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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Special ceremony to celebrate recovery of Konowal's missing Victoria Cross

by Christopher Guly

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – This year's anniversary of Ukrainian independence will hold special significance for Ottawa's Ukrainian Canadian community. On August 23, a ceremony will be held to welcome home a rare military honor awarded to one of its most celebrated sons three decades after the medal went missing from the capital city's Canadian War Museum.

The museum announced in late June that it once again had possession of the Victoria Cross presented to the late Filip Konowal for extraordinary heroism displayed during World War I.

After conducting a more than two-month-long investigation to determine the medal's authenticity, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police returned Konowal's Victoria Cross to the museum, which purchased it in 1969. It is believed to be the first of 26 VCs the museum acquired for its collection, but it went missing about four years later.

The medal was not found until this past spring when it showed up at an auction house in the southwest Ontario city of London. Acting on information presented by both the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) and the museum, the RCMP seized the VC before its scheduled May 30 sale.

Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, the UCCLA's research director, who has spent the past decade publicizing the story of the greatest war hero in Ukrainian Canadian history, never thought he'd have the chance to see Konowal's medal. "It's like wow – I'm still kind of goose-bumpy about it. This is very good news. It's something just short of a miracle," he said.

But while one chapter in the medal's saga is closed, the story is far from over, said Dr. Luciuk, who teaches political geography at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario. "Who took it? Was it theft or an honest mistake? All we know is

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Four Ukrainian activists killed in car accident in Lviv Oblast

by Vasyl Pawlowsky

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Four leading Ukrainian activists – three from Great Britain and one from Ukraine – died on July 25 in the Zolochiv region of the Lviv Oblast as the result of a collision between the car in which they were traveling, a VAZ-2107, more commonly known as a Lada, and a Volkswagen Transporter van.

According to initial reports, the driver suffered a heart attack shortly before the collision, causing him to lose control of the Lada. Lvivska Hazeta reported that eyewitnesses confirmed they saw the car drive into the oncoming lane as if out of control.

Early reports about the accident had indicated that two of the four passengers in the car were pronounced dead at the scene of the accident, the road between the villages of Kurovychi and Pidhaichyky. They were identified as 80-year-old Maj. Dr. Swiatomyr Fostun, who was editor of *Ukrainska Dumka* (Ukrainian Thought), chairman of the Association of Ukrainian Former Combatants in Great Britain and former general secretary of the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain; and 80-year-old Volodymyr Pihij, a leading member of the Ukrainian community in Rugby, England.

Roman Pankevych, 76, a prominent and long-standing political and community activist from Lviv, who was reported to have been at the wheel of the vehicle by the Lviv-based newspaper *Postup*, and

Markian Sheptycky, the secretary of the national executive of the Association of Ukrainian Former Combatants in Great Britain, treasurer of the St. Sophia Ukrainian Religious Society, chairman of the Ukrainian Social Club affiliate to the London branch of the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (AUGB) and AUGB executive committee director, both later died from the injuries they sustained.

The veterans had visited Brody for the 60th anniversary commemoration to their fallen brothers-in-arms. The battle at Brody, which took place July 14-22, 1944, saw some of the bloodiest fighting during World War II. Those who survived went on to fight as part of the Ukrainian National Army under the command of Gen. Pavlo Shandruk in 1945. Many of the veterans of the battle of Brody emigrated and made their homes in Great Britain.

A communiqué issued by the AUGB to its members and the Ukrainian community expressed condolences: "We wish to take this opportunity of expressing our profound condolence and heartfelt sympathies to the families, friends and colleagues of all the dearly departed."

"All of the dearly departed will be missed very dearly by everyone who knew them. May their souls rest in peace – Vichna yim pamiat," wrote the AUGB.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to AUGB Executive Committee, 49 Linden Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, London, England W2 4HG, or to enquiries@augb.co.uk.

Ukraine no longer lists membership in NATO and EU as foreign policy goal



During the Russia-Ukraine economic summit, (from left) are: Russia's President Vladimir Putin, Ukraine's Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine confirmed on July 26 that it had changed its recently approved defense doctrine, omitting verbiage that had specifically stated that NATO and European Union membership were a central foreign policy priority. The wording was replaced with a more general statement that alludes to Ukraine's continued Euro-Atlantic integration.

The changes came after Ukraine failed to achieve any perceptible progress in its quest for membership in the two most important European institutions, during summits held separately by NATO and the EU in June. The defense doctrine had originally been approved on June 15 in preparation for the NATO summit.

During its Istanbul summit, NATO refused to consider a Membership Action Plan for Ukraine – the first step in the process toward membership – until the country showed that democratic changes, including notions of the rule of law, free and fair elections, and freedom of the press, had taken root.

As for the EU, it continued to refuse to recognize Ukraine as a free market economy, even though it has already extended such status to Russia. Romano Prodi, the head of the EU's executive body, the European Commission, expressly stated in the spring that Ukraine would never become an EU member.

The announcement in the defense doctrine changes came in Yalta, where Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma was hosting Russia's President Vladimir Putin during a Russian-Ukrainian economic summit, with who could be considered the captains of industry of both Russia and Ukraine in attendance.

Those present from the Ukrainian side included billionaire Renat Akhmetov, the chairman of System Capital Management, located in Donetsk; fellow billionaire Viktor Pinchuk, chairman of Interpipe, who is President Kuchma's son-in-law; and Hryhorii Surkis of Kyiv Dynamo, along with his partner, Viktor Medvedchuk, Mr. Kuchma's chief of staff.

Russian businessmen present included Vadym Alekperov, chairman of Lukoil, Oleksander Lebediev, chairman of the board of directors of Gazprom, and Petro Aven, president of Alpha Bank.

The conference was supposed to coordinate the strengthening of trade relations between Russia and Ukraine. Kyiv's and Moscow's political and business elite noted the progress that had been made in developing trade between the two countries. They also expressed strong support for a Eurasian common market, the Single Economic Space (SES), to include Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus.

However, business talk turned to international politics with confirmation the same

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ANALYSIS

European Union-Ukraine relations hampered by clash of civilizations

by **Taras Kuzio**
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The annual EU-Ukraine summit on July 7-8 came just over one week after the NATO-Ukraine Committee met during NATO's Istanbul summit. At the NATO-Ukraine summit relations did not advance, but they also did not deteriorate. The NATO-Ukraine Action Plan was not upgraded to a Membership Action Plan, but cooperative relations remain in a wide variety of military areas. NATO membership remains on offer for Ukraine and is largely dependent on the country's progress in democratization.

In contrast, the EU-Ukraine summit led to a decline in Ukraine's already poor relations with the European Union. Since the 1990s both sides have undertaken indirect policies toward one another that have now reached their nadir.

President Leonid Kuchma repeatedly has said that the EU should send a "signal" indicating that it sees Ukraine as a future member. This gesture would then allegedly influence Ukraine's domestic reforms for the better. The EU has repeatedly replied that Ukraine should begin reforms first, prove itself worthy of EU membership, and then the EU would positively take notice.

President Kuchma's negative international image has provided a convenient excuse for the EU to continue to deny membership to Ukraine and to de facto continue to categorize it as lying beyond "Europe" in the Eurasian CIS. Mr. Kuchma's second term in office had a paradoxical inconsistency: Kyiv's greater clamor for EU membership took place during a time of democratic regression.

Together with the Council of Europe, NATO and Western governments, the EU emphasized the importance of Ukraine holding free and fair elections this year. The EU also had joined the international chorus condemning attempts to change the powers of the presidency during an election year (Financial Times, December 27, 2003). On January 28 the EU had issued a statement to this effect. The High Representative of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy, Javier Solana, has continued to warn against changing the constitution in September, when Bill 4105 is to be presented for a second parliamentary reading – only one month ahead of the elections.

On March 12 the European Parliament issued a highly critical resolution that pointed to a growing gap between the EU and Ukraine over the latter's lack of commitment to "shared common values" (Ukrainska Pravda, March 12). On March 18 the EU issued a second statement stressing the importance of media freedom and democratic standards during the election campaign.

Between January and March, when pro-presidential forces unsuccessfully attempted to railroad through constitutional changes, the EU's critical position was similar to that of the Council of Europe and the United States. Mr. Solana warned that relations could be "constructive and friendly" only if Ukraine held free and fair elections (Ukrainska Pravda, February 6).

These serious issues influenced negotiations over drafts of the action plans that are the basis of the EU's 2003 Wider Europe Initiative policy to establish a ring

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Former party of power divided over supporting Yanukovych

by **Taras Kuzio**
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Two leading Ukrainian political parties convened national congresses in early July to select a candidate to support in Ukraine's October 31 presidential election. Surprisingly, both parties swung away from President Leonid Kuchma's designed successor, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, and put forward rival candidates. Should Mr. Yanukovych win, the two parties could find themselves sidelined in the Verkhovna Rada.

The National Democratic Party (NDP) was independent Ukraine's first party of power. Its leader, Valerii Pustovoitenko, was prime minister between 1997 and 1999. Mr. Pustovoitenko succeeded Pavlo Lazarenko, who was convicted of corruption charges by a U.S. court in May 2004. Viktor Yushchenko followed Mr. Pustovoitenko.

Like Russia's former party of power, Our Home is Russia, the NDP never fully coalesced behind President Kuchma. In the 1998 elections it limped across the 4 percent threshold, winning only 5.01 percent (compared to Rukh's 9.4 percent). In the 2002 elections the NDP was a junior partner in the For a United Ukraine Bloc. In Parliament the NDP has the minimum number of

deputies needed to create a faction – 14.

Over the last year, NDP members have strongly pressured Mr. Pustovoitenko to stand as their presidential candidate. Yet during the July 10 NDP congress, Mr. Pustovoitenko caved into pressure from President Kuchma's allies and instead agreed to back Mr. Yanukovych. "We have no other choice but to go along with the authorities," Mr. Pustovoitenko told the NDP congress (Ukrainska Pravda, July 13).

NDP rank-and-file members, however, were not so willing to follow orders. After support for Mr. Yanukovych was forced through the NDP congress, the membership split, with one faction creating a "Democratic Platform." When a reporter asked one member of the Democratic Platform, Oleh Zarubynski, how the party's 300,000 members would vote in October, he replied, "How these 300,000 minus 400 [delegates] will vote is absolutely clear." Most, he said, will vote freely in the election booth. His coded language was clear: most NDP members will vote for the challenger, Mr. Yushchenko (kandydat.com.ua, July 15).

Thus, the NDP endorsement of Prime Minister Yanukovych will apparently be a hollow victory (Ukraina moloda, July 12). Mr. Yanukovych's election campaign cannot rely on NDP local branches as a reliable foundation, as most of those members incline toward supporting Mr. Yushchenko. In the run up to the NDP congress, only 20 percent of raion and 8 percent of oblast NDP branches wanted

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Taras Kuzio is visiting professor at the Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University. The articles above, which originally appeared in The Jamestown Foundation's Eurasia Daily Monitor, are reprinted here with permission from the foundation (www.jamestown.org).

NEWSBRIEFS

NATO no longer in Ukraine's future?

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma issued a decree on July 15 removing a provision regarding the country's preparations for NATO membership from Ukraine's official military doctrine, Interfax reported on July 26. Guarantors of Ukraine's military security now include a "strengthening of confidence among states, gradual reduction of the threat of military force and a policy of Euro-Atlantic integration." The doctrine previously cast NATO and the EU as the basis of the European security system and pledged to prepare the country for "full-fledged membership in those organizations." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin: West hinders ties with Ukraine

MOSCOW – Russian President Vladimir Putin accused Western countries on July 26 of obstructing closer relations between Russia and Ukraine, Interfax reported. Mr. Putin made the comment while in Yalta for economic talks with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma; the Russian president also met with Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, as well as with Ukrainian and Russian businessmen. "The intelligence [communities] of our Western partners are trying in every way to hamper our movements toward each other," Mr. Putin said, adding that Russia and Ukraine can increase their competitiveness through increased integration. That fact has not gone unnoticed by "intelligences both within our countries and outside them." However, Mr. Putin said, Russia and Ukraine should not oppose the West. "We are part of the global economic system," he said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM: Ukraine not ready for NATO

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych said on July 27 that Ukraine is not yet prepared to join NATO, Interfax reported. "The real development of Ukraine's economy, its civic society, and implementation of the North Atlantic alliance criteria do not allow either Ukraine or NATO to speak about a real time of accession," Mr. Yanukovych said. His statement followed the unveiling of amendments to Ukraine's military doctrine that include the removal of a provision about full membership in NATO and the European Union. The new doctrine was welcomed by the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry as well as by the leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, Petro Symonenko. According to Mr. Symonenko, Ukraine should solve its defense problems outside NATO. Borys

Tarasyuk, head of the Verkhovna Rada's Committee for European Integration and a former Ukrainian foreign affairs minister, called the changes inconsistent with Ukraine's foreign policy. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russian oil might flow through pipeline

KYIV – Ukrainian oil-pipeline operator UkrTransNafta and Russian oil company TNK-BP, formed by the Tyumen Oil Company (TNK) and U.K.-based BP, have signed a contract to ship 9 million tons of Russian oil annually through the Odesa-Brody pipeline to the Yuzhnyi port oil terminal in Odesa for the next three years, Interfax reported on July 27. Companies also signed four additional agreements allowing UkrTransNafta to get a loan of up to \$108 million for the purchase of 425,000 tons of crude oil and insure against financial risks, said Leonid Nester, the head of UkrTransNafta's international cooperation department. The contract provides for 100 percent prepayment for the service and fines for any refusal to ship the agreed amount of oil, Mr. Nester said. The contract also provides for a possible change in the direction of shipments on condition that the other side is warned three months in advance. (RFE/RL Newsline)

New ministry is created

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree integrating the Transport Ministry and the State Committee for Communications and Information Technology into a new Transport and Communications Ministry, Interfax reported on July 26. Mr. Kuchma appointed Transport Minister Heorhii Kyrpa to head the expanded ministry, the report added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Journalists launch Gongadze website

KYIV – The National Union of Journalists (NUJ) of Great Britain has launched a website dealing with the killing of Heorhii Gongadze, Interfax reported on July 24. The site (<http://www.delogongadze.org>) includes 180 scans of interrogation protocols of witnesses in the case. The NUJ said the documents are identical to those made available recently by the British daily The Independent. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moscow to retain Sevastopol base

SEVASTOPOL – Celebrating Navy Day on July 25 in Sevastopol, home port of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, Defense

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U.S. Senate unanimously passes resolution on Ukraine's elections

WASHINGTON – The United States Senate unanimously passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 106 late on Thursday night, July 22, prior to adjournment. The bipartisan resolution urges the government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process for the presidential election set for October 31. The resolution also outlines measures Ukrainian authorities need to take – consistent with their own laws and international agreements – to ensure an election process that enables all of the candidates to compete on a level playing field.

The measure was sponsored by U.S. Helsinki Commission Co-Chairman Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.).

Co-sponsors of S. Con. Res. 106 were: Joseph Biden (D-Del.), Chris Dodd (D-Conn.), Rick Santorum (R-Pa.), John Sununu (R-N.H.), Saxby Chambliss (R-Ga.), Jon Corzine (D-N.J.), Gordon Smith (R-Ore.), Russell Feingold (D-Wis.), Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.) and Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.).

“The October elections will be vital in determining Ukraine's course for years to come. This resolution is a concrete expression of the commitment of the U.S. Senate to the Ukrainian people,” said Sen. Campbell. “Ukraine's elections should be a watershed for the future direction of that country of great potential. Ukrainian authorities need to radically improve the election environment if there is to be hope for these elections to meet OSCE standards. By doing so, they will go a long way in restoring the trust of the citizens of Ukraine and strengthening Ukraine's independence and democracy.”

“The resolution underscores that an election process and the establishment of a genuinely democratic political system consistent with Ukraine's freely undertaken OSCE commitments is a prerequisite for Ukraine's full integration into the Western community of nations as an equal member, including into NATO,” Sen. Campbell added. “Yesterday I raised our concerns about the Ukrainian election with OSCE

Chairman-in-Office Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Passy, who assured me of the OSCE's commitment to encouraging democratic elections in Ukraine.”

An identical resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 415, introduced by House International Relations Committee Chairman Rep. Henry J. Hyde (R-Ill.), together with Helsinki Commission Chairman Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.) and Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), was reported out of the International Relations Committee and awaits passage by the full House of Representatives.

The following members of the House have co-sponsored H. Con. Res. 415: Doug Bereuter (R-Neb.), Howard Berman (D-Calif.), Mark Udall (D-Colo.), Thaddeus McCotter (R-Mich.), Karen McCarthy (D-Mo.), Elton Gallegly (R-Calif.), Diane Watson (D-Calif.), Eni Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa), Brad Sherman (D-Calif.), Robert Wexler (D-Fla.), Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.), Cass Ballenger (R-N.C.), James Leach (R-Iowa), Dana Rohrabacher (R-Colo.), Edward Royce (R-Calif.), Jo Ann Davis (R-Va.), Ben Cardin (D-Md.), Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Dan Burton (R-Ind.), Robert Aderholt (R-Ala.), Steve Chabot (R-Ohio), Chris Bell (D-Texas) and Peter King (R-N.Y.).

According to the U.S. Helsinki Commission, Ukraine's pre-election environment has already proven problematic in such key areas as control and manipulation of the media; attempts by national authorities to limit access to international broadcasting, including Radio Liberty; obstacles to free assembly and a free and fair political campaign. Substantial violations in several recent elections, notably, the Mukachiv mayoral election give rise to deep concern over the conduct of the pre-election environment. In addition, the Committee of Voters of Ukraine, a non-governmental organization, in its most recent report noted an increase in the number of cases of government pressure against political opposition figures designed to impede their activities.

ELECTION WATCH

25 parties back Yanukovich

KYIV – Twenty-five Ukrainian political parties signed an agreement in Kyiv on July 24 on the creation of an electoral bloc called Together for the Future to support Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's candidacy in the presidential election scheduled for October 31, Interfax reported. The agreement was signed by the National Democratic Party, the Party of Regions, the Labor Ukraine Party, the Social Democratic Party-United, and the Popular Agrarian Party, among others. The main aim is to mobilize an effective parliamentary coalition that “will act on the principles of transparency, tolerance, and political consensus,” the agreement reads. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM collects 1 million signatures

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who is also a candidate in the October 31 presidential election, has collected 1 million signatures in support of his candidacy, Interfax reported on July 21, quoting the press service of Mr. Yanukovich's election staff. According to Ukrainian law, each presidential candidate registered by the Central Election Commission must submit at least 500,000 signatures of support by September 20. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko rejects talk of PM post

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko, the leader of the opposition Our Ukraine bloc and a candidate in the presidential election, on July 26 rejected the suggestion that he

might become prime minister if rival and current Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich wins the presidential vote, Interfax reported. “I will not become prime minister under the circumstances I was offered,” Mr. Yushchenko said. Serhii Tyhytko, chief of Mr. Yanukovich's election staff, recently suggested that Mr. Yushchenko has “real prospects” for a return to the prime minister's post if Mr. Yanukovich wins the presidency. Mr. Yushchenko called such speculation “a political trick” aimed at minimizing political differences between two main contenders. (RFE/RL Newsline)

More candidates enter race

KYIV – The Central Election Commission on July 20 registered Roman Kozak and Dmytro Korchynskiy as candidates for the October 31 presidential election, Interfax reported. Mr. Kozak is leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists in Ukraine and Mr. Korchynskiy heads the nationalist Brotherhood association. The number of registered presidential candidates now stands at 12. Two days later the Central Election Commission registered Yurii Zbitnev, Vasyl Volha and Leonid Chernovetskyi as candidates. The number of registered candidates now stands at 15. Mr. Zbitnev is a leader of the newly created New Force Party, Mr. Volha heads the Public Control Party, and Mr. Chernovetskyi chairs the Christian Liberal Party. The deadline for submitting candidates' applications was July 27. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Helsinki Commission leadership responds to CIS criticism of OSCE

by Elizabeth B. Pryor
CSCE Senior Advisor

WASHINGTON – The bipartisan leadership of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) on July 21 responded to a declaration signed by nine members of the Commonwealth of Independent States which, while acknowledging that the OSCE occupies “a key place in the European security architecture,” states that the organization has been unable to adapt to the changing political and security environment.

The text was presented to the OSCE Permanent Council earlier this month by Russia's Ambassador to the OSCE, Alexey N. Borodavkin. The presidents of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan signed the declaration. CIS members Azerbaijan and Georgia declined to sign. Turkmenistan did not participate.

The Helsinki Commission leadership – Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.), chairman; Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), co-chairman; Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.), House ranking member; and Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.), Senate ranking member – responded to each of the nine presidents who signed the declaration.

The commissioners noted that three of

the presidents signing the declaration, Nursultan Nazarbaev of Kazakstan, Aksar Akaev of Kyrgyzstan and Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan, actually signed the original Helsinki Final Act document when their countries were accepted as OSCE participating states in 1992.

In the letter to President Nazarbaev, the commission leaders stressed that they “were particularly troubled to see Kazakstan included on the signatories to the declaration, since you have expressed an interest in undertaking the chairmanship of the organization [OSCE] in 2009.”

In their replies, commissioners agreed about the importance of the Vienna-based OSCE and that its ability to adapt was essential to its continued relevance. They pointed out, however, that many of the assertions of the declaration were already being addressed by the participating states.

The CIS signatories had criticized the OSCE for “failing to implement in an appropriate manner” the fundamental documents of the organization, stating that the OSCE is not observing an allegedly agreed-upon Helsinki principle of non-interference in internal affairs.

Refuting the assertion that the OSCE was failing to implement its principles, the Helsinki Commission leaders pointed out

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Dirty election techniques already evident

Ukrainian media have already registered some examples of dirty election techniques that, according to many observers, will be used profusely in this year's presidential campaign. On July 2, three Ukrainian regions, Kharkiv, Sumy and Poltava, were flooded with more than three million bogus leaflets of the Socialist Party – titled “To Prevent the Traitor From Coming to Power” – in which the party's presidential candidate, Oleksander Moroz accuses, Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko of being “an agent of the Kremlin” and a “guarantor of the interests of Russian capital.”

Moreover, the Ukrainska Pravda website on July 6 quoted two “temnyky” – unsigned secret instructions that are regularly sent to major state-controlled and private media outlets – that effectively tell journalists to reduce their coverage of Mr. Yushchenko's moves in the presidential campaign to factual reports, without

expanding them via any commentaries. On the other hand, one of the temnyky instructs journalists to highlight the recent publication of a book whose author, described as a “medium-level tax inspector,” discloses, among other revelations, that Mr. Yushchenko stole “millions of dollars” from the state in 1991-1992.

“I'm looking to next year with fear,” President Leonid Kuchma had told journalists back in December 2003. “Everybody agrees that the [2004] election will be the scariest and dirtiest ever.”

Given that the presidential administration led by Viktor Medvedchuk is widely seen in Ukraine as the main compiler of temnyky, Mr. Kuchma may be one of the best-informed persons with regard to what some presidential candidates should fear in the next several months.

– Jan Maksymiuk
RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report

Quotable notes

“I think that the future of Europe is currently one of the most topical and urgent issues in the world. And President [Leonid Kuchma], following his withdrawal from office, will be one of the leading experts in this issue. This is one of the possible spheres of his activities after his withdrawal. True, to become a full-fledged member of the global club of top-class experts, he lacks just one thing: a command of the English language.

“I think that [Kuchma's] experience and knowledge will continue to do Ukraine a service, and I hope that this knowledge will be of use for Ukraine's rapprochement with Europe. ... I will most likely distress some of your readers, but my opinion is that the Kuchma era will not end on November 22 [when Kuchma concludes his second presidential term].”

– Ukrainian oligarch Viktor Pinchuk, President Kuchma's son-in-law, in an interview in the July 17-23 issue of *Zerkalo Nedeli*, as cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

WFUWO and UWC to participate in United Nations conference

NEW YORK – The NGO Representation of World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations and the NGO Representation of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) are pleased to inform that they will participate in the 57th Annual United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization Conference to be held at U.N. headquarters in New York, September 8-10.

Secretary General Kofi A. Annan will address an expected 2,000 NGO delegates at the opening session in the General Assembly Hall. Titled "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action," the conference will focus on the roles of NGOs, civil society and governments in the implementation of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that were adopted by 189 U.N. member-states at their high-level millennium session in 2000.

Centered around the most critical problems causing tensions in the world today, the MDGs are designed to give people worldwide the tools to care for themselves in healthy, sustainable environments. Specific MDG targets are set to: alleviate poverty; treat and prevent the spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic; provide universal primary education and gender equality; reduce child and maternal mortality rates; lower by half the number of people who suffer from hunger and lack access to safe drinking water; empower women; and create a global partnership to foster good governance and economic development in the least developed countries, including opening world markets to their goods.

The World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, established in

1948, is an international NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations since 1993. It is accredited by the United Nations Department of Public Information and UNICEF. Its membership consists of 23 women's organizations located on four continents in 14 countries. WFUWO is a member of the Ukrainian World Congress. It maintains close ties with women's organizations in Ukraine.

The goal of the WFUWO representation to the United Nations is to support humanitarian goals of the United Nations and its human rights agenda, and to cultivate knowledge of Ukrainian heritage, history and culture. For the last two years Nadia Shmigel, NGO representative to the United Nations from the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, has participated as a member of the Planning Committee of the 56th and the 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conferences.

The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), established in 1967, is a global organization representing Ukrainian communities outside Ukraine with affiliates in some 30 countries, including Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uzbekistan, as well as associates in Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and Portugal. In 2003 the UWC was registered as an NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC.

The WFUWO and the UWC follow closely the activities of relevant United Nations bodies, regional and global governmental institutions and NGOs on issues of concern. The WFUWO and the UWC delegations to the 57th Annual United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization Conference will inform the member-organizations of the UWC and the WFUWO, and through

them the Ukrainian Diaspora, about the work of the Conference.

Conference delegates will attend five plenary sessions with governmental, U.N. agency, NGO, civil society and local community leaders to assess the progress each sector has made on the goals. Emphasis will be placed on reviewing successful programs to be replicated, possible strate-

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Cardinal Husar comments on Sheptytsky's beatification

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

KYIV – Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), is sure that the church has done all in its power for the beatification of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky. Only one, though very important, point of the process is left, and that is testimonies about healing through prayers to the metropolitan. The cardinal spoke about the beatification at a meeting with the press on June 10.

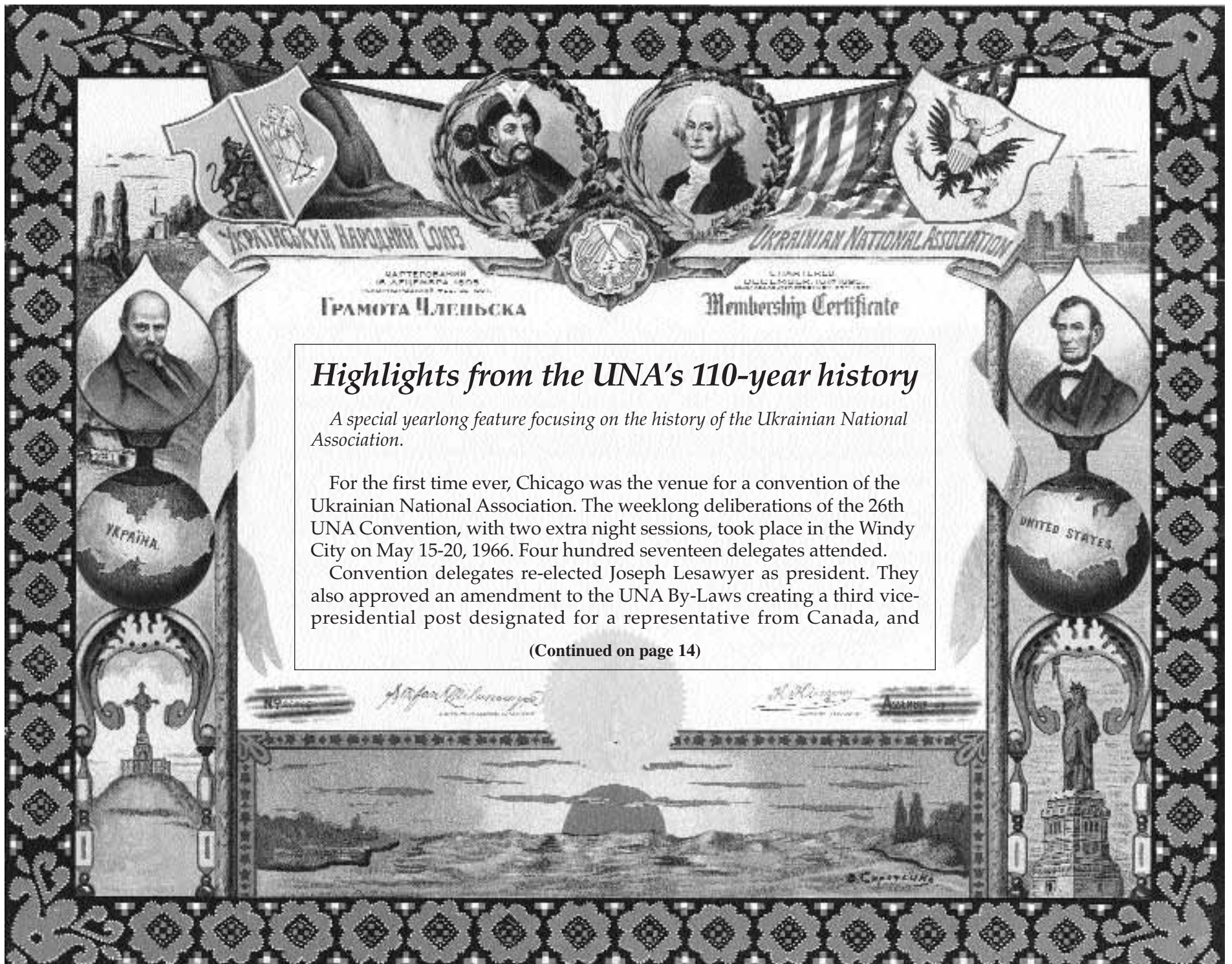
The primate of the UGCC dismissed an assumption that the delay in this matter is somehow associated with the political intrigues of Moscow. "Let us not be preoccupied with politics. The Lord God laughs at politicians. Let us not think that some human issues are hindering [the process]," noted Cardinal Husar.

"All the documents are gathered. They are held by the theological committee.

Now the issue is a miracle. There is certain information about miracles, but it is difficult to elaborate it in a proper way," he said. "Personally, I think that it is a great miracle that the UGCC still exists. It is a great miracle that happened and Metropolitan Sheptytsky did much for this. But, according to the regulations of canon law, this cannot be attributed to him. There is no miracle now which can be classified as miracle according to canon law."

According to Cardinal Husar, if a miracle had been proven to have happened through the intercession of Metropolitan Sheptytsky, he would have been beatified by the pope during his visit to Ukraine in 2001. The cardinal said that now one can only encourage people to pray, not only for the glorification of Metropolitan Andrey, but also for miracles through his intercession.

Metropolitan Sheptytsky was the head of the UGCC from 1901 to 1944.





THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA seeks artists to participate in annual Christmas card project



by Oksana Trytjak

UNA Special Projects Coordinator

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – It seems a little early to be thinking about Christmas cards, especially as we are in the midst of the glorious summer season. But the Ukrainian National Association is already preparing for its next Christmas card project. As readers well know, this project is multifaceted: it encourages and popularizes Ukrainian artists, its proceeds are allocated to support the renaissance of Soyuzivka, and it promotes and recognizes the spirit of Christmas and good will.

In the past few years the community has been very supportive and this UNA project has received funds averaging \$40,000 a year that have been allocated to Soyuzivka and its rebirth, in addition to specific donations earmarked for Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly and the Ukrainian National Foundation. The UNA will continue this project as long as we are fortunate enough to have artists participate and the community shares in supporting its goals.

Over the years, the UNA was very pleased to have had very many talented Ukrainian artists participate. Among them are: Jaroslav Adamovych, Anatoli Balukh, Krystyna Baransky (Nana), Bohdan Borzemsky, Anatolij Burtovyj, Marta Cisyk, Mykhajlo Dmytrenko, Tatianna Gajecy, Maria Harasowska-Daczyszyn, Jacques Hnizdovsky, Petro Holovatyj,

John Jaciw, Natalia Josypchuk, Oleksander Kaniuka, Andriy Khomyk, Moki Kokoris, Danylo Koshtyra, Natalia Kovalenko, George Kozak, Yarema Kozak, Zenowia Kulynych, Zoya Lisowska, Oksana Lukaszewycz-Polon, Vitaliy Lytvyn, Andriy Maday, Roman Markovych, Marta Anna, Luba Maksymchuk, Leo Mol, Natalka, Chrystyna Nykorak, Lydia Palij, the Rev. Serhij Pastukhiv, Aka Pereyma, Lidia Piaseckyj, Orest Poliszczuk, Myron Ryzhula, Christina Saj, Martha Savchak, Ivan Skolozdra, Roman Smetaniuk, Jaroslav Stadnyk, Olena Stasiuk, Youlia Tkatchouk, Yuriy Trytjak, Irene Twerdochlib, Halyna Tytla, Markijan Vitruk, Yuriy Vikiuk and Olvin Vladyka.

This year again the UNA will publish approximately 150,000 cards. We encourage and invite Ukrainian artists to join in this year's UNA Christmas Card Project. We are accepting works for reproduction that have as a theme icons relating to Christmas executed in diverse genres: oil, watercolor, tempera, computer graphics, gouache, woodcuts mixed media or others.

Artists interested in participating in this project are asked to submit either a slide, a photo or an original work that can be reproduced by September 30 to: Ukrainian National Association, 2200 Route 10, P. O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054, Att'n: Oksana Trytjak.

For additional information please call the UNA at (973) 292-9800, ext. 3071.

“Ukrainian-American Citadel”: from the pages of UNA history

Following is part of a series of excerpts from “Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First 100 Years of the Ukrainian National Association,” by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, published in 1996 by East European Monographs of Boulder, Colo. The excerpts are reprinted with the permission of the author. The book is available from the author for \$25, plus \$2.50 shipping, by writing to: Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, 107 Ileshamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115.

Chapter 5

The Struggle Begins

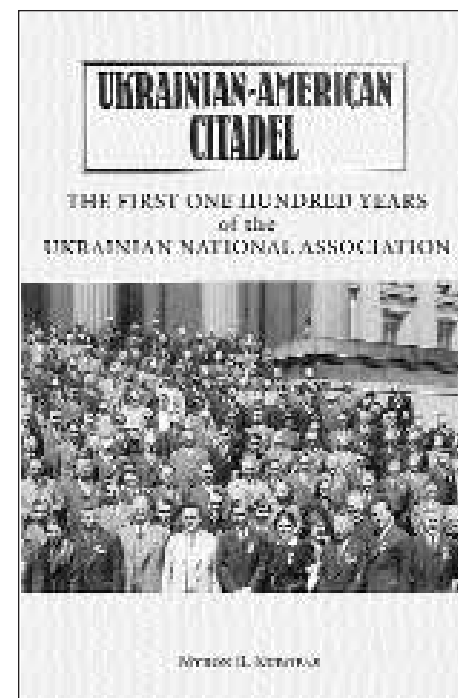
No sooner had the Ukrainian community established its national identity in America than a series of cataclysmic events in Europe catapulted Ukrainian Americans into an entirely new dimension of political involvement. Between 1914 and 1923, the Entente (Russia, England and France) went to war with Austria-Hungary and Germany. The United States entered the conflict on the side of the Entente. The Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires collapsed. Eastern and Western Ukraine declared their independence and later united to form the Ukrainian National Republic. Eastern Ukraine was invaded and eventually became a part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. A newly independent Poland invaded Ukraine and claimed sovereignty over eastern Galicia. Transcarpathia became an autonomous region in the newly established republic of Czechoslovakia; northern Bukovyna was absorbed by Romania. Poland's claim to eastern Galicia (the Republic of Western Ukraine) was recognized by the Council of Ambassadors.

Struggling to assure autonomy, and later independence for Ukraine, the Ukrainian National Association responded to the ever-changing series of events with vision, determination, and commitment. The struggle would last for the next 70 years.

The Political Awakening

The UNA did not wait long to become politically involved with events in Europe. On March 20, 1914, following the Russian government's ban on all observances of the centenary of Taras Shevchenko's birth, the UNA Supreme Executive sent a letter to President Woodrow Wilson:

“On March 10 of this year, 100 years have elapsed since the birth of the greatest Ukrainian poet, Taras Shevchenko. It is a great national holiday observed by 40 million Ukrainians, 35 million of whom live in southern European Russia, 4 million in Austro-Hungary (Galicia, Bukovyna and northern Hungary) and 1 million in the United States. Our countrymen in all of these territories were making arrangements for solemn observances of this great anniversary. ... However, at the last moment, the Russian ministry said that no observances would be allowed. No reasons were given. The Synod, which is the highest church authority in Russia, did not even permit commemorative religious services on that day. ... A strong voice of protest against this inhuman act of the Russian government was raised by all opposition deputies in the Russian дума and by the Ukrainian deputies in the Galician Diet. A million Ukrainians living in this land of the free are also compelled to raise their voices in



protest against this act directed at our people by the barbaric government of Russia. In the absence of other channels of communication, we are entrusting this protest to you, Mr. President, in the hope that you will communicate its contents to the representative of Imperial Russia in Washington.”

The U.S. government delivered the protest to the tsarist government in St. Petersburg. For the remainder of the year the UNA and Svoboda waged a vigorous campaign to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Shevchenko's birth in the United States resulting in celebrations throughout the country. The most impressive was staged in New York City on May 30, 1914. The program consisted of a parade down Fifth Avenue and a grand concert at Webster Hall.

When war erupted in Europe, Svoboda was pleased. The long-awaited moment for national emancipation had finally arrived. “Let all Slavic people live full, sovereign and independent lives, and among them the Ukrainians,” the UNA periodical declared. “Russia wants Ukraine and so does Poland, but Ukraine has suffered slavery under both. We are not interested in Slavic unity. And that's how all Slavic people should think. Everyone for himself. Enough is enough!”

The UNA established an organizational committee and charged it with the responsibility of creating an all-Ukrainian national council. Wrote Svoboda: “At this time we have no news from our native land but soon the curtain which separates us will be lifted and we will hear from our brothers. It is of paramount importance that they have someone to speak to, that there is a single organization of Ukrainian Americans.”

Believing that a peace conference following the war would finally result in independent Ukrainian and Polish states, Svoboda urged preparedness. In an editorial titled “Let's Be Ready,” Svoboda cautioned that Ukrainians might end up with nothing. “The Poles would no doubt want to attach Galicia and Kholm to their Poland ... or Austria may want to have all Ukrainian lands ... or all Ukrainian lands may be awarded to Russia.” Ukrainians must play a role in the negotiation process, Svoboda argued, but to do that, “we must be prepared.”

(Continued on page 19)

Young UNA'ers



Stefan and Kalyna Karpishka, children of Betty and Roman Karpishka of Latham, N.Y., are new members of UNA Branch 13 in Watervliet, N.Y. They were enrolled by their parents.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

In Moscow's embrace

There are two main schools of thought on what happened to cause Ukraine to abruptly change its defense doctrine to expunge wording that called for European Union and NATO membership as principal foreign policy goals.

Some pundits in Kyiv explain the unexpected change as a reflexive move by an outraged and frustrated Ukrainian president (prone to fits of temper), who finally lost patience with hollow overtures and tough demands from the West, as it continued to keep Ukraine at arm's length distance while vexing the country with promises of membership in its two most important institutions.

Others in Ukraine say that the move toward Moscow was under way anyhow and that the failure by both NATO and the EU to throw Ukraine a morsel of hope regarding future membership only made more severe what was a strategy preordained far in advance. The plan laid by the political circles of the pro-presidential forces, as these pundits would have it, was for President Leonid Kuchma to provide his chosen candidate for the president, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, a foreign policy direction that would find strong support with the demographic element of Ukraine that would guarantee him an electoral majority. The target: pensioners and residents of the heavily populated eastern and southern regions of the country, specifically the voters who most eagerly await reunion with Moscow as the source of their economic and societal salvation.

In both versions what is strikingly clear is that the EU and NATO both have failed in the carrot-and-stick approach they had decided to pursue in prompting Kyiv to assure democratic elections in the fall.

The sticks they have wagged at Kyiv in the last months were readily discernable. Leaders of both institutions, including NATO's new secretary general, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, warned Ukraine that it could be politically ostracized if presidential elections aren't free and fair.

What's not understood is why NATO and the EU failed to offer a juicy carrot as well.

We wonder why the EU could not have finally delivered to Ukraine the free-market economy status it has sought for so long. Russia has enjoyed such status for about a year now, and the two economies are developing similarly, according to most estimates.

As a result, the veil has been lifted earlier than perhaps planned, and it is now obvious that Mr. Yanukovich, who had made every attempt to say the right things and make the right moves to appease the West, is pro-Moscow at heart, a politician from the old Soviet school, not much different from Mr. Kuchma. He looks to be more at home negotiating in Moscow over a shot of vodka than in pursuing delicate talks with the unknown and unforeseen forces of the West. He doesn't like nuance, although he admires foxiness.

If it were otherwise, Mr. Yanukovich would have expressed disagreement with the decision to change the country's defense doctrine prior to an election in which he has a vital stake. One would think he would want to begin his presidency with all options available to him.

Yet, the larger dilemma for Ukraine is not the West's failure to make the proper tactical move in regard to relations with Kyiv, or in Kyiv's failure to understand the West and its motivations. The more important problem is the move Moscow has made to seize the opportunity and to focus Kyiv's political gaze firmly upon its northern neighbor as its only hope and salvation from wrongly perceived international isolation.

From appearances at the Russia-Ukraine economic summit in Yalta on July 26, Mr. Putin has become the dominant figure in Ukraine-Russia relations. A moment captured on the Ukrainian television station ICTV on July 26 strikingly depicted the essence of the relationship, if only symbolically, between two political leaders. It showed a docile-looking President Kuchma quietly sipping coffee at his seat at the summit table while Mr. Putin, sitting next to the Ukrainian president and engaged in conversation with a third party, allowed himself to stretch back and expand his chest as he extended his arm to embrace the back of Mr. Kuchma's chair. The embrace of the chair, like the economic embrace of Ukraine by Moscow, can be interpreted in many ways. It takes on a negative connotation, however, when joined with the curious comment made by Mr. Putin the same day, in which he accused "agents from the West" of trying to derail Ukraine-Russia "integration."

The Cold War-era rhetoric aside, the reference to "integration" is the larger concern for us. Mr. Putin's remark was the normally restrained president's most brazen suggestion that there is some sort of goal in Moscow of Russian-Ukrainian integration. If Mr. Putin was referring to the SES, why no mention of Kazakstan and Belarus? Even if Mr. Putin simply chose his words badly, it is unnerving that a Russian president has no qualms blatantly inserting his political thoughts on matters pertaining exclusively to Ukraine and the West, especially while a visitor in the country.

Most troubling, in the end, is that neither Ukraine's president nor its prime minister has offered his view on a controversial comment by such a prominent foreign leader made in their backyard. Unless, of course, it was all preplanned.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Luciuk takes on *The Times*, and doesn't give up the fight

by Ian Hunter

Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, a professor at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario, is a determined man. The son of Ukrainian immigrants, Dr. Luciuk discovered an injustice done to Ukrainians and he decided to rectify it.

The injustice was the awarding of the 1932 Pulitzer Prize for journalism to The New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty. Duranty had long since been exposed as "Stalin's apologist" (the title Susan Taylor chose for Duranty's biography), but his former employer, The New York Times, for decades has stubbornly refused to acknowledge this fact – as has the Pulitzer Prize Committee.

So Dr. Luciuk devised a devilishly simple plan: in May 2003 he launched a postcard crusade intended to flood the Pulitzer Prize Committee with demands that even now, half a century late, the committee do what it should have done long ago: revoke Duranty's Prize.

Was the campaign a success? Well, the postcards came in by the thousands. The New York Times was moved to commission a Columbia University historian, Mark von Hagen, to investigate Duranty's reporting. Prof. von Hagen concluded that it was "uncritical...[and] a disservice to the American readers of the New York Times." Even Times publisher Arthur Sulzberger was compelled to acknowledge that Duranty's reporting was "slovenly." Nevertheless, the Pulitzer Committee kept its head buried in the sand and in May refused to revoke Duranty's prize. And there the campaign appeared to end, a seeming failure.

But Dr. Luciuk does not give up.

He has now published a fascinating book, "Not Worthy: Walter Duranty's Prize and The New York Times" (Kashtan Press, 2004). Dr. Luciuk's book not only chronicles the postcard campaign but provides overwhelming evidence, never before assembled in one place, of just what a liar Duranty was.

The Pulitzer Committee has decided to keep Duranty within its ranks; fair enough, it's their prerogative but, by doing so, as "Not Worthy" demonstrates, they debase not only themselves but all recipients.

Walter Duranty was The New York Times correspondent in Russia from 1921 until 1934. His dispatches were

Ian Hunter is professor emeritus in the Faculty of Law at Western University.

regarded as authoritative, so much so that they helped shape U.S. foreign policy. Duranty's biographer, Ms. Taylor, has demonstrated that Duranty's reporting was a critical factor in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1933 decision to grant official recognition to the Soviet Union.

Yet Duranty – this unattractive, over-sexed little man, with a wooden leg, a reporter who seemed to take direction from the Kremlin – falsified facts, spread lies and half-truths, invented occurrences that never happened, and turned a blind eye to the man-made famine of 1932-1933 that starved to death more than 10 million people (according to an International Commission of Jurists which examined this tragedy in the late 1980s). When snippets of the truth began to leak out, Duranty coined the phrase: "You can't make an omelette without breaking eggs." This phrase, or a variant thereof, has since proved useful to a rich variety of ideologues who contend that a worthy end justifies any means. Yet when the Pulitzer Committee originally conferred its prize on Duranty, it cited his "scholarship, profundity, impartiality, sound judgment and exceptional clarity." The committee may have backed off such praise today, but Duranty's prize remains.

Lest I be accused of the kind of journalistic conflict of interest that never fazed Duranty, let me record that Dr. Luciuk's book contains a contribution from me, one among many contributors.

The most chilling evidence in Dr. Luciuk's book is this: Duranty was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for 1932. The man-made famine that ravaged Ukraine began in the fall of 1932 and reached its apogee in the winter of 1933. Having denied in his dispatches the existence of any famine throughout that period, and having publicly ridiculed those few brave reporters (notably Malcolm Muggeridge and Gareth Jones) who did attempt to alert the world, Duranty attended a dinner at the British Embassy on September 26, 1933, and there told William Strang, the Embassy's chargé d'affaires, that probably as many as 10 million people had died of starvation. Privately, Duranty told Muggeridge the same thing, this time adding (characteristically): "But they're only Russians."

Dr. Luciuk's battle against the Pulitzer Committee and The New York Times may appear to be a quixotic David-and-Goliath struggle. But, history is patient, and truth has a way of winning out. My money is on David.

Aug.
6
1989

Turning the pages back...

Twenty-five years ago The Ukrainian Weekly reported that the proposal to open a U.S. Consulate in Kyiv (then spelled Kiev) had advanced another step with the passage on July 21, 1989, by the Senate of the State Department Authorization Bill for fiscal year 1990. A similar authorization bill, H.R. 1487, had passed the House of Representatives on April 12 of that year.

Provisions were made in the Senate bill for the opening of a U.S. Consulate in Kyiv, pending a reciprocity agreement with the Soviets for a similar facility in New York City. Reporting on this new development in an article for The Ukrainian Weekly, Walter Bodnar noted that conferees from both the House and Senate were to meet after the August congressional recess to iron-out the differences in their respective bills prior to presentation for the president's signature.

A consulate in Kyiv, wrote Bozhena Olshaniwsky, president of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine, "would afford us direct access to such events as park demonstrations,

(Continued on page 17)

MAY WE HELP YOU?

To reach The Ukrainian Weekly call (973) 292-9800, and dial the appropriate extension (as listed below).

Editorial – 3049, 3063, 3069

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A final response re: 1st Security

Dear Editor:

The Ukrainian Weekly published a letter on July 11, written by Myron Luszcak, a former employee and board member of 1st Security Federal Savings Bank. The letter contains allegations consisting of inaccuracies, distortions, innuendo and blatant misrepresentation of facts. The letter-writer obviously intended to discredit my reputation in the Ukrainian community and I am therefore compelled to respond.

First, I want to set the record straight that no one made any investments when the bank was formed, as alleged by Mr. Luszcak. Individuals opened savings accounts on which the bank paid the prevailing rate of interest. The bank's records and archives document this. The bank prospered and grew in assets to \$500 million at the time of its merger; however, its growth and our success cannot be attributed exclusively to the Ukrainian community. Ukrainians represented only 21 percent of the deposit base and a mere 5 percent of the loan borrowings. We attribute our success to serving predominantly Eastern European and Hispanic immigrants.

The primary reason for seeking a merger was not my retirement, as implied by the writer, or the lack of qualified successors, but the significant demographic changes that have occurred in our community coupled with an invasion of competing mega-banks into our market.

Mr. Luszcak inaccurately implies that Ukrainian media is not being supported by the bank when he writes that funds were cut off from Ukrainian programming. The fact is that the bank is now spending significantly more to support Ukrainian media than ever before, including advertising in seven Ukrainian newspapers, two television programs, two radio programs plus other forums. The only cut in programming was the radio program run by Mr. Luszcak's business partner, Lev Bodnar. Sponsorship there was severed after months of false public statements by the program's owner and highly inappropriate commentary that he would add after our commercials. The last straw that resulted in sponsorship cancellation was the program owner's inappropriate comments related to the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM).

Mr. Luszcak alleges that a majority of Ukrainians condemned the merger. I beg to differ since 98 percent of our stockholders – the majority of which were Ukrainians and Ukrainian institutions – approved the merger. The decision to merge was made after we conducted a thorough analysis of our future and survival potential in the highly competitive financial market.

The merger decision was unanimously approved by the nine member board of directors. I should point out that two members of the bank's board were proteges of Mr. Luszcak who also came from the Palatine community. The directors clearly understood that an important factor in their decision was their primary legal duty to our shareholders and our community.

It is a fact that many people and Ukrainian institutions were financially enriched from 1st Security, not just several individuals and board members as Mr. Luszcak stated. Many patriotic Ukrainians bought and held on to the stock of 1st Security because they believed it was both a financially prudent and a patriotic investment. These patriots are included in the 98 percent who voted for the merger because they understood that this option would serve the best long term interests of the Ukrainian community.

Perhaps Mr. Luszcak and his few allies,

the 2 percent minority plus those not moved by patriotism to invest in 1st Security, are upset that their patriotism was so lacking that they did not have a greater ownership stake in 1st Security. Had the disgruntled handful invested more, they also would have received greater personal rewards. Well, not to worry because they will be able to benefit from the gains received from the merger by investors such as our Ukrainian churches, community groups, institutions, etc., in addition to the annual support to be provided by the Heritage Foundation for institutions that enrich our community.

1st Security employees were the largest block of benefactors from the merger. Unlike many mismanaged companies that cost employees their pension savings, 1st Security was able to reward its loyal employees through their ESOP pension fund for their many years of dedicated work, serving our Ukrainian customers in their native language.

Mr. Luszcak attempts to portray himself as a "super-patriotic" leader of the Ukrainian community and tries to take credit for everything we accomplished over the years. The truth is that the accomplishments listed by Mr. Luszcak were achieved by the hard work of many individuals, most of whom are not part of the small group of his allies griping about the bank's merger.

He writes that over 30,000 new immigrants recently arrived in Chicago which could have continued to grow the bank. If that is the case, may I ask why are our fraternal associations declining in membership? Why did the local Ukrainian credit union in Chicago decline in its deposits in 2003 by \$7.7 million and why did it suffer a decline in assets by \$12.3 million, the largest dollar decrease in its history? What happened to the Ukrainian National Aid Association which Mr. Luszcak so feverishly supported? Why are our metropolitans closing some churches and schools? He is obviously reluctant to face the truth and reality that the immigrants have their own individual priorities which may not include supporting institutions founded by prior generations, or other obligations he would like to assign them.

Lastly, Mr. Luszcak alleges that during the conversion process "the prospectus indicated that financial awards would be given to several retired directors who were instrumental in developing the bank." That allegation is a blatant misrepresentation of fact. The prospectus is a legal public document and available for verification. There was some discussion by the board of exploring such awards, but when Mr. Luszcak and his allies attempted to derail the conversion and urged their friends and acquaintances not to purchase stock (while at the same time he was making 1st Security stock purchases for his own benefit), the board was not about to reward him for behavior that was detrimental to the bank's interests.

This is the last official response you will hear from 1st Security or from me on the bank's merger. Mr. Luszcak, his business partner, and a few of their friends and relatives have spent the last several months trying to create animosity and division in the community with their disruptive behavior, which plays into the hands of the enemies of patriotic, united Ukrainians. The facts belie his pronouncements. Enough time has been wasted on divisive, non-productive activities when more important issues demand the attention of our community.

Julian E. Kulas
Chicago

The letter-writer was president and CEO of 1st Security Federal Savings Bank, serving in that capacity since its founding 40 years ago. Currently he is a member of the board of directors of MB Financial Bank.

Double Exposure

by Khristina Lew

'tis the (election) season

When I returned from my trip to set up a voter education program in Ukraine, one-third of the e-mails in my in-box related to the upcoming election in the United States. Democrats and Republicans alike are jockeying for my vote, and both are going to great lengths to craft a winning image of their candidate while denouncing their opponent.

In the 10 days I was gone, I learned that the vice-president was caught telling an opponent "(expletive deleted) yourself," and that Teresa Heinz Kerry's foundation supports Islamic groups. And we have three more months to go.

Ukraine, too, has three more months of an election season before it. Its candidates for president also are busy crafting their image. But Ukraine's issues are a bit more complex.

I traveled to Ukraine to set up a series of town hall meetings in 12 cities in central and southern Ukraine. The program, created by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, is funded by the U.S. government through the National Endowment for Democracy and is meant to give the electorate an opportunity to meet with each presidential candidate (of which there are currently 12) or his representative.

Giving the voter access to information about each candidate takes on new meaning in a country like Ukraine, where the media is not independent, few people have access to the Internet and the prime minister, who is also a candidate for president, enjoys unrestricted media coverage simply by virtue of his job.

We launched the program, called "The Power of One," at a press conference in Dnipropetrovsk, home to President Leonid Kuchma. The city is stunning – tree-lined boulevards, sailboats skimming a wide swath of the Dnipro River, artists displaying their works right in the center of town. The statue of Lenin glares anachronistically at a brand new McDonald's. Every street sign and store name is written in Ukrainian, although you don't hear the language on the street. And, wherever you turn, there is a statue to Taras Shevchenko. Ukraine's candidates for president aren't the only ones shaping their image.

We held a presentation of the town hall format for civic organizations and the media in Odesa. Three people sat behind the podium: a representative of the Communist Party of Ukraine, a representative of the Party of the Regions (Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's party), and Oleksander Rzhavskiy, the first candidate for president to register in Ukraine. Mr. Rzhavskiy is also the only candidate thus far to declare his income to be over \$1 million.

Mr. Rzhavskiy is the leader of the One Family (Yedyna Rodyna) party, and his platform calls for a Ukraine without an army, electoral party lists made up of 30 percent women, and "order" brought to the country using the methods of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

We set up the town hall meetings to allow for the electorate to question the candidates or their representatives as to their platforms and visions of Ukraine. The format also allows the candidates to question the electorate as well as one another.

The venue is perfect for someone like Mr. Rzhavskiy, who will get exposure on the local level that he might not otherwise have. He understands this, and told the UCCA that he plans to attend all 12 town hall meetings.

Viktor Yushchenko, another candidate for president, also understands that his best chance at exposure is by personally campaigning in towns and villages across the country.

In the end, however, despite their best efforts to get their message across, the election must be free and fair in order for each candidate to get a fair shot. President Kuchma told U.S. President George W. Bush that it would be so, but organizations like the UCCA and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) are concerned. Both have fielded teams of international election observers in previous elections in Ukraine.

At issue is the large number of Ukrainian citizens living outside the borders of Ukraine – people who, having legally left the country, have the right to vote. Their number stands at around 7 million or roughly 15 percent of the entire country's population. Italy alone is a temporary home to some 500,000 Ukrainians, and some place the number of Ukrainians in the New York metropolitan area at 100,000.

Each embassy and consulate can accommodate up to 3,000 voters on Election Day. In the United States there are four such representations: the Embassy in Washington, and consulates in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. Throw in Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations and, technically, 15,000 Ukrainian citizens in the United States can vote for president of Ukraine on October 31.

Ukrainians are permitted to request additional polling stations within the country where they temporarily reside, but they must be legally registered with their consulate to do so. In fact, according to the election law, a Ukrainian temporary living abroad and legally registered with his or her consulate can register to vote up to seven days before Election Day. Consider what would happen if 100,000 Ukrainians requested ballots from Kyiv on October 24.

So, while the Kerry and Bush camps are putting together teams of election observers and lawyers to monitor the elections across the United States, civic groups in Ukraine – both domestic and international – prepare to do the same in that country. Ukraine's election law even allows for election observers at polling stations abroad, but they must be Ukrainian citizens – no international observers are allowed.

Thus the election season – both here and there – is upon us.

UUARC fund to help miners' families

PHILADELPHIA – The United Ukrainian American Relief Committee Inc. (UUARC) is collecting donations for the families of miners killed in the methane gas explosion in the Krasnolymansk mine in the Donetsk Oblast. The blast killed 31 miners and left five unaccounted for.

Donations can be made online at www.uuarc.org (credit cards can be used online, and UUARC receives 100 percent of the donation) or by mail: UUARC Inc.-Miners, 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111; telephone, (215) 728-1630; fax, (215) 728-1631.

Ukrainian Catholic University hosts American Studies Summer School



Wawa Baczynsky, an American Fulbright scholar (right), lectures to students of the American Studies Summer School in the courtyard of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv.

by Tom O'Keeffe

LVIV – The fifth annual American Studies Summer School was held from May 29 to June 5 and hosted by the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. Over 30 participants and 18 presenters attended a week of intensive seminars and lectures that addressed the topic “Continuity and Change in American Studies.” The American Studies program is supported by the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine to enrich teachers of American studies and English with the cultural knowledge that is crucial to a true understanding of a language and people.

Dr. Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak, director of the school and coordinator of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine, explained: “It is very difficult to learn a language without some knowledge of the society in which it is spoken. That is why, during the period of the existence of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, few of us in the West were able to learn the

languages spoken in that vast conglomeration of nations well. The tight control exercised by that regime of those who could enter or leave the country severely limited the opportunities for free exchange of linguistic niceties, let alone normal conversations. The Western languages Soviet citizens spoke were formal and stilted; the Eastern languages we learned were for the most part dated and imprecise.”

The participants included professors and teachers from all over Ukraine who desired to enhance their understanding of America in order to better educate their students. Originally, the conference was to be held at the University of Uzhhorod, but due to technical reasons the conference was moved to the city of Lviv. For many this was a welcome change, as Lviv is a UNESCO Cultural Landmark with nearly 750 years of history.

The participants arrived Saturday, May 29. After a welcome luncheon, the sessions immediately got under way, starting with a

lecture titled “Diversity in Contemporary African American Fiction” given by Prof. Yurii Stulov of Mensk University in Belarus. An American Literature specialist and one of the only non-American presenters, Mr. Stulov began with a humorous anecdote concerning how it used to be mandated that he include a quote from then-Premier Leonid Brezhnev in his first thesis on American literature. As he was finishing up his paper, Brezhnev died and he was stuck desperately searching for a quotation from the next premier, who happened to be very reticent, especially on the topic of American literature. Today the environment is much different in Ukraine, however, Prof. Stulov said he fears Belarus might be regressing toward its previous ways.

Throughout the week guests came from all over to present in their fields. Prof. Jeffrey Sedgwick, associate professor of political science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, flew in to lecture on the American government, the economy of the United States and the philosophy of Thomas Jefferson. Other American professors had less distance to travel, as many have been lecturing and living in Ukraine already for some time.

Charles Crowther an American English language fellow has been working in Symferopol. He delivered several talks exploring the works of writers from his native New England. Prof. Crowther said he was impressed by the diversity of topics covered by the conference, which matched the diversity of specialties practiced by the students.

ANNAMARIE (her legal name, written in capital letters) is a Peace Corps volunteer who has been living in Cherkasy for three years, training the teachers of the university in Western teaching methods. Developing democracy was a central theme as she deconstructed the film “The Patriot,” relating the experiences of America during its first few years of democracy with Ukraine, which is still undergoing its own first few years.

“I was enthusiastic about working at the American Studies Summer School because there are people in Ukraine inter-

ested in finding out about democracy and how it should work. The students here represent some of the best professors from the best universities and I want to know what they feel they can do to help democracy develop,” she commented.

As for the Ukrainian students who participated in the seven-day program of non-stop lectures, they were exhausted but filled with a greater understanding of America.

Loda Danik, a linguistics teacher from Kherson State Technical University, remarked, “It’s the small things that make you understand people better. I didn’t know people in America had fences and that they were more popular in Vermont than in California.”

The program was not restricted to the classroom but designed to encourage interaction elsewhere, whether it be at dinner, the hotel or exploring the city. As Loda said, “While you talk during coffee breaks, you can discuss the teaching styles that the Americans use and how that differs from our style.”

Another student, Olya Kushnikova from Cherkasy, commented on the Ukrainian Catholic University, where the event was held. “It surprised me how kind-hearted the people are here. Students here are serious, the spirit is special, not like at our university.”

Even American teachers accustomed to the Ukrainian university system were impressed. “It’s so light and bright, so different from what I’ve seen elsewhere in Ukraine,” remarked ANNAMARIE.

Ms. Kushnikova summed up the conference in the following way: “We have learned about differences in the educational system. We have also been given new modern books to bring back to our universities. Most important we have new knowledge we can share with our students.”

Further information about the UCU in English and Ukrainian is available on the university’s website at www.ucu.edu.ua. Readers may also contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone, (773) 235-8462; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org; website, www.ucef.org. The phone number of the UCEF in Canada is (905) 465-3388.

Special ceremony...

(Continued from page 1)

that it wasn’t misplaced inside the museum’s collection,” he noted.

Joe Geurts, director and chief executive officer of the Canadian War Museum, told *The Weekly* the VC was likely either removed from its case to be cleaned or to be photographed for an exhibit, but was never returned. He said that while the RCMP investigation has not led to any charges being filed, it also did not bring any more “clarity” as to how the medal disappeared.

“Basically, the museum kept waiting for it to appear because sometimes items slip into other collections or are placed on the wrong shelves,” said Mr. Geurts, who also serves as chief operating officer of the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corp, which runs the Canadian War Museum. “There was a hope, as we packed for the new museum and went through every box and every little case and behind every shelf, that potentially it might show up. We have almost half a million items in our collection,” he explained.

However, Dr. Luciuk said he’s been told that a limited number of employees had access to the Victoria Cross. It’s believed the RCMP contacted some of these people during its investigation.

Dr. Luciuk said it wouldn’t be difficult to contact each person, or next of kin in the event the employees have since died, and find out what happened to the medal. “I

think it was stolen,” said Dr. Luciuk. “Yet it’s not a question of wanting to punish somebody or lay charges. I have no right to the medal, it’s not like I’m family.”

However, he said the UCCLA has asked the RCMP for a written copy of the findings from its investigation. Dr. Luciuk said that if the person who removed Konowal’s VC from the museum’s collection “would come clean, it would clarify an awful lot” and there would be no reason to take any further action. “It’d be nice to know what happened just because this is a unique medal.”

So rare, in fact, that only 94 Canadians (70 of whom served during the first world war with Konowal being the sole Ukrainian Canadian) received the British Empire’s highest medal for bravery that was instituted on February 5, 1856, and first awarded to heroes of the Crimean War.

Had it been successfully sold earlier this year, Konowal’s Victoria Cross could have fetched as much as \$240,000 (about \$180,000 U.S.) at the sale run by Jeffrey Hoare Auctions Inc. in London, Ontario, which, according to Dr. Luciuk, acquired the medal from a coin dealer in that city who in turn paid next to nothing for it.

“A woman in her early 30s walked into the coin shop with the Konowal medal and other things in a box,” explained Dr. Luciuk. “The dealer thought it was all fake and gave her a modest amount of money.”

That’s a different version of the story, according to an RCMP constable who told *The London Free Press* that the person who

had put the medal up for auction had purchased it for “about \$20 at a flea market.”

Regardless of the circumstances that resulted in the medal ending up at an auction house, Konowal’s VC is the real thing, said Mr. Geurts. A museum employee, along with two experts selected by the RCMP and another one brought in by the “party who had possession” of the medal, unanimously agreed on the VC’s authenticity. He said that, while no “destructive testing” was carried out in which pieces of the medal would have been removed, it was compared with other VCs from the museum’s collection.

“All Victoria Crosses are cast of bronze acquired from Russian cannons captured during the Crimean War,” explained Mr. Geurts. Each medal also features the recipient’s serial number, rank, name and unit engraved on the back of the suspension bar in which the ribbon fits, and the date of action appears on the back of the cross.

“It’s the actual medal – I guarantee you that,” said Mr. Geurts, who added that the VC is currently stored in a vault that requires three people to open it.

The forthcoming “recovery ceremony” for the medal, which is being organized by the museum, the UCCLA, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 360 (Konowal Branch) and others, will also coincide with the 87th anniversary of Konowal’s wartime exploits.

Between August 22 and 24, 1917, the Ukrainian-born soldier single-handedly took out three German positions and killed at least 16 German soldiers during the battle

for Hill 70 near Lens, France.

A member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force’s 47th Infantry Battalion and holding the rank of corporal at the time, Konowal received the VC personally from King George V who called the Canadian’s actions “one of the most daring and heroic in the history of my army.”

Konowal also received the British War Medal, the Victory Medal, and as a surviving recipient of the VC, both the King George VI Coronation Medal in 1937 and the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Medal in 1953.

Seriously wounded during the war, he spent his final years in Ottawa working as a special custodian to former Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King. Konowal died in 1959 at the age of 72.

Mr. Geurts said he was “ecstatic” that Canadians will be able to view the VC when the museum’s new home opens during the second weekend of May 2005 as it celebrates its own 125th anniversary and marks the 60th anniversary of the conclusion of World War II in Europe.

Konowal’s medal will be featured in the museum’s First World War gallery in a section that will also look at the internment of thousands of Ukrainian Canadians the federal government considered “enemy aliens.”

The fact that Konowal’s prestigious military medal was recovered gives the story of its journey a happy ending, said Dr. Luciuk. “This prodigal medal has come back to its rightful owners — the people of Canada.”

Prof. Michael Flier named director of Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – Effective July 1, Prof. Michael Flier was named director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University by Dr. William Kirby, dean of Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Flier is the Oleksander



Michael Flier

Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology at Harvard University. His areas of specialization include the history of the Ukrainian language, as well as comparative morphology (the study of word forms) and phonology (the study of distinctive speech sounds) of the Slavic languages.

Prof. Flier is the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute's fourth director. He succeeds Prof. Roman Szporluk, who headed the institute for the past eight years. Prof. Szporluk will continue as the Mykhailo Hrushevskyi Professor of Ukrainian History in the Department of History. Previous directors of the Institute

were Dr. Omeljan Pritsak, Mykhailo Hrushevskyi Professor emeritus of Ukrainian History (together with Prof. Ihor Sevcenko, co-founder of the institute), and Dr. George Grabowicz, Dmytro Cyzevskyi Professor of Ukrainian Literature.

Since becoming the Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology in 1991, Dr. Flier has taken an active role in various areas of academic life at Harvard. From 1994 to 1999 he chaired the department of linguistics, and from 1999 to the present, he has headed the department of Slavic languages and literatures.

Additionally, as advisor to graduate students, he has guided research on important historic sources of the Ukrainian language, such as the Peresopnytske Gospel (an illuminated 16th century manuscript from Volyn, on which Ukrainian presidents now take their oath) and various chronicles of Ukraine's medieval princely era.

Prof. Flier is also the chair of the American Committee of Slavists, which arranges participation of American scholars in the International Congress of Slavists, an event that takes place every five years (most recently, last year in Ljubljana, Slovenia).

Prof. Flier is a member of the institute's executive committee and editorial board, and an editor of the "Harvard Library of Early Ukrainian Literature," a multi-volume series of Ukrainian literary works from the late medieval and early modern periods published by the Institute. The series is one portion of the Harvard Project in Commemoration of the Millennium of Christianity in Rus'-Ukraine. Currently, nine volumes have appeared in the texts series (original works in facsimile or transcription) and six in the English translations series.

He is also a member of the editorial board of the journal *Harvard Ukrainian*

Studies (25 volumes of which have already been published), and oversaw a special edition of the journal on linguistics, philology, dialectology and historical linguistics. He is now preparing the next thematic issue on studies of the Ukrainian language, which is scheduled to come out next year.

Prof. Flier has authored over 80 research articles and reviews, and has written, edited or co-edited 14 books and collections on Slavic linguistics and Ukrainian, Belarusian and Russian philology. He has also written articles on Ukrainian and general Slavic themes for well-known encyclopedic and reference publications, such as the forthcoming "Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages."

His approach to scholarship is broad and includes a wide spectrum of interests, such as in the culture of Eastern Europe in the late middle ages (e.g., the symbolism of icons from that period) and more modern phenomena, such as "Surzhyk."

Every director of HURI provides the Institute with a unique sense of mission. The institute concentrated its early efforts in the 1970s on gaining visibility for Ukrainian studies in North American and European academic communities. Appearing for the first time at Harvard University Press were books in English about Ukraine's early and modern history and about Ukrainian literature, economic history and culture that were well received and favorably reviewed in many international publications.

On the eve of Ukrainian independence, HURI concentrated its efforts on supporting state-building processes in Ukraine. Taking advantage of the resources at Harvard University, the institute increased its cadre of personnel who specialized in Eastern European history, sociology, international relations and politics, in

order to provide research and expertise to the American and international community, which began to interact with Ukraine under new and changing conditions. In September 1991, through the mediation of the institute and the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard hosted the first-ever government delegation from independent Ukraine to the United States.

Most recently, HURI has been concentrating on meeting present needs: compiling and analyzing new information about Ukraine, establishing contacts, organizing conferences, carrying out joint publishing projects with other research centers, and preparing young scholars who are to continue in Ukrainian studies as the older generation of scholars retires.

Prof. Flier is assuming the directorship at a time when HURI's profile is expanding. Besides the traditional activities of teaching, research and publishing, the institute's personnel is actively increasing collaboration with other institutions at Harvard, as well as with scholars at other universities. Foremost in these efforts are scholars from Ukraine and other Eastern European countries who frequently visit Harvard University.

Prof. Flier has outlined important priorities for the institute in publications, support for research in Ukrainian studies, development of Harvard's *Ucrainica* (one of the best Ukrainian library collections in the world), and advocating Ukrainian culture and art in the Cambridge and Boston area.

To accomplish these tasks, Prof. Flier is counting on the fresh research of scholars worldwide and on the support of the Ukrainian community, which, in the course of decades, has constructed a most valuable and sturdy financial base for the Ukrainian studies program at Harvard University.

Editor/publicist Mykola Ryabchuk begins work on book on contemporary Ukraine

by Bohdan Klid

EDMONTON – The well-known Ukrainian editor, publicist and literary scholar, Mykola Ryabchuk, returned to Ukraine in late June following a six-month stay in Canada as John Kolasky Memorial Fellow. The Kolasky fellowship, awarded by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, allowed Mr. Ryabchuk the oppor-



Mykola Ryabchuk

tunity to conduct research for his fourth book on post-Soviet Ukraine.

His main research goal was to collect material on the peculiarities of social transformations in post-Soviet Ukraine in the context of post-Communist changes in Eastern Europe and neo-authoritarian mutations in other countries. The Kyiv publisher *Krytyka* has agreed to publish the book in 2005.

While in Edmonton, Mr. Ryabchuk also taught a course titled "Language Questions in Modern Ukraine" at the University of Alberta's department of modern languages and cultural studies. In addition he wrote a number of articles that appeared in the cultural and political magazine *Krytyka* (issues 1-2 and 4; available on the website www.krytyka.kiev.ua); the journal *Suchasnist* (issues 3 and 6); the Moscow bimonthly *Neprikosnovennyi Zapas* (issue 1; www.nz-online.ru); and the Polish magazine *Wież* (issue 6).

During his tenure as a Kolasky Fellow, Mr. Ryabchuk traveled to several North American cities to give talks or participate in academic and community-sponsored events. The most prominent speech given was "From Dysfunctional to Blackmail State: Paradoxes of the Post-Soviet Transition," which he delivered as the 38th annual Shevchenko lecture on March 12 at the University of Alberta. Similar lectures were given at the University of Toronto, the Kennan Institute (Washington), Shevchenko Scientific Society (Philadelphia and Toronto), York University (Toronto), Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex (Montreal), Ukrainian Cultural Center (Los Angeles), University of California at Los Angeles, and the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club (Vancouver).

During his visit to the United States, Mr. Ryabchuk participated in round-table discussions organized by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York on April 14, and together with Prof. Yaroslav Hrytsak of Ivan Franko Lviv National University held a seminar for students at Columbia University. While in New York in mid-April he also participated in two panel discussions at the ninth annual Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities.

In Canada, Mr. Ryabchuk joined Dr. Marta Dyczok of the University of Western Ontario (London) to hold a workshop on "Media and Politics in Ukraine" sponsored on April 19 by the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine and the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Toronto. He also gave a talk and participated in round-table discussions dedicated to Canada-Ukraine relations, which took place on May 12 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ottawa. In addition, he served as commentator at the graduate students conference "Researching Ukrainian Identity" held on March 13, at the University of Toronto, and at the "Building the Future Conference" (Edmonton, April 24), organized by the Canadian Ukrainian Congress (Alberta Provincial Council).

Mr. Ryabchuk's rigorous pace and prolific activities as John Kolasky Memorial Fellow reflected a determination to engage and participate in scholarly and community events, as well as marked a continuation of his demanding schedule and noted achievements in Ukraine.

He is the author of numerous articles on contemporary Ukrainian politics and culture, and three of his four recently published books (since 2000) are on post-Soviet Ukraine. The first, "Dylemy Ukrainskoho Fausta: Hromadianske Suspilstvo i 'Rozbudovy Derzhavy'" (Dilemmas of the Ukrainian Faust: Civil Society and "State Building"), treats the major quandary faced by Ukraine's democratic forces after the fall of the Soviet Union and the emergence of an independent Ukraine: whether to focus one's energies on civil society formation or participate in building a dysfunctional state controlled by Ukraine's post-Communist elite.

For his second book on contemporary Ukraine, "Vid Malorosii do Ukrainy: Paradoxy Zapizniloho Natsiietvorennia" (From "Little Russia" to Ukraine: Paradoxes of Delayed Nation Formation), Mykola Ryabchuk received a book of the year award in Ukraine. "Vid Malorosii do Ukrainy" has been translated into Polish, Serbian, Belarusian and French.

His most recent book, published in 2003, is "Dvi Ukrainy: Realni Mezhi, Virtualni Viiny" (Two Ukraines: Real Borders and Virtual Wars). That same year he received the Antonovych Prize for his keen analysis of political and cultural processes in Ukraine over the past decade.

Mr. Ryabchuk has been recognized in Ukraine as a talented editor, having served on the country's most prestigious and serious journals, such as the journal of literature in translation *Vsesvit* (Universe), and the journal of current affairs and culture *Suchasnist* (Contemporaneity). He was, in addition, co-founder and deputy editor-in-chief of *Krytyka* in 1997-2000, and remains a member of its editorial board to this day.

While known today largely as a publicist and editor, Mr. Ryabchuk has also written poetry and literary criticism. His collection of poems, "Zyma u Lvovi" (Winter in Lviv), containing poems written in the 1970s and 1980s, was published in Kyiv in 1989, during the perestroika period. His collection of essays and short stories, also written in the 1970s and 1980s, "Deinde, Tilky Ne Tut," (Elsewhere, But Not Here), was published in 2002. These two collections contain works written while he was a member of a group of non-conformist and dissident stu-

(Continued on page 19)

THE NEWS FROM HERE

For the first summer installment of "The News From Here," two stories featuring exchanges between the United States and Ukraine are the focus.

First comes a story from Corning, N.Y., about the Misnicks – William, a Ukrainian and Gloria, a non-Ukrainian. Their active participation in the Sister Cities of Corning, Lviv Committee, has provided Lviv Specialized Children's Hospital with necessary medicines and equipment. The Misnicks have also worked for such causes as collecting funds for the families of those killed in the Sknyliv air show accident and for blind and visually impaired citizens of Lviv.

The second story in this week's "News From Here" concerns a Ukrainian, Oleh Bondarenko, who traveled to the U.S., to Shuckman's Fish Company & Smokery, whose enthusiastic president is Lewis Shuckman. Not only did Mr. Bondarenko learn how to improve his company in Ukraine, he also taught Mr. Shuckman a thing or two about the fish smoking industry.

CORNING, N.Y.: A couple's commitment to Ukraine

For more than five years U.S. citizens William and Gloria Misnick have been traveling to Lviv with medicines and medical equipment, according to Natalia Onysko of Lvivska Hazeta. They cooperate closely with Lviv Specialized Children's Hospital, working simultaneously on several projects to help sick children.

Today the Misnicks are co-chairs of Sister Cities of Corning, Lviv Committee; the partnership between Lviv and Corning, N.Y., started in 1987.

Volodymyr Oliynyk, the former deputy mayor of Lviv, became the real catalyst for solidifying and rebuilding ties between Corning and Lviv. "We left Lviv feeling encouraged that a Sister Cities relationship would be revitalized," Mr. Misnick recalls. In 1998 they connected with Lviv Regional Children's Hospital, and cooperation started with the grant of \$500 for an interned service for the hospital, which continues today.

In 1999 Corning Mayor Albert Freiss and Mr. Oliynyk, in the name of Lviv, signed a protocol of cooperation between the two cities, and for the first time the Corning delegation visited Lviv Specialized Children's Hospital. Dr. Oleksander Myndiuk, chief of staff, explained the urgency of the hospital's needs, in particular for wheelchairs for the sick children. "We fulfilled his request," said Mr. Misnick, "shipping 22 wheelchairs, total cost of \$2,000."

In addition to helping the Hospital, in July 2002 after the Sknyliv air show accident, Mrs. Misnick collected funds to help the surviving families. "This experience was the most heartbreaking of my life – meeting the people who lost their loved ones and the pain that I experienced with them. I hope that what I left would ease the sorrow a little and [I] pray that their faith will sustain them," she commented.

Though her parents are from Syria, Mrs. Misnick's willingness to learn the Ukrainian language and to understand Ukrainian culture is absolutely natural to



William and Gloria Misnick of Corning, N.Y.

her. She told Lvivska Hazeta that she supports and provides humanitarian aid to Ukraine because she supports her husband's heritage 100 percent, "It has enriched my life. I passionately endorse everything that has to do with Lviv and all Sister Cities projects, especially Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Hospital. Above all, one must understand that the children are Ukraine's future. That is why it was there that I got the most memorable gift: smiles on children's and parent's faces. When we witnessed the happy tears of gratitude on the parent's faces, I understood that we reached our goals. I hope to be remembered as a bright star that gave hope."

The Misnicks are optimistic about their future activity in Ukraine, "We were lucky to meet and make friends with Dr. Ihor Hrytsiuk from Lviv Specialized Children's Hospital," said Mrs. Misnick. "Our business contacts blossomed into a long lasting friendship. He has guided us and given his professional expertise," she told the Lviv newspaper. "We shipped to Ukraine over 1,250 kilograms of various medical supplies and equipment. As long as we are able, we will continue to provide whatever resources are available to us. We will not stop because we do not believe in quitting until the task at hand is completed to the satisfaction of those needing our help."

The couple is convinced that it is not right just to

bring whatever is possible or send money, but to ask what is needed. Among projects that the Misnicks currently oversee is the acquisition of glucometers for children with diabetes. The doctors asked the couple for this aid and they managed to get grants for the project. A grant was extended from 2004; therefore, this project will continue.

The latest project they have undertaken is supplying Braille and large-print materials to blind and visually impaired Lviv citizens. This endeavor had been requested at the joint Sister Cities meeting held in Lviv. Such literature will start arriving at Lviv's UTOS Library shortly, and everyone will have an opportunity to use the materials, noted Lvivska Hazeta.

"Sometimes our work in Ukraine was frustrating," said Mr. Misnick. "In the United States we work very quickly. We are very organized and have structured schedules. It took us a long time to understand that things are done very differently in Ukraine. But we love all of Ukraine, especially Lviv. It's easy for us to get along with Lviv citizens because we adopted this country as our native."

LOUISVILLE: Two men united by one passion

Oleh Bondarenko, the owner and director of a business that produces and sells smoked and salted fish supervises the work of 20 employees, controls the company's marketing strategy, ensures quality control and controls the company's finances and product pricing.

Recently he worked side by side with Lewis Shuckman, president of Shuckman's Fish Company & Smokery in Louisville as part of the Louisville International Culture Center.

During Mr. Bondarenko's visit to Shuckman's Fish Company & Smokery, he and Mr. Shuckman smoked fish and packed Kentucky Spoonfish Caviar(R), as well as exchanged ideas on different ways to smoke fish.

The ebullient Mr. Shuckman said of his colleague's visit, "This is fantastic. Oleh has wonderful ideas that will enable me to add an even better taste to my smoked fish. And I think I gave him some wonderful ideas on how to reduce the pricing of his production cost on his products, and make them more affordable to his customers."

Since both men feel that smoking fish is their passion, this is an experience neither one will forget. Now that they have established a wonderful friendship, they will continue to keep in touch after Mr. Bondarenko returns to Ukraine.

"I have enjoyed this time greatly, and I will never forget this educational experience. Lewis Shuckman and his family have treated me wonderfully," stated Mr. Bondarenko.

"My next trip will be to Ukraine," said Mr. Shuckman. "Two men, from two different countries with one passion – that is what makes this world complete," he commented.

– compiled by Roxolana Woloszyn

Young pianist from Kharkiv makes an impression at competition

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Twenty-two pianists, out of 150 applicants from all over the country, gathered at Steinway Hall on June 20 to participate in the weeklong 2004 New York Piano



Illya Filshinskiy

Competition for 14- to 18-year-olds. The opening ceremony, introductions and the drawing of the order of appearance was held at Steinway Hall, while the rest of the competition took place at the Manhattan School of Music.

Unlike in any other piano competition, none of the pianists are eliminated from the NYPC. Those who do not place in the top four in either the category of concert and recital appearances or ensemble, receive \$1,000 scholarships toward further study of music and medals from the foundation.

Also unique to the New York Piano Competition is the method of judging. Whereas in other competitions judges have the opportunity to discuss their observations of contestants, judges at this competition cannot do this and they submit their evaluations of pianists everyday. Judges cannot reassess their reviews of pianists so the effect of pianists' daily activities is apparent.

This was the second year that the New York Piano Competition, whose underwriter is the Stecher and Horowitz

Foundation, has taken place. This was the first year, however, for Illya Filshinskiy, to showcase his piano playing skills at the NYPC. Mr. Filshinskiy, a 17-year-old senior honors student at Westerville South High School, in Westerville, Ohio, won a \$1,000 scholarship and a medal from the Foundation.

Mr. Filshinskiy is from Kharkiv, Ukraine, where he began his piano studies at the age of 6. He immigrated to America in March 2000 and begins his studies at Juilliard this fall.

Mr. Filshinskiy has won many awards, including the grand prize at the 2002 World Piano Competition in the young artist division, for concerto and solo performances. He won first place at the Westerville Women's Music Club Summer Study Scholarship Competition in both 2001 and 2003. Mr. Filshinskiy also was the winner at the Ohio Music Teachers Association Summer Music Study Scholarship Competition in 2001 and 2003.

Not only has Mr. Filshinskiy per-

formed in competitions, but he has also played solo with orchestras and solo public recitals. He has performed at such notable locations as Carnegie Hall (2002) and the United Nations Headquarters (2002). He also performed at a reception for distinguished visitors from Russia, Ukraine and Belarus in 2001.

Mr. Filshinskiy has participated in Master Classes with Prof. Yoheved Kaplinsky at Juilliard and Prof. Julian Martin at Juilliard and Peabody.

Mr. Horowitz, the executive director of The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation, said of Mr. Filshinskiy, "[he is an] outstanding talent, no doubt." Mr. Horowitz also commented on Mr. Filshinskiy's performances at the competition, calling him "compelling on stage."

The first prize of \$4,000 for Concert and Recital Appearances went to Hannah Sun, who is 15, of Flushing, N.Y. Mike Brown, 17, of Oceanside, N.Y., and Min Hwan Kim of Los Angeles, won the \$2,750 first prize to be divided between them, for best ensemble.

37th annual Tennis Camp attracts youths to Soyuzivka resort



George Sawchak instructing the camp.

by Petrusia Sawchak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – A phenomenon of summer for youngsters is going to camp. For some, going to Soyuzivka after school ends in June to learn and improve tennis and make new friends is a natural.

This year 30 youngsters between the ages of 12 and 18 attended Tennis Camp at Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian National Association resort in the beautiful Shawangunk Mountains of New York state. Many repeat campers arrived, as

did the children of former tennis campers like Dr. Hilary Cholhan who brought his three sons, Larko, Christian and Remy.

"I wanted my sons to experience the same great times I had at camp many many years ago," said Dr. Cholhan. Evhen Serba reiterated these same sentiments when he came with his son Greg. Andriy Charchalis, frequent tennis tournament player at Soyuzivka and former counselor, brought his children Katherine and Oles for the past two years.

The 37th annual camp was held from

June 20 to July 2 and was directed by George Sawchak, the director of the camp since its inception. He is also a United States Tennis Association organizer, ranked tennis player and instructor and a tennis director of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK).

Joining Mr. Sawchak as a teacher was Yuri Kusina from California, a United States Professional Tennis Association coach. Off-court, Olya Czerkas, a schoolteacher from St. Petersburg, Fla., provided 24-hour supervision. Marko Czerkas and Tanya Skvirska served as counselors, and Petrusia Sawchak, a high school teacher, also aided off-court activ-

ities and supervision. swam in Soyuzivka's Olympic-size swimming pool, participated in several camp dances, enjoyed a bonfire and played other sports during their free time. Impromptu soccer games and volleyball matches, particularly those against the Soyuzivka's worker teams were especially lively. The campers also attended the resort's popular social event "Hutsul Night."

The last several days of the camp were devoted to both singles and doubles tournaments in various groups. There were four competitive groups in this year's camp – two boys' divisions, one girls' division and a mixed group. The tournament was organized in a round-robin for-



Best Campers Award recipients with the staff.



Singles tournament trophy winners.

ities and supervision.

The program at the camp consisted of five to six hours per day of basic stroke instructions, strategy and competitive play. Campers began each morning with calisthenics, followed by detailed instructions about one of the basic strokes. Throughout the day, the campers practiced that stroke under the supervision of the tennis instructors and counselors. The evening sessions were devoted to competitive free play to execute the newly learned stroke in competitive play.

This year's camp was noted for its high level of enthusiasm for the sport of tennis. Many of the campers opted to practice tennis even after the session was over. More experienced players initiated games with each other during free time, and beginners were motivated to practice their strokes, overcoming their frustration level.

Besides playing tennis, the campers

mat with all players in each group competing against each.

The singles tournament results were as follows:

- Girls – 1. Katherine Charchalis, 2. Andrea Kusina, 3. Alyssa Kowcz;

- Boys I – 1. Adam Ogonowski, 2. Christian Cholhan, 3. Larko Cholhan;

- Boys II – 1. Alex Hryhorowych, 2. John Puhalla, 3. Chris Benoit and Nick Chomut (tied);

- Mixed Group – 1. Laryssa Boyko, 2. Victoria Kononchuk, 3. Maksym Mycak.

The winners of both the Girls and Boys I groups, Katherine Charchalis and Adam Ogonowski, were repeat winners from last year.

Results of the doubles tournaments were as follows:

- Girls – 1. Andrea Kusina and Anissa Boyko, 2. Christina Vorobets and Aika Danayeva;

- Boys I – 1. Mikhaylo Szczupak and Larko Cholhan, 2. Adam Ogonowski and Remy Cholhan;

- Boys II – 1. Chris Benoit and Julian Chernyk, 2. John Puhalla and Alex Roik;

- Mixed Group – 1. Andrew Labunka and Tatiana Skvirska, 2. Maksym Mycak and Laryssa Boyko.

At the closing banquet held in Soyuzivka's renovated dining room on Thursday night, all the campers were presented with certificates of attendance and camp memory booklets with addresses of all the participants. Tournament winners and finalists were awarded trophies and memorable patches.

The coveted Best Camper Awards selected by the staff were awarded to Victoria Kononchuk, Andrea Kusina, Greg Serba and Mikhaylo Szczupak. The evening ended with a farewell dance.

In his remarks, Mr. Sawchak thanked his staff for their hard work and encouraged the campers to continue playing and practicing all they had learned in camp. Campers left Soyuzivka with many fond memories, with many saying they would return next year.



Participants of the 37th Soyuzivka Tennis Camp.



FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inger Kuzych

Ukraine's rarest stamps - Part I

10-hryvni stamps of Western Ukraine

Ukrainian philatelists can be justifiably proud of the fact that two stamp issues from Ukraine's early 20th century period of independence (1917-1920) are today recognized as some of the rarest in the world. This month's article as well as next month's will describe these extraordinarily precious pieces of paper: the first stamps are from Western Ukraine and the second from Ukraine proper.

One of the Western Ukrainian stamps was displayed at a prestigious exhibition named Monacophil in 2002. Organized under the patronage of Prince Ranier III of Monaco, the almost five-week-long event (November 29 to December 31, 2002) featured a Rarest of the Rare display of stamps and covers exhibited by 100 members of Le Club de Monte-Carlo.

Shown prominently among these world philatelic gems was the Western Ukraine issue, which is basically a 10-kronen, violet-gray Austro-Hungarian military field post stamp from 1917. What makes this stamp more unusual, however, is the fact that it is overprinted across the top with Cyrillic text that states: "Poshta Ukr.[ainian] N.[ational] Rep.[ublic]." Along the bottom, a

"hryvni"¹ designation written in Ukrainian indicates a revaluation from the original kroner (Figure 1).

Historical background

Even though the above-described stamp was issued in Stanyslaviv² in Western Ukraine – which had seceded from Austria-Hungary in the fall of 1918 – the inscription refers to the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR, eastern or Greater Ukraine) because in January of 1919 the two Ukrainian halves ostensibly were merged. In actuality, the "union" took place only on paper, while the two parts of Ukraine battled separate foes: the UNR engaged the Bolsheviks in the east, while the Western Ukrainian National Republic (ZUNR) contended with the Poles, who sought to add all of eastern Galicia (Western Ukraine) to their newly established state.

The ZUNR was declared in Lviv on November 1, 1918, and it was here that Western Ukraine's first four stamps were produced a few weeks later. Fortune turned against the Ukrainians, however, and the ZUNR government and troops were forced to evacuate the city during the night of November 21-22, 1918. The government first moved to Ternopil, but subsequently took up a more permanent



Figure 1. The 10-hryvni stamp as pictured in the program of Monacophil 2002. The French description reads: Western Ukraine 1919: 10 Kr. violet, mint with gum – a unique piece in its mint state. One other stamp exists used on piece. (From the collection of the Marquis de Bute.)

seat in Stanyslaviv on January 2, 1919. Sporadic fighting continued throughout the first half of 1919 until the Western Ukrainian units were driven into eastern Ukraine (mid-July) and the ZUNR effectively ceased to exist.

Although further ZUNR stamps had been created in Kolomyia in December 1918 and January 1919, by far the largest number of Western Ukrainian stamps were completed in Stanyslaviv during March to May of 1919 – in four separate issues. The above-mentioned Western Ukraine stamp was part of the second issue in which 47 different types of stamps were produced by overprinting remainders of various Austrian postage stamps.

The second issue stamps

The story behind the creation of the second Stanyslaviv issue is an interesting one and will be related below. Initially, however, I need to briefly mention that a first Stanyslaviv issue was released on March 18, 1919. It consisted of 20 different Austrian postage stamps overprinted with an inscription very similar to the one previously described.

At about the same time these stamps first made their appearance at the Stanyslaviv post office, a young student by the name of Eisenberg, a resident of Pidvolochyska (some 130 kilometers northeast of Stanyslaviv) sold a considerable portion of his property for 1,000 kronen (hryvni), in order to raise funds for a journey to Austria. However, he was afraid to take all this money with him on the trip, for it could be confiscated at various border crossings or military checkpoints. He had heard about the new Western Ukrainian stamps that had recently been issued, so on March 26 he purchased a large amount of the overprinted Austrian stamps with the intention of getting them across to Austria and exchanging them for Austrian currency. He was eventually successful in carrying out his plan.

Eisenberg showed his Western Ukraine stamps to various Vienna stamp dealers when he arrived, but most were skeptical since they knew nothing about these new issues. However, the well-known stamp expert and dealer, Karl Korner, did take up the offer and purchased Eisenberg's entire stock.

(Continued on page 13)

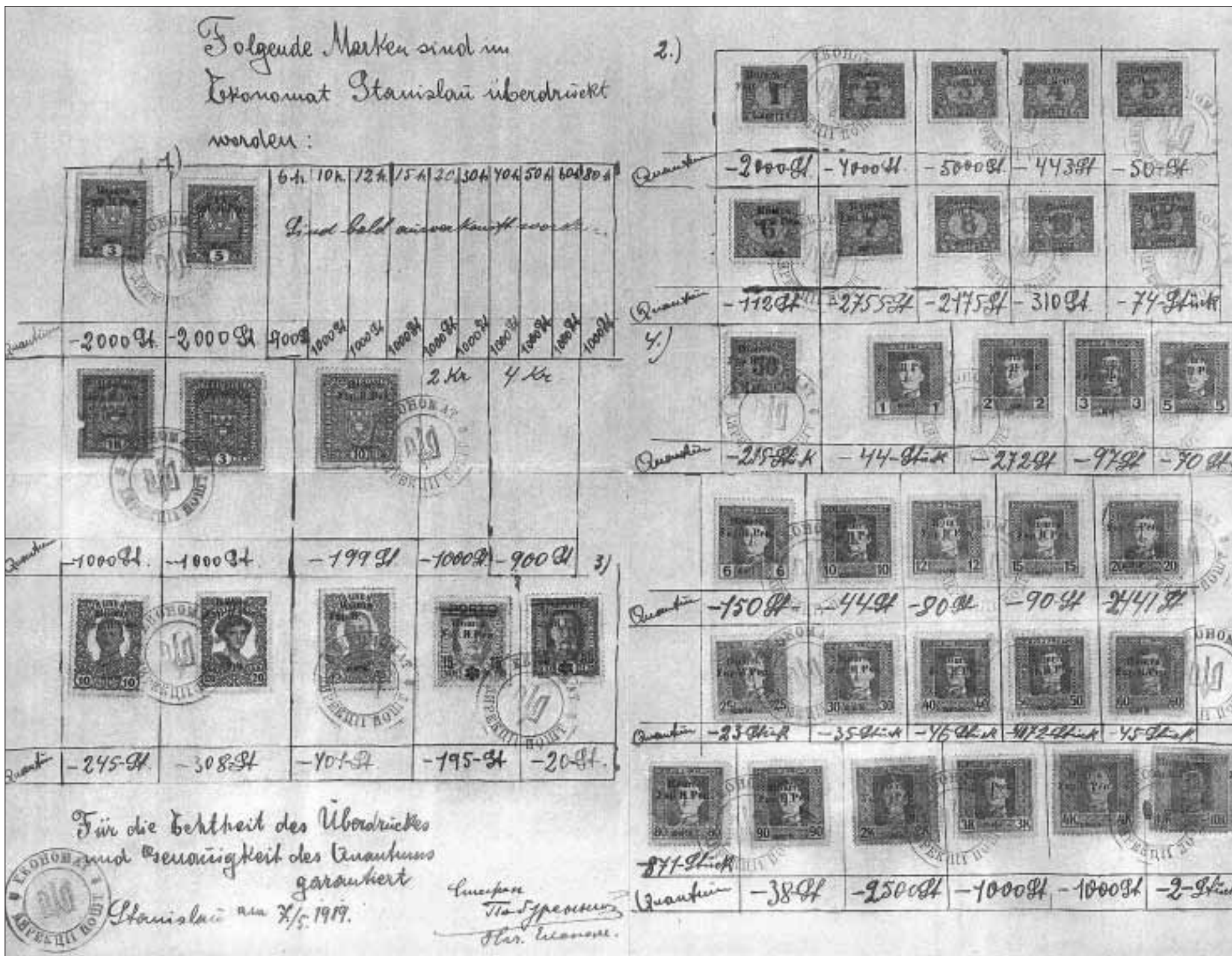


Figure 2. The Ekonomat Document, drawn up on May 7, 1919, chronicled most of the stamp releases of the first two Stanyslaviv Issues. The 10-hryvni stamp appears in the lower right corner.

Ukraine's rarest stamps...

(Continued from page 12)



Figure 3. The 10-hryvni stamp enlarged on an online review of the Monacophil stamps. The entire exhibit of 100 rare philatelic items may be viewed at: <http://www.askphil.org/Monaco/Monindex.htm>.

Continued fighting had made communication difficult between the Austrian capital city and its former province of Galicia, but to Korner, the student's story of the stamps being prepared in Stanyslaviv rang true. The dealer knew that Lviv had fallen to the Poles and that Western Ukrainian stamps could not have been made there; it made sense that a Western Ukrainian government would continue postal operations from its new seat. Korner arranged to send Eisenberg back to Stanyslaviv with instructions to buy more stamps and to obtain documen-

tation from the post office there about just what types of stamps were overprinted and in what quantities.

Eisenberg returned to Stanyslaviv by the beginning of May and on May 4 began to buy up stamps in accordance with Korner's directives. He ended up purchasing most of what was left of the first issue, because when an official record (Figure 2) was drawn up on May 7, only five stamp values of the 20 initially produced could still be affixed (see the first two rows on the left side of the document). This large, oversized authenticating sheet is called the Ekonomat Document, because it was personally signed by Stefan Pobureny, head of the ZUNR Ekonomat³ in Stanyslaviv. This certificate was the validation that Korner sought to prove the legitimacy of the Stanyslaviv stamps.

The second Stanyslaviv Issue was created on May 5, 1919, the day after Eisenberg depleted the supplies of stamps at the Stanyslaviv post office. The new postage stamps were fabricated by overprinting most any types of Austrian stamps that were still at hand. These remainders were mostly unusual stamps – postage due values from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kaiser Karl Fondsmarken (charity stamps) and Austro-Hungarian field post stamps – and in some cases only a few copies were available.

Valuation

Indeed, for the highest-value, 10-kronen stamp, only two Austrian stamps were overprinted and one of these was affixed to the Ekonomat Document. It is

the other, unused (mint) stamp that was displayed as one of the Rarest in the world today and that was exhibited at Monacophil (Figure 3). This stamp was recently put up at the Corinphila Auction in Switzerland and went for the closing price of 42,000 Swiss francs or about \$32,300.

Nonetheless, the other stamp is not far behind in value. It appears "used" or "cancelled" because of the circular Ekonomat mark that was applied to it and to the other stamps on the document (Figure 2). This "used" specimen was removed from the Ekonomat Document some time in the past and last year also appeared at a Corinphila Auction (Figure 4). The starting bid price at that time was 30,000 Swiss francs (the same as this year's auction), but I was unable to learn what the final hammer price was.



Figure 4. The "used" 10-hryvni stamp – trimmed from the Ekonomat Document – as it appeared at auction last year.

Epilogue

Karl Korner eventually did quite well selling his Western Ukrainian materials. Interestingly, once other dealers learned that he had sent an agent (Eisenberg) to Stanyslaviv to obtain more materials, several of them also traveled to the city and purchased items for their stock. It is thanks to these dealers and the interest they took in this short-lived country's postal emissions that we have secured many of the Western Ukrainian stamps and covers that still remain today. Had no one else taken an interest in what went on at the Stanyslaviv post office in early 1919, we may well have lost these philatelic witnesses to the existence of the Western Ukrainian state.

Despite what was able to be saved before the ZUNR fell in 1919, many Western Ukrainian stamps are still among the priciest in Ukrainian philately. The quantities preserved are in many cases far smaller than for stamps from eastern Ukraine. Nonetheless, the other very rare Ukrainian stamps that will be described are an emission of the UNR. Their story will be told in next month's "Focus on Philately."

Ingert Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150 or at his e-mail address: ingert@starpower.net.

1 – the genitive plural of the word "hryvnia."

2 This city, the second largest in Western Ukraine, is today known as Ivano-Frankivsk.

3 The Ekonomat was the Western Ukrainian department created in April 1919 to oversee economic matters in the nascent state. One of its first tasks was the reorganization of the postal administration.

ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 3)

New party fields presidential hopeful

KYIV – A congress of 68 delegates from Ukraine's regions set up a new party, People's Power, in Kyiv on July 17, UNIAN reported. The party wants to increase living standards and the minimum monthly wage to 1,000 hrv (nearly \$190). The head of the new party, Volodymyr Nechyporuk, has applied for registration as a candidate in the presidential election. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Illegal campaigning is reported

KYIV – The authorities of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast are already taking part in the presidential election campaign for Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on July 12, quoting an anonymous local source. Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Chairman Volodymyr Yatsuba reportedly chairs a regional election staff consisting of state administration employees. According to the source, the heads of institutions and organizations subsidized from the state budget in the oblast have recently been instructed in raion executive committees how to organize presidential campaign meetings, collect signatures in support of Mr. Yanukovich and "prepare people for street actions." Ukraine's legislation forbids using the state administration in election campaigns. (RFE/RL Newsline)

"Television killer" steps onto scene

KYIV – Television personality Sergei Dorenko said at a July 21 press conference in Kyiv that he will participate in the Ukrainian presidential-election campaign. Mr. Dorenko said he "will not campaign for or against particular people, but for ideas." He added, though, that his lawyers are studying whether it is legal for him, a Russian citizen, to campaign for a particular candidate. He also said that recent talks

he held with NTN television in Donetsk had fallen through. "I did have some relations with the so-called Donetsk bloc, but they didn't work out," Mr. Dorenko said, according to Interfax-Ukraine. "So I will not be appearing on Donetsk television." Some analysts believe that Mr. Dorenko's real goal in the campaign would be to work against the interests of Our Ukraine candidate Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Dorenko gained notoriety during the Russian legislative elections in the fall of 1999, when he was a leading anchor on ORT television, which was then controlled by oligarch Boris Berezovskii. Mr. Dorenko conducted a relentless campaign against the Fatherland-All Russia bloc. For his work, he was dubbed "the television killer" and "Berezovskii's bull terrier." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Officials refuse to print Cherkasy paper

KYIV – Officials in the Cherkasy Region are refusing to print the newspaper Pole Chesti after it published a report on center right opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko's nomination as a presidential candidate on Spivoche Pole and an interview with the Our Ukraine leader. According to Mr. Yushchenko's website, the editor of the social and political newspaper Pole Chesti in Talne, Valentyn Hordieyev, wrote to Mr. Yushchenko and informed him that after the newspaper published a report about Mr. Yushchenko's nomination and an interview with him, "suddenly and without warning, in violation of a signed contract, the Zvenyhorodka printing house refused to print the newspaper" and broke off the contract signed this past February. According to the July 21 issue of the online newspaper Ukrainska Pravda, Mr. Hordieyev said this occurred as a result of pressure from the head of the information committee of the Cherkasy Regional Administration, Mykola Kostetskyi, who personally threatened the printing house director with dismissal unless he stopped printing the newspaper, which covers Mr. Yushchenko's views. The Yushchenko campaign headquarters views

this as a case of crude pressure on regional media and inadmissible interference by a civil servant in the electoral process. Our Ukraine lawyers are currently studying Mr. Hordieyev's statement. (BBC Monitoring Service)

Local officials feel political pressure

KYIV – According to Ukrainska Pravda, Viktor Yushchenko's staff in Lviv has reported that "the deputy head of the Horodok district council, Yaroslav Skobalo, is forcing the directors of public facilities and town and village librarians to sign up in support of the authorities candidate, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich." It was also reported that "in the Pustomyty district, education workers are coming under similar pressure from the district education department. In general, this situation is being observed across almost all of Lviv Region and is clearly seen in Stryi, Zolochiv, Peremyshliany and the districts mentioned above." (BBC Monitoring Service)

PM concludes pact with trade unions

KYIV – Presidential hopeful and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich signed a social contract with the Ukrainian Trade Union Federation on July 23, Interfax reported. The contract sets out Mr. Yanukovich's goals and commitments if he is elected president for the development of domestic production; wage reform; adherence to constitutional rights in the education, science, culture, medicine and labor spheres; guidelines for the setting of pension levels; and the prevention of official interference into the activities of self-governing social-insurance and trade-union funds. The federation committed itself to canvassing for Mr. Yanukovich among trade-union members. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President questions opposition unity

KYIV – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said on July 24 that he believes

opposition elements will find it impossible to unify their efforts ahead of the October 31 presidential election, Interfax reported. "These are absolutely different people, absolutely different politicians, absolutely different ideologies," Mr. Kuchma said. "They are united by one thing: greed for power." The president added that the country's opposition is also united by the "tape scandal" – presumably a reference to the audiotapes secretly recorded by a presidential bodyguard that appear to implicate Mr. Kuchma in the unsolved killing of Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze and other wrongdoing – and the scandal connected with reports that Ukraine sold a sophisticated Kolchuha radar system to Iraq. "Many would like to replay the Yugoslav variant; however, Ukraine is not Yugoslavia," Mr. Kuchma said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

UOC-KP leader comments on candidates

KYIV – "If a candidate defends the interests of the Ukrainian nation and economy, we support him," stated Patriarch Filaret, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Ukrainian Patriarchate (UOC-KP) in an interview for Public Radio on June 23. He commented on his Church's support of candidates in the upcoming presidential elections in Ukraine. According to Patriarch Filaret, "every faithful and every priest will vote for the candidate who will support their Church." He also noted that Viktor Yushchenko, leader of the democratic opposition Our Ukraine faction, supports not only the UOC-KP but also the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, "which stand for Ukrainian statehood." Patriarch Filaret added that the UOC-KP may support Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich for the presidency if he supports the UOC-KP. In addition, Patriarch Filaret said, "It is important to us if the candidate supports Ukrainian independence and statehood." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

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Highlights...

(Continued from page 4)

adding the post of member-at-large to the UNA Supreme Executive Committee, thus increasing the committee from a five-member to a seven-member body. (On July 6, at the first meeting of the newly elected Executive Committee, the member-at-large position was transformed into the post of fourth vice-president and head of the Recording Department.)

Delegates also approved donations totaling \$15,000 to various cultural, educational and charitable causes.

Special awards were given to UNA organizers for their success in the pre-convention membership drive, which surpassed the designated quota of 2,000 new members by 700. In the last two weeks before the convention branch secretaries, delegates and other organizers had managed to enroll 741 new members.

It was at the 26th Convention that the UNA named its first honorary member of the Supreme Assembly as Treasurer Roman Slobodian decided not to run for re-election. On the proposal of President Lesawyer, Mr. Slobodian, who served as UNA supreme treasurer for 46 years, was named a lifetime honorary member with advisory powers.

Among those personally greeting the convention was Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley. Ukrainian American actors Jack Palance and Mike Mazurki made a special appearance at the dance held after the convention banquet, and then formally addressed the UNA delegates during the next day's convention session.

Also notable was the fact that convention delegates adjourned early on the day President Lyndon B. Johnson was to be in Chicago for a fund-raising dinner. They decided to march en masse to the Conrad Hilton Hotel to greet the president.

Source: "Joseph Lesawyer re-elected supreme president of UNA. Stephen Kuropas, Mary Dushnyck, Bohdan Zorych chosen for vice-presidential posts; Dr. Jaroslaw Padoch re-elected supreme secretary; John Kokolski becomes new treasurer after Roman Slobodian steps down; ex-treasurer named life-time honorary member of Supreme Assembly; Walter Sochan elected new Executive Committee member; \$15,000 voted for cultural, educational causes," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 26, 1966. The border used for this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dating to 1919.

WFUWO and UWC...

(Continued from page 4)

gies for raising resources required for the implementation of the MDGs, and heightening public awareness of the goals.

After networking at interactive Midday Workshops, delegates will consider drafting a recommended plan of action for use by their NGOs and other civil society members to help meet the Millennium Development Goals by the target date of 2015.

Registration for the conference is open only to representatives of NGOs associated with DPI, those in consultative status with the United Nations through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and those working with U.N. agencies, programs and U.N. Information Centers and Services.

Additional information on the conference program will be posted on <http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection>. Inquiries may be addressed to the NGO section of DPI and DPI/NGO Resource Center, Room L-1B-31, United Nations, New York, NY 10017.

The United Nations Department of Public Information, in partnership with the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, organizes the conference on a yearly basis.



With deep sorrow, we announce that on July 23, 2004,
our beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother

Eugene Schafran

entered into eternal rest.

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wife	Gerda
daughter	Sonja
son	Borys and wife Geraldine
sister	Miroslava
grandsons	Nicholas and Matthew

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The funeral took place on July 27, 2004, at the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church, Astoria, NY.

Interment at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Hamptonburg, NY.



З глибоким жалем ділимося з рідними і приятелями сумною вісткою, що після короткої але важкої недуги, 21 липня 2004 р., відійшов у Божу вічність наш найдорожчий ТАТО, ДІДУСЬ і БРАТ

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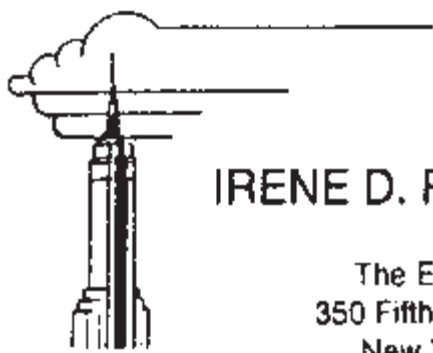
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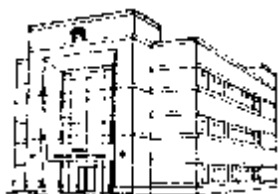
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Eucharistic Marian Congress slated for August

STAMFORD, Conn. - August 13-15 will mark a double milestone in the life of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States. On that weekend the Eparchy of Stamford will recall the National Eucharistic Marian Congress of the Oriental Rites, which took place in Philadelphia in 1954 - a Marian Year - when the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate will host the 2004 Eucharistic Marian Congress. In addition, the congress will be held in conjunction with the Holy Dormition Pilgrimage, which has been held annually for the past 50 years on the beautiful grounds of the sisters' provincialate in Sloatsburg.

The congress has as its theme "Holy Things for the Holy," words taken from the divine liturgy. The theme of the Pilgrimage, Mary, Woman of the Eucharist is taken from Pope John Paul II's recent encyclical on the Eucharist. Both themes reflect how mountains are moved in the spiritual life through the

dynamism of the Eucharistic presence of our Lord God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The congress begins on Friday, August 13, with an all-night vigil geared to teens and young people. The celebrant and homilist of the opening liturgy will be Archbishop Stefan Soroka, metropolitan of Philadelphia.

Saturday, August 14, will be a day devoted to evangelization and renewal through workshops devoted to the Eucharist and to Mary, the Mother of God. The keynote address will be delivered by Bishop Robert Moskal of the St. Josaphat Eparchy of Parma. The day will conclude with the celebration of solemn vespers and the deposition of the Shroud of the Holy Mother of God.

Thousands are expected to gather on Sunday, the third day of the congress-pilgrimage. The highlight of the day will be a concelebrated pontifical divine liturgy led by Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

European Union...

(Continued from page 2)

of friendly neighbors. On April 1, Ukraine's First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksander Chalyi revealed delays in negotiating the action plans. During the same month the EU backed the Council of Europe, NATO and United States in strongly protesting blatant election fraud in the Mukachiv mayoral elections.

Both the EU and portions of the Ukrainian side have become increasingly alarmed over their deteriorating relationship. Ireland's Minister of Foreign Affairs Brian Coven told his Ukrainian counterpart that close relations between the EU and Ukraine depend "mainly upon concrete actions towards the strengthening and development of European values, one of the most important of which is the principle of free and fair elections" (Ukrainska Pravda, April 29).

This message was repeated to Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich during the Council on EU-Ukraine Cooperation meeting in Brussels the following month. This slowly developing crisis in relations was also seen on the Ukrainian side. In May Mr. Chalyi resigned in protest over President Kuchma's declining interest in European integration. Ukraine's European integration efforts had reached a dead end.

As the July summit approached, Mr. Kuchma made it clear that he would no longer demand that the EU give a "signal" of eventual membership. The Ukrainian president's program of achieving EU membership by 2011 had obviously been unsuccessful. Instead, the main demand that Mr. Kuchma laid before the EU was to recognize Ukraine as a "market economy" - an important step on the road to WTO membership (which Mr. Kuchma had also unsuccessfully failed to achieve by his self-declared target date of 2004).

These fault lines in the EU-Ukrainian relationship came to a head during last week's summit. The Independent (July 9) reported that Ukraine's "dismal human rights record" dominated the summit. The summit's host, Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende, again reiterated the importance of holding free and fair elections. Western diplomats were dismayed to hear Mr. Kuchma's response to questions on the failure to find the murderers of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze. Mr. Kuchma dismissed the issue by pointing to unsolved crimes in EU member-states. The Ukrainian president was visibly angry over journalists' questions about his involvement in corruption.

The root of these difficulties is differing political cultures. One EU diplomat concluded after Mr. Kuchma's outburst: "We have gone as far as we can" (The

Independent, July 9). Both sides seemingly speak different languages. This "clash of civilizations" has also influenced EU-Ukraine relations because of the EU's lack of trust in Mr. Kuchma's assurances. Although President Kuchma has often promised to guarantee free and fair elections, the EU (as The Independent noted), NATO and the United States no longer believe him and demand concrete proof.

The time for words is over. Western governments and international organizations are now demanding action. This would mean creating a level playing field for all presidential candidates, especially in terms of access to media. Mr. Kuchma's response at the EU-Ukraine summit to such demands was to air his concern that the West would only consider elections to have been "free and fair" if the opposition wins. Mr. Kuchma and his allies continue to brush aside Western criticism over the lack of media freedom, such as the just-released Freedom House report, by arguing that media freedom actually does exist in Ukraine.

This claim again shows the degree to which different political cultures block any consensus on what constitutes a free and fair election. The West is exasperated by President Kuchma's duplicity: he says he supports free and fair elections while doing the exact opposite.

At the same time, Ukraine showed a disinterest in the Wider Europe Initiative offered by the EU. President Kuchma said, "Solidifying Ukraine's status as an EU neighbor is more likely to freeze relations rather than help to develop them" (Interfax-Ukraine, July 8). He warned that negotiations over action plans would not progress unless they opened up "the prospects for our further progress" (i.e., membership). This criticism was echoed by philanthropist George Soros, who warned that the initiative would fail without "the EU's most powerful tool of influence ... [the] prospect of membership" (Financial Times, March 29).

This was the first EU-Ukraine summit where Mr. Kuchma did not openly call for the EU to send a "signal" of future membership prospects. Instead, the summit ended with the EU refusing to grant "market economy status" (pointing to Ukraine's failure to amend its bankruptcy laws and to introduce a transparent pricing policy for its exports), and Ukraine dragging its heels over the Wider Europe Initiative.

These two issues may be resolved by December, but by then Ukraine will have a new president. The deeper misunderstandings in EU-Ukraine relations can be overcome only if the candidate who wins the elections espouses the same political culture as that found inside the European Union. Otherwise, the clash of civilizations will continue to bedevil EU-Ukraine relations.

Ukraine no longer lists...

(Continued from page 1)

day that Ukraine had indeed opted out of an expressed commitment to join NATO and the EU by virtue of changes proposed by the National Security and Defense Council on July 6, which President Kuchma supported via a presidential edict signed July 15.

In Yalta, in response to journalists' queries as to why the information had not been made public earlier, various presidential press service spokespersons stated that the changes within the doctrine had been noted on the presidential administration website from the date the presidential decree was signed.

President Putin, generally restrained in his public comments, caused more international waves when he told the economic summit attendees during his presentation that intelligence operatives from Western governments for too long had attempted to derail closer relations between Russia and Ukraine.

"Their agents within our countries and outside are trying to discredit the integration of Russia and Ukraine in various ways," charged President Putin during his address to the economic summit.

He prefaced the statement by noting that "in unifying, [Ukraine and Russia] raise our competitiveness." Mr. Putin stated that the SES, the project to coordinate and unite the economies of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakstan and Belarus that he and Mr. Kuchma initiated in the spring of 2003, was the best way to make the region of the former Soviet Union economically competitive on a global scale. Mr. Putin stressed that the goal of the SES was economic, not political, integration. He also said he did not want an economic or political rift to develop between the region of the former Soviet Union and the West as the SES became a competitor of the EU.

"Russia and Ukraine should not set themselves against the West. Objectively,

we are part of the world economic system," underscored Mr. Putin.

The Russian president also sought cooperation from Ukraine to jump the hurdles to WTO membership hand-in-hand wherever possible.

President Kuchma agreed with his Russian counterpart's assessment that increased trade had boosted the economies of both countries. During his own presentation Mr. Kuchma noted several times to the extent to which the recent infusion of Russian capital had spurred economic development in Ukraine, including the revival of Ukrainian oil refineries located in Lysychansk, Odesa and Kherson, and the Mykolaiv Bauxite Plant.

During a press conference following the summit, Mr. Putin pointed out that Russian companies doing business in Ukraine were legally registered as Ukrainian legal entities, which effectively made them Ukrainian firms, albeit with Russian ownership.

In his remarks to the summit Mr. Kuchma cited a 33 percent increase in trade between Ukraine and Russia in the first five months of this year, during a time when the Ukrainian economy was expanding at a rate of nearly 10 percent and the Russian economy at more than 7 percent.

"The dynamic development of trade and economic relations became possible to a large extent after an increase in contacts between the presidents and the heads of governments of Ukraine and Russia, as well as between the business sectors," explained Mr. Kuchma.

Mr. Kuchma emphasized again, as he has done ever since the idea for the SES arose, that the initial and central building block for a Eurasian common market would have to be a free-trade zone. He received vocal support from Mr. Putin, perhaps for the first time. Russia has agreed to a free-trade zone in principle but has been unwilling to develop specific methods by which to achieve it.

Most experts believe that getting

Moscow to agree to a trade zone free of waivers will be the hardest aspect of breathing life into the SES project. During the summit, Mr. Kuchma suggested that the sides needed to agree on two initial steps: first, an accord on the principles for removal of indirect taxation, followed by a protocol on the gradual cancellation of a list of products that are currently awarded waivers from free trade.

Yet, what has caused the most stir, albeit little overriding concern, within the international community were the changes Ukraine quietly and unassumingly made to its defense doctrine at the beginning of July, after its efforts at closer ties with NATO and the EU were repudiated during summits in Istanbul and Brussels, respectively.

The EU representative in Kyiv, Reijo Kemppinen, said the decision by Ukraine would not alter relations between Brussels and Kyiv, inasmuch as the EU had no intention of offering Ukraine membership at the present time, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

But the announcement in Yalta had Ukraine's foreign policy and security apparatus back in Kyiv doing some quick political footwork. Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleh Shamshur said during a hastily organized appearance before

journalists the day after the Yalta summit that the changes were logical and even foreseen by Mr. Kuchma's remarks in Istanbul, during which the president noted that Ukraine was not prepared for entry into the North Atlantic Alliance.

Mr. Shamshur said that relations between NATO, the EU and Ukraine would remain as they currently were and negotiations would continue on Ukrainian membership in both structures. He also cast blame on NATO and the EU for not being more accommodating in accepting Ukraine into their folds.

"Amendments to the Ukrainian Defense Doctrine were made because the European Union and NATO are not prepared to set time limits for Ukraine's entry into those organizations," explained Mr. Shamshur.

Meanwhile, officials in Belarus, a European pariah for nearly a decade, welcomed the changes to Kyiv's military doctrine.

"For us, a country that has always said that it does not welcome NATO enlargement, this news is very positive," explained Maj. Gen. Sergei Bulygin, chief political officer within the country's Ministry of Defense, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

elections, striking coal miners and struggles to prevent Chernobyl-type ecological disasters that affect the entire world." She added, "We reiterate the importance of a U.S. presence in Ukraine – the largest non-Russian Soviet republic, and we ask that the members of the Senate team hold fast to the less restrictive Senate language in the bill."

At various intervals in the previous 15 years attempts had been made to establish a U.S. consulate in Kiev but, for one reason or another the opening never

occurred. Former president Jimmy Carter imposed sanctions on the Soviets for invading Afghanistan. Then the Kyiv consulate opening was delayed due to the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident.

Finally, in early 1991 the United States dispatched an advance team to open the Consulate in Kyiv. And, when Ukraine's independence was proclaimed that year in August, the United States already had a diplomatic presence there.

Source: "Kiev Consulate idea advances with passage of Senate bill," by Walter Bodnar, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 6, 1989, Vol. LVII, No. 32.

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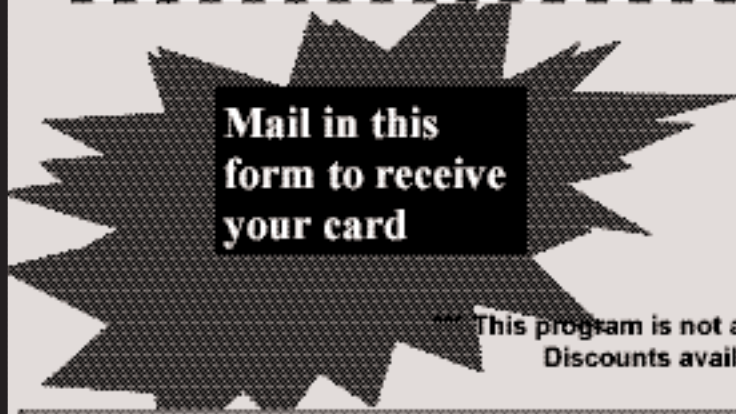


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Shevchenko monument's unveiling available on videotape and DVD

WASHINGTON – On Saturday, June 26, the Ukrainian community of the United States commemorated the 40th anniversary of the unveiling of the monument to Taras Shevchenko in Washington.

Four decades earlier more than 100,000 people gathered that day to commemorate the great Kobzar of Ukraine, who inspired generations of Ukrainians to continue the struggle for freedom and democracy. Yuri Tamrasky and Sviatoslav Nowytski filmed this momentous event and created a special 90-minute film "Shevchenko in Washington."

"The dedication of the Shevchenko monument in 1964 in Washington, D.C., was an extremely important milestone for the Ukrainian American community. It demonstrated the unity and strength of our community, as well as served as an

expression of support to those who were struggling against the oppression in Ukraine. 'Shevchenko in Washington' documents the scope and magnitude of the event and is truly a collector's item," said Bohdana Urbanovych, chairperson of the Shevchenko 40th Anniversary Memorial Committee.

On the occasion of the 40th jubilee, the Shevchenko 40th Anniversary Memorial Committee transferred this rare and memorable film onto video and DVD and has made it available to the Ukrainian community. In order to purchase "Shevchenko in Washington," contact the Shevchenko 40th Anniversary Memorial Committee office in Washington by phone (202) 547-0018, or e-mail at unis@ucca.org. Cost of the video/DVD is \$20 plus shipping and handling. Quantities are limited.

"Ukrainian-American..."

(Continued from page 5)

The Ukrainian National Council

The proposed Ukrainian National Council was established at the UNA convention in Buffalo, and on September 10 it issued its first formal statement regarding the war:

At this very moment we are witnessing what may be the turning point in the history of Europe, particularly in the life of the 40 million [person] Ukrainian nation. ... It is possible that new national states will emerge after the war and Ukraine may be one of them. An independent Ukrainian state has been the dream of every patriotic Ukrainian person. Our people have suffered Polish oppression under Austria; they have been subjected to Hungarian persecution; but the most cruel oppression of all was that imposed by the Russian czars and their regimes. For 260 years they have kept 35 million Ukrainian people in slavery, striving to annihilate them as a nation. ... The war being waged by Russia is a war for Ukraine. This is no secret, and neither the Russian government nor its henchmen is trying to conceal it. ... Austria-Hungary and Germany are opposing barbaric Russia. They are not fighting for Ukraine's freedom but for their own interests. ... We Ukrainians, wherever we may be, have no reason to be friends of either Austria or her ally Germany. Thanks to the Hapsburgs our people suffered the horrors of Polish persecution in Austria. ... But if Russia is defeated we may hope for the liberation of Ukraine. We are against Russian domination and we feel that the removal of this domination would also benefit the Russian people. We only wish for them to enjoy the same freedom we are striving to attain. ... Should Russia win the war, it will mean even greater enslavement for many peoples, particularly the Ukrainian people. We hope that Russia is defeated in the war and that the Russian empire is broken up into its constituent parts. And we have good reason to feel the way we do; for the Treaty of Pereiaslav, violated and trampled upon by the tsars; for Poltava; for our hetmans, shamefully abused and disgraced; for the destruction of the Zaporozhian Sich;

for the Kozak bones on which St. Petersburg was built; for the spirit that was kept in chains; for the language that was mutilated; for the many prisons and for Siberia; for the blood and tears of Ukrainian women and children; for the centuries of torture, cruelty, and oppression. ...

The creation of the Ukrainian Information Bureau was another achievement of the UNA Council. In 1915, the council distributed two English-language pamphlets published a year earlier in London: "Ukraine" by Bedwin Sands and "Memorandum on the Ukrainian Question in Its National Aspect" by Yaroslav Fedortchouk. Two additional pamphlets, "Russia, Poland and the Ukraine" by Gustaf Stefan and "The Russian Plot to Seize Galicia" (Austrian Ruthenia) by Vladimir Stepankovsky were published by the UNA Council in 1915. The following year the council published "The Russians" in Galicia, a monograph describing Russian military behavior in Galicia, reiterating the Ukrainian contention that Russia's major goal in the war was to expand its empire and to Russify Ukrainians in Galicia. Aware, however, that complete independence might not be achieved in the near future, the publication concluded: Ukrainians "demand that in Austro-Hungary, Ukrainian territory be organized into a self-governed province on federal lines where the Ukrainian population, not dominated by the Poles or their aristocracy, shall solve its own national and economic problems."

...Then with bold headlines such as "Hrushevsky Arrested in Kiev" (January 19), "Russians Killing Wounded Soldiers" (January 28), "Big Muscovite Pogrom Near Peremyshyl" (May 27), and "Our Native Land in Ruins" (January 1, 1916), Svoboda kept its readers informed about events in Ukraine.

In all of its editorials, Svoboda favored Austria in the war and opposed American involvement. In a commentary titled "Why Ukrainians Are on the Side of Austria," Svoboda wrote: "Ukrainians believe strongly that the war will free them from the yoke of Russia." On May 4, 1916, Svoboda opined "Ukraine without Russia would be gratified, but Russia without Ukraine would be just the opposite."

Editor/publicist...

(Continued from page 9)

dents and young intellectuals in Lviv. Circulated in typescript among friends and soulmates, they were also read at unofficial gatherings, where at times banned or disapproved music was heard or played, and "illegal" art exhibits took place.

Mr. Ryabchuk completed his formal education in Moscow, at the Gorky Literary Institute, where he received his candidate of science degree in the theory of literature in 1988. Today, he is affiliated with the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, where he is a research associate at the European Humanities Research Center.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Minister Sergei Ivanov emphasized that Russia does not intend to abandon its Sevastopol base which is on Ukrainian territory – even after it completes construction of a new base for the fleet in Novorossiisk, RTR reported. The construction of the Novorossiisk base “absolutely does not mean that we intend to reduce our forces based in Sevastopol,” Mr. Ivanov said. He said the Black Sea Fleet’s command center will remain in Sevastopol. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Deputy calls for vice PM’s dismissal

KYIV – Mykola Martynenko, a national deputy from the opposition Our Ukraine bloc in the Verkhovna Rada, said on July 22 that President Leonid Kuchma should dismiss Vice Prime Minister Andrii Kluyev, Interfax reported. Mr. Martynenko said he believes Mr. Kluyev is not able to serve the government and work on Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich’s election staff. The critical situation in the mining industry, particularly unsafe working conditions, require

the permanent attention of the government, Mr. Martynenko said. “It is clear that Yanukovich will not sack a member of his staff. Such a decision should be made by the president,” he added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Mine blast victims are mourned

DIMITROVO, Ukraine – Hundreds of relatives, friends and colleagues paid their last respects on July 22 to 15 Ukrainian miners who died in an underground methane gas explosion that killed at least 31 men. Associated Press reporter Efreim Lukatsky reported that flags adorned with black ribbons were at half-staff, and a brass band played a funeral march. In a eulogy, Serhii Kobzarenko, a miner and a relative of two men killed in the blast, said miners “do dangerous work,” adding, ominously, that “we should be ready to share the same fate.” Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich has said the government would set aside about \$1.1 million in financial aid for victims’ families, and a top Ukrainian soccer team donated aid worth \$300,000. Mr. Yanukovich also said the government would do more to improve safety in

(Continued on page 21)

Former party of power...

(Continued from page 2)

to endorse Mr. Yanukovich as the NDP candidate. The overwhelming majority of NDP branches backed either Mr. Pustovoitenko or Mr. Yushchenko.

Leading NDP members have long been critical of corruption and the oligarchs. This view undoubtedly influenced their refusal to be railroaded into backing Mr. Yanukovich. Mr. Zarubynskyi complained, “Using stolen money, the oligarchs are rushing to buy up enterprises” – a clear reference to the fraudulently conducted privatization of Kryvorizhstal by oligarchs Viktor Pinchuk and Renat Akhmetov in June (Ukrainska Pravda, July 13). Mr. Zarubynskyi called upon the NDP to help stop the “oligarchization” of Ukraine. This objective cannot be undertaken by supporting the head of Ukraine’s biggest oligarch clan – Mr. Yanukovich – in this year’s elections.

The NDP has a long history of splits and divisions. In 1990-1991 the Democratic Platform of the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) was the first mutation. The CPU’s Democratic Platform later evolved into the Party of the Democratic Revival of Ukraine (PDRU), which, after merging with the Labor Congress, became the NDP. The PDRU’s New Ukraine Bloc was a main supporter of Mr. Kuchma’s election bid in 1994.

The current upheaval over which candidate to support in the presidential election replays the divisions within the NDP during the 1999 presidential elections. That year leading NDP members resigned and joined the opposition in protest of the NDP’s support for Mr. Kuchma’s candidacy. Taras Stetskiv, Oleksander Yemets and Volodymyr Filenko joined parties that later came to back Our Ukraine, while Anatolii Matvienko’s Republican Party Sobor became a key member of Yulia Tymoshenko’s bloc.

The NDP’s current internal convulsions stretch back to 2003. First, the NDP lost the minister for the environment and natural resources post, when Vasyl Shevchuk was unceremoniously dropped from the Cabinet after he granted licenses to Petro Poroshenko, an Our Ukraine businessman. Then former Rada Chairman Ivan Plusch resigned from the NDP and defected to Our Ukraine.

In April and May 2004 the NDP backed opposition votes in Parliament condemning the blatant fraud in the Mukachiv election. One such vote backed by the NDP demand-

ed the resignation of Viktor Medvedchuk as head of the presidential administration.

Another Kuchma ally that also backed his election bid in 1994 is the Inter-Regional Bloc for Reforms (IRBR), which merged with the NDP in 2001. IRBR members are also in the front ranks of those displeased with the NDP’s official backing of Mr. Yanukovich.

A third 1994 ally (after the NDP and IRBR) to desert President Kuchma is the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (UIE), which Kuchma headed in 1993-1994. The UIE and the similarly named party (PIE) have also refused to back Yanukovich’s candidacy and instead put forward the leader of the UIE and PIE, Anatolii Kinakh, as their candidate.

At the UIE’s congress on July 12, all of the delegates – except those from the Donbas – backed Mr. Kinakh as their presidential candidate. In a prime example of the blatant bias on Medvedchuk-controlled media, 1+1 and Inter TV channels reported that most PIE delegates had backed Yanukovich.

Mr. Kinakh, who was briefly a caretaker prime minister between Prime Ministers Yushchenko in 2001 and Yanukovich in 2002, took the step that Mr. Pustovoitenko had threatened but backed away from, namely, heeding the demands of party members and standing as a presidential candidate. Mr. Kinakh’s candidacy will undoubtedly eat away at Mr. Yanukovich’s support, as their constituencies are similar.

The PIE, NDP and People’s Agrarians represent the moderate wing of pro-Kuchma centrists who have agreed to be the nucleus of a future parliamentary majority (Ukrainska Pravda, July 2). Should Mr. Yushchenko win the presidency this year, all three are likely to support the creation of a new parliamentary majority grouped around the largest faction in parliament, Our Ukraine.

This scenario was thwarted after the 2002 elections because Mr. Medvedchuk had created a parliamentary majority excluding Our Ukraine, even though it had won the elections. Any new parliamentary majority after a Yushchenko victory would now seek to exclude Mr. Medvedchuk’s Social Democratic Party United, which would then seek allies on the left.

Thus Mr. Kuchma and his candidate, Prime Minister Yanukovich, have lost two key constituencies that helped President Kuchma secure his second term. How many more erstwhile allies leave the fold before October remains to be seen.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 20)

the mines. Since the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union, 4,276 miners have died in accidents in Ukraine, according to the miners union. (Associated Press)

Yushchenko focuses on mine safety

KYIV – The leader of the Our Ukraine bloc and presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko has expressed his condolences to the families of the deceased miners killed in a methane explosion on July 19. He instructed a member of his team, the first vice-chairman of the parliamentary committee for Fuel and Energy Sector, Mykola Martynenko, to create a working group to work out a set of additional measures to increase safety at coal mines. In a fortnight, Mr. Martynenko is to submit specific proposals to Mr. Yushchenko, the Our Ukraine press service said. The leader of Our Ukraine also instructed the head of the Budget Committee in parliament, National Deputy Petro Poroshenko, to analyze the effectiveness of state funds allocated for supporting the coal industry, in particular for increasing the safety of miners. (BBC Monitoring Service)

Government to aid miners' families

KYIV – Ukrainian Labor and Social Policy Minister Mykhailo Papiev said on July 21 that families of the miners killed in the July 19 methane explosion in the Rodynske coal mine will receive aid ranging from 83,000 (\$15,630) to 221,000 hrv, depending on the miner's job seniority, Interfax reported. Mr. Papiev also said the government will pay the families the equivalent of the miner's wage monthly and will allocate 2,700 hrv for each miner's funeral. The government will begin payments after experts determine

the cause of the explosion. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainians abroad can vote

KYIV – All Ukrainians staying abroad will have an opportunity to come to the country's diplomatic representative offices, and to participate in the election of the Ukrainian President. According to an UNIAN correspondent, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry press-service director Markian Lubkivskyi announced at a briefing that all the Ukrainian diplomatic institutions abroad will be ready for the presidential elections. Answering a question about whether Ukrainians illegally staying abroad will be able to vote, Mr. Lubkivskyi said that all who are Ukrainian citizens and are abroad can freely come to the Embassy or a Consulate to vote. (UNIAN)

Pope meets with Ukrainian delegation

THE VATICAN – Pope John Paul II met with a Ukrainian government delegation headed by Dmytro Tabachnyk, vice prime minister; the topics of discussion were church relations and interdenominational accord in Ukraine, according to news media reports dated June 29. The Ukrainian delegation, which consisted of Yurii Bohutskyi, minister of culture and arts, Viktor Bondarenko, head of the National Committee on Religious Matters, and Leonid Shkolnyk, head of the National Committee on Technical Regulation and Consumption Policy, informed the pontiff about the provisions for religious freedom in Ukraine. Both sides recalled the visit of Pope John Paul II to Ukraine three years ago. In addition, the Ukrainian delegation met with Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, substitute for general affairs of the Vatican Secretariat of State, who highly evaluated Ukraine's policy on church activity and

realization of the faithful's rights, and the return of church buildings illegally confiscated in the past. Finally, Mr. Tabachnyk stressed Ukraine's intention to consolidate the democratic principles of the country and society and the preservation of religious freedom, which is an inseparable part of this process. He also noted the need to deepen cooperation between Ukraine and the Vatican and pointed out that Ukrainian scholars are greatly interested in unique meetings and conferences held in the Vatican. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Lukashenka warns U.S. and NATO

MIENSK – President Alyaksandr Lukashenka said on July 20 that talks between the United States and new NATO members – the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland – on the possible deployment of its missile defense system in one of these countries will not go unnoticed by the leadership of Belarus and Russia, Belapan reported. "We held and are holding confidential talks with Russia and other countries within the framework of the CSTO [Collective Security Treaty Organization] and not only the CSTO on these matters," Mr. Lukashenka said. "I suggested deploying S-300 [antiaircraft] systems in certain locations in Belarus to increase the defense capability of Belarus and Russia." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Soccer star Shevchenko weds

KYIV – Soccer star Andriy Shevchenko married American model Kristen Pazik, a Ukrainian news agency reported on July 21. Mr. Shevchenko and Ms. Pazik got married last week in Washington and are expecting a baby, according to the UNIAN news agency. Mr. Shevchenko was the top scorer last year in Italy's Serie A with 24 goals. He recently signed a

three-year extension to his contract with AC Milan and is expected to remain with the club until 2009. (Associated Press)

Auxiliary bishop for Ternopil ordained

TERNOPIL – Father Vasyl Semeniuk was ordained auxiliary bishop of the western Ukrainian eparchy of Ternopil-Zboriv on April 3 at the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Holy Mother of God. It was the first episcopal ordination to be performed in the newly restored cathedral in Ternopil. Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the UGCC, bishops from Ukraine and abroad, a bishop of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine, priests, religious and laity participated in the ceremony. After the liturgy, Bishop Semeniuk bestowed his first pontifical blessing on all present. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Monument to persecuted priests is erected

CHERKASY – A monument to commemorate 142 priests who were persecuted during the years of Stalin's regime has been erected in the central Ukrainian Cherkasy region. The monument consists of a cracked brass bell and a priest leaning over it. This news was reported by the News-Ukraine information agency on June 19. In the 1930s a trainload of Orthodox bishops, priests and deacons was destroyed in the Cherkasy region and only Father Mykhailo Lypianskyi managed to escape. By 1938 officers of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs, the Soviet security service, had killed the clergy and destroyed most churches in the region. During a meeting near the monument on June 18 it was stressed that the 142 priests who were killed by the Communists should be proclaimed martyrs and righteous by the Church. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

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Plast groups to host dance and tournaments in Wildwood

by Adrian Horodecky

WILDWOOD, N.J. – The Plast fraternity Khmelnychenky is planning an all-ages dance for Friday, August 27, at the Wildwood Crest Pier. In the late '80s and early '90s the Khmeli sponsored many successful dances in Wildwood during Ukrainian Week, but this year they will hold the dance in the Wildwood Crest Recreation Center, across the street from the Pan Am Hotel, in the heart of the summertime community of Ukrainians. The Harmonia band will provide entertainment, and Ukrainian CDs will be played through the pier's excellent sound system during their breaks.

The Khmelnychenky are fortunate to have the assistance of the Plast sorority Spartanky in running the zabava. Nestor Paslawsky, the manager of the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka resort, has generously offered his support of the Khmel zabava by providing snacks and treats for all to enjoy.

Ukrainians of all ages are invited to attend. The doors are scheduled to open at 8 p.m. Admission for adults (age 23 and over)

is \$10; student (age 12-22) admission is \$5; kids age 11 and under are admitted free.

On Saturday, August 28, the Spartanky will hold their annual beach volleyball tournament in front of the Pan Am Hotel. This year they will also include a bocce ball competition. For more information e-mail Tania Dulyn at taniadulyn@yahoo.com or visit the http://www.geocities.com/spartanky/volleyball_bocce_english.doc.

As an added attraction, the Sea Theater at 4005 Pacific Ave. in Wildwood will hold its second annual kids movie festival. Call 609-729-0337 during Ukrainian Week for details. Taras Penkalskyj, an active Khmel, and his wife, Lesia, purchased the theater six years ago and refurbished it to its former glory.

The Sea Theater was reopened last year in time for Ukrainian week with its inaugural kids film festival, and had its official grand opening this spring with local dignitaries from the Greater Wildwoods Chamber of Commerce in attendance.

For information about the Khmelnychenky, readers can log onto www.xmel.org.

Helsinki Commission...

(Continued from page 3)

that the participating states, not the organization, are responsible for such implementation: "We should look to capitals when failures in implementation arise, not Vienna." On the matter of "internal affairs," the leadership reminded the presidents that this issue was definitively decided in the politically binding concluding document to the OSCE's 1991 Moscow Human Dimension meeting, which states: "They [the participating states] categorically and irrevocably declare that the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension ... are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating states and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the state concerned."

Turning to the assertion that there is a serious imbalance between the three security dimensions of the OSCE – political-military, economic and environmental, and the human dimension – the commissioners noted that since the issue of "imbalance" in OSCE priorities was raised several years ago, there has been significant movement in anti-terrorism and tangible military security issues. For example, path-breaking agreements on export controls for MANPADs, assistance for reduction of excess ammunition and uniform standards for travel documents have been achieved in the last few months. The economic dimension is also being revitalized. For example, the OSCE has the most concrete and robust action plan to fight human trafficking of any international organization. The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has called for a ministerial-level meeting to discuss ways of halting terrorist financing and has spoken out for increased membership in the World Trade Organization. Though welcoming the development of all of the OSCE dimensions, the commissioners took issue with the idea that this should come at the expense of the promotion of human rights.

The CIS signatories expressed concern that human dimension activities are concentrated in the states of the former Soviet Union and former Yugoslavia, and that unfair standards regarding elections are directed at these nations. They went on to accuse OSCE missions of focusing on human rights and democratic development at the expense of the "full range of work covered by the organization."

In response to the assertion that undue

concentration was focused on human rights in the countries of the CIS and former Yugoslavia, the Helsinki Commission leaders noted that on 85 occasions since January 2003 the commission had addressed, often publicly, human rights concerns in NATO countries. Public criticism of actions by the United States, as in the recent criminal treatment of prisoners in Abu Ghraib prison, has also been made in OSCE meetings and has been taken seriously. The United States has made clear that free and fair elections are crucial to the ongoing process of democratic development and welcomes election monitors to its own national elections in November 2004.

The letters also addressed the continued need to locate missions or other OSCE representatives in the former Soviet and Yugoslav countries. In the case of every signatory to the CIS declaration, there are persistent human rights violations and backward trends on democratic development. Specific concerns were cited for each country, including fraudulent conduct of elections, hindrance of free media, curtailment of religious freedom and freedom of assembly, corruption among public officials and, in several of the countries, detention of political opposition leaders. These abuses have been documented in the Commission report "Democracy and Human Rights Trends in Eurasia and East Europe." It is with the goal of reversing these trends that all OSCE states have agreed to the establishment and retention of these missions. The poor implementation record on OSCE commitments argues for the continued necessity of these field offices, the commissioners concluded.

Finally, the leaders of the Helsinki Commission expressed the hope that the discussion of OSCE's development would move beyond the declaration's inaccurate reinterpretations of key OSCE documents and center on concrete suggestions. They welcomed any positive proposals that the presidents might offer. In this, as in all their work, the Helsinki Commission expressed confidence that by working together, the states of the OSCE region could reach their goal of true security and cooperation in Europe.

The United States Helsinki Commission, an independent federal agency, by law monitors and encourages progress in implementing provisions of the Helsinki Accords. Created in 1976, it is composed of nine senators, nine representatives and one official each from the departments of State, Defense and Commerce.



MIXED TRIPLES VOLLEYBALL DOUBLES BOCCCE BALL

DATE: Saturday, August 28th

PLACE: On the beach in Wildwood Crest, in front of the Pan Am Hotel

TIME: Volleyball
9:00 am: Registration on the Beach
9:45 am: Team roll call (All players must be present)
10:00 am: Playing will begin

Bocce Ball
12:00 pm: Registration on the Beach
12:45 pm: Team roll call (All players must be present)
1:00 pm: Playing will begin

COST: Volleyball
\$30.00 per team for pre-registration
\$45.00 per team for day of tournament registration
4th player is allowed for an additional fee of \$5
*****There must be a female on the court at all times*****

Bocce Ball
\$20.00 per team for pre-registration
\$30.00 per team for day of tournament registration

PRIZES: Individual prizes will be awarded to each team member for the top 3 teams for each tournament.

**** In order to pre-register, please submit the team name, team roster and team representative by 8/21 at taniadulyn@yahoo.com****

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

August 1, 2004

Special Golf Tournament opening with Askold Buk Trio - time to be announced
Champions World Series Game at Tiki Bar - FC Porto vs. Galatasaray, 3 pm

August 1-6, 2004

Soyuzivka Golf Week

August 2, 2004

Champions World Series Game at Tiki Bar - Chelsea vs. Milan, 3 pm

August 3, 2004

Champions World Series Game at Tiki Bar - Liverpool vs. S Roma, 3 pm

August 6, 2004

Cabaret performance by Ron Cahute & Ihor Bachynsky - 10 pm, adults only

August 6-8, 2004

2nd Annual Sports Jamboree (see ad)

August 7, 2004

Barabolya concert - 2 pm
Veselka Patio
Kozak Exhibit - artwork by the Kozak Family - library
Zabava - Burya - 10 pm

August 8-21, 2004

Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp

August 13, 2004

Special Pub Night with Luna

August 14, 2004

Miss Soyuzivka Weekend
Zabava - Luna - 10 pm

August 14-22, 2004

Club Suzy-Q Week

August 20, 2004

Pub Night with Midnight Bigus

August 21, 2004

Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Dance Camp Recital with intermission performance by Olya Chodoba Fryz - 8 pm
Zabava - Fata Morgana - 10 pm

August 22-29, 2004

Discounted week, Stay 3 nights & get 25% room discount

August 28, 2004

Halychansky Vechir, details to follow

September 3, 2004

Zabava - Luna - 10 pm

September 4, 2004

Zabava - Fata Morgana & Tempo

September 4-5, 2004

Lisi Jewelry Exhibit and more

September 5, 2004

Zabava - Tempo & Vorony

September 10-12, 2004

KLK Weekend - General Meeting & 80th Anniversary Banquet
Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion
PLAST Sorority Rada - "Ti Shcho Hreblei Rvut"

September 11-12, 2004

PLAST Sorority Rada - "Lisovy Mavky"

September 13-16, 2004

Regensburg Reunion

September 18, 2004

Wedding - Michelle Wynarczuk and Michael Ritz

September 24-25, 2004

PLAST Sorority Rada - "Spartanky"



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, August 2

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will host a roundtable discussion moderated by Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, associate director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University. The discussion, "Between Europe and Eurasia: Ukraine's Vacillating Foreign Policy," will take place at 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Kresge Room of Barker Center, located at 12 Quincy St. on the Harvard University campus. This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact the Institute at (617) 495-4053 or visit the website at <http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi.html>

Wednesday, August 4

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will host a lecture by Maria Rewakowicz, Neporany Fellow at the Harriman Institute, and visiting professor in the department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Columbia University. Prof. Rewakowicz's lecture, "Difficult Journey: Literature, Literary Canons and Identities in Post-Soviet Ukraine," will be held at 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Kresge Room of Barker Center, located at 12 Quincy St. on the Harvard University campus. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the institute at (617) 495-4053 or visit the website at <http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi.html>.

Friday, August 6

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute is pleased to host the final installment of their Friday Afternoon Matinees of Classics from the Harvard Film Archive Collection. This week's film is actually a series of propaganda shorts from Soviet Ukraine. They will be shown at the Harvard Film Archive, located in the Carpenter Center at 24 Quincy St. on the Harvard University campus. This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact the Institute at (617) 495-4053 or visit the website at <http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi.html>.

Saturday, August 7

JEWETT, N.Y.: Cellist Vagram Saradjian and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky will appear in concert as part of the "Music at the Grazhda" summer concert series held under the auspices of the Music and Arts Center of Greene County. The concert program will feature works by Bach, Schumann, de Falla and Shostakovich. The concert will be held at 8 p.m. at the Grazhda, Route 23 A (five miles west of the town of Hunter, N.Y.). For additional information call (518) 263-4335.

Sunday, August 22

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub cordially invites every-

one to attend its 13th annual Ukrainian Folk Festival celebrating Ukraine's independence. It will commence at noon at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads. This year's stage show will feature many folk music and dance artists, including: the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia), the Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (London, Ontario), the Obrij Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (New York) and the summer campers of the Voloshky School of Dance. This year's headliners also include the captivating vocal duo, Sisters Oros (Ukraine and New York), who will present a unique repertoire of Ukrainian folk songs. A solemn prayer for Ukraine led by representatives of all Ukrainian faiths and an a capella performance by the Ukrainian Baptist Male Choir will add further depth to the occasion. The festivities will close with a Ukrainian dance ("zabava") to the music of the Harmonia Orchestra, and the Ukrainian Nationals of the U.S. Amateur Soccer Association Majors Division (adult team) will play an exhibition match against a worthy opponent, commencing at 4:30 pm. Traditional Ukrainian foods, standard picnic fare and cool refreshments will be available throughout the day. There will also be a bazaar with folk arts, crafts, music and video vendors and exhibitors. Admission is \$10 per person; free for children under 13.

Friday, August 27

WILDWOOD CREST: The Plast Kurin Khmelnychenky will be holding a dance entitled "Return of the Khmeli" at the Wildwood Crest Pier (across the street from the Pan Am). Music will be provided by Harmonia. Doors open 8 p.m. Admission: Adults (23+), \$10; students (12-22), \$5; children 11 and under, free. Readers may visit our website at www.xmel.org.

Sunday, August 29

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The Committee for Aid to Ukraine (Central New Jersey Branch) will host a celebration of the 13th anniversary of Ukraine's independence at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., Somerset (South Bound Brook), NJ. The program will begin at 3 p.m. Performances will feature: the vocal-instrumental ensemble Ukrainian Barvy from Kyiv; opera and theater soprano Anna Bachynska; opera and theater tenor Roman Cymbala; opera and theater pianist Maria Cymbala; and the youth and dance ensemble Barvinok. The entrance fee is a \$15 donation toward the betterment of education in Ukraine. For more information about the program or the cause it supports call Michael Shulha, (908) 534-6683; Damjan Gecha, (908) 755-8156; or the Rev. Ivan Lyshyk, (908) 253-0410 or (212) 873-8550.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$20 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received **prior** to publication.

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.

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