova changed its customs seals in an attempt to curb smuggling from Transnistria, but the Ukrainian authorities until earlier this month refused to acknowledge the change at customs posts on the Ukraine-Transnistria border. The accord with Ukraine marks a "big victory for Moldova," according to the DPA news

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Commemorations...

(Continued from page 5)

murdered the Jews, that Poles had nothing to do with it.

Another recent sore point is the issue of the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv, where the official dedication in May 2002 of the Polish section of the cemetery was to have taken place with the participation of the presidents of Poland and Ukraine but was called off when the Lviv City Council balked at the wording of the commemorative plaque and refused permission to have it installed. It was a personal embarrassment for President Kwasniewski, who is considered the most pro-Ukrainian among political leaders in Poland. Hence, when the people who promote the negative image of Ukrainians began to be aggressive about the Volyn commemorations, there was no reaction from presidential circles, Mr. Tyma explained. Several months after the Lychakiv debacle, representatives of the Kresy organizations began meeting with government ministers to plan the Volyn commemorations. Could Volyn be "revenge" for Lychakiv? There could also be some rational psychological issues involved, Mr. Tyma said, as, for example, the fact that the family of the president's wife is from Volyn.

Among Ukrainians in Poland there is concern about how Ukraine will react to Polish pressure to force an "apology" and make the Ukrainian president acknowledge Ukrainian responsibility for the killings in Volyn. There is a serious imbalance in the preparedness and understanding of the importance of this supposedly two-way question. On the Ukrainian side there is no official policy with respect to events of World War II, and the Soviet version of the war is still widely accepted. On the other hand, the Polish side has a focused aim: to prove that there was genocide against the Polish inhabitants of Volyn, organized and directed by the UPA. The Poles have been working long and have dedicated a lot of resources to researching the issue, to finding documents, gathering testimonies and publishing their work, according to Mr. Tyma.

Although Ukrainian historians (such as Prof. Yaroslav Isaievych) claim that the Polish side is ignorant of the facts and lets stereotypes rule, Mr. Tyma believes that Ukrainian historians often reject Polish research blankly without having the facts to back this up. Their main position is the dismissal of collective responsibility of the Ukrainian nation for both "real and imagined crimes" in Volyn perpetrated by the few. They maintain that only separate UPA units took part in the destruction of Polish settlements in Volyn and it is they who are responsible, not the UPA as a whole.

But this is a problematic position, as the status of the UPA has not been settled in Ukraine and the rehabilitation of the UPA has not been completed. Bearing in mind the politicization in Ukraine of the acknowledgement of the UPA as a national liberation force, any UPA implication in the killings will be bad for Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko, as it can be used to discredit him in the parts of Ukraine where the Soviet version of World War II is still the dominant one – something that has probably not escaped the notice of the "hardball players" in the presidential administration.

Mr. Tyma concluded that what will happen with the commemorations will depend on several factors: on the one hand, the actions and behavior of President Kwasniewski and the leading politicians in the ruling coalition in the Polish Sejm and, from the Ukrainian side, on the personalities involved and their agendas. This issue brings to the fore the

fact that, in the process of national consolidation and nation-building, there are unsolved questions regarding internal Ukrainian (East-West) as well as external (with other nations) relations in Ukraine.

The continuation of the negative stereotyping of Ukrainians and the further dissemination of one-sided evaluations of the Volyn events is of particular concern to Ukrainians in Poland. As Mr. Tyma said, "Living dispersed among the Polish population we will continuously have to explain: who killed whom, why, that these were not our parents who were not born in Volyn." The fact that officially Poland has promised many things to redress the wrongs of World War II – compensation for those interned at the concentration camp at Jaworzno in 1947-1949, restitution of confiscated property seized during Akcja Wisla, no interference with the commemoration of UPA burial sites in Poland – but delivered little, shows there is a reluctance on the part of the Poles to acknowledge other views and others' needs.

Note: Issue No. 28 of the magazine Yi [i] contains a comprehensive collection of articles on the topic Volyn 1943 in Ukrainian. The issue can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.ji-magazine.lviv.ua>.

Yi, which bill itself as an independent culturological publication, is published in Lviv. Its editor is Taras Wozniak. The magazine usually publishes issues on one main topic; the one devoted to Volyn 1943 has articles by Taras Hunczak, Yaroslav Isaievych, Natalia Yakovenko and others.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 177

Please be advised that Branch 177 has merged with Branch 206 as of June 1, 2003. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Irene Sarachmon.

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The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

Wedding Announcements

will appear on June 22, 2003.

For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by June 10, 2003.

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Kyiv's traffic...

(Continued from page 10)

duce the current Daewoo model line at the ZAZ plant.

A key part of the agreement was that Hirsch and Cie could withhold investment until production hit 50,000 units. However, with the current boom in Daewoo popularity, that time may come sooner than they had expected.

AvtoZAZ-Daewoo originally projected sales of 40,000 units in 2003, but with delivery of its popular Lanos currently backlogged by at least a month, it could exceed planned production considerably before the year is over.

Maryna Yakovleva, assistant director of marketing and purchasing for EvroCar, which is the Ukrainian partner for Volkswagen operations in Ukraine, said that Daewoo has suddenly become popular because it is a recognizable and well-known model that has been on the Ukrainian market for some time. But she underscored that the most important reason for its current popularity lies in its inexpensive price tag in combination with Ukrainian import quotas that have been placed on Russian-made automobiles such as the Lada as part of the economic war that is continuing between Kyiv and Moscow.

"The production of [Ladas] in Ukraine (assembled in Rivne) cannot compensate fully for what the market demands, so a niche opened in this price range for the Lanos, which fits there nicely," explained Ms. Yakovleva.

Yet, Ms. Yakovleva said that as

Ukraine's standard of living continues to rise and consumers find more money in their pockets, the more expensive European car made in Ukraine will come to dominate the market.

"People here also give priority to new models that have quality, give them comfort as well as various options and are built to last," Ms. Yakovleva said.

Martha Kulchytsky-Andriuk...

(Continued from page 4)

Opera Company, she performed the leading role of Odarka in "Zaporzhets za Dunaiem." Her beloved opera, "Madama Butterfly," translated into Ukrainian, was also performed by her.

But there was yet another side to the deceased. Ms. Kulchytsky-Andriuk, raised in the turmoil of war, remained untouched by the terrible events that surrounded her formative years. She often proudly declared, "We survived." She did much more than that. But she was lively, humorous, playful, kind and generous.

Her generosity extended to anonymously sponsoring a new orphan every year, serving as a camp counselor for sick children in Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Gang Summer Camp. She served as vice-president of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, and gave countless concerts and benefits on its behalf.

Believing in the Ukrainian community, the Andriuks donated \$10,000 each to the Harvard Ukrainian Studies Fund, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and Holy Family Shrine in Washington.

Ms. Kulchytsky-Andriuk's death on April 7, although premature, was made easier by the love expressed by her sons, Oleh, Mark and Andrew, who during her illness were her constant companions. She was laid to rest beside her husband in Washington.

Need a back issue?

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THE ARTS SCENE

Rem exhibits his works in Yonkers



YONKERS, N.Y. – During an exhibition sponsored on April 13 by UNWLA Branch 30, every visitor was overwhelmed by the beauty, craftsmanship and recurring Ukrainian themes clearly dominating each creation by Rem Bahautdyn. At St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, art enthusiasts were enveloped by compositions reflecting the artist's love and understanding of Ukraine's history, traditions and legends. His personal demeanor and exuberant approach to life belie his age and all that he has lived through, yet the diverse elements of his life experiences pour out in each vibrant and original work of art. Mr. Bahautdyn, a master with brass and silver reliefs, and a multi-talented artist, is far from exhausting his inventory of images he wants to create, and he enthusiastically spoke of new techniques and media for future compositions. The verbal images he created for his listeners left all yearning to see these forthcoming masterpieces. The artist is seen above with Nadia Cwiach (left) and Olga Rudyk of the local UNWLA.

LUBOMYR KUZMA

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Jousting in the 21st century: only at Medieval Times!

by Justin Stasiuk

LYNDHURST, NJ. – On Friday, May 23, the sixth grade from St. John's School in Newark, N.J., visited the Middle Ages.

Impossible you say? Not if you are lucky enough to visit Medieval Times, a great big castle built in the New Jersey Meadowlands, where you can take a trip back in time.

The entire sixth grade class waited patiently for months before our trip going 800 years back in time; and the consensus was that it was well worth the wait.

Inside the walls of the Medieval Times castle we saw knights in shining armor and on horseback, dungeons, sword fights, banquets, medieval games and screaming fans. The tournament arena is where the knights joust and fight with swords, and it is the center of attraction.

Jousting is a medieval sport where knights, separated by a fence, gallop on horses toward each other with long wooden sticks called lances. The object of this sport is to strike your opponent with the lance and knock him off the horse. I've seen jousting in the movies, but in real life it is just awesome!

At the arena, after being welcomed by the kind, we all ate as much food as we wanted, including chicken, ribs and other "goodies," and best of all, we ate with our hands, because in the Middle Ages people did not use forks, knives and spoons to eat their food.

Before the jousting and sword fights started we were all assigned a knight to root for during the tournament. It was exciting to root for your knight, even if he did not win the tournament.

By the time I came home, I was so hoarse from cheering for my knight that I could barely tell my parents how much fun I had.

Our class trip to Medieval Times was great. While I am sad that many of the students in the sixth grade will not be coming back to St. John's next year, I am happy that we will all share the memory of our great last class trip together to Medieval Times.

CHECK IT OUT: On page 11 of this issue read about a young Ukrainian American originally from the metropolitan New York area, a former member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, who today owns a unique business called Absolute Adventures based in San Francisco.



The sixth grade class with their teacher, Mrs. Luba Batka (front and center), and Father Leonard Ratushniak (standing in back row).

St. Nicholas students send greetings to UKELODEON



PASSAIC, N.J. – The students of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School from kindergarten through eighth grade sent greetings to readers of The Ukrainian Weekly, and especially to their peers, the readers of UKELODEON, via the group photo above taken in front of their school building.

PETRO PYTAYE ASKS: What will you be doing this summer?

UKELODEON's roving reporter Petro Pytaye asked a few of our readers, age 11 and 12, to reply to the question: *What will you be doing this summer?*

Following are some of the responses he got.

Gregory Fat, age 11, Trenton, N.J.: During the summer I am going to Plast camp. I am looking forward to being a "yunak" for the first time and also the "vechirka" (dance). I am also on a swim team so I will swim five days a week in a 50-meter pool in Princeton. I am looking forward to winning medals this summer. And, lastly, I will also look forward to having friends at my house, having parties, staying up ldate to have fun. Of all these things I look forward to camp and the "vechirka" the most.

Volodymir Vlasyuk, 12, Greenbrook, N.J.: I am going to Ukraine this summer to visit my grandparents and other relatives. I am looking forward to building a fort out of wood in which we will play games and "attack" people. I'll go swimming in a lake. When I return from Ukraine, I will go to Dorney Park in Pennsylvania. Of these things I am most looking forward to playing at my fort.

Christina Wirstiuk, age 12, Fort Washington, Pa.: For the summer I will be going to my house in the Poconos (mountains in Pennsylvania) and different camps. I will also be going to Wildwood for "Ukie Week." Of all these things I am looking forward to Plast camp the most.

Michael Jablonskyj, 12, Edison, N.J.: I will be going to Plast camp. Then we're going on vacation to North Carolina. I'm looking forward to the fun.

Sviatoslav Serediak, 12, Leonardo, N.J.: I will go to camp for a couple of weeks. Then I will go to Ukraine for one month. The rest of the time I will stay home and do nothing!

Paul Hadzewycz, 11, Morristown, N.J.: I'll be doing many things. First, I will go to Soyuzivka for two weeks – two weeks of swimming, hiking, etc. Then, right after that, I will attend Plast camp for three weeks as a "yunak." I look forward to this camp as one of the highlights of my vacation. Then, for the rest of the summer, I will be going every weekend – and for a whole week or two – to Lake George, where we have a boat.

Daria Hapon, 11, Millburn, N.J.: I will go to camp and then fly to Germany and France to visit my relatives. Otherwise, I will just stay home and watch TV. I am looking forward to Germany.

Markian Martynetz, 12, South Orange, N.J.: I will be at Plast camp this summer. Afterwards I will be going to New York to camp with my family at Raquette Lake. About a week or so after that I will be traveling, this time to Wildwood, where we will play at the beach. I look forward to being with my friends at Plast camp.

PS: Petro Pytaye did NOT get ANY answers to the question posed in print in the preview issue of UKELODEON. (What did you wish your Mom on Mother's Day, and what will you wish your Dad on Father's Day? Be creative!) Come on readers! UKELODEON will print your responses. Really! All you have to do is take the time to send them in!

Mishanyna

To solve this month's Mishanyna – which celebrates the upcoming end of the school year and the imminent arrival of summertime – find the words that you see capitalized in the following text within the Mishanyna grid below. (Remember: words can appear written left to right, right to left, up and down, or even diagonally).

Well, the 2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR is almost over. Soon it'll be GRADUATION time for many of our readers, or time for that final ASSEMBLY when school lets out for the summer.

After saying GOOD-BYE to your friends at school, where will you be headed? Perhaps you are off to the MOUNTAINS to enjoy the scenery and fresh air, or to the SEASHORE for some FUN in the SUN, or some other interesting place for VACATION. Maybe you'll be spending time at a summer CAMP or WORKSHOP.

(And why not let us know how you're doing this summer? Become a UKELODEON REPORTER and share stories of your exploits with fellow READERS!)

Whatever your DESTINATION or your INCLINATION, we wish you a great time with your summertime FRIENDS – many of whom you probably have not seen since the previous summer. And isn't that one of the best things of all about summer? No matter where you go, or what you do, there are things to share with good friends from NEAR and FAR.

We hope our young readers enjoy the summer, because, before you know it, it'll be SEPTEMBER and time to start a new school year. But for now, it's "no more pencils, no more books..." and thoughts of a GREAT time ahead.

A happy summer to you all! (But do keep in touch.)

Z	E	P	A	R	T	F	R	E	T	R	O	P	E	R
R	E	A	D	E	R	S	A	Z	I	N	A	G	R	O
T	R	I	T	I	A	R	Z	R	T	A	E	R	G	P
P	S	U	E	S	C	H	O	O	L	Y	E	A	R	E
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H	D	I	S	A	R	P	L	Y	W	O	O	T	D	U
S	R	I	N	S	A	L	T	E	R	D	C	O	U	K
K	D	U	I	H	T	A	M	E	T	A	O	Y	A	E
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OUR NEXT ISSUE: UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated July 13, please send in your materials by July 4.
We especially encourage kids and teens to submit articles and see their names in print!
BECOME A UKELODEON REPORTER! Please drop us a line:
UKELODEON
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10 - P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054
fax, (973) 644-9510
telephone, (973) 292-9800
e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com
(We ask all contributors to please include a daytime phone number.)

Our name: UKELODEON
UKELODEON: it rhymes with nickelodeon. Yes, that's a kids' network (spelled with a capital "N"), but the original word referred to an early movie theater that charged a nickel for admission.
According to The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the root of the word, "odeon," is from the Greek "oideion," a small building used for public performances of music and poetry.
Our UKELODEON is envisioned as a public space where our youth, from kindergartners to teens, can come to learn, to share information, to relate their experiences, and to keep in touch with each other. Its contents will be shaped by the young readers of the next generation.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|--|
| June 2-5
Clergy Retreat, Stamford
Eparchy | Barabolya and Ron Cahute |
| June 8-13
UNA Seniors Week | August 2, Saturday
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava
with BURYA |
| June 15, Sunday
Father's Day and Kick-off
of the Summer Heritage
Concert Series with Zorepad
Dance ensemble of Watervliet,
NY, and Holy Trinity Ukrainian
School Dance Group of
Kerhonkson, N.Y., and the
vocal ensemble "Generations" | August 3, Sunday
UNWLA Day |
| June 21-July 3
Tennis Camp | August 3-8
Soyuzivka Scuba Diving Course |
| June 22-29
Day Camp, Tabir Ptashat No. 1 | August 9, Saturday
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with
NA ZDOROVYA
Art Exhibit with Ducia
Hanushevsky; ceramics
and the paintings
of Anatolij Burtovyj |
| June 28, Saturday
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava
with VIDLUNNIA | August 10-16
Club Suzie-Q Week |
| June 29-July 6
Day Camp, Tabir Ptashat No. 2 | August 10-23
Traditional Ukrainian Folk
Dance Camp with Roma
Pryma Bohachevsky |
| July 4-6
Fourth of July Weekend and
Zabavas with MONTAGE,
TEMPO and Philadelphia Funk
Authority (10-piece funk dance
band)
Music with Philadelphia Funk
Brothers (five-piece funk band) | August 16, Saturday
Miss Soyuzivka Weekend and
Zabava with
FATA MORGANA |
| July 6, Sunday
Summer Heritage Concert No. 2 | August 17, Sunday
Summer Heritage Concert No. 4
featuring Dumka Choir |
| July 6-19
Boys' and Girls' Recreational Camp | August 23, Saturday
Ukrainian Independence Day
Celebration - Dance Camp
Recital and Zabava |
| July 12, Saturday
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava | August 25- September 1
Labor Day Week |
| July 13-18
Chemney Camp, Session No. 1 | August 30-31
Labor Day Weekend - Zabavas
with FATA MORGANA and
TEMPO
Summer Heritage Concert with
UKRAINA Dance Ensemble
from Canada |
| July 19, Saturday
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with
VORONY
Children's Weekend - Bounce
House and Games for Kids | September 8-11
Regensburg Reunion |
| July 20-25
Chemney Camp, Session No. 2 | September 12-14
KLK Weekend and Annual Meeting
Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion |
| July 20- August 2
Sports Camp | September 18-21
Reunion of Salzburg Gymnasium |
| July 26, Saturday
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava
with SVITANOK | September 26-28
Conference of Spartanky
Plast Sorority |
| July 27, Sunday
Summer Heritage Concert No. 3 | September 28-30
Reunion of Mittenwald
Gymnasium |
| August 1-3
Soyuzivka Sports Jamboree
Weekend.
Softball, Soccer, Volleyball and
Hockey/Rollerblade
Tournaments
Music by Ihor Bachynskyj, | |



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 141
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Kerhonkson, NY 12446
E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 12-29

NEW YORK: LaMaMa Experimental Theater and Yara Arts Group present "Swan," a new theater piece based on Oleh Lysheha's eponymous Ukrainian poem, performed in English in a translation by Ms. Tkacz and Wanda Phipps. The theater piece, which opens on June 12 and will run through June 29, is created by director Virlana Tack, designer Watoku Ueno, musician Paul Brantley, vocalist Meredith Wright, video director Andrea Odezynska and actors Andrew Colteaux and Soomi Kim. Performances: Thursday-Sunday, 8 p.m.; matinee, Sundays, 3 p.m. Tickets, \$15. La MaMa is located at 74 E. Fourth St.; telephone, (212) 475-7710; website, www.brama.com/yara.

Friday- Sunday, June 13-15

YONKERS, N.Y.: The 18th annual Ukrainian Heritage Festival, which celebrates Ukrainian art, culture, music and dance, drawing over 10,000 people from the area and neighboring states, will be held on the grounds of St. Michael

Ukrainian Catholic Church, Broadway and Shonnard Place. Festival schedule: June 13, 6-10 p.m.; June 14, 1-10 p.m.; June 15, 1-7 p.m. The three-day event will feature free outdoor entertainment, demonstrations of Ukrainian arts and crafts, Ukrainian food, carnival rides, amusements and exhibits. (On Saturday, June 14, at 1-4 p.m., there will be "Pay One Price" bracelets at \$10 for all the carnival rides.) For more information visit the website www.brama.com/yonkers-ukrainianfest or call (914) 375-4418.

Saturday, June 14

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society is holding a lecture by Dr. Pavlo Hrytsenko, chair, dialectology department, Institute of Ukrainian Language, National Academy of Sciences, on the topic "The European Charter of Regional, or Minority Languages: Is There a Threat to the Ukrainian Language Today?" The lecture will be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

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.

50-ЛІТТЯ



ВОВЧОЇ ТРОПИ



ЛИПЕНЬ

18-ого
Вечір Пісень
ЗАБАВА

19-ого
ВІДКРИТТЯ
Програма Дня
ВАТРА

20-ого
Служба Божа
ЗАКРИТТЯ

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