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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

UCCA holds 19th Congress UNA delegates attend first congress since 1980



Roma Hadzewycz

UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj addresses the opening session of the 19th Congress of Ukrainians in America. Seated (from left) are: UCCA Executive Secretary Marie Duplak, Archbishop Vsevolod, UCCA President Michael Sawkiw (partially hidden) and Metropolitan Stefan Soroka.

by Roma Hadzewycz and Andrew Nynka

PHILADELPHIA – Under the theme of "Strength in Unity," the 19th Congress of Ukrainians in America took place here on September 24-26 and re-elected Michael Sawkiw Jr. as president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, made several notable changes to the umbrella organization's by-laws and elected three representatives of the Ukrainian National Association to positions on the UCCA National Executive Board.

It was the first time the UNA participated in a UCCA conclave since the 13th Congress of 1980 that severely divided the Ukrainian American community.

As a result of a by-laws change made on the first day of the congress, UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj assumed the post of first vice-president of the UCCA's National Executive Board. UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich and Dr. Myron B. Kuropas assumed two of the three members at large posts.

The first vice-president of the UCCA's National Executive Board also serves as the chair of the organization's National Council, which, during the period between congresses, is the UCCA's highest ruling body.

Thus, Mr. Kaczaraj is the new chair of the National Council, which, "within the guidelines of the by-laws and the directives of the Congress of Ukrainians in America, develops and approves action plans of the UCCA, approves the activities of the Executive Board of the UCCA and, if necessary, offers corrections in its plans and activities," according to the UCCA By-Laws.

Also elected to positions on the National Executive Board were Larissa Kyj, executive vice-president; Ihor Smolij, Orest Baranyk, Luba Siletska, Lev Futala, Bohdan Mychajliw, Teodor Oleshchuk,

vice-presidents; Marie Duplak, executive secretary; Stephen Kerda, treasurer; and Myroslav Shmigel, member at large.

The congress also drafted a resolution that dealt with the renewed relationship between the UCCA and the UNA. It read:

"The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America acknowledges the steps taken by the Ukrainian National Association at its convention in May 2002 in Chicago to undertake the process of renewing its relationship with the UCCA and acknowledges the decision by the UNA General Assembly in November 2003 to vote unanimously to re-establish its membership with the UCCA.

"The 19th Congress of the UCCA further appreciates the contribution of the UNA and appreciates the good faith efforts made so far which have led to the participation of the UNA in the 19th Congress of the UCCA. The Congress also acknowledges that further refinement of outstanding issues must take place, which will serve to strengthen the relationship and will serve as a means by which to unify Ukrainian American organizations in our community under one central umbrella organization."

Other notable resolutions during the congress came out of the Financial Committee, which offered up a number of binding resolutions for the congress to vote on. The congress passed resolutions mandating that the UCCA National Executive Board make all documents relating to UCCA assets public, that financial statements be published and distributed at the next congress, and that appraisals be conducted of UCCA-owned buildings in Arizona and Bayonne, N.J.

The 19th Congress was opened with remarks by UCCA President Sawkiw, who noted the conclave's theme, pointed out that the UCCA had redoubled its

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Yanukovych back at work after egging in Ivano-Frankivsk

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Nearly a week after he was pelted with at least one egg and perhaps other "solid objects," Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, who trails front-runner Viktor Yushchenko in most pre-election surveys, was back at work in his office in the Cabinet of Ministers building, fully recuperated from the incident after spending a weekend in the hospital.

"When I saw him, he looked like he was just fine," explained Hanne Severinsen, a rapporteur for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, during a press conference on September 29. Ms. Severinsen had met with the prime minister the previous day.

Members of the presidential campaign staff and personal entourage of Mr. Yanukovych who traveled with him to Ivano-Frankivsk on September 24 as part of a campaign swing through the western region of Ukraine maintained that Mr. Yanukovych was hit with more than

merely a single egg as he disembarked from his campaign bus on Friday morning to meet with students before Stefanyk Prykarpattia University. They state that at least one "hard object" caused injury to his head. However they have yet to identify exactly what that object was.

Mr. Yanukovych and his campaign officials decided not to pursue a criminal case after law enforcement officials apprehended and arrested a single student, Dmytro Romaniuk, a 17-year-old in his first year of university studies, who they said admitted to throwing the egg out of frustration over the events surrounding the health of Mr. Yushchenko, his favored candidate.

Mr. Yanukovych, who was hospitalized after the incident, said from his hospital room in a statement broadcast on all the major television news programs, that he would not pursue criminal prosecution and had forgiven the young man, whose father, as it turns out, is the rector of a local university. Mr. Yanukovych said he understood the

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Yushchenko returns to Vienna hospital as questions arise about his poisoning

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Officials of the Vienna hospital that in mid-September treated Viktor Yushchenko for various abdominal and intestinal problems including pancreatitis, said on September 29 that they never concluded that the Ukrainian presidential candidate's various ailments were a direct result of chemical poisoning, as some media sources and members of the Yushchenko campaign team were alleging.

Dr. Lothar Wicke, official spokesman for Rudolfinerhaus Clinic, said that examination of Mr. Yushchenko by hospital doctors and tests done on him did not lead to a conclusion that he had been poisoned. Dr. Wicke added, however, that the hospital also had not excluded that a chemical substance could have caused his problems, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Dr. Wicke spoke at a press conference specially called by officials of the Vienna hospital to address the matter of how they diagnosed and treated Mr. Yushchenko, who has said he was deliberately poisoned and has insinuated that Ukrainian state officials may be to blame. Hospital President Michael Zimpfer said that to offer the simple conclusion that Mr. Yushchenko was deliberately poisoned did not correspond to the facts as gathered by the hospital.

A statement issued by Mr. Zimpfer's office the previous day noted: "Certain people distorted the conclusion on Yushchenko's condition, as a result of which the reputation and professional level of the personnel working at the hospital were put under threat."

In response to remarks made by Rudolfinerhaus Clinic officials, Mr. Yushchenko's press secretary, Iryna Heraschenko, explained on September 29 that the presidential candidate and his team understood that "only a criminal investigation and not physicians could provide answers to questions regarding the poisoning attempt made on Viktor Yushchenko's life on September 6."

Ms. Heraschenko issued a statement in which she pointed out that the presidential candidate's discharge papers, which were issued upon his release from Rudolfinerhaus Clinic on September 18, expressly stated the possibility of a chemical poisoning as the cause of Mr. Yushchenko's various maladies. She quoted wording found in the paperwork, which stated: "the patient's poor general condition and alimentary status has likely been caused by a severe viral infection and by chemical agents that are not normally contained in food."

According to Ms. Heraschenko, the resulting medical diagnosis made by the team of doctors, as noted on the dis-

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ANALYSIS

Falsification of elections already under way in Ukraine

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Although Ukraine's presidential elections are still six weeks away, last week the authorities hinted at two methods it could use to secure the election of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

First, officials could deploy all available "state administrative resources" to win additional percentage points for Mr. Yanukovich. According to Ukrainian government officials who spoke to *Eurasia Daily Monitor* on condition of anonymity, Defense Minister Yevhen Marchuk was fired last week after he refused to guarantee that the armed forces would be ordered to vote for Mr. Yanukovich. Mr. Marchuk's replacement is the highly discredited and corrupt former Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk (*Ukrainska Pravda*, September 24). Mr. Kuzmuk was forced to resign in October 2001 after being caught red-handed lying about the complicity of the armed forces in the shooting down of a civilian airliner over the Black Sea.

During the 2002 parliamentary elections the pro-presidential For a United Ukraine bloc obtained more than one-third of its 11 percent tally from votes forcibly collected in the armed forces (prior to Mr. Marchuk's appointment), hospitals, psychiatric institutions and prisons. His appointment is aimed at ensuring that the armed forces will "vote as required." It must be noted that Mr. Kuzmuk was a member of Parliament in the Labor Ukraine faction, which is based upon the Dnipropetrovsk clan's party of the same name and led by Serhii Tyhypko, the head of Mr. Yanukovich's election campaign.

Second, officials could submit fake signatures for the presidential candidates who are loyal to Mr. Yanukovich (*Ukrainska*

Pravda, September 23). Each of the 26 announced presidential candidates was required to submit to the Central Election Commission a minimum of 500,000 signatures in their support by mid-September. Yet, the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU) noted that its regional branches had witnessed the collection of signatures for only seven: Mr. Yanukovich, Viktor Yushchenko, Petro Symonenko, Oleksander Moroz, Natalia Vitrenko, and Leonid Chernovetskyi (*cvu.org.ua*, September 21). [Ultimately, 25 candidates were registered by the CEC by the signature-gathered deadline of September 20, and one candidate withdrew three days later. — Ed.]

Where then, did the remaining 19 candidates each obtain half a million signatures? Information collected by the CVU and the civic organization "I Know" (*Znayu*), together with survey data from the Razumkov Center, point to the widespread use of bogus signatures. Two-thirds of the candidates who support Mr. Yanukovich were guaranteed signatures on their behalf by members of Mr. Yanukovich's shadow presidential campaign team.

Preparation of the requisite signatures for these "pseudo-candidates" was delegated to the Kyiv-based law firm *De Jure*. Firm employees were given lists of signatures collected for Mr. Yanukovich as well as databases of Ukrainian citizens from state organizations, such as the Pension Fund, the State Automobile Inspection Agency and the State Tax Administration.

Large numbers of students from the Kyiv Agrarian and Polytechnic universities were also hired to counterfeit the signatures, at a going rate of 20 to 40 kopyky per name. The Yanukovich camp has regularly hired students to turn up at

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Russia and state-sponsored terrorism in Ukraine

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor

PART I

Leading opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko is the target of a range of dirty tricks intended to defeat his bid to succeed Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. As Russian political commentator Andrei Piontkovsky wrote in *Ukrainska Pravda* on September 10, "The basic strategy of the outside political image makers is aimed mostly at the Russian population of Ukraine, to portray Yushchenko as a Russophobe and Ukrainian nationalist and to provoke an ethnic split in Ukrainian society."

Russian "political technologists" (a combination of political lobbyists and dirty tricksters), with close links to Russian President Vladimir Putin, have been very active in Ukraine's presidential campaign. Many of the dirty tricks originated with Gleb Pavlovsky, Maraty Gelman and their Effective Policy

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Foundation (EPF), which works on behalf of Viktor Medvedchuk, chief of the Kuchma administration.

In September Mr. Pavlovsky opened a public front in Kyiv for his secret EPF activities, the Russian Club. Both the Russian ambassador to Ukraine, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich attended the club's opening.

Messrs. Pavlovsky and Gelman's work on behalf of the Ukrainian presidential administration is based on long-standing ties with its head. Mr. Medvedchuk leads the Kyiv oligarch clan's Social Democratic Party – United (SDPU), which has worked closely with the EPF since the 1998 Ukrainian parliamentary elections.

The EPF has been hired to secure a Yanukovich victory by defeating his main rival, pro-Western reformer Mr. Yushchenko. Failing this, the election results could be annulled, with Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich barred from a repeat election. President Leonid Kuchma could then stand for a third term, facing only weak left-wing opposition candidates (*Ukrainska Pravda*, August 30; *Hrani Plus*, August 30-September 5).

The EPF's objectives fall into three main categories. First they seek to under-

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NEWSBRIEFS

SBU probes Yushchenko poisoning

KYIV – Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev told journalists on September 22 that the recently opened criminal investigation into the alleged attempt on opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko's life has been transferred to the Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SBU), Interfax reported. "The SBU is conducting an investigation," Mr. Vasyliiev said. "It is necessary to be patient and wait." He added that investigators have established contacts with Austrian doctors who examined Mr. Yushchenko and are trying to gain the doctors' cooperation in the investigation. Last week Mr. Yushchenko's campaign manager, Oleksander Zinchenko, suggested the candidate's recent health crisis might have been caused by deliberate poisoning. The same day Yuri Kostenko, leader of the Ukrainian National Party in the Our Ukraine bloc, told Channel 5 television that Mr. Yushchenko was poisoned with ricin. "We know when and how this [poisoning] happened and who is behind it," Mr. Kostenko said. "All this operation to poison presidential candidate Yushchenko was carried out not by foreign spies, but by our [compatriots] from the Ukrainian corridors of powers." (RFE/RL Newsline)

New defense minister named

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on September 24 appointed Oleksander Kuzmuk as defense minister following the dismissal of Yevhen Marchuk two days before. Mr. Kuzmuk, 50, was Ukraine's defense minister in 1996-2001. He was elected to the Verkhovna Rada in 2002 and has since belonged to the pro-government Labor Ukraine caucus. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moscow issues warrant for Tymoshenko

MOSCOW – A military court in Moscow, following a request by Russia's Main Military Prosecutor's Office, issued an international arrest warrant on September 23 for Yulia Tymoshenko, head of the opposition Fatherland Party and the eponymous opposition bloc in Ukraine, Ukrainian and Russian media reported. Russian military prosecutors, who have recently summoned Ms. Tymoshenko for an inquiry in Moscow, suspect her of bribing Russian Defense Ministry officials when she headed Ukraine's Unified Energy Systems in 1995-1997. The Fatherland Party said in a statement on September 24 that Moscow's move is "yet another dirty episode in the continued hounding of leaders of the Ukrainian opposition." Ms. Tymoshenko works on the election campaign staff of opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko. The Fatherland Party said the real instigators of

the arrest warrant for Ms. Tymoshenko were President Leonid Kuchma, presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk, and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. The party accused them of "betrayal of national interests" in order to "block the participation of Tymoshenko in organizing the opposition victory" in the October 31 presidential elections. (RFE/RL Newsline)

GUUAM creates Parliamentary Assembly

KYIV – Leaders of the parliaments of Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova (GUUAM) set up a GUUAM Parliamentary Assembly in Kyiv on September 23, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Uzbekistan, which temporarily has suspended its membership in GUUAM, was not represented at the Kyiv meeting. The declaration of the GUUAM Parliamentary Assembly states that parliamentarians will work toward strengthening democracy and the rule of law, ensuring the observance of human rights, and developing market economies in their countries. The GUUAM Parliamentary Assembly headquarters will be located in Kyiv, according to UNIAN. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Prosecutor: Melnychenko tapes doctored

KYIV – Procurator General Vasyliiev told journalists on September 22 that his office has opened an investigation into the fabrication of evidence – the so-called "Melnychenko tapes" – in the case of slain journalist Heorhii Gongadze, Interfax reported. Mr. Vasyliiev referred to a recent government-sponsored examination of Mykola Melnychenko's recordings, which implicate President Leonid Kuchma and other top officials in Gongadze's killing. That examination established that the tapes had been altered and the voices recorded on them cannot be identified. Mr. Vasyliiev said investigators do not know who manipulated the Melnychenko tapes – which were given to the Procurator General's Office by Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz – and he confirmed the official position that they cannot be accepted as evidence in the Gongadze case. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Romanian president rejects canal claims

BUCHAREST – President Ion Iliescu on September 14 dismissed claims by the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry that Romania has built three canals that have harmed the Danube Delta's ecosystem, characterizing the accusations as "aberrations" and "fiction," Mediafax reported on September 15. Mr. Iliescu said on Romania 1 public television that the country has only built one shipping canal, the Danube-Black

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Delegation of former congressmen reports on pre-election irregularities



Former Congressman Gregory Laughlin (left) meets with Serhii Kivalov, chairman of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine.

by Miriam Bates

WASHINGTON – Significant irregularities and improprieties have been found in the ongoing presidential campaign in Ukraine by an election monitoring delegation of former members of the U.S. Congress that visited the Kharkiv, Poltava, and Sumy oblasts.

Five former U.S. congressmen – John Conlan (R-Ariz.), Arlen Erdahl (R-Minn.), Jack Hightower (D-Texas), Gregory Laughlin (R-Texas), Andrew Maguire (D-N.J.), and Tom Sawyer (D-Ohio) – traveled to Ukraine on July 25-31, to monitor presidential election campaign activities in the region. The communities visited were: Kupiansk, Meref and Vovchansk in the Kharkiv oblast; Chutove, Dykanka and Karlivka in the Poltava Oblast; and Lebedyn, Okhtyrka and Trostianets in the Sumy Oblast.

These former congressmen were registered by the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Ukraine and accorded all the rights and privileges provided to foreign observers by Ukraine's law on presidential elections.

Ukraine is a member-state of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and therefore welcomes international observers to help secure a free and fair election. The congressmen's election monitoring activities included meetings with representatives of the main political parties, Ukrainian government officials,

the Central Election Committee and U.S. officials in Kyiv. In the regions, the congressmen met with local government officials, representatives of NGOs, political parties, the media and citizens, who shared their views and experiences of the political process in their respective communities.

Key findings

Generally, in the communities visited, local officials were very cooperative and generously shared their time and opinions with the delegation. Local officials provided space for meetings and assisted in extending invitations to representatives of political parties, media and NGOs to meet with the delegation. The delegation did note, however, that there were occasions when opposition parties were not informed of the meetings and, thus, were denied an opportunity to express their views and have their respective cases heard.

In conversations with participants in the meetings attended and in conversations with ordinary Ukrainian citizens, the delegation was appalled to find that an overwhelming number do not expect the outcome of the election to be fairly decided. Those that hold this view often reply that the outcome has already been determined and that the vote count will support that determination. Independent polls verify that around 70 percent of the

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PACE Monitoring Committee issues statement on election in Ukraine

The Monitoring Committee of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly (PACE), meeting in Paris on September 15, adopted the following statement on the forthcoming presidential election in Ukraine.

The October 31 presidential elections are an opportunity for Ukraine to ensure full respect for the principles of pluralist democracy, human rights and the rule of law. A credible democratic election could give the country a chance to anchor itself more firmly in the family of European democracies.

The committee recalls that, in January this year, the assembly asked the Ukrainian authorities to abstain from unconstitutional acts or actions in view of the constitutional reform and carry out

free and fair presidential elections in October, or face a challenge to the credentials of the Ukrainian delegation and, possibly, questioning of the country's status as a member of the Council of Europe. It also recalls its statement adopted on June 22, 2004, urging the Ukrainian authorities to conduct the election process with absolute impartiality and respect for Council of Europe standards and to allow all candidates to compete on fair and equitable grounds.

It regrets that its calls seem to have been ignored. The committee's co-reporters for Ukraine, Mrs. [Hanne] Severinsen and Mrs. [Renate] Wohlwend, have recently returned from another fact-finding visit to Dnipropetrovsk and

(Continued on page 24)

ELECTION WATCH

PM hit with "weighty objects"?

IVANO-FRANKIVSK – Presidential candidate and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich was hospitalized in Ivano-Frankivsk on September 24 after two objects, one of them "hard," were thrown at him in that western Ukrainian city, Ukrainian news agencies reported, quoting Mr. Yanukovich's spokeswoman, Hanna Herman. Ms. Herman said the attacker was arrested and added that Mr. Yanukovich's "injuries" were not life-threatening. Meanwhile, Internal Affairs Ministry spokeswoman Tetiana Podoshevska told Interfax that no "weighty or blunt objects" have been thrown at Mr. Yanukovich in Ivano-Frankivsk. According to Ms. Podoshevska, police arrested a 17-year-old youth, a son of the dean of a higher educational institution in the region, who threw an egg at Mr. Yanukovich. Later on, Interfax quoted a source from local police as saying that Mr. Yanukovich was hit by two "weighty objects" thrown by members of a group called the Union of Young Nationalists. Lawmaker Mykola Tomenko of the opposition Our Ukraine bloc led by Mr. Yanukovich's presidential rival, Viktor Yushchenko, said Our Ukraine has no relation whatsoever to the incident involving the prime minister in Ivano-Frankivsk. Mr. Tomenko was responding to Ms. Herman's earlier statement saying that Our Ukraine adherents behaved "aggressively" during Mr. Yanukovich's meeting with voters in Ivano-Frankivsk. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM accuses Yushchenko entourage

IVANO-FRANKIVSK – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich on September 24 suggested that supporters of his main presidential rival, Viktor Yushchenko, were behind the attack on him in Ivano-Frankivsk earlier the same day, Ukrainian media reported. "I am sorry for those young men who did this to me," Mr. Yanukovich said in a statement. "But I have no questions for them. At the same time, I have a question for [their] leaders, for Yushchenko's entourage, who pushed the young men to do this. ... Is it your policy? Is it human?" The Internal Affairs Ministry said in a statement that some persons in a crowd shouting slogans in support of Mr. Yushchenko threw "several hard objects" that hit the prime minister in his head and chest as he was stepping

out from a bus in Ivano-Frankivsk. However, video footage of the incident presented by Channel 5 television in Ukraine later the same day and subsequently by major European television channels shows that Mr. Yanukovich was hit in the right side of his chest only by one raw egg, after which he collapsed and was immediately evacuated from the site by bodyguards. Mr. Yanukovich spent several hours in a hospital and was shown on television later on that day without any apparent injuries. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko team calls it provocation

KYIV – Oleksander Zinchenko, manager of Viktor Yushchenko's presidential election campaign, commented on September 24 that the attack on Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich was a "purposeful provocation" against Mr. Yushchenko, Interfax reported. "Feeling sympathy with Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who actually endured some unpleasant moments [today], we, however, consider that the Ivano-Frankivsk incident was a purposeful provocation against Viktor Yushchenko, which developed under a scheme tested long ago," Mr. Zinchenko said. "This scheme implies that Yushchenko is traditionally held accountable for the actions that are staged spontaneously or following an order from his opponents by some citizens who have no relations whatsoever to Yushchenko." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Commentators differ on thrown object

KYIV – The official version of the incident in Ivano-Frankivsk seems to be the one publicized by the Internal Affairs Ministry, which mentions "several hard objects" that hit Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. However, there is no unanimity of views in Ukraine as to the nature of these objects. The anti-government website Ukrainska Pravda claims that there were no other objects apart from an egg that hit Mr. Yanukovich, after which the presidential candidate, according to the website, feigned a picturesque collapse. This opinion was initially corroborated by an Internal Affairs Ministry spokeswoman, who commented immediately after the incident that Mr.

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Quotable notes

"Do you know that, in accordance with the law, a man may not be promoted to the rank of a police sergeant if he has a criminal record? He may not become a sergeant, but he may become the president of Ukraine. Is this not an absurdity?"

– Oleksander Zinchenko, manager of the presidential election campaign of Viktor Yushchenko, to voters in Lviv, in an apparent reference to Mr. Yushchenko's main rival, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who was twice sentenced for criminal offenses (the sentences were later annulled), as quoted by the Ukrainska Pravda website on September 6 and cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

"As regards [presidential candidate] Viktor Yushchenko [and the fact that his wife is a U.S. citizen] ... Unfortunately, we live in a society that has been indoctrinated with Soviet ideology [and] ideologically poisoned, therefore, it reacts inadequately to some elementary things. Well, he [Yushchenko] has an American wife. But excuse me, we have dozens of people, dozens of power-wielders, ministers and even the president himself, who have wives of Russian origin. What, are all of them Russian spies? What conclusions should we make of that? This is a sort of madness. This anti-Americanism [in Ukraine] simply scares me, because it testifies to some pathology in society. On one hand, our government and our authorities swear that they are strategic partners of the United States; they sent troops to Iraq to help [U.S. President George W.] Bush or save [Ukrainian President Leonid] Kuchma from international sanctions. ... On the other, they blame Yushchenko for a mortal sin – his pro-Americanism. This is paranoia."

– Ukrainian political scientist Mykola Ryabchuk commenting on anti-American sentiments in Ukraine and their possible influence on Mr. Yushchenko's presidential bid, as quoted by RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service on September 3 and cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

Russian officials demand Tymoshenko be placed on Interpol's "most wanted" list

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A group of Ukrainian parliamentarians from the Our Ukraine and Tymoshenko factions of the Verkhovna Rada sent a petition to the secretary general of Interpol on September 29 requesting that he disregard a demand by Russian law enforcement officials that the international police organization place National Deputy Yulia Tymoshenko on its "most wanted" list.

The message to Interpol General Secretary Richard Noble by members of Parliament pointed to an "illegal demand" placed on the crime agency by the chief prosecutorial office of Russia's military for "exclusively political motives" in pushing for the detention and transfer to Russia of Ms. Tymoshenko, who is a key member of the Power of the People coalition that supports the presidential candidacy of National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko.

Mr. Yushchenko, who also signed the petition, condemned the move by Russia.

"I regard the [action] as crude interference in Ukrainian affairs and the current electoral process and demand that all these outrages cease immediately," Mr. Yushchenko said on September 28.

Vladimir Samusev, the head of the investigative department of Russia's Main Military Prosecutor's Office, announced on September 23 that a Russian court had ordered that Ms. Tymoshenko should be arrested to face charges, reported Interfax-Ukraine. Mr. Samusev said that the Ukrainian national deputy had been charged with "organizing and bribing Russian officers."

Russian officials have long sought to

question Ms. Tymoshenko, founder and former CEO of United Energy Systems, at one time the largest energy-trading firm in Ukraine. The military prosecutor's office in Russia has alleged for years that Ms. Tymoshenko had bribed high-ranking Russian military officials in order to obtain lucrative energy supply contracts. Several years ago at least one general was found guilty of complicity in the matter and was relieved of his command.

Ms. Tymoshenko said on September 24 that she would sue the Russian military prosecutor's office for announcing that it had received agreement from Interpol for an international search to apprehend her, inasmuch as it was illegal to use law enforcement bodies for the repression of political opponents.

She also noted that, according to international convention, "most wanted" lists are for people who have disappeared or escaped from custody after having been charged with crimes. "As you can see, I am here, and yesterday I was 10 kilometers from the Russian border. I can also tell you that I have no intention of hiding in the future," explained Ms. Tymoshenko, who underscored she had never received a summons from the Russian military prosecutor.

She added that she would be ready to speak with them and "answer their questions with great pleasure," should they use proper prosecutorial procedures.

Ms. Tymoshenko accused Russia's President Vladimir Putin of supporting Ukrainian state authorities in their attempts to discredit the oppositionist movement in Ukraine and Mr. Yushchenko's presidential campaign. She said the latest arrest effort

is part of an unrelenting effort by the administration of Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma to have her incarcerated and removed as a political threat.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's Procurator General's Office verified that it had served Ms. Tymoshenko with a subpoena on September 16. That subpoena, however, does not mean much, inasmuch as Ms. Tymoshenko's status as a national deputy carries with it immunity from criminal prosecution. According to international norms, a foreign court can only petition a

citizen of another country to appear to answer to criminal charges by going through the law enforcement structures of the citizen's country.

Only a majority vote of the Verkhovna Rada could lift Ms. Tymoshenko's criminal immunity and allow a process of extradition to Russia to begin, a move the Ukrainian Parliament is unlikely to agree to. The Verkhovna Rada has refused to agree to similar requests from the Ukrainian government in other efforts to prosecute the lawmaker on separate charges brought in Ukraine.

Quotable notes

"I have visited all of you and seen that the current authorities are in their death throes. However, you cannot see this on television. Television channels are switched off and newspapers are shut down for a single word of truth. The television screen has become a distorting mirror. We cannot recognize ourselves or our country on it. This lying information has set our teeth on edge. But we cannot be fooled. The authorities fear to look the truth in the face. The authorities fear us, and not without good reason. The bandits in power understand: The [presidential] elections will be a verdict passed on the authorities by the people. Bandits will go to jail!"

– Ukrainian presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko at a rally of some 70,000 in Kyiv on September 18, as quoted by the *Ukrainska Pravda* website and cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

PACE gives negative evaluation to political situation in Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A special delegation of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe gave a negative evaluation of the current political situation surrounding upcoming presidential elections in Ukraine on September 29, but noted that some corrective action had taken place and that hope remains that more could still occur before election day.

The statement was issued after a three-member PACE delegation – consisting of rapporteur for Ukraine Hanne Severinsen of Norway, who represented the Liberal group within PACE; Abdulkadir Ates, representative of the Socialist group from Turkey; and delegation head, Doros Christodoulides of Cyprus, Conservative group representative – concluded three days of meetings in Kyiv with presidential candidates, government officials, journalists and representatives of Ukrainian non-governmental civic organizations to determine the extent to which Ukraine was geared for a free and fair presidential election on October 31.

"The delegation has received extensive information indicating that the upcoming presidential election may be conducted in a manner not meeting Council of Europe standards," noted the statement issued by the three PACE representatives, which added that it expected that "corrective action will be taken in Ukraine in time for the election."

Ms. Severinsen, the speaker for the group, said during a press conference that the PACE representatives were concerned with unequal access to the mass media for presidential candidates and with how local and regional election commission officials had been elected, noting that the appointments didn't reflect the political make-up of the presidential candidate list. She also said that the election law had a major flaw in that it did not allow for monitoring of the vote count by NGOs.

"We pointed out that it would of great help if the election law could be amended so that the Committee of Voters of Ukraine could be election observers," explained Ms. Severinsen. "They have much experience and would help to ensure that the election monitoring was thorough."

The Committee of Voters of Ukraine had

tried to have the current Ukrainian election law changed, but did not receive support from the Central Election Commission, with which it has a strained relationship. The CVU has a nationwide network of operatives on the ground in most every raion. In past elections it has gained access to the vote count in precinct and district voting centers by registering its observers as journalists of a newspaper it publishes. Journalists are allowed by law to observe elections.

Ms. Severinsen also pointed out that in her estimation the strategy of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich to abstain from campaigning was not fair to the Ukrainian voter, who wanted to hear all the candidates debate and discuss the issues.

The PACE rapporteur pointed out that some candidates had told her that an effort was under way to create so much confusion and turmoil in the run-up to the elections that they would have to be canceled. She warned that such a result would be a benefit to no one.

PACE has designated an observer team of 30 individuals to monitor the conduct of the presidential vote in Ukraine on October 31. Ms. Severinsen said that the teams would be assigned to outlying areas, where vote fraud is more likely.

On the heels of the visit by the PACE delegation, the European Union issued a statement appealing to Ukrainian state authorities, "to ensure free and fair presidential elections."

The statement called for "maintaining the independence of the media and freedom of expression for a fair and transparent campaign," as well as impartial access to the mass media for candidates and the "absence of interference from authorities, including the sending of instructions or indications to the media (so-called 'temnyky')."

The EU statement, issued by the government of the Netherlands, which has assumed the rotating chair of the EU presidency, acknowledged that it would respond to the offer of the Ukrainian side and send a group of observers to track the elections.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has already established an observer mission in Kyiv and has agreed to send 600 short-term election observers.

ACTION ITEM

"Ukraine Democracy and Fair Elections Act of 2004"

For a long time now, we, Ukrainian Americans, have been helplessly watching some senior Ukrainian government officials and influential oligarchs in Ukraine who have close ties to the Ukrainian government operate outside the rule of law with impunity. These individuals are doing everything in their power to prevent fair and democratic presidential elections on October 31. We have also seen the U.S. government, in spite of our protests, punish all of the people of Ukraine for the misdeeds of these individuals.

Now, for the first time since the rebirth of an independent Ukraine, Ukrainian Americans have an excellent opportunity to assist the U.S. government in enacting an effective policy toward Ukraine that will punish the guilty individuals in Ukraine for their political and economic misdeeds that affect Ukraine's path toward full democracy and rule of law, but will prevent any U.S. sanctions against Ukraine as a whole.

How can we achieve this? By contacting our congressmen and congresswomen to sign on as co-sponsors of a bill introduced in the House of Representatives by California Rep. Dana Rohrabacher on September 15. The purpose of this bill, H.R. 5102, titled the "Ukraine Democracy and Fair Elections Act of 2004," is "to encourage the promotion of democracy, free, fair and transparent elections, and respect for human rights and the rule of law in Ukraine." In addition, the bill expresses the support of the U.S. Congress "for individuals and organizations in Ukraine that promote the integration of Ukraine into the European community of democracies."

The Rohrabacher bill proposes that any senior government official of Ukraine and any other individual "determined by the secretary of state to be personally involved in the formulation or execution of policies or activities that are in contradiction of internationally recognized human rights and free, fair and transparent election standards," be denied an entry visa to the United States and have any of his/her assets that may be in the United States seized. These sanctions are to be also imposed upon the spouse, minor child or agent of any such government official and individual.

The oligarchs of Ukraine feel they can break the law with impunity, and so far they often have gotten away with it, but H.R. 5102 provides real leverage to prevent the members of this "elite" from visiting the U.S. to spend their ill-gotten wealth on American luxuries (which ordinary Ukrainians cannot afford) and to prevent their children from coming here to study in American universities.

There is a good chance that through our joint efforts this bill may become law, if not this year then in the new Congress next year. Or, if we generate enough momentum, something might be done by executive action. Rep. Rohrabacher modeled this bill on the successful Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery Act of 2001 that was signed into law on December 21, 2001. It should also be noted that on September 27 the U.S. government imposed similar visa restrictions on Belarus.

Even though the presidential election in Ukraine is only a month away, we believe that the threat of the passage of such a bill in the U.S. may make "the usual suspects" in Ukraine think twice about their actions. This proposal is not just another theoretical approach, but a bill with teeth. Please act now – call, write or e-mail your representative today to support H.R. 5102. Ukraine needs our help.

– submitted by Ihor Gawdiak, president, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Colton Zachery Hileman-Gigliotti, son of Colt Charles Hileman and April M. Gigliotti of Ford City, Pa., is a new member of UNA Branch 63. He was enrolled by his great grandmother Barbara G. Goyda.



Kira Lynn Brown, daughter of Kevin Brown and Terri Hileman of Ford City, Pa., is a new member of UNA Branch 63. She was enrolled by her great grandmother Barbara G. Goyda.

Meet the new UNA national organizer

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian National Association has announced the promotion of Oksana Trytjak to national organizer as of September 1. Mrs. Trytjak has been with the Ukrainian National Association Inc. since 1993 and has held the position of UNA special projects and fraternal activities coordinator.

In addition to coordinating special projects and fraternal activities, Mrs. Trytjak will now have the challenge of working on a national level to increase awareness of the UNA within the Ukrainian community.

Mrs. Trytjak, who is a very active member of several Ukrainian organizations, will be organizing various events with UNA districts, Ukrainian organizations and the community at large, providing a venue for UNA executives to speak to the Ukrainian community about the UNA. This will engage UNA branch secretaries and districts in fraternalism, educate the Ukrainian community about UNA insurance products and ultimately increase UNA membership.



UNA National Organizer Oksana Trytjak.

– UNA Executive Committee

To subscribe: Send \$55 (\$45 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

A special yearlong feature focusing on the history of the Ukrainian National Association.

The Ukrainian National Association's most recent convention took place on May 24-28, 2002, in Chicago. The first convention of the new millennium also ushered in a new leadership for the 108-year-old fraternal organization, with President Stefan Kaczaraj at the helm.

It was notable also that seven of the new General Assembly members were newcomers and that 14 members of the outgoing assembly had opted not to run for re-election, including UNA President Ulana Diachuk who

(Continued on page 27)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The Weekly at 71

Next week this newspaper will mark the 71st anniversary of its birth – the publication of its first issue dated October 6, 1933. With the first appearance of The Ukrainian Weekly, the Ukrainian National Association took the tremendously significant step of publishing an English-language newspaper to serve new generations of Ukrainians in America, as well as a newspaper that could tell the Ukrainian story to the world around them.

It is noteworthy that The Weekly, born at the time the Great Famine, or Holodomor, was raging in Ukraine, took upon itself the goal of informing the world about that genocide of our people. Already in its first issue a Weekly headline reported: “Ukrainians Protest Deliberate Starvation of Ukraine by the Bolsheviks.” The story informed readers: “A series of mass meetings are being held by the Ukrainians throughout America and Canada, protesting against the barbaric attempts of the Bolshevik regime to deliberately starve out and depopulate the Ukrainian people in Ukraine.”

“The purpose of this intentional starvation by the Bolsheviks is to forever quell the Ukrainian struggle for freedom,” The Weekly wrote. The story went on to report that “over 5 million Ukrainians have died during the past year from starvation” and that the “Bolsheviks are trying to screen this deliberate starving by declaring that poor crops are responsible for this great famine.”

In a front-page editorial in its issue of November 17, 1933, the Weekly wrote that “the Ukrainian nation, which besides being thoroughly economically and culturally exploited by its oppressors, is also being physically destroyed by Moscow by means of the present day Moscow’s deliberately fostered famine in Ukraine, which has taken such a terrible toll of Ukrainian lives.”

We cannot say how many articles about the Famine have been written in The Weekly during the course of more than seven decades. But we can state with certainty that the Famine-Genocide has always been in the forefront of our attention. The Weekly has published documentation of the Famine taking place in Ukraine, publicized our community’s protests about the decades-long cover-up of the Famine, released an informative book about the Famine on its solemn 50th anniversary, stood in the forefront of efforts to secure creation of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, pushed for the revocation of Walter Duranty’s ill-gotten Pulitzer, and reported new scholarly findings about the Famine, its causes, consequences and perpetrators.

Today, 71 years later, in many ways, we are still fighting the same battle. The most recent evidence of that battle is the Famine-Genocide resolution, Senate Resolution 202, introduced in July of last year by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), which remains stalled in the Foreign Relations Committee chaired by Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.). The Weekly has been supporting this resolution since its introduction, and it has been urging its readers to voice their demand that it be passed by the Senate.

Why do we continue to push this matter? Because S. Res. 202 puts the U.S. Senate on record as characterizing the Famine of 1932-1933 as an act of genocide as defined by the 1948 Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. Because the Famine-Genocide and The Ukrainian Weekly are inextricably linked by history and, as long as this paper lives, it will continue to tell the story of Ukraine and to promote the Ukrainian cause.

At age 71, The Ukrainian Weekly is still in its prime because new generations of editors have taken up the mantle of their illustrious predecessors. And so, the vision of The Weekly’s founders endures and the work of The Weekly continues.

Oct.
4
1993

Turning the pages back...

Eleven years ago, on October 4, 1993, President Leonid Kravchuk relieved Ukraine’s defense minister, Gen. Kostyantyn Morozov, of his duties. The dismissal came at Gen. Morozov’s own request, who said he did not want his army to

be dragged into any “political games.” Although the general was unavailable for comment, sources in the Defense Ministry reported that his decision came against the backdrop of the polarized situation in Ukraine’s Parliament and the tense events in Moscow.

The Ukrainian defense minister had been attacked by Ukraine’s hard-line Communists who over the past year had accused him of forming a policy too independent from Moscow. But democrats – 90 members of Ukraine’s National Council – protested the president’s decree dismissing Gen. Morozov and appealed to him in a letter dated October 6, 1993, to reconsider his decision. “We feel that this decision will curb the development of Ukraine’s armed forces, and will evoke confusion, not only in the army, but among members of our society,” said the letter.

“Morozov was one of the first, who together with President Kravchuk supported Ukraine’s independence, and this is why it was immensely difficult for the president to make this decision,” said Volodymyr Petrenko, chief of the president’s Defense Council.

Some democrats said, however, that Gen. Morozov was forced to resign his post because he spoke out strongly against decisions reached at the Massandra summit in early September 1993, which signed away Ukraine’s portion of the Black Sea Fleet and its nuclear weapons.

“For me, this announcement about Morozov’s resignation was bitter news. I associate Morozov with the development of an independent Ukrainian Army. Perhaps his resignation was a result of his independent and staunch politics in Massandra, where he was about the only one who spoke on behalf of Ukraine’s interests,” said Vyacheslav Chornovil, a people’s deputy and chairman of Rukh.

Source: “Wary of ‘political games,’ Morozov requests dismissal from defense post,” by Marta Kolomayets, Kyiv Press Bureau, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October 10, 1993, Vol. , No. 41.

Rough draft

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

Yanukovych gets egged

Viktor Yushchenko has crisscrossed Ukraine relentlessly in his pursuit of the presidency, nearly getting fatally poisoned, or even murdered, in the process. He has spent limited finances to buy advertising time on all the major television channels, only to see his campaign message sandwiched between ads presenting the bizarre platforms of a radical pro-Russian and an extreme right candidate.

In turn, the fringe candidates – and there is a lot of fringe in Ukraine with 24 presidential hopefuls registered for the balloting – have used whatever resources and television time they have obtained to make outlandish statements to grab the attention of voters and affect the October 31 outcome.

Then we have Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, currently second in national polls behind Mr. Yushchenko in the race for the Ukrainian presidency, who until recently has sat in his seventh floor office atop the Cabinet of Ministers building, literally and symbolically above the fray. He has maintained that he cannot waste his time with the pettiness of campaigning, for he has had to continue working for the nation. He has explained that this was the best way to show the electorate what it could expect from a Yanukovych presidency.

Perhaps the strategy was a sincere effort to show responsibility on his part in order to develop voters’ trust and a rapport with the straight-shooting, hard-working Ukrainian laborer and farmer, who comprise a large majority of the Ukrainian electorate. Perhaps there was a simpler premise: a strong Ukrainian economy, if not tampered with, could be enough to get Mr. Yanukovych elected.

The strategy seems to have suddenly changed, however, and the new tactics may have left Mr. Yanukovych with a larger electability problem than before. After the poisoning of Mr. Yushchenko and a bump in the election ratings in favor of the leader of the Our Ukraine coalition, the campaign team of the Ukrainian prime minister, in an about face, decided to have him embark on a weeklong campaign tour across, first, the westernmost regions, followed by the easternmost regions.

At a campaign stop in Ivano-Frankivsk, where Mr. Yushchenko remains the overwhelming favorite, Mr. Yanukovych was hit with a chicken egg as he disembarked from a bus. While his supporters allege that he also received a second blow from another “hard object,” that object has not been identified, nor has the second hit been documented visually. A student of Stefanyk Prykarpattia University allegedly tossed the fragile, oblong object and has admitted as much. In an incident that some might say should be published in “Ripley’s Believe It or Not,” the egging left the Ukrainian prime minister hospitalized for three days and signaled the end of this campaign tour.

Film footage of the incident as shown on the pro-Yushchenko television station, Channel 5, has not conclusively proved what, other than a single egg, hit the Ukrainian prime minister. His reaction, however, was quite clear: first he received the hit; then he looked down, noticed the yellow splatter on his suit coat and fell backwards to the ground.

Mr. Yanukovych may well have been

the victim of an act of retribution by a young student angered by the poisoning of his preferred presidential candidate, but it may also be that earlier in his life Mr. Yanukovych had studied Stanislavsky’s “method acting” techniques and was finally able to put them to good use in trying to show the Ukrainian public that he, too, was a victim, although the public soon let him know they weren’t certain of what he was a victim.

After retreating to Kyiv, the presidential hopeful undoubtedly read the results of the latest surveys, which showed that 72 percent of the Ukrainian electorate believed that the egg scandal in Ivano-Frankivsk had been a political campaign ruse perpetrated by the Yanukovych campaign team.

National Deputy Mykola Tomenko, who is an official in the campaign of Viktor Yushchenko, went further, saying the events of that day had all the designs of a new, harsher strategy designed by Russian public relations experts, who have replaced the campaign team headed by Serhii Tyhypko. Mr. Tomenko said that Mr. Tyhypko is now Mr. Yanukovych’s chief election tactician in name only – this, after he couldn’t close the popularity gap between his own candidate and Mr. Yushchenko.

Many political pundits within Ukraine believe that Mr. Yanukovych’s initial campaign strategy remains, however, although the tactics may become more crude and overt as election day nears. They suggest that the goal remains to position Mr. Yanukovych as the only truly experienced, pragmatic and level-headed candidate within a pack of extremists, opportunists and power hungry types.

Although a plodding hulk of a man, Mr. Yanukovych is handsome and ever immaculately groomed and well-tailored. In short he is telegenic. Therefore, exposure over the television airwaves – which his supporters and cronies control almost exclusively – is a smart strategy, all the more so because he is far from a charismatic or articulate speaker, which is good reason to avoid the campaign stump or a debate with the much more intellectually stimulating Mr. Yushchenko.

In short, the strategy utilized by Mr. Yanukovych’s campaign team is to present Mr. Yanukovych as a man of action, a hard-working and diligent civil servant sensitive to the needs of the Ukrainian people. In turn, they want to paint Mr. Yushchenko as shrill, power hungry and concerned only for the well-being of a narrow element within society.

Not coincidentally, Mr. Yushchenko’s television ads run in a bloc on the major channels, between an ad by Slavianska Party presidential candidate Oleksander Bazyliuk, a staunch Russophile, and Roman Kozak of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists in Ukraine Party (not associated with the OUN-B or OUN-M), whose campaign ad criticizes Mr. Yushchenko for having an American spouse who refuses to take Ukrainian citizenship. The ads flow seamlessly, making it difficult to initially understand where one ends and another begins. They leave the viewer with the firm impression that these candidates are parts of a general whole.

The political pundits also have not ignored evidence that some within the

(Continued on page 23)

NEWS AND VIEWS

The Great Mohicans

by Lida Chopivsky-Benson

August 26 marked the one-year anniversary of the passing from this world of our Mother and "Musi Baba," Sophia Klepachivsky Chopivsky. In thinking about her, I began to reflect with great respect on that entire generation of Ukrainian immigrants.

During their time on earth, this generation, these "Great Mohicans" arrived in this country where freedom, human rights and prosperity are on a very high level, but that didn't satisfy them. They wanted their children and grandchildren to know their roots, know about the homeland their grandparents loved above all else and for whom they, with all their youthful strength and energy, jumped at the chance to serve and defend their Ukraine. Even though our Mama and these Mohicans never lived in their beloved Ukraine, they taught us a love for her, taught us to hold true to her and to our 1,000-year-old faith. There are now so few of these soulful Mohicans left.

During the late 1940s when they sailed through the English Channel, our parents had no idea what the future would hold for them. They worked tirelessly so that their children could have

the best of everything. They weren't afraid to roll up their sleeves and put in an honest day's work at whatever job they could get.

The education of their children was a priority. This education included not only degrees from the nation's finest universities, but they also wanted to instill in us a love of our Ukrainian culture, our faith and our Ukraine. They lived in between one world and another. They were DPs connected heart and soul with the previous generation and the Old World, but wanting their children to be equals in education and profession with peers of the country in which they live.

We, their children, were born in this great United States, but our Musi, like the rest of her generation, strived to convince us, to implant in us that we are of Ukrainian stock, that we come from a faraway and precious Ukrainian land. Our Musi trembled and prayed to God that her children and grandchildren would be proud that they are Ukrainian Americans.

Let us all take their loyalty and pride as an example of how we should live, for that is the greatest homage we can give this great generation of Mohicans.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My vote goes to Ralph Nader

Dear Editor:

I found your September 12 issue ironic in that I agreed with both Dr. Myron Kuropas and Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky. Dr. Kuropas makes a good case as to why we don't need to vote for John Kerry, while Dr. Vitvitsky shows us why there isn't any need to re-elect George W. Bush.

I couldn't agree more. All I can add is that since the courageous Pat Buchanan isn't running, nor is the charismatic Jesse Ventura, the only decent choice for president is Ralph Nader. I can already hear Dr. Vitvitsky howling that under Mr. Nader, Ukraine won't get as much International Monetary Fund money as it did under Clinton's Democrats. My answer is the same as Yulia Tymoshenko's: "Ukraine doesn't need the phony IMF scams and debts!" Ukraine is one of the richest countries in the world (if only Switzerland would return the stolen billions).

All that the IMF chicanery has done for Ukraine is give rise to monstrous groups of mafia oligarch clans who have impoverished and terrorized the nation. I always ask every visiting Ukrainian dignitary, politician or government representative what exactly are they doing with all those IMF millions, and with no exceptions they all respond with a blank stare, shrugging their shoulders and denying that they ever saw one cent of IMF money.

I have failed miserably in trying to make any sense of IMF-Ukraine aid. I cannot trace one penny of IMF money to Ukraine. It seems that the money never even leaves the United States, but Ukraine gets the honor of paying off the debt. I would like to challenge Dr. Vitvitsky or any other reader of The Ukrainian Weekly. Surely there must be one person who can explain and trace one dollar of IMF money to Ukraine from its point of origin to where it is deposited and in which mafioso's pocket

it winds up. Also please name names. I can hardly wait to hear the spin about how there is no corruption involving the IMF in Ukraine.

Dr. Vitvitsky, in his tirade against Republicans, forgot to mention the recent trip to Ukraine of ex-President George Bush at the behest (all expenses paid) of Mr. Kuchma's Pinchuk oligarch clan. One can only shudder at what kinds of deals were reached behind closed doors. In order to save face and pretend the trip had any legitimate political goals, such as advancing democracy or better still, fighting terrorism (that's always a good spin), the Bush team grudgingly granted a token meeting to Victor Yushchenko.

I still don't understand why Ukrainian troops are in Iraq (an IMF connection?) while Ukraine's real terrorists have filled Swiss vaults with the nation's stolen money.

Would the Ukrainian troops not be better deployed to Switzerland to retrieve the nation's wealth?

Dr. Jaroslaw Sawka
Sterling Heights, Mich.

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at staff@ukrweekly.com. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Can the U.S. save Ukraine?

Talk to some Ukrainian Americans and they'll tell you that they are voting for John Kerry because, among other things, President George W. Bush has neglected Ukraine.

Some have met with Sen. John F. Kerry's surrogates, specifically former Secretary of State Madelene K. Albright and former Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke, and were assured that Ukraine would be back on the radar screen in a Kerry administration.

Our people remember how warm and accommodating the Clinton administration was toward Ukraine – a state dinner for President Leonid Kuchma, visits to Kyiv by top administration officials, Ukraine as the third largest foreign aid recipient. They look at President Bush and wonder why he's not as chummy.

Some Ukrainian Americans are also exercised about the apparent lack of White House support for S. Res. 202, a bill that expresses the sense of the Senate regarding "the genocidal Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933."

Will a Kerry administration do better? Given Sen. Kerry's reticence to talk about his murky 20-year record in the U.S. Senate during which he, among other things, supported the Sandinistas, kissed up to Fidel Castro, and called President Ronald Reagan's tenure in the White House "eight years of moral darkness," one can only wonder about the depth of his commitment to Ukraine. I ask you, can a man with zero administrative experience who has run such a chaotic campaign really do better in the White House?

The difficulty, however, is not with Sen. Kerry or even with President Bush. The problem is that President Kuchma's Ukraine is so very different from what it was during President Bill Clinton's first term. To expect the same U.S. largesse to flow today as then is to ignore history and U.S. interests. Ukraine has changed dramatically during President Kuchma's last eight years. Think Gongadze, a totally corrupt, oligarch-controlled administration, a precipitous loss of media freedoms, bowing to President Vladimir Putin's will, attempts to physically eliminate the opposition, openly turning away from NATO and western Europe, selling arms to Moldova and, more recently, to Venezuela and Cuba. Ukraine today is not exactly a resolute and ardent companion on the road to a better, safer world. Don't expect to find Messrs. Bush and Kuchma sitting around a campfire in Crawford, Texas, singing "Kumbaya" any time soon.

The United States also has changed since Mr. Clinton left the White House. The horror of 9/11 has significantly modified the foreign relations equation. The United States is at war. There are different priorities. We have new enemies, different friends.

Does this take the Bush administration off the hook regarding Ukraine? No. I wish President Bush would pay more attention to Ukraine, not for Ukraine's sake, but for the sake of the United States. A strong, democratic Ukraine facing West and allied with the United States, would be a bulwark against Russian red fascist imperialism which, under President Putin, appears to be rearing its ugly head again. President Bush has spoken out recently against the dismantling of democracy in

Russia, despite the fact that the U.S. needs Russia in the war against Islamic terror. He will do so again.

I also wish I had more confidence in National Security Council (NSC) chief Condeleeza Rice who, as a Russia specialist, appears to have succumbed to the Russia-can-do-no-wrong virus. Equally disquieting is the fact that Condi was mentored by Brent Scowcroft who, in turn, was a pupil of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the realpolitik guy who, during the Gerald Ford administration promoted the concept of a permanent division of Europe into Russian and Western spheres of influence. Remember the Sonnenfeldt Doctrine?

I, too, wish that the State Department was more forthcoming when it comes to Senate Res. 202. They are terrified by the "G" word. Some Ukrainian Americans believe the Jews don't want to identify the Famine as a genocide because it would somehow diminish the Holocaust. Others believe the Russians are objecting. Both beliefs are wrong. I am told that the real reason Sen. Richard Lugar is sitting on the bill is Turkey, a member of NATO. The State Department is afraid that once this bill is passed, the Armenian American community will ask for a similar bill condemning the Turkish genocide of Armenians in 1915-1923. Wrong excuse. The same argument was used to justify State Department objections to the creation of the Ukraine Famine Commission. Wiser heads prevailed and the Famine bill was passed.

And, finally, I wish Ukraine would receive more credit for its involvement in Iraq. Ukraine's contributions are included in the GOP platform and President Bush mentioned Ukraine during his last press conference. But is that enough? How many contracts have been given to Ukrainian firms for the reconstruction of Iraq? Why is it that Ukrainians find it almost impossible to receive American visas while Saudi Arabians have no problem?

We need to remember two things.

First: No American president, not George W. Bush, not John F. Kerry, not even Ralph Nadar, can save Ukraine. Only citizens of Ukraine can save Ukraine. And they still have a chance. In contrast to a rising tide of red fascism in Russia, Ukraine remains relatively democratic. The October elections in Ukraine are crucial. If Viktor Yushchenko wins, Ukraine will get a second chance to do the right thing. If Viktor Yanukovich wins, corruption and thuggery will continue for another four years. That will be tragic but Ukraine will still survive as an independent nation-state.

Second: The presidential election in the United States is not about Ukraine. It's about the future of America. As in Ukraine, the stakes are high. A wide chasm exists between the ideology, ideas and proposals of President Bush and Sen. Kerry. One is the most conservative president since Reagan. The other is the most liberal senator in Congress. Rarely have candidates for U.S. president been so diametrically opposed in their thinking.

Ask yourself. Which election, the one in Ukraine or the one in the United States, will have the greatest impact on your daily life? Think about it and act accordingly.

Myron Kuropas's e-mail address is: kuropas@comcast.net.

Future leaders attend USUF's third annual Youth Leadership Program

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation hosted its third annual Youth Leadership Program in August in Washington. The weeklong program introduces college students age 18-22 to essential elements of leadership, civic engagement and the political process during meetings with key leaders in the U.S. capital.

Seventeen students participated in this year's Youth Leadership Program, among which nine were Ukrainian Americans and eight Ukrainians. The mix allowed for greater learning and growth, as Ukrainians shared their stories about life in present-day Ukraine and Americans searched for ways that they could be helpful to the young and growing Ukraine.

The 2004 Youth Leadership Program

participants were: Maryna Yaroshchuk, a junior at the International Christian University – Kyiv; Nadiya Ostrovska, a recent graduate of the International Christian University-Kyiv; Muhammed Menzatov, a senior at the National Aviation University in Kyiv; Katerina Golitsina, a second-year student at the European University of Economics, Enterprise and Business in Kyiv; Ruslan Tykholaz, a junior at the Vinnytsia Trade-Economic Institute of Kyiv National Trade-Economic University; Ihor Novosyadlyy, a junior at Ternopil Experimental Institute of Pedagogical Education; Andriy Bilozir, a senior at Taras Shevchenko Kyiv State University, Institute of International Relations; Oleh Krykavskyy, a senior at the National University of Ostroh Academy; Mariya



Youth Leadership Program participants during a visit to the Embassy of Ukraine.



Some of the program participants following a ceremony at the foot of Washington's Shevchenko monument.

Tarassishina, a recent graduate of Bernard M. Baruch College in New York; Tanya Soluk, a senior at the Claremont McKenna College, Calif.; Anya Sophia Maziak, a graduate of the University of Michigan; Larissa Hotra, a graduate of the University of Michigan; Christina Olha Jarymowycz, a junior at Cornell University; Maria Alexandra Woloshyn, a junior at the University of Virginia; Andrew W. Laszyn, a recent graduate of Mercer County Community College; Christopher Wlach, a junior at Columbia University; and Mark Semotiuk, a recent graduate of UCLA.

Similar to past years, the 2004 Youth Leadership Program was free to participating students. All program costs, including lodging, were borne by the

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. The foundation appreciates the financial support provided by the following organizations, which makes this program possible: Drs. Dmytro and Jaroslava Jarosewycz Memorial Charitable Gift Fund, Self Reliance (N.Y) Federal Credit Union, Ukrainian Federal Credit Union (Rochester, N.Y), Chopivsky Family Foundation, Heritage Foundation of First Security Federal Savings Bank (Chicago), Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (Chicago), Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union (Philadelphia), Cygnus Technologies of Southport, N.C., Self Reliance (N.J.) Federal Credit

(Continued on page 15)

'Twisted Kishka', aka Midnight Bigus performs in Trembita Bar
Friday night, 10/29/04,
10 pm, \$5 cover.

Paintball Tournament will take place on
Saturday, 10/30/04, \$35/person.
(Sign up early, 15 people needed)

Saturday 1-4 pm, Pumpkin
Picking, Painting & Crafts!

3 Mile Race/ Fundraiser- sponsored by
PLAST Sorority-Spartanky, 3 pm
(time subject to change).

MAQUERADE Parade for kids,
Saturday, 10/30/04, 4-5 pm

HAUNTED HOUSE in our
Lviv Building 5-9 pm, Saturday, 10/30/04.

Scrumptious Dinner Buffet
Saturday 6-8 pm, \$19.95++
For smaller appetites- \$7.95++

Costume Zabava with
FATA MORGANA
Saturday, 10/30/04, 9:30 pm...
Prizes for most creative
Costumes!

The Halloween
tradition continues...
Don your masks &
Join the fun!



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Soyuzivka hosts 2004 USCAK national tennis championship

by Petrusia Sawchak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The breathtaking beauty of the Shawangunk Mountains provided a picturesque backdrop for the national tennis tournament of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) held at Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian National Association estate.

Since its inception in 1956, USCAK has held tennis tournaments every Labor Day weekend and they continue to attract good tennis players from around the country.

This year there were 67 entrants in the tournament. Many of the participants return year after year to Soyuzivka and form lasting friendships with each other. Newcomers from Ukraine are also becoming part of the scene and adding a new dimension to the tournament.

UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich officially opened both the tennis and swimming events on Saturday afternoon. Roman Rakoczy Sr., one of the original organizers of this tournament, greeted the players. Myron Stebelsky, USCAK's

president, spoke of the 80th anniversary this year of both the Carpathian Ski Club (known by its Ukrainian acronym as KLK) and Chornomorska Sitch, and lauded their contributions to the Ukrainian American sport scene. Representing the host club, KLK, George Popel also welcomed everyone to the 49th USCAK tennis tournament.

The Ukrainian National Association has been the major supporter of this national tennis tournament since it was started many years ago. The organization has shown its backing in a number of ways, including the trophy awards that are presented to the winners each year.

The tournament is further enhanced by the generosity of John Hynansky, entrepreneur, philanthropist and owner of the Winner Group Inc. Wilmington, Del. As in the past Mr. Hynansky provided financial stipends to the winners in the men's, women's and junior groups in the amount of approximately \$4,000 annually. The Winner Group Inc. represents 24 companies, 12 of which are auto dealerships in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, as well as Ukraine.



UNA trophies, Bohdan Rak Trophy and Winner Group stipends are awarded to Eric Matkiwsky men's winner (second from right) and Rostyslav Orach (fourth from left) finalist by (from left) Roman Rakoczy, Stefan Kaczaraj, George Hrabec, George Sawchak and George Popel.



Winner Group stipends and trophies are awarded to Maryana Mitchutske (third from left), women's winner, and Ann Marie Shumsky (fifth from left) finalist by (from left) George Sawchak, George Hrabec, Petrusia Sawchak, George Popel and little Charchalis.

The winner of the men's final was Eric Matkiwsky of New Jersey who overcame Rostyslav Orach 6-2, 6-2. Matkiwsky returned to Soyuzivka after a nine-year hiatus. He returned with a determination to win and that he did. His game was powerful and precise. As a very young man, Matkiwsky was the champion of the men's division from 1986 through 1988. Orach left Lviv in 1991 and currently lives in New York City. He has played professional tennis, competing in matches on the European circuit. This is his first tourney at Soyuzivka, but he promises to return next year.

In the semis, Matkiwsky defeated past champion Dennis Chorny 6-2, 6-4, and Orach overcame last year's winner George Charuk 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 in a long, heated battle. These matches were among the best in the entire tournament.

Last year's women's winner, 14-year-old Maryana Milchutske, originally from Kryvyi Rih, Ukraine, won both the women's and girls' final without losing a single set. In the women's final Milchutske beat former champion Ann Marie

Shumsky of Connecticut 6-0, 6-0. In the semis, Milchutske eliminated Katrusia Charchalis 6-0, 6-0, and Shumsky beat Tanya Petrykevych 6-0, 6-1.

In the men's age 35 and over division Andrij Charchalis of Maryland emerged victorious by defeating Mykola Nalywayko of Pennsylvania 6-0, 5-7, 6-0. Charchalis is a familiar face on Soyuzivka's courts over the years. He was a counselor at the Soyuzivka tennis camps and later played many tennis tournaments here. He now brings his children to the resort to do the same. Newcomer Nalywayko vowed to participate in tournaments in years to come.

The classic battle of champions continues between Jaroslaw Sydorak of California, 11-time winner in various groups, and five-time men's champion Ivan Durbak of New Jersey. This year Durbak won his fourth tournament in the men's age 45 and over division by defeating Sydorak in the finals 6-2, 6-2. In the semis Durbak advanced by defeating

(Continued on page 18)



The Mary Dushnyck Good Sportsmanship Award is presented to Katrusia Charchalis by UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj.



Oles Charchalis, winner of younger boys' group (right), and Alexander Hryhorowych, finalist (left), are presented with Winner Group stipends and UNA trophies by George Hrabec (center).



Tournament director George Sawchak is flanked by older girls' group winner Maryana Milchutske (right) and finalist Lana Denysyk, who are awarded UNA trophies and Winner Group stipends.

UCCA holds...

(Continued from page 1)

efforts to seek unity among the Ukrainian American community and expressed the hope that "this congress will become a turning point" for the organization.

Following the singing of the American and Ukrainian national anthems and the invocation delivered by Archbishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., congress delegates heard a greeting from Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Mykhailo Reznik.

Ambassador Reznik underscored the fact that the Ukrainian American community had never forgotten about Ukraine and noted that it is praiseworthy that the community today is turning its attention to new immigrants from Ukraine. After all, "all of us together are working for the same cause," he stated.

Turning his attention to Ukraine, the ambassador went on to state that "Ukraine today has a democracy, albeit a weak democracy." Nonetheless, "that democracy is functioning," he said, as evidenced by three presidential and four parliamentary elections. He assured his listeners that the people of Ukraine have hope for a better future.

Next to address the delegates was UNA President Kaczaraj, who delivered best wishes on behalf of the UNA Executive Committee and General Assembly, and noted the fraternal organization's resolve to restore unity to the Ukrainian American community.

"Only from a position of strength and cooperation can we, as a community, speak with a united and strong voice on the national and international arenas," Mr. Kaczaraj stated. "Batko Soyuz [the UNA], as the oldest community organization, unites 45,000 members of diverse opinions and backgrounds; it believes in the necessity of nurturing a spirit of unity and cooperation in our community. In unity there is strength."

In order to achieve this unity, he continued, the UCCA needs to do three things: "update the UCCA By-Laws in order to foster democracy; choose persons who are open to compromise as delegates and as officers; and not permit anyone to have a monopoly on decision-making."

"It is time for us to set aside our quarrels and to work together for the good of our entire community and Ukraine," he exhorted the congress. "We call on this congress to extend its hand and begin negotiations with all Ukrainian organizations that are not members of the UCCA, and to be willing to compromise."

Amendments to the UCCA By-Laws

In his capacity as chairman of the 19th Congress, Askold Lozynskyj proposed that the agenda for the morning session also include amendments to the UCCA By-Laws so that the proposals of the UNA could be brought before the congress. He explained that no proposed changes to the by-laws had been submitted in advance to the By-Laws Committee (established in accordance with the organization's by-laws by the first meeting of the National Council after the most recent congress), but that the by-laws do provide for amendments to be presented from the floor during a congress. The presidium's proposal to add this agenda item was approved by the delegates.

The first amendment proposed that the post of first vice-president on the National Executive Board be reserved for a representative of the largest, both in terms of membership and branches, central national organization within the UCCA system. The amendment was adopted.

A second amendment dealt with the number of delegates to a UCCA congress to which an organization is entitled. The proposal provided that a central or national organization has the right to send additional delegates to the Congress of Ukrainians in America – as UCCA congresses are formally called – based on the number of its members. Thus, an organization is entitled to one delegate for the first 5,000 or less members; two delegates for up to 10,000 members; and additional delegates for each additional or partial 5,000 members. This amendment, too, was approved.

The third amendment adopted by delegates stipulated that each national central organization with 2,000 or more members and with a minimum of five branches is entitled to the seat of a vice-president on the National Executive Board.

A fourth proposed amendment, which would have defined precisely what constitutes a national organization based on the number of members and branches, did not receive the required number of votes to be approved. Delegates discussed several variations of the equation: that a national organization is one that has at least 250 members and three branches; 250 members or three branches; 150 members and five branches; 150 members or three branches; 100 members and three branches; 100 members or three branches, etc.

Delegates first voted on the formulation "150 members and five branches," but that proposal did not pass. Ultimately, the equation "75 members and three branches" appeared to be acceptable to the majority of delegates. However, it received just over 70 votes, while the congress chairman stated that the proposal needed 88 votes to pass.

At this point a discrepancy between the Ukrainian-language and English-language versions of the UCCA By-Laws was pointed out by attorney Julian Kulas who read the English text: to approve changes to the by-laws from the floor "requires a three-fourths majority vote in the presence of two-thirds of the registered delegates to the Congress of Ukrainians in America convention."

Mr. Lozynskyj, also an attorney, pointed out that the Ukrainian text takes precedence and that it defines the threshold for an amendment's passage as "three-fourths of registered delegates."

In effect, if the English-language version of the UCCA By-Laws had been deemed correct, the threshold for passage of the fourth amendment would have been met.

It must be noted that at the time of the voting on the by-laws changes the Verifications Committee had not yet reported to the congress on the actual delegate count. It was estimated that there were 121 delegates present, though 151 had been expected to register. Ultimately, the Verifications Committee reported on Sunday, during the concluding session of the congress, that 120 delegates were registered.

Mr. Kulas insisted that the congress minutes show the discrepancy between

the two versions of the UCCA By-Laws. The issue of the legality of the vote on the fourth amendment proposed by the UNA was not revisited.

UCCA officers' reports

Next on the agenda were the reports of UCCA National Executive Board members, with President Sawkiw first to take the podium. Noting the significant growth of the Ukrainian community in the United States, as reflected in U.S. Census figures for 1990 (740,803) and 2000 (893,055), he said the UCCA had opened its first information center for new Ukrainian immigrants in New York City.



Ambassador Mykhailo Reznik



Cardinal Lubomyr Husar

The UCCA president also reported on the organization's Ukrainian Days in Washington, during which members visited their representatives in Congress; the roundtable conferences held annually in Washington to focus on Ukraine's development as a nation and state; plans to build a famine-genocide memorial in Washington; voter education projects in Ukraine; the establishment of the UCCA's Kyiv Bureau in March 2002; and steps taken toward re-establishing community unity.

The UCCA's chief financial executive, Mr. Kerda, who was tapped for the job after the death of UCCA Treasurer Michael Spontak, reported that the operations of the Ukrainian National Information Service, which needs \$130,000 for its operations, were never recorded in the UCCA's books. Nor were assets legally owned by the UCCA, such as several buildings, reported on any financial reports. He also noted the drop in income at the National Fund from an annual sum of \$120,000 in the late 1990s to a sum of approximately \$92,000 during the past four years.

All the reports of UCCA National

Executive Board members were published in book form and distributed to congress participants.

Reports were delivered during the session also by Viktoria Hubska, director of the UCCA's Kyiv Bureau; Oksana Lykhovid, director of the Ukrainska Svitlytsia Center for new immigrants in New York; and Tamara Gallo Olexy, director of the UCCA National Office, based in New York.

Also addressing the conclave with brief reports were Drs. Wolodymyr Stojko and Taras Hunczak, respectively, former and current editors-in-chief of *The Ukrainian Quarterly*, a scholarly journal which this year marks its 60th anniversary; and Dr. Eugene Fedorenko, chairman of the UCCA Educational Council, which oversees schools of Ukrainian studies nationwide and last marked its 50th anniversary.

Orest Baranyk, chairman of the UCCA's External Relations Committee, also reported to the congress, noting that attempts to establish contacts with the White House were unsuccessful and that the UCCA had succeeded only in securing lower-level meetings with Bush administration officials.

The report of the UCCA Auditing Committee was delivered by Yaroslav Fedun, who noted several deficiencies in recording the UCCA's finances and presented the committee's recommendations to remedy the situation.

Following a discussion of the reports and various issues confronting the UCCA during the last four-year term, the delegates approved the Auditing Committee's proposal for a vote of confidence in the outgoing National Executive Board and National Council.

Sen. Durbin addresses congress

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), member of the Appropriations Committee, addressed the Friday morning session. Speaking in support of the Democratic presidential candidate, he said, "I believe in John Kerry and I think he can lead our country in a better direction."

Sen. Durbin, whose grandmother and mother (then age 2), immigrated to the United States from Lithuania in 1911, also paid tribute to his audience by noting: "You're proud Americans, but you're also proud of your roots." He credited "your fraternal organizations and your churches [which] meant so much for new immigrants."

He recalled annual meetings of Captive Nations Week, saying "people thought we were out of our minds ... we were taking on the mighty Soviet Union." And, then he remembered "what an amazing day [it was] when the mighty Soviet Union started to collapse."

Sen. Durbin also expressed his opinion that "Ukraine should be in NATO." Citing recent events in Russia, such as President Vladimir Putin's consolidation of power and his control of the media, he said, "If he keeps sacrificing democracy, what does that mean for the neighbors?"

"That's why Ukraine needs NATO," he underscored.

Workshops focus on diverse issues

During eight workshops on Saturday, delegates and guests had an opportunity to discuss a number of issues that affect the Ukrainian American community. Topics during those panel discussions included: "Maintaining/Preserving our Identity," "Unifying the Ukrainian American Community," "Using the Mass Media to Get Your Message Out," "Advocacy: Your Voice in American Politics," "Support for Ukraine: Furthering Democracy and Ukrainianization," "Outreach Programs for New Immigrants and Youth," "Ukrainian Saturday School System" and "Development of Ukrainian Studies in the Western Diaspora."

(Continued on page 11)

UCCA National Executive Board for 2004-2008

President: Michael Sawkiw Jr.
 Executive Vice-President: Larissa Kyj
 First Vice-President: Stefan Kaczaraj
 Vice-Presidents: Ihor Smolij, Orest Baranyk, Luba Siletska, Lev Futala,
 Bohdan Mychajliw, Teodor Oleshchuk
 Executive Secretary: Marie Duplak
 Treasurer: Stephen Kerda
 Members at Large: Myroslav Shmigel, Roma Lisovich, Myron Kuropas



Andrew Nynka

UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich (left) with fellow UNA'ers (from right) Myron, Lesia and Stefko Kuropas.

UCCA holds.

(Continued from page 10)

The workshops were designed to facilitate discussion of issues, while some concrete proposals from the panels were put before the entire congress on Sunday during a session that determined the focus of the UCCA's work for the next four years.

During Saturday afternoon's panel on participating in U.S. politics, Roman Popadiuk, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, spoke of the need to reorganize the lobbying efforts of Ukrainians in Washington.

"To have impact, the Ukrainian community must re-evaluate itself. We have to get ourselves organized and evaluate the work we want to do within each congressional district," the former ambassador said.

Mr. Popadiuk said that lobbying by Ukrainian groups in Washington should focus on finding a Ukrainian angle in issues that are being addressed by politicians in the United States. "Instead of lobbying just as a

Ukrainian group, we should be lobbying for health care and education," he said.

Dr. Kuropas said Ukrainians needed to do more to be an effective voice in American politics. "There is no doubt that we have not done enough," he said. "Unfortunately we haven't been heard." He offered several suggestions, saying that Ukrainian Americans need to work with local politicians, as well as with other ethnic groups.

While the workshops were taking place on Saturday, separate meetings were held by the following congressional committees: financial, organizational, new immigrants, educational, veterans, external relations, aid to Ukraine, students and youth, verifications and resolutions.

The program that day also included a working lunch that was dedicated to the topic of human trafficking. Dr. Ulana Bodnar of the Centers for Disease Control presented delegates with information on that topic. Each year 800,000-900,000 people are trafficked across borders, Dr. Bodnar said, describing the situation as a "multi-billion-dollar shadow

market" that "poses a global health risk."

In order to end human trafficking, Dr. Bodnar said prevention efforts need to be enhanced, victims need to be given support and empowerment, legal frameworks need to be established and enforced, and national mechanisms and international cooperation must be created.

Among guests of the congress were Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church; Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church; Archbishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.; Bishop Basil Losten of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church; and members of Ukraine's diplomatic corps in the U.S.

Saturday's formal Congressional banquet included a presentation of Shevchenko Freedom Awards (see page 12), while on Friday night, following a reception, a concert of local Ukrainian talent was held. The performers included the Akkolada chamber choir of Philadelphia, Prometheus men's choir of Philadelphia, Kalynonka bandurist duo and Holubka women's vocal quartet.

The UNA's reaction

UNA President Kaczaraj said of the congress:

"We did the right thing by returning to the UCCA. The UCCA has over the last 20 years accomplished much good for the Ukrainian community. By working together with the organization, it will be easier to build on its strength while eliminating its deficiencies. With close cooperation, it will be easier to bring about the necessary changes.

"We did not return in order to take control. For this we have no time or desire. Our mission is to help transform this entity into a democratically operated organization with input from multiple voices from Ukrainian communities. We want to bring in all the Ukrainian organizations that currently are not members of the UCCA. By having one powerful umbrella organization representing all our organizations, our community will grow and prosper, and we Ukrainian Americans will have greater influence and impact on our surroundings." UNA Treasurer Lisovich, commented:

Statement by the UNA

As mandated by the UNA Convention of May 2002 and the General Assembly decision of November 2003 to renew our relationship with the UCCA, the Ukrainian National Association is pleased to have participated in the 19th Congress of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America on September 24-26 in Philadelphia.

The Ukrainian National Association is pleased also to have taken this historic step toward bringing about unity in our Ukrainian American community.

We look forward to continuing the development of an umbrella organization that serves to represent the multiple constituencies in our community.

*Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association
September 27, 2004*

Final day's program

On Sunday morning a liturgy at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia was concelebrated by Cardinal Husar and Metropolitan Soroka.

The congress sessions that day were devoted to reports by the congressional committees, elections of the UCCA leadership and adoption of congressional resolutions.

[The text of resolutions adopted by the 19th Congress will be published at a later date, when they are released to the press. In addition, the list of UCCA National Council members will be published when organizations entitled to members on the council designate their representatives.]

The congress presidium, which was chaired by Mr. Lozynskyj, also included: Andrew Diakun and Ihor Hunko, vice-chairmen; and Ms. Lykhowid, Osyp Rozhka and Jerry Kiciuk, secretaries.

"All in all, I think it was a positive Congress and the UNA's participation was important. I definitely felt that there was a shared sentiment among all participants that having one united strong central umbrella organization, representing the interests of the Ukrainian American community, was imperative.

"The acceptance of by-law changes proposed by UNA reflects a new air of openness and mutual cooperation. I think we have made progress, and I am pleased that the UNA is serving as the catalyst to help bring about these changes. One of the changes ensures each national central organization with over 2,000 members and five branches a permanent voice on the National Executive Board. This is a new beginning.

"One of our priorities will be the continued refinement of the UCCA By-Laws, with input from other member and non-member organizations. We are eager to begin our work within the UCCA, and we appreciate the mutual cooperation we have experienced so far."

Address by UNA president

Following is the text of the address delivered by Stefan Kaczaraj, president of the Ukrainian National Association, during the opening session of the 19th Congress of the UCCA on September 24.

I am honored and pleased to greet you in the name of the Executive Committee and General Assembly of the Ukrainian National Association. Twenty-four years ago, in the "City of Brotherly Love," here in Philadelphia, 647 delegates participated in the 13th Congress of the UCCA. Today there are only 125 delegates present – almost 80 percent less.

While the number of people of Ukrainian descent in the United States is growing, our organizations, churches and schools are in decline.

Twenty-four years ago more than 20 organizations left the UCCA for various reasons – mainly lack of cooperation and lack of tolerance for dissenting views.

The 13th Congress opened up a serious wound in our community body – one that has not yet healed. This wound has divided us and pushed a large number of our children and grandchildren away from our Ukrainian community.

In order to solve this burning problem, at the annual meeting of the UNA General Assembly, which took place at Soyuzivka on November 21-22, 2003, the General Assembly decided to renew the long-standing relationship of the UNA with the UCCA – on the same basis and status as had been established during its original membership. It is our sincere hope that this step will serve as an incentive for others to find common ground for the good of our community, because only from a position of strength and cooperation can we, as a community, speak with a united and strong voice on the national and international arenas.

Batko Soyuz [the UNA], as the oldest community organization, unites 45,000 members of diverse opinions and backgrounds; it believes in the necessity of nurturing a spirit of unity and cooperation in our community.

In unity there is strength.

In order to achieve this unity we must: 1) update the UCCA By-Laws in order to foster democracy; 2) choose persons who are open to compromise as delegates and as officers; 3) not permit anyone to have a monopoly on decision-making.

It is time for us to set aside our quarrels and to work together for the good of our entire community and Ukraine.

We call on this congress to extend its hand and begin negotiations with all Ukrainian organizations that are not members of the UCCA, and to be willing to compromise.

It is important for our community to safeguard our cultural heritage and our rich traditions, and to help Ukraine become a democratic Ukrainian state.

It would be sad if in 24 years we came to a congress and again saw 80 percent fewer participants.



Roma Hadzewycz

Julian Kulas of Chicago with Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.)

Five receive 2004 Shevchenko Freedom Awards at UCCA conclave

by Andrew Nynka

PHILADELPHIA – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America presented five of its prestigious Shevchenko Freedom Awards during the 19th Congress of Ukrainians in America here.

Renowned Ukrainian actor Jack Palance, Bishop Basil Losten of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Rep. Curt Weldon on behalf of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Ukrainian National Association activist and author Myron Kuropas and retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Nicholas Krawciw were presented with Shevchenko Freedom Awards during the Congress.

The awards dinner on Saturday, September 25, included a notable performance by Mr. Palance, who knocked out a few push-ups in front of the congressman, the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and other prominent religious leaders.

While accepting his award, the show-

phone following Mr. Palance's performance to deliver a keynote address. "I hope that you will not ask of me that I sing or that I raise myself on one arm," the cardinal said.

The Shevchenko Freedom Award is given to Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike who "have dedicated their time and effort to realize the prophetic aspirations of Taras Shevchenko and the goal of freedom for Ukraine," an UCCA statement said of the award.

Mr. Palance was presented with his award "for his commitment and devotion to maintaining and preserving the Ukrainian heritage" and "for his promotion of issues affecting the Ukrainian nation, in particular the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933, as well as cultural issues," UCCA President Michael Sawkiw Jr. said.

During his remarks, Cardinal Husar took a more serious note and addressed the congress's overall theme. "The years



Andrew Nynka

Actor Jack Palance with Archbishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. during the congress banquet.



Roma Hadzewycz

Nicholas Krawciw speaks during the Friday luncheon after receiving the Shevchenko Freedom Award. Looking on is Michael Sawkiw Jr.

man, who slowly made his way to the podium with the help of a cane, cautiously knelt down, telling the crowd in Ukrainian: "I don't know if I can still do this."

As guests pleaded with the 84-year-old actor not to make the attempt, Mr. Palance made his way to the ground in front of 203 people to do several one-armed push ups. When he finished he rose back to his feet and, in Ukrainian again, said, "Next year I'll do more."

The final speaker that night, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, came to the micro-

phone following Mr. Palance's performance to deliver a keynote address. "I hope that you will not ask of me that I sing or that I raise myself on one arm," the cardinal said.

"Those of you who live in the diaspora should know that Ukraine needs you and be very, very aware of this," Cardinal Husar said.

"We need to be realistic. Ukraine started its independence 13 years ago, but it started with much baggage and there is much work left to be done," the cardinal said. He stressed the need in Ukraine for a moral compass with regard to family life.

In accepting the award on behalf of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Mr. Weldon spoke about his introduction to Ukraine as a child while living in Pennsylvania. Mr. Weldon said that because of the introduction and his efforts in college to further familiarize himself with Ukraine, he came to Congress "aware of the issues surrounding Ukraine's past and present."

He added that still more work needed to be done. "We have not done enough with the Rada. We have not established a regular dialogue," Mr. Weldon said, referring to the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus's video teleconferences with members of the Verkhovna Rada in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian caucus received an award "for the caucus's commitment to pursuing steadfast relations with Ukraine in recognition of Ukraine's vital importance to the peace and security of the European continent" and "for the caucus's keen understanding and close working relationship with the Ukrainian American community," Mr. Sawkiw said.

Dr. Kuropas was presented with the award "for his commitment to the preser-



Andrew Nynka

Bishop Basil Losten receives his award from UCCA President Michael Sawkiw Jr.

vation of the Ukrainian heritage in the United States" and "for his efforts in the promotion of unity in the Ukrainian American community."

And, Bishop Losten was given the Shevchenko Freedom Award for his "long-standing and unwavering devotion for the future development and spiritual guidance of the Ukrainian Catholic Church" and "for his support and tireless efforts to unite the Ukrainian American community into a vibrant diaspora," Mr. Sawkiw said.

In presenting the award to Mr.

Krawciw, on Friday afternoon, Mr. Sawkiw said the retired general was being recognized "for his outstanding record of support for Ukraine's drive for independence and the successful advancement and reform of its military" and "for his efforts to achieve significant progress in the promotion of U.S.-Ukraine and NATO-Ukraine relations."

The congress and dinner were held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, just blocks away from the city's historic City Hall. Saturday's formal banquet concluded with a dance as the band Novyi Den played for guests.



Andrew Nynka

Dr. Myron B. Kuropas accepts his Shevchenko Freedom Award.



Andrew Nynka

The Shevchenko Freedom Award is accepted by Rep. Curt Weldon on behalf of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

"The Marinated Aristocrat," a Ukrainian-British fantasy, staged in Kyiv

by Jaryna Turko

While visiting Kyiv in May, I attended the premiere performance of a new play by the Ukrainian American playwright Irena Kowal. The play, "The Marinated Aristocrat," is her second; it played in Kyiv through the end of June. The first, "Pagan Saints" ("Lev i Levytsia" in Ukrainian) staged in 2001, dealt with the turbulent marriage of Lev Tolstoy and his wife, Sonia, and was based rather faithfully on their separate diaries.

"The Marinated Aristocrat" is a more original and ambitious play which deals with a clash of cultures – Anglo-Saxon and Slavic – as well as contemporary issues in Ukraine: unemployment, working abroad, stress on family life and the role of women in a changing society. It is grounded in the author's observations and experiences after living for the past 10 years in Kyiv and, previously for a number of years, in England.

The plot's action centers on an unemployed actor, Borys, who is about to play Mazepa (a heretofore taboo subject in Ukraine). Borys's wife throws him out to find a "real" job which would "bring in some money." He applies for a permit to work abroad and ends up in London working as a caregiver to an eccentric old British couple. The collision of these two worlds forms the main conflict of the play.

In a few well-crafted and hilarious scenes Ms. Kowal contrasts the two cultures. The old couple, for all their strangeness, lead a life that is basically quite ordered: they want their newspaper folded a certain way and their different cereals at specified times. Borys, who is nostalgic for Ukraine, introduces them to borsch and horilka, which he distills himself. The two sides clash in several riotously funny and absurd situations.

Soon it becomes obvious that the old couple, already on the edge of dementia, live in a world of their own. At first, their possibly fanciful, possibly real memories of hosting nobility, participating in grand events or awaiting their daughter for lunch, merely confuse Borys. However, when the imaginary or perhaps long dead daughter Clarissa doesn't materialize and the old couple force Borys to take her place, the actor naturally takes to the role. The games begin

Jaryna Turko Bodrock is former head of the Slavic department at Harvard College Library; previously she was Slavic bibliographer in that department.

in earnest, but the roles of master and servant remain clear.

Borys gets a chance to "direct." He devises play-acting games for the old couple, supporting and encouraging their hidden and unfulfilled desires. The real and the imaginary begin to blend, and the first act culminates with the old woman, whose passions have been aroused, awaiting her lover while the old man courts her dressed up as Borys's hero Mazepa. They dance together in a euphoric moment until reality hits home.

In the second act, the "games" escalate, get harsher and more grotesque on both sides, and finally run out of control. The roles between servant and master reverse, and Borys becomes the master, staging his own fantasies. They peak in an elaborate scene of visiting "nobility."

The audience is entertained by a succession of virtual visitors: Princess Olha, Doroshenko and Sahaydachnyi, a pop diva, the brothers Klitschko and others. The old couple eventually realize what has happened and fight back to regain control of their world. The play ends with unexpected results, both hilarious and shocking, and viewers are presented with "the marinated aristocrat" as the latest fad of modern art.

In a parallel scene, dramatized primarily through letters, Borys's wife tells her own story of "a new woman" in Ukraine. Selling lingerie on the street, she develops her own business as the money from Borys comes in, and eventually becomes the owner of a factory which sells "Ukrainian bras for Ukrainian breasts."

Ms. Kowal makes the letter scenes between Borys and his wife among the most lyrical and poignant in the play. They reflect not only the changing reality in Ukraine, the terrible choices people make, their desperate longing and helplessness, but ultimately a disintegrating marriage. All is not acting or farce or absurdity. There is an underlying reality that speaks to the audience directly, without the obvious appearance of artifice, in an anguished and immediately recognizable way.

Stanislav Moiseev's staging was masterful and inspired. He combined the comic and the absurd with dance and musical revue, which brought the text alive and energized the play.

The choice of music was particularly well-adapted to the characters who inhabit separate worlds. In the opening scene the audience hears "Winchester Cathedral" as the British couple (30 years younger) play croquet. In



Jaryna Turko

Playwright Irena Kowal next to a billboard advertising her latest play, "The Marinated Aristocrat."

another, the sentimental, catchy American pop song "Only You ..." sung in several versions including Ukrainian, becomes Borys's signature tune.

Choreography and music intensify what the characters communicate. The smooth, ballet-like movements of the croquet-playing young Brits change to the broken puppet-like gestures of old age or, where fantasy requires, the fighting of the Klitschko brothers.

During the letter scenes Mr. Moiseev brings the wife onstage (unseen by Borys) in various incarnations of his pet names for her – dancing, singing, snuggling, or read-

(Continued on page 27)

Sculpture donated to Lviv gallery in memory of Danylo-Husar Struk

by Oksana Zakydalsky



"Na Mezhi" – Petruk sculpture donated to the Lviv Gallery of Arts.

TORONTO – On the fifth anniversary of the death of Danylo Husar-Struk, professor of Slavic studies at the University of Toronto and editor of the "Encyclopedia of Ukraine," his widow, Oksana, donated a sculpture, the work of Roman Petruk, to the Lviv Gallery of Arts.

The sculpture was presented to the gallery on the exact date of Prof. Struk's death – June 19th – at a ceremony in the gardens of the gallery where the art work will stand.

About 20 persons, some of whom came from abroad – Oksana Struk, his stepdaughter Tetiana Wynnycky, his former student Dr. Yuri Boshyk and friends from Toronto Mykola and Kvitka Kondracki – were at the presentation. Zenovyi Mazuryk, assistant to the director, represented the gallery.

Prof. Struk was a native of Lviv, born in the city in 1940. He became acquainted with Mr. Petruk in the 1960s, admired his work (he owned several pieces) and had seen the plaster model of the donated sculpture "Na Mezhi" (On the Border). It depicts a human figure – or a pagan god – chained to a stone pedestal, who has cut off his own head with a sword, which he is clutching in one hand. The other hand is holding the head up to the heavens – the passage from one life to the next.

Mr. Petruk, born in the same year as Prof. Struk, graduated from the Lviv Institute of Applied and Decorative Arts in 1964. He was an active member of the Lviv Shestydesiatnyky artists and writers group. He illustrated the samvydav edition of Ihor Kalynets' poetry collection "Pidsumovuyuchy Movchannia" (Summing up Silence) subsequently published by Suchasnist.

Mr. Petruk first worked as a graphic artist and a ceramist, later turning to figurative sculpture. Some of his better-known works are of religious figures, for example, the group "The Four Evangelists" at the Church St. Mykolai in Truskavets or the bronze figure of a saint, which stands in the entrance of the

Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. But he is also drawn to traditional figures – he has done several versions of Vertep figures in wood.

Mr. Petruk said the inspiration for his art comes from ancient Ukrainian traditions and legends, and that this love of traditional Ukrainian art and of antiquity was aroused by his father's words when he left his native

village: "Go, but always look back at the chimney of your house. Then you will never get lost." And, Mr. Petruk maintained, "I have continued to look back."

In his studio in Lviv, Mr. Petruk has numerous plaster models of sculptures waiting to be cast in bronze – a process that is expensive and out of reach for the artist unless a sponsor can be found.



Seen at the presentation of a sculpture by Roman Petruk to the Lviv Gallery of Arts are (from left): Zenovyi Mazuryk, Oksana Struk, Tetiana Wynnycky, Kvitka Kondracki, Mykhailo Kondracki and Yuri Boshyk.



FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Ingerit Kuzych

Ukraine-Estonia issue wins top prize



Figure 1. The vertical se-tenant combination showing the "Route From the Varangians to the Greeks."

An unusual joint issue showing the medieval "Route From the Varangians to the Greeks" won the prestigious Heorhiy Narbut Prize as the best-designed Ukrainian stamp of 2003. The two stamps, vertically se-tenant with an interspaced label (Figure 1), depict the eastern European trading route that once ran between two countries that last year cooperated to produce the joint issue: Estonia and Ukraine.

The "Route," which began along the shores of the Baltic Sea, was used by the peoples better known to most as the Vikings (those of eastern Europe, however, are referred to as the Varangians). During a period of several hundred years (9th to 11th centuries) they traveled up and down the riverine arteries of Eastern Europe carrying furs, timber, grain, amber, honey, wax and slaves southward in exchange for silver, silks, spices and other riches from the final destination of the "Route," fabled Constantinople (capital of the "Greeks," i.e., the Byzantine Empire).

About the joint issue

The Ukrainian issue turned out to be the most elaborate prepared by Ukraine Post last year. The stamps were printed in a special pane format, as well as in a special four-page presentation booklet. The pane (Figure 2) contained three stamp-label-stamp se-tenant combinations in the center and three more examples of each of the two stamps along the upper and



Figure 3. Cover of the special Ukrainian stamp booklet for the "Route."

lower portions. All 12 stamps making up the pane are surrounded by a decorated border showing some of the items carried on the trade route (jewelry, metal ingots, weapons and decorative goods).

The se-tenant combination itself illustrates the route that was followed: beginning near the suburbs of modern-day Stockholm, passing through the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Finland, then through rivers passing into or out of Lakes Ladoga and Ilmen to the great Dnipro River, which runs to the Black Sea and then ultimately to Byzantium.

The upper (80 sotyky) stamp represents the area of departure for the "Route." On the left, overlaying the map background on the stamp design, is a

planned. The first describes the "Route of the Varangians to the Greeks" in both Ukrainian (front) and English (back). The other three leaves are all gummed and contain respectively: the se-tenant stamps (Figure 4), a single of the "Estonian" stamp (Figure 5), and a single of the "Ukrainian" stamp (Figure 6). Each of these three leaves is decorated with elaborate designwork.

Other top vote-getters

A record number of votes were received for the Narbut Prize balloting this year. The "Route" stamps were selected by almost 16 percent of the participants in the voting. Second place went to the "Holodomor" stamp (Figure 7) with just under 10 percent. "Holodomor" is the Ukrainian word used to describe the terror-famine imposed on the Ukrainian populace in 1932-1933 by Soviet authorities seeking to destroy Ukrainian nationalism. An estimated 7 million to 10 million people were condemned to a slow execution in this, one of the most ghastly genocides of the 20th century.

Tied for second place was the "History of the Ukrainian Army" issue, which last year depicted warfare involv-

However, as the August 15 deadline approached, it became clear that the "Route" issue would win handily.

The Narbut Prize is sponsored by the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) based in the United States and continues to be recognized as the premier philatelic art award in Ukraine. Past winning designs and their artist creators have all been prominently featured in *Filatelia Ukrainy*, Ukraine's leading philatelic periodical.

The Heorhiy Narbut Prize honors Ukraine's outstanding graphic artist of the early 20th century. Mr. Narbut prepared the three high-value stamps (30, 40 and 50 shahy) from Ukraine's first postage stamp issue of 1918. He also designed about a dozen of Ukraine's first banknotes.

Readers wishing to examine all of last year's stamps (or the issues from any year) in full color, may do so online at the Ukrainian Electronic Stamp Album, (www.ukrainianphilately.info). Click on 2003 or on any other year's issues you may wish to check out. Past Narbut Prize winners as well as runners-up may be viewed on the website of the UPNS, www.upns.org.



Figure 2. Sheetlet showing the stamp and label arrangement for the "Route" issue.

gold coin of the Danish King Svend Estridsen (1047-1075); on the right is an English miniature "Landing of the Scandinavian Seamen" dating to the 12th century. This design was prepared by Jaan Saar of Estonia.

The map on the lower stamp (also 80 sotyky) shows a simplified view of Constantinople, the final goal of the "Route." The silver coin on the left is that of Grand Prince Volodymyr of Rus' (medieval Ukraine), who ruled from 980 to 1015. The ship on the right is an ancient Slav military craft copied from a manuscript of the Middle Ages. This design was the work of Oksana Ternavska of Ukraine. Both artists will receive equal shares of the \$250 Narbut Prize honorarium.

Ms. Ternavska also designed the pages of the presentation booklet (Figure 3), only 7,000 of which were prepared. Each of the four leaves of the booklet is beautifully

ing the ancient Slavs (Figure 8).

The fourth-place selection fell to the last stamps of the "Hetmans of Ukraine" series (9 percent), which began in 1995 and has honored several hetmans every year since (Figure 9). The hetmans were Kozak leaders of the 15th to the 18th centuries. Last year's stamps honored Kyrylo Rozumovsky (r. 1750-1764) and Ivan Skoropadsky (r. 1708-1722).

Falling to fifth place in the voting were the "Ukrainian Folk Costumes" stamps, which garnered 8 percent of the ballots (Figure 10). The costumes series had come in first in 2003.

The wide variety of subjects depicted on Ukraine's 2003 stamps was reflected in the balloting for this year's Narbut Prize for best stamp design. Almost every one of last year's stamps or souvenir sheets appealed to someone and subsequently received some votes.

A list of past winners

The Narbut Prize has been awarded annually since 1993 for the best-designed stamp of the previous year (Ukraine resumed stamp production only in 1992). The award was established by Dr. Ingerit Kuzych, well-known philatelic author, editor, and exhibitor who currently serves as the society's president. Below are the winners of the Narbut Prize since its inception. The 2004 favorite broke a trend that had seen a souvenir sheet emerge as the winner for six years in a row.

1993A – Larysa Koren, "150th Anniversary of the Birth of Composer Mykola Lysenko."

1993B – Oleh Snarsky, "National Flag and Trident Emblem of Ukraine" (Note: there was a tie in voting in 1993).

(Continued on page 15)



Figure 4. Opened cover showing the back of the first leaf (with the English-language inscription) and the second leaf with the stamp-label arrangement.



Figure 5. Third booklet leaf describing the "Estonian" stamp.

1994 – Yuriy Lohvyn, "75th Anniversary of Ukraine's First Postage Stamps."
 1995 – Serhiy Bieliaiev, "160th Anniversary of Kyiv University."
 1996 – Yuriy Lohvyn, "Hetmans of Ukraine" series.
 1997 – Serhiy Bieliaiev, "150th Anniversary of the Kyiv University Astronomical Observatory" (stamp triptych).
 1998 – V. Taran and O. Kharuk, "The Founding of Kyiv" (Europa souvenir sheet).
 1999 – V. Taran, O. Kharuk, S. Kharuk and V. Kozachenko. "350th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Struggle for Freedom Under Bohdan Khmelnytsky" (souvenir sheet).
 2000 – Oleksiy Shtanko, "Yaroslav the Wise" (souvenir sheet).
 2001 – Kateryna Shtanko, "Wildflowers of Ukraine" (souvenir sheet).



Figure 6. Fourth booklet leaf describing the "Ukrainian" stamp.



Figure 8. Tied for second were the "History of the Ukrainian Army" stamps showing warfare as practiced by the ancient Slavs.



Figure 7. The poignant design featured on the "Holodomor" (Great Famine) stamp finished second in the voting.

2002 – Oleksiy Shtanko, "King Danylo" (souvenir sheet).
 2003 – Mykola Kochubei, "Ukrainian Folk Costumes" (stamps and souvenir sheet).
 2004 – Jaan Saar and Oksana Ternavska, "Route From the Varangians to the Greeks" (Ukraine-Estonia joint issue).

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Future leaders...

(Continued from page 8)

Union, SUMA (Yonkers, N.Y.) Federal Credit Union and Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union (New York City).

Program activities

By interacting with leaders working in governmental and non-governmental areas, this year's participants gained an understanding of the American political process, U.S.-Ukraine relations, public policy, and the role of the Ukrainian-American community in U.S.-Ukraine affairs. They also explored such issues as the upcoming presidential election in Ukraine, youth engagement in democratic and transparent governance in Ukraine, and their possible leadership roles. In addition, a special roundtable discussion on environmental issues in Ukraine was included in this year's program.

One of the most memorable meetings in the program was with Gloria Steele, deputy assistant administrator of the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia at the U.S. Agency for International Development. She described her career at USAID, the current projects of the agency in Ukraine, and then opened the floor for a vibrant discussion on USAID's possible assistance activities in the area of trafficking of persons from Ukraine. The students commented on which methods they felt would be most effective in increasing awareness of this issue in Ukraine and decreasing the numbers of people that are being enslaved.

Students also met with Paula Dobriansky, undersecretary of global affairs at the U.S. State Department. Ms.

Dobriansky, a Ukrainian American, currently oversees humanitarian assistance to Iraq and Afghanistan, and has worked in the past with several programs in Eastern Europe including Ukraine. At present, the issues of concern for the U.S. Department of State in Ukraine are the upcoming presidential election in Ukraine, trafficking in persons and energy-related issues.

John Bass, special advisor on national security affairs at the Office of the Vice-President, discussed the state of U.S.-Ukraine relations and the upcoming elections in both countries. He stressed U.S. support of democracy-building in Ukraine, but also noted that the U.S. can do no more than "help Ukraine to help itself." When asked what democracy for Ukraine means, Mr. Bass answered that it is not about seeking U.S. approval in political actions, but it is about the Ukrainian people themselves choosing and pursuing the fundamentals of democracy, and the country growing and maturing. "The choices that you make as citizens of Ukraine will have a global impact," he told the students from Ukraine.

Representing the judicial branch, Federal Judge Bohdan Futey from the U.S. Court of Federal Claims welcomed the students to his office at Madison Place and spoke on the role of the judiciary in governance, different branches of the judiciary and his career as a federal judge. Judge Futey, who was involved in the design and writing of Ukraine's Constitution, continues to help advance Ukraine's judicial branch through various programs and workshops in Ukraine.

Participants also met with Orest Deychakiwsky, staff advisor at the

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, better known as the Helsinki Commission. In a lively exchange, students asked questions about the status of human rights and democracy in Ukraine, the upcoming elections in both Ukraine and the United States and the future of cooperation between the two countries. When they asked what they could do to help Ukraine advance in its way to democracy, Mr. Deychakiwsky said "You don't know what may help, but the worst thing is to do nothing and be silent." He urged them to act consistently on both personal and country levels.

Environmental roundtable

A very lively forum on the environment was held on one of the last days of the program. Presenters at the environmental panel included Andrew Bihun, former U.S. commercial attaché in Kyiv; Ken Bossong, co-director of the Ukrainian-American Environmental Association, coordinator at the Sustainable Energy Coalition and former U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Lviv; Paul Ivanicky, a private consultant to several U.S.-Ukrainian private-sector agricultural projects and a former deputy director of Louisiana State University's Ukrainian Agricultural Extension Project; Oleksiy Kalynychenko, Muskie Graduate Fellow at the University of Delaware, and an intern at the IUCN – The World Conservation Union, U.S. office; Tanya Murza, graduate of the Muskie Graduate Fellowship Program at Evergreen State College, in the state of Washington, and an intern at the Washington, D.C., office of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service; and Nataliya Parasyuk, Muskie

graduate fellow at Brown University and an intern at the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress.

They gave the students a brief overview of energy and environmental issues in Ukraine, nuclear power in Ukraine, the role of energy efficiency in the United States and Ukraine, renewable energy development in Ukraine with a focus on wind power, and sustainable agriculture in Ukraine. The students were involved in a stimulating question-and-answer session with the panelists, trying to see how they could become involved in stabilizing the energy sector in Ukraine and increasing public awareness of environmental issues.

Additional events

The week finished with a reception at the Embassy of Ukraine. Before the social event, students met with Dr. Sergiy Korsunsky, minister-counselor at the Embassy, who answered questions on a variety of topics: the upcoming election, enabling Ukrainian citizens currently in the U.S. to vote in the upcoming presidential election in Ukraine, the current political course of Ukraine, and youth and exchange programs for both Ukrainians and Americans.

The program officially concluded on Friday morning with a certificate ceremony at the Taras Shevchenko monument in downtown Washington. The students, along with other dignitaries from Ukraine who were participating in another training program sponsored by the foundation, paid tribute to the great awakener of the Ukrainian nation, Taras Shevchenko, and sang his "Zapovit" (Testament).

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Falsification...

(Continued from page 2)

rallies as alleged "supporters." The "pseudo-candidates" obtained ready-made signature packets that they submitted to the Central Election Commission last week.

The Razumkov Center has provided concrete data confirming the scam. According to a survey conducted in the first half of September (i.e., the final two weeks to collect signatures) only 23.8 percent of Ukrainians admitted to having signed a petition in support of a candidate. Of these, 11.8 percent were for Mr. Yanukovich, 8.1 percent for Mr. Yushchenko, 2 percent for Mr. Symonenko, and 1 percent for Mr. Moroz. Another 1.5 percent signed for the remaining 22 candidates (Ukrainska Pravda, September 23).

The gulf between these figures and the signatures submitted gives credence to the concerns raised by the CVU and "I Know." The Yanukovich election campaign team, for example, claims it collected 7.2 million signatures (i.e., 19 percent of voters) and yet only 11.8 percent admitted to having signed for him. Around 1 percent of these 11.8 percent claimed they were forced to sign for Mr. Yanukovich. Of Mr. Yanukovich's alleged 7.2 million signatures, 45 percent were from Donetsk.

Pseudo-candidates who support Mr. Yanukovich are useful in several ways. First, they dominate 60 percent of territorial commissions, placing them in a good position to potentially manipulate the final vote. In its August report the CVU concluded that these candidates "appear to be registered in order to put Mr. Yanukovich representatives on the commissions" (cvu.org.ua). Local "parties of power" loyal to Mr. Yanukovich provided these thousands of commission officials and paid the \$100,000 deposit for each candidate. In the Lviv oblast, for example, the Social Democratic Party – United performed this task (Ukrainska Pravda, August 27).

An August 26 presidential administration document leaked to Eurasia Daily Monitor titled "Expert Survey of the 'Effectiveness' of the Use of Candidate Resources During the Election Campaign in Ukraine" concluded that the pseudo-candidates could add more than 5-6 percent to Mr. Yanukovich's election result.

These votes for pseudo-candidates are also aimed at preventing Mr. Yushchenko from winning in the first round (Zerkalo Nedeli, August 14-20; Ukrainska Pravda, July 28). Each candidate will drain small percentage points away from the opposition, just as the numerous virtual parties created by the authorities in the 2002 parliamentary elections took votes away from the opposition.

In addition, these candidates obtain free time on state television, which they are using to attack Mr. Yushchenko. These attacks from the extreme left (Oleksander Yakovenko) and right (Roman Kozak), as well as Slavic Party candidate Oleksander Bazyliuk, target Mr. Yushchenko's American wife. The extreme right claims they, as "nationalists," support Mr. Yushchenko, while the extreme left attacks him for allegedly being a "nationalist." Spots for these two candidates are immediately followed by Mr. Yushchenko's campaign message, a step that the Supreme Court ruled illegal, as campaign messages have to be separated by 20-minute gaps (Ukrainska Pravda, August 27, September 1 and 8).

These open violations suggest that the authorities never planned to hold a free and fair election. As Zerkalo Nedeli (August 21-27) pointed out. "The meticulous preparation, centralized planning and scale of the operation testify that the authorities charge the election commissions with more than administrative functions. One can only guess what their true motives are."

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Yanukovych back...

(Continued from page 1)

mistakes of youth and did not want to leave the younger Mr. Romaniuk with a black mark that could affect his future.

The student's father, Mykhailo Romaniuk, a dean of economics at Stefanyk Prykarpattia University, earlier made a plea for forgiveness for his son, who he said was contrite and cognizant that he had made a mistake in lobbing the egg.

Mr. Yanukovych saved his vitriol instead for officials of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine organization. The prime minister said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine after he returned to Kyiv that he had gone to the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast as the head of government to better understand the problems the region faces. He said he failed to grasp why he had been treated so badly.

"I as a politician have not said a single offensive word to my opponents for the whole election campaign. Now I understand: nationalism is a disease and unfortunately I must state this," he said.

Mykola Tomenko, an official of the Our Ukraine political coalition headed by Mr. Yushchenko and a ranking member of the Yushchenko campaign team, denied that the bloc or its campaign team were responsible for the events that had occurred in Ivano-Frankivsk.

"Since its founding, Yushchenko's bloc has never used dirty campaigning methods," explained Mr. Tomenko.

Perhaps still seething from the egg tossing incident in Ivano-Frankivsk three days earlier, Mr. Yanukovych made a declaration to a meeting with Russian journalists based in Kyiv on September 27 which no one had expected to be so radical in its dimension. The prime minister told the journalists that not only should Russian be the second official language in Ukraine, but also that Ukrainians should be allowed to take dual citizenship with Russia. He also affirmed that he had no intention of taking Ukraine into NATO should he become president.

Most Ukrainian television news media, which are controlled almost wholly by political forces aligned with the prime minister, failed to make a comprehensive, frame-by-frame analysis available to the Ukrainian public for its scrutiny of the incident in Ivano-Frankivsk, which received substantial news coverage from all the major mass media outlets.

Only Channel 5, considered an oppositionist broadcaster that supports the presidential candidacy of Mr. Yushchenko, provided its viewers with a slow-motion replay of the incident, which occurred before Stefanyk Prykarpattia University, where dozens of students had gathered to meet with the prime minister, some carrying placards in support of Mr. Yanukovych's candidacy, others holding aloft the orange campaign banners of Mr. Yushchenko.

Television footage did not clearly show what hit Mr. Yanukovych as he disembarked from his bus to greet students lined up on the sidewalk, although it appeared to be a single object. It did, however, clearly show the prime minister first looking down to his suit jacket to notice the object and then seemingly reacting to what he saw – rather than to what he felt – before falling backwards to the ground. His security detail immediately surrounded Mr. Yanukovych

and carried him to a van that was part of the automobile cortege, which whisked the prime minister to a nearby hospital.

The first press reports made it clear that no one was sure, neither law enforcement officials nor members of the Yanukovych entourage, how to address what had happened. Initially, Mr. Yanukovych's press secretary, Hanna Herman, said that two objects were thrown at the prime minister, one of them solid. She also was quite earnest in noting that the injuries to the prime minister "were not life-threatening." She blamed "radical representatives of the Our Ukraine coalition" who she said were "acting aggressively," reported Interfax-Ukraine in its first release on the matter.

Mr. Tomenko of Our Ukraine dismissed Ms. Herman's remarks out of hand during his statement to the press soon after the incident. State militia noted eventually that Mr. Romaniuk, the student they had arrested, had no political affiliation.

However, Ms. Herman's remarks were only the beginning of a series of conflicting statements, most coming from the Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk offices of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Soon after Ms. Herman spoke, the state militia in Kyiv issued a statement in which it asserted that no "solid objects" had been thrown.

"It was just an egg," explained Tetiana Podoshevska, chief of the ministry's liaison department, some three hours after Ms. Herman had spoken, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Two hours further down the line, the Internal Affairs Ministry's Ivano-Frankivsk office offered yet another theory. Interfax-Ukraine reported that the ministry asserted that two hard objects had been tossed at Mr. Yanukovych. The state militia official who made the remark noted also that the perpetrators were members of the Union of Young Nationalists. The official added that one of the prime minister's bodyguards also was injured.

With that report on the wire, the Internal Affairs Ministry's Kyiv office then changed its initial account of the incident and noted that in fact two solid objects had hit the prime minister, one in the head, the other in the chest. Meanwhile, the Moscow-based TASS news agency was reporting that it had information that a single sharp metal object had injured Mr. Yanukovych.

As Mr. Yanukovych recuperated in the Ivano-Frankivsk hospital before flying home to spend the weekend in the state hospital at Feofania, Vasyl Baziv, deputy chief of the presidential administration, said during a weekly press briefing in the presidential administration building that a "vicious circle of escalation of hatred in society" was occurring.

"We've already come close to a dangerous point and all the participants in the political processes in Ukraine should come to their senses," stated Mr. Baziv.

A week ago Mr. Baziv had suggested that perhaps Mr. Yushchenko, who has alleged that he was poisoned in what could have been an assassination attempt, should have a food taster on his staff or at least drink vodka before his meals to sanitize his food.

On September 27 Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn called for a meeting among all the major presidential candidates to calm what he said was becoming an explosive situation within the country.



З почуттям смутку повідомляємо, що в неділю 19 вересня 2004 р. на 96-му році життя відійшла у вічність наша дорогенька МАМА, БАБУСЯ і ПРАБАБУСЯ

бл. п.

ІРЕНА ПОЛИВКО

з дому ПИЛИПЕНКО

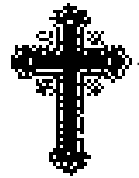
нар. 18 травня 1908 р. в Україні.

ПАНАХИДА відбулася 21 вересня 2004 р., а похорон 22 вересня на цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н.Дж.

В глибокому смутку залишилися:

- сини – ВАЛЕНТИН ПОЛИВКО з дружиною ІРЕНОЮ
 - ВОЛОДИМИР і ІРЕНА ПОЛИВКИ
 - внуки – НІНА МЕК'МЕНАМІН з чоловіком МАЙКЕЛ
 - СТЕФАНІЯ НАРОНИС з чоловіком ПАВЛЮСОМ
 - ПАВЛО
 - ДЖАН з дружиною КИМ
 - ХРИСТИНА
 - правнуки – ТАРАС ПАТРИК і ЕМІЛІЯ ЛІДІЯ
 - КРИСТОФЕР
 - МАЙКЕЛ ВІНЦЕНТ
- та ближча і дальша родина в Америці і Україні.

Вічна її пам'ять!



З невимовним смутком ділимося сумною вісткою з родиною, друзями і знайомими, що у суботу, 4 вересня 2004 р. загинув трагічно

в автомобільній катастрофі наш найдорожчий СИН, БРАТ, ВНУК, БРАТАНОК і КУЗЕН

бл. п.

МИХАЙЛО ЕДВАРД ДРЕБИЧ

нар. 25 серпня 1981 Р. Б. в Бронксі, Н.Й.

ПАРАСТАС і ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ були відслужені у вівторок, 7 вересня 2004 р в похоронному заведенні Adams-Cordovano Funeral Home, 15 Church St., Carmel, NY і в середу, 8 вересня 2004 р. в церкві св. Архистратига Михаїла, Йонкерс, Н.Й. Похоронений на цвинтарі Ferncliff, Hardsdale, NY.

Залишені в глибокому смутку:

- батьки – МИХАЙЛО і ДАНА
 - брат – ДАНИЛКО
 - дідусь – ЕДВАРД ОССО
 - тета – АННА САЛЕЦЬКА
 - стрийко – ЮРІЙ ДРЕБИЧ з дружиною ХРИСТИНОЮ, синами і родиною
 - вуйки – ОРЕСТ ЩУДЛЮК з дружиною СЛАВОЮ, дітьми і родиною
 - ЛЮБОМИР ЩУДЛЮК з дружиною ОЛЕЮ, дітьми і родиною
- та ближча і дальша родина.

Вічна йому пам'ять!



З невимовним смутком ділимося сумною вісткою з родиною, друзями і знайомими, що в п'ятницю, 24 вересня 2004 р. відійшла у вічність

св. п.

СТЕФАНІЯ КРАМАРЕНКО

з дому КРАВЧУК

нар. 16 березня 1909 р. в Стрию, Україна.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в понеділок, 27 вересня 2004 р. в католицькій церкві і похована на цвинтарі в Richmond, Maine.

Залишені в глибокому смутку:

- брат – ЕВСТАХІЙ КРАВЧУК з дружиною АННОЮ в Норт Порті, Фла.
- ближча і дальша родина в Америці, Німеччині і Україні.

Вічна її пам'ять!

Attention, Students!

Throughout the year Ukrainian student clubs plan and hold activities. The Ukrainian Weekly urges students to let us and the Ukrainian community know about upcoming events.

The Weekly will be happy to help you publicize them. We will also be glad to print timely news stories about events that have already taken place. Photos also will be accepted.

MAKE YOURSELF HEARD.

Ukrainian Festival of Morris County
October 9, 2004
Germania Park, Dover NJ
1 - 7 PM

Sponsored by the Ukrainian American Youth Assoc.
 Whippany, NJ Branch

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7pm - 11 pm

Performances by: Olya Chodoba-Fryz
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Soyuzivka hosts...

(Continued from page 9)

Roman Shumsky 6-4, 6-4, and Sydorak beat Lubodar Olesnycky 6-0, 6-1.

One of the largest men's divisions was the age 55 and over event, which drew four former champions. In the finals George Sawchak of Pennsylvania, 16-time winner in various groups, overcame last year's champion, Jaroslaw Sydorak, 6-4, 6-4, the latter opting to play in two age groups. In the semifinals Sawchak eliminated former tournament winner George Petrykevych of Connecticut 6-3, 6-3, and Sydorak eliminated George Hrabec of Massachusetts 6-2, 6-3. In the quarterfinals Hrabec won 6-4, 2-1, ret. when Zenon Matkiwsky, many times a former USCAK champion withdrew because of injury.

In the older boys' division final Lawrence Zakrevsky defeated last year's winner, Mykola Stroynick, 6-1, 6-0. In the semis he overcame Steve Shumsky 6-0, 6-3, and Stroynick beat Damian Petrykevych 6-3, 6-4. The younger boys' group played in a round-robin format with Oles Charchalis defeating both Gregory Olesnycky 6-1, 6-1 and Alexander Hryhorowych 6-2, 6-1. Hryhorowych won second place.

Maryana Milchutske won her second title in the older girls' division eliminating Lana

Denysyk 6-0, 6-0. In the semis Milchutske beat Katrusia Charchalis 6-1, 6-0, and Denysyk overcame Tanya Petrykevych 6-0, 6-7, 6-3. Charchalis also competed in the younger girls' division, winning first place, and Denysyk took second place.

In the senior men's consolation draw, the winner was Walter Dziwak who won the final against Peter Dubas 6-2, 6-1. Dziwak, a familiar face at Soyuzivka, competes in all the tournaments here year after year.

The tennis committee awarded the coveted Mary Dushnyck Good Sportsmanship Trophy to Miss Charchalis for her outstanding participation in the tourney.

During the closing ceremonies Stefan Kaczaraj, president of the UNA, thanked the players and tournament directors, and urged everyone to continue their patronage of Soyuzivka during its renaissance. Presenting the trophies and Winner Group stipends were the tournament director Mr. Sawchak, members of the tennis committee: Messrs. Popel, Hrabec, Rakoczy and Kaczaraj and Petrusia Sawchak.

Memorial trophies were awarded as follows: men's - Bohdan Rak Trophy; men's 35 - Jaroslaw Rubel Trophy; men's 45 - Dr. Wolodymyr Huk Trophy; men's 55 - Dr. Petro Charuk Trophy; and women's - Konstantyn Ben Trophy.

An open invitation to local community activists

Would you like fellow Ukrainians to know about events in your community?
 Would you like to become one of The Ukrainian Weekly's correspondents?
 Then what are you waiting for?

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes submissions from local community activists. You may reach The Weekly by phone, (973) 292-9800; fax, (973) 644-9510; e-mail, staff@ukrweekly.com; or mail, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 3)

Yanukovich was hit only by an egg thrown by a 17-year-old, a view that seemed consistent with video footage of the incident. Later, however, the ministry modified its stance and spoke about "several hard objects." National Deputy Stepan Havrysh, coordinator of the pro-government parliamentary coalition, said Mr. Yanukovich was hit by an egg in his temple and collapsed from a "pain shock." Lawmaker Taras Chornovil, who supports Mr. Yanukovich's presidential bid, claimed to have seen from an upper deck of Mr. Yanukovich's bus that the prime minister was hit on his temple by a stone. Serhii Tyhytko, head of the Yanukovich election campaign, said the prime minister was hit by a battery from a video camera. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko consolidates campaign

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, which form the Force of the People coalition supporting Mr. Yushchenko's presidential bid, nominated Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chairman Oleksander Zinchenko as head of the coalition's "central staff" on September 25, the Ukrainska Pravda website reported. Ms. Tymoshenko reportedly called on Yushchenko campaign leaders and activists to work as "one united team, without intrigues and confrontation." Earlier there were two coordinating centers for Mr. Yushchenko's election campaign: the Our Ukraine staff headed by Roman Bezsmertnyi and the election campaign staff led by Mr. Zinchenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russians surveyed on Ukraine's election

KYIV – A survey of 1,500 Russian citizens by ROMIR Monitoring found that only 12 percent can identify at least one candidate running in Ukraine's presidential election, scheduled for October 31, newsru.com reported. In the survey, which was conducted on August 12-17, 27 percent said they didn't think a win by any of the candidates would benefit Russia. Seven percent said a win by Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, the heir-apparent to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, would benefit Russia the most. (RFE/RL Newsline)

UWCC endorses Yushchenko

KYIV – The Ukrainian World Coordinating Council, meeting in Kyiv on September 3, discussed participation in the presidential elections in Ukraine. Participants of the meeting, attended by the council's Ukraine-based section, decided to support Viktor Yushchenko for

president. As well, the UWCC decided to demand from the Central Election Commission, the Foreign Affairs Minister and the Verkhovna Rada to do everything possible to increase the number of election districts for citizens of Ukraine who are abroad, and to demand that the conditions for voting be monitored to enable citizens abroad to exercise their right to vote. The UWCC also decided to call on Ukrainian organizations, including member-organizations of the UWCC, to take an active role in the preparations and conduct of the election in their countries and to designate election monitors at polling stations abroad. The UWCC appealed to all citizens of Ukraine who now find themselves abroad to cast ballots in the October 31 election, to demand their rights as citizens of Ukraine, and to report any election violations to the Central Election Commission, the UWCC and civil rights organizations. (Press Center of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council)

UOC-MP in Odesa endorses Yanukovich

ODESA – The first congress of Russian organizations of the region took place in the Russian Theater in Odesa on August 30. This event, according to Radio Liberty, marked the beginning of the active participation of the Odesa Metropolitanate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) in support of Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's presidential campaign. The website of the pro-Russian organization One Fatherland started a special link, called "Orthodox Christians against the leader of Our Ukraine." Viktor Yushchenko, opposition candidate in the presidential election, is the leader of Our Ukraine. Also, UOC-MP Metropolitan Ahafanhel of Odesa and Izmail took part in a civic forum held in Odesa in support of Mr. Yanukovich. Informational materials with open propaganda for Mr. Yanukovich, quoting Metropolitan Ahafanhel, were distributed at the congress. "This man deserves God's and people's attention," said the metropolitan. "I encourage the faithful of Odesa to vote in the coming election for a worthy candidate, Viktor Fedorovich Yanukovich. I think that Ukraine will achieve strength, peace and glory, and a worthy life among the European nations." Father Andrii Novykov, secretary of the UOC-MP's Odesa Metropolitanate, spoke at the congress. He expressed his hope that the participants of the congress would support Mr. Yanukovich in the election. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Priest opposes UOC-MP campaigning

ODESA – Father Volodymyr Kleban, acting secretary of the Odesa Eparchy of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox

Church and pastor of the Church of Christ's Resurrection, expressed his astonishment at Metropolitan Ahafanhel's active participation in the campaign of Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich for president. Metropolitan Ahafanhel is head of the Odesa and Izmail Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP). Father Kleban said: "Ukrainian clergy should pray for the salvation of the souls of God's people, including all presidential candidates without exception. Meddling with the electoral campaign is no business of the Church." It is Father Kleban's opinion that "the faithful should respond to the pre-election activity of the Moscow Patriarchate with a protest against it. The Church is not a political organization." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Candidate wants state to fund churches

KYIV – On August 21 the bill "On State Financing of Religious Communities," authored by National Deputy Leonid Chernovetskyi, was introduced to Ukraine's Parliament. Mr.

Chernovetskyi is a candidate for president of Ukraine and head of the country's Christian Liberal Party. According to the bill, Ukrainian religious communities "the parishioners of which are praying during services for the health and Christian mercy of Ukraine's president, Ukraine's prime minister, and personally for the members of the government, the head of Ukraine's Parliament and the national deputies of Ukraine, for the faction leaders of Ukraine's Parliament and chiefs of the Ukrainian presidential administration, for the Ukrainian country and the Ukrainian people, for the miserable and the sick, for their recovery, for the revival of the nation's spirituality and flourishing of the national economy, and the liquidation of corruption" are to be financed from the state budget. Oleksander Zaiets, director of the Institute of Religious Freedom, commented that even a first look at the draft law "On State Financing of Religious Communities" shows that "this bill is populist in its essence, lacking juridical revision." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

ПОДЯКА



В імені Української Скавтської Організації в ЗСА, Пласт, Крайова Старшина щиросеречно дякує усім жертводавцям, які відгукнулися на наш заклик зібрати фонди, щоб оплатити виховникам з України кошти транспорту і перебування в Америці.

Цього літа пластові табори на Вовчій Тропі, на Писаному Камені і на Новому Соколі скористали із знання досвідчених виховників з України. Для виховників це була нагода також познайомитися з нашою молоддю.

Літом 2005 р. плянуємо обмін виховників з Америки і з України. Виховники з України приїдуть на пластові табори в Америку, а група наших виховників поїде на табори в Україну.

Щиро дякуємо за Вашу підтримку і допомогу у цій справі. Ми віримо, що такий обмін є на користь Пласту – головно нашим дітям в Америці і в Україні.

Просимо далі підтримувати нашу працю. Датки можна виписувати на „Пласт – USA“, на нижче подану адресу і зазначити „Булава“.

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За Крайову Пластову Старшину Америки,

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пл. сен. Надя Нинка, ЧП,
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400		Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union;
по 250		Курені УСП та УПС „Орден Хрестоносців“, Курінь УСП „Ті, що греблі рвуть“, Плавня Нью-Йорк куреня УПС „Ті, що греблі рвуть“;
по 200		Таїса й Андрій Бровари, Богдан Домарадський, Юрій і Мелінда Маринюки, Ярро і Діана Маринюки, Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union;
150		Курінь УПС „Чортополохи“;
по 100		Всеволод Гнатчук (в пам'ять бл. п. Галини Микити), Андрій Головінський, Олег і Анета Ковблянські, Курінь УПС „Верховинки“, Люба й Андрій Маринюки, Ігор і Віра Микити, Ігор Мілянчик, Юрій і Леся Раковські, Юрій і Авра Слюсарчуки, Роман Стефанюк, Т-во українських сеньйорів Маямі, Зенон й Оленка Сайкевич-Цибрівські;
75		Роман Петик;
55		Дмитро і Стефанія Косовичі (в пам'ять бл. п. Галини Хамули);
по 50		Михайло Ковальчук, Наталія Кравчук з родиною, Курінь УПС „Лісові Мавки“;
45		Віра і Віктор Бохеники;
по 25		Курінь УСП „Бурлаки“, Микола й Ірена Ракуші, Омелян і Наталка Татунчаки, Ірена Трач.
Разом		25,400 дол.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

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

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

SUM sponsors Co-Ed Quads Volleyball Tournament

by Christina Jancew Iwanik

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – The fifth annual Co-Ed Quads Volleyball Tournament sponsored by the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) was held on Saturday, August 9, here at the SUM resort (Oselia).

Nine teams played in the tournament, which has become a popular tradition that has drawn competitors from as far away as Ukraine and Singapore.

This has remained an all-Ukrainian tournament open only to individuals of Ukrainian descent which has drawn teams consisting not only of SUM members but also compatriots from Plast and from teams based at Ukrainian parishes. Each of the nine teams that registered this year consisted of four players – with at least one female on each. Players ranged in age from 16 to 42.

The tournament was again organized by Christina Jancew Iwanik with the help of Christopher Iwanik and Vasyl Jancew, Jr. A special tribute was extended to Mark Howansky and Peter Zelez, who provided portable nets, and to the administration of Oselia SUM under the leadership of Peter Kosciolok for their hospitality.

The following teams competed: Team Asbach from New York City and Maryland; Team Czebiniak from Binghamton, N.Y.; Team Kabany from Hartford, Conn.; Team Kowalczyk from Yonkers, N.Y.; Team Shnur from Hartford; Team Soroka from New York City and Ukraine; Team Taissa from Yonkers and Singapore; Team Warycha from Yonkers; and Zoloti Zuby from Yonkers and Binghamton, N.Y.

Teams Asbach, Czebiniak, Soroka and Zoloti Zuby made it to the semifinals.

The winners and MVPs of the tournament were:

- first place – Team Czebiniak (Oles Czebiniak, Orysia Czebiniak, Paul Czebiniak and Chris Madak);

- second place – Team Zoloti Zuby (Adrian Czebiniak, Andrij Czebiniak, Oksana Czebiniak and Sammy Warycha);

- third place – Team Asbach – (Oleksa Breslawec, Ivan Kaczur, George

Mykytyn and Lida Mykytyn);

- Most Valuable Players: Orysia Czebiniak and Sammy Warycha.

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Tournament champions (from left) Paul Czebiniak, Orysia Czebiniak, Chris Madak and Oles Czebiniak pose with the event's organizer Christina Iwanik (back).



Sammy Warycha goes up for a hit, while Chris Madak tries to block in the finals between Team Czebiniak and Team Zoloti Zuby.



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100 young dancers attend camp at Ukrainian Homestead

LEHIGHTON, Pa. – This summer, 100 young dancers gathered at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehigh, Pa., from June 28 through July 3 to participate in the 15th annual folk dance camp and workshop, sponsored by the Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation of the Lower Anthracite Regions (UAHF).

Dancers traveled from throughout the coal regions of eastern Pennsylvania, the eastern United States, and from as far away as Georgia to attend the week-long workshop. Dancers were divided into four groups from preschool beginners

through advanced. Andriy Dobriansky of the Syzokryli Dance Ensemble in New York City served as the guest instructor for the younger campers. David Woznak of the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance in Parma, Ohio, worked extensively with the most advanced dancers. Mr. Woznak, newly returned from his studies in Lviv, brought fresh choreography and teaching methods to the advanced workshop participants.

In addition to dance instruction, the younger campers spent part of each day completing arts and crafts, playing sports, learning Ukrainian folk songs, and, of course, swimming in the Homestead's beautiful outdoor pool overlooking the Pocono Mountains.

Several events marked the 15th anniversary of the workshop. During the entire week, a slide show of camp photographs from the previous 15 years, as well as a pictorial history of Ukrainian immigration in Northeastern Pennsylvania, were on view for all visitors. On Friday students, parents and area media gathered for a birthday party complete with cake.

On Saturday evening, July 3, the dancers presented a special finale performance tracing the history of Ukrainian immigration to the anthracite coal regions of northeastern Pennsylvania. Dancers performed choreography from Transcarpathia, Lemkivschyna, and Hutsulshyna, representing the major source of immigrants to the area in the late 19th century. Dancers also performed choreography from the Poltava region and, of course, the traditional Hopak, choreographed by Mr. Woznak. Nearly 300 people attended the finale concert which was open to the public, free of charge. Pennsylvania State Senator James Rhoades acknowl-



Folk dance campers perform during a special concert.



Two young ladies in a regional costume from western Ukraine.

edged the 15th anniversary of the camp with a special senatorial proclamation.

The Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation of the Lower Anthracite Regions (UAHF) was formed in 1987 to preserve the heritage and culture of the Ukrainian immigrants to the anthracite coal regions of Schuylkill County. As part of the organization's ongoing commitment to promote and share the Ukrainian culture with the larger community, the UAHF developed the summer Ukrainian folk dance camp and workshop especially for children and young adults. The first camp/workshop was held in 1990 at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehigh, Pa. Just 24 students participated that first year under the instruction

of guest choreographer Helena Kozak of Abington, Pa. Ms. Kozak served as the guest artist for 1990 through 1992. In 1993, Paula Duda Holoviak served as both camp administrator and choreographer. In 1994, Mr. Woznak, of the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance in Parma, Ohio, was engaged as the guest instructor and choreographer. Mr. Woznak has been with the workshop since 1994, bringing outstanding instruction in Ukrainian folk dance and folk and ballet technique.

By 2000, the number of participants had grown to over 75 young dancers. The UAHF decided to engage a second cho-

(Continued on page 23)

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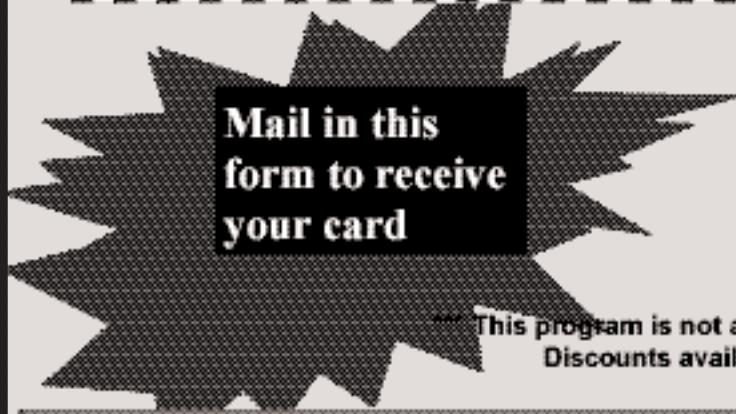


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Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 6)

Yanukovych campaign team may want to cast a shadow of doubt over the legitimacy and believability of sociological polling in general and exit polling in particular, in order to retain the ability to manipulate the general perception within society as to who truly leads in the run-up to the presidential poll and even who turns out to be the eventual victor.

Before he was sidelined, Mr. Tyhypko said that sociological polling was biased and not trustworthy in general. He specifically held out that an extensive exit poll being developed for election day in Ukraine and funded by Germany, the European Union and the United States could not be trusted.

He used the Venezuelan popular referendum on the future of its president, Hugo Chavez, as a good example of how an exit poll could be manipulated. Mr. Tyhypko developed his argument disingenuously. He failed to take into account the countless other exit polls done in Europe, the United States and Canada, which have accurately forecast the outcome of elections prior to the publication of the final vote counts.

Mr. Tyhypko also failed to address another troubling aspect of the current presidential race in Ukraine. He did not feel sufficiently concerned to question the lack of a level playing field in the distribution of political ads on billboards

throughout the country, even as European NGOs have questioned why Mr. Yushchenko and the other candidates have had little access to them. But then, why should – nine out of 10 of them belong to his candidate.

The Yanukovych campaign strategy is far from rock solid. It is based on a belief that the image of Mr. Yushchenko within the country can still be manipulated. It is also based on a conscious decision to portray Mr. Yanukovych as an old-school Soviet-style administrator, hard-working, unemotional and loyal to the cause, who also embraces newfound democratic values; in short, to offer him as pleasing to the widest spectrum of the Ukrainian electorate, if only in small portions.

It is far from a risk-free strategy and could well backfire, especially if the efforts to paint Mr. Yushchenko as out of the mainstream and to make his work and his life difficult, transform his image into that of a victim of a brutal regime. That could make him even more appealing to a Ukrainian electorate that can relate to a long-suffering individual, inasmuch as that is how many perceive themselves.

Likewise, Yanukovych strategists now must be concerned that a tactic aimed at putting a little egg on the prime minister's suit to portray him, too, as a victim of the turbulent presidential campaign process under way in Ukraine may have ended up on his face.

Russia and...

(Continued from page 2)

mine Mr. Yushchenko's credibility by producing fake leaflets, critical books and pamphlets, and launching inflammatory television attacks. Second, they are using the tax police to investigate businessmen who support his campaign, thus undermining his financial support. Third, EPF has paid extreme nationalists to claim they support Mr. Yushchenko and use the same groups to carry out terrorist attacks that are then blamed on Mr. Yushchenko.

A November 2003 study prepared by Russian political advisors working for Mr. Medvedchuk was leaked to an opposition newspaper this summer (Ukrainska Pravda, June 25). The study outlined how President Kuchma or his chosen successor could win the 2004 elections by discrediting his main opponent as a "nationalist" and an inciter of inter-ethnic conflict. Strife blamed on the opposition would lead to a state of emergency that could, in turn, lead to an indefinite postponement of the elections. Such a scenario would be a desperate measure taken because Mr. Yushchenko was leading in the polls and likely to win the elections.

Another leaked plan would be to depict Mr. Yushchenko as somebody who would cause instability if he were elected. President Kuchma or Prime Minister

Yanukovych would then be proposed as a source of "stability." The strategy paper openly stated, "Our aim is to destabilize the situation in the regions (through political intrigues, not by harming the economy), to drag Yushchenko into these processes ..." (Ukrainska Pravda, June 25). These leaked secret strategies outlined how conflict could be provoked between Tatars and Russians in the Crimea.

Mr. Yushchenko asked the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) to halt such "inter-ethnic provocations" that were intended to discredit the opposition (Ukrainska Pravda, May 27). Oleksander Zinchenko, the head of Yushchenko's campaign, warned that the presidential administration and its Russian political consultants are planning more "provocations" (Ukrainska Pravda, June 26).

To ensure any of these leaked scenarios takes place, the election campaign must be conducted in a hostile and tension-laden environment. Three different, but interrelated, groups are creating such an atmosphere. These include the presidential administration and its Russian political advisors; a shadow campaign headquarters (independent of the official campaign headquarters run by Serhii Tyhypko) that organizes the local state administration to work on behalf of Mr. Yanukovych's candidacy; and extremist nationalist groups that act as agent provocateurs and undertake terrorist acts.

100 young dancers...

(Continued from page 21)

reographer to work with the youngest campers, ages five through 11. Mr. Dobriansky, dancer and instructor with the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of New York City, joined the teaching staff of the workshop in 2000 and continues to offer outstanding instruction to the introductory classes.

Numerous other individuals have dedicated countless hours to the camp and workshop including director Dr. Holoviak, and assistant directors and instructors, Joseph Zucofski, Michael Duda and Sandra Duda. Dozens of high

school and college aged dancers have served as camp counselors and scores of parents have helped with administration and supervision of the camp.

The camp has received funding from various state and local sources since 1991 including the Schuylkill County Commissioners through the Schuylkill County Council for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the PCA Regrant Program through the Berks Arts Council, and the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

For more information on next year's dance camp and workshop, which will be held on June 27 through July 2, 2005, contact Dr. Paula Holoviak at (570) 708-1992 or by e-mail at holoviak@kutztown.edu.



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Delegation...

(Continued from page 3)

population believes this. That reinforces the view that every effort must be made by observers to ensure that the vote count is accurate and fair.

While the delegation cannot investigate the allegations made, it did note with deep concern the repeated allegations of the systematic use of the government's administrative resources to bring pressure upon voters to support the candidate endorsed by government authorities. These reports are too numerous, consistent, and from too many different locations to be set aside; in fact they appear to the delegation to constitute a pattern of officially sanctioned political activity by government employees that is in violation of Ukraine's law on presidential elections. The delegation said it is very concerned about these reports and appeals to the Ukrainian government to ensure that all local government officials strictly adhere to the law.

Allegations include:

- threats regarding loss of jobs;
- police preventing buses and automobiles from traveling to opposition rallies;
- forcing government workers, teachers and hospital workers to sign petitions for pro-government candidate Viktor Yanukovich;
- forcing regional councils to pass resolutions in support of Mr. Yanukovich;
- teachers and agricultural workers given quotas to collect signatures for Mr. Yanukovich, under threat to lose vacation time or jobs;
- students pressured to distribute Yanukovich literature;
- patients threatened with discharge from hospitals and denial of medical services if they fail to sign and pledge to

vote for Mr. Yanukovich.

In every community the delegation members visited, they were greeted with hope and anticipation of a brighter tomorrow. They welcomed contact with the wider world and were anxious to host foreign visitors to show off their country and its potential. The delegation members noted that the people deserve an opportunity to go to the polls and freely express their views and to be secure in the knowledge that all their votes are counted accurately in accordance with the law of Ukraine.

The delegation is a fact-finding mission that will report its findings to Ukraine's Central Election Commission, the U.S. government, European governments, international organizations and the public through releases to the mass media. The delegation does not support any candidate or political party and is only interested in helping ensure that the presidential election is free and fair.

Programming is organized by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF), in partnership with the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (USAFMC) and is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The foundation's second delegation traveled in August to the Cherkasy, Kyiv and Kirovohrad oblasts and also included parliamentarians from Spain and the Netherlands. A third delegation, comprising congressmen and a former member of the German Bundestag, traveled to the Kherson region during the week of September 19-25, to observe election campaign activities in the Kherson, Mykolaiv and Zaporizhia oblasts.

The complete report of the election monitoring delegation can be found on the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's website at www.usukraine.org/observers/Julyreport.pdf.

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PACE Monitoring...

(Continued from page 3)

Donetsk and their findings with regard to the current pre-election environment remain a cause for great concern.

The committee therefore once again calls on the Ukrainian authorities to:

- urgently amend the Law on Elections of the President of Ukraine in order to grant domestic non-partisan organizations whose statutory aim is election observation a right to observe the elections equal to that of international observers and candidates' representatives;
- ensure that the composition of leadership positions in territorial election commissions and polling station commissions respect a fair balance between candidates;
- define in the electoral law the consequences to be drawn from candidates' withdrawal as regards their representation in election commissions; guarantee timely updating of voters' lists all over the country;
- adopt regulations clarifying the rights of Ukrainian voters living abroad and relevant voting procedures;
- ensure that no candidate is restricted in presenting his/her views and qualifications to the citizens, including conducting public meetings and events throughout the country as well as billboard advertising, and that all candidates enjoy unimpeded access to television, radio and print media on a non-discriminatory basis; organize impartial debates between the candidates on state television;
- guarantee that there are no harassments of media and journalists, and in particular that the moratorium on media inspections is maintained by all controlling bodies during the election campaign;
- stop the practice of participation of

civil servants in the campaign, and the use of public resources for the purpose of campaigning;

- provide election commissions with necessary equipment, premises, training, etc. according to the Law;
- refrain from any interference in the process of election disputes consideration by courts and provide judges with sufficient training on the electoral law.

Convinced that the respect for the above issues is an essential guarantee for the forthcoming elections to meet democratic standards, the committee encourages the assembly delegation participating at the pre-electoral visit to Kyiv from September 26 to 29, to raise these points with the relevant Ukrainian authorities during their visit and to report back to the bureau of the assembly upon progress made in these areas at the opening of the PACE's October part-session.

Ukraine is one of the largest countries in Europe: it has about 33,000 polling stations. It is therefore to be regretted that the issue of the legal status of domestic non-partisan observers has not been placed on the agenda of the current session of the Verkhovna Rada. The committee is also very concerned by the small number of international observers to be deployed by various international organizations and foreign states (around 800 for the whole country).

The committee will be looking closely at the results of an independent nationwide exit-poll which in the past, in the committee's view, had offered reliable indication of election results.

The committee wishes to reiterate that the result of the presidential elections and the findings of the international community as to the way they have been conducted will be the major test for Ukraine's determination to really abide by European standards and values.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Sea canal, and that has nothing to do with the delta. Earlier the same day, Natalia Zarudna, a high-ranking official in the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry, had accused Romania of seriously harming the delta, warning that Romanian actions could cause by 2010 "an Aral Sea in Central Europe." Ms. Zarudna said Romania has built a network of three canals in the delta and is working on a fourth, adding that the canals affect the Ukrainian part of the delta. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Romania-Ukraine tensions raised

BUCHAREST – Romanian Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana said on September 17 that Romania has asked Ukraine to remove buoys in the Danube River allegedly placed illegally on Romanian territory, Romanian media reported. Romania filed a complaint on September 16 against Ukraine at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) at The Hague in order to settle a dispute on delimiting the continental shelf and exclusive economic zones in the Black Sea. A September 19 statement by the Romanian Foreign Ministry characterized the opening of a Ukrainian bank office on Serpents Island as "a desperate attempt at changing the actual situation" ahead of the ICJ proceedings. The release says Ukraine attempted to change "artificially the natural characteristics of this rock ... that according to international law does not qualify for having a continental plateau and exclusive economic zone." The private Ukrainian Aval bank opened an office on the island on September 15, saying there are prospects for infrastructure-development projects. According to RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, Ukraine's Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksander Motsyk said on September 17 that the two countries haven't used all possible methods to solve the conflict by direct negotiations. He added that Ukraine is nevertheless looking forward to the court's decision, which could disappoint Romania. Romania has also recalled its ambassador in Ukraine for consultations in Bucharest. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Romania continues to pressure Ukraine

BUCHAREST – A September 16-17 meeting in Vienna of the International Commission on the Protection of the Danube River's permanent working group asked Ukraine to halt the construction of the Bystraya canal in the Danube Delta, Mediafax reported on September 17, citing a Romanian Foreign Ministry release. On September 17 Romanian Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana also announced that Romania plans to organize an international conference in Geneva on the issue of the

controversial deep-water shipping canal in the delta. The group asked Ukraine to postpone continuing the canal until a comprehensive environmental-impact assessment can be completed. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Romania toughens discourse on canal

NEW YORK – Speaking to Romanian journalists in New York on September 21, where he was attending the United Nations General Assembly meeting, Romanian President Ion Iliescu accused Ukraine of breaching international law and rules of good neighborliness by allegedly illegally placing buoys in the Danube River on Romanian territory, Mediafax reported. "Of course, we won't enter into a military conflict, but we will appeal to Ukraine and international bodies to [prevent] conflict situations," he said. Ukraine recently placed buoys marking the entry to the Bystraya deep-water shipping canal. Meeting in New York with his Ukrainian counterpart, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Romanian Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana warned that Romania will remove the buoys if Ukraine does not do so itself. Mr. Geoana also said an international committee is to start an environmental-impact assessment of the Bystraya canal in October. He further said that Romania does not want relations with Ukraine to continue to deteriorate, in spite of the fact that Ukraine is practicing a policy of fait accompli. Mr. Gryshchenko reportedly told Mr. Geoana the current campaign against the canal and Ukraine in the Romanian press is being orchestrated by the government, to which Mr. Geoana replied that the press is free in Romania. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Romania sets up watch group

BUCHAREST – According to a Romanian government press release, Prime Minister Adrian Nastase decided on September 22 to set up a watch group made up of representatives of the Interior, Foreign and Environment ministries to constantly monitor events in the Danube Delta area where Ukraine is building the controversial Bystraya deep-water shipping canal, Rompres and Mediafax reported. Mr. Nastase also called on government officials to urgently begin setting up the Romanian-Ukrainian joint border commission, in line with the bilateral treaty on state borders. He also asked for a thorough report on the situation in the Danube area, in order to decide on measures to "restore legality." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine's Embassy targeted

BEIRUT – Terror suspects arrested for allegedly planning to bomb the Italian and Ukrainian embassies and assassinate Western embassy staff in Beirut were affili-

ated with al-Qaeda, Lebanese security officials said on September 22. The Associated Press reported that Lebanon's Interior Minister Elias Murr identified the leaders of the plot as Ahmed Salim Mikati and Ismail Mohammed al-Khatib, both Lebanese, and said eight Lebanese and Palestinian accomplices were arrested. He said the group was also planning to assassinate employees working in Western embassies in Lebanon. The ministry earlier said the group's leader had confessed to preparing to send a car packed with 660 pounds of TNT to blow up the Italian Embassy in downtown Beirut. According to the ministry, most members of the terrorist network, "which had links and received funding from some extremist cells in Europe," were arrested on September 21. Italy has about 3,000 troops in Iraq and Ukraine has about 1,600. (Associated Press)

Company suspected of smuggling arms

KYIV – Prosecutors have launched criminal proceedings against a Ukrainian company suspected of smuggling surface-to-air missiles and other weapons abroad for a possible sale to insurgents fighting the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq, reported the Associated Press. Serhii Rudenko, a spokesman for the Procurator General's Office said criminal proceedings were launched against four foreign citizens from Greece, Iraq and Pakistan on charges of attempting to purchase weapons and hire mercenaries to fight in Iraq. Mr. Rudenko said missiles and related equipment were "taken from the Ukrainian military" and smuggled out of the country, possibly to Iraq. The Associated Press reported that he refused to identify the company, specify how many missiles and other equipment were taken and didn't provide details about what type of missiles they were. "It is the matter of our defense security," he said. The prosecutor's office has handed over all documents related to the case "to an appropriate court," Mr. Rudenko

said. Meanwhile, Defense Ministry spokesman Viacheslav Bolotniuk dismissed the prosecutor's claims, saying he had "no knowledge about it." (Associated Press)

Opposition TV channel switched off

KHARKIV – The Alpha-Communications operator of cable television network in Kharkiv has suspended the transmission of the Channel 5 television, Ukrainian news agencies reported on September 15. Channel 5, which is owned by lawmaker and businessman Petro Poroshenko, supports the presidential bid of opposition Our Ukraine leader Yushchenko. An Alpha-Communications official told Interfax on September 15 that Channel 5 was excluded from the network "temporarily" and due to "technical reasons," but did not elaborate. Channel 5 was repeatedly removed from cable-television networks in different Ukrainian cities over the past two months. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Roman Catholics seek monastery's return

VINNYTSIA – The parishioners of the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Mary of the Angels in central Ukrainian Vinnytsia addressed a letter to Viktor Yanukovych, Ukraine's prime minister, requesting the return of the building of the Capuchin monastery to the parish community. The Catholic Media Center reported the news on September 13. The letter says that 2004 saw a rise in the numbers of children and teenagers who attend catechism classes, which brought about a shortage of study space. The existing rooms are situated in a cellar and are not suited to the demands of work with children and teenagers. The parishioners stressed that they had already addressed Mayor Oleksander Dombrovskiy with this request in October 2002, but still have received no response. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)



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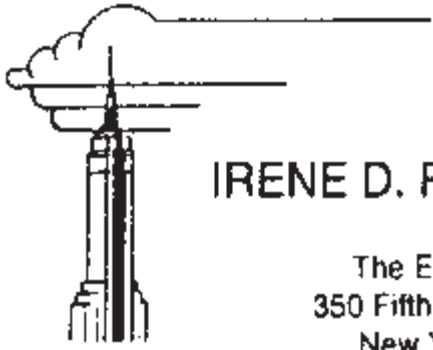


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Yushchenko returns...

(Continued from page 1)

charge papers, was such: "Acute pancreatitis with second-degree interstitial hydropic changes and numerous concurrent diagnoses, namely second degree reflux-esophagitis, acute left-sided proctocolitis, atypical polysegmentary viral skin disease, peripheral paresis and left-sided otitis."

Ms. Heraschenko's statement added, "We have no reason to doubt the integrity of the diagnosis made by such a reputable hospital."

The latest controversy in a pre-election season that has turned even more cynical since it started began a day after Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Chairman Ihor Smeshko appeared before an ad hoc parliamentary commission investigating allegations of Mr. Yushchenko's poisoning and acknowledged that he had met with the presidential candidate on the evening that he became ill. He underscored that the dinner meeting was arranged at Mr. Yushchenko's behest.

"Resolving this matter is a point of honor for the SBU," Mr. Smeshko said, noting that some progress in the investigation had already been made. He did not explain, however, why the Procurator General's Office had turned the investigation over to the security apparatus for more than a week after it had initiated it, before once again assuming responsibility for it on September 26.

Mr. Yushchenko was transported by air from Kyiv to Vienna on September 9 after stomach flu-like symptoms did not respond to treatment and continued to worsen. At Rudolfinerhaus he was treated for a variety of ailments by a team of 12 doctors, including one Ukrainian doctor.

Dr. Mykola Korpan, one of the 12

doctors who looked after Mr. Yushchenko during his week-long stay at Rudolfinerhaus and who retains an apartment in Kyiv, became the central source of information for the Ukrainian press after the hospital refused to issue statements regarding their foreign VIP guest, noting that it was not its custom to do so.

It was Dr. Korpan who noted that chemical poisoning was very possible because of the "atypical" manner in which the various maladies that Mr. Yushchenko was suffering from had developed. However, Dr. Korpan, who was not invited to take part in the press conference at Rudolfinerhaus on September 29, also had pointed out that no alien chemical substances were found in blood tests done on the presidential candidate. He had underscored that this was expected, inasmuch as the body removes foreign substances within about 48 hours, while Mr. Yushchenko had been brought in more than 96 hours after the onset of his symptoms.

Mr. Yushchenko, who had returned to the campaign trail immediately after being released on September 18, again curtailed his workload beginning September 27 after having more trouble with his health. Kyiv doctors who have treated him in the last days had noticed that he was not regaining his health and strength as quickly as had been expected. Doctors from Rudolfinerhaus Clinic had invited Mr. Yushchenko to return to Vienna for more treatment, Interfax-Ukraine reported, quoting a Yushchenko official, but the invitation was extended before the September 29 press conference in Vienna.

In response, on September 28 doctors from Rudolfinerhaus Clinic invited Mr. Yushchenko to return to Vienna for more treatment. Mr. Yushchenko checked back into the hospital on September 30.

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Shostak painting of internees to be donated to military college

TORONTO – An oil painting by Peter Shostak of Victoria's titled "Where Could We Escape To" – part of his celebrated "For Our Children" series – is being donated to the Royal Military College of Canada, in Kingston, Ontario, on Saturday, October 2.

The painting, which depicts Ukrainian internees being escorted under guard, deep in a Canadian forest, evokes memories of Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920, when thousands of Ukrainians and other Europeans were needlessly imprisoned as "enemy aliens," herded into Canadian concentration camps, disenfranchised and subjected to other state sanctioned censures.

The painting is being donated by Motria Koropecy, widow of Commander Yaromyr Borys Koropecy, a graduate of the Royal Military College of Canada who was particularly aware of

the importance of safeguarding minority rights in times of international and domestic crisis. The artist himself will also be attending the commemorative service.

John B. Gregorovich, president of Branch 360 of The Royal Canadian Legion, commented: "This is a very generous donation and a fitting memorial to the late Commander Koropecy. His widow, Motria, their family and the Class of '64 are all to be congratulated for so honoring him."

"Furthermore, this painting, the only one of its kind in Canada, will help to remind all those who pass through the Royal Military College of the importance of remaining vigilant in defense of the innocent, particularly during times of political unrest and uncertainty," Mr. Gregorovich observed.

Highlights...

(Continued from page 5)

retired after serving three terms in that post, as well as 18 years as the UNA's treasurer. Among the new members elected to the General Assembly were the first two representatives of the "Fourth Wave" of most recent immigrants from Ukraine to this country.

The convention was attended by 122 delegates representing UNA branches throughout the United States and Canada, as well as 22 members and four honorary members of the UNA General Assembly. During five days of deliberations they approved several key changes to the UNA By-Laws, including provisions that reduced the number of advisors on the General Assembly from 14 to 11, and the size of the Auditing Committee from five to three. The delegates also approved an amendment to the By-Laws which stipulated that UNA employees could not simultaneously serve as unpaid members of the General Assembly.

As well, they approved a proposal to move forward on a plan to search for investors to develop and share the running of the Soyuzivka estate owned by the UNA and established a standing committee to further decide the fate of the UNA in Canada, where its existence has

faced various hurdles associated with ever-increasing Canadian insurance regulations and dwindling membership.

At the same time, the convention established the Soyuzivka Redevelopment Committee, which comprised dedicated veterans who had dealt with the issue of the resort's future when they served as members of the General Assembly. Though four of the five members – Stefko Kuropas, Taras Szmagala Jr., Anya Dydik-Petrenko and Alex Chudolij – chose not to stand for re-election, they were selected to work on saving the UNA resort. The fifth member of the committee was newly elected Director for Canada Al Kachkowski, previously a UNA advisor.

The Ukrainian Weekly's editorial, in summing up the convention, observed: "In many ways, then, the 35th Convention of the UNA brought renewal." The editorial concluded on a hopeful note: "May that renewal be a harbinger of the UNA's rebirth in the new millennium."

Source: "UNA's 35th Convention elected new leadership for 2002-2006," by Roman Woronowycz, and "The UNA: renewal and rebirth (editorial), The Ukrainian Weekly, June 2, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 22. The border used for this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dating to 1919.

"The Marinated..."

(Continued from page 13)

ing and commenting on the letters.

The set design was minimal, but clever and innovative and well-suited to the demands of the action. Complementing the stage sets were colorful and bright costumes. For example, in the scene in which Borys's wife hawks her wares on a street she carries a large beach umbrella from which various articles of underwear dangle.

Mr. Moiseev's additions to the script express perfectly the mood of this play by mixing Hohol-like "hilarity through tears" with the entertainment of a cabaret. It is creative, funny and highly entertaining theater.

The performances of the actors were admirable and in some cases (Oleksii Vertynskyi, Viktoria Avdeyenko) very good; however, the production was marred by poor diction and resonance, especially by the female actors. In scenes with dancing or running the speech was fast and furious, and the dialogue literally got lost in the shuffle. Better diction by the actors would enhance the play considerably and hopefully this can be improved in future performances.

Having read the full text (parts of which

were cut from this production) I think that restoring a few key sentences here and there would help make a smoother transition between scenes. This "connective dialogue" would also reduce the sense of fragmentation in what is already a very fast-paced, dynamic performance.

This said, "The Marinated Aristocrat" is an exciting and refreshing work. Ms. Kowal gives an interesting portrayal of a clash of cultures. She also paints a moving picture of life in contemporary Ukraine as it continues to evolve during a difficult period. There are many layers to explore, from the problems of old age, to the struggles in a new economy, to the stress on marriage which separation brings, to the specific historical baggage Ukraine still needs to sort out.

The picture Ms. Kowal paints is funny and sad, hilarious and absurd, subtle and complicated, just like life itself. She has made an excellent beginning, and it would be regrettable if she didn't continue to entertain us with her sharp satire and irreverent creative imagination.

Ms. Kowal's two plays, "Pagan Saints" and "The Marinated Aristocrat," are due to be published this fall in a bilingual edition. Both plays are to be performed in Kyiv during the fall-winter season of 2004.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|---|
| October 3, 2004
Republican Fund-Raising Banquet,
4:30 pm | November 5-7, 2004
Plast Youth Organization,
Orlykiada Weekend |
| October 9, 2004
Wedding - Tanya Blahitka and
Michael Jadlicky | November 12, 2004
Kripplebush Fire Company Banquet |
| October 15, 2004
Ellenville Retired Teachers Luncheon | November 21, 2004
Ellenville Co-op Nursery School
Auction |
| October 16, 2004
Wedding - Alexandra Anastasia
Holubec and David Scott Nirschl | November 25-28, 2004
Thanksgiving Weekend Packages
Available |
| October 23, 2004
Wedding - Natalka Barankewicz
and Marko Mazurets | December 4, 2004
Accord Fire Company Banquet |
| October 29-31, 2004
Halloween Weekend with children's
costume parade, costume zabava
and more | December 11, 2004
Ulster Correctional Facility
Christmas Party |



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, October 4

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) will host a lecture by Oxana Shevel, assistant professor of political science, Purdue University, on the topic "Defining the 'Official' Nation in Independent Ukraine: Challenges and Paradoxes of the Process and the Outcome." The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For additional information contact the institute, (617) 495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Sunday, October 10

WASHINGTON: The Shevchenko Scientific Society, Washington branch, presents a lecture by Judge Bohdan A. Futey on "Judicial Independence and Elections in Ukraine." The talk will be in Ukrainian, preceded by a summary in English. It will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 4250 Harewood Road NE. (Metro: Brookland/CUA). Admission free; contributions accepted. For further information call (301) 230-2149.

Sunday, October 17

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art (UIMA) presents pianist Roman Rudnytsky in a program of works by Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Chopin, Antin Rudnytsky, Rachmaninoff, Albeniz, Granados, Gottschalk and Bizet-Horowitz. An internationally active concert pianist who has performed in some 80 countries, Mr. Rudnytsky is a graduate of the Juilliard School and the Peabody Conservatory, and since 1972 a member of the piano faculty of the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University in Ohio. The concert is being held in honor of Vera Chreptowsky, longtime UIMA friend and supporter. The concert, which is sponsored by MB Financial Bank, will be held at the institute, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 2 p.m. For additional information call the UIMA, (773) 227-5522.

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: The Forte String Quartet performs works by Beethoven, Skoryk, Petrova and Piazzolla at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. in the Old Town section of Alexandria, at 3:30 p.m. Suggested donation: \$15; students, free. The concert is presented by The Washington Group Cultural Fund under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine as part of their 2004-2005 Music Series. Free "Dash" shuttle bus is available every 15 minutes from King Street Metro Station in Alexandria, Va. (on Blue and Yellow lines) to Washington and King Street, one block from the Lyceum. Seating is unreserved. Handicapped accessible. For more information contact Laryssa Courtney, (202) 363-3964.

MIAMI: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 17 will host a

theatrical presentation of a traditional "Hutsul Wedding" ("Vesillya na Hutsulschyni") to be held in the parish hall of the Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church, 39 NW 57 Court, at 1 p.m. The colorful rituals will feature the musical talents of Alla Kutsevych, Distinguished Artist of Ukraine, flutist Andrij Pidkivka, principal soloist with major orchestras throughout the U.S. and Europe, and piano accompanist Rusia Osajlenko. A wedding dinner consisting of popular Hutzul dishes is included. Admission: \$15, adults; \$5, children. For further information or reservations call Dr. Irena Dzubinski, (954) 893-5288 or Oksana Piaseckyj, (305) 935-7151.

Saturday, October 23

HARTFORD, Conn.: The board of directors of the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford invite members and guests to the annual dinner/dance to be held at 6 p.m. in the main hall, 961 Wethersfield Ave. The program will include performances by the Zoloty Promin Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble. The buffet dinner will be followed by dancing to the music of the Sviatkovi Dni Holiday Ukrainian Band from Stamford, Conn. Donation: \$20, adults; \$10, students. Advance tickets can be obtained from UNHH board members or by calling the UNHH office, (860) 296-5702 by October 9. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, November 6

NEW YORK: Bishop Basil Losten of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, will host a dinner for the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv. The UCU Rector's Dinner, which is to benefit the university, will be held at 6:30 p.m. at St. George School Auditorium, 215 E. Sixth St. Admission: \$100; additional donations are encouraged. Checks should be made out to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF); donations are tax-deductible. Ticket requests should be made by October 30 and sent to St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 30 East 7th Street, New York, NY, 10003.

Sunday, November 14

CHICAGO: Bishop Richard Seminack of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Chicago, invites the public to a Rector's Luncheon for the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. The luncheon, which is to benefit the university, will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., at 1 p.m. For further information, contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, (773) 235-8462.

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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.

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