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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Yekhanurov decides Ceremony in Poland recalls massacre of Ukrainians

he will step down from PM's position

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — With little chance of gaining enough support in the new Verkhovna Rada to support his candidacy for the prime ministership, Yuriy Yekhanurov announced on May 12 that he would take his seat as a national deputy.

Mr. Yekhanurov is currently Ukraine's acting prime minister. He will remain in his position until a parliamentary coalition government is able to select a new prime minister, which doesn't appear to be likely anytime soon.

Coalition-building talks continued to stall as Our Ukraine leaders maintained their refusal to dole out positions before agreeing on a plan of action, particularly the prime ministership coveted by Yulia Tymoshenko.

Our Ukraine doesn't have much choice, she responded.

"Our Ukraine needs to learn to make compromises, because it's only those political forces that earned 51 percent of the vote who don't compromise," Ms. Tymoshenko said May 15. "Everyone else has to compromise."

(Continued on page 3)

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

PAWLOKOMA, Poland — In the days leading up to the Pawlokoma massacre, Father Volodymyr Lemtsio was advised to take his wife and children and flee. He declined.

Andrii Lemtsio, 67, recalled his father's words: "Where my people are, that's where I'll be."

For his courageous leadership, the Greek-Catholic priest joined the ranks of 366 Ukrainians systematically murdered by Polish soldiers between March 1 and 3, 1945, in the village of Pawlokoma, situated 25 miles west of Peremyshl in the Nadsiania region that is now the Podkarpackie province of Poland.

On the very same soil where blood was spilled more than six decades ago, the presidents of the two nations opened a memorial on May 13 honoring those who perished, urging reconciliation and declaring a new era in Polish-Ukrainian relations embodied by the Orange Revolution.

"I can only imagine what a difficult road has been traveled by tens of thousands of people to this act of reconciliation which we are witnessing today," said Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko.

"But I am convinced of one thing: that only the strong are capable of forgiving.



AP/Efrem Lukatsky

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko pays tribute to the victims of the Pawlokoma massacre in front of the monument erected in their memory during ceremonies on May 13.

I am convinced that the memory of one's own history, historical memory, is an imperative for contemporary times."

Polish President Lech Kaczynski acknowledged that the massacre was covered up for decades by past Polish and Soviet governments, which forbid crosses and prayers for those who per-

ished.

"The time has now come to not hide the truth and to speak of the wrongs that have not been righted," Mr. Kaczynski said.

Attending the day's prayers and ceremonies were more than 1,000 Ukrainians who arrived from the Lviv Oblast of Ukraine and the Nadsiania region of Poland that includes Peremyshl and Jaroslaw, cities once heavily populated by Ukrainians.

A handful of them were survivors of the Pawlokoma massacre, who remain as living eyewitnesses to the brutality humans are capable of in an atmosphere of war.

"With my mother, they took us to the church," said Omelian Fedak, 69, recalling what had happened leading up to the massacre. "We had spent the night in the church because we thought nobody would go there."

On Saturday, March 3, 1945, Polish soldiers of the Armia Krajowa seized the church, sending the women and small children to one side, and the rest to the other. "And, one by one, we were taken out," he said. "No one knew why or where."

Mr. Fedak and his older brother were also led out, along with other children who were 8 or 9 years old.

"With my eyes, I saw how they held someone, undressed them to their underwear and shot them," Mr. Fedak said. "He fell in one pit."

Polish soldiers had dug three graves, placed undressed Ukrainians in front of each one and shot them so they'd fall in, survivors said. Some of those shot were still alive and would cry out from the pits, particularly if they landed in freezing water.

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Ukraine's ambassador meets with UNA execs, press



PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur, paid a visit to the Ukrainian National Association's Corporate Headquarters here on May 16 to meet with the fraternal organization's executive officers, as well as with Ukrainian news media of New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. He was accompanied by Dr. Volodymyr Samofalov, first secretary of the Embassy of Ukraine (whose duties include contacts with the press), and Natalia Bukvych, recently appointed Washington-based correspondent for the Ukrinform news agency. Seen above are participants of the press meeting with Ambassador Shamshur (center) and UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj (front row, third, from left).

ANALYSIS

The recurring fear of Russian gas dependency

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Newsline

U.S. Vice-President Dick Cheney's recent criticism of Russia for using natural gas as a political weapon is by no means new. Similar charges leveled 24 years ago during the Cold War resulted in an embargo on the sale of gas-extracting equipment to the Soviet Union and to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) purported destruction of a Soviet gas pipeline.

In 1982, as the Soviet Union was beginning construction of a \$22 billion, 4,650-kilometer gas pipeline from Urengoi in northwestern Siberia to Uzhhorod in Ukraine with the intention of supplying Western Europe, the CIA issued a National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) titled "The Soviet Gas Pipeline in Perspective."

The NIE, regarded as the definitive product of the U.S. intelligence community, reached several conclusions, among them that the Soviet Union "calculates that the increased future dependence of the West Europeans on Soviet gas deliveries will make them more vulnerable to Soviet coercion and will become a permanent factor in their decision making on East-West issues."

In addition, according to the NIE, the Soviets "have used the pipeline issue to create and exploit divisions between Western Europe and the United States. In the past, the Soviets have used West European interest in expanding East-West commerce to undercut U.S. sanctions, and they believe successful pipeline deals will reduce European willingness to support future U.S.

Roman Kupchinsky is the organized crime and terrorism analyst for RFE/RL.

economic actions against the USSR."

The Urengoi gas field, located in northwestern Siberia's Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, was one of the largest Soviet gas fields. The main customers for Urengoi gas were West Germany, France and Italy.

The initial volume of the pipeline was to be 40 billion cubic meters per year, which would mean that Soviet gas could account for 30 percent of German and French gas imports, and 40 percent of Italy's. Such figures were approaching a dependency level too great for the White House to accept.

Washington apparently dealt with these concerns in a direct manner initially. In January 1982 U.S. President Ronald Reagan purportedly approved a CIA plan to sabotage a second, unidentified gas pipeline in Siberia by turning the Soviet Union's desire for Western technology against it. The operation was first disclosed in the memoirs of Thomas C. Reed, a former Air Force secretary who was serving in the National Security Council at the time.

In "At the Abyss: An Insider's History of the Cold War," Mr. Reed wrote:

"In order to disrupt the Soviet gas supply, its hard-currency earnings from the West, and the internal Russian economy, the pipeline software that was to run the pumps, turbines and valves was programmed to go haywire, after a decent interval, to reset pump speeds and valve settings to produce pressures far beyond those acceptable to pipeline joints and welds.

"The result was the most monumental non-nuclear explosion and fire ever seen from space."

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Ukraine and Poland seek reconciliation over grisly history

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Newsline

May 12

When Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and his Polish counterpart, Lech Kaczynski, travel together to the Polish village of Pawlokoma, they will be taking another step toward coming to terms with their nations' common historical legacy.

One of the darker stains of that legacy is represented by the village of Pawlokoma, where ethnic Ukrainian inhabitants were killed by a Polish military group in 1945. The Ukrainian and Polish presidents will attempt to rectify that tragedy by unveiling a memorial to the victims during their visit.

Today, Pawlokoma is home to about 500 residents in southeastern Poland, 50 kilometers from the Polish-Ukrainian border.

But prior to the outbreak of World War II, the Polish village boasted a population of 1,200 – about 900 Greek-Catholic (Uniate) Ukrainians living among Roman Catholic Poles.

In March 1945 a detachment of Polish anti-Nazi guerrillas from the Home Army, or Armija Krajowa (AK), subordinated to the Polish émigré government in London shot to death hundreds of

Ukrainian inhabitants of Pawlokoma. The Ukrainians were herded into a local Greek-Catholic church, interrogated and likely tortured, and then taken to a local cemetery where they were executed.

Presidents Yushchenko and Kaczynski were to travel to Pawlokoma to unveil a memorial dedicated to that tragic event. An inscription on the memorial places the number of victims of the 1945 massacre at 365.

However, this figure is questioned by some Polish historians, including Zdzislaw Konieczny.

Mr. Konieczny – who lives in Peremyshl some 40 kilometers from Pawlokoma – is the author of a book on the Pawlokoma massacre. According to him, the AK group killed some 150 Ukrainian men in Pawlokoma – while women and children were spared and ordered to march to Ukraine.

Mr. Konieczny argues that the massacre was retaliation for numerous killings of Poles from Pawlokoma and neighboring villages carried out by the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

The UPA was created by the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) in Nazi-occupied Ukraine in 1942. The armed force pursued the ideal of an independent Ukraine, which led it to fight Polish, Soviet and Nazi forces at various times.

Mr. Konieczny said in an interview

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

Coalition expected by end of May

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko is concerned over the long process of coalition-forming and the "fuss" surrounding it, presidential press secretary Iryna Heraschenko told a news briefing on May 17. She said the president is ready to meet with "the coalition three," but only if an integral draft coalition agreement is ready. "The president knows that every political force has its own parcel of documents on the future political agreement. The president is confident that each of them has reasonable ideas, but he asks the coalition participants to take care about creating an integral document," she said. According to Ms. Heraschenko, President Yushchenko is still optimistic about the coalition. "He believes all disputed issues will be settled and the coalition will be formed by the end of May and Ukraine will have a new government within the first 10 days of June." The presidential spokeswoman confirmed that the president had met with Yulia Tymoshenko, Roman Bezsmertnyi and Yurii Yekhanurov in the past two days, but Socialist Party representatives failed to participate in the meetings. Party of the Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich didn't take part in the meetings, but Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich probably spoke via telephone, she added. (Ukrinform)

How many coalition drafts are there?

KYIV – Socialist Party Secretary Yosyp Vynskyi told journalists on May 15 that the three allies of the 2004 Orange Revolution coalition – the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine – have agreed on a draft coalition agreement on forming a new government following the March 26 parliamentary elections and will sign it "in the coming few days," Interfax-Ukraine and the Ukrayinska Pravda website reported. According to Mr. Vynskyi, the draft agreement stipulates that the Tymoshenko Bloc will receive 50 percent of the government posts, the Socialist Party one-seventh of them, and Our Ukraine the remainder. Meanwhile, Our Ukraine spokesman Tetiana Mokridi said on May 16 that Our Ukraine continues working on a coalition accord, but she

failed to explain how this accord is related to that mentioned by Mr. Vynskyi. Moreover, Kommersant-Ukraine on May 16 quoted Roman Zvarych of Our Ukraine as saying that the bloc is working on its own coalition document. "Yes, Vynskyi has handed me something in a red file, but I don't know what precisely. We have our own draft agreement prepared," Mr. Zvarych said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President: Orange-Blue coalition is out

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said in an interview in the May 12 issue of the Warsaw-based Gazeta Wyborcza that he does not foresee the creation of an "Orange-Blue" governing coalition between the Our Ukraine bloc and the Party of the Regions. "The best option is an Orange coalition [of Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party]," Mr. Yushchenko said. "It is possible that the Party of the Regions will support us in some situations. ... But an Orange-Blue coalition is excluded today." Mr. Yushchenko added that he does not rule out that Ms. Tymoshenko may once again assume the post of prime minister. The president stressed that future coalition partners, before forming a Cabinet of Ministers, should agree on a "common strategy" regarding reprivatization, the status of veterans of the nationalist Ukrainian Insurgent Army, the status of the Russian language in Ukraine and European integration. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada to convene May 25

KYIV – The new Ukrainian Parliament of the fifth convocation, which was elected on March 26, will convene its first sitting on May 25. The decision was passed at a May 15 meeting of the deputies' working group charged with preparations of the first session of the Verkhovna Rada. (Ukrinform)

Naftohaz head is sacked

KYIV – A meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on May 11 dismissed Oleksander Ivchenko from the post of the head of Naftohaz, Ukraine's state-run gas-trans-

(Continued on page 17)

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Anti-trafficking course held in Kyiv

KYIV – More than 30 representatives from foreign consulates in Ukraine gathered on April 28 in Kyiv for an anti-trafficking course, co-organized by the project coordinator in Ukraine of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The training course focused on current prevention, prosecution and protection initiatives in the country. It also included discussions on the root causes and consequences of trafficking, ways in which consular officials can identify and assist potential victims, and an overview of the work of the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry's Center on the Protection of Ukrainian Citizens Abroad.

"Human trafficking constitutes a pervasive and persistent criminal violation of the most fundamental of human rights: the right to life, liberty and security of the person," said Abina M. Dann, Canada's ambassador to Ukraine. "Like all countries, organizations and individuals for

whom human rights are sacred, we strongly denounce and criminalize human trafficking. We want to provide better protection to the vulnerable, and we are firmly resolved to bring perpetrators to justice."

This was the fourth in a series of training courses hosted by the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv for consular and visa staff of foreign diplomatic missions, and is part of a comprehensive national anti-trafficking program being implemented by the Office of the OSCE Project Coordinator.

The event was organized in cooperation with Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Canadian Embassy, and the non-governmental organization International Women's Rights Center La Strada-Ukraine.

The training course also presented the OSCE project coordinator's new anti-trafficking public service announcements featuring the Ukrainian singer Ruslana, the platinum award winner of the 2004 Eurovision song contest.

Yekhanurov...

(Continued from page 1)

Our Ukraine's refusal to give Ms. Tymoshenko the prime ministership may be part of a plan to allow Mr. Yekhanurov to remain as acting prime minister, said Oles Donii, chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research, which is supported by Ukrainian citizens and is seeking international financing.

While the Constitution of Ukraine requires the elected political blocs to form a parliamentary coalition, it doesn't require a coalition to agree upon a prime minister or a Cabinet, he explained.

"The different outcomes at this point can be quite cunning," Mr. Donii said. "A coalition agreement can be signed, but a new government isn't elected."

Mr. Yekhanurov has stated repeatedly that his ideal parliamentary coalition is one that includes all the political blocs elected, excluding the Communist Party of Ukraine.

In that scenario, the failure to agree on a prime minister would be an ideal outcome for the Our Ukraine leadership, said Mr. Donii, a member of the Socialist Party.

Not only would Mr. Yekhanurov remain as acting prime minister, but so would his Cabinet, which includes members of the Socialist Party.

Though the law forbids a national deputy to serve in the Cabinet of Ministers, it's unlikely that enough political forces in the Parliament would oppose an acting government.

The Communists and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc would actively criticize and work against such a government. Meantime, the Party of the Regions hasn't adapted itself as an opposition force and has had its own history of moonlighting deputies, Mr. Donii said.

"To put it bluntly, there will be another problem with moonlighters for another half a year at least, and further violations of the Constitution," he added.

Mr. Yekhanurov's nine months as prime minister have brought stability to Ukraine's political and economic life after President Yushchenko stunned the world by dismissing nearly his entire Cabinet of Ministers, including Ms. Tymoshenko.

Following the embarrassing scandals that mired the Tymoshenko Cabinet, the Yekhanurov team was a collection of mild-mannered bureaucrats who managed to evade the media spotlight and raise few calumnies.

However, Ukraine's recent stability hasn't brought much progress to the country, nor has it drawn Ukraine closer to the European Union, Mr. Donii said.

"Yekhanurov's influence in canceling Jackson-Vanik was minimal," he said.

"Corruption isn't being dealt with, and scandals in Ukraine's energy industry remain at the same level as the Kuchma years. It's stagnation."

Mr. Yekhanurov's best achievements as prime minister have been calming the waters of Ukraine's political environment, as well as finding a common language with Ukraine's top businessmen and industrialists, Mr. Donii said.

But Viktor Yanukovich could just as easily have replicated such policies, if not fared better, Mr. Donii commented.

During his tenure, Prime Minister Yekhanurov demonstrated himself to be among Mr. Yushchenko's most loyal political allies, never publicly disagreeing with the president or acting in discord with his policies.

"Yekhanurov is very convenient for any leader," Mr. Donii said. "He doesn't harbor any large political ambitions, so he's favorable for everyone, including [former President Leonid] Kuchma. He knows how to play by their rules."

Mr. Yushchenko's critics have alleged that it's precisely because the Ukrainian president has surrounded himself with loyal, agreeable personas such as Mr. Yekhanurov that he fell out of touch with society and his bloc fared so poorly in the March elections.

Ukraine's rep at Eurovision



Cutty Sark Co.

KYIV – Tina Karol, 20, is representing Ukraine at the 2006 Eurovision Song Contest in Athens, Greece, on May 18-20. She will perform an English-language song, "Show Me Your Love." Eurovision is watched by 100 million viewers annually and is typically the major international exposure that Ukraine's pop artists can attain.

– Zenon Zawada

FOR THE RECORD

Ambassador-designate's remarks on U.S. relations with Ukraine

Following is the text of the statement of Ambassador-Designate to Ukraine William B. Taylor Jr. delivered on May 12 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am honored to appear before you today to discuss my nomination as the United States ambassador to Ukraine. I deeply appreciate the confidence that President [George W.] Bush and Secretary [Condoleezza] Rice have placed in me. If confirmed by the Senate, I pledge to work closely with this committee and your congressional colleagues to advance U.S. interests in Ukraine and the region.

My experience coordinating the assistance Congress made available to support nascent democracy and market economics in the former Soviet states will prove useful in Ukraine. I first visited Ukraine in the early 1990s when the newly independent country was experiencing freedom for the first time since World War I. I returned many times during the next decade, working to advance political and economic reform. If confirmed, I look forward to returning yet again to help solidify the gains made to date and to support the Ukrainian people in their continuing efforts to transform their country.

Following free and fair parliamentary elections this March, Ukraine is striving to redefine itself as a stable and prosperous European democracy. Ukraine has become a good partner to the United States on matters of national security, free trade, human rights and other key issues. If confirmed, I will work to strengthen and broaden our cooperation.

Ukraine has made significant progress since gaining freedom in 1991. To be sure, this progress has been uneven and opportunities have been missed. Ukraine, like other countries making the transition from communism to democracy and a free market, has had to overcome major hurdles and has suffered setbacks. But Ukraine has made notable advances. These have been most significant since the winter 2004 Orange Revolution, which radically transformed the political dynamic in Ukraine. The media is now unquestionably freer, respect for basic rights of citizens has improved, a vibrant civil society has grown even stronger, and Ukraine is a more constructive and energetic player in the region and worldwide. Ukraine's recent parliamentary election is proof of its progress. This election was a critical test of Ukraine's commitment to democracy – and Ukraine passed convincingly. The campaign and vote met OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation Europe] and international standards for democratic elections and were the most democratic in Ukraine's history.

The Orange Revolution also put our bilateral relations on a new trajectory. Scandals and corruption limited our engagement with earlier Ukrainian administrations, but our relations with the post-Orange Revolution administration and governments have been characterized by close cooperation. Over the last year and a half, with strong support from the U.S. Congress, the administration has worked with our allies to offer Ukraine an Intensified Dialogue with NATO, restored generalized system of preferences (GSP) trade benefits to Ukraine, recognized Ukraine as a market economy, concluded a bilateral market access agreement – a key step to WTO accession for Ukraine – and lifted Jackson-Vanik Amendment restrictions. These steps were taken in

response to Ukraine's own positive actions and reforms. The administration has also worked closely with Ukraine to halt the proliferation of arms and potentially dangerous materials and technology, and to advance democracy and security in the region.

Ukraine's new coalition government will face a daunting but vital challenge: to consolidate the gains to date of the Orange Revolution, and to further Ukraine's democratization, economic development and integration with Europe, Euro-Atlantic institutions and the international community. The U.S. government will continue to help. The administration strongly supports Ukraine's NATO aspirations, and, if confirmed, I will do all I can to assist Ukraine in implementing the political, economic, defense and security reforms necessary for possible membership in NATO's community of shared values. If confirmed, I would look forward to continuing the already strong cooperation with Ukraine to combat global threats such as trafficking in persons, avian influenza, HIV/AIDS and TB. If confirmed, I would work with the government of Ukraine on effective implementation of an improved export control system as part of our nonproliferation policy.

On the economic side, if confirmed, I will strongly support Ukraine's efforts to join the WTO and integrate its markets into international structures, strengthen its – and Europe's – energy security, and improve energy efficiency and conservation. If confirmed, I will also do all that I can to help Ukraine strengthen rule of law, combat corruption and money laundering, and improve its investment climate. Among the tasks ahead for Ukraine are developing domestic financial markets, further improving protection of intellectual property rights, and simplifying the regulatory environment and increasing access to credit for small- and medium-sized entrepreneurs, who form the backbone of developed economies. Given Ukraine's agricultural endowments, helping private farmers play an increasing role in the economy is another key to a prosperous, sustainable future.

Ukraine's good and growing ties with the United States and with Euro-Atlantic institutions are entirely compatible with Ukraine's having good neighborly relations with Russia. If confirmed, I will join Ambassador [William] Burns and my colleagues in encouraging both countries to continue to build their bilateral relations on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and other principles of human rights to which Ukraine, Russia and the United States have subscribed in the United Nations and in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, there is a terrific group of people on the ground at Embassy Kyiv working toward these goals. I look forward, if confirmed, to leading them as we work to deepen cooperation with Ukraine and pursue the interests of the American people.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to share my initial thoughts about Ukraine and its relations with the United States. If confirmed, I will look forward to working with you closely. We all appreciate your personal interest and leadership, not just in the area of weapons security, but in Ukraine in particular. I would welcome the opportunity to host you and other interested members of Congress in Kyiv.

Ceremony in Poland...

(Continued from page 1)

"Nothing can be done or will be done," replied a Polish soldier, as Mr. Fedak recalled. "Drink up the water and die."

To escape, Mr. Fedak and his brother told the soldiers their mother was Ukrainian but their father was Polish, though he had died years earlier.

The Armia Krajowa soldiers chose to

who perished not only here, but in other towns where her brothers and sisters lie," her husband said, speaking on her behalf. "These incidents aren't forgotten."

While the massacre has been remembered, just what triggered the Pawlokoma terror remains a mystery to this very day.

A band of soldiers, either Ukrainians or persons posing as Ukrainians, murdered between three and 11 Poles in the region of Pawlokoma. The murders occurred in the vicinity of the nearby



Omelian Fedak, 69, survived the March 3, 1945, Pawlokoma massacre by telling the executioners that his father was Polish.

believe the boys, largely because they themselves couldn't speak Polish and couldn't verify whether the boys were truly Polish, Mr. Fedak said.

Only city dwellers spoke Polish, he said, not villagers.

Despite their lack of Polish fluency, soldiers used various methods to determine whether someone was Ukrainian, either observing how they crossed themselves (right-to-left instead of left-to-right), as well as what they said when they crossed themselves, said Bohdan Horbovyi, the assistant chair of the Petro Mohyla Academic Association in Lviv.

Most others in attendance were Ukrainians forcibly resettled from Nadsiania to Ukraine, either by the Polish or Soviet governments.

Though many of them had never been to Pawlokoma before, the Nadsiania descendants expressed an equally strong desire to stand alongside its survivors and commemorate a tragedy that befell hundreds of Ukrainian villages that either no longer exist or are now Polish.

"Regardless that my relatives aren't buried here – they lie in another village," said Yaroslava Shulska, 58, whose parents were from the village of Lipkoviychi near Jaroslaw, which had its entire Ukrainian population relocated by the Soviets.

"But if we don't remember those buried here, then our relatives won't be remembered. They must be remembered, all the more so because they were murdered in a terrifying manner."

Hundreds from the Nadsiania Association in Lviv arrived for the event.

Maria Vavrychyn, born in the village outside of Dukla in the Lemkivschyna region, held back her tears during the day's ceremonies.

The villages of the Nadsiania region were almost exclusively Ukrainian before the war, she said, and her ancestors date back to the beginning of the 19th century.

When asked to describe why she joined the trek to Pawlokoma from Lviv, she began to weep.

"She came to pay her respects to those

town of Dynow, Mr. Fedak said.

Poles widely suspect the Ukrainian attackers were Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) troops, though Mr. Fedak said he's confident that the UPA had no presence in the region at the time.

The revenge for these murders was carried out by a local division of the Armia Krajowa, Poland's main resistance army to the Nazi occupation, which was led by Jozef Bissa.

Though prayer and peaceful remembrance marked the morning's commemoration, the Pawlokoma monument has its own controversy that registered subtle disappointment among the Ukrainians in attendance.

The main monument at Pawlokoma is a granite cross, flanked by black granite stones bearing the names of all 366 victims and their years of birth, engraved in gold lettering.

It bears the message, "Eternal memory for the 366 victims who tragically died March 1-3, 1945, in the village of Pawlokoma."

Stone monuments mark two of the three pits that collected the bodies as soldiers shot them dead.

Three large metal crosses stand in the middle of the memorial.

Before the memorial was established, the land was a rundown cemetery covered with garbage and shrubs. This is common at many Ukrainian cemeteries in the Nadsiania region, the visitors said.

To clear the land for the Pawlokoma memorial, most of the gravestones were removed, but four scattered stones remained at the insistence of relatives.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church was destroyed in the village, and a Polish church has taken its place.

In an apparent response to the Ukrainian monuments, Poles erected their own memorial just a few meters away, which conveyed a decidedly sharper and politicized tone.

"Those who were taken to their deaths at the hands of Ukrainian nationalists in the years 1939 to 1945, and also who died on 'non-national lands,' tragically



Andrii Lemtsio, 67, stands in front of the monument to 366 Ukrainian victims in the Polish village of Pawlokoma. His father, Father Volodymyr Lemtsio, was among those killed in the massacre.

perished," the inscription reads, followed by the names of 20 victims.

Though the Ukrainian monument refers to the victims of a single historical incident in a specific village, the Polish monument lumps together the wartime Polish victims of Ukrainian nationalists and Soviet Communists, without distinguishing where they died and in what circumstances.

A second list of victims of the Soviets, similar in the length, is also engraved.

The Polish monument drew the ire of most Ukrainians, including Zenon Potoczny, chair of the Canada-based Pawlokoma Foundation that raised funds and held talks with the Poles, which he described as problematic.

"Things worked out because the opening occurred," Mr. Potoczny said. "But why are they betraying history? It's written that the victims of Pawlokoma 'died tragically.' They should have written that they died at the hands of Poles! We will try to do everything to change the inscription."

The Pawlokoma ceremony was the latest in a series of gestures between the Polish and Ukrainian governments to reconcile their people's painful histories.

Last year, Presidents Yushchenko and Alexander Kwasniewski opened the Orliata Memorial at Lviv's Lychakiv Cemetery, which honors 2,500 Polish soldiers who died in the first world war.

Then, too, Ukrainians felt they got a raw deal from the Poles, who managed to place a "mech scherbet" plaque in the middle of the cemetery, widely perceived as a symbol of Polish military might over Ukraine.

Underneath the sword is an inscription in Polish, "Here lie Polish soldiers who died for the homeland." Many Lviv residents opposed that inscription because they feel it implies that their city was

Polish land for which the Orliata soldiers fought.

Some Polish television reports, in covering the Pawlokoma event, ignored the hundreds of Ukrainians who could have offered eyewitness accounts of Polish brutality in Pawlokoma and other villages.

Polsat, a major Polish network, reported in its newscast as fact that it was Ukrainian nationalists who murdered the Poles, thereby triggering the massacre.

Other Polish networks and newspapers followed suit, ignoring the skepticism surrounding that version and the possibility that NKVD agents had dressed up as Ukrainian nationalists, a common Soviet tactic used during the second world war to stir up antagonism against the UPA.

"The thing is we ran into Polish fighters and captured them," said UPA veteran Hryhorii Slobodeniuk. "That's no secret. And their commanders were Russian Communists. They specifically joined Polish armies to beat Ukrainians, take their places and sow discord. So it's still a question as to who committed those murders."

Leading the divine liturgy at Pawlokoma was Patriarch Lubomyr Husar of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and Roman Catholic Archbishop Jozef Michalik of Peremyshl.

The Polish archbishop issued an apology and asked for forgiveness.

Beseeking the audience for reconciliation, Patriarch Husar recalled Jesus Christ's words when confronting a crowd ready to stone a woman to death for adultery: "He that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone at her."

He applied that biblical lesson to the history between the Polish and Ukrainian people. "There isn't a people that has not done wrong against another," Patriarch Husar said.

The Nadsiania massacres

The Nadsiania region of Poland largely consists of the Podkarpackie province. The region's name literally means "above the Sian," referring to the river that flows through the province and its central city, Peremyshl (Przemyśl in Polish).

Before World War II, the region had a large population of Ukrainians who were either forcibly resettled in Poland and the Soviet Union, or voluntarily emigrated to nations throughout the world.

According to Nadsiania historians, the following are among the villages in

the Nadsiania region that experienced massacres during the war:

Pawlokoma, 366 killed
Pyskoroviychi, 300
Horaitsi, 190
Bereztzia, 160-180
Malkoviychi, 150
Bakhiv, 90-100
Skopiv, 100
Lubno, 78

Stari Liublyntsi and Novi Liublyntsi, several hundred

— Zenon Zawada



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA president's greeting to the convention: 'Together we can do anything'

by **Stefan Kaczaraj**
UNA President

With only one week before the start of the 36th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association, I encourage all of our members and delegates to come with open minds, ideas and an eagerness to build a future for our organization. We look forward to meeting with all of our

delegates and devoted members.

The world around us has been changing at an accelerating pace. Four years ago, a new Executive Committee was elected, and I took the reins of this organization. The past four years have been a journey of challenges and changes. We were faced with the simple choice: adapt and thrive, or fall behind. With our antiquated organizational structure, the aging

of our branch leadership and declining membership, instituting change has remained a slow and painful process.

What are the challenges we face?

For years, there has been a perceived lack of relevance for the UNA and the contributions of its members. We have succeeded in re-establishing ourselves as a community leader, but much more work must be done to restore our position of prominence. Another issue, which goes hand-in-hand with the first, has been an ever-aging and, unfortunately, shrinking membership. To survive we must adapt, we must embrace change and we must strive to have our community see us as a relevant force in our society.

In addition to our internal challenges, we face those beyond our control. The economic downturn and severe drop in market rates impacted the UNA financially in terms of investment earnings. We weathered this storm, but must continue to face all of these challenges with long-term planning and strategic thinking.

Change is not something we fear or resist. Only with change can we improve our organization. I ask all of you to re-dedicate yourselves to the principles of the UNA so that we can prosper and grow. We must continue to develop and restructure our organization as an effective and efficient body.

With grassroots help and the support of every one of our member-delegates, as well as each and every local branch representative, much can be accomplished. Together with your help, we can – and will – make the UNA stronger; we can –

and will – promote the growth of our organization as a vital and effective leader in our community.

The members of the Executive Committee and I stand before you committed and determined to face the challenges that face the UNA. Those challenges are:

- 1.increasing our membership;
- 2.developing plans for Soyuzivka; and
- 3.defining the status of the UNA in Canada.

Let us make this a most meaningful and productive convention that will lead to a new beginning for the UNA.

This will be the first time a UNA convention is held at our own heritage center, Soyuzivka. Please appreciate the work that management and staff have done to accommodate the large number of delegates. We know you will find your stay enjoyable.

Our Convention Committee chose the theme "UNA: Ukrainians United." This theme has many meanings. It means having unity and strength in our branches, unity and strength within our own communities. This is our goal.

I am confident that the Executive Officers, dedicated General Assembly members, loyal staff and you, our faithful members, will work together to surmount the challenges that lie before us. I believe that together we can do anything we set our minds to. Together we can be a formidable team that can achieve the continued growth of the UNA.

"UNA: Ukrainians United!"

See you at the convention!

The UNA By-Laws: amendments to be proposed to the 36th Convention

by **Taras Szmagala Jr.**

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – In preparation for the upcoming UNA Convention, a pre-convention By-Laws Committee has been appointed to receive and consider proposals to amend the existing UNA By-Laws. This committee, consisting of Nicholas Diakiwsky, Ihor Hayda, Oksana Lopatynsky, Taras Szmagala Jr. and Gerald Tysiak, met February 18 at the UNA Home Office to consider proposals received to date.

Currently, the committee has agreed to present the following proposed by-laws changes to the UNA Convention By-Laws Committee: (a) eliminating the position of director of Canada, thus decreasing the Executive Committee from six to five members, and (b) decreasing

the number of advisors from 11 to seven. The pre-convention By-Laws Committee determined that both changes merited recommendation due to the UNA's decrease in membership and the savings opportunities presented by decreasing the size of the General Assembly.

These changes, along with others that may be offered by the UNA membership, will be considered at the upcoming UNA convention. To submit a proposed change to the UNA By-Laws for consideration, please forward that change to Stefan Kaczaraj, president, at the UNA Home Office, or via e-mail address to Kaczaraj@unamember.com; or to Mr. Szmagala by e-mail at Szmagala@yahoo.com. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.

CONVENTION PRIMER: Voting and elections at the conclave

As the Ukrainian National Association, its officers and members prepare for the organization's 36th Regular Convention, which will convene on Friday, May 26, at the Soyuzivka estate in Kerhonkson, N.Y., The Ukrainian Weekly is publishing a new series titled "Convention Primer" that will explain the UNA's goals, structure and operations.

In less than a week, delegates will be arriving at Soyuzivka for the 36th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association. There they will be called upon to discuss and vote on diverse matters that concern the operations of the UNA.

All delegates, as well as members and honorary members of the General Assembly have a right to voice their opinions and vote at the convention. Proceedings of the convention are open to all UNA members, who are free to listen in.

The UNA Manuals provide that "On any question before the Convention, except the amendment of the By-Laws, the majority vote of the delegates present shall govern. The presiding officer shall take the vote in such a way as he sees fit, except for the election of officers, which shall be by ballot and voting machines. All proceedings shall be run in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order."

In the case of amendments to the UNA By-Laws, an amendment is passed only if it is supported "not less than by a two-thirds vote of the delegates of all Branches." The UNA By-Laws also provide that "Amendments to the By-Laws, unless otherwise ordered, take effect the

first day of July following the Convention."

It should be noted that there is no proxy voting at a UNA convention. "Votes by delegates may be cast only by the delegates personally," the UNA By-Laws stipulate.

The election of UNA officers – i.e., executive officers, auditors and advisors – takes place in two rounds.

The first round is a primary in which delegates, on ballots listing all the offices to be filled, write in the names of their choices for these positions. Afterwards, the votes are tallied and the top three candidates for each position who accept this de-facto nomination will go on to balloting in the second round.

In the second round of the election, delegates use voting machines or specially printed ballots that are read by vote tabulating machines.

During a special ceremony, the newly elected officers take the oath of office: "I, (name), swear before Almighty God, and before you, Honorable Members, that I, (name), will honestly and faithfully perform and fulfill all my duties and obligations as such (office); that I will always observe, comply with and obey the rules and regulations, resolutions and laws of the Ukrainian National Association; that I will protect and defend the good name of the Association; that I will endeavor to promote its welfare, and to the best of my ability work for the general good of the Ukrainian National Association. So help me God, Amen."

The new UNA General Assembly officially assumes office on July 1.

– Roma Hadzewycz



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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The UNA convention

In accordance with the report of the Credentials Committee, 107 delegates of UNA branches from throughout North America are expected at the 36th UNA Convention, which opens less than a week from the date of this issue of our newspaper.

During the four days from May 26 through May 29, these delegates, plus members and honorary members of the UNA General Assembly, will discuss the state of the UNA and chart a course for its future. They will hear officers' reports; participate in discussions on UNA activity, both its pluses and its minuses; vote on proposed amendments to the UNA By-Laws; elect new executive officers, auditors and advisors; and vote on resolutions and recommendations for the good of the association.

At least three major topics are to be addressed in plenary sessions: "Development Plans for Soyuzivka," "Status of the UNA in Canada" and "UNA: Shaping the Future."

The first of these topics, Soyuzivka, will get special prominence as this convention will be the first ever held at the UNA estate. Delegates will discuss how to move forward with developing the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation, an institution that will benefit not only the UNA, but our entire Ukrainian community.

The topic of the UNA's status in Canada is actually the continuation of a discussion begun at the previous convention. The question then posed was: Should the UNA continue to be active in Canada? In 2002 the delegates decided to postpone that decision pending a membership drive in Canada and the findings of a standing committee of advisors. Now the matter is up for discussion and action.

As for "Shaping the Future," that's a broad topic that covers all of the UNA's operations, from its insurance and annuities sales, to its newspapers and other fraternal activities – those things that make the UNA, well, a fraternal organization.

There will be a special session devoted to by-laws changes. One proposal calls for eliminating the position of director for Canada, another for decreasing the number of advisors from 11 to seven. The former, of course, is related to the larger issue of the UNA's presence in Canada. The latter would further downsize the General Assembly. In 2002 delegates voted to decrease the number of auditors from five to three and advisors from 14 to 11. Proponents will argue that since the UNA has shrunk, so, too, should its General Assembly. Opponents will posit that further reducing the UNA's representation among our community is counterproductive to the organization's health.

In addition, there will be separate meetings of committees on petitions, secretaries' matters, resolutions, etc. We encourage delegates to attend these also in order to become better informed about UNA issues and to offer their input. Not to be forgotten are various conventions caucuses that bring together groups such as women, Canadian delegates, youth, etc.

Finally, we must point out that for first-time delegates there will be an orientation session on Thursday evening, May 25, that will help them understand the ins and outs of a UNA convention.

If all the delegates participate – truly participate – in the convention's deliberations and its various sessions, then the convention theme "UNA: Ukrainians United" is sure to be carried forward as the guiding principle for the next four years of this great fraternal organization's activity.

May
22
1976

Turning the pages back...

An article carried on May 22, 1976, in The Weekly remembered the slaying of a hero of the Ukrainian people. This May 25 will mark 80 years since the assassination of the supreme commander and head of the Directory of the Ukrainian National

Republic (UNR), Symon Petliura. On that fateful day of 1926, while perusing some books in Paris, Petliura was shot five times by a Bolshevik agent, Shalom Schwarzbard. The assassin was later tried and acquitted, claiming that he was merely avenging the death of his family in Ukraine at the hands of men under Petliura's command.

The article traced the history of Petliura from his birth in Poltava, Ukraine, on May 10, 1879. He was born into a priestly family with lineage traced to Kozak nobility and enrolled in the city's seminary. In 1901 he was expelled for his involvement in the anti-government Ukrainian Revolutionary Party.

From there, the article continues, Petliura began a journalistic career in 1902, publishing articles in various periodicals including the Literary-Scientific Herald, one of the most prestigious publications in Ukraine at the time. To escape persecution by the tsarist authorities, Petliura fled to the Kuban region, where he was arrested in 1903 and released on probation a year later. He moved to Lviv, then under Austro-Hungarian rule, and later to Kyiv, where he continued his journalistic career.

During the revolution to overthrow the tsar, he saw an opportunity to re-establish the Ukrainian state, and became involved in the organization of Ukrainian armed forces. He was elected head of the Ukrainian General Military Committee, and after the establishment of the General Secretariat (the chief executive body in Ukraine), he was named first secretary of military affairs.

At the time of the Hetmanate under Pavlo Skoropadsky, Petliura headed the All-Ukrainian Alliance of Zemstvos, an opposition group to the government. After the fall of the Hetman State, Petliura was elected to the five-member Directory, (a body with supreme legislative and executive powers), which restored the UNR. He was later named supreme commander (chief otaman) of Ukrainian armed forces and, with the departure of Volodymyr Vynnychenko, assumed the presidency of the Directory.

Petliura is credited with consolidating the Ukrainian military forces and with forging an alliance with Poland, reclaiming Kyiv from the Reds on May 8, 1920. But things fell apart in November after the Polish government reneged on its commitments, forcing Petliura and his government out of Ukraine to continue their efforts abroad with hopes of Western intervention in the preservation of Ukrainian sovereignty.

Source: "Symon Petliura: Symbol of Ukrainian Statehood" The Ukrainian Weekly, May 22, 1976, Vol. LXXXIII, No. 96.

FOR THE RECORD

UCC statement on Darfur

Following is the text of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress' statement on the crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan. It was sent to The Weekly by the UCC national headquarters on May 15.

In recent months, the world has been increasingly shocked by the ongoing genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan. There, mainly Arab militias known as the Janjaweed are being used by the Sudanese government to ethnically cleanse the region of the local non-Arab population.

The scale of the tragedy evolving there is terrible. Recent reports estimate that more than 300,000 people have already died. Over 2 million people have been displaced from their homes and hundreds of thousands have fled to the neighboring country of Chad.

What is disturbing for Ukrainian Canadians is that food is being used as a weapon by the government. The victims face death from starvation and disease as the government of Sudan and militias attempt to prevent humanitarian aid from

reaching them.

This eerily mirrors what took place in Ukraine during the Genocide-Famine of 1932-1933 when the rulers of the Soviet Union purposely took food from the Ukrainian countryside and allowed millions to die of starvation as part of their plan to destroy the Ukrainian people and eliminate the private ownership of land.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress calls upon the people and government of Canada to add their voices to those who are calling for international action to stop the outrages in Darfur. Additionally, the UCC urges the Canadian government to take the lead in protecting the victims and alleviating their plight.

In 1932-1933 the world was silent as millions of Ukrainians were starved to death in a famine engineered by Stalin. We cannot and will not allow that to happen again to any people. Atrocities such as Darfur are no longer a secret to the rest of the world. Today, we must act collectively to stop the genocide in Darfur. It is not too late.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Passaic's St. Nicholas School successful in so many ways

by Sonia Lechicky

"Lagging standards." "Educational crisis." "No Child Left Behind." The barrage of headlines about America's educational malaise took on a sudden urgency as our son neared preschool age. My husband and I, both Catholic school graduates, knew that we wanted our son to be educated in an environment where Christ is still included in Christmas and prayer is a natural part of every day.

And, as children of parents of the post-war immigration, we hope to bring up our son with an appreciation for his cultural heritage and to know that there's more to being Ukrainian than eating varenyky and making pretty Easter eggs. Luckily, we came to the realization that we needed to look no farther than the building next door to our parish church.

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic, N.J., which encompasses pre-K through Grade 8, is a gem of a find. The neat, almost dainty brick building with its inviting front stoop properly evokes images of a second home rather than an institution. Inside, the school is clean, bright, gaily decorated; the halls are quiet and orderly; and the classrooms are stocked with colorful displays and enticements to learning. Every classroom is equipped with a cable TV and a VCR, as well as air conditioning for the students' comfort.

The school boasts a recently renovated science lab, as well as computer classes with high-speed access to the Internet; students begin formal computer training in kindergarten, although even in pre-K my son is already being invited to play with the computer. Students from kindergarten and up have daily instruction in religion and Ukrainian, and the school also has physical education, art, library, ESL, music programs and an after-school program for children of working parents.

The true success of a school, however, depends on much more than modern accouterments. The spirit of a school stems from the people in it, the dedication of its

faculty, the caring of its staff, and the energetic involvement and support of its parents. The average class size of 12 students helps to ensure that no child remains "invisible." As a newcomer, I have paid special attention to numerous comments from other parents about how this teacher helped a student catch up after a lengthy illness, or how another offered special tutoring to make sure the student "got it."

Personally, I have been very grateful for the patience and understanding the teachers and the principal have shown my own initially reluctant preschooler, whose shyness can be a challenge at times. Further, I have been duly impressed by the commitment and organization of the PTA, whose energetic fund-raisers support numerous goals throughout the year.

The school's rigorous educational standards, inspired teaching and insistence on parental involvement have consistently earned St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School the distinction of being ranked in the top 25 percent of schools in the nation on standardized testing, with graduates on the honor rolls of some of the best high schools in New Jersey. Indeed, last year's salutatorian from Clifton High School – the second largest public high school in New Jersey – was a graduate of our school.

In today's morally challenged world, a Catholic school education provides a spiritual centering and daily reinforcement of Christian virtues such as charity, honesty, kindness and prayer. In addition, attending a Ukrainian Catholic school provides an environment that fosters respect and appreciation for our unique cultural heritage, and lays the groundwork for continued involvement in our community through the formation of strong friendships. For recent immigrants, our school offers a special place where children can begin their acclimatization to America.

Registration for St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School has been ongoing since March; students for pre-K must be 4 years old by October 31, 2006. For more information call (973) 779-0249, or visit the website at www.home.catholicweb.com/stnicholasukrainian. The school is located at 223 President St. in Passaic.

Sonia Lechicky is a first-year parent at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Our newspapers, our calling cards

Dear Editor:

Earlier this month a conference was held in Vilnius. It was called "A Joint View of Neighboring Relations." Its participants were leaders of eight former Soviet republics that now are democracies. U.S. Vice-President Dick Cheney addressed the gathering. And the great New York Times – the newspaper of record – covered it from ... Moscow! Just like in the good old Sov days: everything from Vilnius to Vladivostok was covered from Moscow. But this was in 2006 – 15 years after the collapse of the USSR.

The Times' Moscow correspondent "covered" the event by summarizing Vice-President Cheney's speech, particularly the parts where he criticized Russian President Vladimir Putin. In other words, he obtained a text of the vice-president's speech (perhaps from the press section of the American Embassy in Moscow) and filed a story that made the front page of the Times. A similar piece could have been written from the Times offices in Manhattan. Of course, it wouldn't have a Moscow dateline. But then, who needs a Moscow dateline on an event in Vilnius? Sixteen years after Vilnius "left" Moscow!

I bring this up, because the next meeting of the democratic leaders from the former Sovland may be held in Kyiv. And The New York Times, "the newspaper of record" will "cover" it from Warsaw, maybe, or simply from New York? But not The Ukrainian Weekly. There is no way Zenon Zawada would cover such an event by writing a story from a speech text. I watched him in Donetsk during the world Ukrainists meeting, and he was all over the place, grabbing sources and rushing to sessions (literally) rain or shine, and filing his pieces to Parsippany from all kinds of Internet cafes or holes in the wall with Internet connection in Donetsk.

A couple of years ago, I finally went to Khersones, the thousands-year-old city in the Crimea, near Sevastopol. I had heard about it for many years, but what finally moved me to arrange a trip there was Roman Woronowycz's article about it in The Weekly. And let's not forget that the readers of The Ukrainian Weekly had ringside seats as Ukraine was shucking its colonial bonds and learning to fly solo, because of the coverage of Marta Kolomayets, the first bureau chief in Kyiv.

And currently Mr. Zawada not only brings the readers informed reports on political events in Ukraine, but also visits and writes about places in Ukraine that virtually never appear in the ads of Ukrainian American travel agencies. Yet they are very interesting from historic, cultural and political points of view. Like Alchevsk, for example, the base of Alchevskys – Ukrainian capitalists who spent their money on Ukrainian schools when the Russian tsarist government suppressed Ukrainian education. I haven't been there yet, but plan to visit because The Weekly has carried a story about it.

I write all this, because in a few days the leadership of the Ukrainian National Association will gather for its quadrennial convention and the rising costs of publishing The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda will probably come up. Again.

My wish is that the convention delegates and the leadership seriously consider the benefits of its publications – to

the community, and to the United States of America and Canada as reliable sources of information on Ukraine, and on Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities, or, let's be realistic, voting blocs.

The two papers are our assets worth preserving. Let's not turn them into tin-cup beggars. They are calling cards of all of us.

R. L. Chomiak
Washington

Quotation from Keats not Yeats

Dear Editor:

I hope it was only editorial oversight, and not that of Ukraine's first lady, that misattributed the famous quotation from the penultimate line of English poet John Keats' "Ode on a Grecian Urn" to "Irish poet John Yeats" (May 7, page 1). Irish poet William Butler Yeats' name does not even rhyme with "Keats."

Well, we all make mistakes. I once nearly bought what I thought was a volume of Yeats, only to discover that it was a botanical treatise on yeasts.

Andrew Sorokowski
Rockville, Md.

Editor's note: In fact, the error was our correspondent's. We stand corrected. Thank you to our letter-writer.

A newspaper and its mission

Dear Editor:

In a letter in the April 9 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, Dr. Myroslav Burbelo suggested some forward-looking changes for The Ukrainian Weekly in order for it to become "more like other American or European major newspapers." Mercifully, he allowed that "it would probably require the addition of some young journalistic knowledge in specific fields, for example science ... and lead to mental enrichment."

Skeptics will prevail this time. A newspaper's mission is not easily adjustable and would require a compelling reason for change. Also, to say that The Weekly has a dual responsibility to the diaspora as well as to Ukraine is an exaggeration. The newspaper's fiscal status is not rosy; the glow is red. If anything, the diaspora could show more reciprocity.

Today The Ukrainian Weekly's journalism is at a professional level. The reporting of events in Ukraine and related commentaries and sources of political analysis usually get top rating. If the diaspora scene presented in The Ukrainian Weekly is parochial, as observed by Dr. Burbelo, it is so because the diaspora almost by definition is mostly parochial.

This means that, with rare exceptions, the Ukrainian American diaspora collectively pays scant attention to the pre-eminent public issues of its own country, the U.S.A., even though such civic issues are paramount to its own socio-economic and cerebral itinerary, and especially to that of its children. War or peace, the health insurance morass, the recent unprecedented assault on Social Security, the defense of civil liberties – which we ardently wish for Ukraine but mistakenly

(Continued on page 15)

Double Exposure

by Khristina Lew

Victory dance

It's difficult to be a Ukraine watcher. A year and a half after turning the world Orange with its peaceful electoral revolution, Ukraine is bogged down in gas scandals and political infighting. Two months after holding the most free and fair elections in its 15-year independent history, Ukraine's leaders won't convene the new Parliament and make up a new government. Viktor and Yulia – Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc – can't agree on who will run the show, despite the fact that close to 60 percent of Ukrainian voters already made up their minds on March 26.

In early March I traveled to Ukraine with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America to work on an election program funded by the National Endowment for Democracy. The program, "Voice Your Vote," brought Western-style town hall meetings to 10 cities in Ukraine. I attended four of them: in Ternopil, Zaporizhia, Lviv and Kyiv.

"Voice Your Vote" was the fourth election program to bring me to Ukraine, and it differed greatly from the first, also a series of town hall meetings plus rock-the-vote concerts, in 1998. In 1998 voters were distrustful of the entire electoral process, unconvinced that their vote could make a difference. This was, perhaps, the legacy of participating in elections during the Soviet era, when you were told who to vote for and how often.

The Orange Revolution changed all that. The voters who attended our town hall meetings in 2006 – from Zaporizhia to Ternopil – were empowered by the maidan, and their questions and concerns were encouragingly mundane: about social security benefits, housing, medical care and unemployment – concerns you would find among voters in any Western country.

There were a few hot button issues. Voters were incensed that new members of Parliament would be granted immunity from criminal prosecution, maintaining that such a Verkhovna Rada would be "filled with bandits." "How do you propose fighting corruption in Ukraine when deputies have immunity?" asked one voter in Lviv. "What kind of accountability to the people can there be?" asked another in Zaporizhia.

They were also disenchanted with President Yushchenko's presidency, and their questions to the representatives of the political parties and blocs participating in "Voice Your Vote" reflected that. A sampling: "What good has Orange rule brought Ukraine?" "Who is at fault in the gas war between Russia and Ukraine, and what realistic steps can be taken toward solving Ukraine's energy crisis?" "Do you believe that constitutional reform will take place under President Yushchenko?"

Pundits had cautioned Ukrainians with patience following the victory the maidan, but rightly or wrongly, voters made their choice back in March. And it's hardly a betrayal. "People who supported what became the Orange Revolution were voting for ideas rather than one person," says Askold Krushelnicky, whose book "An Orange Revolution: A Personal Journey Through Ukrainian History" was recently published by Harvill Secker. Mr. Krushelnicky, a British journalist of Ukrainian descent, covered the revolu-

tion in 2004. "The parliamentary election showed people are still eager to support the same ideas they clamored for in the winter of 2004 but that most are more confident that Yulia Tymoshenko will deliver them rather than the Our Ukraine team – including Yushchenko."

Voters also didn't have great hopes for Viktor Yanukovich and his Party of the Regions, despite a campaign team put together by U.S. Republican Party campaign guru Paul Manafort. While in Zaporizhia for the "Voice Your Vote" town hall meeting, I managed to catch the tail end of a Yanukovich campaign rally in the center of town. It was highly organized, right down to the security team, which directed the former Ukrainian prime minister's entourage through traffic in American English. For an American dodging big black BMWs in the middle of Lenin Boulevard in Zaporizhia, it was disconcerting, to say the least.

It remains to be seen whether Yulia Tymoshenko – who campaigned outright for the post of prime minister and whose bloc made the greatest gains in the last election – will be given the chance to govern the country again when the new Parliament finally convenes on May 25. As with most things Ukrainian, we'll have to wait, watch and see.

* * *

An "An Orange Revolution: A Personal Journey Through Ukrainian History" was published in London, and currently available only at Indigo bookstores in Canada or through Amazon.co.uk.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, etc. – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, **no photocopies or computer printouts**) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must **provide a daytime phone number** where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- ✦ Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

Children of Chornobyl Fund receives special congressional commendation

by Marta Stecyk

WASHINGTON – The Children of Chornobyl Relief and Development Fund was awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for its “out-standing humanitarian work to aid children affected by the Chornobyl catastrophe.”

The commendation was presented on April 27 to CCRDF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma by Ohio Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus at a reception in the Rayburn House Office Building that hosted representatives of the U.S. State Department, the National Institutes of Health, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and various constituent groups comprising the Chornobyl Challenge '06 Coalition.

The reception followed a Congressional

briefing at the U.S. Capitol marking the 20th anniversary of the Chornobyl disaster.

Ms. Kaptur cited the fund's 16 years of unrelenting activity in Ukraine, where CCRDF has delivered 32 humanitarian airlifts and 16 sea shipments, providing over \$55 million worth of medical aid, technology and training to Ukrainian hospitals and orphanages.

The certificate was co-signed by Reps. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), Curt Weldon (R-Pa.) and Roscoe Bartlett (R-Md.), the ranking members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

Mr. Kuzma thanked the caucus for this honor and Rep. Kaptur for her leadership in promoting humanitarian assistance and greater awareness of the long-term consequences of the Chornobyl accident on Capitol Hill.



Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) presents a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition to Executive Director Alexander Kuzma, who accepted the commendation on behalf of the Children of Chornobyl Relief and Development Fund.

Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Ukrainian Canadians discuss redress with minister

TORONTO – Eight months after signing an Agreement in Principle with the government of Canada providing for the funding of various educational and commemorative projects having to do with Canada's first national internment operations, representatives of the Ukrainian Canadian community met with the new minister of Canadian heritage, Bev Oda, in Ottawa on March 24.

Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, Andrew Hladyshevsky and Ostap Skrypnyk represented the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras

Shevchenko and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, respectively.

Commenting on the results of this first meeting between the community and the Minister, Dr. Luciuk said: “We are very pleased that the minister reconfirmed this government's commitment to honoring the Agreement in Principle we signed in Regina, August 24, 2005. We can now report that, once the government has determined the appropriate terms and conditions, no less than \$2.5 million will be made available to the National Redress Council of the Ukrainian Canadian community.”

Ukrainian Society formed at London School of Economics

LONDON – Ukrainian students at the London School of Economics (LSE) held the first official meeting of the LSE Ukrainian Society on April 28. The new society aims to promote Ukraine at the one of Britain's leading university institutions. It will also serve as a forum for Ukrainian students, academics and those interested in Ukraine to discuss and research the past, present and future of the country.

Another goal of the society is to unite LSE Ukrainian alumni who, by the end of 2006, will account for over 100 professionals working in the private and public sectors across the world.

The LSE Ukrainian Society was founded by Vasyl Myroshnychenko and Aytak Malkhozov, Ukrainian students at the school. Mr. Malkhozov, a Ph.D. candidate in Finance, said that the lack of Ukrainian student activities and the resulting low profile of Ukraine at the LSE were the primary reasons for setting up the society.

Another reason is the desire to compete – in the finest tradition of classical economics – with the Russian and Eastern European societies. They have dominated the school's student activities related to the post-Soviet space, but the founders of the new society think it is time to provide the Ukrainian perspective.

“The LSE Ukrainian Society should become a platform for uniting all Ukrainians who have graduated from the LSE. It is an excellent opportunity for

capitalizing on the expertise of Ukrainian LSE alumni for the benefit of Ukraine today,” said Mr. Myroshnychenko, M.S. candidate in international political economy and a Chevening scholar.

The Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (AUGB) and John Grogan, a Labor MP and active member of the All-Party Parliamentary Ukraine Group, welcomed the founding of the LSE Ukrainian Society.

A letter from Volodymyr Muzyczka, a non-executive director of the AUGB reads: “We are very pleased that you have decided to form a Ukrainian Society at the LSE. Our association looks forward to many years of harmonious cooperation with your society in promoting Ukraine, its culture, people and the Ukrainian way of life.”

The LSE Ukrainian Society is currently working on establishing contacts with organizations and individuals in the United Kingdom who are interested in Ukraine, its business and investment opportunities, politics and culture. The society is also seeking cooperation with all interested Ukrainian individuals and organizations that are concerned with the U.K. and aims to foster bilateral relations between Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

For further information readers may contact: Mr. Myroshnychenko, v.myroshnychenko@lse.ac.uk; Mr. Malkhozov, a.malkhozov@lse.ac.uk; or Svitlana Subbotina, communications officer, s.subbotina@lse.ac.uk.

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Philadelphia Ukrainians celebrate Ukraine's graduation from Jackson-Vanik provisions

by Andrea Porytko-Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – Philadelphia's Ukrainian community and the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center celebrated the repeal of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment's provisions as they pertain to Ukraine and the continuing positive relations between the governments of the United States and Ukraine with a mix of politics, good food and drink, and entertaining music, song and dance at the UECC on Sunday, April 30.

The evening was a true giving of thanks and a call to action to the leadership of the Philadelphia Ukrainian American community to continue to bring Ukraine to the attention of the

hours of devoted and creative work.

The evening's main program and dinner were held in the tastefully decorated UECC banquet hall. The tables were dressed in elegant, traditional white with beautiful long-stemmed roses. Proudly draped above the main banquet table were the flags of the United States and Ukraine.

Mr. Shust introduced Borys Zacharczuk, resident of the UECC, who welcomed Sen. Rick Santorum, Ambassador Shamsur, representatives of various Ukrainian organizations and the many local Philadelphia Ukrainians in attendance.

Bohdan Chaplynsky, the well-known and accomplished Philadelphia tenor, sang the American and Ukrainian nation-



UECC President Borys Zacharczuk (right) welcomes Sen. Rick Santorum to the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center.

international community.

A somber and moving photographic exhibit, "Chornobyl: the 20th Century Tragedy and Clean-Up Through the Eyes of Gen. Nikolai Tarakanov," commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster, met all who entered the UECC. The 53 photographs were exhibited in the main lobby of the UECC.

The exhibit opening coincided with the cocktail reception that preceded the UECC banquet and will be on display until May 30.

At the cocktail reception, held in the festively decorated Alexander B. Chernyk Gallery, everyone gathered and mingled with the banquet's honored guests, which included: U. S. Sen. Rick Santorum; Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Ukraine to the U. S. Dr. Oleh Shamsur; Olena Kitsiuk, first secretary and consul, Embassy of Ukraine; Nataliia Holub, second secretary, Embassy of Ukraine; Olexandr Aleksandrovych, minister-counselor, Embassy of Ukraine; Andrii Olefirov, consul of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York; and Rep. Charles Dougherty. Master of ceremonies Ihor Shust introduced Pennsylvania State Rep. Josh Shapiro and Rep. Michael Fitzpatrick, and both addressed the gathering.

Mr. Shust also introduced Dr. Harry C. Silcox and thanked him for loaning the Tarakanov photographic collection to the UECC for use in the Chornobyl exhibit, explaining that the collection has never before been published or exhibited in the United States.

Also recognized at the cocktail reception on the fifth anniversary of the UECC website (www.ukrainiancenterphila.org) were webmaster Kenneth Hladun and board member Natalia Firko for their

al anthems, with piano accompaniment by Irene Pelech-Zwarych. The Rev. Yaroslav Kurpel of Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church led the invocation, praying for the leaders of two great nations, the U.S. and Ukraine, to find the wisdom, strength and courage to continue working together in such a positive manner.

Mr. Shust proceeded to offer background information on the speakers, featured performers and the history of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. Mr. Shust recognized the Ukrainian Federation of America (UFA) and its role in Ukraine's graduation from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. Mr. Shust thanked all responsible for their tireless efforts and for their active involvement in the American political process, promoting the truth about Ukraine and keeping American politicians well-informed.

Jokingly, Mr. Shust introduced Sen. Santorum as "a son of Ukrainian immigrants" to loud applause. Sen. Santorum thanked the Philadelphia Ukrainian community for inviting him to the UECC. Recalling the moment when President Viktor Yushchenko came to the U.S. and spoke to the Congress calling for the repeal of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, Sen. Santorum said, "... in fact the whole hall stood. I think that was a very important moment for us to try to lend some impetus to getting Jackson-Vanik graduated.

Sen. Santorum continued, "I want to stress the importance of the community stepping forward and letting their voices be heard on this issue. It is important for people of a democracy to participate in the process. You are a special interest, but that's not a bad thing. We are all special interests ... it was wonderful to have the Ukrainian community here in Pennsylvania come forward and express



Vera Andryczyk, Nataliia Holub, Rep. Michael Fitzpatrick, Ambassador Oleh Shamsur, Sen. Rick Santorum and Orysia Hewka celebrate in the UECC Gallery.

their views of how strongly they support it and would like to see Jackson-Vanik repealed. It was certainly a motivator for me."

He also spoke briefly about the vital role that immigration plays in renewing America and how immigration adds to the richness and the fabric of America as a

society. Sen. Santorum explained that current controversy over immigration is mainly about security issues with U.S. borders. He added that immigration is the constant renewal of the American dream. While thanking those present for their

(Continued on page 16)

First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko to address World Affairs Council

PHILADELPHIA – The World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee will host Kateryna Yushchenko, the first lady of Ukraine, at a program and dinner on Tuesday, May 30.

The World Affairs Council of Philadelphia is the premier public policy platform in America's birthplace and one of the top speaking forums in the nation. A non-profit, non-partisan educational organization, the council has presented a wide range of high-profile speakers. Almost all the presidents of the United States have addressed the council.

The speakers in 2005-2006 included

President George W. Bush, who spoke about the war in Iraq, and the rock star and global activist Bono, who in October discussed the need for international support for African nations. The council recently hosted the president of Latvia, Vaira Vike-Freiberga, and Dr. Henry Kissinger.

The event will be held at the prestigious Union League at 100 S. Broad St. in Philadelphia. Registration and the reception will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the address of the first lady of Ukraine and dinner. The cost for the event is \$75.

For more information contact Ulana Mazurkevich, 215-858-3006.

The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section

Congratulations, Graduates!

The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – offers readers of The Ukrainian Weekly the opportunity to place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 9, 2006.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 26:

- your note of congratulations, in Ukrainian or English, which should be no more than 50 words, including names;
- in English, the full name of the graduate, the degree completed or diploma received, along with the date it was presented, a list of awards and honors given the graduate, and the name and location of the school;
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Bohdan Khmelnytsky rises again, this time on the plains of Texas

by Ihor and Natalia Lysyj

TYLER, Texas – On April 6, 1648, Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky met and defeated advance guard of the Polish army at Zhovti Vody on the right bank of the Dnipro River near the Zaporozhian Sich. It was the opening salvo of the Ukrainian War of Liberation that lasted from 1648 to 1657. The war annihilated the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the superpower of the Europe at that time, and impacted the history of Europe for three and a half centuries.

A re-enactment of the beginning of Ukrainian War of Liberation took place in Tyler, Texas, on April 8 – 358 years and two days after the historic battle. Under a blue Texas sky, the warriors of the Polish and the Kozak armies met again to fight the unforgotten battle as part of the Four Winds Renaissance Faire that was held on a grassy meadow just outside of town. Although the combat was a staged one, the muskets, the sabers and the cannons were real. And so were the combat participants, Kozaks, peasants, Dragoons and Hussars alike.

The Polish contingent came to Texas from all points of the compass. On their side we found the Polish Light Artillery that hailed from the East coast and had its own cannon and artillery crew with supporting cavalry; Suligowski's Regiment of the Polish Commonwealth, hailing from California, boasted the famous Winged Hussars; Walter Buttler's Dragoons and Prince Manheim's Light Artillery, arrived from Arkansas; and the Gardes-Ecossais Regiment de Hepborn, a reincarnation of a Scots regiment that fought in the 30 Years War (1618-1648)

Ihor and Natalia Lysyj are free-lance writers who live in Austin, Texas.

in France, came from Alabama.

The diversity of the Polish troops was historically accurate. Poles employed many mercenaries in their wars with the Kozaks, while the Kozaks were not adverse to using Tatar horsemen in combat with the Poles. While all Polish warriors were out of state, the Kozak warriors, on the other hand, were all native Texans. You could call them "the home team." The only participant in the battle who could claim Slavic heritage was a young man from Vero Beach, Fla., whose grandparents immigrated to the U.S. from the Ternopil region in western Ukraine circa 1910.

In this historically accurate re-enactment of the battle, the Polish troops gleamed in their gold- and silver-plated armor, while the Kozaks were in ragtag but colorful attire, typical of any insurgency in any war.

While not scripted, the battle was nevertheless masterfully directed by Adam Roberts von Schleuter, who goes by the name of Max and hails from Arkansas. He is a master swordsman, a battle coordinator and a history scholar, and comes from a noble family in Germany with a long military tradition. His ancestors were involved in the 30 Years War in Germany, which ended in a stalemate and the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648. The treaty divided Western Europe into two parts, Protestant and Roman Catholic.

Unemployed as a result of the peace treaty, Max's ancestors sought work elsewhere. One of his ancestors fought as a mercenary in the Ukrainian War of Liberation (1648-1657). It is not clear on which side he fought, as he never came home, but Max said he would like to think he was on the side of the Kozaks.

The costumes, armaments and tactics used in the re-enactment were dramatic and



The Kozak troops challenge the Poles during the War of Liberation.

realistic, which enhanced the viewing experience. The battle was followed by a lecture and military arts demonstration in the encampment occupied by both Kozak and Polish troops. Here, among the tents and open fires, the encampment between the battle scenes replicated ancient life.

A giant cauldron over the open fire pit was filled with venison, goat meat, vegetables and other ingredients, following a Polish hunters' recipe dating back to the 17th century, and was stewed for the re-enactors' evening meal. We toasted the company with a cup of flavorful mead brewed by Max with honey and bread yeast, following an old and authentic Ukrainian recipe.

A collection of armaments, implements and artifacts of the period was displayed, and a short lecture was given about the life of the period. A fascinating amulet worn around the neck by the Kozaks, besides the customary cross, was purported to be a "flea catcher." In addition to the swords, sabers and other implements of the period, a "first aid" box, filled with the tools of the trade and with instructions attached to the lid – was opened for examination; a demonstration of the treatments available in those days at the hands of barbers-physicians was presented. Other period pieces, such as dice made of spinal bones and unnumbered playing cards, were also on display.

In the presentation following the battle, both the Polish and the Kozak sides stated their cases. The Poles, represented by their szlachta (nobility) stressed their superior armaments and skills in mounted warfare,

including the contribution of their cavalry – the best in the world they claimed – to winning the war of independence for America. Adam Roberts von Schleuter, who represented the Kozak point of view, stressed the struggle against prevailing injustice that nourished the spirit of the insurgents and propelled them to victory.

Khmelnytsky gets mixed reviews in history books, including some by Ukrainian historians. On one hand he is cherished as the founder of the modern concept of Ukraine as a nation and a state, while on the other hand he is chastised for signing the Pereiaslav Treaty with the Russian tsar – the treaty that eventually undid all his great accomplishments.

However, one must remember that it was Hetman Khmelnytsky who established a sovereign Kozak state in the 17th century after the collapse of Kyivan Rus' under the Mongols' onslaught in the 13th century. He did so by liberating the people on the lands of ancient Kyivan Rus' from Polish hegemony and oppression.

But there are always unintended consequences of each and every action. By destroying the barrier of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth that held Muscovy in check, Khmelnytsky opened the doors for Russian aggression and expansion into Europe – a process that lasted for almost 350 years, until it was finally reversed in 1989 with the fall of Berlin Wall. So many generations, including our own, lived our lives in the shadow of Bohdan Khmelnytsky's legacy.



A view of the hand-to-hand combat during the re-enactment.



In the Polish encampment (from left) are: a Winged Hussar, a Polish noblewoman, and a German mercenary.

A historical note

On May 6, 1648, Bohdan Khmelnytsky met and annihilated an advance force of 6,000 Poles near Zhovti Vody on the Right Bank of the Dnipro River. The main Polish force of 20,000 was thrown into a panic and retreats. It was ambushed by the Kozaks and also crushed. Only a few days before the battle, King Wladislaw IV of Poland died, leaving the commonwealth without a king, its commanders and the army.

During the summer of 1648 Poland assembled a large army near Lviv in Western Ukraine, including 8,000 German mercenaries. At the same time Bohdan Khmelnytsky was molding his many followers into a disciplined and well-organized army near Bila Tserkva in central Ukraine. The opposing armies met at Pyliavtsi, deep in the heart of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth on September 23, 1648. Here again Polish commanders panicked and fled the field of the battle, while the rest of their army followed the suit.

At this point nothing got in the way of Khmelnytsky's march into Poland proper and put an end to the Commonwealth once and for all. But Khmelnytsky did not march onto ethnic Polish lands. Instead, he regrouped and brought his consolidated forces back to the Kyiv region.

It has been debated why Khmelnytsky did not finish the job by totally destroying the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Critics of his actions should keep the following in mind. It was the onset of winter, and waging war on foreign soil without logistical support is a recipe for disaster, as Napoleon found out during the winter of 1812 in the snowy forests of Russia. Furthermore, there was hunger and pestilence among Khmelnytsky's troops and the country he left behind lay in the ruins of war.

By pulling back Khmelnytsky saved his army and gave the country a chance to rebuild. It was a wise and prudent move on the part of a great strategist.

FROM THE PAGES OF HISTORY: *The emperor's diplomatic mission to Hetman Khmelnytsky in 1657*

by Theodore Mackiw

Bohdan Khmelnytsky (also spelled as "Chmelnycky" or "Chmielnicki"), 1598-1657, was described by the well-known Russian American historian George Vernadsky as a military leader whose talent he equated with that of Wallenstein, whose diplomatic ability was hardly less than that of Cardinals Richelieu and Mazarin, and whose statesmanship and revolutionary leadership matched Oliver Cromwell's.

He was acclaimed as a liberator of the Ukrainian nation, and, if he had lived longer, he would probably have succeeded in establishing a stable Kozak government in Ukraine. Quite deservedly, Khmelnytsky impressed the minds of his contemporaries as well as successive generations of the Ukrainian people.

Khmelnytsky was first elected hetman – commander-in-chief, or chief executive – of the autonomous Ukrainian military republic, known also as the "Hetmanate" or the "Hetman State" (Hetmanschyna) in 1648, under the Polish protectorate, and again six years later, under the Russian protectorate (1654). Such autonomy was a status shared by many countries. Although Ukraine was a Russian protectorate, it nevertheless, as German historian Hans Schumann observed in his dissertation, had its own territory, people, system of government (a democratic one that certainly was unique at that time), administration, law, tradition, customs, and a military force, namely the Kozaks.

Khmelnytsky exercised the full power of his civil and military authority in Ukraine: he mostly sent his own envoys and received foreign ones (Poland and Turkey were the only exceptions). Consequently, he was regarded de facto as a sovereign ruler.

A clear distinction was drawn between Ukraine and Russia, as can be seen on contemporaneous maps created by numerous cartographers: for example, the French engineer Guillaume le Vasseur de Beauplan; the Dutch and English cartographers Hessel Gerardus (Gerritsz) and P. Gordon, respectively; and, the Germans Johann Baptist Homann, Conrad Tobias Lotter, Mathias Seutter, and brothers Christopher and Johann Wiegel.

When Khmelnytsky concluded a military treaty with Moscow in 1654, he expected to obtain military assistance in his struggle against Poland for the independence of Ukraine. However, the tsar interpreted this treaty as granting Russia a new territorial acquisition. When this became apparent to Khmelnytsky, he began to search for help from another source. (It is true, however, that the tsar sent his troops against Poland, but it was rather for the annexation of Bielorussia [now known as Belarus] than to support the hetman in his struggle with Poland.)

The overwhelming victory of the Russo-Ukrainian armies over Poland (1654-1655) encouraged the newly crowned Swedish king, Charles X, to renew the old war against Poland. Prince George Rakoczy of Transylvania, who for many years had been a Swedish ally as a member of a coalition against Catholic Austria and Poland, now joined forces with the Swedes; and, the allies prepared an invasion of Poland. At the same time, Sweden invited Khmelnytsky to join his coalition, advising him to break with Moscow. The hetman gladly accepted this invitation and in 1656 concluded a close alliance with Sweden and Transylvania, in addition to agreeing to the partition of Poland.

The Austrian Court did not desire to become involved in this war and offered

its mediation, trying to persuade Polish King Jan Casimir to attempt to come to an agreement with Khmelnytsky. However, when the Ukrainian-Polish negotiations ended unsuccessfully, the Polish king asked Emperor Ferdinand III to serve as mediator between the Kozaks and Poland, whereupon the emperor sent his best diplomat, Francis von Lisola, to the Swedish headquarters. There Lisola learned of the Kozak-Swedish rapprochement, which had already begun in late 1655, as he informed Vienna in his report of December 18, 1655.¹

At the beginning of April 1656, Khmelnytsky's envoy, a Greek monk, Father Daniel, arrived at the Swedish headquarters. In his report of April 7, 1656, Lisola wrote to Vienna that "the Swedish king was very happy about the Kozak envoy's arrival," and "Father Daniel's objective was to inform the Swedish king that the Kozaks have a great desire to conclude a treaty with him."

In addition, a former Polish undersecretary, Jerome Radziejowski, now in the service of Sweden, made it very clear to the Austrian envoy that he could not only break off Ukrainian-Swedish negotiations, but with his mediation he could bring the Kozaks closer to the emperor.

Lisola wrote to Vienna in his report of September 15, 1656, that if the emperor wanted to paralyze the Ukrainian-Swedish Alliance, there was only one thing to do, namely to conclude a treaty with Khmelnytsky before the Swedish king could. He emphasized that "circumstances force the Kozaks to find a new protector because they are afraid of the Muscovite yoke and do not trust the Polish nobility. The Tatars are hostile to the Kozaks and do not like the Turks either. Therefore, the Kozaks have no other choice but to look for protection from Your Imperial Majesty or from the Swedish king."

The Viennese Court liked Lisola's suggestion and, after some debate, decided on October 9, 1656, to send an official envoy directly to the hetman at his headquarters in Chyhyryn.

The candidate for this mission, the chancellor of Hungary and bishop of Nitria, George Selepczeni (Szelepcsny) was invited to the next meeting of the Imperial Council, on November 3, 1655, at which time the plan and instructions were discussed. According to the instructions, Selepczeni was supposed to convince the hetman that the emperor was deeply interested in settling the Polish-Kozak war and was even willing to guarantee the peace treaty.

Furthermore, the Kozaks should trust Selepczeni completely and tell him all their secrets in order to speed the negotiations. Likewise, it was also decided that Selepczeni should be in close contact with the Polish government and inform about all negotiations with Khmelnytsky. Everything was discussed there, even that the hetman should be addressed as "illustrissimus" (most illustrious).

In the meantime, Rakoczy's army

chancellor suggested that Khmelnytsky be addressed as "generous" (respectful) instead of "illustrissimus."

However, before Fragstein's report arrived in Vienna, the credentials and the letter to the hetman were addressed as follows: "Illustri, Magnificis et Strenuis Syncere Nobis delectis Bogulas Chmelniskio [Bohdan Chmelnycky], Cossacorum aporovianorum Generali Militiae Duci Eiusque Assistentibus et



Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky's letter to Emperor Ferdinand III.

passed through the Carpathian Mountains and attacked Polish troops, which surprised the emperor. He hastily sent Selepczeni to negotiate with Rakoczy. At the same time, Peter Parchevich, the archbishop of Marianopol, arrived in Vienna in the fall of 1656 from Bulgaria to ask for assistance for the Church. The emperor desired to avoid any involvement in Balkan affairs and asked him if he would be willing to go as his envoy to the hetman of the Kozaks. Parchevich gladly accepted this mission, adding that he "knew the language of the Kozaks well." Thereupon he was informed about the purpose of his mission: to persuade Khmelnytsky to conclude peace with Poland and, concomitantly, to inform the Polish envoy about the hetman's opinion regarding peace with the Polish king.

Before Parchevich's departure, the emperor requested the Polish king through his envoy in Warsaw, Johann Christian Fragstein, to send him additional details. As Fragstein wrote in his report of February 10, 1656, the Polish king was very satisfied with this plan, only his

Ordinum Ductoribus." Parchevich received his credentials on January 10, 1657 and, after making necessary preparations, left Vienna with his secretary, Msgr. Christopher Marianovich.

On March 1, 1657, Parchevich and his secretary arrived in Chyhyryn, where he was extended high honors. After six days this unusual mission was brought to Subotiv, two miles from Chyhyryn, where Khmelnytsky had his residence. At that time, the hetman was very sick and received Parchevich in bed. The archbishop greeted him in the flowery language that was stylish at the time. The hetman answered very politely and, after a toast in honor of the emperor, Parchevich and his companion were escorted to their quarters. The two were pleased by their reception.

They had many conversations with the hetman himself and other high officers, but at their request for a reply to the emperor, the hetman and his chancellor, Ivan Vyhovsky, answered that this unusual offer from "the Emperor of all Christians" required careful consultation with other Kozak leaders. Parchevich believed this, but in fact Khmelnytsky intentionally kept him for almost two months to impress other diplomatic missions and to use the presence of the emperor's diplomatic mission to add to his prestige.

In the middle of April 1657 the Kozak General Council convened, and problems of internal and foreign policy were discussed. The next day, after the General Council was concluded, (the archbishop being ill) Msgr. Marianovich asked for a reply to the emperor. The hetman received him in his quarters and apologized for the delay. Finally, on the following day Vyhovsky expressed the hetman's thanks and good wishes and handed Parchevich a letter from the hetman to the emperor (see sidebar). As can be seen from the text of the letter, which was very carefully worded, the hetman assured the emperor of his good intentions, and promised to prefer no one else's advice to

(Continued on page 17)



Map of Ukraine in the 18th century by cartographer Johann Baptist Homann.

Theodore Mackiw, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of the University of Akron.

¹ Lisola's reports and other documents are located in Haus, Hof u. Staatsarchiv in Vienna, Polonica I, Karton 66-69.

New book spotlights 50 years of creative work by Anatole Kolomayets

KYIV – A coffee table book featuring 50 years of creative work by Ukrainian American artist Anatole Kolomayets was published late last year by Sophia-A, an art books publishing house in Kyiv that has produced a series of books titled “Testimonies of Spirit,” dedicated to Ukrainian artists beyond the borders of Ukraine.

The hard-cover 148-page monograph, simply titled “Anatole Kolomayets,” contains more than 140 color reproductions of the artist’s oil paintings. Though the book comprises works spanning five decades, it highlights works from his later career. All of the paintings are identified by title and size, tagged by their year of creation and to whose collection they belong, making this a wonderful keepsake gift for those who have followed the artist’s evolution.

Released as a bilingual publication in both Ukrainian and English, the book features a number of articles, essays and reviews by the artist and his critics. The print run of 1,000 copies will be distributed in art libraries and museums in the United States, Canada, Europe and Ukraine, and is available for sale to individuals as well as in gift shops and bookstores.

In his opening essay, the late Mykola



Cover of the new book devoted to the work of artist Anatole Kolomayets.

Marychevskyy, a prominent art critic and editor of art journals who died in October 2005, wrote: “The creative works of Anatole Kolomayets synthesize

what he has acquired and what he has inherited. His artistic skills and sense of color are the generous gifts of his native land. And his training in Western Europe allowed him to hone his professional skills at the very heart of the movement toward modern art trends.”

Mr. Kolomayets was born in the Poltava region of Ukraine in 1927. He studied at St. Luke’s Institute (1948-1952) and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts (1952-1953), both in Liege, Belgium, where he polished his professional skills, formed his own artistic preferences and made his personal discoveries in creativity.

After graduate studies, he immigrated to Chicago, which he has called home for more than half a century. Here he married Lubomyra Karawan and together they had two children, Marta and Andrew. The artist dedicates his book to his family.

More than 400 of the artist’s works are in numerous private collections and galleries in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, France, Great Britain, the United States, Canada and Ukraine. Although most of his works are in oils, and this book is devoted to that medium, Mr. Kolomayets also works with watercolors and in pencil. He has had one-man shows in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Washington, Philadelphia, Toronto, New York, Los Angeles and Denver.

He is planning to exhibit his art works in Ukraine in 2007.

In a lengthy review analyzing 50 years of Mr. Kolomayets’ work, art critic Andriy Hurenko writes:

“If it is true that art is a reflection of the artist’s nature, then the human qualities of Anatole Kolomayets are brilliantly shown in his canvases. Looking at the accumulation of more than half a century of creative work, it is possible to put together a portrait of the artist’s personality. He is a man of principle who has the courage ‘to always step out of the mainstream’ (Bohdan Rubchak). He is reserved and, at the same time, his is a subtle, unimposing spiritual approach. He is a thorough and highly professional painter who is not prepared to distort his image for the sake of fashion. There is no spiritual stress or strain in him. He exploits neither horror, nor brutal violence, nor ostentatious subjects for the sake of easy popularity. The themes of his paintings reflect an established set of preferences and at the same time a sincere interest in life in all its forms and manifes-



“Girl from Poltava,” 1978, oil on canvas, 30 by 24 inches. Private collection, Chicago.

tations. Yet it is the human dimension that interests this artist most.”

Mr. Kolomayets also spends time reflecting on his journey as an artist. The publication includes his remarks at the exhibit marking 50 years of his artistic work, which was held at the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago in November 2003:

“The artist not only creates art, but also lives by what he creates. To bring out the best in human nature, we need more free time and we need to break up that time so that we can benefit from the achievements of the civilized world, to enrich our lives. Instead people just rush through life, never leaving their mark in this wonderful, boundless world.

“I remember it as if it happened today. It was a wonderful sunny day and the sun stood high in the sky as I walked out through the open doors of the academy, lightly holding two diplomas in my left hand. I looked up at the sun and thought: what’s next? That was exactly 50 years ago.”

The book is available for \$25, plus \$5 for shipping and handling from Anatole Kolomayets, 6819 N. Algonquin Ave., Chicago, IL 60646; telephone, 773-775-4547.

Concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky continues his globe-trotting ways

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio – Concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky is getting ready for his next concert tour which will take place in June and July. Departing the United States on May 31, he will first play four recitals in Britain, including two in the Isles of Scilly. He will then travel to Iceland, where on June 14 he will play a recital in Salurinn – the newest concert hall of the capital city, Reykjavik.

After that, he will travel to Ukraine, where on June 23 he will perform the Mozart Concerto in B Flat, K450 with the Philharmonic Orchestra of the city of Rivne. It is also planned that this concert will be repeated in the city of Lutsk within a day or two of this concert.

Between July 9 and 12, Mr. Rudnytsky will be in Jordan, where he will play a couple of recitals and conduct a masterclass under the auspices of the U.S. Embassy there. He has performed in 30 countries since 1984 under the cultural programming of the U.S. Embassies.

Following that, he will perform six recitals on a Mediterranean cruise of the P&O ship Artemis, which will take place on July 17-August 5, visiting various ports in the Mediterranean area. Mr. Rudnytsky has done over 30 cruises for P&O as classical pianist on board.

Since the beginning of the year Mr. Rudnytsky has performed in several parts of the world. In late January he served for six days as artist-in-residence at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario,

where he played a recital, conducted a masterclass and coached individual piano students there.

In March he played in Britain, including a performance of the Shostakovich Concerto No. 2 in F with the Sussex Symphony in Brighton. He then traveled to Ukraine, where on March 17 he was a soloist in the Saint-Saens Concerto No. 2 in G minor with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Donetsk. At the end of the month he played a recital at Los Angeles City College.

Mr. Rudnytsky’s most recent tour took place in early April, when he went to Alaska to play recitals in the towns of Petersburg, Haines and Valdez – all organized by the local arts councils.

Coming up later in the year will be his third tour of the Pacific islands of Micronesia (September), recitals in Poland and Lithuania (late October), recitals at the University of Utah and Point Loma Nazarene College in San Diego, a recital in November in Dillingham, Alaska (November), and five recitals aboard P&O’s ship Oceana on a Caribbean cruise from Barbados (December).

Mr. Rudnytsky has now performed in over 80 countries of the world. He has just completed his 34th year as a member of the music faculty of the Dana School of Music of Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio, where in 1990 he received a “Distinguished Professor Award” in recognition of his concert activities.



The Kolomayets family at the opening of the 50th anniversary art exhibit (from left): Andrew, Marta, Luba and Anatole.

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Baritone Pavel Baransky makes American debut at Carnegie Hall

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Growing up in the historic Ukrainian city of Kamianets-Podilskyi, Pavel Baransky had absolutely no thought of becoming an opera singer. Pop music was his thing, despite the fact that his parents were active in the sphere of classical music. His father, Volodymyr Alekseyevich Baransky, the director of a boys' college, where he teaches conducting and music theory, is gifted with a tenor voice; his mother, Vera Pylypivna Baranska, is a choir singer with a lyric dramatic soprano voice.

But pop music arranging – his specialty for eight years – became a thing of the past for Pavel Baransky when a family friend, baritone Mykola Dubchiiy, arrived in Kamianets-Podilskyi to teach at the college, heard young Baransky sing and declared he should be singing baritone roles in opera. Mr. Baransky decided to give it a try, beginning with lessons from Mr. Dubchiiy and proceeding to studies with National Artist of Ukraine Prof. Mykola Kondratiuk at the National Academy of Music in Kyiv.

Today, less than 10 years later, Mr. Baransky is making waves in international opera circles.

The 29-year-old baritone made his American debut on May 4, appearing at Carnegie Hall with the celebrated Opera Orchestra of New York (OONY) in a concert production of Italo Montemezzi's beautiful but rarely heard work "L'Amore dei Tre Re" (The Love of Three Kings).

Performing with an international cast headed by world-famous bass Samuel Ramey, Mr. Baransky achieved an impressive performance in the role of Manfredo, the son of Archibaldo, the blind king of Alturo. His height (just over 6 feet), broad-shouldered proportions and handsome features served him well in defining the noble character of his princely role.



Pavel Baransky

"L'Amore dei Tre Re," set in a remote castle in Italy in the 10th century, tells the story of the love of Archibaldo, a barbarian conqueror, for his son, and of Manfredo's love for Fiora, princess of the conquered country, who was given to him in marriage. The third love is that of Avito, prince of the conquered country, for Fiora, whom he was to have married.

Eve Queler directed the OONY orchestra and chorus with precision as impassioned arias rang through the hall. Several hundred dedicated music lovers and Opera Orchestra followers acknowledged the dramatic offerings of Mr. Ramey, Mr. Baransky, Argentinian soprano Fabiana Bravo and Mexican tenor Fernando de la Mora with excitement and tumultuous applause.

The production, with its verismo-late Romantic score, a formidable bass part, a Tristan-esque duet for the lovers and a Russian-sounding a capella funeral cho-

rus, was well received by music critic Bruce-Michael Gelbert of Theater Scene. Mr. Gelbert wrote that "Pavel Baransky as Manfredo displayed a solid baritone with an easy top range and ardent delivery, as he anticipated his reunion with Fiora." A Ramey-Baransky collaboration in Act 2, with Manfredo bemoaning the death of Fiora and Archibaldo giving an account of his killing of Fiora for her infidelity to Manfredo, was described by Mr. Gelbert as "a dynamic duet."

Critiques which appeared in The New York Times and Opera Today were less complimentary, while reviews from monthly publications (which could be favorable) were unavailable at press time. Benjamin Binder of Opera Today, who felt that Mr. de la Mora and Mr. Baransky pushed their voices beyond their limits in many places, concluded that the singers could not be blamed for overexerting themselves, since Maestro Queler "seems to have ignored the problem of balance" by not limiting the sound of her orchestra.

The Times' music critic Anne Midgette, known for her often condescending reviews, found good only in Mr. Ramey's performance. Describing Mr. Baransky's voice as "undistinguished and small for an opera that calls for large-scale singing," she added that all the singers had a hard row to hoe, since "the music was heavy and difficult, and the orchestra moved through it leadenly."

Moving up in the ranks

Mr. Baransky moved into the ranks of up-and-coming operatic baritones in the past four years as he won competitions in Germany and Kyiv and was chosen as a finalist in the Cardiff Singer of the World competition in Wales and the Placido Domingo Operalia Competition.

During the 2003-2004 season, while studying in Switzerland at the Opera

Studio of the Zurich Opera, he sang the role of Silvio in "Il Pagliacci" with the Welsh National Opera.

As principal baritone of the Hamburgische Staatoper in Germany for two seasons (with one still to go), he is singing a number of leading roles – Prince Yeletsky in "Pique Dame," Ford in "Falstaff," Sharpless in "Madama Butterfly," Tuzenbach in "Tri Sestri" and Belcore in "L'Elisir d'Amore," as well as the role of Silvio.

Chatting with well-wishers backstage after the concert, Mr. Baransky divulged that he would like to sing the role of the elder Germont in "La Traviata," but feels he needs more work before he tackles this role. He speaks English, Ukrainian and Russian, and would very much like to add Italian to his language proficiencies. He enjoys large cities like London, Kyiv and New York – he says "they stimulate my work."

His favorite role? He says he likes every role, because he becomes caught up in each role he tackles. To study voice and technique, he often listens to recordings by Siberian-born star baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky. Mr. Baransky and Mr. Hvorostovsky have the same agent, and it is possibly through the agent that Miss Queler learned of Mr. Baransky and invited him to sing in her latest production.

He has made two recordings to date, a CD with Romanian-born tenor Marian Talaba of Chernivtsi, featuring romantic arias and duets – the CD was the idea of Kyiv Symphony director Roger McMurrin – and a solo-voice CD with pianist Svitlana Ludchenko as accompanist.

This summer Mr. Baransky will make his Glyndebourne Festival debut in Prokofiev's "Betrothal in a Monastery." And in October he will return to New York City to make his Met Opera debut as Silvio in "Il Pagliacci" – hopefully receiving the complimentary reviews he deserves.

FILM REVIEW: Amy Grappell's "Light From the East"

by David Bogoslaw

It's well-known that artists enjoy an importance in oppressed societies that is the envy of their counterparts in democratic states, who are mostly ignored. Where freedom of speech is lacking, audiences are all the more receptive to what writers, actors and other artists have to say, as it's usually a proxy for their own unrealized dreams.

"Light From the East," the new documentary that was shown at the Pioneer Theater in Manhattan's East Village, is a meditation on the meaning of freedom and the role of the artist in inspiring people to translate that often-abstract concept into a daily reality in their lives.

In the summer of 1991 the Soviet Union opened its doors for the first time since the Cold War to a troupe of actors from the Yara Arts Group from La MaMa Theater in New York. They had come to Kyiv to collaborate with a Ukrainian theater company in staging a play celebrating the life and work of Les Kurbas, the father of Ukraine's avant-garde theater. For daring to resist Stalin's crackdown on any artistic expression that didn't conform to Soviet ideology, Kurbas had been

arrested and eventually murdered in one of Stalin's purges in 1937.

Amy Grappell, who wrote and directed the film, was a member of La MaMa Theater and the film, on the surface, is largely a document of her journey to a deeper appreciation of Kurbas' legacy in light of political events that play out during the troupe's visit. The deeper meaning of the artistic freedom for which Kurbas struggled becomes more relevant as she and her colleagues witness and try to make sense of those events.

Two weeks into rehearsals, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is kidnapped in a military coup that tries to restore power to Communist hardliners, threatening to unravel the political openness that was emerging as a result of his reforms. By juxtaposing scenes showing news coverage of the coup and the actors' responses to it with archival footage and stills of Kurbas' productions, Grappell gives a heightened sense of urgency to the American actors' decision to stay in Ukraine and go ahead with their production against the advice of the U.S. Consulate.

For young Ukrainians getting their first taste of political breathing room under glasnost in the early 1990s, freedom may have meant merely the ability to hold a job and earn money without cozying up to the Communist Party that controlled the economy in the darkest days of the Soviet regime. But for artists such as a well-known set designer and a painter forced into hiding, both of whom Ms. Grappell interviews, its meaning is much more profound.

"Light From the East" may frustrate

viewers seeking a comprehensive understanding of the failed coup and its aftermath or of Ukrainian history or those hoping for a fleshed-out portrait of Kurbas and his theatrical vision, as the film barely skims the surface of these themes. But, as a meditation that keeps circling back to the same points in an attempt to grasp how different Ukrainians experience freedom, it is a moving record of a particular moment in time, when the possibilities of a post-Soviet world were only beginning to be imagined.

Underscoring the film's grand themes are snapshots of the quiet strength and determination of ordinary Ukrainians in the face of hardships. Asked what their humanistic hopes are, a group of middle-aged women explain that singing helps them maintain hope before breaking into a mournful song about a mistreated cuckoo bird.

Many of the most affecting moments center on Natalia, the historian of the Ukrainian theater company who is hosting Ms. Grappell in the small apartment she shares with her mother. She agrees to serve as an interpreter as Ms. Grappell ventures into the streets of Kyiv during breaks between rehearsals to find out what ordinary Ukrainian citizens think of all the political changes sweeping their republic.

Natalia's face, often deep in thought, reveals a tempest of conflicting emotions about the unfolding events. She makes little effort to conceal her disdain when Ms. Grappell, trying to understand how Mr. Gorbachev could have been toppled, asks, "Does this happen often? This is a pretty big deal, right?" She is melancholy and a bit frightened when she says that instead

of a time for singing, it may be time for Ukrainians to shed some blood. And she can't resist adding her editorial judgments when translating ordinary citizens' comments for Ms. Grappell, critical of what she sees as the older generation's overly accepting attitude toward Ukraine's past sufferings under the Soviets.

Natalia is a compelling character and Christian Moore's camera is wise to return to her again and again to capture her response to the evolving situation. The affectionately disobedient daughter of a mother dedicated to Communist ideology, she embodies the rich complexity and internal contradictions of the Ukrainian people. However dismissive she is of the old guard, which she calls stupid enough to mythologize Lenin, she declares her pride in the "very clever, powerful [Ukrainian] nation," whose continual submission to an "absurd" Soviet regime she admits is bewildering.

The film works best when it highlights the intersections between the personal and the political. On a train to Lviv, one young Ukrainian actor explains that freedom for him will come only after "a long, long time of working on myself to break down my complexes," drilled into him since childhood by state institutions. His insight offers a sobering counterpoint to the following scene of people marching through the streets of Lviv, after Ukraine has declared its independence from the Soviet Union.

Although the events depicted in "Light From the East" occurred 15 years ago, Ukrainians are still trying to come to terms with their deeper meaning, as the Orange Revolution of two years ago reminds us.

David Bogoslaw is a freelance writer and filmmaker based in Brooklyn. He has written theater and dance reviews for OffOffOff.com, a web site covering alternative arts and entertainment in New York. His short film, "Seeing," was awarded a bronze medal at the Brno 16 Film Festival in the Czech Republic in 1993. He has a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University.

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The recurring...

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. Reed added that U.S. satellites
picked up the explosion. He said in an
interview that the blast occurred in the
summer of 1982.

The sabotage operation, however, did
not halt the construction of the Urengoi
pipeline. The CIA was forced to revise its
tactics.

Responding to the Soviet leadership's
support for the 1981 crackdown on
Poland's Solidarity movement, President
Reagan announced a program of sanc-
tions on companies selling gas-drilling
equipment and turbines for gas-compres-
sor stations to the Soviet Union, while
urging European states not to buy Soviet
gas.

Officially it was declared that this was
in retaliation for Soviet support for mar-
tial law in Poland. But it is also plausible
that the strategy was meant to ease U.S.
concerns about the construction of the
Urengoi-Uzhhorod gas pipeline.

The embargo, however, was easier to
declare than to implement. Norwegian
scholar Ole Gunnar Austvik wrote in an
article titled "The U.S. Embargo of
Soviet Gas in 1982" that a delegation
under the auspices of the U.S. State
Department sought to induce the Western
Europeans not to buy Soviet gas and to
choose alternative sources of energy.

"The arguments in favor of such diversion
were close to our notion of econom-
ic warfare, even though the whole range
of arguments was actually used. An eco-
nomically strong Soviet Union is more
dangerous than a weak one," Mr. Austvik
wrote. "The U.S. compensation package
contained two main components;
American coal and Norwegian gas were
presented as alternatives to Soviet gas."

Neither alternative, however, existed.
The United States did not produce enough
coal to meet Europe's needs and, even if
it did, the logistics of transporting it there
were overwhelming. Furthermore, at the
time Norway's gas production was not
sufficient to replace Soviet gas. By
November 1982, after the United States
increased its grain sales to the USSR, the
gas sanctions were terminated.

Originally, the Urengoi pipeline was
projected to go through East Germany,
but the West German government
protested and it was rerouted through
Ukraine. The West Germans were con-
cerned that in the event of a crisis the
East Germans could turn off the valves
and stop supplies. Ukraine was seen as
the more reliable transit route.

The 1982 NIE states that the West
Europeans' prime energy goal at the time
was to "reduce their dependence on
OPEC," at the time a significant Western
concern arising from the Organization of
Petroleum Exporting Countries oil boycott
of 1973. The oil crisis that ensued from
that boycott may have fueled U.S. con-
cerns regarding Soviet gas, lest the Soviet
Union someday copy OPEC's tactic.

In November 1983, the CIA issued
another NIE, titled "Soviet Energy
Prospects Into the 1990s," which, in
many ways, foresaw the current predica-
ment.

"If Moscow lands contracts to supply
even half of the West European gas-
demand gap now foreseen for the 1990s,
an additional pipeline ... would be
required ... and dependence on Soviet gas
could approach 50 percent of gas con-
sumption for major West European coun-
tries, far in excess of the 30 percent share
that we and some West European govern-
ments regard as a critical threshold for
political risk" the NIE stated.



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Ukraine and Poland...

(Continued from page 2)

with the Polish daily *Nasz Dziennik* on May 10 that the immediate motive behind the massacre was the abduction by the UPA of a dozen Poles from Pawlokoma in January 1945. The then-Polish Communist police in the area, according to Mr. Konieczny, were too weak to react to the capture, while Soviet troops were not trusted by the local population.

"In this situation the Polish pro-independence underground decided to conduct a retaliatory action in Pawlokoma, which had been known for anti-Polish manifestations. The purpose of [this action] was to warn the OUN-UPA that Poles would not tolerate its further attacks against and killings of the Polish population in Pawlokoma and neighboring villages," Mr. Konieczny told *Nasz Dziennik*.

Petro Potichny, a Ukrainian emigre historian and UPA veteran, wrote a book on Pawlokoma in which he traced the history of the village back to the 15th century.

Poland's current eastern border with Ukraine and Belarus lies roughly along the Curzon Line. It originated as a demarcation line proposed in 1919 by the British foreign secretary, Lord Curzon, as a possible armistice line between Poland and Bolshevik Russia during the Polish-Soviet war.

Dr. Potichny told RFE/RL that the Pawlokoma massacre reflects a wider pattern of the behavior of Poles toward Ukrainians during World War II along the ethnic Ukrainian-Polish borderland on both sides of the Curzon Line.

"It was not an isolated episode. It was, so to say, a [purposeful] policy of the Polish nationalist underground," Dr. Potichny said. "But not only that of the nationalistic underground. The Communist authorities, too, did similar things. They primarily intended to finally remove Ukrainians from these lands. Therefore, Pawlokoma is just a symbol of all that."

But Dr. Potichny admits that Ukrainians, too, were responsible for the murderous Ukrainian-Polish war fought by the UPA and the AK during the Nazi

occupation and afterward.

"If one is to attribute blame, one needs to say that the Ukrainians are mostly to blame for what took place east of the Curzon Line, while the Poles are mostly to blame for what took place west of this line," Dr. Potichny said.

In July 2003, the then-presidents of Ukraine and Poland – Leonid Kuchma and Aleksander Kwasniewski, respectively – met in the village of Pavlivka in the Ukrainian region of Volyn to commemorate ethnic Poles murdered by the UPA in 1943. Presidents Kuchma and Kwasniewski unveiled a memorial to several hundred Poles killed by the UPA in that particular village.

According to Poland's National Remembrance Institute, in 1943 the UPA murdered some 60,000 civilian Poles in Volyn, in anticipation of an independent Ukrainian state after the war and a plebiscite on which country, Poland or Ukraine, should possess the disputed area. The Polish AK subsequently resorted to retaliatory actions. According to Ukrainian estimates, the AK may have killed in retaliation as many as 20,000 Ukrainians in Volyn.

The post-war period only added to the Polish-Ukrainian record of mutual wrongs and prejudices. In 1947 the Polish Communist government forcibly resettled some 140,000 Ukrainians from their native areas in southeastern Poland to Poland's newly acquired northern and western territories. The official excuse for that mass expulsion was the desire to undercut the social base of support for the UPA in the area.

Will the Ukrainian and Polish governments manage to transfer their official determination to reconcile both nations over their history to ordinary Ukrainians and Poles? This may prove to be a tricky task. But as Polish historian Bogumila Berdychowska from Warsaw argued to RFE/RL, this task, if completed, could beneficially invigorate the development of Polish-Ukrainian relations, which in other respects are now almost exemplary.

"Closing historical accounts is very important for present-day politics," Ms. Berdychowska said. "The relations between independent Ukraine and Poland testify to one thing: There are no princi-

pal disagreements as regards contemporary politics [between the two countries]; there are no principal disagreements as regards economic relations. Actually, the only source of conflicts lies in history."

In 2002, President Kwasniewski officially condemned the forcible resettlement of Polish Ukrainians by the Communist authorities in 1947. Poles expected that President Kuchma in 2003 would respond with an official apology for the wartime massacres of Poles in

Volyn. But Mr. Kuchma did not fulfill that expectation.

One should not expect any official apologies from President Yushchenko or President Kaczynski in Pawlokoma. However, their meeting there seems to be a significant, even if small, step toward Ukrainian-Polish reconciliation.

Natalia Tchourikova of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service contributed to this article.

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A newspaper...

(Continued from page 7)

take for granted in America – are arbitrarily outside the purview of *The Ukrainian Weekly*, despite a virtual certainty that the younger generation will not stay long in the ethnic orbit. The diaspora's obsession is with museums.

Widening a narrow window on events in the American landscape that affect many lives, beyond the strictly conservative view presented by columnist Myron Kuropas, would be welcomed by those who have distanced themselves from *The Ukrainian Weekly* – and there are some among the young – because of its perceived narrowly chosen content.

Overall, *The Ukrainian Weekly's* column writers seldom venture outside of the ethnic fabula, and may soon run out of topics. While trying to be relevant, they are easily eclipsed by the Kuropas effect, with its robust style and mobile horizons, and with a consistent Republican Party political advocacy, mainly by hectoring at perceived pillars of liberalism.

Balance would be welcome – by presenting another point of view in a regular column, preferably a younger voice, as the only way to mitigate a more than fleeting impression that the newspaper has a favored ideological tinge.

The suggested idea may not sit well with a large part of the Ukrainian com-

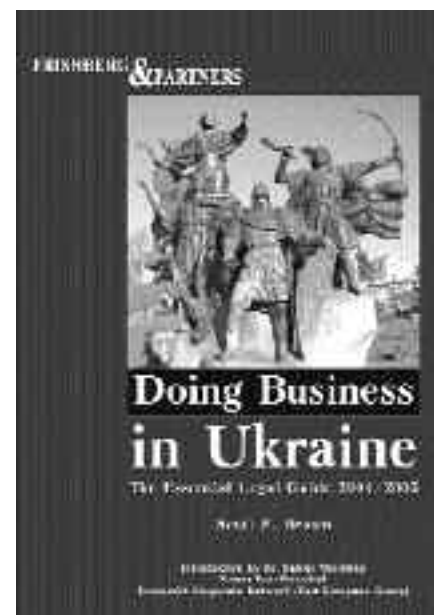
munity, if it votes the same way as the half of America that elected President George W. Bush. There is no denying that right-wing rhetoric and gasoline-based, SUV driven patriotism have been the winning numbers since the watershed Republican congressional victory of 1994. But profound ethical and Constitutional questions now confronting the administration and the rising dissatisfaction with failed war for oil in Iraq are taking the wind out of earlier spin. The same voters may now notice when the government in Washington stands accused of breaking the law – as we had noticed when former President Leonid Kuchma's regime abused power in Ukraine.

And, contrary to Dr. Burbelo's conjecture, *The Ukrainian Weekly* is not quite the only English-language newspaper in the U.S. that "provides information in an unbiased way for Americans" about Ukraine. Some of the most accurate reporting and analyses of events in Ukraine in the last several years have appeared in the *Financial Times*, the *Wall Street Journal* and, yes, in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and regularly in the *Kyiv Post* (an important source for foreign visitors). And it would be naive to think that foreign government sources know less about Ukraine than we do.

Boris Danik
North Caldwell, N.J.

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Philadelphia Ukrainians...

(Continued from page 9)

tremendous contribution to America, Sen. Santorum concluded, "I am very proud, for tonight, to be the son of Ukrainian parents, and I truly look forward to work-

ing with all of you in the years ahead."

Mr. Shust introduced Ambassador Shamshur to the guests at the banquet, noting his willingness to meet and address the needs and wishes of the Ukrainian American community, and his knowledge and thorough explanations of Ukrainian

policy. This was Dr. Shamshur's second visit to the UECC in the last four months.

As keynote speaker, the ambassador spoke at length about relations between the United States and Ukraine, emphasizing recent developments. He spoke about the new Ukraine, its foreign policy, how the Ukrainian government has begun speaking to its people openly and frankly, and about the role of the press. Dr. Shamshur discussed how the Ukrainian government is fighting corruption and working on transforming the economy.

He stated, "the Jackson-Vanik graduation wouldn't be possible, in a sense, without the changes taking place in Ukraine for some time and especially after the victory of the democratic forces in the last year and a half." Ambassador Shamshur applauded the formation and the efforts of a new Ukrainian American committee, the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition. He stated that Ukraine is thankful to its American friends who were active in this process, and friends in various Jewish organizations that also were helpful. Ambassador Shamshur also spoke briefly about the Chernobyl disaster.

In conclusion, quoting Archimedes, Dr. Shamshur said, "Give me a place to stand, and I will move the earth. Nowadays, Ukraine is a place to stand, if you want to move things in Europe. Ukraine is more than a nation nowadays. It's a symbol of hope and change."

The appreciative Philadelphia audience thanked Ambassador Shamshur for his remarks with a standing ovation.

Sharing the stage during the concert program of the banquet were violinist Adrian Bryttan, with piano accompaniment by Ms. Pelech-Zwarych; the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, led by Taras Lewyckij, artistic director; and the Ukraina Choir, under the direction of Mr. Bryttan, with piano accompaniment by Ms. Pelech-Zwarych.

Mr. Bryttan has enjoyed an international career as a violinist as well as a conductor. He performed three pieces: Meditation from "Thais," "Summertime" and "The Hot Canary."

The Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble is renowned for its colorful, bold, powerful and athletic performances. The performance featured three dances: "Tsyfrovanyi," "Eve of Ivan Kupalo" and "Lopnub Obruch."

Ukraina, a recently formed mixed choir, performed three selections: "God Bless America," "Bozhe Velykyi Yedynyi" and "Voskresla." Ms. Pelech-Zwarych, the choir's accompanist, performs as a soloist and accompanist, works as a music teacher and is the conductor of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir.

Mr. Shust took time out of the program to recognize the first decade of the UECC Radio Program, gave a brief description of its history and work, and thanked the current radio program staff under the direction of Mr. Zacharczuk, which includes Orysia Hewka, Ivan Prasko and Natalia Griga.

A highlight of the evening was the announcement by Adrian Hawryli, of 1st Security Federal Savings Bank of Philadelphia of a surprise donation of \$10,000 made by the Ukrainian Heritage Foundation to the UECC.

The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, founded in 1980, is a non-profit organization whose objective is to preserve and promote awareness of the Ukrainian heritage throughout the Philadelphia community. The UECC is located at 700 Cedar Road in Jenkintown, PA 19046 and can be reached at 215-663-1166 or via e-mail at contact@ukrainiancenterphila.org. The UECC's website www.ukrainiancenterphila.org includes photographs and video of the banquet, plus other information about its activities.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

portation monopoly, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Ivchenko, who headed Naftohaz since March 2005, reportedly asked to be relieved from his post in order to take up a parliamentary seat. Under Ukrainian legislation, national deputies cannot hold government or corporate posts. Mr. Ivchenko was Ukraine's key negotiator in a January gas deal with Gazprom, under which the price of gas imported by Ukraine in 2006 rose to \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters. Gazprom officials have already signaled that they want to raise this price again in the second half of 2006. Meanwhile, in an interview with the Kyiv-based business weekly Kontrakty on May 11, President Viktor Yushchenko reiterated his stance that the gas price agreed to in January will last five years. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Poll: Regions preferred in coalition

KYIV – A recent poll has found that 42 percent of Ukrainians favor the participation of the Party of the Regions led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich in a future governing coalition, while 35 percent of Ukrainians say such a coalition should be a replica of the Orange Revolution alliance and include just the Our Ukraine bloc, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party, Interfax-Ukraine reported on May 10. The poll was conducted on April 14-30 among 2,038 respondents by the Kyiv Center of Political Studies and Conflict Studies jointly with the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian hacker found guilty in U.S.

WASHINGTON – A San Francisco court found Ukrainian citizen Maksym Vysochansky guilty of computer crimes and sentenced him to three years of imprisonment, reported Ukrinform's Washington-based correspondent, Natalia Bukvych, citing the U.S. Justice Department's press service. Mr. Vysochansky, also known as Kovalchuk, since 2000 had been engaged in selling unlicensed software via the Internet, including such popular software as Adobe, Autodesk, Borland and Microsoft. He was also found guilty of a series of computer crimes against American banks and money laundering. He was arrested in 2003 in Thailand, where he was vacationing. On March 26, 2004, he was extradited to the U.S. For more than two years the case had been investigated by a special group combating electronic crime that was staffed by U.S. Secret Service agents and other officials. (Ukrinform)

Quitting CIS not on agenda

KYIV – Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk, citing recent reports in the Ukrainian press that Ukraine might soon quit the CIS, as well as commentaries by Russian politicians on the topic, told journalists in Kyiv on May 11 that, at present, Ukraine's withdrawal from the CIS is not on the agenda. "Nobody passed a decision on quitting the CIS," Mr. Tarasyuk said, adding that the situation is being analyzed

and consultations are being held. He noted that Ukraine is pressing for efficient cooperation within the framework of the CIS, but, unfortunately, "Ukrainian initiatives, which are important for citizens of CIS countries, meet no support." According to Mr. Tarasyuk, this proves the ineffectiveness of the CIS as an institution. (Ukrinform)

Ministry focuses on study of WWII

KYIV – In order to provide an objective account of World War II in Ukrainian textbooks, Education and Science Minister Stanislav Nikolayenko on May 11 signed a decree on the formation of a working group within his ministry. The working group, together with the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences, the Education and Science Ministry's relevant departments, the Institute of Innovation Technologies and Education and the scientific commission of the Education and Science Ministry are to introduce amendments aimed at proper study of the second world war in schools and institutions of higher education. (Ukrinform)

Monument planned to honor Mace

KYIV – The Kyiv City Hall on May 6 sent a draft directive to the Cabinet of Ministers on erecting a monument in Kyiv to American scholar and historian James Mace. The expenses are expected to be paid by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Dr. Mace was born in Muscogee, Oklahoma, on February 18, 1952. In 1983-1986 he and Dr. Robert Conquest collected materials for the "Harvest of Sorrow," widely viewed as the most important historical work about the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine. Dr. Mace devoted a number of research papers to the topic of the Famine. Dr. Mace was staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, whose final report stated the Great Famine of 1932-1933 was genocide perpetrated by the Soviet regime against the people of Ukraine. In 1993 Dr. Mace moved to Ukraine. He lectured at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy before his death in 2004. (Ukrinform)

Rukh aims to create new party

KYIV – The National Rukh of Ukraine has initiated the establishment of a single right-center party aimed at participation in the next presidential, parliamentary and local elections, it was reported on May 10. The NRU has invited national-democratic parties to unite in the new party. According to the NRU statement, the party should create a standing coordinating body of member-parties' leaders. The future party must work out and actively press for implementation of a common program of protection of Ukraine's interests. The NRU was established in September 1989. Between 1989 and 1991 the NRU was a central organization of the national Ukrainian democratic movement, led by Vyacheslav Chornovil, who died in a car accident in 1999. Presently, the National Rukh of Ukraine is a member of the pro-Yushchenko Our Ukraine bloc and is led by Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk. (Ukrinform)

The emperor's...

(Continued from page 11)

the emperor's, provided that the safety of the Hetman State was assured. He also praised Parchevich's efforts and promised that his envoy would bring further details orally to the emperor himself.

In conclusion, it should be added that the Poles defeated Rakoczy and persuaded the Tatars to attack him from the south, so that he was forced to make peace with Poland. The Swedes gradually withdrew from Poland and concluded a formal peace with both Poland and Russia. In such circum-

stances, especially because of the uncertain relationships with Moscow, the hetman had no other choice than to negotiate with Poland. Therefore, it is no wonder that Khmelnytsky, in his reply to the Polish king through his envoy, Stanislaw Bienkowski, simultaneously indicated readiness to negotiate with him. This is substantiated in Lisola's report of June 3, 1657, in which he informed his government that Bienkowski later told him that the Kozaks were eager to negotiate with the Polish king. Thus, the mission of the imperial envoy was achieved, because circumstances left no other viable alternative for the hetman.

Archeologists to search Black Sea

KYIV – The scientific and research ship Endeavor of the Institute of Archeological Oceanography of the University of Rhode Island has arrived in the port of Sevastopol. Ukrainian and American archeologists congregated aboard to perform archeological excavations in the Black Sea in search of World War II antiques. As noted by Volodymyr Kyrychenko of the State Department of Underwater Heritage of the Institute of Archeology of Ukraine, the inclusion of the Endeavor in the Pontic Expedition 2006 will take research to a new level, as there is now an opportunity to perform dives to the depth of 3,000 meters. According to Mr. Kyrychenko, the ship will investigate the Antique Epoch, the Middle Ages and the Second World War. The venue of excavations stretches from Khersones bay in Sevastopol to the Bosphorus and from Sarych cape in Crimea to Sinop cape in Turkey. The expedition aims to gather information on World War II-era ships, such as the Armenia, Lenin, Kharkiv, Blameless, Merciless, Gifted and the Dzerzhinski. The expedition is scheduled to last through May 23. (Ukrinform)

New project about Holocaust victims

KYIV – Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial complex in early May launched an international project on Holocaust victims in Ukraine. The Yad Vashem staff has developed a special questionnaire, the so-called "Witness Letter." According to Deutsche Welle, the letter can be filled out by anybody who possesses information about murdered Jews. The form requests the name, address, date of birth, education and dwelling place of the victim, said Borys Maftys, project director. The completed letters should be sent to Yad Vashem or given to local Jewish communities. Naomi Ben-Ami, Israeli ambassador to Ukraine, said that close collaboration in the search for victims has been established between the two countries. "We have always worked with archives. We have wonderful relations, so there shouldn't be any difficulties with the gathering of information," she said. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

New bishop ordained for Drohobych

DROHOBYCH – The episcopal ordi-

nation of Father Yaroslav Pryriz took place in Drohobych, Lviv Oblast, on April 29. On March 2 Pope Benedict XVI named him auxiliary bishop for the Sambir-Drohobych Eparchy of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC). Patriarch Lubomyr Husar, head of the UGCC, was the principal ordainer. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Kostenko now a vice minister

KYIV – According to the government's website, Yuri Kostenko, former ambassador to Japan, has been appointed vice minister of foreign affairs. On March 24 President Viktor Yushchenko relieved Mr. Kostenko of his ambassadorial position. Mr. Kostenko had been Ukraine's envoy to Japan since January 2001. In December 2004 he was appointed Ukraine's ambassador to the Philippines, combining the two ambassadorial posts. (Ukrinform)



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SPORTSLINE

Soccer

Dema Kovalenko, the seven-season MLS veteran mid-fielder and three-year starter for D.C. United, announced on January 12 that he will not return to the MLS club and plans to sign with a team in Ukraine. This comes after the MLS club refused to renew his contract for \$175,000, which is well above the league average.

"I'm definitely not coming back," he said before boarding a plane for Europe. "I wish it could have been different," he said.

Contributing to the refusal of D.C. United included Kovalenko's rambunctious playing style that has earned him three yellow cards last year, an average of seven in the previous five years, and a total of five red cards in his career with MLS.

United technical director Dave Kasper said: "He told us he was leaning [toward the Ukrainian offer]. We talked in general terms about a new contract, but we were going to be too far apart."

Para-Olympic Games

Ukraine finished third overall at the Para-Olympic Games in Torino, Italy with 26 medals (seven gold, nine silver and 10 bronze) – all in biathlon and cross-country skiing events.

In women's biathlon, Ukraine took three medals in the first 10-km race, with Olena Yurkovska winning gold in the sitting disabled race, and Ludmyla Pavlenko and Svitlana Tryfonova winning the silver and bronze, respectively. In the seated 7.5-km race, Olena Yurkovska took the gold again with Svitlana Tryfanova taking silver. Olena Yurkovska went on to win six medals in all (four gold medals, one silver and one bronze), and was named the Games' best athlete. Tetyana Smyrnova, who is visually impaired, won the silver in the 12.5-km race.

In women's cross-country skiing, Yuliya Batenkova from Kovel, Volyn

Oblast, won the silver medal in the 10-km race for standing skiers, the bronze in the 5-km race, and the bronze in the women's 3x2.5-km relay.

Men's biathlon had Ukrainian Vitaliy Lukayenko, who is visually impaired, winning the gold in the 12.5-km race.

Men's cross-country skiing had Yuriy Kostyuk winning the gold in the 15-km seated race, silver in the 7.5-km and 5-km races, and bronze for the 10-km race. Oleh Munt won the gold in the 20-km race and the bronze in the men's 1x3.75-km + 2x5-km relay with teammates Vitaliy Lukyanenko and Vladislav Morozov. Serhiy Khyzhnyak won the bronze in the 7.5-km race for the sitting disabled.

Boxing

A German court ruled on April 18 that the former IBF heavyweight champion Chris Byrd falsely accused Ukrainian boxer Vladimir Klitschko of using a chemical sub-

stance on his gloves to affect his opponent's vision in a world title bout in 2000. Byrd "had no authority to repeat such a statement," the Berlin high court said.

The claim was made by Byrd after he lost the WBO heavyweight match on points.

Klitschko and Byrd met again on April 22 in Mannheim Germany after their last fight six years ago. Byrd's IBF title was taken by Klitschko, dropping Byrd to the canvas twice, before winning by TKO in the seventh round. Klitschko's record currently stands at 46 wins, three losses, zero draws and 41 wins by KO.

Track and field

The Ukrainian team finished third at the Moscow World Indoor Track and Field Championships, with golds being won by Lyudmilla Blonskaya in the women's pentathlon and Ivan Heshko in the 1,500-meter run.

Archery

The men's team for Ukraine, comprising Viktor Ruban, Markian Ivashko and Pavel Bekker, won the gold at the 10th Indoor Archery Championships in Jaen, Spain, beating Germany, France and Italy.

Ukraine's women's team, composed of Kateryna Palehka, Tatyana Dorokhova and Viktoriya Koval, won the silver medal.

Junior archery teams for Ukraine succeeded as well, with the boys' team (Yuriy Havelko, Dmitry Shamatin and Oleksandr Onyshchuk) winning gold and the girls' team (Marina Veselovska, Yuliya Pesnikova and Valeriya Yakovleva) winning bronze.

Strongman competition

Kyiv hosted the United Strongman Series competition on April 23 on the maidan, or Independence Square, where Viktor Yurcenko won third place. Other Ukrainian competitors included Michael Starov, who won eighth place, and Kyrlo Chuprynin, who won fifth place. A second competition is to take place on July 28 for four days.

Mountain climbing

Two Ukrainian climbing clubs battle for staking flags on mountains all over the world. The Donetsk club recently planted its flag on Kiliminjaro. This came after the Kharkiv club planted its flag on Cho Oyo in Tibet. The Donetsk club is planning its next trip to Mount Cook in New Zealand.

Marathons

Two Ukrainian women placed first and second in the Freescale Austin Marathon in Texas. Fifty-one-year-old Tatyana Pozdnykova set a world record for her age group in the race, and finished 2 minutes and 33 seconds ahead of Ilona Baranova in the Olympic development marathon.

— compiled by Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej

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SPORTS DIARY: Ukraine's girls at the World Cup of softball

Basil P. Tarasko, district administrator of the Little Leagues in Ukraine, as well as coach for the National Baseball Teams of Ukraine, is now preparing for his 42nd charity trip to Ukraine (May 26-June 20).

Aside from attending and supporting various Little League games throughout the country, his three-week trip will take him to the town of Ostroh, Rivne Oblast, to present, on the behalf of the Major League Baseball Tomorrow Fund and Little League Baseball Inc., new uniforms, gloves, bats, bases, etc., to an orphanage for deaf children. This orphanage is officially chartered to play Little League baseball in 2006.

Mr. Tarasko, who is based out of New York, will also go to Kyiv to organize and prepare for the seventh annual Ukraine Little League Baseball Championships to be held there on June 1-4. All registered Little Leagues in Ukraine can send an all-star team to compete for the title. The winner will then vie for the European Championships in early August.

On the eve of Mr. Tarasko's upcoming trip to Ukraine to promote Little League baseball, *The Weekly* publishes an account of his involvement with Ukraine's national 16 and under girls' softball team that participated in the third World Cup competition played in late 2005 in Tampa, Fla.

by Basil P. Tarasko

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

NEW YORK/TAMPA – A delegation of 15 left Kyiv on November 21, 2005, traveling via New York to Tampa, Fla., for the third World Cup of softball.

This trip was not included in the official Ukraine sports program for 2005. Funds were originally allocated for the Ukraine National Junior Baseball Team to compete at the European Championships in Spain. Since the team was unable to obtain necessary visas for travel, the allocated funds went unused. After much discussion, Ukraine's Ministry of Sports decided to use the funds to send 10 young ladies from the age 16 and under team to represent Ukraine at the softball World Cup.

Michael Savchak and I arrived at JFK with sandwiches, pickles and drinks, donated by the Veselka restaurant on Second Avenue in Manhattan, for our young players. I looked up and saw that the Aero-Svit flight would arrive at 7 p.m. – more than three hours later than scheduled due to mechanical problems at Kyiv's Boryspil Airport. The connecting flight to Tampa was to be at 8:30 p.m., too close for comfort considering potential customs clearance delays.

No problem, we thought. Our team would just take a later flight. That was not to be. Delta Airlines indicated that the 8:30 flight was the last one that evening for Tampa. Now what?

Finally, at 8 p.m., as our team cleared customs, we located our rep and learned that hotel arrangements were set up for our team to stay over in Queens and depart the following morning. This was a

blessing in a way. Our team had a limited budget to work with. We had just saved one night's hotel cost by staying over in New York.

There was a problem. I had arranged for Ukrainians in the St. Petersburg-Tampa area to welcome our team at midnight and then transport them to their hotel in Plant City. They had to be notified of the cancellation. Could they return the following morning?

Luba Mycyk, a dynamic and energetic young lady, and her husband, Roman, along with other warm and caring Ukrainians came to the aid of our team. They were there in the morning to greet our Ukraine team and drive them to our hotel.

How did I find Mrs. Mycyk? Ika Casanova of *The Ukrainian Weekly* suggested that I contact Prof. Vira Bodnaruk of North Port, Fla., for assistance. Prof. Bodnaruk indicated to me that she could not assist with our transportation needs because North Port is about 100 miles south of Tampa. But she gave me another contact, Mrs. Mycyk.

On November 23, in our opening game, our team faced the Diamond Dusters under the lights. Our newly found Ukrainian fans from the St. Petersburg area came with blue-and-yellow flags to root for their "home" team.

This was a first for the Ukraine softball program – never before had our girls tried to catch a fly ball under the lights. It was truly an adventure.

The Dusters scored early and often to take a four-run lead before Ukraine scored its first run in the bottom of the third inning. Anna Marko reached first base on a walk, took second on a passed ball, and then Anna Loza executed a perfect sacrifice bunt to move Marko to third. Oksana Maksakova knocked in Marko for the only Ukrainian run with a single up the middle. Final score 12-1, Dusters.

Ukraine would score its only other run in the tournament three games later and take its only lead in a game against the Lady Panthers. Maksakova led off the game with a sharp single to left. She moved to third on back-to-back wild pitches and scored when Tetyana Bondar grounded out to second base. The Panthers responded quickly with nine runs in the bottom of the first and went on to defeat Ukraine 11-1.

Ukraine lost all six games, scoring but two runs and getting two hits, both by Maksakova. Yet our ladies never quit – they swung the bat, encouraged each other, cheered in Ukrainian and kept on smiling. They were happy just to be here and were proud to wear the Ukraine uniform.

These were delightful young ladies. They were wonderful ambassadors for Ukraine. Our young team quickly became the darlings of the tournament.

Special thanks go to the Emerald Comets, the Jacksonville Thunderbolts, the Tampa Bay Mustangs and the



Team Ukraine at the opening ceremonies of the World Cup in Tampa, Fla.

SunCoast Outlaws for their kind donation of equipment for our team.

The final result of the World Cup: the Shamrocks of Virginia squeaked by Chinese Taipei 2-1 for the championship. Twenty teams competed, including five foreign teams.

Our Ukraine team for the third World Cup consisted of 10 girls – six from Rivne and four from Kirovograd. The adult delegation, which was all male, included a part-time softball coach and a baseball coach. The team did not include all the best softball players in Ukraine, nor were the best softball coaches in Ukraine present.

Unbeknownst to me, two years ago Ukraine had participated in the second World Cup. That team also scored a total of two runs and with the same two coaches. Where is the progress? What does this say about the development of softball in Ukraine? If Ukraine is to invest thousands of dollars to send a team to the U.S., then why not send the best players and send the top softball coaches? And, Ukraine should not send 10 girls to play six games in four days. Send a full team. Invest in the youth of Ukraine, if you want better results in the future.

To help turn the Ukraine softball program around for 2006 and beyond, the Ukraine Little League program is planning to register all softball programs under its banner. There will be an emphasis on scheduling more games and providing better instruction. Little League softball championships will be held in all age categories. The hope is to identify the best players early on. In order for our best players to get more international experience, the Ukraine Little League softball program will send national teams to Kutno, Poland, to compete at European Softball Championships in all

divisions.

Let's hope that, if Ukraine sends a team in 2007, it will send its best players and its best softball coaches.

There were so many local Ukrainians who made our trip and stay in Florida memorable. We will never forget them.

Special thanks to the following individuals for providing financial support, moral support, transportation help, warm smiles or just being there for the girls of our Ukrainian Softball team and for supporting my Little League Orphanage Project in Ukraine.

From the New York area: Dr. Bohdan Kekish, president of the Self Reliance (New York) Federal Credit Union; Jason Birchard, Veselka Restaurant; Tamara Jeziorski, Gary Krupsky and Michael Savchak.

From North Port, Fla.: Prof. Vira Bodnaruk, president of the Ukrainian Language Society of Chicago; Iwanna Holowaty, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 56; Dr. Volodymyr Korol, president of the Society for Humanitarian Help to Ukraine; Orysia Tkachuk, Mykola Spivak, Stephanie Sandra, Chrystyna Sheldon, Daria Pelech and Leida Boyko.

From the St. Petersburg-Tampa area: Luba Mycyk, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 124; Volodymyr and Ruslana Panov, Bohdan Horbaczuk, Ihor Matychuk, Olya Czerkas, Irena Kuc; Ihor Khakhoulia and Andriy Slybka.

For more information about the Ukraine Little League Baseball and Softball – Orphanage Project readers may contact: Basil (Vasyli) Tarasko, 36-46 212th St., Bayside, NY 11361; phone, 718-415-7821; e-mail, bt4ukraine@aol.com.



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PHILADELPHIA FRIENDS OF UCU LVIV FUND-RAISER EXCEEDS \$110,000

As the activity on the fund-raising dinner held in Philadelphia on April 1, 2006 for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv comes to a close, the Committee reported that the rising number of contributors has increased the total funds raised by this event to \$110,000. Participation in the dinner-benefice and the response to the needs of the University in Lviv, has exceeded their best expectations. The Committee of the Philadelphia Friends of UCU is expressing their sincerest thanks for such an active participation in sustaining the University and we trust that the dedication and support of the Philadelphia area will continue. Below is the list of contributors as of April 30, 2006, which we believe to be accurate, but should you find any discrepancies, please communicate with the Committee Treasurer Ihor Shust at 215-947-2795, or at sihor@verizon.net.

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*In memory of Rev. Mitr. Myroslaw Charyna

**In memory of Bogdan & Omerjan Bilas

***In memory of Wasyl & Mychalina Koliniak & Volod. & Helen Chyzowych

****In memory of Zwenyslawa Romaniw

*****In memory of Ivanna Subtelny

*****In memory of Rosalia Pryszlak

*****In memory of Eugene S. Luciw

*****In memory of Dr. Alexander Gudziak



TENNIS CAMP AGES 10-18

Kick off the summer with 2 weeks of intensive tennis instruction and competitive play directed by George Sawchak. Room, Board, 24 Hour Supervision, expert lessons and a life time of memories are included!

June 25- July 7, 2006

\$540- UNA Members, \$590- Non UNA Members + \$130 Instructors Fee/Per Student

EXPLORATION DAY CAMP AGES 7-10

A day camp for boys and girls ages 7-10, with daily supervised day fun in the outdoors!

Session #1: June 26- June 30, 2006

Session #2: July 3- July 7, 2006

\$100.00 Per Week/Per Child OR \$25.00 Per Day/Per Child

DISCOVERY CAMP AGES 8-15

Calling all nature lovers for this sleepover program filled with outdoor crafts, hiking, swimming, scuba, organized sports & games, bonfires, song and much more. Older kids will participate in overnight campouts with focus on wilderness survival skills. Room, Board, 24 Hour Supervision, and a life time of memories are included!

Session #1: July 9- July 15, 2006

Session #2: July 16- July 22, 2006

\$400- UNA Members, \$450- Non UNA Members

CHILDREN'S UKRAINIAN HERITAGE DAY CAMP AGES 4-7

Formerly known as Cherny Camp, this day camp exposes kids to their Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, crafts and games, ending w/a performance.

Summer Camps 2006

Price includes tee-shirt and daily lunch.

Session #1: July 16- July 21, 2006

Session #2: July 23- July 28, 2006

\$150 Per Camper, \$190 Per Camper If Not Overnight Guest

SCUBA DIVING COURSE AGES 12-ADULTS

This one week course will complete your academic, confined water and open water requirements for PADI open water certification. Classes are given by George Hanushevsky, scuba-diver instructor. Space is limited so sign up now!

July 16- July 22, 2006

\$400 for Course (\$120 Deposit Required)

UKRAINIAN "SITCH" SPORTS CAMP AGES 6-18

This is the 37th Annual Ukrainian "SITCH" Sports Camp that will take place here at Soyuzivka for the 1st time. Run by the Ukrainian Sitch Sports School, this camp will focus on soccer and tennis and is perfect for any sports enthusiast. Registration for this camp is done directly by contacting Marika Bokalo at 908/851-0617.

Session #1: July 23- July 29, 2006

Session #2: July 30- August 5, 2006

\$340 Per Camper, \$145 for Day Campers

GOLF DAY CAMP AND BEACH VOLLEYBALL DAY CAMP AGES 8-ADULTS

Instructional golf sessions w/golf instructors, between 8-11am & evening beach volleyball w/professional instruction by All American Volleyball Player between 6:30-8:30 pm.

Session #2 SITCH campers may participate- call for details.

July 31- August 4, 2006

GOLF-\$35 Per Camper/Per Day & VOLLEYBALL-\$20 Per Camper/Per Day

TRADITIONAL UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE CAMP AGES 8-16

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky). This sleepover camp has been a Soyuzivka favorite for over 25 years, offering expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced dancers. Attendance is limited to 60 students. The camps end with a grand recital which is always a summer highlight!

Session #1: July 23- August 5, 2006 (NEW ADDED WEEK)

Session #2: August 6- August 19, 2006

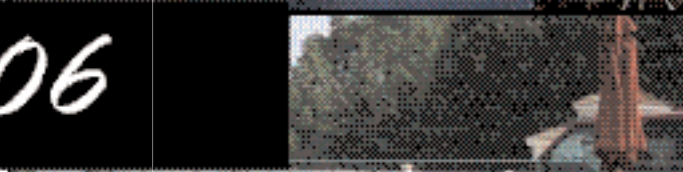
\$610- UNA Members, \$660- Non UNA Members + \$300 Instructors Fee Per Student

\$75 Deposit Required to Register Child into most Camps.

For more information & for camp applications call: (845) 626-5641

or check out our website at: www.Soyuzivka.com

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A plea for help for injured student

KYIV – “A year has passed since the last time I’ve asked for your assistance in saving the life of my son Oleh Bizyaev,” wrote Alexandra Bizyaeva in a letter to supporters and friends. “More than a year ago he was found on the street with a severe open head wound.”

Mr. Bizyaev was finishing his graduate studies at Boston College when on July 9, 2004, his skull was fractured from blunt head trauma caused by a severe beating. The honor student, who was in the United States thanks to a grant from the Soros Foundation, hails from Odesa.

Discovered unconscious, he was rushed to Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, where he was diagnosed with severe brain trauma. This injury left him in a

coma for three months, from which doctors believed he would never recover.

It was the opinion of several doctors that the family should disconnect Mr. Bizyaev from life support. Despite this, Mrs. Bizyaeva and her older son, Vadym, refused to give up hope. As a result of their undying belief, prayers and exercises they witnessed the awakening of the 28-year-old patient.


“I’d like to thank everyone who has helped us during this difficult time,” wrote Mrs. Bizyaeva. “Three months later, my son came out of a coma, started speaking and regained his memory, including the knowledge of different languages. My other son, Vadym, and I spent the entire next year, in multiple hospitals in Boston helping Oleh to recuperate.”

“In July of 2005 we came back to Kyiv, where Oleh is still undergoing various treatments,” wrote his mother. “Fortunately, he’s becoming more active and we are hoping that he will recover eventually ... His entire left side is still paralyzed. However, he’s showing good reflexes. He still suffers from back and leg pain. Most importantly, all of these symptoms can be treated. Again, I’d like to thank everyone who made it possible for Oleh to recover to this point. However, I have to ask for your financial support again as we desperately need it for Oleh’s recovery.”


Anyone who would like to assist the Bizyaev family in coping with growing medical costs may send donations to: St. Andrew Church, Account No. 1052-1085, on behalf of Oleh Bizyaev, c/o Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, 107 Eastern Ave., Dedham, MA 02026.



Oleh Bizyaev (left) with his brother, Vadym.




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Soyuzivka's Datebook

- May 26-29, 2006**
UNA Convention

May 31, 2006
SUNY New Paltz Migrant Education Program

June 2-4, 2006
Ukrainian Language Immersion Weekend offered at SUNY New Paltz

June 3, 2006
Wedding

June 5-9, 2006
Eparchial Clergy Retreat

June 10, 2006
Wedding

June 11-16, 2006
UNA Seniors' Conference

June 16-18, 2006
3rd Annual Adoption Weekend

June 17, 2006
Wedding

June 18, 2006
Father's Day Luncheon and Program

June 23-24, 2006
Plast Kurin "Shostokryli" Rada

June 24, 2006
Wedding

June 25-July 2, 2006
Tabir Ptashat Session #1

June 25-July 7, 2006
Tennis Camp

June 26-30, 2006
Exploration Day Camp

July 2-9, 2006
Tabir Ptashat Session #2
- July 9-15, 2006**
Discovery Camp, Session #1

July 16-21, 2006
Children's Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp, Session #1

July 16-22, 2006
Discovery Camp, Session #2
SCUBA Diving Course

July 23-28, 2006
Children's Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp, Session #2

July 23-29, 2006
Ukrainian Stitch Sports Camp Session #1

July 23-August 5, 2006
Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #1

July 30-August 5, 2006
Ukrainian Stitch Sports Camp Session #2

July 31-August 4, 2006
Golf Day Camp and Beach Volleyball Day Camp

August 5, 2006
Dance Camp Session #1 Recital, Auction Fundraiser sponsored by Chornomorski Khvyli and Soyuzivka's Heritage Foundation Golf Tournament

August 6-19, 2006
Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #2

August 12, 2006
Miss Soyuzivka Contest followed by zabava with Tempo

August 19, 2006
Dance Camp Session #2 Recital, followed by zabava with Fata Morgana

To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

- Sunday, May 21**

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka will perform religious music, including "Ave Maria" and Mozart's "Lacrymosa," at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 30 E. Seventh St. (between Second and Third avenues). The concert will be conducted by Vasyl Hrechynsky and will take place immediately after the noon liturgy (approximately 1:15 p.m.). For more information call 718-896-7642.

Tuesday, May 23

NEW YORK: "The Whisperer," a new documentary film, tells the story of a Ukrainian American visiting her family's homeland who has an unexpected encounter with a traditional village healer that forever changes the course of the traveler's life. The 30-minute film is directed by Andrea Odezynska and edited by Kathryn Barnier; it is produced by Ms. Odezynska and Ms. Barnier with support from the Yara Arts Group. The film will be screened at the Pioneer Theater, 155 E. Third St., at 7 p.m. The screening will be followed by a question-and-answer session until 9 p.m., and a beer and pizza party at 9-10 p.m. Tickets: \$9, pre-purchase online at www.twoboots.com, www.cinemomenny.org (see screening series).

Friday, June 2

WASHINGTON : The Washington Group Cultural Fund under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine invites the public to attend a benefit concert in memory of Daria Telizyn (1961-2005) featuring aspiring young musicians performing works by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Skoryk and others at 7 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW. RSVP to 202-349-2961 or nholub@ukremb.com. Suggested donation: \$50. All proceeds from the benefit concert will be used to assist qualified young musicians from Ukraine with expenses associated with participation in international classical music competitions in the Greater Washington area.
- Sunday, June 4**

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Philadelphia branch, invites the Ukrainian American community in the Philadelphia area to attend its traditional annual "Youth Day" and picnic on the grounds of the Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub located at Lower State and County Line roads. The official program will commence at 10:30 a.m. with flag-raising, opening ceremonies, commendations and awards for active members of the SUM branch, and a divine liturgy. The public is invited to participate. Sports shall include soccer, volleyball and track-and-field events. The artistic program in the afternoon will feature the winners of national competitions. There shall also be a performance by the branch's Vesna dance ensemble. Throughout the day there will be a picnic with plenty of delicious food and hot and cold drinks. There will also be music in the evening for the public's entertainment and dancing. For information call 215-969-4101.

Friday, June 23

GLENDALE, Calif.: Famed Irish tenor Anthony Kearns of The Irish Tenors trio, New York Metropolitan Opera bass Stefan Szkafarowsky and film/TV actor George Dzundza, along with the Pasadena Community Orchestra, join with the Ukrainian National Choir Kobzar of Los Angeles in a concert of rousing patriotic American and Ukrainian songs. "A Musical Salute – God Bless America" is presented by the Ukrainian Culture Center of Los Angeles as a tribute to all who have served in the U.S. armed forces, with proceeds going to support children of those fallen in our military during "Operation Enduring Freedom." The event will be at the Alex Theater, 216 N. Brand Blvd., starting at 7:30 p.m. Ticket reservations are available from Kobzar by contacting Dareen Swartzlander, 909-860-2102, or online via www.alextheatre.org.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

- Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.
- To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.
- Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
- Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.

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| From Wash, Cle, or Dtt | \$720 + tax |
| From Orlando, TPA, MIA | \$819 + tax |

Rates do not include taxes that may range from \$165.00 to \$257.00. Weekend surcharges additional. This offer is limited and is subject to availability by the air line carriers.