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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Prime minister reports expectations of substandard fall harvest in Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich disclosed on June 14 that Ukraine's fall harvest could be dismal this year after much of the grain crop in the country's southern, eastern and central regions was damaged by a late spring drought that followed early spring frosts.

"This is the worst weather for crop growth we have had in the last 10 years," explained Mr. Yanukovich, during a special teleconference with oblast leaders that focused on problems in Ukraine's agricultural sector.

The State Statistics Committee confirmed that 65 percent of planted fields in the southern, eastern and central oblasts of Ukraine were destroyed by bad weather, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Prime Minister Yanukovich said the government "has full control of the situation" and had increased budget outlays to the agricultural sector, including full repayment of debts owed agricultural producers from last year's harvest.

Minister of Agriculture Serhii Ryzhuk,

speaking during a separate meeting, said Ukraine expects to harvest only 25 million to 27 million tons of grain this year — far below last year's record yield of 38.8 million tons. He said the government expects to import a minimum of 1.5 million tons and as much as 2.5 million tons to meet any shortfalls that might occur in the domestic market after export agreements are met. He also held out hope that rain in the next few days could save some of the crop.

Mr. Ryzhuk said he agreed with a proposal made by grain traders that import duty and value-added taxes on grain imports should be temporarily lifted.

Less than ideal weather conditions in the last three months in Ukraine have led to thousands of hectares of underdeveloped wheat, corn, rye and barley in the agriculturally vital Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Odesa and Vinnytsia oblasts of the country. Ukraine's winter this year extended well into April with nighttime temperatures dipping below the freezing mark through the middle of the

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## Lazarenko released from jail pending August 18 court hearing

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — A U.S. judge released former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko from jail pending a court hearing scheduled for August 18, Mr. Lazarenko's Ukrainian lawyer told the Associated Press on June 14.

"U.S. Judge Martin Jenkins was satisfied with a petition for [Mr. Lazarenko's] release submitted by Lazarenko's American attorneys," the Ukrainian attorney, Maryna Dolhopola, said, according to the wire service.

Mr. Lazarenko has been held in a detention facility outside of San Francisco since 1999. He is accused by the United States of laundering \$114 million through various U.S. banks while he was Ukraine's prime minister but has pleaded innocent to the charges. Mr. Lazarenko also faces two counts of murder and is wanted on charges of embezzlement, misappropriation of government property and abuse of office in Ukraine. Additionally, he was convicted in June 2000 of money laundering by a court in Switzerland, which sentenced him to an 18-month suspended prison term.

According to several news sources, Mr.

Lazarenko's lawyers petitioned for his release from prison so that he could be present while both prosecution and defense lawyers take testimony in Ukraine from various individuals. He will reportedly remain free of custody for the entire period of witness depositions, which is said to lead up to the August trial date.

Ms. Dolhopola told the AP that Mr. Lazarenko could listen to testimony via technical means. However, Ukraine's Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun said that "Mr. Lazarenko will wear a special electronic bracelet and officials from the

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## Canadian senator introduces motion to recognize Famine

OTTAWA — Progressive Conservative Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, in a motion she proposed at the June 17 sitting of the Senate, called on the government of Canada to recognize the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

The motion calls for the recognition of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 and condemnation of any attempt to deny or distort this historical truth as being anything less than a genocide; for the fourth Saturday in November to be designated as a day of remembrance for those who perished during the time of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide; and for all Canadians, particularly historians, educators and parliamentarians, to include the true facts of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide in the records of Canada and in future educational material.

In a speech on the Senate floor that accompanied the motion, Sen. Andreychuk signaled that this year, 2003, marks the 70th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide. She pointed out that the Parliament of Ukraine has set a task "to honor the memory of the victims and to guarantee that this genocidal famine is not forgotten by generations to come."

Canada, too, must now take steps to assign those terrible events their rightful place in the annals of history," Sen. Andreychuk underscored.

Over 7 million people died in the state-organized Famine-Genocide that struck Ukraine in 1932-1933 when, under the leadership of Joseph Stalin, the Soviet Union sought to destroy all opposition to forced collectivization. Many survivors of the Famine-Genocide later emigrated to Canada.

Sen. Andreychuk, who was born in

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## North American show of fashions from Ukraine benefits cancer fund

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK — In a landmark, five-city fund-raising tour that concluded in this fashion-conscious metropolis on June 7, three of Ukraine's leading fashion designers showed their latest collections to the public to help the fight against breast cancer in Ukraine.

It was the first time the work of Ukraine's professional designers has been unveiled in runway shows on this continent. The fashion shows — in Chicago, Detroit, Toronto, Washington, and New York — were organized by a host of volunteers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Breast cancer ranks first among oncological illnesses for women in Ukraine, with 15,000 new cases diagnosed annually. The funds raised here and in Ukraine are expected to provide mammogram machines for Ukraine's provinces, facilitating early diagnosis, and longer survival, for women who have limited access to testing sites.

Proclaiming the slogan "Because Life is Beautiful," the shows featured women's clothing, accessories and jewelry by Anna Babenko and Victoria Gres of Kyiv, and Oksana Karavanska of Lviv. The New York presentation, held at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Fifth Avenue, included a silent auction, a raffle and a champagne

reception.

New York Gov. George Pataki delegated a representative, Lynn Rollins, to extend greetings and encouragement at the show, and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg commended the fund-raisers' "generosity and efforts" by letter.

With an admiring audience looking on and applauding, willowy professional models in lacy, lattice-work, beaded and luxurious apparel — often body-baring and sensuous — paraded up and down the white-carpeted runway that stretched through the institute's second-floor galleries and landing.

Natalia Shvachko, Miss Ukraine 1996, now living and modeling in New York City, was among the models showing sophisticated coats and dresses, funky tops and pants, avant-garde jackets and sweaters, and dresses and skirts with dipping hemlines.

Project coordinator Marta Kolomayets, a former associate editor at The Ukrainian Weekly who is president of Public Education International in Kyiv, explained that breast cancer awareness is a serious problem in Ukraine. "Ukrainian women do not have access to information and diagnostic tools. We've started a big learning process through pamphlets and brochures, but there's a desperate need for mammogram machines," she said.

"If this fund drive can pay for mammogram machines in the provinces and save even a few lives, it's well worth the time and effort we've put into it," she added.

Ms. Kolomayets said that the North American campaign had realized close to \$100,000, although all donations had not yet been totaled.

### Fascinating designs

Many attractive, highly wearable outfits emerged from the variety of fascinating, eclectic designs that were shown, among them a straight-cut ivory coat of handmade merino wool with a high upturned collar and a silk brocade coat worn over black pants and a corset-style blouse with sheer sleeves. A pretty two-tone pink shirt, its bustier-style lower half embellished with embroidered flowers, was effectively combined with white wide-leg pants.

Greatly admired was an iridescent silk and cashmere blend coat in tones of lilac, deep blue and rose in a pattern that suggested a Ukrainian klym. An outfit that appealed to young types in the audience combined a satin-trimmed ruched velvet top with straight-leg pants featuring a silver-buckled belt that held an embroidered hip pouch, worn with a matching shoulder bag.

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## ANALYSIS

**Spot the reformers in Ukraine**

by Taras Kuzio

*RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report*

In the last decade, a sizeable body of academics and a larger number of journalists have written negatively about Rukh and the national democrats in Ukraine. National democrats are usually described as "nationalists" hostile to both Russia and Russians within Ukraine.

Such views have been supported within academia because of the dominance of former-Sovietologists-turned-Russian-specialists. Another factor is that Western media are still largely based only in Moscow, as it was in the former USSR, from where they cover the entire Commonwealth of Independent States. Kyiv had a large number of journalists from most major Western English-language newspapers in the early 1990s, but this has dwindled to only the Financial Times. Western correspondents in Kyiv were never salaried (which was reserved for Moscow) but merely stringers. [Editor's note: The Ukrainian Weekly, it should be noted, has maintained a full-time press bureau in Kyiv since January 1991, which is headed by a salaried editor from the U.S.]

The newly published 300-page volume by Mikhail Molchanov titled "Political Culture and National Identity in Russian-Ukrainian Relations" (College Station, Texas: Texas A & M University Press, 2002) follows in this tradition. The volume paints a picture of a radical, anti-Russian nation-building project in Ukraine that is "ghettoizing" Russians (p. 200). Ukraine's nation-building project is allegedly copying the assimilationist French model. The "nationalist diaspora," which returned to Ukraine in the early 1990s, "now spearheads the so-called national-democratic right in Parliament" (p. 182). Rukh is, of course, deemed to be a rabid "nationalist" organization" (p. 93).

Mr. Molchanov and this earlier tradition of scholars and journalists have been unable to grapple with what is the centrality of those they disparage as "nationalists" (i.e., national democrats) to blocking Ukraine's advance towards corporatist authoritarianism. They are also the main hope for Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration. In addition, the picture they paint is untrue. Between the 1989 Soviet and 2001 Ukrainian censuses the proportion of Ukrainians giving Ukrainian as their "native language" declined by two percent. Meanwhile, the only deaths from ethnic violence in Ukraine have been a Ukrainian singer in Lviv and Tatars in Crimea, in both cases at the hands of Russian speakers.

Ukraine's political spectrum conveniently falls into three camps. The center-right national democrats, oligarchic-controlled centrists and the left (moderate Socialists and neo-Stalinist Communists, the Communist Party of Ukraine [CPU]). The entire opposition are in different ways opposed to the creeping authoritarianism supported by the executive.

The CPU, though, refused to support the protests that arose out of the "Kuchmagate" crisis in November 2000 and backed the oligarchs in voting no confidence in the Viktor Yushchenko government in April 2001. Former Procurator General and CPU deputy Mykhailo Potebencko provided the key

*Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto, and visiting fellow at the Institute for Security Studies-European Union, Paris.*

one additional vote that gave the presidential majority the minimum 226 votes to elect presidential administration head Volodymyr Lytvyn as chairman of the Verkhovna Rada.

There is no doubt about the Socialist Party (SPU), led by Oleksander Moroz, which has shown a wholehearted commitment to democratization and staunch opposition (unlike the CPU) to executive-driven authoritarianism and corruption. If ever there was a genuine leftist party in Ukraine deserving of an invitation to join the Socialist International, it is the SPU. The SPU, unlike the oligarchic Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU), was invited to the May congress of the German Social Democrats. Nevertheless, the SPU is not committed to market economic reform (including land reform) and Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration.

What then of the centrists as an alternative to "nationalists" (i.e., national democrats). In Ukraine there is not a single major centrist party that is not controlled by oligarchs. The last genuine centrist reformist party, Volodymyr Hryniiov's Inter-Regional Bloc for Reforms (which was part of Leonid Kuchma's 1994 election bloc and the failed SLON bloc in the 1998 elections), was absorbed by the oligarchic National Democratic Party (NDP) in 2001, led by discredited former Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko.

Oligarchs have either captured established, dormant centrist parties (e.g., the Green Party, or launched internal coup d'etat and gained control of parties by pushing out genuine reformers (e.g., the SDPU and NDP). Reformers who were pushed out of the SDPU and the NDP moved to the national democrats. Other centrist parties were created from scratch, such as the Agrarians, Labor Ukraine, and Regions of Ukraine.

These centrist parties have three factors in common. First, many of them are Russian-speaking, making them more similar to the CPU than the Ukrainophone SPU and national democrats. The two exceptions are the Agrarians and the NDP. Nearly all of the newspapers created by centrist parties are in Russian (e.g., Kievskii Telegraf and Fakty by Labor Ukraine, Segodnia by Regions of Ukraine, and Kievskie Veidomosti by the SDPU).

Second, all of them are pro-presidential. This means they prefer the authoritarian political system increasingly evident in Ukraine during President Kuchma's second term in office since 1999. This reflects the strong domination of Soviet political culture found among them, which prefers a "hybrid" system combining elements of the Soviet and Western political-economic systems. In the foreign domain this has translated into a vague and constantly shifting "multi-vector" foreign policy.

Third, centrists are ideologically amorphous. Ideology plays second fiddle to short-term economic and political gain and power. Centrist parties are top-down fake parties with forcibly conscripted memberships. What of former oligarchs who have turned against the executive? Both former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko and Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko joined the radical opposition. In both cases their parties, Hromada and Fatherland, respectively, had no choice but to align themselves with the SPU and national democrats in populist opposition to centrist oligarchs.

Consequently, the only genuine political

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**NEWSBRIEFS****Moscow weekly recalls Duranty**

MOSCOW – Reporting about the recent departure of the executive editor of The New York Times and the episode involving former reporter Jason Blair, Yezhenedelnyi Zhurnal (No. 73) recalled the career of The New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty. The weekly noted that Duranty, who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 for his "dispassionate and objective reporting" from the Soviet Union, labeled reports about a famine in Ukraine "baseless." According to the weekly, people who knew Duranty recall that he in fact knew that at least 7 million people had died. The weekly speculates that Duranty was a paid agent of the Soviet secret police. It wrote that many of his articles "were clearly prepared with the assistance of the [secret police's] foreign department." Another possibility, according to the weekly, was that Duranty's work was an expression of "ideal amorality." Duranty was a close associate of satanist Alistair Crowley. At one point, Crowley reportedly wrote to Duranty suggesting that in order for the Soviet regime to be "truly modern," Stalin should proclaim a law of Satanism. The Pulitzer Prize committee is currently reviewing Duranty's award as a result of international pressure calling for its revocation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Presidents to attend reconciliation event**

WARSAW – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and his Polish counterpart, Aleksander Kwasniewski, will take part in a reconciliation ceremony commemorating the Poles of Volyn, western Ukraine, who were murdered by the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and local Ukrainians 60 years ago, the PAP news service reported on June 11. The decision was confirmed by Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council Secretary Yevhen Marchuk and the chief of the Polish National Security Bureau, Marek Siwiec, during their meeting in Kyiv on June 11. The ceremony will be held on July 11 in Pavlivka, where more than 100 Poles were herded into a local church and burned alive on July 11, 1943, the agency reported. Polish historians estimate that some 60,000-80,000 Poles died as a result of the UPA operation, intended to drive them out of Volyn. Ukrainian historians estimate that up to 30,000 Ukrainians were killed in reprisals by the Polish Home Army. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Shkil urges caution re Volyn issue**

LVIV – Lawmaker Andriy Shkil of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc told journalists in Lviv on June 17 that Ukraine must be very careful in signing any statements in connection with the planned Polish-Ukrainian commemoration of the 60th anniversary of

the so-called Volyn massacres, the UNIAN and Interfax news services reported. According to Mr. Shkil, documents signed by the Ukrainian side on this occasion should avoid providing grounds for lawsuits by Poles who suffered as a result of the tragedy. Mr. Shkil was in Warsaw last week with a delegation of Ukrainian lawmakers who prepared a joint statement by the Sejm and the Verkhovna Rada on the Volhynia massacres. "The text of the joint resolution by the parliaments of both countries was drafted to prevent [such lawsuits]," Mr. Shkil said. "Regarding another document that was prepared by the Foreign Affairs Ministry and is to be signed by the presidents of Ukraine and Poland, it may have such legal consequences, since in it Ukraine actually acknowledges its responsibility for ethnic cleansing against the Polish population in Volyn." (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Churches comment on Volyn tragedy**

LVIV – The All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations released a statement reflecting on the 60th anniversary of the tragic Polish-Ukrainian conflict in northwestern Ukrainian Volyn. The statement, dated May 12, (source: www.uaorthodox.org) noted in part: "During the centuries of history, the fates of Ukrainians and Poles have intertwined more than once, sometimes joining them in a single empire, sometimes separated by borders, sometimes in peace, sometimes in conflict ... Today, before the anniversary of the tragic events in Volyn and eastern Halychyna, we, the descendants of these terrible bad times, have to raise up prayers to the Lord for these Ukrainians and Poles. Defending their countries, their peoples, their families, they left this world with faith in their hearts for peace and a bright future. We should have the bravery to acknowledge the mistakes of previous generations, to bend low and ask forgiveness for the pain and hurt that was done to one another. We remember these past tragic events in Ukrainian-Polish relations. Our peoples, especially the younger generation who will build their future, need this memory and historical knowledge. This is necessary so that facts not fully understood will not become a source of mistrust and prejudice, so that they will not burden our relations as good neighbors. We, members of the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, together with all our people, pray to the Lord for the souls of the victims of these sad and tragic years. And we call all to pray that the uncorrected mistakes of the past not be repeated in the future. So that mutual forgiveness, peace and understanding rule in the relations of

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Postmaster, send address changes to: **Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz**  
The Ukrainian Weekly **Editors:**  
2200 Route 10 **Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)**  
P.O. Box 280 **Andrew Nynka**  
Parsippany, NJ 07054 **Ika Koznarska Casanova (part time)**

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## FOR THE RECORD: RFE/RL interviews Viktor Yushchenko

Viktor Yushchenko, leader of the *Our Ukraine* political bloc, visited the RFE/RL headquarters in Prague on June 6, where he was a keynote speaker at Radio Liberty's 50th anniversary commemorations. Later the same day, Mr. Yushchenko was interviewed by Vasyl Zilhalov and Iryna Khalupa from RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service. The entire interview can be found at <http://www.radiosvoboda.org/specialreports/guests/uk/2003/06/20030606asp>.

Below is a translation, provided by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report, of selected excerpts, where Mr. Yushchenko touched upon the freedom of expression, the political situation and upcoming presidential elections in Ukraine, as well as upon his relations with President Leonid Kuchma.

**Is there any alternative to Radio Liberty in Ukraine? In other words, have we already reached the situation that Ukraine has many media outlets such as Radio Liberty?**

Unfortunately, no. [While speaking at the 50th anniversary commemorations earlier today], I wanted to conclude my speech with a wish that I or my children could live as long as to see the time when services of Radio Liberty are no longer needed in Ukraine, because stable democracy has been established in the country. Unfortunately, this has not been the case yet.

For the time being, Ukraine is proceeding in the opposite direction. It's a time of disappointments as regards the freedom of speech. I think there are some independent media outlets operating in Ukraine, both domestic and foreign, but as regards the foreign ones, I would put Radio Liberty in the first place.

**There are presidential elections approaching in Ukraine. Do you think that the Ukrainian media are ready for objective coverage of the presidential elections?**

I will start by quoting a distressing figure: 56 percent of Ukrainians think that democratic elections in Ukraine are impossible. This is a challenge both to politicians who are seeking to change the government and to citizens. This is also a challenge to common sense. This is a problem not only for Ukraine but also for Europe.

[To have objective coverage of the elections], one needs, first of all, to have these elections actually staged in accordance with the Ukrainian Constitution. Second, I'd like to stress that Ukrainian democratic forces do not need any assistance apart from ensuring that these elections are honest, transparent, and democratic. We think that this alone will be enough to introduce changes in Ukraine, to install democratic forces in power.

**Excuse me, Mr. Yushchenko, for interrupting you. But do [preconditions] for honest, transparent and democratic elections exist in Ukraine?**

Regarding the [freedom] of the media, which is absolutely necessary for progress in Ukrainian society, we need both domestic and international support. The [state] monopoly in the media sphere in Ukraine has deprived thousands of journalists of the possibility to work professionally and honestly. It is a problem to obtain truthful information in Ukraine. It is a problem to obtain full information in Ukraine. People are continually treated with large doses of falsified information.

It is very difficult for people to make correct choices, including political ones. Any issue, including those connected

with Ukrainian history, the Ukrainian language and integration, may be subject to political bargaining. This is being done to keep Ukrainian society fragmented like a flock of sheep.

**Regarding your bloc, Our Ukraine, anonymous publishers spread massive disinformation in propaganda publications that reach millions of copies. What would you advise average Ukrainians – how are they to sort out this [disinformation]?**

The best reaction [to this disinformation campaign] would be to install democracy, but this is possible only at some later time. You know, I have already seen a dozen falsified publications bearing my signature. Now we are witnessing an avalanche of mendacious interviews that I have never given. What is more, they are being published under the mastheads of publications that do not exist.

But all of them pursue one goal: to stuff people's minds with nonsense so they may later wonder: Is Our Ukraine a pathologically stupid organization? Is it a fascist organization? Does it consist of idiots and people devoid of elementary human values as regards morality or religion?

We are trying to react but our efforts are insufficient. I emphasize – this is not [only] my personal problem or my bloc's problem. This is a problem of 48 million Ukrainians.

We are working on a project of cooperation with regional print media, with newspapers, and I hope this project will be successful. We are in touch with two newspapers, we are opening up a number of possibilities on television but I would not like to speak about them right now in order to avoid closing these possibilities before they are actually opened up.

**Many of our listeners are interested in the behavior of the opposition as a whole in the [upcoming presidential] elections. As you know, [Communist Party leader Petro] Symonenko has already declared that he is ready to put his name on the ballot. Yulia Tymoshenko has recently made several very critical statements, in which she criticized both Our Ukraine and you, and threatened to propose herself as a presidential candidate if the situation remains as it is. What is your vision of the consolidation of opposition forces in these elections?**

To start with, everybody should avoid resorting to adventurous politics or petty blackmail. We should be guided by one [goal]: to consolidate ourselves and come out as a single force. This is an important test for everybody. And we realize that the authorities are working day by day to prevent us from doing this.

Therefore, we proposed last year, and reiterated our proposal this year, that the consolidation should give each political force a conviction that it is one of the authors of this consolidation process. We want to avoid the situation where a navel, or a bright sun, is placed in the center, and everybody else will have to join it. If we follow such a pattern, we will make a great deal of opponents among political forces objecting to such serfdom.

**But many would say it is you who is this navel, this bright sun, which attracts a great deal of people, including many of dubious backgrounds.**

Therefore, I'd like them to hear me now. Esteemed political forces, no matter

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## Israeli ambassador to Ukraine speaks at Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv

by Oles Darmohrai and Matthew Matuszak

LVIV – Anna Azari, Israel's ambassador to Ukraine and Moldova, spoke at the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv on May 13. Though the subject of her talk was "The State and Religion in Israel," the ambassador also answered questions about Jewish-Ukrainian relations. The seminar was organized by the Humanities Faculty of the university as part of its inaugural year festivities.

"Today in Israel there are many more ideological arguments than there were 55 years ago," noted Ambassador Azari. "This is because 10 percent of the population is ultra-Orthodox and unambiguously has a negative assessment of all democratic changes in Israel; 10 to 30 percent is rooted in tradition, [but] accepts changes and the democratic system; 50 to 60 percent favors separation of church and state, as is the situation anywhere in the democratic world."

Ms. Azari also spoke of the place of recent immigrants to Israel from the former Soviet Union. "About one million immigrants from post-Soviet territories returned to Israel at the end of the 1980s and start of the 1990s, not only because of religious convictions, but because of their Jewish background. The majority of the repatriates were not Jewish by religion. Many consider themselves Jewish by nationality."

Ms. Azari has been ambassador to Ukraine since 1999, so, following her talk, she was asked about "her strongest impressions and disappointments" from the country.

"I was born in Lithuania," she recounted, "which was, perhaps, the most nationally oriented republic of the Soviet Union, even in Soviet times. When I left Vilnius in December 1971, my whole class came to say good-bye. It was almost a political demonstration. I also am very nationally oriented."

Ambassador Azari said she decided it was important to study the Ukrainian language when she arrived in the country. Though she delivered her talk and answered questions at the university in English, she mentioned that she "reads newspapers, not very serious literature, and can prepare small talks in the Ukrainian language."

Ms. Azari also brought up the issue of the Tu-154 plane flying from Tel-Aviv to Novosibirsk that exploded over the Black Sea on October 4, 2001, and "the question of the compensation of the families of those who perished. I'm not blaming anyone," she said, "but it's a very important question... Eighty lawyers got together to talk about the question of compensation. They talked about everything but the question for which they were gathered. Up to now the

question of money has not been raised. The end of my term in Ukraine is soon coming to an end, so I will probably not see the question answered during my stay. This has made a big impression on me, since, generally, the victims and their families were left in difficult circumstances, without any support."

"I'll share one more observation," the ambassador continued. "It's unfortunate, but Kyiv has become less attractive than it was when I first came there to work – one can hear the Ukrainian language significantly less. Two cities that I like very much because of their authenticity and charm are Lviv and Odesa."

One audience member posed the question: "Often those who want to be repatriated to Israel name instances of anti-Semitism as a reason to leave [the country they're now in]. There is a common opinion that Jews and other ethnic minorities leave Ukraine because of political or social pressures. Do you share this opinion?"

"If this question is related to emigration to Israel, then the reason for emigration to Israel is not necessarily a flight from hardships," explained Ambassador Azari. "In Hebrew this is called 'going on high,' to the Holy Land. The process of repatriation is not necessarily something bad. When they speak about Ukraine from this point of view, I don't see this as a reason to leave this country, because of hardships based on one's religion or nationality. We have a network of state schools, lessons in the Hebrew language and Jewish culture, a joint effort between our Ministry of Education and Ukraine's. I don't want to answer for all [minorities], because I spoke more about the Jewish people than other minorities in Ukraine. I suppose there are people who do seek refuge for real reasons."

In an earlier interview for the Kyiv newspaper *Dzerkalo Tyzhnia* Ambassador Azari noted that "when analyzing the history of Jewish-Ukrainian relations, many researchers tend to instance only the tragic moments. In particular, this relates to those historians who describe the lives of the Jews in this country and concentrate their attention on pogroms and the participation of Ukrainians in the punitive actions of fascists. They speak significantly less about the generally good and neighborly relations."

"This is why one of the regular activities conducted under the aegis of the Israeli Consulate is naming 'Righteous of the nations of the world,' – those who saved Jews during World War II. This was real heroism. Standing up in defense of the persecuted, they placed their own families at risk. Generally, the subjects are simple people from small towns and villages. In Ukraine over 1,600 people have been so honored," she underscored.



Anna Azari, Israeli ambassador to Ukraine, speaks at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv.

# Shevchenko Scientific Society holds its 17th general meeting

NEW YORK – The 17th general meeting of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S. (NTSh) was held on May 24 at the society's headquarters. Prior to the meeting, morning sessions were held separately by three scholarly sections: philology (Prof. Assya Humesky, director); social sciences and history, (Prof. Martha B. Trofimenko); and mathematics, physics and technology, (Prof. Roman Andrushkiw).

The social sciences group heard a talk by Dr. Vasyl Lopukh on the demographics of the Ukrainian American community. The science section featured a presentation by chemist Dr. Swiatoslaw Trofimenko on scorpionates, a class of compounds that he discovered and has researched. Recently a symposium was devoted to the subject at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, and a chemical journal made the scorpionates its cover story, thus honoring Dr. Trofimenko.

The general meeting was opened in the afternoon by the society's president, Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych. She asked that the names of the society's members who departed in the last three years be read and for the assembly to honor their memory with a moment of silence. Greetings from NTSh branches in other countries were read.

Dr. Roman Voronka was elected chairman of the presidium for the meeting, with Drs. Wolodymyr Stojko and Orest Popovych as his deputies. Svitlana Andrushkiw, assisted by Prof. Vasyl Makhno, assumed the duties of recording secretary. Also elected were the nominating, by-laws and resolutions committees. Upon a motion by Dr. Stojko, the minutes of the 16th general meeting of the NTSh were accepted unanimously.

Dr. Onyshkevych was the first to report on the last three years of activity at the Shevchenko Scientific Society which began on May 20, 2000. She attributed the success of her term as president to the remarkable cooperation and work ethic of what she described as a unique team of officers and employees who have served with her. During the report period, the society's governing board met 19 times at its headquarters and a few more times at the president's home. Two of the meetings were televised. A new chapter of NTSh was launched in Pittsburgh, headed by Prof. Jaropolk Lassowsky. A new scholarly section, dedicated to arts and musicology, was established. It is chaired by Titus Hewryk. Many members have been elevated in rank.

However, the thrust of the society's efforts continues to be the promotion of Ukrainian studies in the United States, as well as the defense and promotion of the Ukrainian language in Ukraine, said Dr. Onyshkevych. In North America these objectives have been pursued through



The officers of the Shevchenko Scientific Society: (seated, from left) George Slusarczuk, Orest Popovych, Roman Andrushkiw, Larissa Onyshkevych, Olha Kuzmowycz, Swiatoslaw Trofimenko, Myroslava Znayenko, (standing) Serhiy Levkov, Wolodymyr Petryshyn, Roman Voronka, Daria Dykyj, Wolodymyr Stojko, Assya Humesky, Roman Sawycky, Andriy Szul, Jaroslaw Zalipsky, Marta Tarnawsky, Jaroslaw Pelenski, Svitlana Andrushkiw, Vasyl Lopukh, Martha Trofimenko, Volodymyr Bandera and Lubomyr Romankiw.

NTSh's participation in the scholarly conferences of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, the Association for the Study of Nationalities, the International Association of Ukrainian Studies, and through cooperation with the NTSh in Canada, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S., and the recently created Center of Ukrainian Studies at Columbia University, among others. During the academic year, NTSh hosted at its building in New York City almost weekly lectures and scholarly conferences open to the public.

The society supports Ukrainian studies in Ukraine awarding grants for scholarly research and publications, as well as scholarships for studies. Joint publications with the NTSh of Ukraine are also being sponsored.

Deserving special attention in the last three years have been the society's awards for publications on the Ukrainian Language and for monographs on the effects of the 1654 Treaty of Pereiaslav on Ivan Mazepa. Furthermore, Dr. Onyshkevych stressed the society's sponsorship of the publication of the "Atlas of the Ukrainian language," and especially, that of the four-volume reference work "The Concordance to the Poetic Works of Taras Shevchenko," 440 copies of which were donated to libraries in Ukraine. Of major significance in the defense of the Ukrainian language was the March 12 address delivered by Dr. Onyshkevych before Ukraine's Parliament in Kyiv which was telecast in Ukraine.

All present received a 52-page book containing the reports of the following NTSh

officers and employees on their activities for the current three-year term: Onyshkevych, president; Dr. Andrushkiw, first vice-president; Dr. Trofimenko, vice-president and learned secretary; Dr. George Slusarczuk, vice-president and CEO; the committee chairs. Voronka (scholarships/grants), Dr. Daria Dykyj (membership), Dr. Myroslava Znayenko (institutional liaison), Tania Keis (library and archives), Dr. Popovych (press), Marta Tarnawsky (publications), Prof. Trofimenko (by-laws); the directors of the scholarly sections. Andrushkiw (mathematics, physics and technology); Dr. Humesky (philosophy); Mr. Hewryk (arts and musicology); Prof. Trofimenko (social sciences).

Additional reports were given by Dr. Popovych (terminological center), Ms. Andrushkiw (library director), Dr. Vasyl Markus, vice-president and chief editor of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora, and by NTSh employees Prof. Andriy Danylenko and Dr. Lopukh. Separate reports were presented from the society's branches in Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington and Detroit. Authors of reports who were in attendance were allotted a few minutes each to present addenda or highlights, and several availed themselves of this opportunity.

The accomplishments of some of the committees can be expressed quantitatively. Ms. Tarnawsky's publications committee awarded grants for 32 separate scholarly works, disbursing the overall sum of \$182,479. Dr. Voronka's grants and scholarships committee received 80 applications and made 38 awards, totaling \$411,770. The press committee, composed of Dr. Popovych (chair) and Svoboda Editor Olha Kuzmowycz, published 77 articles and news reports on the activities of NTSh – 51 of them in Ukrainian and 26 in English. In addition, the committee procured and edited the 25 scholarly articles that appeared in the society's column in Svoboda, and edited five NTS bulletins. Dr. Dykyj's membership committee recruited 56 new members.

Dr. Andrushkiw updated the assembly on the successful intervention, initiated by the U.S.-based NTSh, which prevailed upon the Microsoft Corp. to make its computer software available in the Ukrainian language, thereby supplanting the distribution of some 60,000 Russian-language computers to schools in Ukraine. Dr. Andrushkiw is following up this effort by helping computer experts in Ukraine with the Ukrainization of Linux programming as well.

Following a discussion of the reports,

the outgoing governing board was granted a vote of confidence by the auditing committee, whose report was read by Dr. Stojko. The nominating committee, co-chaired by Prof. Znayenko and Wolodymyr Baranetsky, presented a single slate of candidates for the new governing board, which in its composition didn't differ much from the outgoing board.

Following are newly nominated officers: Dr. Serhiy Levkov, deputy recording secretary (to Ms. Kuzmowycz); new committee chairs were Dr. Wolodymyr Vasylaki (computers) and Dr. Roman Procyk (chapters). The old press committee has been replaced by a press group headed by Dr. Lopukh. However, it is not part of the governing board.

Via a show of hands, the new slate of NTSh officers was elected with three abstentions. Following the vote, the re-elected president, Dr. Onyshkevych, addressed the assembly, thanking all for their support and cooperation.

A new board of auditors was voted in, with its chairman yet to be chosen from among the members: Dr. Baranetsky, Drs. Volodymyr Bandera, George Pawliczko, Leonid Rudnytzky and Wolodymyr Stojko. Drs. Andrushkiw and Trofimenko were chosen as delegates to the World Council of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

Resolutions, formulated by a committee composed of Drs. Andrushkiw (chair), Trofimenko, Onyshkevych and Popovych, were adopted unanimously by the general meeting.

## Spot the reformers...

(Continued from page 2)

and economic reformist movement in Ukraine is the national-democratic Our Ukraine bloc led by Mr. Yushchenko. The popularity of the pro-Western reformist Our Ukraine, as seen in its victory in the 2002 elections, and Mr. Yushchenko's personal popularity make Ukraine different from all other CIS states. Without the national democrats Ukraine would be closer to an archetypal CIS state, such as Russia. More importantly, progress in Ukraine's reform process and integration into Euro-Atlantic structures is dependent on the "nationalist" national democrats. The SPU and the Tymoshenko bloc are their allies in blocking centrist authoritarianism.

Centrists are the main driving force supporting an authoritarian regime in Ukraine. Sadly, there are no genuine centrist parties left that would stand in opposition to them.



The presidium during the 17th general meeting of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

## Soyuzivka resort undergoes facelift in preparation for new season

by Peter Steciuk

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — With the summer season fast approaching for the Soyuzivka resort, a renovation campaign is well under way. According to UNA president Stefan Kaczaraj, the resort has set the ambitious goal of doubling its occupancy and reducing operating expenses.

Achieving such a drastic increase in occupancy, he continued, will require Soyuzivka to attract more people to the resort by providing guests with a more pleasant experience — which is where the renovations come in.

Just a few weeks ago, the resort's dining room was demolished in order to install new walls, a new ceiling, new flooring, and a hard wired stereo system. The Main House lobby and library were converted into a temporary dining room and bar to accommodate guests during the dining room renovations, so that the experience of current guests could remain unaffected.

New carpeting has already been installed in the Karpaty and Chernivtsi buildings, and air conditioning is being installed in more rooms at the resort. Additionally, the Main House, Odesa and Lviv will all be painted.

Under the direction of Walt Nalywayko, the new outdoor recreation guru, the outdoor areas also will have a new look. A roller rink is being built next to the volleyball court, and a tiki bar will be built between the volleyball court and the pool.

For nature lovers and hiking enthusiasts, Soyuzivka has utilized a crew of dedicated volunteers to clear a trail to the nearby waterfall and cliffs, called the Hutsul Trail Loop. Marked with the

Soyuzivka emblem of a Hutsul with a trembita, the trail will provide access to the beautiful scenery of the Shawangunk Mountains.

The renovations are only the first step of the campaign to reinvigorate Soyuzivka. A fund-raising campaign is currently under way that will provide the funds to continue making improvements to the resort and allow for more large-scale changes in the future.

Soyuzivka is also engaging in an advertising campaign because, as Mr. Kaczaraj observed, "We must attract people to the resort so they come and see the changes themselves and by staying also increase revenue for Soyuzivka."

According to the UNA president, the future of the resort depends largely on the community's response. So far, he reported, bookings are up. An increase in reservations this summer would signal the community's support of Soyuzivka and help the resort continue its renovation campaign. Mr. Kaczaraj stressed that improving Soyuzivka will require a collective effort, saying, "The emphasis has to be on each member of the Ukrainian community. All of the people need to participate."

Mr. Kaczaraj also reiterated a quote from a letter by the UNA Executive Committee to UNA members and friends: "Soyuzivka remains of prominent importance to our community, and is a symbol of the contribution Ukrainian Americans and the UNA have made to our American society. We should be proud of this accomplishment and be in a position to proudly share it with others outside our community who want to learn about our culture and enjoy the unique ambiance it provides."



The studio, soon to be renovated inside, gets a new roof.



The dining room in the Main House as it looked when it was gutted.



Soyuzivka's Main House gets prepped for a fresh coat of paint.



Bill Swiac and Michael Jadlicky paint the fence at the entrance to the resort of the Ukrainian National Association.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Why a Famine memorial in DC?

This year marks 70 years since the genocidal Great Famine of 1932-1933 took the lives of 7 million to 10 million in Ukraine, and a number of actions are under way to commemorate this solemn anniversary. However, our community is also looking ahead, preparing to appropriately mark the Famine's 75th anniversary in 2008.

Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), a staunch supporter of our community's concerns, in January of this year introduced a bill (H.R. 591) "to authorize the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933." The language in the bill notes that "The United States Commission on the Ukraine Famine found in its report filed in 1988 pursuant to Public Law 98-473 that the Ukrainian Famine was a deliberate policy of the Soviet government" and that "the Ukrainian Famine is considered an unprecedented heinous crime of genocide as defined by the United Nations Genocide Convention." The bill now has nearly 40 co-sponsors.

Exactly a month ago the proposed Famine memorial was the focus of a hearing before the National Capital Memorial Commission of the National Park Service. In written testimony, Rep. Levin stated: "Only through remembrance and recognition can we stop such acts of senseless cruelty and violence against humankind from happening again." UCCA President Michael Sawkiw Jr. testified that not only would the memorial recall those who perished, but it would also serve "as a tool to help educate the global community about such heinous crimes." He explained that even today the world knows little about this genocide and added that at the very time the Famine was ravaging Ukraine the United States granted formal recognition to the Soviet Union.

Another perspective was provided by Volodymyr Yatsenkivskiy, deputy chief of mission at the Embassy of Ukraine, who argued that "Building a Famine-Genocide monument would be an act of justice." Church leaders, too, weighed in, with Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church writing in a letter addressed to Rep. Levin that the erection of such a monument "will boldly reflect this nation's commitment to freedom and democracy for all peoples ... and its intolerance for the annihilation and/or abuse of people of any nation." He added that the monument will also "provide an information vehicle to those tourists and visitors who would otherwise have no knowledge of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide."

Nearly 30 letters were received from various Ukrainian community organizations and institutions. The president of the Ukrainian National Association, Stefan Kaczaraj, underlined that "it is imperative that the memory of all these innocent victims does not vanish," adding that a Famine memorial in the U.S. capital "will serve as a constant reminder that the world cannot rest if there remain any oppressive regimes" and "will demonstrate again that our great nation will always fight for the oppressed."

As well, there were letters from Ukraine. Minister for Foreign Affairs Anatolii Zlenko underscored that a monument "will serve as a reminder that the battle for human rights is a global issue that cannot and must not be forgotten." Echoing his words in Washington was Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Kostyantyn Gryshchenko who argued that the "Holodomor" (literally, death by forced starvation) is not only a Ukrainian tragedy, but "a tragedy of all civilized society."

What is needed right now on the part of all segments of the Ukrainian American community – both organizations and individuals – is additional letters in support of the proposed Washington memorial to the Famine-Genocide. We add our newspaper's voice as an advocate of H.R. 591 and urge readers to add theirs also by writing to their representatives in Congress.

June  
22  
1968

### Turning the pages back...

On June 22, 1968, The Ukrainian Weekly reported on the trip of Archbishop-Major Josyf Cardinal Slipyj, primate of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, to Toronto. It was the cardinal's first-ever visit to North America.

A crowd of 2,000 awaited the cardinal at the airport when he arrived on June 14. As people tried to reach out to him and kiss his hands, Cardinal Slipyj, who had spent 18 years in Soviet prisons for his refusal to renounce his faith, tearfully remarked, "They beat these very hands, and now you want to kiss them."

When he addressed the crowd, the cardinal said, "Nearly a century has elapsed since the motherland bade you farewell with great expectations for your adventures on the other side of the ocean. ... You have achieved all your hopes, but do not forget about your less fortunate brethren."

Cardinal Slipyj celebrated liturgy before thousands of faithful at St. Nicholas Church on Saturday morning, May 15, the day after his arrival.

A crowd of more than 50,000 filled the Canadian National Exhibition grounds for a pontifical divine liturgy on Sunday, May 16.

There was a parade in his honor also on Sunday with participants including members of Plast Ukrainian Youth Organization and the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM), as well as Ukrainian choirs and dance troupes. The performers included the SUM Prometheus Choir, the Dibrova Choir, the Vesnivka girls' choir and the Kalyna dance ensemble of the Ukrainian National Youth Federation.

After Sunday's parade, Cardinal Slipyj was a guest at a UNA reception in his honor, where he thanked the Ukrainian National Association for its service to the community.

During the trip, the mayor of Toronto presented the cardinal with a gold key to the city of Toronto, making him the first person to receive such an honor.

After the visit to Toronto, Cardinal Josyf set off to visit other Canadian cities including Winnipeg, Edmonton and Saskatoon, and American cities including Philadelphia, Stamford and Chicago.

Source: "Thousands of Ukrainians Greet Archbishop-Major Josyf Cardinal Slipyj on Historic Visit to North America," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 22, 1968.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe organization provides aid to orphanage

by Svitlana Kobzar

Imagine having an experience that so completely changes your life that nothing you do, say or see will ever be the same again. This happened to me in the summer of 2002. As a Ukrainian student beginning my junior year at Alma College, the experience of volunteering for three adoption agencies helped me to realize one of the pressing problems facing Ukraine – the growing number of orphaned children and the challenging conditions in which they live. While politically and economically in transition, Ukraine is confronted with the difficult task of providing for an increasing number of orphans. According to a 2002 UNICEF report, Ukraine experienced a 50 percent increase in the number of orphaned children between 1995 and 2000. These children are the future of my homeland.

I felt the need to do something, anything. I increased my volunteer hours for adoption agencies. I presented programs about Ukraine to local service clubs. But I still felt an overwhelming need to do more. Then, my friends who had adopted two girls from Russia suggested sending clothes to an orphanage. The enthusiastic response from the local community and Alma College encouraged me to create a non-profit organization which would help children in Eastern Europe. Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe (FCEE) was created on June 10, 2002, and became officially incorporated as a non-profit organization.

Through its Adopt-an-Orphanage Program, FCEE helped Veselka, a poor orphanage in the small town of Borodianka near Kyiv. Veselka was relocated from Chernobyl Zone No. 1, the region nearest to the deadly 1986

radioactive disaster. It houses 60 children ages 3 through 16. The space for these children is limited, with all girls and boys sleeping in two rooms. Nearly 80 percent of the children suffer from chronic diseases. The orphanage lacks funding to provide proper nutrition and medical assistance, as well as functioning heating and plumbing systems. In the winter children often wake up to temperatures in the low 50s, and they are all forced to share a single outhouse.

After communicating with the orphanage, FCEE realized the difficulties that both workers and children alike face. The lack of washing machines and adequate heat means that children have to wear damp clothes or wait for long periods of time to have their clothes washed. Veselka also lacks a vehicle that would help in case a child should need to go to the hospital.

When we first began working with Veselka, our goal was to help with their immediate needs by sending money for food, shipping clothes, and raising funds to build a new heating system. FCEE's Walk for Orphans established a yearly tradition, brought the college and local community together, and raised over \$2,400. Presentations to churches, service clubs, and local community groups raised another \$2,500. Workers in Veselka voiced their deep gratitude to FCEE for listening to them and helping to transform their dreams into reality.

Several Rotary clubs in Michigan are committed to helping FCEE by providing financial assistance and working with FCEE to apply for matching grants through Rotary International. FCEE has also been working with Rotary clubs in Ukraine to implement projects for Veselka. Through World Community Service (WCS), Rotary clubs in both Michigan and Kyiv hope to join forces to provide Veselka with educational resources. The Rotary club in Kyiv has been instrumental in attaining a \$10,000 donation to build a new heating system. Now the children will finally be able to live in a warm place and will no longer need to wear several layers of clothing.

FCEE hopes to establish a program that would allow students from the United States to visit Ukraine. Raising funds to underwrite an endowment that would make scholarships available is our dream. This would create opportunities

(Continued on page 23)



Children at the Veselka orphanage in Borodianka enjoy sweets delivered as part of the aid provided by the organization Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### National deputies are a disgrace

Dear Editor:

It was very disheartening to read the story in The Ukrainian Weekly, "Ukraine's vice prime minister calls on Rada to seek recognition of Famine as genocide." The Communist faction in Ukraine's Parliament, by clinging to the old Stalinist lies, refuses to support the proposal to ask the United Nations to recognize the 1932-1933 Communist-engineered famine in Ukraine as genocide or a crime against humanity. It is shameful that after 11 years of Ukraine's independence, such outcasts still hold seats in the highest legislative body.

For many years, the Ukrainian diaspora worked hard promoting the liberation of Ukraine from the Communist yoke. And what came back in return? The Communists and their collaborators brought upon the people unlimited corruption, mafia activities, severe unemployment, meager salaries or no salaries at all for those who are employed, poor nutrition, widespread alcoholism the uncontrolled spread of infectious diseases, inadequate health care and a high mortality rate. Concurrently, their neighbor from the North acquired a large number of Ukrainian industries, businesses and communications media, such as radio, television and the press. The Ukrainian language and culture are being pushed aside, and the Russification process is in a full swing just like in the past. Those who dare to raise their voice in opposition are often murdered or die in staged car accidents.

Just as in the past thousands of Ukrainians were escaping from the "Soviet paradise," now thousands of people are leaving independent Ukraine because conditions are such that they are unable to support themselves or their families. Family lives are being damaged or destroyed, many young women are falling into slavery, and thousands of children are suffering. This is the tragedy of what was once the rich country called "the breadbasket of Europe."

If those who still cling to the disgraced Communist ideology and those who are lavishly enriching themselves at the expense of the common people remain in power, then the future of Ukraine will be dark, very dark. Now, the diaspora can say one thing: Wake up, people of Ukraine! Wake up! Your whole future is at stake!

**Michael J. Kozak, MD**  
Minneapolis

### "Fiction Channel" needs researchers

Dear Editor:

Loved your piece on The History Channel (Editorial, June 1), or as I have called it "The Fiction Channel." I, too, watched with anguish and disgust and shouted at the television, "Who researched this stuff? Did they use my ninth grade history textbook (published in 1977) again? (You know, the one with all of the fictional accounts of Russian history as dictated by the Soviet government and its paid experts, like the ones both in Russia and Ukraine who today are rewriting history again.)"

Please allow me to point out a few more things to The History Channel. In 1988 there was a historic commemoration in Rome during which the pope celebrated one country's 1,000th anniversary of

Christianity. Can you guess the country? Here's a hint for you: the pope also visited this same country on June 25-27, 2001, and declared to the world that this country and no other was the Mother of Christianity to all of the Slavic nations that followed in history. Give up? It's Ukraine. It was not Russia, as you stated. In fact, Russia didn't even exist in 988. It wasn't until the late 13th century that the Muscovite principality even came into existence. Muscovy is the historic name of Russia. The name "Russia" (Rossia) wasn't adopted by its tsars until the 18th century under Tsar Peter I, who proclaimed his state an empire.

From just the few instances that were pointed out in The Ukrainian Weekly, it is truly mind boggling that with all of today's technology and global reorganizing, The History Channel has proven itself to be truly backward and uneducated in the fact that it seems that no one in their organization had even picked up a current atlas to know that Kyiv was, is and remains the capital of Ukraine. This alone would have tipped them off and sent them to research centers such as Harvard which could have given them an accurate and historically correct sequence of events in reference to the tsarist tyranny the channel was marketing.

Come to think of it, if only The History Channel had called me, I would have helped them with some of their research. I may not have a doctorate in history but so far I'm doing much better than those guys over there.

**Lillianna Chudolij**  
Clifton, N.J.

### Let's sponsor Weekly subscriptions

Dear Editor:

We recently witnessed the importance of having the word spread about Ukrainian issues, especially through the efforts of The Ukrainian Weekly. We all know that we can't leave it up to The New York Times or whatever metropolitan paper we have in our vicinity to represent Ukrainian issues clearly.

The Weekly is a well prepared publication, with extensive footnotes and resources. It's a publication we can be proud of, and it covers national, international and local issues. Isn't it about time we began a campaign to sponsor The Weekly for our senators and congressmen?

Surely someone in that office will at least peruse the newspaper in search of clippings, as they generally do, to provide the official with up-to-date information.

So, let me start the ball rolling by sponsoring The Weekly for Sen. Jon Corzine.

I hope others will follow.

**Camilla Huk**  
Nutley, N.J.

### Scandals at Times and odious past

Dear Editor:

The recent scandals (Jayson Blair, Rick Bragg, et al.) at The New York Times are just a reiteration of the odious reporting of Stalin-lover Walter Duranty in the 1930s.

But not to worry. The Times will survive its current lack of integrity, as it has in the past. Meanwhile, leftists, liberals, and other useful idiots will continue to support The New York Times.

**Walter Lesiuk**  
Santa Monica, Calif.

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### Time to step up to the plate!

Let's talk Soyuzivka. You know, that Ukrainian hideaway in the Catskills that the Ukrainian National Association created and made available for our enjoyment.

And enjoy it we did. During the summer some of us spent our weekends and vacations there. We partied, we danced under the stars. We played tennis, sunbathed and swam in the Olympic-sized pool.

Some of us worked there. Remember the legendary Walter Kwas? ("You can run but you can't hide.") Remember Chemny? How many Chemnys were there? Did anyone keep count?

Some of us met our spouses at Soyuzivka. We got married there. Many of us sent our children to Chemny camp, or to the Ukrainian Cultural Courses, or to the Dance Workshop or to Tennis Camp.

For us, Soyuzivka was a place to meet and greet old friends in a convivial, Ukrainian setting. It was our Ukrainian island, our summer home away from home. Excellent food. Excellent company. Outstanding memories.

Where else could we enjoy the kind of Ukrainian talent that Soyuzivka concerts offered? Dances, choir, quartets, trios, pianists, instrumental performers, soloists – you name it. Workers with special talent would often provide the entertainment on Saturday nights. Before the cultural courses were eliminated, students would perform during their "graduation" exercises.

Miss Soyuzivka made her first appearance in 1956.

Tennis tournaments, swim meets and volleyball games contributed to the special Soyuzivka ambiance.

Well-known painters exhibited their works — Kozak, Hnizdovsky, Hutsaliuk. Where else can one find busts by Archipenko and Mol on the same grounds?

At one time Soyuzivka was the place to be during the summer. During the 1960s and '70s one had to make summer room reservations a year in advance. Families would book the same room for the same time every year.

If you met Ukrainians who had never been to Soyuzivka you were shocked. "You've never been to Soyuzivka?" we'd ask. "Oh my goodness. Where have you been?"

Parents whose American-born children wanted nothing to do with their Ukrainian heritage would often take them to Soyuzivka. And Soyuzivka worked its magic. Many "conversions" occurred in those mountains.

Weddings, christenings, reunions and organizational conventions became part of the Soyuzivka season, along with Thanksgiving Day dinners, Sviat Vechir, New Year's Eve banquets and Memorial Day events. Labor Day was always a biggie, a magnet for young and old alike. People drove from as far away as Milwaukee and Chicago just for the weekend.

Ukrainians from all over the world visited Soyuzivka – from Australia, from Argentina, from Brazil, from Ukraine, even from Canada. Especially from Canada.

Our parents and grandparents did their part to maintain Soyuzivka as a thriving enterprise. They invested their time, their treasure and their skills because they believed in Soyuzivka. It was more than a resort, a retreat from the hum-drum of everyday living. It was a Ukrainian institution of which they and we could be

justly proud.

As our parents and grandparents aged, Soyuzivka aged with them. In recent years, Soyuzivka became a little more seedy, a little less impressive, a lot less inviting. The magic was fading.

Our people were no longer spending time at Soyuzivka. They were going to Ukraine and elsewhere. Why spend precious vacation days at a Ukrainian resort when one can go to Lake George, or Cancun, or Hawaii?

Part of the problem, of course, was the fact that the UNA had not kept up with changing times. Our expectations changed. We had become accustomed to certain creature comforts which Soyuzivka failed to provide. Things we now take for granted – air conditioning, telephones and televisions in the rooms – were missing.

About 10 years ago, Soyuzivka patriots became concerned. An ad-hoc "Save Soyuzivka" committee was formed. The UNA Executive Committee noticed. A UNA Soyuzivka Committee was formed, headed by Stefko Kuropas and Taras Szmagala Jr. Plans were developed and presented at the last UNA convention in Chicago. Discussions followed. Resolutions were passed. The delegates were committed to saving Soyuzivka.

A number of things changed within the last year. Soyuzivka came under new management. A Soyuzivka Renaissance Fund was established. A fund-raising banquet celebrating 50 years of Soyuzivka was held last fall. Donations of nearly \$100,000 were received.

Today, a plan is finally in place to save Soyuzivka. Renovations have begun, fresh paint has been applied and walking trails have been blazed.

More is in store. The goal of the Renaissance Fund is to raise enough money to renovate Soyuzivka in two phases. Phase I includes upgrades and remodeling of the main lobby, the dining room, Veselka and certain rooms, which will significantly improve guest comfort. The cost is \$1 million.

As revenue improves and Phase I is completed, Phase II will kick in. A cautious appraisal of further improvements will be made. Additional projects aimed at enhancing business and recreational facilities will be considered.

Are you ready to take the place of your parents and grandparents and contribute? Are you ready to step up to the plate and do your part? You can begin by picking up the phone and making a reservation for this summer. This is what Lesia and I plan to do.

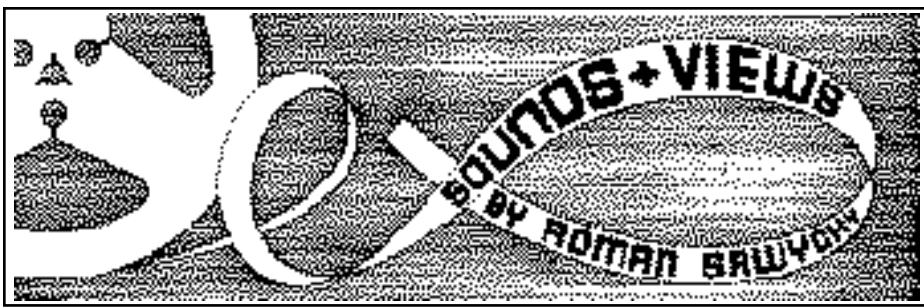
If you got married at Soyuzivka, how about buying a park bench or a brick with your name and wedding date on it. This is what Lesia and I plan to do.

Finally, you can make a donation to the Ukrainian National Foundation Soyuzivka Renaissance Fund. This is what Lesia and I plan to do.

What about you? Are you ready to step up to the plate?

Remember. Every donation to the Ukrainian National Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) organization, is tax-deductible. Show you care. Make your check payable to the Ukrainian National Foundation/Soyuzivka Renaissance Fund. Do it now!

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: [mbkuropas@compuserve.com](mailto:mbkuropas@compuserve.com).



## “Golden Echoes of Kyiv”

With the title above we have a new first for the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, an a cappella recording (sans banduras) of the divine liturgy, as sung in Ukraine and the diaspora. Performed in authentic style without instrumental accompaniment, the CD is both a vocal and technical achievement for the UBC and its artistic director, Oleh Mahlay, who at age 33 he is the youngest conductor to lead this ensemble, founded in 1918.

Mr. Mahlay conducts an exciting music tour: starting with an ancient Kyivan chant through the classic 18th century milestones of Maksym Berezovsky and Dmytro Bortniansky, well into the 20th century. We get to hear more recent sonic landmarks by Mykola Leontovych, Alexander Koshetz, Andrii Hnatyshyn and, yes, Oleh Mahlay – a total of 10 centuries of singing, of searching for artistic beauty and spiritual fulfillment – all in 68 minutes and 31 selections.

Let's look at some items up close. “Epistle” (selection 12) features impressive basso Mychail Newmerzycky, but in other works also noteworthy are Omelan Helbig, first tenor and Borys Kekish, second tenor. The latter partakes in Bortniansky's Cherubym Hymn No. 7 – one of the most memorable staples of the UBC repertoire through the decades. Victor Shewell, first tenor, is well disposed in the “Creed” (No. 18), and the

“Lord's Prayer” (No. 22) receives suit is well-rendered by Taras Zakordonski, first tenor. However, the composer of “The Lord's Prayer” (Otche Nash) – Nicholas Dubensky, is no match for the Leontovych masterpiece which is not included on the CD under review.

But the unique polyphony (literally, a work of many voices or parts) of Leontovych is represented in two other selections. Likewise, most welcome is “Litany of Thanksgiving” by the late Hryhory Kytasty, former longtime artistic director of the UBC. His presence still resonates among bandurists, taking their well-grounded, traditional musicianship into the 21st century. “Prayer for Ukraine” (Bozhe Velykyi, Yedynyi) by Lysenko-Koshetz serves as a fine and fitting finale for this choral bel canto program.

The liturgy was recorded live at St. Stephen's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, in Brunswick, Ohio, and St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Warren, Mich. The CD reproduces full, resonant sound with the typical natural ambiance we associate with large churches or cathedrals. The chorus sings naturally (as if praying) without straining or forcing any one register. The four voices (first and second tenors, baritones and basses) are as one – cohesive in sound, purpose and overall effect. The balance, achieved by Maestro Mahlay is likewise notice-

able in the selected repertoire, spanning the centuries, without favoring a particular era of performance.

The accompanying illustrated color brochure (English only) provides well-edited articles on Ukrainian sacred music and the UBC, as well as a bio of the artistic director, Mr. Mahlay. The recording roster lists all singers, while the Very Rev. Pavlo Bodnarchuk, Ph.D. is the credited liturgy celebrant. No separate timings are given for the selections on disc.

The recording and mix engineer was Orest Sushko; the recording was mixed at Casablanca Sound and Picture in Toronto, and mastered by George Graven at the Lacquer Channel, Toronto. The design and layout was by Taras Lewycky, Optik Nerv, Philadelphia; production was handled by Joe Wood, RDR Music Group; Roman Skypakewych was artistic advisor; and Anatoli W. Murha is listed as executive producer.

During the 1950s one of the most avid supporters of the UBC was noted pianist, educator and author Roman Sawycky, Sr. Publicity for this chorus was most useful, especially before its grand tour of Europe in 1958. My father titled one of his articles in support of the UBC “The Best Ukrainian Ensemble,” so it is altogether fitting for this writer to take up the banner almost 50 years later for what continues to be the best Ukrainian ensemble on either side of the Atlantic.

This year the chorus is off to Europe once again for a series of concerts. The ensemble leaves on June 25 for Manchester, where two days later it will sing at the School of Music (equivalent to New York's Juilliard). On June 29 the UBC goes to London to perform a concert and the liturgy. On July 1 the singers travel to the land of Debussy and Ravel to perform at Notre Dame de Paris as well as in the American Cathedral near the Arc de Triomphe. On July 3, it's on to Strasbourg, and on the July 4 the chorus will sing at the American military

cemetery at St. Avold, France, the largest American cemetery in Europe, supported by that city.

On July 6 the chorus will repeat the liturgy, this time at the Ukrainian cathedral in Munich, the and next day the UBC will be welcomed in Regensburg as part of an artistic exchange program. The grand tour finale will take place on July 9 in Vienna – the city of Mozart, Beethoven and Mahler.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the UBC has an extensive discography. Their most recent recordings include: “Black Sea Tour,” “Ukrainian Steppe” and “A Bandura Christmas,” originally published in an LP format in 1960 by conductor and arranger Volodymyr Bozhyk, all now re-mastered and restored.

David Lyman of the Detroit Free Press wrote: “Golden Echoes of Kyiv” combines “elements of the nation's Orthodox and Catholic musical heritages. Much of it has roots in the chants that developed in the earliest days of European Christianity soon after Prince Volodymyr introduced the new faith in 988 AD.”

For more information on the chorus, or this CD, visit the website: [www.bandura.org](http://www.bandura.org) or write to: Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, P.O. Box 12129, Detroit, MI 48212. The price of the CD is \$15.



## Expanded edition of Grabowicz's history of Ukrainian literature launched in Kyiv

by Yuri Shevchuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – On May 20, the Great Hall of the House of Artists in Kyiv saw a book launch of an expanded edition of George Grabowicz's book “Do Istorii Ukrainskoi Literatury” (Towards a History of Ukrainian Literature), recently printed in Ukrainian by Krytyka Press.

The first edition of Prof. Grabowicz's book appeared six years ago and was quickly sold out. Compared to the first edition, the new one is a considerably larger collection of his essays, articles and two self-contained monographs, published over the last 30 years and covering a peri-



Prof. George Grabowicz

od of 400 years, starting with the 16th century religious polemicist Ivan Vyshensky and ending with the last century.

Dr. Grabowicz is the Dmytro Cyzevskyj Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard, and former director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. This summer he will be teaching the course “20th Century Ukrainian Literature: Rethinking the Canon.”

Prof. Grabowicz is well-known in Ukraine not only as an influential literary critic but primarily as the founder and editor-in-chief of the journal Krytyka. Since its inception in 1997 Krytyka has become the primary forum of discussion for a new generation of Ukrainian literati, comparable in its intellectual trendsetting influence to the New York Review of Books or the Times Literary Supplement. Prof. Grabowicz has also established a highly successful and respected publishing enterprise under the same name.

The Kyiv book launch not only celebrated the publication of a new book, but also recognized the efforts of Prof. Grabowicz and many like-minded Ukrainian intellectuals to create in Ukraine a cultural identity that is openly oriented towards Western thought, that is independent and critical in its thinking, free from Soviet influences and purposefully Ukrainian in its self-vision.

The atmosphere of the event and the list of people present eloquently bespoke this goal and the importance of Prof. Grabowicz's book. In attendance were such frequent contributors to Krytyka as Myroslav Popovych, director of the Institute of Philosophy of the National

Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the literary critic Tamara Hundorova, the writers Maksym Strikha, Mykola Riabchuk and Oleksander Irvanets, as well as Dr. Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak, director of the Fulbright Scholar Program in Ukraine.

Writing about the book launch in *Ukrainske Slovo*, Mr. Strikha notes that from the very start of his scholarly career Grabowicz has striven to demonstrate that classical Ukrainian literature can and should be re-read in a way that is different from how it has been traditionally interpreted within the “populist (narodnytskyi) canon.”

Prof. Grabowicz has consistently argued that, for a very long time, Ukrainian literature has produced texts that by their artistic quality can well be compared with works of other literatures, including those of both close and distant neighbors. The trick is to give a new reading to these texts as well as the context within which they were written.

Many of the essays that constitute the new edition of Prof. Grabowicz's book were penned with the intention of provoking a debate. As Mr. Strikha notes, however, they were often received with silence on the part of the “literary establishment,” or with disapprobation by those who still try to put ideology in the place of scholarship.

Prof. Grabowicz's book is an invitation to a long-overdue discussion on the most topical issues of Ukrainian literary criticism. In the opinion of Dr. Bohachevsky-Chomiak, “This collection is singularly suited for use in college and graduate courses. Grabowicz contextualizes some key issues in Ukrainian cultural life – relations of Ukraine with its geographical neighbors, studies that can be broadly

placed within a Renaissance and a Reformation mold, and the emergence of a vernacular literature.”

“Of special interest,” she added, “is his new chapter on the lively literary and cultural life that erupted in the five-year period following the end of World War II in the refugee camps in Western Europe. These articles are fronted and followed by openly polemical approaches to the history of literature, cultural studies and literary criticism. This combination of articles – all lucid, well written, and carefully documented – should serve as a model for the budding scholar and for the seasoned critic on both sides of the ocean.”

In his address on the occasion of the book launch, Viktor Yushchenko, former prime minister of Ukraine, member of Parliament, and leader of the Our Ukraine parliamentary faction, noted that “this book is, without exaggeration, a watershed event marking the process of appropriation and rethinking of our nation's cultural legacy, and of the state of the present literary process in Ukraine.”

Mr. Yushchenko went on to say, “I am confident that the publication of the new edition of your scholarly work will, as had previously been the case, give a powerful boost to theoretical and methodological discussions of the Ukrainian literary canon. In my opinion, this is important not only for scholarship but for the formation of our people's national identity, and for the evolution of their view of their own intellectual potential.”

HURI plans to hold its own presentation of Prof. Grabowicz's book in the early autumn of this year.



## "Paris to Kyiv" project's European tour includes stops in Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The name for the "Paris to Kyiv" project came from a trip to Ukraine by Alexis Kochan to Ukraine in the late 1970s, when the country was still a Soviet republic hidden behind the Iron Curtain. She arrived in her ancestral homeland from an initial visit to Paris on one of the few flights to Kyiv that did not go through Moscow. The itinerary allowed Ms. Kochan the chance to starkly compare the contrasts between Paris, cultural center of the West, and Kyiv, the historic cultural heart of Eastern Europe, but very much under the influence of the Soviet "culture" at that time.

Ms. Kochan gave life to the lasting impressions and influences from that trip some 20 years later, when in 1996 she put together her first line-up of the Paris to Kyiv project. With differing musicians in tow through the years, the project has toured the North American continent from shore to shore since then.

Today the music the group performs is particularly popular with CBC radio audiences in Canada. And now – some seven years after the project was launched, the ensemble has played Ukraine.

### First European concert tour

In May group members performed in their first European concert tour, which first took them to Belgrade, before stops in Kyiv, Lviv and Chernihiv during the second half of May, where they played to fantastic receptions and standing-room-only crowds at small and medium-sized venues. The tour finished in Poland, with appearances in the cities of Warsaw, Wroclaw and Krakow.

"What was very special about this was that we have been doing this music around North America – in Flim Flam, Los Angeles, Winnipeg, Edmonton, New York – but it was the first time we presented this music in Ukraine, from which much of the music hails," explained Julian Kytasty, the renowned Ukrainian bandura player, who has collaborated with Ms. Kochan almost from the start of the project.

The Paris to Kyiv quartet is non-traditional in many ways. First, the songs they play are not your grandmother's quaint Ukrainian ethnic melodies, but jazz-laced syncopations with a good dose of improvisation. The musical ensemble's varied ethnic make-up – a Serb, two Ukrainians, a Canadian and a Brit – brings uncharacteristic foreign ethnic influences to the Ukrainian folk melodies that compose the soul of the music.

The instruments reflect the unorthodox mix as well, with Mr. Kytasty switching between voice, sopilka and bandura; Richard Moody alternatively on jazz violin, viola and guitar; Martin College moving among an assortment of Celtic instruments; Nenad Zdjelar, who played with the Belgrade Opera Symphony before turning to blues and jazz, on double bass; and Alexis Kochan, lead vocalist and the founder of the project, blending the mix with her vocals.

### A linkage of historic capitals

Adding to the discordance is the unusual name, which suggests the linkage of two European capitals, but ones with varying European cultures.

The project is the outgrowth of Ms. Kochan's interest in the roots of traditional music and her longtime involvement with Ukrainian folk songs as a well-known Canadian vocalist. At the heart of the music are traditional Ukrainian folk songs and medieval chants that Ms. Kochan and Mr. Kytasty originally discovered in various written sources, which they have been collecting for years, and brought to life by using the talents of the group to incorporate different cultural influences into a fresh and unique style.

"The essence of the project is for Alexis and myself to find and define these Ukrainian melodies that we want to work with and develop a very open-ended arrangement, so that each of these players can then add something from their own musical world," Mr. Kytasty said.

The Ukrainian American underscored that the other ethnic influences are not simply spice to add to the musical flavor, but important ingredients.

"Martin may throw in a little flash of something that sounds vaguely Celtic, Richard might take off from a Ukrainian dance melody into a jazz viola solo. Nenad may create a beautiful bass line flowing out of a 'shedrivka,' or a medieval Ukrainian sacred chant," Mr. Kytasty added.

Audiences in all three countries reacted to the non-traditional music enthusiastically. Mr. Kytasty said that most interesting was how some in the audience at the Belgrade concert at the annual Ring-Ring Festival Serbia, who gave nonpareil support for the music, expressed in private some uncertainty as to how crowds in Ukraine would react to the new way in which the ensemble presented Ukrainian traditional music.

### Wonderful reception in Ukraine

However, it was an unfounded concern because the group was heartily greeted in Ukraine and avidly sup-

ported. Mr. Kytasty said that even a professor of traditional bandura music at Kyiv's Tchaikovsky Conservatory came away impressed.

"I think people got what we were doing right away, from the first note," explained Mr. Kytasty about the series of concerts in Ukraine. "They were like no audiences we had ever played, especially in Chernihiv, where many music students turned out. It was like giving a drink of water to a person stumbling in the desert."

Mr. Kytasty said that while this particular concert tour is now finished, the Paris to Kyiv project will continue.



## Wedding Announcements



The wedding of  
*Christina Marie Lyons*  
and  
*Hryhor Aleksij Piaseckyj*  
was celebrated  
on October eleventh, two thousand and two,  
at the Holy Family Catholic Church in  
Duxbury, Massachusetts.  
Christina is the daughter of Nancy and  
Robert Lyons of Duxbury and Hryhor is the  
son of Oksana and Peter J. Piaseckyj  
of Sunny Isles Beach, Florida.

**Congratulations  
to the wedding and  
anniversary  
couples!**

*May they have the best  
of fortune and share the joy of love  
throughout their life together!*

— *The Ukrainian Weekly*

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**Wedding and anniversary  
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The Ukrainian Weekly. The next  
Wedding Announcements section  
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*For a Lifetime of Memories*

## Ukrainian American Youth Association holds 44th annual Zlet at Ellenville resort

by Orest Kozicky

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) sponsored its 44th consecutive annual Zlet on May 24-25 at the SUM “oselia” (resort) in Ellenville, N.Y.

Zlet is SUM’s annual spring festival for its youth members that presents the opportunity to engage in academic and athletic competitions, as well as poetry recitations that demonstrate their knowledge about various aspects of Ukrainian history and cultural traditions and their use of the Ukrainian language. The event also is an opportunity for members to perform with their dance, bandura, choral and drama ensembles within a talent contest-type forum. The athletic competitions include individual and team sports competitions that include 40-, 60-, 100-, 440- and 880-yard sprints and one-mile runs, relay races, broadjump, shot put

and obstacle course races, as well as a volleyball tournament.

During this year’s Zlet the sports events were threatened by heavy rains that led to cancellation of the volleyball tournament and the 440-, 880-, the mile and relay race events. Thanks to the combined efforts of members of the komanda and all of the participating branches, the track and field were cleared of rain puddles daily and, despite continuing threats of rain, the youths competed under adverse conditions in the spirit of the SUM rallying greeting “Hartuis.” Youths also had an opportunity to socialize at a zabava and barbecue on Saturday night.

On Sunday morning the participants took part in a liturgy celebrated by Father Bohdan Danylo. A formal review of the SUM ranks arranged as individual branches from various cities was also conducted, with scoring

based on adherence to the uniform dress code.

This year’s Zlet included participants from the following 12 branches located on the Eastern Seaboard: Baltimore, Binghamton, N.Y., Boston, Goshen, N.Y., Hartford, Conn., Irvington, N.J., Jersey City, N.J., New York, Passaic, N.J., Philadelphia, Whippany, N.J., and Yonkers, N.Y. There were 400 participants ranging from age 4 through 17. The continued growth of the organization is reflected by the participation of a continually growing number of “sumeniata” age 3-5.

This year the responsibility for coordinating the various Zlet events was undertaken by members of the Passaic branch. The “komandant” was Zenon Betley, who together with “bulavna” Chrystia Janciw and the rest of the Passaic contingent directed the multiple aspects of Zlet.

The New York branch took first place for overall points achieved. Yonkers took second place, and Goshen took third place. Markian Kolinsky of Hartford won the top trophy for most points in the 13-17 age group, while Andrea Zelez of Hartford won the trophy for the 6-12 age group.

Bohdan Harhaj, the president of the National Executive Board of SUM, closed the awards ceremonies by expressing his gratitude to Mr. Betley and his Passaic contingent as well as to all of the “sumivtsi” for their participation in another successful Zlet.



Zlet 2003 participants prepare for the sprint.



A review of the SUM ranks during Zlet.



The concert venue during Zlet 2003.



Markian Kolinsky, individual winner in the 13-17 age group, receives his trophy from Zlet and SUM leaders.



The winning SUM branches – New York, first place; Yonkers, second place; and Goshen, third place – with SUM President Bohdan Harhaj.

# Ukrainian Canadian billionaire is new owner of NHL team

by Christopher Guly

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – A son of Ukrainian immigrants has become the owner of Canada's hottest National Hockey League team.

In May billionaire Eugene N. Melnyk, the 44-year-old, Toronto-born chairman and chief executive officer of pharmaceutical giant Biovail Corp., received Ontario Superior Court approval to purchase the Ottawa Senators, which won its first Presidents' Trophy this year for finishing the regular season with the best overall record and made the Eastern Conference final against the New Jersey Devils – the closest the Senators have ever come to winning the Stanley Cup.

The \$100 million (about \$75 million U.S.) deal to purchase the nearly bankrupt 11-year-old NHL franchise, through Mr. Melnyk's company Capital Sports & Entertainment Inc., was to have closed by May 30. But the offer hinged on finalizing a transaction to buy the Corel Center, the team's home arena that defaulted on payments 14 months ago and was placed into receivership in May. On June 10, that deal, too, was finalized, though its details were not released.

Mr. Melnyk had offered \$27.5 million to purchase the Corel Center – built for more than \$220 million in 1996 – from Covanta Energy Corp., an insolvent New Jersey-based company that is owed \$210 million for financing construction of the arena. (Figures are in Canadian dollars unless noted otherwise.) However, a Manhattan bankruptcy court overseeing Covanta's insolvency first had to approve the deal. (The \$400 million combined debt of the Senators and Corel Center placed them in bankruptcy protection for months.)

"The NHL's board of governors unanimously approved the purchase of the Ottawa Senators and the Corel Center" by Mr. Melnyk on June 17, the Associated Press reported.

Yet even before the final sales agreements are signed, Mr. Melnyk – who originally considered buying the team and moving it to Hamilton, Ontario – has become somewhat of a hero in Ottawa for saving a financially troubled team that was either destined for extinction or somewhere else.

He comes bearing two gifts Sens fans like: he loves hockey and he has lots of money.

Though he was not much of a player in his youth, as his boyhood pal and best friend Dan Pawych, a creative director with a Toronto advertising firm told *The Ottawa Citizen*, Mr. Melnyk has combined his business acumen with his passion for the sport.

Two years ago, he was approached to buy a stake in the Toronto Maple Leafs, a team for which he holds season tickets, but declined.

Instead, he paid \$2.5 million to buy the junior Toronto St. Michael's Majors, the Ontario Hockey League home team for St. Michael's College School, a Toronto-based junior and secondary school run by the Catholic Basilian Fathers that Mr. Melnyk attended.

A hands-on owner known for discussing strategy with the coach between periods and chartering planes rather than buses to transport the young players, he's now planning a new arena for the Majors.

And even when he's not near the ice, Mr. Melnyk tries to catch all of the team's games via a satellite uplink – at a cost of \$1,000-an-hour – to his home in Barbados where he spends about 30 weeks a year. (He often watches NHL games via satellite at Bert's Bar in the commercial district of Christchurch.)

Considered a tax-shelter haven for some, which he denied, Mr. Melnyk moved to the Caribbean island nation 13 years ago and lives in a hilltop mansion in the southeast corner of Barbados with his wife, two young children, 4-year-old Anna and 8-month-old Olivia, and a nanny.

The sun, surf, golfing, entertaining and a private jet (a Gulfstream IV) come courtesy of his personal fortune estimated to be \$1.7 billion U.S.

For the last two years, he has also been Canada's highest-paid executive. In 2002, Mr. Melnyk made nearly \$2 million U.S.: \$607,908 U.S. in salary and \$41.3 million in stock options.

The year before he took home even more: \$552,644 U.S. in salary and \$78.6 million U.S. after cashing in stocks. He owns 17.8 percent, or \$1.63 billion in stock, of Biovail.

Forbes magazine ranked Mr. Melnyk the 234th richest person in the world in 2002 (in eighth place in Canada), up from 292 on the global list in 2001. Not bad for a guy who ended his post-secondary academic training after a brief stint at York University in Toronto.



Oksana Zakydalsky

**Eugene Melnyk at the recent Toronto gala celebrating the 10th anniversary of the organization Help Us Help the Children.**

Mr. Melnyk preferred receiving his education from experience rather than in a classroom.

As a boy, he peddled cookies Mr. Pawych's grandmother, Pauline, would make for neighborhood kids in the Ukrainian-flavored Bloor West Village where "Mel," as he is known to his friends, and Mr. Pawych grew up.

In 1980 Mr. Melnyk, the son of physician Dr. Ferdinand Melnyk, established Trimel Corp., a company that condensed information from medical journals for doctors into a 16-page digest. Seven years later the company was listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

In 1989 Mr. Melnyk sold Trimel – then generating \$9 million in annual revenue – to publishing powerhouse Thomson Corp. for \$8 million and, at the age of 29, became a multimillionaire.

Mr. Melnyk used the proceeds to invest in Biovail SA, a Swiss medical company, and acquired a Canadian research facility to conduct clinical trials on controlled-release drugs (those that release their active ingredients into the bloodstream over a 12- or 24-hour period) for other pharmaceutical companies.

In 1991 he helped establish BCI, which became known as Biovail Corp. three years later when it began selling its own time-release medication to treat diseases in the cardiovascular and central nervous systems and to provide pain management. The company also specializes in "Flashdose" technology that enables medication to dissolve on a patient's tongue without the need for water.

Biovail, which produces the Cardizem line of heart medication, including its flagship drug, Tiazac, for angina, and distributes the Zyban quit-smoking drug, reported \$87.8 million U.S. in earnings on \$788 million U.S. in revenue. The company recently posted record first-quarter profits of \$63 million U.S. on revenues of \$191.4 million U.S.

Biovail expects revenues to reach \$1 billion U.S. this year, and the company plans to launch seven new drugs by 2005.

Canada's largest publicly traded pharmaceutical company, Biovail operates nine plants in five countries and employs more than 1,600 people. Shares in the company, which is also listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, have been trading at around \$50 U.S. on the New York Stock Exchange.

Last December, Biovail bought Pharma Tech for about \$66 million U.S., and earlier this month acquired the U.S. rights to two drugs from Madison, N.J.-based Wyeth for \$130 million U.S.: Ativan, for the treatment of anxiety disorders generically known as lorazepam;

and the cardiovascular drug Isordil (isosorbide dinitrate), that which prevent angina pectoris due to coronary artery disease. Together, both drugs represent nearly a \$12 billion U.S. market opportunity, according to Biovail.

Beyond attempting to stay ahead of the competition in the pharmaceutical world, Mr. Melnyk also has his eye on the finish line at the track.

He owns about 280 racehorses, many of them kept on a 1,000-acre farm near Ocala, Fla. His Archers Bay (named after a location in Barbados) won the Queen's Plate and the Prince of Wales Stakes in 1998, and Graeme Hall ran the Kentucky Derby three years ago. In 2001 he paid \$1 million U.S. for a two-year-old colt, Warners; it was the highest amount paid for a thoroughbred at a public auction that year.

Mr. Melnyk once said he hires the best legal team and best financial and scientific people "money can buy." Though expensive, "at the end of the day, you get what you pay for," he added.

When major creditors approved a plan by Rod Bryden (a former federal deputy assistant minister and majority owner of the franchise since 1993) to regain control of the Senators with help from New York billionaire and fast-food magnate Nelson Peltz (of Arby's), Mr. Melnyk, who had expressed interest in submitting his own bid to buy the team and create a "dynasty," waited in the wings to try again.

In late February major bank creditors rejected the \$245-million Bryden deal for the Senators and the Corel Center after performance milestones were missed. Mr. Melnyk then stepped in with his discounted deal (a \$100 million all-cash offer for the Senators, compared to Mr. Bryden's \$195 million-cash-and-tax-shelter proposal for the team and related assets such as management and coaches' contracts) to control a team that owes more than \$200 million to over 500 creditors, including \$12.6 million in player and staff payroll and deferred player contracts.

However, knowing that he has some of the league's best talent, Mr. Melnyk also plans to divert \$8 million of the \$100 million price tag for the Senators, according to court documents, to honor current and deferred contracts to staff, managers, coaches and players, including former Sens star Alexei Yashin, now with the New York Islanders, who is believed to be owed \$2.36 million U.S.

However, Mr. Melnyk will receive about \$5 million in net ticket revenue from the Senators' playoff series with the Philadelphia Flyers and the New Jersey Devils.

His deep pockets and commitment to keeping the Senators at home makes him, in the words of NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman, "exactly what the fans in Ottawa could be hoping for in their wildest dreams in terms of a new owner."

## ***Batkivschyna continues Discover Ukraine Expedition***

ESSENDON, Australia – The Ukrainian schooner *Batkivschyna* will continue its Discover Ukraine Expedition by sailing to Australia. The ship, which travels around the world promoting Ukraine, was scheduled to depart from Long Beach, Calif., on June 7.

It will stop at Maui, Hawaii, at the Lahaina Yacht Club. After Hawaii, the *Batkivshchyna* will sail towards New Zealand and Australia to attend the Tasmania Tall Ship Festival, after receiving an official invitation from the Tasmanian government.

The president of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO), Stefan Romankiw, recently spoke with Captain Dmitrii Birioukovitch of the *Batkivschyna*, who warmly greeted the Ukrainian community in Australia and said he looks forward to meeting them.

The *Batkivschyna* is now in the fourth year of its trans-global expedition, which it began from Kyiv on April 7, 2000.

The vessel participated in Operation Sail 2000 during the mammoth millennium celebrations in and around New York City.

In 2001 the *Batkivschyna* journeyed through the Great Lakes, and in 2002 it was in the Caribbean, and, after crossing the Panama Canal, headed up the Pacific coast of the United States.



Khristina Lew

Former Miss Ukraine Natalia Shvachko models a coat by Oksana Karavanska.



Project coordinator Marta Kolomayets with the three designers (from left), Oksana Karavanska, Anna Babenko and Victoria Gres.

## North American show...

(Continued from page 1)

The Ukrainian designers appeared to follow the European trend (especially evident in newly independent countries) of using rich fabrics such as velvet, silk, brocade and suede, and mixing several types of fabric in one outfit. Most of the jewelry consisted of antique-looking multi-tier metal necklaces.

Noted in the collections were Oriental influences (kimono styles and obi sashes), frequent use of layering and draping of fabrics, and military details (now very contemporary over here), seen in the use of large belt buckles and chains dangling from belts. Several outfits mixed masculine and feminine styling elements (for example, a tailored pin-striped jacket was paired with a softly-draped satin-trimmed skirt).

In the tradition of big-name designers who trot out theatrical creations to spice up the show (but water them down later to make them saleable), the Ukrainian apparel included many "far out" designs. A prime example was a daffodil yellow punk-styled cable knit sweater with thick cuffs and braided back, teamed with a black leather mini skirt and knee-high black boots.

Colors, for the most part, were neutral – black, white, ivory, grey and dark green – or muted shades of purple and rose, with flashes of bright color appearing in accents and accessories (red boots, a gold sash, a deep band of reddish-rust lace along the hem of an elegantly cut grey silk dress).

By contrast, some items, like the daffodil yellow sweater, were explosions of color. A hot pink pant suit combined a long-sleeved open cuff jacket, accented with black piping and black buttons, with hot pink wide-leg pants trimmed with a satin stripe on the front of the legs. Other colorful items included a short jacket completely covered in Bukovynian-style red and green bead embroidery and an outfit that brought together a bead-embroidered skirt, handbag and newsboy cap, worn with a black jacket and pink gloves.

### Bridal attire

For the customary bridal gown finale, Ms. Babenko opted for an unconventional (though all white) pant outfit, offering a

sequin-embroidered brocade and silk top and cotton pants with a row of small elliptical openings along one leg. A sequined brocade wedding coat and tulle scarf draped around the shoulders completed the ensemble. In a more traditional look, Ms. Gres presented a romantic floor-length white gown featuring a jewel-encrusted sleeveless bodice and a deep collar worn hood-fashion over the bride's head.

Ms. Karavanska dressed her bride in a midriff-baring crocheted lace top and satin-banded skirt with dipping hemline, adding a Ukrainian folk touch with a hat of field flowers, worn low on the forehead, that trailed a long swath of tulle.

Ms. Karavanska, possibly the most daring of the three designers, is a native of Kyiv who has made Lviv her home and base of operations. Twice winner of the first prize in a contest for young designers in Tallinn, Estonia, she is also the recipient of the Crystal Silhouette Grand Prix and was named best artist of Halychyna in 2002. Recently elected into the Syndicate of Fashion Designers of Ukraine, the vivacious designer likes to design for women who move through life with a spirit of experiment and change and are not captives to fashion trends.

Ms. Babenko, following her mother and grandmother into the dressmaking business, took up dressmaking professionally in 1995. Winner in 2000 of an award "For Considerable Contribution to the Development of Ukrainian Fashion," she designs four collections a year and presents runway shows twice a year at "Fashion Seasons," the largest fashion event in Ukraine. Stressing harmony and elegance, she prefers to use natural fabrics (wool, silk and leather) and vibrant colors.

Ms. Gres, a Kazakstan native who works in Uzhorod and runs a boutique in Kyiv, likes to design clothes that are both timeless and modern. Defining her style as "European classics adapted to the realities of the 21st century," she concentrates on workmanship and sophisticated cuts, using natural fabrics like wool and silks, which can be painted over, decorated and embroidered to give them "new life."

The evening's speakers, introduced by master of ceremonies Dr. George

(Continued on page 13)



An evening outfit by Viktoria Gres.



A pant suit designed by Oksana Karavanska.



Model wearing an ensemble by Anna Babenko approaches the camera.

## Embassy of Ukraine hosts benefit fashion show in Washington

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – As did the Ukrainian communities in Chicago, Detroit, Toronto and New York, capital area Ukrainian Americans joined in the effort to help fight breast cancer in Ukraine with a benefit fashion show and reception at the Ukrainian Embassy June 5.

The immediate focus of attention of the "Because Life is Beautiful" fashion show and reception here was on the creations of three leading Ukrainian women's fashion designers – Anna Babenko, Victoria Gris and Oksana Karavanska – but the ultimate goal was to increase awareness of the unnecessarily high toll breast cancer was taking on Ukrainian women and to help provide them with the technology to detect and fight the disease.

The Washington show also had a local addition with the inclusion of fur coats from Scandia Furs, owned by Washington area furrier Paul Kritsky. As in the other cities, the proceeds of the evening, from tickets and sales, were earmarked for the purchase of mammography machines for Ukraine through the Breast Cancer Awareness Project of the Ukrainian Women's Fund and the Center for Ukrainian Reform Education.

Welcoming and thanking the donors at the Embassy of Ukraine, Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko expressed his gratitude to the three designers for initiating "this noble and generous charity project" and to the four ladies who were the "energetic soul" of the project at the embassy – Laryssa Courtney, Marta Zielyk and Marika Jurach of the TWG Cultural Fund, the lead sponsor and organizer of the event, and Marta Kolomayets, the project's coordinator.

Ms. Kolomayets, who has spent the last dozen years in Ukraine working as a journalist and developing self-help projects with non-governmental organizations, said this project began at the grassroots level in Ukraine and was launched with a benefit fashion show there last November, which raised \$11,000 – a noteworthy sum for such an event in an

economically struggling country.

"It's inspiring to see that people in Ukraine are starting to understand the idea of philanthropy, volunteerism, working for a cause, taking their fate into their own hands and trying to change something by such projects as breast cancer awareness, helping orphans, HIV-AIDS and many other worthy projects," Ms. Kolomayets told the donors.

For various reasons, both cultural and economic, Ukrainian women are needlessly dying from breast cancer at an astonishingly higher rate than women in the West, she said. But things are beginning to change, she added, thanks to the efforts of a number of organizations that are raising public awareness.

Inspired by the response this project has received in the United States and Canada, Ms. Kolomayets said she will return to Ukraine "and tell the women of your good deeds, because you give them hope."

The evening was organized by The Washington Group Cultural Fund and the Ukrainian Embassy, with the cooperation of The Ukraine-U.S. Business Council, the Ukrainian Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area, the Washington branches of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and The Washington Group, an association of Ukrainian American professionals.

Thanking the donors on behalf of the sponsoring organizations at the conclusion of the show, Ms. Courtney, president of the TWG Cultural Fund, said they were very proud to be helping women in Ukraine "and especially to help women to help themselves," while at the same time to present the designs of Ukraine's "pioneers in the fashion world." Ms. Courtney also thanked the models – from the fashion school of Marymount College and a few young Ukrainian American ladies – who donated their work in the show. The event's organizer, Ms. Jurach said that because of space constraints at the Embassy, the number of people attending the fashion show and reception was limited to about 160, which kept some late donors from attending. After a



Yaro Bihun

A model dressed in Oksana Karavanska's wedding dress.



Ukrainian designer Victoria Gres (left) and a model wearing one of her creations, a wedding dress, accept the applause of the audience during a benefit fashion show at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington. Behind them, in the audience (below the photo of President Leonid Kuchma) are Consul General Valentyn Nalyvaichenko and his wife, Olena. Seated in front of them is former U.S. Ambassador to Kazakhstan and Georgia William Courtney.

preliminary balancing of donations and expenses, TWG Cultural Fund Treasurer Rosalie Norair said that the breast cancer project should receive in excess of \$6,500 from the evening.

The project also will receive a percent-

age of the proceeds from the sale of designer dresses – and there were a few sold that evening – and other fashions, note cards and other items which were on sale, as well as resulting coat sales by Scandia Furs.

### North American show...

(Continued from page 12)

Temnycky, who described himself as a 20-year survivor of cancer, included Dr. Borys Mychalczak, an oncology specialist associated with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, who gave an overview of breast cancer statistics in the U.S.; Ms. Shvachko, who said she was particularly concerned about the fight against cancer because her father was a cancer victim; Ms. Kolomayets; Ms. Rollins; and UIA President Walter Nazarewicz.

The silent auction, held in the institute's library, offered a collection of desirable items, among them tickets to a Broadway show, a week's stay in the Hamptons, a three-day stay at Soyuzivka, a winter vacation in Salt Lake City and a half-hour skating clinic with Olympic champion Oksana Baiul at Chelsea Piers in New York.

The show was sponsored by the Ukrainian Women's Fund, a Kyiv-based network of four women's non-governmental organizations committed to strengthening women's initiative, advancing women's rights and advocating women's issues in Ukraine; the Ukrainian Institute of America; the Metro New York Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America; and the Selfreliance New York Federal Credit Union.

Supporting organizations included the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, New York Independent Women's Alliance and Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Melaniya Hrybowych Temnycky headed the large contingent of volunteers who made up the New York metro area organizing committee, whose members – like the designers and others involved in the fund-raising campaign – donated their time and services to the North American tour.



Bohdan Yaremko

Members of the New York metro area organizing committee that worked on planning the fashion show.

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## Prime minister...

(Continued from page 1)

month, which affected the spring wheat crop. Warm weather finally arrived in late April, but it quickly turned hot with the country experiencing temperatures in the mid- and upper 80s through much of May. What has made the situation critical, however, is that practically no rain has fallen since the beginning of May, with the exception of short afternoon cloudbursts on some days in some regions.

To alleviate possible shortages and ensure sufficient supplies in the bread-producing sector of Ukraine's economy, Prime Minister Yanukovich said the government would purchase grain on the open market and resell it at prices advantageous to bread producers.

He said the government would make every effort to guarantee that all agricultural enterprises have seed stocks for the fall planting and announced that he had established a program of "seed credits" for affected farms, which would allow them to take loans from commercial banks and purchase seed at a 15 percent government-subsidized discount, effectively neutralizing interest payments on the loans.

"In this situation I put the onus on the regions - under the direct responsibility of the heads of the oblast state administrations - to organize the seeding of the winter crop as planned to secure food provisions for the state in 2004-2005," stated the prime minister.

Mr. Yanukovich also announced that the government would subsidize animal husbandry by adding 1.5 hrv to the purchase of every kilogram of live animal stock sold at market. He called the subsidy "palpable support for the enterprise and the village household," and encouraged local village and regional leaders to widely publicize the aid so that it would be "maximally utilized."

Mr. Yanukovich told the regional leaders to monitor the price of grain this summer and fall, including seed for planting, to ensure that sharp increases and speculative bidding do not occur. He said similar oversight is needed over bread prices.

"The fate of the village and the security of food provision for the state depend on our common effort," Mr. Yanukovich told the oblast leaders.

## Lazarenko...

(Continued from page 1)

Federal Bureau of Investigations and police officers will have a right to enter premises he will live in any time they wish," Interfax-Ukraine reported on June 13.

The Associated Press also reported that "an eight-member delegation, headed by Martha Boersch, chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force at the U.S. Attorney's Office in San Francisco, and Mr. Lazarenko's lawyers were taking testimony in Ukraine from high-ranking officials."

It is believed that the deposition of high-ranking Ukrainian government officials will help illuminate not only Mr. Lazarenko's alleged misdeeds but also allegations of widespread corruption among other Ukrainian government officials. According to the AP, Mr. Jenkins also approved the naming of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma as a witness in the case.

Prior to his being elected a national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada, Mr. Lazarenko was Ukraine's prime minister from May 1996 to August 1997. In February of 1999 he fled Ukraine, seeking foreign refuge but was arrested by U.S. authorities on February 24, 1999, for attempting to illegally enter the U.S. Subsequently, the United States charged him with several counts of financial impropriety.

## RFE/RL interviews...

(Continued from page 3)

whether you are today in Parliament or outside it, no matter even whether you are a political force or just an efficient social force, let me say one thing. Let us hold public roundtables throughout Ukraine and discuss one question: With what is Ukraine ill today? How has it happened that the authorities are such as they are?

[Let us also discuss] how – following regional roundtables with a broad range of opposition, democratic and other forces – to begin forming this fall a forum of democratic forces, in which all participants could feel themselves as co-authors of this forum, in which no differences between those from the first and the second rank would exist.

[Let us discuss how to make] all of them sign a fundamental document on forming such a coalition in order to achieve political consolidation, form a common outlook regarding Ukraine's reconstruction, and, of course, field a single [presidential] candidate.

**You have repeatedly said that there should be no impassable wall between the opposition and the authorities, that there should be some contacts between the former and the latter. You regularly meet the president. But there have recently been a lot of insinuations around this. Some even say that in the very last moment Leonid Kuchma may appoint you as his successor in the elections. What can you say about the purpose of your contacts with the authorities and the president in response to such rumors?**

I am convinced that Ukraine is not an Asiatic khanate in which political succession is passed [by one ruler to another]. Therefore, I don't care too much about such gossip, even if I realize that many politicians are dying to know at whom [Kuchma's] finger will be pointed.

On the other hand, I would not be sincere if I said that it does not matter to me what position is taken by the Ukrainian president today or will be taken tomorrow. Beyond question, the president remains a key political player in Ukraine, who is constantly torn between the two dilemmas – either to work for the country's good or to yield to the clans even further, thus preparing a very difficult future for Ukraine.

I am convinced that one needs to communicate with the president. What is the language of this communication, what is the topic of these conversations? Of course, these are difficult conversations. Believe me, it is not easy for me to step in to talk with the president, and these talks are emotionally and morally exhausting. But if you are guided by Ukrainian interests, you have to stand up, go and talk. Such talks do not belong to the pleasant or easy hours of your life, but you have to hold them.

**There is a lot of information, including from Uzhhorod, Lviv, Rivne and other regions, that the Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU) and its functionaries resort to methods bordering on violence as regards employing people in regional administrations. They put the question in the following way: If you want to work in the administration, join the SDPU; if not, good-bye. And this has become a mass-scale occurrence. What is your assessment of this?**

The SDPU-ization of the entire country is under way, this is a fact, I have already spoken about it in Parliament.

**How does the SDPU manage to multiply in such a magical way so quickly?**

**In the [2002] elections it was the party that obtained the least votes [among those parties that cleared the 4 percent voting threshold], but has got hold of strong positions in the government, is now running three oblast administrations and continues to mushroom.**

I think there is nothing phenomenal. There is only [the party's] proximity to the president [ed.: SDPU leader Viktor Medvedchuk is head of the presidential administration]. This is possible because of only one reason – [Ukraine's political] system does not work. If it did work, it would have prevented such pathologies from occurring in the Ukrainian government.

The president ignores public opinion, he is in possession of political levers that allow him to appoint a person whose name has been whispered into his ear by those from his entourage.

## Canadian senator...

(Continued from page 1)

Saskatoon, is a lawyer, former judge and former ambassador. She was appointed to the Senate of Canada on March 11, 1993. She currently serves on the Senate committees on Foreign Affairs; Legal and Constitutional Affairs; Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament; and Human Rights, which she chairs.



## Lydia Choma

of New York City, died on Tuesday, June 3, 2003.

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Divine Liturgy was celebrated on Monday, June 9.

at St. George Ukrainian Church in New York City at 9:30 a.m. Interment followed at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

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# Kharkiv Oblast farmers, in search of better profits, on study visit to U.S.

by Jan Sherbin

CINCINNATI – When we hear about the boom harvests in Ukraine over the past couple of seasons, it sounds like good times for grain farmers.

But it's not necessarily so.

Bumper crops mean a great deal of grain coming to market, all at one time. When grain supplies get so high, prices dive. Farmers who should be enjoying the prosperity of a successful growing season instead find themselves looking for loans in order to stay in business. The next season, they can't pay off their loans because they can't get high enough prices on their yield.

A group of 15 agriculturists from Kharkiv Oblast have completed a three-week quest for solutions to this dilemma. On a study tour run by Cincinnati's Center for Economic Initiatives, they learned about grain storage technology that allows farmers to hold on to grain until ready to sell, and about the commodities marketplace.

They visited the Chicago Board of Trade, manufacturers of grain storage facilities and technology, family farms, major farm equipment manufacturers, and governmental agencies.

The central idea of the study tour was that these farmers need to gain some control of their own profitability, and they need government support.

"Grain prices have fallen by half," said Dr. Belal Siddique, who organized the study tour. "They have to find ways to get good return if they put in good effort and get good results."

Members of the study tour represented farms of various sizes in the Kharkiv Oblast in eastern Ukraine, as well as a marketing and policy manager from Kharkiv's department of agriculture, an auctioneer from Kharkiv's developing commodities exchange, an agricultural researcher and a soil management scientist.

During the study tour, members of the group met with agriculture experts in six states – Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri.

Their tour was funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It was the 14th study tour run by the Center for Economic Initiatives, with tours in aquaculture (production of edible fish), livestock and farm equipment manufacturing scheduled for later this year.



At Miller Farm in Portland, Ind., the Kharkiv farm group takes a look at how no-till planting is done and hears from Greg Miller (center) about no-till's time and cost efficiencies.

## Canadian students gain valuable experience while assisting Ukraine

OTTAWA – A group of young Canadians have returned to Canada after a half-year internship in Ukraine. The young graduates are participants in the International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) administered by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE). The program will run again this year and will offer 13 internship positions funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

"This is a win-win situation," said

Jennifer Humphries, director, Scholarships, CBIE. We send recent university and college graduates on these internships abroad and they return to Canada with professional experience that helps them to find attractive jobs. We are proud to announce that a recent returnee is now employed at CBIE, and several have been offered positions in Ukraine or Canada."

The hosts in Ukraine benefit from having eager young Canadian professionals working within their organizations. And the special partnership

between Canada and Ukraine is strengthened.

The 2002-2003 interns include recent graduates from universities across Canada including the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Alberta, the University of Waterloo, Brock University, the University of Manitoba, Carleton University, York University and Seneca College. They hold either undergraduate or master's degrees in specializations such as political science, local

(Continued on page 22)

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# Michigan medical society ships textbooks, periodicals to Vinnytsia

by Dr. George Hrycelak

WARREN, Mich. – The Michigan Chapter of UMANA, based in Detroit, on Saturday, April 12, successfully launched a locally supported project to supply the Vinnytsia State Medical University with English-language medical and dental textbooks and periodicals.

For over 50 years the mission of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) has been to unite health care professionals with an interest in improving the health care of Ukrainians. One method of accomplishing this goal is to broaden the base of medical knowledge available to health practitioners in Ukraine by sharing

knowledge between countries.

The effort crystallized in the fall of 2002, when chapter member Dr. Vitalij Piluiko visited Prof. Moroz, rector of Vinnytsia State Medical University. A tour of the library revealed outdated, non-Ukrainian language texts and journals, with no English-language literature available. Furthermore, the medical students expressed a keen interest in current publications from the West, in part to practice English medical terminology.

UMANA Michigan Chapter President Renata Juzych-Kucyj, D.D.S., and Dr. Piluiko began work in conjunction with the university-affiliated Institute of Post-

(Continued on page 22)



Members of UMANA's Michigan Chapter pack medical textbooks and periodicals headed for the Vinnytsia region of Ukraine. Seen above (from left) are: Dr. Vitalij Piluiko, Dr. Lydia Juzych-Kaczmar, Dr. Renata Juzych-Kucyj, Eugene Bej and Dr. George Figacz.



## UKRAINE 2003

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## COMMUNITY CHRONICLE: UAV Post No. 40 in Southwest Florida remembers fallen comrades



Members of Ukrainian American Veterans Post No. 40 during the wreath presentation at Veterans Memorial Monument: (first row, from left) Karen Bapst and Jerry Zinyecz, (second row) R. Ratycz, Julian Helbig and Orestes Lazor.

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by Jerry Zinyecz

NORTH PORT, Fla. – The very active Ukrainian American Veterans Post No. 40 of Southwest Florida had a full schedule during the 2003 Memorial Day Weekend.

On Saturday, May 24, members placed “Old Glory” and Ukrainian flags on graves of Ukrainian American Veterans and Ukrainian veterans who have been laid to rest in Memorial Gardens, Venice, Fla. This tradition started in 1999 when Post No. 40 was formed. (Regretfully, the post places more flags each year.)

On Sunday morning there was a panakhyda (requiem service) in St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church for departed comrades in arms. It was a solemn occasion for the community to honor those no longer with us.

The UAV color guard and veterans entered the church with a memorial wreath, and during the singing of “Vichnaya Pamiat” the veterans proudly saluted their fallen comrades.

At the end of the service, the church choir, under the direction of Lubow Dobrowolska-Ingrem, sang “God Bless America,” with the congregation joining in. The Rev. Sevarin Kovalyshin concluded the services with “Shche Ne Vmerla Ukraina,” the Ukrainian national anthem.

The community supported the post with generous donations for the red, white and blue ribbons handed out to the local church congregations. This generosity allows Post 40 to contribute to various veterans’ programs, such as scholarship, welfare and maintenance of graves.

On Monday, the post participated in North Port’s Memorial Day Activities at Veterans Memorial Park, an occasion for this small town to honor those who served the country in time of war and peace.

This year the post honor guard presented the flags of the United States and Ukraine as well as the new UAV Post No. 40 Cpl. Roman G. Lazor flag. The flag was designed and made by Post Commander Marian Bojsiuk, Myrosia Bojsiuk, Irena Petryk and Bohdan

(Continued on page 23)

## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Elected president of N.J. Medical Society

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Ukrainian American Mark Olesnicki was recently elected president of the Medical Society of New Jersey (MSNJ) for the 2003-2004 term, according to the Star Ledger. The MSNJ is the state's largest organization for doctors, with approximately 8,500 of the 22,000 physicians in the state belonging to the group.

Dr. Olesnicki, 60, has set several goals for his term as president of the MSNJ, among which is increasing MSNJ membership. While the MSNJ currently enrolls nearly 40 percent of the state's doctors, Dr. Olesnicki hopes to see this number rise to 70 percent.

Also a foremost objective for Dr. Olesnicki's term is the achievement of tort reform, meaning a change in the rules of malpractice lawsuits against doctors. In May Dr. Olesnicki headed a protest in Trenton, seeking to convince the New Jersey state Senate to pass a bill limiting monetary awards for pain and suffering in malpractice lawsuits to \$300,000.

As Dr. Olesnicki said in an interview with the magazine New Jersey Medicine, "Jackpot justice has no place in this." He also commented, according to The Star Ledger (May 30), "I want to see the day when physicians can really practice medicine without fear of huge lawsuits looming overhead. If they don't have to practice defensive medicine, they can spend more time with patients."

Another priority on Dr. Olesnicki's agenda is to reform the system of managed care so that doctors regain a measure of autonomy. In the interview with New Jersey Medicine – which featured his photograph on the cover of its May issue – Dr. Olesnicki was asked about problems that doctors deal with daily, and he responded, "Practicing medicine unencumbered is number one. Every day we speak with physicians about the hassles that are imposed on them, either by regulatory bodies or insurance companies or laboratories. We are burdened with administrative issues. We cannot even give medications that we want to give, if they are not covered by a health plan. We have to substitute other medications. The physicians feel that their turf has not only been invaded, but, basically, has been taken over. We are made to feel like the employees of health plans."

The MSNJ, led by Dr. Olesnicki, is also involved in a class action lawsuit seeking injunctive relief from, as Dr. Olesnicki said in the New Jersey Medicine interview, "the various pre-certifications required, the limited choice of medications, access to reliable care in the hospital, and termination of benefits."

Dr. Olesnicki – who was honored on May 2 as the 211th president of the Medical Society of New Jersey during a special evening at The Ritz-Carlton in Philadelphia – took a somewhat circuitous route to get to where he is today.

He was born in Lviv, Ukraine, in 1942, but, as The Star Ledger reports, the war forced his family to leave Ukraine and move to Austria. There, his father



Dr. Mark Olesnicki

worked first as a doctor in Austrian villages and later in international relief organization hospitals. When Dr. Olesnicki was 7 years old, his family moved to the United States and made a home in Newark, N.J.

Dr. Olesnicki, whose father was a doctor and whose mother was a pharmacist, also decided to enter the medical field, majoring in pre-medical studies at Seton Hall University. He then graduated from medical school at the University of Innsbruck in Austria.

He returned to the United States, becoming an internal medicine specialist at St. Barnabas Medical Center. When his father passed away, Dr. Olesnicki assumed control of his father's medical practice in Irvington, N.J., which he has since moved to Florham Park, N.J.

According to New Jersey Medicine, prior to his election as president of the MSNJ, Dr. Olesnicki served as president of the Essex County medical society, president of the St. Barnabas medical staff, a delegate to the MSNJ House of Delegates, and vice-chair of the American Medical Association (AMA) delegation. He has also served on the Council on Communications and the Committee on Finance and Budget.

Most recently, on April 24, he was a keynote speaker (on the topic of "Water and Disease") at the 12th International Conference on Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions, sponsored at the United Nations by World Information Transfer Inc., with the co-sponsorship of the government of Ukraine.

Dr. Olesnicki is known also for his involvement in charitable work, such as bringing children in need of specialized medical care from Ukraine to the United States. Two recent cases included a boy with a cleft palate and another with a heart defect.

Dr. Olesnicki is married to Dr. Milla Olesnicki, a pathologist. The couple have three children: Bohdan, an internist and emergency physician; Natalia, who is studying medicine at St. Georges University Medical School; and Genia, a doctoral student in molecular genetics at New York University.

Dr. Olesnicki is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 27.

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

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Entry: *Advance registration is required for singles.* Entry fee is \$15 per individual or a doubles team. Send registration form including the fee to:

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*Singles registration must be received by June 30.* Doubles teams may register at Soyuzivka by 5 p.m. on Friday. *Do not send entry form to Soyuzivka.*

Rules: All USTA and USCAK rules for tournament play will apply.  
Participants must be Ukrainian by birth, heritage or marriage.  
Players may enter up to two groups of either singles or doubles.

Awards: Trophies will be presented to winners and finalists in each group.

Host Club: KLK, USCAK Tennis Committee will conduct the tournament.

#### Registration Form Make checks payable to KLK

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Group Men \_\_\_\_\_ Men 45's \_\_\_\_\_ Boys \_\_\_\_\_ Age Group \_\_\_\_\_

Women \_\_\_\_\_ Sr. Women \_\_\_\_\_ Girls \_\_\_\_\_ Age Group \_\_\_\_\_

Doubles \_\_\_\_\_ Partner \_\_\_\_\_ Mixed Doubles \_\_\_\_\_ Partner \_\_\_\_\_

USCAK-EAST 2003

*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;
- in English, the full name of the graduate, the degree completed or diploma received, along with the date it was presented, a list of awards and honors given the graduate, and the name and location of the school;
- a photo of the graduate (optional);
- payment for the ad;
- your daytime phone number.

The ad sizes for the greeting are a 1/8 page horizontal for \$100 or a 1/4 page for \$180.

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:  
The Ukrainian Weekly – Congratulations Graduates!  
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
Attn. Maria O.  
For further information, please call  
(973) 292-9800 ext. 3040

## Canadian students...

(Continued from page 17)

economic development, finance, psychology, Central/East European area studies, to list a few.

The host organizations in Ukraine included the United Nations Development Program, the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration, the Kyiv Post (a weekly English-language newspaper), and Help Us Help the Children. The variety of the interns' work in technical cooperation, public relations, policy development, education and public administration gives an idea of the breadth of the interns' experience, but only hints at the significant responsibility level of their internships.

As one of the interns wrote in a report to CBIE: "CIDA and CBIE provided me with a link between university and practical work experience that is related to my field of study, creating a steppingstone for obtaining my future career objectives.

My international experience also allowed me to expand my knowledge of the world by giving me the opportunity to live in a historically rich and ethnically diverse region."

Another intern wrote: "I became extremely self-confident, gained many new skills, and gained valuable work experience. In addition I also improved my language skills, enjoyed the culture and even had the opportunity to travel to other countries... It was the most incredible time of my life."

CBIE is an Ottawa-based national organization comprising 200 member educational institutions and organizations. More information about CBIE and Youth Internships may be found at [http://www.cbie.ca/scholarship/index\\_e.cfm?page=yip\\_e](http://www.cbie.ca/scholarship/index_e.cfm?page=yip_e)

For information about the program generally, please contact:

Julita Palka, CBIE's program administrator – youth internships, at (613) 237-4820 x242, or JPalka@cbie.ca.

## Michigan medical...

(Continued from page 19)

Graduate Education in Khmelnytski, Ukraine. The team arranged for a program of donated medical texts and journals, collected by members of UMANA's Michigan Chapter, to be housed in the university library for easy and effective access.

Dr. Juzych-Kucyj kicked off the project on April 12 in the Ridna Shkola library of the Immaculate Conception Grade School in Warren, Mich. The chapter members responded graciously and generously, donating over 1,000 pounds of current medical and dental textbooks and journals from all specialties of medicine and dentistry. In addition,

the project recruited donors sponsoring subscriptions to a health care journal of their choice for the Ukrainian library.

Eugene Bej of the local Dnipro Company lent encouragement to the project by assisting with the packaging of the literature and securing discounted shipping fees for the load of donations.

The executive board of the National Office of UMANA is fully supporting the Michigan Chapter's project, and encouraging similar ventures expanding medical and dental literacy among colleagues in Ukraine.

For further information, contact the Michigan Chapter's president, Dr. Juzych-Kucyj, at (248) 641-8700.



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# NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

our Christian peoples, Ukrainian and Polish. So that wars cease their existence in the whole world." In 1943 and continuing into 1944, Poles and Ukrainians in Volyn killed each other in a bloody interethnic conflict, with an estimated 75,000 Poles and 35,000 Ukrainians dying. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### Grain-import duties may be dropped

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said on June 14 that Ukraine is going to import grain this year and the government has already allocated funds for grain purchases, UNIAN reported. According to Mr. Yanukovich, bad weather has damaged some 60 percent of winter-crop grain areas in Ukraine. Agricultural Minister Serhii Ryzhuk suggested the same day that Ukraine cancel duties on imports of some 2.5 million tons of grain in order to ensure a sufficient supply of grain in the country. As reported earlier, the government expects that Ukrainian farmers will harvest 25 million to 27 million tons of grain this year, compared with nearly 39 million tons in 2002. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### New deputy to join Verkhovna Rada

KYIV – The Central Election Commission has registered Oleksander Yaroslavskyi as a Verkhovna Rada national deputy, Interfax reported on June 13. Mr. Yaroslavskyi, president of UkrSibbank, won a by-election in Chernihiv Oblast on June 8 with 27.1 percent of the vote. With Mr. Yaroslavskyi's swearing in, the Verkhovna Rada will reach its constitutionally prescribed membership figure of 450. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### Canada urges Ukraine to cancel visas

EDMONTON – Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine Andrew Robinson recently made a statement urging Ukraine to cancel visa requirements for Canadian citizens, reported Ukraine Observer. In his presentation titled "Ukraine-EU: on the way to four liberties," he said: "Why does Ukraine demand no visas from a number of countries, and at the same time demands visas from Canadians?" Mr. Robinson called the system, whereby Ukraine demands visas from Canadians because Canada demands visas from Ukrainians, obsolete. "Ukraine should

build its visa policy from the point of view of an open state," the ambassador noted. At the same time the diplomat did not specify Canada's intentions to cancel or loosen visa requirements for Ukrainians. As previously reported by Ukrainian News, Ukraine and Poland agreed that visas for citizens of Ukraine for entry into Poland will be issued cost-free, and Ukraine will introduce a visa-free regime for Poles. Ukraine has reached agreement concerning a similar regulation with Slovakia, while Hungary and Lithuania stated the possibility of introducing the "Polish option." Serbia and Montenegro introduced cost-free tourist visas from June through September for Ukrainian tourists buying tours through tourist agencies. (Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Alberta Provincial Council)

### Kyiv urged to use pipeline in 'reverse'

MOSCOW – Russia's Tyumen Oil Company (TNK) proposed to the Ukrainian government on June 11 the creation of a working group to study the possible use of the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline in "reverse mode" – that is, for pumping oil from Brody to an oil terminal in Odesa – Interfax reported, quoting TNK Executive Director German Khan. Mr. Khan said the proposal was made jointly with British Petroleum (BP), a stakehold-

er in TNK, during BP Executive Director John Brown's meetings with President Leonid Kuchma and other Ukrainian officials in Kyiv. Meanwhile, the Stratfor commercial-intelligence group reported on June 11 that Mr. Kuchma approves of the idea of pumping Russian oil from Brody to Odesa until it becomes possible to pump Caspian oil to Europe through the pipeline. The use of the Odesa-Brody pipeline for pumping oil in the "reverse mode" reportedly could bring Ukraine an estimated \$60 million in annual revenues. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### Ukraine, Romania agree on land border

CHERNIVTSI – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and his Romanian counterpart, Ion Iliescu, on June 17 signed an agreement in Chernivtsi in southwestern Ukraine concerning their mutual land border, Ukrainian news media reported. The accord confirms the border that was fixed in 1961 but leaves unresolved a dispute over the precise border along the continental shelf of the Black Sea, in the vicinity of Serpent Island (Zmiinyi Ostrov). The dispute flared when Ukrainian geologists found oil deposits near the island in 2001. According to Ukraine's State Border Protection Committee, the Ukrainian-Romanian land frontier stretches for 608.8 kilometers. (RFE/RL Newswire)

# UAV Post No. 40...

(Continued from page 20)

Petryk. Both ladies are members of the UAV Ladies Auxiliaries of North Port.

During the wreath presentation ceremonies the Taras Popel Memorial Wreath was laid at the Veterans Memorial Monument by Jerry Zynycz, past post commander, and Karen Bapst, post adjutant. UAV attendance this year was the largest of all local veterans' groups.

On May 17 UAV members attended liturgy and memorial services for the Post Patron, Cpl. Lazor. The Rev. Severyn Kovalyshin blessed the new post flag, the U.S. flag in honor of Atanas Kobryn (past national commander and past post commander), and the Ukrainian flag in honor of the late Wasyl Drapak, a Korean War veteran and former member of UAV Post No. 7.

The post's plans for the year include participation in the Fourth of July parade in North Port, observances of Ukrainian Independence Day in August, as well as a gala dinner-dance and officers' installation night on November 8, to which the public is invited.

For more information about the post, or to join, readers may contact Mr. Zynycz, PR officer, at (941) 492-4860, or ojzin@prodigy.net.

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47	252.00	77	452.00
48	253.00	78	453.00
49	254.00	79	454.00
50	255.00	80	455.00
51	256.00	81	456.00
52	257.00	82	457.00
53	258.00	83	458.00
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# Forgotten Children...

(Continued from page 6)

every year for students to travel to Ukraine, where they would learn more about the country, visit the orphanage and work on projects, and contribute fresh energy to FCEE upon their return. College students often get involved in activities that later help them choose paths for their future careers. Such a scholarship would encourage students to develop and strengthen their vision to help Ukraine build its next generation by enabling them to experience directly the lives of orphans. Personal growth, energy, leadership, and inspiration are all attributes that FCEE hopes to foster and advance with scholarship opportunities.

June 10, 2003, marked FCEE's one-year anniversary. All members have learned that, with a strong effort, sincere heart and perseverance, together we can make a difference. By raising awareness and improving conditions in one orphanage at a time, we hope to improve the lives of children in Eastern Europe and inspire the hearts and minds of individuals in the United States.

# Soyuzivka's Datebook

**June 21-July 3**  
Tennis Camp

**June 22-29**  
Day Camp, Tabir Ptashat No. 1

**June 28, Saturday**  
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with VIDLUNNIA

**June 29-July 6**  
Day Camp, Tabir Ptashat No. 2

**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)

**July 6, Sunday**  
Summer Heritage Concert No. 2 featuring Virlana Tkacz's Yara Arts Group performing "Kupala in the Garden."

**July 6-19**  
Boys' and Girls' Recreational Camp

**July 12, Saturday**  
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava

**July 13-18**  
Chemney Camp, Session No. 1

**July 19, Saturday**  
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with VORONY  
Children's Weekend - Bounce House and Games for Kids

**July 20-25**  
Chemney Camp, Session No. 2

**July 20- August 2**  
Sports Camp

**July 26, Saturday**  
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with SVITANOK

**July 27, Sunday**  
Summer Heritage Concert No. 3  
Featuring OBEREHY Musical Ensemble

**August 1-3**  
Soyuzivka Sports Jamboree Weekend.  
Softball, Soccer, Volleyball and Hockey/Rollerblade Tournaments  
Music by Ihor Bachynskyj, Barabolya and Ron Cahute

**August 2, Saturday**  
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with BURYA

**August 3, Sunday**  
UNWLA Day

**August 3-8**  
Soyuzivka Scuba Diving Course

**August 9, Saturday**  
Soyuzivka Summer Zabava with NA ZDOROVYA  
Art Exhibit with Ducia Hanushevsky; ceramics and the paintings of Anatolij Burtovyj  
Ulster County Caesar Salad Festival

**August 10-16**  
Club Suzie-Q Week

**August 10-23**  
Traditional Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp with Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

**August 16, Saturday**  
Miss Soyuzivka Weekend and Zabava with FATA MORGANA

**August 17, Sunday**  
Summer Heritage Concert No. 4 featuring Dumka Choir

**August 23, Saturday**  
Ukrainian Independence Day Celebration - Dance Camp Recital and Zabava

**August 25- September 1**  
Labor Day Week

**August 30- 31**  
Labor Day Weekend - Zabavas with FATA MORGANA and TEMPO  
Summer Heritage Concert with UKRAINA Dance Ensemble from Canada

**September 8-11**  
Regensburg Reunion

**September 12-14**  
KLK Weekend and Annual Meeting  
Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion

**September 18-21**  
Reunion of Salzburg Gymnasium

**September 26-28**  
Conference of Spartanky Plast Sorority

**September 28-30**  
Reunion of Mittenwald Schools



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# PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### ONGOING

#### June 12-29

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

#### Saturday, June 28

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) is holding a four-part presentation on the topic "The State of Relations between Ukraine and the Diaspora," featuring the following scholars from Ukraine: Oleh Romaniv, NTSh president, Lviv; as well as Ihor Vynnychenko, Kyiv; Volodymyr Vyatrovych, Lviv; and Oleksander Sych, Ivano-Frankivsk. The conference will be held at the NTSh build-

ing, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call, (212) 254-5130.

#### Saturday, June 28

**CHICAGO:** A literary evening devoted to the works of Ivan Bahriany, a prolific writer, journalist and political leader whose works are now being published in Ukraine, is being sponsored by the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art and the Ukrainian Language Society (TUM). The featured speaker will be O. Konowal, who organized Bahriany's extensive correspondence with prominent Ukrainian leaders and literary figures in two volumes, published by Smoloskyp in Kyiv last October. The two-volume, "Correspondence," as well as other publications, will be available for purchase. Bahriany, whose works were translated into English, French, German, Spanish and other languages, was nominated for the Nobel Prize in literature.

#### Saturday-Sunday, July 5-6

**KERHONKSON, N.Y.:** An exhibit of pysanky and ceramics by Sofika Zielyk will be on view at the Soyuzivka Estate's Main Building and Library. For more information call (212) 533-6419.

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

Listings of no more than 100 words (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent a week prior to desired date of publication to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510.

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- Morskyi Bal in November.
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