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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukrainian National Association holds 36th Convention

by Roma Hadzewycz

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The Ukrainian National Association held its 36th Regular Convention here at its mountaintop estate, Soyuzivka, on May 26-29, with 96 delegates and 17 members and honorary members of the General Assembly participating.

The convention re-elected the three full-time executive officers of the Ukrainian National Association: President Stefan Kaczaraj (Budd Lake, N.J.), National Secretary Christine E. Kozak (Rutherford, N.J.) and Treasurer Roma Lisovich (Union, N.J.).

Elected to fill the other three posts of the UNA Executive Committee, which are volunteer positions, were: First Vice-President Zenon Holubec (Parma, Ohio), Second Vice-President Michael Koziupa (Cedar Knolls, N.J.) and Director for Canada Myron Groch (Founthill, Ontario). Dr. Holubec and Mr. Groch had previously served as auditor and advisor, respectively; Mr. Koziupa is a neophyte member of the General Assembly.

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Irene Jarosewich/Svoboda

The newly elected UNA General Assembly (from left): Vasyl Luchkiw, Slavko Tysiak, Nicholas Fil, Paul Prinko, Michael Koziupa, Roma Lisovich, Zenon Holubec, Stefan Kaczaraj, Myron Groch, Christine E. Kozak, Wasyl Szeremeta, Gloria Horbaty, Eugene Serba, Olya Czerkas, Al Kachkowski, Maya Lew and Bohdan Kukurudza. (Missing from the photo are: Eugene Oscislowski, Myron Pylypiak and Serguei Djoula).

Yushchenko appears set against Tymoshenko as PM

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Presidential Secretariat gave further indication this week that President Viktor Yushchenko will not accept Yulia Tymoshenko as prime minister.

Even if the Our Ukraine bloc forms a parliamentary coalition with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party of Ukraine (SPU), the president has the right to reject its proposed candidate for prime minister, said Mykola Poludennyi, a presidential advisor.

“The Constitution says nothing about the president’s direct obligation to rubber stamp the coalition’s decision,” he said. “The president can say that he is refraining from proposing a candidate under distinct conditions.”

The president’s decision would depend upon the coalition’s commitment to carrying out his policy, Mr. Poludennyi said.

President Yushchenko is maneuvering to keep Yuriy Yekhanurov as prime minister, in the view of Oles Donii, chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research.

While the Constitution of Ukraine requires that a parliamentary coalition be formed by June 24, it doesn’t require that the president accept its nominations for key government posts, he said.

Mr. Yushchenko will form a coalition government, Mr. Donii said, but isn’t planning to accept its nomination for the prime ministership, whether it’s Ms. Tymoshenko or a Party of the Regions nominee.

Currently, Mr. Yekhanurov is serving as an Our Ukraine national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada and as acting prime minister.

If the president doesn’t accept the parliamentary

(Continued on page 14)

Conference at Ostroh Academy focuses on diaspora

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

OSTROH, Ukraine — More than 80 scholars from nine countries converged on the National University of Ostroh Academy on May 22-23 to participate in its second international diaspora conference, “Ukrainian Diaspora: Problems of Research.”

In just four years, the university’s Institute of Ukrainian Diaspora Studies has established itself as the nation’s leading diaspora research institution, largely thanks to the efforts of Dr. Lubomyr Wynar, university Rector Ihor Pasichnyk and contributions from the diaspora communities in the U.S. and Canada.

The conference sought “to distinguish those particular trends which require research in Ukraine and those trends of cooperation among Ukrainians globally that require emphasis,” said Alla Atamanenko, the director of the Institute of Ukrainian Diaspora Studies, in describing the conference’s goal.

Researchers shared their findings, discussed ideas for better international cooperation and exchanges, and passed resolutions to establish goals for the next conference.

Dr. Oleh Wolowyna, president of the data analysis firm Informed Decisions Inc. in Chapel Hill, N.C., was among three American academics attending the conference, along with Dr. Lubomyr Wynar of Kent, Ohio, and Dr. Maria Fisher-Slyzh, who now resides in Toronto.

Dr. Wolowyna presented his statistical research of the Ukrainian diaspora.

Of 897,000 Americans claiming to have Ukrainian ancestry in the 2000 Census, about 114,000 are those of the Fourth Wave of immigration, or those arriving after 1989, according to Dr. Wolowyna.

Only 12.7 percent of the 897,000 Americans claiming Ukrainian ancestry reported Ukrainian as the language of their household, indicating that the vast majority had assimilated into American society or speak the

Russian language.

The majority of the immigrants from Ukraine between 1989 and 1995 were Jews, most of whom cite Russian as their native language, Dr. Wolowyna reported.

In 1996 the percentage of ethnic Ukrainians among emigrants from Ukraine reached 50 percent and the figure is closer to 80 percent now.

Between 2000 and 2004, 90,000 more Fourth Wave Ukrainian immigrants arrived, according to new statistics, thus increasing their population to about 200,000, Dr. Wolowyna said.

As a result, 13.5 percent of nearly 1 million Americans with Ukrainian ancestry, as of 2004, speak Russian in their household.

“The percent speaking Russian at home is larger than those speaking Ukrainian,” Dr. Wolowyna said. “The Fourth Wave affected the whole community.”

However, many of the Russian-speaking immigrants are Jews who will integrate into the American Jewish community instead of the Ukrainian community in the U.S., he said.

The Ukrainian speakers, meanwhile, have revived the Ukrainian diaspora communities, Dr. Wolowyna continued.

In the 5-17 age group, Ukrainian speakers increased by 300 percent. “We have a huge potential with a large number of young Ukrainian speakers who, if we approach them adequately, may make a large contribution to the organizations in the U.S.,” Dr. Wolowyna said.

Roman Yereniuk, a theology professor at St. Andrew’s College in Winnipeg, discussed the Ukrainian Canadian experience with multiculturalism and bilingual education in the Canadian public school system.

During a roundtable discussion, Dr. Yereniuk suggested more student exchange programs between

(Continued on page 3)

ANALYSIS

New Parliament convenes, sets deadline for coalition

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL

All seemed in order as the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada convened on May 25 for its first session, but the composure on the Ukrainian parliamentary rostrum was short-lived.

A dispute among deputies erupted immediately after the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine and the Socialist Party – the three allies in the 2004 Orange Revolution – proposed that the session be postponed until June 7.

By that time, they pledged, the three groups will have agreed on the principles of a renewed coalition. The motion eventually passed with 240 votes.

Dissent came from the ranks of the Party of the Regions and the Communist Party, whose members argued that the Orange Revolution allies have had enough time to agree on a coalition and should allow the legislature to get to work.

The March 26 parliamentary vote in Ukraine, which was internationally praised as fair and democratic, produced a legislature comprising five forces: the Party of the Regions (186 seats), the Tymoshenko Bloc (129), Our Ukraine (81), the Socialist Party (33) and the Communist Party (21).

Over the past two months, the five parliamentary groups have held several joint meetings chaired by President Viktor Yushchenko and many bilateral and trilateral conferences devoted to the formation of a parliamentary majority. All of them have thus far been fruitless.

In mid-April the Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine and the Socialist Party signed a protocol pledging to work toward creating such a parliamentary majority. Their subsequent efforts led to the preparation of two draft coalition accords – one endorsed by the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialists, the other worked out by Our Ukraine.

The main stumbling block in the coalition talks is the question of who will become prime minister. Ms. Tymoshenko has made no secret of her desire to regain the post she held before being dismissed by President Yushchenko in September 2005. But the restoration of Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister is exactly what the president and his political partners from Our Ukraine would like to avoid.

Mr. Yushchenko officially split with Ms. Tymoshenko after she accused some of his closest allies of corruption practices and of running a “second” government. All of them were subsequently elected to the Verkhovna Rada from the Our Ukraine list. If the former Orange Revolution allies eventually decide to restore their coalition and Ms. Tymoshenko becomes prime minister once again, the old conflict may reignite.

There is also another source of potential discord between the president and Ms. Tymoshenko. Ms. Tymoshenko promised during the election campaign to cancel a gas-supply deal that President Yushchenko’s Cabinet signed with Gazprom in January. The deal raised the gas price for Ukraine from \$50 to \$95 per 1,000 meters and gave RosUkrEnergo, an opaque Swiss-based company owned half by Gazprom and half by two Ukrainian businessmen, the

role of sole supplier.

The cancellation by Ms. Tymoshenko of the gas deal with Gazprom could lead to a serious conflict between Kyiv and Moscow. Russia could cut gas supplies to Ukraine, as it did for a short time in January, or impose trade sanctions, as it recently did with regard to Georgian and Moldovan wines. Ukraine, which currently sends some 22 percent of its exports to Russia, would hardly benefit from any trade ban from Moscow.

Another hurdle to an Orange coalition is the Socialist Party’s opposition to some goals pursued by the Yushchenko administration. In particular, the Socialists object to Ukrainian aspirations to join NATO. They also object to the privatization of land, thus undermining Mr. Yushchenko’s efforts to implement reforms he pledged during the 2004 Orange Revolution in an effort to bring the country closer to the European Union.

If Our Ukraine fails to fulfill Ms. Tymoshenko’s dream of regaining her seat as prime minister, she will most likely switch to the opposition, and President Yushchenko will have to seek a coalition with the Party of the Regions led by Viktor Yanukovich – his former presidential rival.

Such a coalition, with 267 votes in the Verkhovna Rada, would provide solid support for its Cabinet, provided that the two seemingly mismatched parties could adopt a consistent program. Both parties represent the interests of major oligarchic groups in Ukraine, so, in theory, they could very easily agree on a set of basic economic reforms. But difficulties could emerge in the determination of foreign-policy priorities, as Mr. Yanukovich’s party is generally seen as Russia-leaning, in contrast to the Western-oriented Our Ukraine.

For President Yushchenko, this coalition option is fraught with much more serious dangers than mere differences of opinion on foreign policy. The Party of the Regions, which won the March 26 vote, would most likely demand the post of prime minister. It is not clear whether Mr. Yushchenko would prefer Mr. Yanukovich or someone else from his party to Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister.

Under the constitutional reform that went into effect in January, the presidential powers in Ukraine were substantially reduced to the benefit of the Parliament and the prime minister. Since the Party of the Regions has many politicians with great experience in running the government during the administration of President Leonid Kuchma, President Yushchenko should think twice before handing the keys to the Cabinet over to them. Such experienced politicians could do more to diminish the role of the president in practice than the constitutional reform did in theory.

Mr. Yushchenko told the new Verkhovna Rada at its opening session that he will expect the new cabinet to embody his future vision for Ukraine.

“The government should be made up of those who, as a single team, will ensure Ukraine’s development on the basis of European values, who are capable of consolidating the nation, stimulating economic reforms, and respecting the rights and freedoms of the people,” he said.

However, the president could find these goals very difficult to achieve – not only because of discrepancies among the potential coalition parties but also because of the personal ambitions of their leaders.

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine’s first lady visits U.S.

WASHINGTON – First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko, chairman of the Ukraine 3000 Charitable Fund Supervisory Panel, has begun a working visit to the United States that is scheduled to last through June 4. The goal of the first lady’s visit is to muster the support of American business, public and medical circles for the “From Hospital to Hospital” project. The visit has been organized with support from the Genesis Eurasia corporation and Daniel Roscom, in accordance with the Ukraine 3000 Fund’s memorandum with the corporation, which was signed in March. The project provides, in particular, for constructing a maternity and childhood health center in Kyiv. Genesis Eurasia CEO Roscom and Mrs. Yushchenko discussed steps to raise funds for financing the project’s implementation. Mrs. Yushchenko was to make a speech at the World Affairs Council in Philadelphia and hold a series of meetings with medical, business and public figures. Mrs. Yushchenko was also supposed to make a trip to San Francisco to visit the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital of Palo Alto and the Ronald McDonald House. In Los Angeles the first lady of Ukraine was to visit the Cedars Sinai Medical Center. (Ukrinform)

First ladies meet in Washington

WASHINGTON – Kateryna Yushchenko, chairperson of the Ukraine 3000 Charitable Fund Supervisory Panel, met with U.S. First Lady Laura Bush at the White House on May 31. During their meeting the two first ladies discussed prospects of implementing joint projects, in particular, the project “From Hospital to Hospital.” The project provides, in particular, for Ukrainian hospitals’ cooperation with medical institutions in Texas and Florida. Mrs. Yushchenko informed Laura Bush about the Ukraine 3000 Fund’s plan to construct a medical center in Kyiv aimed at caring for mothers and children. In addition, the first ladies discussed a series of events to commemorate the victims of the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide. On May 30 Mrs. Yushchenko met with

members of the Ukrainian community in Washington and visited Georgetown University. (Ukrinform)

Congress delegation in Ukraine

KYIV – U.S. House of Representatives Majority Whip Roy Blunt (R- Mo.) is leading a congressional delegation to Ukraine, Turkey, Pakistan and Germany from May 28 to June 3. Congressman Blunt is traveling with the House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D- Md.), Democratic Caucus Chairman James Clyburn (D- S.C.), Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R- N.J.) and Rep. Sam Graves (R-Mo.). The delegation traveled to Ukraine to help strengthen U.S.-Ukraine bilateral relations and bolster ongoing democratic and economic reforms in Ukraine. While in Kyiv on May 29, the congressmen met with President Viktor Yushchenko, other key political figures, American Chamber of Commerce board members, academicians and leaders of non-governmental organizations. (Embassy of the United States in Ukraine)

Protests against U.S. ship in Crimea

FEODOSIYA, Ukraine – Residents of the Crimean port of Feodosiya, along with activists of the Party of the Regions, the Natalia Vitrenko Bloc and the Russian Community of Crimea on May 29 blocked the port in protest against the visit of a U.S. Navy cargo ship that anchored there on May 27, Interfax reported. The USS Advantage has already left the port, after reportedly unloading some small arms, engineering equipment and construction materials. “This is technical aid to Ukraine under an agreement between the Ukrainian Defense Ministry and the U.S. Defense Department. They agreed to bring [construction materials] to Ukraine at their own expense, build facilities here and leave them at our shooting ranges for decades,” said Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko. “Any attempt to politicize [this visit] is cheap politics,” Mr. Hrytsenko stressed. Meanwhile, on May 29 the Feodosiya City Council held an emergency session

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Conference at Ostroh...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian and Western universities, transferring Ukrainian books and entire libraries to Ukraine, and an improved means for Canadians and Ukrainians to inform each other of books and periodicals being printed.

Among the resolutions drawing unanimous support from the conference was a firm rejection of the legislation recently passed in numerous oblast and city councils granting the Russian language official regional status for use in government and educational institutions.

"How shameful it is for me to have to speak in this auditorium, 15 years after independence, of how we need to pass a resolution in defense of our native language," Rector Pasichnyk said.

"But it's a fact, and we need to do this. But not just do this, but we need to act in our places and when you arrive at yours, I ask that you involve the mass media," he underscored.

During the conference, the university awarded honorary doctoral degrees to three American academics who led Ukrainian studies efforts: Dr. Lubomyr Wynar, professor at Kent State University; Dr. Myron Kuropas, adjunct professor at Northern Illinois University; and Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky, former rector of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich.

Dr. Wynar presented a special diploma to the director of Friends of the Ukrainian Historical Association (UHA), Dr. Fisher-Slyzh for her extensive financial support for the UHA and the National University of Ostroh Academy.

"Mykhailo Hrushevsky said Ostroh Academy is the first torch of new education, new scholarship and new spiritual life," Dr. Fisher-Slyzh said. "I am thankful ... that Ostroh Academy will remain a torch for new and contemporary education thanks to these types of professors and these types of honorary doctors."

The Institute for Ukrainian Diaspora Studies holds its academic conference every two years, Ms. Atamanenko said.

It was founded in 2002 with the help of Dr. Wynar, who contributed his vast Ukrainian studies library, as well as the cultural and financial

resources of the Ukrainian Historical Association.

Besides Dr. Wynar and Oleksiy Konowal of the Ivan Bahrianyi Foundation, "very many" Ukrainians in the U.S. and Canada donated publications to the institute, whose library now numbers more than 7,000 books, Ms. Atamanenko said.

Two other diaspora institutes have opened in Ukraine, one at Lviv Polytechnic University and the other at Hohol State Pedagogical University in Nizhyn.

The institute in Ostroh has a particular emphasis on research, Ms. Atamanenko said. Among her goals is to organize an annual or biannual seminar at the institute to discuss problems related to teaching Ukrainian diaspora studies.

Courses are currently being offered at universities in Lutsk and Odesa, she said, and more are needed because too few Ukrainians recognize the Ukrainian diaspora as an integral part of the Ukrainian nation.

The Soviet Communists created a negative image of diaspora Ukrainians as evil nationalists or traitors who abandoned the fatherland during the second world war.

"These erroneous notions must be eradicated, and this is starting to happen," Ms. Atamanenko said.



Informed Decisions Inc. President Oleh Wolowyna addresses the second international Ukrainian diaspora conference at the National University of Ostroh Academy.



Institute for Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Director Alla Atamanenko and Dr. Lubomyr Wynar stand in front of the new library at the National University of Ostroh Academy.

Omeljan Pritsak, history professor, co-founder of HURI, dies at 87



Prof. Omeljan Pritsak

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — On Monday, May 29, Omeljan Pritsak, Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History (emeritus) at Harvard University, co-founder and long-time director of Harvard's Ukrainian Research Institute, the first foreign member of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and the post-

Soviet restorer of the Institute of Oriental Studies in Kyiv, died unexpectedly at his home in Wellesley, Mass. He was 87.

Prof. Pritsak is survived by his wife Larysa Hvozdk Pritsak, his daughter Irene Pritsak by his late first wife Nina Moldenhauer Pritsak, and two grandchildren, Lailina Eberhard and Michael Wissoff.

A wake was to be held at Brady and Fallon Funeral Home, Jamaica Plain, Mass., on Thursday, June 1. The funeral was scheduled to take place at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Christ the King, Jamaica Plain, on Friday, June 2.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the publications fund of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University. Checks should be made out to the Ukrainian Studies Fund, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. (When making out checks, kindly indicate on the memo line that the donation is in memory of Omeljan Pritsak.)

A memorial service for Prof. Pritsak, and a celebration of his life and scholarly achievements, is planned by the Ukrainian Research Institute to take place at Harvard University in the fall of 2006.

A full obituary of Prof. Pritsak will follow in the next edition of The Ukrainian Weekly.

Australia and Ukraine conclude WTO-related negotiations

ESSENDON, Australia — Australia and Ukraine concluded negotiations and signed a protocol of mutual access to markets of goods and services within the framework of Ukraine's integration into the World Trade Organization (WTO) on May 19.

Bilateral negotiations on this issue commenced in 1993.

"This is a positive outcome which sees Ukraine receiving Australian support in taking its rightful place internationally," said Stefan Romaniw, chairman of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO).

"Ukraine offers many economic opportunities, and Australia should avail itself to these opportunities," Mr. Romaniw said.

Australia listed over 15 criteria for Ukraine's accession when negotiations commenced in 1993. These have now

been met with required normal protocols being signed.

"The AFUO expects with this agreement the Australian government will seek stronger economic relations with Ukraine." "This untapped market needs to be exposed to Australian business" Mr. Romaniw said.

Ukrinform quoted a representative of Ukraine's Ministry of the Economy as saying, "Ukraine managed to protect the interests of its national sugar producers, which was a stumbling block in the WTO negotiations with Australia."

Ukraine has concluded negotiations with all 45 countries of the working group of Ukraine's accession to the WTO. Ukraine also has concluded negotiations with Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Colombia, though protocols have yet to be signed. Ukraine intends to join the WTO by end of 2006.

Quotable notes

"... Twenty years ago today the nuclear power plant in Chornobyl located only 128 kilometers north of Ukraine's capital Kyiv ignited spewing poisonous radioactive gases into the air. This devastating disaster released 400 times the amount of radiation that was released in Hiroshima, Japan."

"In the days following the explosion, the Communist elites of the Soviet Union secretly and quietly removed their families from nearby Kyiv and Miensk. Meanwhile, the children of those cities marched in obligatory May Day parades celebrating the grand achievements of communism. In those sun-drenched days as crowds watched and the children marched outside, within the sun's warm rays hid a terrible fate."

"In the years that followed, doctors in Kyiv have explained to me the instructions they received on how they were not to register stillbirths so as to falsify statistics. I've listened to young women too fearful of bearing new life into this world because their bodies are poisoned. I've held the hands of children, bodies twisted by the radiation. ..."

"Ladies and gentlemen, how many have died as a consequence of Chornobyl? Is it 6,000 or 60,000? Can we quantify the human agony? We cannot. But we can remember and take stock of humanity's failings."

— Borys Wrzesnewskyj, member of Parliament for Etobicoke Center speaking on April 26 in the House of Commons and at the solemn Chornobyl Remembrance Ceremony organized by the Children of Chornobyl Canadian Fund.

THE 36th CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The UNA General Assembly for 2006-2010

Below are the complete results of both the primary elections and the final balloting for offices on the UNA General Assembly. The names of candidates for office appear in the first column; the results of the primary – conducted as a write-in poll – appear in the second column; the final vote tallies are given in the third column. After the results of the primary were announced, no more than three candidates could run for each seat (i.e., three persons could run for each of the six executive officers' positions; 9 candidates could run for the three auditors' slots; 33 candidates could run for the 11 advisors' posts). The names of officers elected in the final balloting appear in bold. Officers who ran unopposed in the final elections won by acclamation.

OFFICE / CANDIDATE	PRIMARY	FINAL
PRESIDENT		
Stefan Kaczaraj	99	ACCLAMATION
Stefan Hawrysz	1	
Christine Kozak	1	
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT		
Zenon Holubec	63	ACCLAMATION
Eugene Oscislawski	40	
Michael Koziupa	5	
Andrij Skyba	1	
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT		
Michael Koziupa	45	54
Andrij Skyba	30	42
Eugene Oscislawski	13	
Zenon Holubec	12	
Martha Lysko	3	
Wasył Szeremeta	3	
DIRECTOR FOR CANADA		
Myron Groch	80	ACCLAMATION
Al Kachkowski	6	
NATIONAL SECRETARY		
Christine Kozak	104	ACCLAMATION
Taras Szmagala	1	
Eugene Oscislawski	1	
TREASURER		
Roma Lisovich	104	ACCLAMATION
Stefan Kaczaraj	1	
AUDITORS		
Slavko Tysiak	90	ACCLAMATION
Wasył Szeremeta	84	ACCLAMATION
Vasyl Luchkiw	83	ACCLAMATION
Olya Czerkas	3	
Gloria Horbaty	2	
Stefan Lysiak	2	
Jaroslawa Komichak	1	
Myron Groch	1	
Michael Koziupa	1	
Zenon Holubec	1	
OFFICE / CANDIDATE	PRIMARY	FINAL
Eugene Oscislawski	1	
Myron Pylypiak	1	
Andrij Skyba	1	
Alexander Serafyn	1	
Yaroslav Zaviysky	1	
Christine Kozak	1	
Maya Lew	1	
Albert Kachkowski	1	
Bohdan Kukurudza	1	
ADVISORS		
Maya Lew	91	87
Myron Pylypiak	83	78
Gloria Horbaty	80	84
Paul Prinko	77	61
Nicholas Fil	76	79
Olya Czerkas	65	77
Bohdan Kukurudza	62	59
Al Kachkowski	61	75
Alex Redko	58	44
Serguei Djoula	45	51
Vasyl Luchkiw	16	
Eugene Oscislawski	14	79
Anna Buriy	13	
Andrij Skyba	11	
Myron Groch	9	
George Soltys	9	40
Michael Koziupa	8	
Slavko Tysiak	5	
Eugene Serba	5	54
Zenon Holubec	4	
Stefanie Hawryluk	2	
Wasył Szeremeta	2	
Michael Bohdan	2	39
Martha Lysko	2	
Roman Kuropas	2	
Wolodymyr Kozicky	2	
Oksana Trytjak	2	
Ułana Prociuk	1	
Irene Pryjma	1	
Longin Staruch	1	
Maria Oscislawski	1	
Maria Walchuk	1	
Luba Keske	1	
Stefan Lysiak	1	
Neonila Sochan	1	
Iouri Lazirko	1	
Yaroslav Zaviysky	1	
Stefan Hawrysz	1	
Eli Matias	1	
Christine Kozak	1	
Roma Lisovich	1	
Motria Milanytch	1	
Paul Romanovich	1	14
Julian Pishko	1	46

Ukrainian National Association...
(Continued from page 1)

Delegates also elected three new members of the UNA Auditing Committee: Slavko Tysiak (West Sand Lake, N.Y.), Wasył Szeremeta (Huntingdon Valley, Pa.) and Vasyl Luchkiw (New City, N.Y.). Drs. Szeremeta and Luchkiw had previously served on the UNA General Assembly as advisors. Mr. Tysiak is a newcomer to the General Assembly, though not to the UNA or its conventions.

Elected to serve as advisors on the General Assembly were (in order of votes received): Maya Lew (New York), Gloria Horbaty (Wallingford, Conn.), Nicholas Fil (Latham, N.Y.), Eugene

Oscislawski (Flemington, N.J.), Myron Pylypiak (Kent, Wash.), Olya Czerkas (St. Petersburg, Fla.), Al Kachkowski (Saskatoon), Paul Prinko (Philadelphia), Bohdan Kukurudza (Chicago), Eugene Serba (Mount Laurel, N.J.) and Serguei Djoula (Montreal). Five of the 11 advisors are new to the General Assembly: Ms. Lew, Mr. Fil, Ms. Czerkas, Mr. Kukurudza and Mr. Djoula.

The new General Assembly officially begins its term of office on July 1.

The convention was opened on Friday morning, May 26, with a brief ceremony at the foot of Soyuzivka's monument to Taras Shevchenko, bard of Ukraine and patron of the UNA.

Business sessions began immediately

thereafter, with President Kaczaraj encouraging all "to openly and responsibly discuss our most acute problems" in the firm belief that "through our joint efforts we will be able to successfully resolve these problems." He added, "Unity and collegiality were always cornerstones in the leadership of our fraternal insurance association."

The convention was conducted by its elected chairman, Taras Szmagala Sr. (Brecksville, Ohio), and two vice-chairmen, Vasyl Kolodchin (Warren, Mich.) and Michael Sawkiw Jr. (Washington). Attorney Andrij V.R. Szul served as parliamentarian.

On the first day of deliberations delegates heard addenda to the written reports of General Assembly members, with President Kaczaraj reporting last. Reports were delivered also by the editors-in-chief of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, respectively, Irene Jarosewicz and Roma Hadzewycz.

The morning session that day was addressed by Frederick Grubbe, president of the National Fraternal Congress of America, who spoke on the state of the

fraternal benefit system.

A question-and-answer session and discussion of the reports filled out the day and continued into Saturday, May 27 – a busy day as the agenda also included discussions of proposed changes to the UNA By-Laws and Manuals, as well as a presentation by Treasurer Lisovich on "Development Plans for Soyuzivka" and the recently created Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

Also discussed that day was "The Status of the UNA in Canada," with the end result being that the majority of delegates saw the potential for the UNA's growth in that country, home to more than 1 million Ukrainians.

Perhaps most importantly, Saturday was the day of the primary vote for members of the General Assembly, that is, six executive officers, three auditors and 11 advisors. Since the primary is conducted as a write-in ballot, the votes were counted that evening and the results announced only the next day, Sunday, May 28, during an afternoon session held between the

(Continued on page 5)

2002 UNA Convention minutes available

The minutes and reports of the 35th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association, which took place in Chicago on May 24-28, 2002, are available to all delegates of the Chicago

convention and any member of the Ukrainian National Association. If you wish to receive a copy, please call the UNA Home Office at 800-253-9862, ext. 3011, and speak with Marijka Drich.

THE 36th CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION



Delegates, members and honorary members of the General Assembly, and honored guests in a group photo taken at the 36th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association.

A tribute to UNA leaders

The following UNA activists who died since the 35th UNA Convention were recalled with a moment of silence during the opening ceremonies of the 36th Convention.

EXECUTIVES

Joseph Lesawyer, supreme president – January 2006
Eugene Iwanciw, second vice-president – February 2006
Genevieve Zerebniak, supreme vice-presidentess – February 2006

AUDITING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Wasył Didiuk – September 2003 William Pastuszek – July 2004

ADVISORS

Anna Haras – March 2003 Helen Olek Scott – July 2004
Barbara Bachynsky – May 2005 Tekla Moroz – December 2005

BRANCH SECRETARIES

2002

Br. 450 – Eustasia Milanytch	Br. 237 – Betty Pankiw
Br. 222 – Yarosław Kryształowych	Br. 496 – Michael Kihiczak
Br. 439 – Wolodymyr Zacerkowny	Br. 292 – Stefania Fedyk
Br. 414 – Ivan Teluk	Br. 88/477 – Bohdan Piszak
Br. 39 – John Pyndus	Br. 168 – John Babyn
Br. 130 – George Yurkiw	

2003

Br. 63 – Michael Turko	Br. 240 – Bohdan Semkiw
Br. 204 – Mychailo Spontak	Br. 137 – Stephan Kolodrub
Br. 70 – Maria Haluszczak	Br. 377 – John Gawaluch

2004

Br. 285 – Alex Skibickyj	Br. 361 – Olga Liteplo
Br. 380 – Walter Ficyk	Br. 266 – Walter Warshona
Br. 458 – Petro Tymkiw	

2005

Br. 8 – Maria Kulczycky	Br. 283 – George Hawryshkiw
Br. 172 – Vasył Osadchuk	

2006

Br. 293 – Roman Forostyna

Ukrainian National Association...

(Continued from page 4)

convention concert and the traditional convention banquet. (See chart on page 4 for the complete voting results, both in the primary and the final election.)

Greetings to the Ukrainian National Association and its members were offered on Sunday at the concert by Ukraine’s consul general in New York, Mykola Kyrychenko, and at the banquet by Dr. Viktor O. Nikitiuk, minister-counselor of the Embassy of Ukraine, who spoke in place of Ambassador Oleh Shamshur. Dr. Shamshur, who was to have been the keynote speaker at the banquet, was unable to attend due to the arrival in the U.S. of First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko of Ukraine.

The final day of the convention, Monday, May 29, was devoted to convention committee reports, a discussion on “UNA: Shaping the Future,” announcement of the final election results and the swearing-in of the new General Assembly.

The 36th Regular Convention was adjourned after final remarks by President Kaczaraj, who thanked the delegates for their support and called for “unity and joint efforts in the name of common goals and common interests.”

“Let us be together for the next four years – I with you, and you with me,” he concluded.

Editor’s note: Detailed information about all aspects of the UNA’s 36th Convention will appear in next week’s issue.



UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj speaks during the opening ceremonies of the 36th Convention.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Rolling the credits

For the first time in the history of the Ukrainian National Association, a UNA convention was held at Soyuzivka, the fraternal organization's upstate New York estate. And Soyuzivka did the UNA proud.

It was largely thanks to Soyuzivka that the convention flowed as smoothly as it did, and that the atmosphere was friendlier, homier, less stressful. That's because Soyuzivka is everyone's home away from home, a place where everyone feels comfortable. And that certainly goes a long way toward ensuring a convention's success.

To be sure, it's not the venue alone that made the 36th UNA Convention what it was. It was also the people, first of all Soyuzivka's people, beginning with General Manager Nestor Paslawsky, continuing with Sonia Semanyshyn, Olesia Guran and Chef Andriy Sonevsky, and ending with the wait staff, and the bartenders, and the housekeeping staff. Their work was exemplary, as seen every day and during each and every meal – especially during the theme dinners, i.e., Hutsul Night and the "Tastes of the World" dinner. The staff was simply marvelous: helpful, cooperative, aiming to please.

We could sum up the convention by turning a phrase (borrowing a former New Jersey state slogan): Soyuzivka and the UNA: perfect together.

But there were others who also had a role in the 36th UNA Convention who deserve credit and thanks.

First of all, there was the Convention Committee, comprising Nicholas Fil, Stephanie and Roman Hawryluk, Maxine Hayden, Maya Lew, Vasyl Luchkiw, Ms. Semanyshyn, Anna Slobodian, Vera Staruch, Longin Staruch, Slavko Tysiak and Mr. Paslawsky, with Oksana Trytjak as chairperson. It was this committee that saw to every detail in the planning of the convention's special programs and in making the delegates' stay memorable, from the welcome gifts in each room to every aspect of the concert program and banquet. (And that's just a fraction of what this hard-working committee did.)

Then there were the "Soyuzivka ambassadors," a group of employees and volunteers who wore "Ask me" stickers and made themselves quite useful on the eve of the convention as delegates arrived from near and far. They helped carry luggage, they directed people to their rooms, they answered questions. In short: they were there when needed for whatever was needed. Plus, there was Diana Shmerykowsky, who organized an art exhibit in Soyuzivka's Main House. Nor should the chauffeurs be forgotten. How else would delegates be able to get from the airport in Albany to Soyuzivka – an hour's drive?

Crucial to any convention is its presidium, in this case composed of the chairman and two vice-chairmen, respectively, Taras Szmagala Sr., Vasyl Kolodchin and Michael Sawkiw Jr. Despite the stress and that comes with any such large gathering and the occasional minor glitches, these three men, assisted by parliamentarian Andriy V. Szul, handled themselves well – and with good humor. Their respect for the delegates, and for the UNA, was the guiding principle of their actions.

Not to be forgotten are the hard-working recorders of the convention, who took notes and recorded both audio and video. Theirs was an all-important task as their work will result in the minutes of the 36th Convention.

Finally, there were the delegates themselves. They, too, deserve thanks and credit, whether they served on convention committees, as many did, or simply played the role of delegates representing their branches at this quadrennial gathering. They gave of their time and their efforts – and on a holiday weekend no less – in recognition of the significance of the Ukrainian National Association, the oldest and largest Ukrainian fraternal organization.

A hearty thank-you goes out to all those cited above, as well as those unnamed who worked behind the scenes, whose efforts made the 36th UNA Convention possible: Dia-ku-ye-mo!

June
4
2000

Turning the pages back...

It was six years ago to the day that The Weekly reported on June 4, 2000, about the slaying of composer and Ukrainian music artist Ihor Bilozir. According to an RFE/RL Newline newsbrief, Mr. Bilozir, 44, was fatally beaten on the night of

May 8-9 by Russian-speaking attackers who despised that he was singing in Ukrainian with friends at the Tsisarska Kava café. One of the attackers was later identified as the son of a senior police officer in Lviv.

The Kyiv-based daily newspaper Den reported on May 30 that Mr. Bilozir had died overnight on May 27-28 in the Lviv City Hospital, where he had been since the attack on the night of May 8-9.

With the tens of thousands who participated in the funeral on May 30 in Lviv, some 3,000 protesters marched through the streets chanting "down with the Russians" to protest Mr. Bilozir's murder and demand that authorities "de-Russify Ukraine" by sacking all Russian-speaking servicemen from the city's police force.

Mr. Bilozir, who is recognized as a national artist of Ukraine, was the leader of Vatra musical ensemble, one of the most popular ensembles in Ukraine during the 1980s. He was also a pianist and pedagogue.

In 1999 Mr. Bilozir appeared in concert at Soyuzivka during the Labor Day weekend festivities and performed many songs from Vatra's repertoire, leading off with the nostalgic "Svitlytsia," which has become a modern-day classic. He also played his own works, among them his first song, written at age 14, "Persnyi Snih" (First Snow), and his latest work, "Divchyna z Pisen" (Girl of Songs).

The article concluded: "Lviv authorities have declared May 30 as an official day of mourning. Community leaders have described the situation as tense."

Source: "Thousands in Lviv mourn slain songwriter Ihor Bilozir," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 4, 2000, Vol. LXVIII, No. 23.

20th ANNIVERSARY OF CHORNOBYL DISASTER

Rates of neural tube defects in Ukraine highest in Chernobyl-impacted regions

by Wladimir Wertelecki, M.D.

Recently, the Nuclear Energy Agency (France) noted that in Ukraine the impact of the Chernobyl disaster is profound and that "the concern of people for their own health is only overshadowed by the concern for the health of their children and grandchildren." During the past 20 years, this has been the heaviest burden imposed by the disaster.

The dismissive term "radiophobia," often used by international experts is not appropriate in regard to the profound concerns in Ukraine about the Chernobyl threat to the genome of the population.

Following the Chernobyl disaster, it was determined that the areas most heavily contaminated by ionizing radiation lie principally in northwestern Ukraine. The distribution of the contamination is complex, and contamination maps are very approximate.

Direct measurements taken from the Ukrainian population showed that 65 percent of internal radiation was from cesium (Cs-137) ingested with food. It was also established that levels of ionizing radiation accrued by rural populations were significantly higher than urban populations, mostly due to weaker control of sources of food.

In a paper by Dr. J. Neel, a world-renowned geneticist who pioneered many studies of the Hiroshima/Nagasaki bomb survivors and their children, he wrote: "if we had to do such studies over again, the most obvious change in the research design would be to include studies at the DNA level from the outset." He also recommended that the frequency of congenital malformations, stillbirths, death rates of live-born children, and growth and development of surviving children should be investigated.

In 1999, through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), we initiated the slow and complicated process of establishing birth defects BD surveillance systems in Ukraine. After the USAID component ended in 2005, BD surveillance continues by the OMNI-Net, an international not-for-profit Ukrainian organization. The OMNI-Net BD surveillance system began formal data collection in 2000 in the northwestern region of Ukraine (Rivne and Volyn oblasts). Nine raions (counties) of the northwestern region have been designated as impacted by Chernobyl; six are in Rivne and three are in the Volyn Oblast.

In 2002 we noted elevated rates of spina bifida, anencephaly and encephaloceles, collectively referred to as neural tube defects (NTD). In 2004, we reported a prevalence of NTD in northwestern Ukraine of 21 per 10,000 live births – nearly four times what it would have been the population consumed enough folic acid.

Data collected during 2002-2004 and preliminary data from 2005 confirmed ongoing epidemic rates of NTD in Ukraine. High prevalence rates persist in the northwest and were also found in the

central and southern regions of Ukraine. The lowest prevalence rate, 10.7 per 10,000 live births, was in the southern region (Kherson Oblast and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea). Nonetheless, this rate is three times as high as in many other countries, including the United States.

In partnership with the Ukrainian Academy of Medical Sciences, the Ministry of Health of Belarus and the World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe, conferences were held in Miensk, Belarus and Rome focusing on "Folic Acid: From Research to Public Health Practice." The participating experts calculated that folic acid flour fortification at the level 0.42 mg/100g flour would reduce annual NTD pregnancies in Ukraine from 884 to 460.

In 2006, there was sufficient data to permit analysis of NTD prevalence rates in raions designated as impacted and not impacted by Chernobyl. The raions impacted by Chernobyl belong to a region called Polissia where the NTD rates were the highest we found in Ukraine.

Population-based BD surveillance systems, such as the OMNI-Net, are designed to promote the prevention and better care of children with malformations, mental subnormality and other developmental disabilities. In view that most birth defects are due to unknown causes, surveillance systems are also designed to promote research.

One strategy, among others, is to monitor the occurrence of very rare malformations. In this regard, between 2000 and 2005 we noted five instances of conjoined twins in the Rivne Oblast. Notably, one of the twins had spina bifida. For the period 2000-2005, there were 81,909 live births in the Rivne Oblast. In an informal review of 10 large BD surveillance systems, each monitoring at least 1 million pregnancies, none reported more than one instance of conjoined twins.

The noted high prevalence of NTD in Polissia most likely reflects dietary folate deficiencies, perhaps magnified by significant alcohol consumption. Whether low dose chronic ionizing radiation is an additional risk factor remains speculative.

Deficiencies of folate result in higher prevalence rates of NTD and other birth defects. Folate deficiencies are also associated with elevated plasma homocysteine, a risk factor for cardiovascular disease, and perhaps higher risks for breast cancer and colon cancer.

The impact of alcohol on a developing fetus often results in serious birth defects and mental subnormality. Our studies in Ukraine show that 10 percent of children in Ukrainian orphanages have BD suggestive of prenatal exposure to alcohol. Furthermore, alcohol also impairs folate absorption and chronic alcohol use decreases liver stores of folates.

The children of Ukraine bore the brunt of Chernobyl and continue to bear a heavy daily burden of birth defects because the Ukrainian government has not implemented mandatory folic acid fortification, as done by some other 40 countries of the world. The cost of each day of delay is the life of an infant. Regardless of future investigations, we urge Ukrainian authorities to immediately institute an intensive folic acid supple-

(Continued on page 14)

Wladimir Wertelecki, M.D., FAAP, ACMG, is professor and chairman of the department of medical genetics and professor of pediatrics at the University of South Alabama. The paper above is based on his presentation during the April 25 Humanitarian Forum Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Chernobyl Disaster.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Ukrainian film becomes a permanent attraction

by Yuri Shevchuk

It does not seem like much when you attend a monthly screening (held the third Thursday of the month) of the Ukrainian Film Club. The audience is varied – students of Columbia and other New York City universities, and people interested in Ukraine and simply in something different from the usual Hollywood fare.

The setting, 717 Hamilton Hall, a typical Columbia lecture auditorium seating about 100, can hardly be more prosaic. The uninitiated guest will have no way of telling that what he is part of is the only permanently functioning forum of Ukrainian cinema in New York, in the United States or in North America.

Since it was founded in October 2004 the club has shown the most recent Ukrainian films, including these by directors whose work would otherwise have had no chance or channel by which to reach an American viewer: Oles Sanin, Hanna Yarovenko, Taras Tomenko, Ihor Strembitsky, Serhiy Bukovsky, Serhiy Masloboyschikov, Viktoria Melnykova, Oleksander Shmyhun, Serhiy Koval, Valentyn Vasianovych, Roman Shyrman and many other. Many of these directors are prize winners at such international film festivals as Cannes, Clermont-Ferrand, Sao Paulo and Berlin.

The Ukrainian Film Club has its own website, thus far the only English-language venue on the World Wide Web wholly devoted to the Ukrainian film: www.columbia.edu/cu/ufc. It has a coterie of devoted followers, and an extended network of direct contacts with film-makers, critics, producers and actors in Ukraine. As a result, the club has been in a position to obtain the most recent films and often shows them before they are shown in Ukraine. At least every other film screened by the club is a U.S. or North American premiere.

Conforming to the ethos of Columbia, each event is not simply about showing the selected films. The screenings are also an opportunity for the Ukrainian Film Club to engage the audience in discussion of Ukrainian cinema, as well as of culture, politics, history and other related issues. The screenings are preceded by a short introduction about the films and their makers by this writer, the founder and director of the club, and followed by discussions and question-and-answer sessions.

On a number of occasions the club has hosted film-makers who presented their own works to the audience. Among them were Ukrainian directors Taras Tomenko (winner of the Berlinale 2001 Grand Prix for the Best Short), Taras Tkachenko, Serhiy Bukovsky, and the U.S. director Andrea Odezynska.

With the introduction in March 2005 of its website, designed by web-master and Columbia student Adrian Podpirka, the club went international. It has already held lectures and film screenings in Philadelphia, Hartford, Conn.; New Brunswick, N.J.; Toronto; Cambridge, Mass.; Columbus, Ohio; Yonkers, N.Y.; and Edmonton – both at Ukrainian community centers, as well as universities

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like Harvard, Ohio State, Rutgers and the University of Toronto.

I was invited to give a series of three lecture presentations at the University of Toronto titled “Between a Rock and a Hard Place. Ukrainian Cinema Since Independence.” These lectures covered Ukrainian full-length feature films, documentaries and how language and identity issues are reflected in Ukrainian films.

On March 10-12 the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University presented a three-night program of contemporary Ukrainian cinema in Edmonton at the Citadel Theater of Ziedler Hall, arguably the best venue in downtown Edmonton, where foreign films are shown. The screenings were organized by the Ukrainian and Business Club of Edmonton.

The Ukrainian Film Club seeks to reach beyond the Columbia academic community and the usual segments of the American Ukrainian community in its mission to popularize Ukrainian cinema and engage cinema professionals around the world. This writer published on the club’s website and in the leading Ukrainian cinema magazine *Kino-Kolo* his interviews/conversations with the recognized Polish film director Krzysztof Zanussi, famous U.S. directors Paul Schrader and Peter Bogdanovich. They can be accessed at <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/ufc/pages/newsreel.htm>.

The club has established its presence and reputation also in Ukraine, not only among professional film makers but in the wider cultural context. It was invited to be a guest of honor at the Proloh Film Festival of Young Cinematographers in May 2005 and the Open Night Film Festival in June 2005.

Articles about the Club where published in *Kino.Teatr* and *Kino-Kolo*, two influential film periodicals published in Kyiv. Various Ukrainian TV and radio channels carried segments about the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University.

All this proved possible with minimum financial support. Being an educational not-for-profit initiative, the Ukrainian Film Club charges no fees for screening films in its collection and relies almost entirely on the voluntary donations of the film fans who attend its events and the sponsors of the invited screenings. Additional support for advertising is provided by the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia and the Harriman Institute. Thus far, thanks to the club, American and Canadian audiences were able to see about 30 films made in Ukraine or about Ukraine in such genres as full-length feature and documentary short feature, documentary, and animation.

The club’s future program promises to be even more interesting. Its collection is growing with every week, and the club expects to soon receive two films that represented Ukraine at the Berlin International Film Festival-2006, the animated cartoon “Poverty” by Serhiy Koval and the full-length feature “Happy People” by Alexander Shapiro, as well as full-length feature films that recently premiered or are about to premier in Ukraine – “Orange Sky,” “We’ll Break Through” and “The Pit.”

It is a policy of the Club to screen films with English subtitles to reach the broadest possible audience.

American farewell to a poet: Irvanets returns to Ukraine

by Leonid Rudnytsky

In May of this year, Oleksandr Irvanets bid farewell to Philadelphia and the United States, and return to his native Ukraine. His sojourn in the states was made possible by a Fulbright grant, which he received to do research on the contemporary theater.

A poet, dramatist and novelist, Mr. Irvanets belongs to the so-called “Visimdesiatnyky” (the 80ers) generation of Ukrainian writers. He first gained fame as a member of the famous Bu-Ba-Bu literary group, a triad of young poets, that also included, Yuri Andrukhovych and Viktor Neborak.

Established in 1985, this literary grouping quickly gained great fame and immense popularity all over Ukraine through satirical poetic recitations. Their theatrical performances in the 1990s evoke a feeling of nostalgia still today, especially among the younger generations of Ukrainian, for whom the three poets are akin to what the Beatles were for the young people of yesterday.

Mr. Irvanets’ popularity in Ukraine received a new impetus when he was asked to serve as news commentator for the famous Kyiv-based TV Channel 5 during the time of the Orange Revolution. His frequent commentaries and reports, delivered in satiric verse, made him a sui generis celebrity as a poet of the airwaves. Parenthetically, it should be added, that some of these short poems have appeared in a separate collection titled “Preambles and Texts” (2005).

However, even prior to this brief television career, Mr. Irvanets had established himself as a serious man of letters through his plays and his prose. His dramas have been staged not only in Ukraine, but also in Poland, Germany and Luxembourg, and one of his short two-act plays titled, “A Little Play about Betrayal, for One Actress” (1992) has been translated into English and published in *Ukrainian Literature: A Journal of Translations* (Vol. 1, 2004).

More recently, the publication of his selected plays and poetry in a collection titled “Luskunchyk – 2004” (*The Nutcracker* – 2004), published in 2005, has cemented his place in the canon of contemporary Ukrainian literature. “The Nutcracker” premiered on May 19 in Kyiv at the Molodyi Theater (Young Theater).

While in the United States, Mr. Irvanets not only diligently researched his topic of

interest, but also lectured on contemporary Ukrainian theater and culture at La Salle University, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard and the University of Toronto. He has also been active in the Ukrainian intellectual community on the East Coast, holding poetry readings and talks at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Philadelphia and New York, the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics – U.S.A., and other Ukrainian institutions.

Mr. Irvanets’ novel, “Rivne/Rovno,” is without doubt his most important prose work. Its locus is the author’s native city of Rivne, located in western Ukraine; its hero is a young writer named Shloima Etsirvan (a scrambled version of the author’s surname). Thus, the novel is definitely an autobiographical work. It contains explicit references to several persons living today; it provides realistic depictions of a topographical nature and current events. In short, it is informed by a contemporary Zeitgeist. However, Mr. Irvanets’ realism is mitigated and augmented by the author’s rampant imagination, which transports the work into the realm of surrealism placing it into the anti-utopian genre.

The central motif of the novel, i.e., the wall that divides the city into east and west, into communist and democratic sectors, harkens back to the Berlin Wall, the fall of which in 1989 precipitated the disintegration of the Soviet empire. The basic philosophical thesis underlying the work is the author’s conviction that, while the Soviet Union is dead, it is not buried, for the Soviet mentality among the populace is still very much alive. The specter of Stalinism still haunts today’s Ukraine.

The novel “Rivne/Rovno” is a tale well told. The speculative bend of Irvanets the thinker does not interfere with the narrative flair of Irvanets the story teller. The reader is inexorably drawn into Shloima Etsirvan’s world; one cannot help but be fascinated by the protagonist’s peripatetic adventures, his sinister trials and tribulations, his gentle triumphs and his nostalgic love affair.

In Ukraine, “Rivne/Rovno” will soon appear in a second edition. A Polish translation of the novel is scheduled to be published by the end of this year, and a German translation will follow suit. It is hoped that the work will find a competent English-language translator as well. It would be a real pity, if one of the best contemporary Ukrainian prose works were to remain out of reach for the English reader.

Upon his return to Ukraine, Mr. Irvanets was to lecture briefly at the National University of Ostroh Academy and then fly to Wiesbaden, Germany, to participate in the famous Biennale, a theatrical festival featuring the newest European plays. His future plans include writing a work in which he hopes to present his American experience in an artistic form.

MAY WE HELP YOU?

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

Editorial – 3049, 3088; Administration – 3041;

Advertising – 3040; Subscriptions – 3042; Production – 3063, 3069

Leading scholarly institutions of North America confer in New York

NEW YORK – The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) on May 6 hosted the second meeting of the representatives of leading Ukrainian scholarly institutions of North America.

This conference, held at the NTSh headquarters, was a follow-up to the first such meeting held on October 1, 2005. In attendance were: Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych, NTSh president and organizer of the conferences; Dr. Orest Popovych, NTSh vice-president; Dr. Frank Sysyn, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS); Dr. Lubomyr Hayda and Dr. Tymish Holowinsky, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI); Dr. Albert Kipa, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. (UVAN) and the Ukrainian Free University (UFU); Dr. Roman Procyk, Ukrainian Studies Fund; and Dr. George Grabowicz, the Krytyka magazine and publishing house and HURI.

The first subject of discussion was the need to establish a combined electronic catalogue of all the Ukrainian archives in North America, possibly to include also the valuable collection at the UFU in

Munich. The uncertain future of that institution, according to Dr. Kipa, renders such inclusion all the more imperative.

Dr. Procyk suggested that the scholarly institutions work to develop Columbia University's Ukrainian Studies Program into a permanent center of Ukrainian studies.

Concern was raised about the decline of Ukrainian studies programs in North America, determined mainly by the difficulties graduates in that field experience in finding jobs. The recommendation was that good candidates for graduate students and junior faculty in Ukrainian studies not only be identified, but that every effort be made to get them steady jobs in their profession. To aid in these endeavors, NTSh is planning to offer a post-graduate fellowship in Ukrainian studies.

Dr. Grabowicz expressed the opinion that the tasks in support of Ukrainian studies are global, as the present Ukrainian government seems to have no plans with respect to scholarship and education. In Ukraine, targeted support is the most effective, according to Dr. Grabowicz. Thus, the Krytyka publishing house has been sponsoring the



Representatives of scholarly institutions meeting at the Shevchenko Scientific Society (from left): Drs. Lubomyr Hayda, Vasyl Lopukh, Tymish Holowinsky, Orest Popovych, Larissa Onyshkevych, George Grabowicz, Albert Kipa, Roman Procyk and Frank Sysyn.

publications of several prominent Ukrainian scholars, while the CIUS has been supporting scholarly work in three Ukrainian institutes to the tune of about \$80,000 annually.

The conferees decided that their common

concerns about the global situation with regard to Ukrainian studies and the need for coordinated action on the part of their institutions call for another meeting of this type, and one was scheduled for the fall of 2006.

Samizdat conference focuses on "underground culture" in Soviet bloc

PHILADELPHIA – "Samizdat and Underground Culture in the Soviet Bloc Countries," a two-day conference organized by the University of Pennsylvania, was held in Philadelphia on April 6-7. Various aspects of the phenomenon and

history of "samizdat," the international term coined in the mid-1960s for uncensored underground literature in Soviet bloc countries, were presented and discussed by scholars and researchers.

During the first afternoon, a samizdat

workshop was dedicated to defining, describing, archiving and publishing samizdat. Olga Zaslavskaya, Samizdat Archives curator of the Open Society Archives in Budapest, described her institution's holdings, which include the entire archives of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, considered the largest archives of its kind. She also spoke about the newly formed International Samizdat Research Association.

Wolfgang Eichwede, professor and director of the Research Center for East European Studies, University of Bremen, explained how his center was started in 1977 under the leadership of Willie Brandt and described the center's holdings of samizdat documents. Prof. Eichwede pointed out that civil society would be impossible today in Eastern and Central Europe without the samizdat of the dissidents who called for a peaceful revolution and an end to totalitarianism.

Prof. Ann Komaromi, professor in comparative literature, University of Toronto, spoke about the study of original texts, the paper, layout and history of the documents, and how the study of how they came to be where they are is as important as the study of the texts themselves.

Vera Skop, board member of Smoloskyp publishers in Kyiv, gave an overview of the Ukrainian dissident movement and the role Smoloskyp played in smuggling and publishing Ukrainian samvydav (the Ukrainian term for samizdat) and defending the rights of imprisoned dissidents. She also described Smoloskyp's current work with young Ukrainians and the Museum-Archives of Ukrainian Samvydav in Kyiv.

Among points raised during the discussion afterwards was the importance of sociological and historical research while authors of samizdat were still alive. The session ended with a reading of Vaclav Havel's one-act play "Protest," written in 1978.

The following day Prof. Komaromi spoke on "The Material Existence of Samizdat: Methodological Implications." Martin Machovec of the Comenius College and Charles University, Prague,

gave a paper on "The Types and Functions of Samizdat Publications in Czechoslovakia in 1948-1989."

Prof. Eichwede in "Archipelago Samizdat. The Impact of Samizdat Culture on the Contemporary History of Central and Eastern Europe" explained that samizdat was not possible under complete totalitarianism but came about only when society was under pressure to modernize and the state's ability to rule and govern was diminished. Through the dissidents and their samizdat the world of Eastern Europe was changed.

Jan Kubik, professor of political science, Rutgers University, and the Polish Academy of Sciences, discussed the Polish experience in "Avant-Garde Theater Contra State Socialism: What Was Global Before the Era of Globalization (in Tadeusz Kantor's Theater)?"

Carol Rocamora, professor of theater, New York University, spoke on " 'Far from the Theatre': The Playwright Vaclav Havel in the 1970s." J. Martin Daughtry of UCLA spoke on the very popular form of disseminating recordings of unofficial and semi-official poems put to music in " 'Est Magnitofon Sistemy 'Yauza!' I Etogo Dostatochno!' Magnitizdat as Musical Practice."

Prof. Albena Vassileva, professor in English and comparative literature, Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, gave a history of the short dissident movement in Bulgaria in "Discursive Resistance in Bulgarian Late Communist Culture."

The last presenter, Prof. Alexander Gribanov of Suffolk University, former editor of the Russian samizdat Chronicle of Current Events, described two KGB documents that acknowledged the samizdat movement in the Soviet Union and provided instructions on how to deal with it in his paper "Samizdat in KGB Analysis of 1970-1971: Reading and Comparison of Two Documents."

All participants agreed that the conference and the valuable discourse that it produced was only the first step in understanding a very unique period of history and that more international research is very much needed.

**Annual festival sponsored by the
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Shevchenko Scientific Society elects new president, Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – The Shevchenko Scientific Society – USA (NTSh) held its 18th triennial general meeting at its New York headquarters on May 20. Dr. Orest Popovych was elected as the society's new president.

Before the meeting separate morning sessions were held by three scholarly sections: philology (Prof. Assya Humesky, director); history and philosophy combined with the social sciences (Prof. Martha Trofimenko, director); and mathematics, physics and technology (Dr. Roman Andrushkiw, director). The last session featured a film, sponsored by NTSh, about the Ukrainian mathematician Mykhailo Kravchuk, who was persecuted and eventually murdered by the Soviet regime in the 1930s.

The meeting was opened by NTSh

President Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych, who requested a moment of silence to honor the society's members who had passed away in the last three years. Greetings were read from the president of the NTSh World Council, Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky; the president of NTSh in Ukraine, Dr. Oleh Kupchynsky; and the Consul of Ukraine in New York, Dr. Andriy Olefirov.

Just before the opening, Consul Olefirov had presented Dr. Onyshkevych with the Shevchenko Award for 2006 in recognition of her many years of efforts in Ukrainian scholarly and community organizations, as well as her efforts for the return of Ukrainian cultural treasures to Ukraine.

The presidium for the meeting comprised Dr. Andrushkiw as chairman, Dr. Procyk as his deputy and Dr. Maria Rewakowicz as the recording secretary.



Dr. Orest Popovych, the newly elected president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, presents the outgoing president, Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych, with a wooden plaque expressing the appreciation of the society's board of directors for her outstanding service to the organization.

Ukrainian Student of the Year in North America to be chosen

NEW YORK – Bohdan Oryshkevich, founder and coordinator of the USA/USA-YKRAMEREZHA Program, which has been helping gifted students from Ukraine earn scholarships to leading American prep schools and colleges since 1992, has announced the creation of a Ukrainian Student of the Year in North America Award in the amount of \$1,000.

Each candidate must submit an application with his/her name, address, date of birth, high school and year of graduation, telephone and/or e-mail address. Included with this should be documentation of the student's Ukrainian origin, an official certificate of good standing and of expected graduation from high school in the spring of 2006, which must come directly from the high school. Also required is an official transcript directly from the candidate's school from ninth through 12th grade with the calculated GPA and the subjects taken up to and including the date of graduation.

The student must provide official Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) reasoning and subject test score reports directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the College Board. The official ETS institution code for the USA/USA Program is 9000. Students can forward these scores online at www.collegeboard.com or via a paper request. The deadline for the submission of all materials is July 1.

All materials must arrive by mail to: USA/USA-YKRAMEREZHA, P.O. Box 250093, Columbia University Station, New York, NY 10025-1531. For more information call 212-475-5326, e-mail info@ukrainianscholarships.org log on to www.ukrainianscholarships.org. The winner will be announced by September 1.

The USA/USA-YKRAMEREZHA Program is a not-for-profit program that benefits from the 501 (c) 3 status of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine Inc. (USA).

Folklore researcher from Lviv journeys to University of Alberta

EDMONTON – Oksana Lutsko, a graduate student at the Ivan Franko University of Lviv, visited Edmonton this April to expand her knowledge of Canadian Ukrainian folklore and the Ukrainian community in Edmonton. Sponsored as a visiting researcher by the Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography, she collected information in the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives at the University of Alberta, presented a seminar for graduate students, and visited many community institutions and events.

One of the highlights of her journey was an interview with sisters Anna Zwozdesky and Lena Gulutsan, who know many songs from their parents' Bukovynian villages a century ago, as well as many Ukrainian songs popular in more recent times.

Ms. Lutsko also enjoyed her visit to a lively class of Ukrainian bilingual students at Austin O'Brien High School.

She showed a DVD about her native Lviv, spoke of Ukrainian Easter customs, danced "Podolianochka" with the class, and asked about the traditions they know from their homes.

Ms. Lutsko is one of the first young Ukrainian folklorists in Ukraine researching Ukrainian folklore in Canada. Folkloric traditions in the diaspora were not researched in Soviet Ukraine. However, such study can reveal a great deal about the Ukrainian spirit worldwide in the past and in the present.

"I am very grateful to the faculty and staff of the Ukrainian Folklore Center for giving me this opportunity," she stated. The Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography, the Kuryliw Family Scholarship Fund and the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography, all operating within the Ukrainian Folklore Center, have long cooperated with scholars in Ukraine and have plans to expand such international activities.

Dr. Onyshkevych, who has headed NTSh since 2000, delivered her report for the period since 2003. In her view, NTSh did fulfill its goals as a scholarly institution beyond Ukraine's borders. She covered the various areas in which NTSh and its members have been active, especially in support of the Orange Revolution in Ukraine, participation in scholarly conferences in the United States and Europe, and in spreading information about Ukraine at various scholarly and cultural forums. An important area in NTSh's strategy is the support of Ukrainian scholars and their research projects by means of grants, as well as the sponsorship of their publications.

Next came the reports of the departing board of directors, the directors of the society's sections and the committee chairs, as well as reports on the NTSh library and archives. Reporting were: First Vice-President Andrushkiw, who also spoke as the director of the mathematics-physics-technology section; Vice-President Popovych; Committee Chairs Marta Tarnawsky, Dr. Roman Voronka and Dr. Volodymyr Vasylyak; Svitlana Andrushkiw, library; and archives section directors Prof. Trofimenko (social sciences) and Prof. Humesky (philology). The reports of those who could not be present were also read.

After discussion of reports, the meeting accepted the report of the Auditing Committee.

The new slate of the candidates for office, presented by the chair of the Nominating Committee, Dr. Voronka, was headed by Dr. Popovych, who was elected president by a vote of 70 for with two abstentions.

In his acceptance speech Dr. Popovych thanked society members for their trust and outlined the strategy for further activities of the society under his stewardship in the following areas: expansion of membership; programs for the Ukrainian community; scholarships and grants in support of Ukrainian studies; sponsorship of Ukrainian scholarly publications; bibliographic and archival projects; and collaboration with NTSh organizations in other countries, as well as with official and scholarly institutions in Ukraine.

The newly elected board of directors of NTSh consists of: Dr. Popovych, president; Dr. Andrushkiw, first vice-president; Dr. Procyk, vice-president and learned secretary; Dr. Daria Dykyj, vice-president and CFO; Dr. Swiatoslaw Trofimenko, vice-president; Olha Kuzmowycz and Dr. Serhiy Levkov, recording secretaries.

Committee chairs are: publications – Prof. Vasyl Makhno; scholarships and grants – Dr. Olexa Bilaniuk; press – Prof. Vasyl Lopukh; legal advisory – Dr. Andriy Szul; by-laws – Prof. Martha Trofimenko; institutional liaison – Dr. Myroslava Znayenko; computing – Dr. Vasylyak; auditing – Dr. Onyshkevych.



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Lemko activists meet with new Ukrainian Catholic eparch of Stamford

by Steven Howansky
and Zenon Halkowycz

STAMFORD, Conn. – Representatives of the Organization for Defense of Lemkivschyna (OOL) and the Lemko Research Foundation Inc. (LRF) on April 6 visited St. Basil's Ukrainian Catholic College Seminary to meet with Bishop Paul Patrick Chomnycky, OSBM, who was recently installed as the fourth bishop and eparch of the Stamford Eparchy.

The purpose of the meeting was to inform the bishop about the work of these two Lemko organizations, as well as to congratulate and offer best wishes to the new leader of the Eparchy.

Bishop Chomnycky received the Lemko delegation, which included Zenon Halkowycz (OOL president), Steven Howansky (LRF president and OOL vice-president), Vasyl Harhaj (OOL membership officer and LRF treasurer), Stefan Kosciolek (OOL treasurer) and Petro Gres (OOL board member), in the library of the Stamford Seminary.

After introductions, Mr. Halkowycz read a letter in Ukrainian from the OOL national board and presented it to the bishop, stating "On behalf of the Organization for Defense of Lemkivshchyna in America, we congratulate you on your installation as the new bishop of the Stamford Eparchy and wish you good health and strength to continue the journey as the new leader of this eparchy."

Mr. Halkowycz then described briefly the history of



At St. Basil Seminary's library are: (seated) Bishop Paul P. Chomnycky, OSBM (standing, from left) Zenon Halkowycz, Petro Gres, Stefan Kosciolek, Vasyl Harhaj and Steven Howansky.

Lemkos in America, as well as the beginnings of the two Lemko organizations.

Next, Mr. Howansky read a similar letter from the LRF and presented it to the bishop. He then explained the mission of the foundation, as well as its accomplishments and achievements.

Lemko-style chapel

The bishop asked various questions and showed interest in the organizations, particularly concerning their success in building a Lemko-style chapel SUM estate in Ellenville, N.Y.

Mr. Halkowycz explained that the foundation of this chapel was consecrated by Cardinal and Patriarch Lubomyr Husar, and that the blessing of the new chapel was conducted on June 25, 2005, by Bishop Basil Losten of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

The chapel was dedicated to the memory of all the victims of Akcja Wisla, the forced resettlement of Ukrainian families from their ancestral lands by the Polish Communist government. The chapel is open to people of all Christian faiths who come to the campgrounds of SUM, where children attending summer camps can learn about a dark chapter of Ukrainian history.

The members of the delegation then shared with the bishop accounts of their experiences and hardships in 1947. The relocated Lemkos, being a God-loving and deeply religious people, missed their churches and clergy, as the Polish government would allow them to worship only in Roman Catholic churches.

At the end of the meeting, members of the delegation presented the bishop with the traditional Ukrainian bread (paska), Easter egg (pysanka) and embroidered

ritual cloth (rushnychok), as well as copies of OOL's magazine Lemkivschyna and various books, such as the Annals of Lemkivschyna Vol. 6, "Akcja Wisla – Documents" and "The Small Sacral Architecture in Lemkivschyna," all published by LRF.

Ukrainian-Lemko Museum

Afterwards, Bishop Chomnycky and the members of the delegation visited the Ukrainian-Lemko Museum, which is located in a nearby building, in two rooms on the second floor of the Ukrainian Museum and Library in Stamford, and is managed by the Organization for Defense of Lemkivschyna.

Mr. Howansky, the Ukrainian-Lemko Museum's curator, informed Bishop Chomnycky about the museum's history and the recent remodeling of the rooms in which it is housed.

Following the tour of the museum, the members of the delegation invited Bishop Chomnycky to join them for lunch at a local restaurant, during which there was an exchange of ideas. Delegation members learned about the bishop's earlier years and experiences, including the fact that he was a Canadian SUM member, which led the group, all SUM members, to reminisce about their experiences.

At the end of the visit, on behalf of the organizing committee of the annual Lemko Vatra, or festival, in the U.S., Mr. Harhaj officially invited Bishop Chomnycky to attend the sixth annual festival and to celebrate holy liturgy for all participants.

The sixth annual Lemko Vatra will be held on June 24-25 at the SUM campgrounds in Ellenville. Bishop Chomnycky responded that he will make every attempt to be present at the Vatra.



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Philadelphia raises \$100,000 for Ukrainian Catholic University

PHILADELPHIA – Over 260 guests assembled at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center on April 1 to show their support for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv and its rector, Father Borys Gudziak.



Father Borys Gudziak

The evening started with a cocktail hour, where guests had a chance to mingle and talk to Father Gudziak and to diplomats from Ukraine, including Oleksander Aleksandrovych, Mykola Kyrychenko and Andrii Olefirov.

The mistress of ceremonies and the

chairperson of the Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ulana Baluch Mazurkevich, welcomed the guests to the benefit banquet and called upon Archbishop-Metropolitan Stefan Soroka to “bless the evening and to bless the gathering with a prayer.”

Due to a large number of non-Ukrainian guests, the event was conducted in both Ukrainian and English.

The newly appointed consul-general of Ukraine in New York, Mykola Kyrychenko, greeted the assembled and in his brief remarks spoke about the March 26 elections in Ukraine, calling them “fair, transparent and truly democratic.” The consul general praised the work of Father Gudziak and the Ukrainian Catholic University, and wished them many long and prosperous years.

The evening was enriched by the well-known Philadelphia pianist Irene Pelech Zwarych. Ms. Zwarych performed the Prelude in E Minor by Vasyl Barvinsky and the “Carpathian Poem” by Mykola Fomenko.

During dinner, John Kurey, president of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, showed three short documentary films on the history, program and activities of the Ukrainian Catholic University. Mr. Kurey encouraged the guests to financially support this institution. He explained: “The university is supported by outside donations. Almost 60 percent of the donors are non-Ukrainians, although the biggest sums are derived from the Ukrainian diaspora.”

Mr. Kurey called upon Sister Teodora, who arrived with Father Gudziak, to talk



Father Borys Gudziak (center) with committee members (from left): Vera Andryczyk, Oksana Woroch, Chrystia Senyk, Borys Zacharczuk, Ihor Shust, Ulana Mazurkevich, Orysia Hewka, Roman Fedorak, Ihor Chyzowycz and John Kurey.

about her experience as a student at the UCU.

Ms. Mazurkevich then introduced Father Gudziak, calling him “the heart and soul of the Ukrainian Catholic University.” The guests greeted the rector with a standing ovation. Speaking fluently and interchangeably in English and Ukrainian, he spoke about his youth, the influence of his parents, the Church and the Ukrainian community in Syracuse, N.Y., on his upbringing and on his vocation. He stressed the importance of faith in a person’s life.

One of the main themes that Father Gudziak brought up was what he said is considered “the 11th commandment of Pope John Paul II” – “be not afraid.” He said that it is important for the Church in the United States, as well as the Church

in Ukraine and the university to abide by this “commandment.”

Father Gudziak also informed the gathering about the accomplishments of the university. He said that the UCU in Lviv has already graduated over 300 students; more than 900 students now attend the university, among them 200 seminarians.

Father Gudziak concluded his talk by urging everyone not to forget the two most important phrases in everyday Christian life: “thank you” and “forgive me.”

The treasurer of the committee, former banker Ihor Shust, gave a financial report of the donations collected during the benefit. The president of the UCEF, Mr. Kurey, called the evening a “spectacular success,” attributing that success to the hard work of the committee and the good heart of the Ukrainian community of Philadelphia.

Dopomoha Ukraini Foundation supports publication on internment

TORONTO – The Dopomoha Ukraini (Aid to Ukraine) Foundation has helped underwrite the publication of a booklet titled “Without Just Cause,” which deals with Canada’s first national internment operations of 1914-1920. Written by UCCLA’s director of research, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, this booklet provides basic historical information about a relatively unknown episode in Canadian history, while appending important new documentation, including the August 24, 2005, Agreement in Principle between the government of Canada and the com-

munity, and the final version of Bill C331 – the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act, which secured royal assent on November 25, 2005.

“The financial assistance provided by Dopomoha Ukraini, the charitable foundation set up by the family of Borys Wrzesnewskyj, MP (Etobicoke Center), in part to honor the memory of his uncle and aunt, Mychailo and Jaroslawa Szafraniuk, will help make it possible for us to provide critical information to our

(Continued on page 14)



Prof. Lubomyr Luciuk (left) of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association receives a donation toward publication of a new booklet on Canada’s internment operations of 1914-1920 from Borys Wrzesnewskyj of the Dopomoha Ukraini Foundation as they stand in front of an oil painting of Sir William D. Otter, commanding officer of the internment operations.

"Jacques Hnizdovsky – In Color and Black & White" to open at The Ukrainian Museum

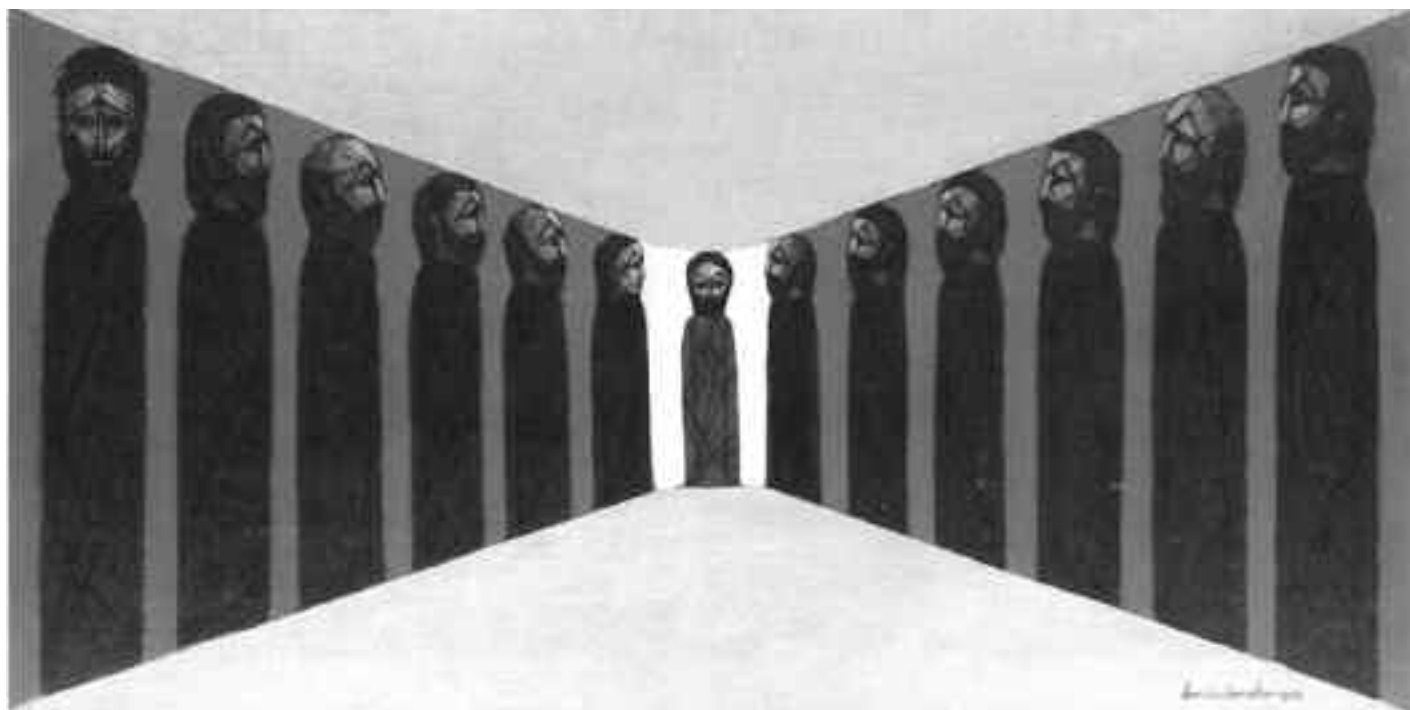
by Hanya Krill

NEW YORK – The works of critically acclaimed painter and printmaker Jacques Hnizdovsky (1915-1985) will be on view at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City from June 11 to August 27. Titled "Jacques Hnizdovsky – In Color and in Black & White," the exhibition showcases a body of work by the artist spanning a nearly 50-year career that had its origins in Ukraine and culminated in the United States.

The canvases and prints in the exhibition range from the early works produced prior to Hnizdovsky's arrival in the U.S., such as "Displaced Persons" (oil, 1948), to the last canvas touched by the artist's brush before his sudden death, the unfinished "Corn" – a work that allows the viewer to observe the creative process employed by the artist.

Just as a number of recent shows in New York City drew attention to the evolution of mature artists' work through numerous stages in their careers, this exhibition surveys Hnizdovsky's evolution into an artist in his prime. Featured will be several examples of his superb woodcuts, among them the cherished rams and sheep, and depictions of still-life objects that often show traces of Hnizdovsky's subtle sense of humor.

This show will also provide a rare glimpse into Hnizdovsky's mid-career,



"Last Supper" (oil, 1956) by Jacques Hnizdovsky.

with a sampling of works that were rarely or never exhibited. The pieces are emblematic of a period that was most trying for the artist, both financially and spiritually, but that was also among his most creative.

In "Crucifixion" (oil, 1955), traces of vivid red contrasting with the dark backdrop convey a sense of anguish and foreboding. "Bondage" (oil, 1961) echoes

the somber mood, while the shadow in "Darkness" (oil, 1961) is juxtaposed against a ray of light, perhaps the portent of a brighter future.

The colors and style in these early canvases reflect the influence of artists such as Albrecht Durer, Pieter Bruegel the Elder and El Greco, and hint at the artist's roots in his native Borschiv region of Ukraine, where traditional embroidery is characterized by deep, rich reds and burgundies framed in a lush, velvety black.

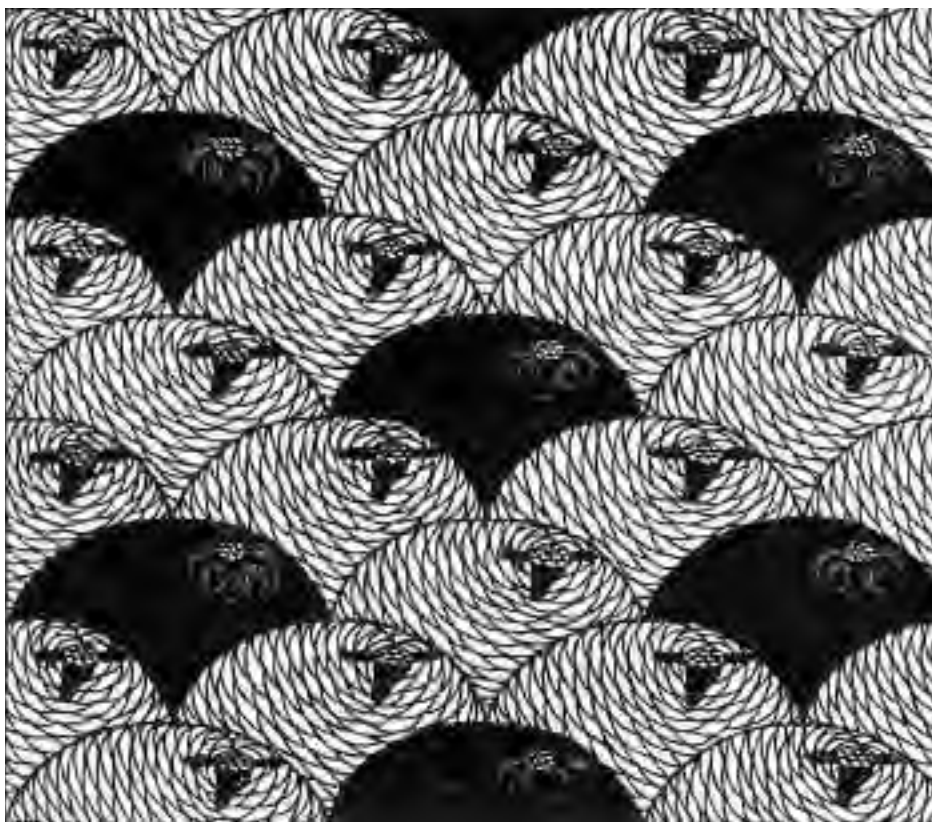
"Jacques Hnizdovsky – In Color and in Black & White" celebrates the life and work of this remarkable artist who found fame in the United States but remained deeply attached to the land of his birth. It also marks his recent symbolic "homecoming," which not coincidentally took place on the 90th anniversary of the artist's birth and 20th anniversary of his death.

In 2005 Hnizdovsky's remains were transferred to a cemetery in Lviv, Ukraine, where many prominent figures in Ukrainian cultural and political history have been laid to rest.

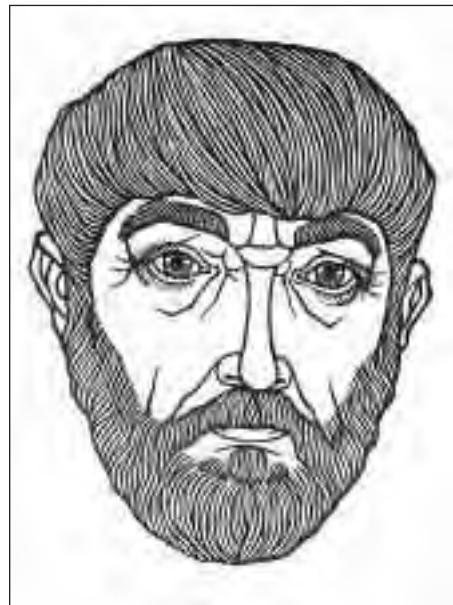
The significance of this event was captured in the words of the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, John E. Herbst: "Jacques Hnizdovsky returns to his homeland, leaving behind him in the United States a rich cultural legacy... Now citizens of his beloved Ukraine will have an opportunity to appreciate his direct and sometimes amusing images, which often draw upon the life of his native land. Hnizdovsky follows in the

tradition of so many immigrants to America who have fused the artistic traditions of their homelands with the energy of the New World to weave a tapestry that enriches all our lives and brings our countries together."

Founded in 1976, The Ukrainian Museum collects, preserves and exhibits objects of artistic or historic merit relating to Ukrainian life and culture in three areas of interest: folk art, fine art and photographic/documentary archives. In the spring of 2005 the museum moved into a new state-of-the-art facility in Manhattan's East Village.



Hnizdovsky's "Resting Sheep" (linocut, 1983).



The artist's "Self-Portrait" (woodcut, 1971).

"Travel to Ukraine" website unveiled by U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

by Marta Matselioukh

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation on May 25 unveiled its latest project, the comprehensive website "Travel to Ukraine" (www.traveltoukraine.org), which will serve as a valuable information resource for business and pleasure travel to Ukraine.

Since 1991, the mission of the foundation has been to facilitate democratic institutions, a free market and human rights in Ukraine. In its support of Ukraine's economic development, the foundation is now focusing on the travel industry, a key sector for Ukraine in its economic transformation.

During the project announcement, USUF President Nadia K. McConnell remarked, "Ukraine's people are known

throughout the world for their gracious hospitality and when you combine that with a rich culture, a history of over 1,000 years, beautiful and varied geography, and an emerging travel industry, you realize that tourism is a key sector for the economic development of the country."

"We understand that the foundation needs to support Ukraine's travel industry in order to make Ukraine an attractive and easily accessible destination for millions of tourists," she added.

The foundation has been promoting Ukraine's economic development through business promotion such as its Business Links webpages, the business e-newsletter BizLinks and the business e-journal Potential.

In addition, the foundation has been a

strong supporter of professional travel exchanges between the U.S. and Ukraine. Its major programs, such as the U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships Project and U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue, have conducted over 500 professional exchanges during the past eight years.

John A. Kun, USUF vice-president stated, "As Ukraine continues on its journey toward the West, we realize that Travel to Ukraine will become an important and appreciated tool by those who are looking for business opportunities there. We hope to capitalize on the expanding effectiveness of the Internet, and we believe that this website will be the best means to reach an ever-growing audience of those interested in Ukraine's democratic

future."

"Ukraine's quest for Euro-Atlantic integration has sparked interest by numerous Western corporations that are exploring emerging markets in Eastern Europe," Mr. Kun continued. "We feel that there is an urgent need to provide these companies with useful, updated information so that any barriers of uncertainty will be overcome by our Travel to Ukraine website."

"I would like to congratulate Oleksiy Synelnichenko for his technical work over the recent past in completing this project and our intern of last summer, Stephen Choma Thompson, for initiating the work in 2005," added Mr. Kun.

For more information about the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, log on to <http://www.usukraine.org>.

Cornelia Street Café presents "Ukrainian Night" to sold-out audiences

NEW YORK – Ukraine came to Greenwich Village on April 29, when the world-famous Cornelia Street Café presented a "Ukrainian Night" in its appropriately "Bohemian" cabaret venue to two sold-out audiences.

"It was a breakthrough for Ukrainian culture," said poet Vasyl Makhno, one of the participants in the evening. "Never before has a New York-based American cultural institution devoted an entire evening to Ukrainian culture."

"Ukrainian Night" showcased Ukrainian-related films, poetry, music and fiction in English and

the arts in Central Florida that airs on WMFE-FM, a National Public Radio affiliate.

Prof. Motyl read from "Whiskey Priest," his first novel, which depicts a disillusioned KGB assassin and an insecure Ukrainian American female U.S. diplomat who track down an Ivy League professor running a prostitution ring in Ukraine. The author of six academic books, Prof. Motyl is also a painter; his two most recent shows were at the Ukrainian Institute of America in 2004 and 2005.

Mr. Makhno delighted the audience with readings of his poetry in Ukrainian, followed by Dr. Orest Popovych, the recently elected head of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, who read his translations of Dr. Makhno's poems. Since 1993, Dr. Makhno has published six books of poetry and a collection of translations of the prominent Polish poet Zbigniew Herbert, and compiled an anthology of new Ukrainian poetry.

Andriy Milavsky, Halyna Remez and Roman

Kytasty graciously performed two impromptu songs for voice and sopilka. A world-class solo musician, Mr. Kytasty also collaborates with other famous artists, such as the Ukrainian Canadian ensemble From Paris to Kyiv, and most recently with the Chinese pipa (a traditional Chinese stringed instrument) virtuoso Wu Man at Carnegie Hall.

The "Ukrainian Night" took place in the intimate nightclub setting of the Cornelia Street Café's basement, a venue that regularly features artistic performances by renowned American and foreign writers, poets, artists and musicians. The decision to spotlight Ukrainian culture for an entire evening belongs to Cornelia Street Café owner Robin Hirsch (who is also the author of the highly touted memoir, "Last Dance at the Hotel Kempinski") and poet-in-residence Angelo Verga.

"Ukrainian Night represented the mainstreaming of Ukrainian culture," said Prof. Motyl. "There's no going back to the ghetto."

Because of the exceptional turnout, many people were turned away at the door. But they'll have a chance to experience another Ukrainian Night at the Cornelia Street Café in 2007.

"This is going to be an annual event," said Ms. Zabytko. "We were invited to put together another show at the café for next year. It's great to bring so many outstanding artists together on one stage – and in a very cool and cutting-edge venue."

Meanwhile, Ms. Zabytko and Prof. Motyl are planning a similar event at New York's Bowery Poetry Club in September. "Who knows," said Ms. Zabytko with a smile, "maybe we'll do Town Hall some day."



Irene Zabytko

Ukrainian. Both sets were hosted by award-winning fiction writer Irene Zabytko and Alexander Motyl, professor at Rutgers University.

The cinematic part of the evening included a 45-minute excerpt from Damian Kolodiy's feature-length documentary, "The Orange Chronicles," as well as four short films from Ukraine. Mr. Kolodiy's footage illustrated the dramatic confrontation between Pora youth activists and supporters of Viktor Yanukovich in eastern Ukraine in late 2004. By depicting his own response to the events, the film was as much a documentary of the Orange Revolution as a story of his personal self-discovery as a young Ukrainian American artist.

Prof. Yuri Shevchuk, lecturer in Ukrainian language at Columbia University and head of the Ukrainian Film Club at the Harriman Institute, introduced the film shorts from Ukraine, beginning with Ihor Strembitsky's "Wayfarers," winner of the prestigious Palme d'Or at the 2005 Cannes Film Festival.

Filmed on a tiny budget in a grainy black and white, the film consists of a series of shots of tortured people, confused faces and anonymous places – all on the way to nowhere. It was thanks to the tenacity of Mr. Strembitsky's wife, Natalia Kononchuk, who wrote the script and appears in the film, that "Wayfarers" was submitted to the Cannes festival.

Like "Wayfarers," three animated shorts also provided biting commentaries on today's reality in Ukraine. Stepan Koval's claymation "Streetcar No. 9," winner of the Silver Bear award at the Berlin International Film Festival in 2003, features the rousing misadventures of a ramshackle streetcar and its squabbling occupants.

Mr. Koval's equally hilarious "Zlydni" showed what happens when bad times – depicted as oddly shaped Russian-speaking characters – descend on a hardworking Hutsul family in the Carpathians.

Oleksandr Shmyhun's "Play for Three Actors" (2004) starred two good-natured puppets manipulated by their puppeteer into engaging in acts of violence against each other.

The evening's literary segment featured Ms. Zabytko reading excerpts from her novel, "The Sky Unwashed," which portrays the elderly survivors of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster living in the exclusion zone. This highly acclaimed book was selected for the Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers program and was also a Book Sense "76 Pick" Selection.

She also read a humorous excerpt from her fiction collection, "When Luba Leaves Home," which takes place in a Ukrainian neighborhood in Chicago. Ms. Zabytko is currently the literature contributor for The Arts Connection, an Orlando-based radio program about



Vasyl Makhno

Galynsky of the Cheres musical ensemble offered 45 exuberant minutes of foot-stomping, high-energy, crowd-pleasing "Ukrainian Bluegrass" melodies on accordion, violin and a variety of wooden flutes that rocked the house and thrilled the audience.

Mr. Milavsky, a graduate of the Kyiv State Conservatory of Music, founded Cheres in 1990. He has been compared to jazz great Charlie Parker by Dean Olsher of WNYC's "Next Big Thing" radio show; Cheres has been declared "the premier Ukrainian acoustic folk ensemble in the U.S." by Michael Shapiro, producer of Ellipsis Arts.

As a special treat, bandura/kobzar master Julian



Alexander Motyl



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Heritage Foundation visits UECC and Philadelphia's Ukrainians

by Andrea Porytko-Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center and local Philadelphia Ukrainian organizations met with Dr. Julian Kulas at the 1st Security Federal Savings Bank community meeting on May 18 in the Alexander B. Chernyk Gallery of the UECC.

The meeting provided an opportunity for Dr. Kulas, representing the Heritage Foundation, to present the UECC and 23 Ukrainian organizations, with grants totaling \$85,000. This sum includes a \$10,000

donation to the UECC announced at its 2006 annual banquet celebrating Ukrainian American Relations on April 30.

The Heritage Foundation, whose mission is to preserve Ukrainian ethnic identity, spiritual values and community viability, is a private grant-making foundation. It has become a strong philanthropic force in the Ukrainian community in the United States.

These funds, given traditionally to religious, educational, youth, cultural and community institutions meeting the foundation's giving criteria, have a significant impact on the Ukrainian community.

Philadelphia center holds successful Easter Bazaar

by Andrea Porytko-Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center opened its doors early Saturday morning, April 8, and greeted its many guests to the sights, sounds and, yes, delicious aromas of Ukraine. The UECC's 2006 Easter Bazaar, held in the great hall of the UECC, was a huge success.

Many vendors offered the Philadelphia area community the best of their wares: colorful Ukrainian Easter eggs, or pysanky, beautiful embroideries, delicate crafts, Trypillian and Hutsul ceramics, scented candles, dolls, cards, books, oil paintings, intricate jewelry, religious icons, Ukrainian

music recordings and videos.

The UECC kitchen tempted all with its delicious traditional Ukrainian cuisine including: varenyky, holubtsi, potato pancakes and an assortment of home-made delicate pastries, including Ukrainian pasky and tortes. The UECC also offered an assortment of meats including kovbasa, kabanosy, and hams. Decorated traditional children's Easter baskets were available for purchase.

The Children's Choir of the Ukrainian Music Institute of Philadelphia performed two Ukrainian spring songs for the guests of the Easter Bazaar. The children were greeted with enthusiastic applause.

Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 1)

coalition's nomination, Mr. Donii said, Mr. Yekhanurov and the rest of the Cabinet of Ministers would remain in power as an acting government – an arrangement that could last for years.

Although some of the acting government's members would be violating the

Constitution by moonlighting as national deputies and Cabinet ministers, there isn't enough political will in the Verkhovna Rada to prevent them from doing so, he said.

In the event of an Our Ukraine coalition with the Tymoshenko Bloc and SPU, President Yushchenko is not opposed to Oleksander Moroz becoming the next parliamentary speaker, said Mr. Donii, an SPU member.

Rates of neural tube...

(Continued from page 6)

mentation program in Polissia for all women of reproductive age.

Further molecular, genetic, folic acid, alcohol and epidemiologic studies by an international consortium are, in our view, essential. The results are likely to elucidate new facts important to the Ukrainian public and contribute to a better understanding of the complexities of the causes of birth defects.

Ukraine perhaps more than most countries, has much to gain from an established and experienced BD surveillance system upholding international standards. The OMNI-Net BD surveillance system can

facilitate the immediate introduction of folic acid supplementation, rapidly show the impact of the introduction of flour fortified with folic acid and facilitate studies of low dose chronic ionizing radiation effects on human reproduction. In the final analysis, the resolution of the questions discussed is bioethical by nature and for Ukrainian authorities to resolve.

We want to emphasize that this report reflects the high competence of Ukrainian professionals engaged by BD oblast surveillance systems. Furthermore, these achievements were also made possible by the constant support of public health care leaders, as well as the directors of medical facilities where OMNI-Centers are located.

Dopomoha Ukraini...

(Continued from page 11)

community and others about the Ukrainian Canadian community's ongoing requests for recognition, restitution and reconciliation," said Dr. Luciuk.

He noted that Mr. Wrzesnewskyj has "played a pivotal role in helping move this issue forward in the House of Commons and, with this donation, he has aided significantly in our efforts to make all Canadians better aware of the harm done to Ukrainians and other Europeans during Canada's first national internment operations."

Complementary copies of the publica-

tion will soon be distributed free of charge to MPs, selected public and university libraries across Canada, and international repository libraries around the world. "That would not have been possible without Mr. Wrzesnewskyj's generous assistance, for which we are all most grateful," Dr. Luciuk said.

He went on to stress that "Safeguarding the civil liberties and human rights of ethnic, religious and racial minorities in times of domestic and international crisis is particularly important, so being better informed about historic injustices of the sort described in this book is a crucial step in ensuring that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past."

BOOK NOTES

Two books of Ukrainian short fiction in the English language

“Riddles of the Heart: Ukrainian Short Fiction in English,” Roma Franko, translator; Sonia Morris, editor Winnipeg: Language Lanterns Publications, 2004. 349 pp. \$14.95.

Translated by Roma Franko, “Riddles of the Heart” is a collection of short stories written by prominent Ukrainian authors in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The stories in the compilation all have the similar theme of love and desire.

The love described in the stories, however, is not innocent or idealistic. The stories show that love is often arbitrary and cruel, as in Mykola Chernyavsky’s short story “The End of the Game.” In this story, a doctor in a village is married to a woman, though it is fairly obvious that the husband and wife are not in love with each other.

In Mykhaylo Mohylyansky’s story “From the Dark Wellsprings of Life” a man who has just left his wife is found dead in his private train compartment. In an other story, “The Fiancee,” a young girl is overcome by her passion for a

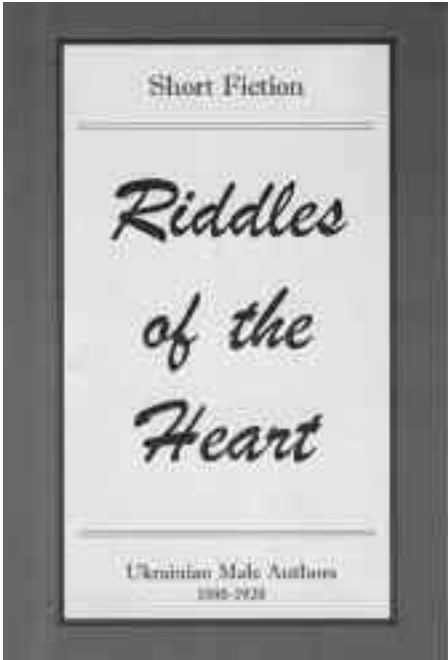
stranger in the darkness of his train car even though her fiancée is onboard.

The collection in “Riddles of the Heart” is meant to call attention to the difficulty and confusion of what it means to “be in love” with someone. This collection is a glimpse into what life in urban Ukraine was like and the roles that both men and women had to play when it came to relationships.

“Passion’s Bitter Cup: Ukrainian Short Fiction in English,” Roma Franko, translator; Sonia Morris, editor. Language Lanterns Publications, 2004. Winnipeg: 349 pp., \$14.95.

Translated by Roma Franko, “Passion’s Bitter Cup” is a collection of stories written by famous Ukrainian authors with one overarching theme: living with love and passion comes at a price.

For example, in Yevhen Mandychesky’s story “The Storm,” foul weather parallels a young girl’s struggle against an old sailor who is about to rape her. Mykhaylo Mohylyansky writes about a desperate pros-



titute who takes in a scared young boy and helps him become a man, only to be physically abused by him when she tries to dry his tears.

As hinted by the title, the stories tell of the physical and emotional pain that accompanies relationships. They peek into the dark side of Ukrainian women’s plight as they sometimes must fend off aggressive men and provide for themselves by selling their bodies for sustenance.

Both books are available for purchase in soft-cover format on amazon.com in the United States, and in Ukrainian bookstores in Canada. They are also available through

www.language lanterns.com for \$14.95 each.

The editor of both books, Sonia Morris, notes that “Riddles of Heart” and “Passion’s Bitter Cup,” which contain works written in 1880-1920, “continue to fill in ‘blank spots’ in Ukrainian literature in translation by making a broad array of stories with love and erotic themes from this significant 40-year literary period accessible to readers of English.

She notes in her introduction that the short fiction in these two books by 14 authors “provides a fascinating glimpse into life as it was lived in urban Ukraine at the turn of the 20th century – a time of social unrest, shifting mores and heady affirmations of freedom of choice.”

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Folk dancer starts promotional business

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. – Ukrainian folk dancer Peter Fil has started a promotional products business, Bulava Promotions, and is doing so with no venture capital.

Most dancers move on to becoming dance instructors, choreographers and artistic directors of their own schools and companies. For Mr. Fil, that just wasn't enough. He has had his share of teaching, choreographing and even running his own dance school for several years.

Having performed in some of the greatest theaters, arenas and opera houses, Mr. Fil now wanted to put his mark on the business world. He started Bulava Promotions, a custom imprinted promotional products business. Using money from his own accounts set aside for his idea, he has successfully brought on clientele in both the Ukrainian and dance communities and is reaching out to major big businesses across the country.

Mr. Fil, owner of Bulava Promotions said, "Making the move from backstage to big business just made sense seeing as how I was always being asked to print up shirts for people or design art for printing. The great thing about promotional products is that they really work and there are thousands of products to use for fund-raisers, advertising, trade show giveaways, employee recognition and incentives." Bulava Promotions can imprint products in both English and Ukrainian and offers a unique 5 percent discount on all prepaid orders.

Mr. Fil is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 13.

For more information about Bulava Promotions, its products and services, readers may log on to <http://www.BULAVA.com>.

Using old and new technology, Bulava Promotions provides one of the industry's largest online searchable product catalogues for customer convenience as well as traditional phone support and personal visits. Bulava Promotions can customize hundreds of thousands of products, from shirts to pens to mugs.

Named manager of the year at Macy's

LIVINGSTON, N.J. – Anna (Bobrek) Koziupa of Cedar Knolls, N.J., has been named Manager of the Year for Macy's Livingston, N.J. She is a group manager of jewelry, watches, handbags, hosiery and accessories.

For special promotional events, Ms. Koziupa has often invited Ukrainian musicians to perform in the jewelry department to attract customers. She has helped hire many new Ukrainian immigrants to work at Macy's.

If you've ever watched the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, you've probably seen Ms. Koziupa as a captain leading one of the floats. She has been in the parade for the last seven years and was awarded a Macy's Rollie Award for her commitment. She always manages to recruit a number of Ukrainians, young and old, to be part of her float in the parade.

Ms. Koziupa is also the manager-in-charge of community service in Macy's Livingston and promotes various fund-raisers with her employees. She is also manager-in-charge of "selling specialists" and is involved in training and promoting the best salespeople.

Ms. Koziupa is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 76, Newark, N.J. She is also an active member of Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 75, in which she has held various executive positions.



Anna Koziupa

You will also find her packing clothes for the Dollar for Ukraine group in her spare time. On Easter, with her "Soyuzianky," she helps to deliver blessed Easter baskets to the elderly and shut-ins.

This past March she took two weeks' vacation to volunteer as an international election observer in Ukraine. She is also a parishioner of St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, N.J.

Ms. Koziupa enjoys spending time with her family: husband, Michael, daughter, Tatyana, and son, Danylo. She loves traveling, friends, community service and people.

Lawyer receives environmental award

SAN FRANCISCO – Six individuals representing the regions of the world were awarded the Goldman Foundation Environmental Award, the most prestigious and largest prize of its kind for grass-roots environmentalists, in the amount of \$125,000 on April 24 as was reported in the April 29-30 Weekend Edition of the San Francisco Examiner.

According to the article, the Goldman Environmental Prize was started by civic leader and philanthropist, Richard N. Goldman, in 1990 with his late wife, Rhoda H. Goldman. Prize winners are selected by an international jury from confidential nominations submitted by a worldwide network of environmental organizations and individuals. Since its inception, the foundation has awarded activists from 67 countries.

Among this year's recipients was 26-year-old attorney Olya Melen of Ukraine, who represented Europe, for temporarily halting the Kuchma government's construction of a canal on the Danube Delta.

The canal would have severely damaged one of the world's most valuable wetlands, and is classified as a Wetland of International Importance by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Ramsar Convention (an inter-governmental treaty adopted on

February 2, 1971, in Ramsar, Iran, with over 150 participating nations, which provides a framework for national action and international cooperation in the conservation and sustainable utilization of wetlands.) The government began dredging and shoring up narrow and shallow sections of a 106-mile delta waterway to create a canal that would allow large vessels to travel directly between the Danube River and the Black Sea.

Despite her lack of courtroom experience, Ms. Melen assumed the lead role on the case, working with the Environment-People-Law firm in Lviv, which filed suits to halt the construction. She also won a key court case against the government in February 2004, proving that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Danube-Black Sea Canal was inadequate and that the proposed construction disregarded environmental laws.

Her initiatives were further propelled by the Orange Revolution that transformed the government in particular, the new minister of environmental protection of Ukraine, Pavlo Ihnatenko, who rejected plans for the second phase of the proposed canal.

However, the Danube Delta remains threatened due to the scheduled completion of the canal, as approved by President Viktor Yushchenko in December 2005, according to the article. Ms. Melen and others are prepared to use every available legal means to protect the most sensitive areas of the wetlands.

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SATURDAY, June 24

2 PM - Soccer game

3 PM - Opening ceremonies and concert featuring: "Metelytsia" Quartet, Oros Sisters Duo, "Budem Razom" Ensemble, Ina Sydorak and other famous artists and groups.

4:30 PM - Pig roast, arts and crafts, and other attractions.

6 PM - Bonfire lighting and main concert featuring: "Pid Oblachkom" Ensemble, national artist from Ukraine Ivo Babul, "Chetverta Khvyliya" Ensemble and "Vidlunnia," dance groups and others.

9 PM - Two "zabavy": "Halychany" and "Chetverta Khvyliya" bands

SUNDAY, June 25

10 AM – Divine Liturgy

2 PM – Lecture by Mgr. Katherine Mysio, "Руїна Українського Задєпзонна" followed by a concert by "Akkolada" and other performers.

5 PM - Closing ceremonies.

Info: (973) 772-3344 or (203) 762-5912 or VatraUSA@aol.com

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

SPORTSLINE

Soccer

• According to an AP Worldstream report on May 29, Ukraine was the only team headed to the World Cup that looked like it was ready for the tournament to begin. The Ukrainian team defeated Costa Rica 4-0 on May 28 in a warm-up match, despite missing the injured Andriy Shevchenko. Serhiy Nazarenko gave Ukraine the lead in the 29th minute by knocking in a rebound off Costa Rica goalkeeper Wardy Alfaro. Other scorers for Ukraine were Andriy Vorobei, Maxim Kalinichenko and Olexiy Belik with an assist from Andriy Husin.

Ukraine is scheduled to play in Group H at the World Cup in Germany with Spain, Tunisia and Saudi Arabia. Shevchenko is expected to recover in time for the team's first match on June 14 against Spain.

Continuing with the warm-up schedule, Ukraine faces Italy, Libya and Luxembourg in friendly match-ups.

• The AP reported on May 27 that Andriy Shevchenko is leaving AC Milan after seven seasons and intends to join English champion Chelsea. Milan offered the Ukrainian striker a contract extension until 2011.

"It has nothing to do with my relationship with the coach, team and club or even money," Shevchenko said at a news conference.

Shevchenko is married to an American and said the couple wanted their son to learn English.

"We decided together for the good of the family," Shevchenko said. "I don't speak English, my wife doesn't speak Ukrainian, the only language we have in common now is Italian, but the only way to make our children understand the love we have for them is the English language."

Milan chairman Adriano Galliani said he tried to convince Shevchenko to stay, up until the minute before the press conference.

Shevchenko has scored 173 goals for Milan — the second most in club history.

• Oleksander Yatsenko, the captain for Ukraine's Under-21 team, has been called in to fill the shoes of the injured Sergei Federov, as reported by the BBC. Yatsenko is joined by three other U-21 team members — Andrei Pyatov, Dmytro Chigrynskiy and Artem Milevsky — on the World Cup squad.

• Ukraine advances to the semi-finals for the UEFA U-21 Championship in Portugal. The team was to face Serbia and Montenegro on June 1. Ukraine defeated the Netherlands 2-1 on May 24, lost to Italy 0-1 on May 26 and defeated Denmark 2-1 on May 29. Currently Ukraine is at the top of its group with 6 points.

• For the UEFA EURO 2008 Championship, Ukraine drew in its Group B the teams of France, Italy, Scotland, the Faroe Islands, Lithuania and Georgia. Qualifying rounds will take place from September of this year to November of 2007, with the tournament running on June

7-29, 2008, in Austria and Switzerland. Ukraine's first qualifying match is scheduled take place June 9, 2006, against Georgia.

• Sergei Rebrov suffered a thigh injury at a training camp in Turkey, but coach Oleh Blokhin says the player will be ready for the World Cup in Germany.

• Ukrainian football fans have begun building what they call the "Cossacks in Europe" recreational camp in Potsdam, Germany, to show support for the Ukrainian National Team at the World Cup in Germany. The project is being sponsored by the German company GERMOL GmbH through support of the Ukrainian Football Federation, Potsdam City Hall and the Ukrainian Embassy in Berlin.

• Ukraine's Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yurii Pavlenko has suggested that Presidents Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and Lech Kaczynski of Poland represent their respective countries at the closing stage of the tender for hosting final matches of the 2012 European Football (Soccer) Championship, which will be staged at UEFA's headquarters in Switzerland on December 8.

On May 31 Minister Pavlenko and his Polish counterpart, Tomasz Lipiec, Ukrainian Football Federation President Heorhii Surkis, his Polish counterpart Mihal Lstkiewicz, Ukrainian NOC President Serhiy Bubka and Polish NOC President Piotr Nurovski will submit the joint application to the UEFA at its HQ in Switzerland.

The Ukrainian-Polish party will vie with Italy and the Croatia-Hungary tandem for the honor to host the championship's final part.

Chess

The defending champion Ukrainian chess team defeated India's men for the second time in the Chess Olympiad held in Turin, Italy. After Viswanathan Anand drew with former world championship challenger Vassily Ivanchuk on the top board, Grandmaster (GM) Sandipan Chanda held higher rated Pavel Elyanov on the fourth round. In an uncharacteristic blunder, P. Hari Krishna was defeated by the youngest GM at the tournament, Sergey Karjakin.

Boxing

The Klitschko brothers participated in a ceremony to present the Golden Sportspyramide Award to Bayern Munich football club president Franz Beckenbauer. The brothers congratulated Beckenbauer on receiving the award and expressed their hope that Germany and Ukraine will meet in the World Cup final.

Wrestling

On April 26, Oleksandra Kohut, 18, of Lviv won the bronze medal at the European Wrestling Championships in Moscow in Greco-Roman and freestyle wrestling. She won against Nataliya Budu of Moldova in the 51 kg division with a tied score, but a ruling by the judges on Kohut's last grip placed her as the winner.

Maria Stadnyk of Ukraine won gold in the 48 kg division, with Svetlana Sayenko taking silver in the 72 kg division.

In the men's division, Mykhaylo Nikolayev, 23, of Mykolayiv, Ukraine, won silver in the 96 kg division at the European Greco-Roman Wrestling Championships in Moscow.

Winter Olympics

President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine signed an order on April 14 to award scholarships to athletes and coaches who participated in the 2006 Winter Olympics. According to the document, Elena Grushina, Ruslan Goncharov, Nina Lemesh, Kostantyn Vayhin, Vasyly Mushkin, Nikolai Morozov, Mykola Zots and Liliya Yefremova will be receiving as much as 6,000 hrv every month.

Swimming

The Ukrainian National Team won two gold medals, one silver and two bronze at the World Swimming

Championships in Shanghai, China.

Ukrainian swimmer Oleh Lysohor has set a new world record in 100-meter breast stroke with a time of 58.32 seconds, one-hundredth of a second better than his previous record four years ago. Lysohor won his second gold in the 50-meter-breaststroke with a time of 26.39. The bronze was won by Ukraine in the combined relay race with Andriy Oliynyk, Oleh Lysohor, Serhiy Advena and Andriy Serdinov breaking a new European record with a time of 3 minutes, 28.26 seconds.

Cycling

Ukrainian cyclists Volodymyr Diudia, Roman Kononenko, Maksym Polishchuk and Liubomyr Polatayko won the bronze medal in the team pursuit finals at the UCI Track Cycling World Championships in Bordeaux, France, on April 17, trailing Australia, which took the gold, and Great Britain, which won the silver.

— Matthew Dubas

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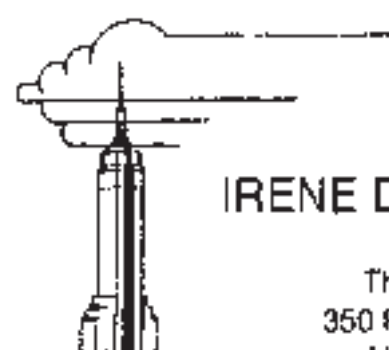
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Ukrainian American Select soccer team plays in Mini-World Cup

RUTHERFORD, N.J. – The Ukrainian American Select soccer team recently competed on Saturday, May 13, in a Mini-World Cup 7v7 tournament at Giants Stadium. The tournament was organized and run by the New York Red Bulls professional soccer organization in a format similar to that of the upcoming World Cup to be held in Germany as local teams were invited to compete and represent countries of their respective nationalities.

The Ukrainian men's team was placed in Group C with Brazil, Cyprus and Holland in what ended up being one of the toughest groups in the tournament.

Ukraine's first game was against Brazil, a team with very skillful players and great ball control. The game was very even, with both teams creating good opportunities to score. However, Ukraine's Misha Vyshnovsky got the only goal of the game on a counterattack, blasting his shot into the lower corner of the goal, past a diving Brazilian goalkeeper. Ukraine's goalie, Bogdan Protas, and the defense of Mark Howansky, Volodya Bryk and Misha Prokiv were strong in preserving the shutout.

Ukraine's next opponent was Cyprus, also a very organized and skillful team. The game proved to be extremely intense and physical as both teams knew that a win would send them to the next round of the tournament. Cyprus carried much of the play and, if not for the strong goal-keeping of Protas the result could have been a loss instead of a 0-0 tie.

Ukraine did create some counter-attack opportunities and Mykola Kucyna had a breakaway toward the end of the game but was pulled down by a Cyprus defender before he could get a shot off. After two games, Ukraine and Cyprus were tied for first with four points.

Ukraine's third game was against Holland, which lost its first two matches. Holland's tactic was obvious as players packed their defense, making it extremely difficult to penetrate their goal. Then, when Ukraine did get a shot on goal, Holland's goalie made some unbelievable saves to keep the game scoreless.

Ukraine's constant pressure and persistence paid off as Vyshnovsky scored his second goal of the tournament to put Ukraine up 1-0. The Ukrainians continued to press forward and eventually Mark Howansky scored the clincher to make it 2-0 to seal the game and send Ukraine to the quarter final round of the tournament.

As the tournament progressed, the Ukrainian team was gaining the respect of the fans and their peers as everyone was talking about how well the blue and yellow team with the Self Reliance logo on the front of its jerseys were playing and how this was a team to watch in the knockout stages of the tournament.

In the quarterfinals, Ukraine's opponent was England. Ukraine scored first on a goal by Ivan Kopychak as he drew the keeper out of his goal and dribbled around him slotting his shot into the open goal. England rallied quickly and tied the game on a deflection goal that changed direction, catching Protas leaning the wrong way. This was the first goal that Protas and the Ukrainian defense had allowed in the tournament.

Ukraine, however, would not be denied, as Kopychak scored his second goal of the game on a beautiful combination play by Kucyna, Vyshnovsky and Kopychak, who placed his shot past the English keeper. Ukraine was victorious and moved on to the semifinals against Poland.



The Ukrainian American Select soccer team: (standing, from left) Coach Walter Tkach, Greg Serheev, Volodia Bryk, Bogdan Protas, Volodia Helyukh, Coach Bohdan Kucyna, (front row) Mykola Kucyna, Misha Vyshnovsky, Ivan Martiniuk, Mark Howansky, Misha Prokiv and Ivan Kopychak.

The Poland-Ukraine game was intense with both teams giving all they had to have an opportunity to play in the final. Both sides had good opportunities to score, but neither team could break through to gain the win in regulation, and the game ended 0-0.

The game would be decided by a penalty kick shootout. The Polish team scored all three of its penalty kicks to Ukraine's two and advanced to the final against Germany.

Germany beat Poland in the final, 3-1, with team members hoisting the World Cup trophy in celebration.

"Overall, while disappointed, we were extremely pleased with how well we did in the tournament. We only gave up two

goals in six games," stated team Coach Bo Kucyna.

"We won our group and were a penalty kick away from going to the final," added coach Walter Tkach.

Goalkeeper Protas was honored with the Most Outstanding Goalkeeper award, and a plaque was presented to him by World Cup and current Red Bull goalie Tony Meola.

The Ukrainian American Select team comprised players of Yonkers Krylati and Chornomorska Sitch, as well as independent players.

For more information about the Ukrainian American Select team e-mail boksoc@aol.com.

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UMANA holds second annual Spring Scientific Conference and family ski vacation

by George G. Kuritza

CRESTED BUTTE, Colo. – The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), Illinois Chapter, held its second annual Spring Scientific Conference and family ski vacation at the Crested Butte Club Med resort on Saturday, March 25, – Saturday, April 1. Forty-one UMANA members, families and/or associates participated in this year's event.

The purpose of this scientific assembly and ski vacation was to bring together members of the Ukrainian medical and scientific communities, their families, associates and friends for a week of an accredited scientific conference, as well as an enjoyable ski holiday. Early morning (7-9 a.m.) scientific sessions left ample time for skiing and other winter-related activities with family, friends and colleagues.

The educational format included large group lectures, which were followed by discussions with the course faculty. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits were awarded to the conference attendees.

This scientific conference was designed to provide a broad overview of various medical and scientific topics for the medical practitioner and other health-care professionals, who have a primary interest in general medicine, its various subspecialties, as well as medical science. Attendees had the opportunity to listen and learn from medical and scientific experts in various fields of medicine. In-depth lectures on various medical and scientific topics served to stimulate an open forum for discussion, and enhance clinical and diagnostic skills. Ample time was scheduled for questions in order to encourage dialogue between the participating faculty and course attendees.

Through its multifaceted curriculum of activities for participants, this event served to foster professional development through education and collegiality across multiple medical and scientific specialties. An outstanding faculty was selected based on their individual areas of expertise, their ability to communicate first-hand knowledge of their areas of specialty to others, and their commitment to address issues of current concern



Participants of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America Spring Scientific Conference and family ski vacation.

to attendees. Various interdisciplinary conference topics were chosen because of their general interest to the general cross-section of medical and scientific participants.

The following lecturers presented scientific conference topics:

- Yarko Maryniuk, M.D., emergency medicine specialist, Ventura, Calif., "High Altitude Illness";
- Myron Lewycky, M.D., ophthalmologist, Northwest Indiana – "Medical Mission Trips to Ukraine";
- Andriy Melnyk, M.D., pediatrician and geneticist, Chicago – "Forensic Genetics, the Science of Human Identification and Genetic Profiling by DNA Analysis: The Romanov Family, O. J. Simpson, Heorhii Gongadze";
- Victor Wowk, M.D., orthopedic surgeon, Washington, D.C. – "Winter Sports Injuries";
- George Kucyj, M.D., pathologist, Detroit – "Breast Pathology for the Non-Pathologist";
- Roman Saldan, M.D., anesthesiologist, Crystal Lake, Ill. – "Awareness During Anesthesia"; and
- Roman Dykun, M.D., otorhinolaryngologist, McHenry, Ill. – "Hearing Loss."

Club Med – Crested Butte is America's only totally all-inclusive family ski vacation with world-class skiing. It is a large and modern resort at the base of Crested Butte Mountain with ski-in/ski-out facilities, located in south-central Colorado just north of Gunnison.

Conference attendees and families enjoyed a full week of lift tickets, ski or snowboarding lessons for all – from beginners to experts, all gourmet meals and beverages served in a large buffet style, deluxe lodging and accommodations, and a full schedule of extracurricular activities for adults and kids, such as

NASTAR-style ski races, mountain barbecues and evening in-house entertainment.

The daytime weather was postcard perfect, with many days of cloudless skiing, warm temperatures (upper 40s) and cool evenings with many nights of snowfall. Families with children utilized the Club Med Kids' Club for 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ski lessons and/or baby sitting/supervision. Evenings were filled with camaraderie and entertainment including: cabarets, musicals, karaoke and various talent shows.

The organizers and the UMANA – Illinois chapter have vowed to continue this tradition, and to hold another scientific meeting next spring, on Saturday, March 25 – Sunday, April 2, 2007. For more details contact: George G. Kuritza, M.D., via e-mail, GKGuritza@AOL.com.



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

and passed a resolution proclaiming the city to be a "non-NATO territory," Interfax reported, quoting the press service of the Natalia Vitrenko Bloc. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Presence of foreign troops denied

KYIV – Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk told journalists in Kyiv on May 31 that there are no "foreign military units" on Ukrainian territory, UNIAN reported. Mr. Tarasyuk was referring to some reports claiming that a group of U.S. servicemen has disembarked in the Crimean port of Feodosiya, along with engineering equipment and construction materials brought by the U.S. Navy ship Advantage. Interfax reported on May 30 that 120 U.S. servicemen were staying at a Defense Ministry spa near Feodosiya. The visit of the U.S. ship to Feodosiya on May 27 has sparked anti-NATO protests in the city and a blockade of the port by several thousand people. The Ukrainian naval forces' press service said the Americans are going to build barracks, bathrooms and dining rooms at a training range near Feodosiya. Ukrainian sailors will use these facilities during the upcoming

Sea Breeze-2006 military exercise, which will reportedly involve soldiers from some 40 countries. The deployment of foreign troops on Ukrainian territory must be approved by the Verkhovna Rada for each individual case. In February, the previous Verkhovna Rada rejected a bill on staging the Sea Breeze-2006 exercise in Ukraine. The newly elected legislature is scheduled to gather for a session on June 7. Mr. Tarasyuk assured journalists that the government will make every effort to have a bill allowing the deployment of foreign troops passed by the Parliament before the planned exercise. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Coalition principles are disclosed

KYIV – Roman Bezsmertnyi, head of the Our Ukraine parliamentary caucus, said in a television interview on May 25 that coalition talks between Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party over the next two weeks will touch upon "the entire set of parliamentary and governmental posts," the Ukrayinska Pravda website reported. "I agree with my colleagues, Oleksander Moroz and Yulia Tymoshenko, who said today that the main thing is not posts, but principles," Mr. Bezsmertnyi added. He explained that, in forming the coalition, Our Ukraine will insist on the principle

that "all decisions should be made within the framework of the coalition." He added, "The second principle is obligatory control and counterbalances. That is, if the [parliamentary] committee for economic policy belongs to one faction, the post of economy minister belongs to another." Meanwhile, the daily Ukrayina Moloda wrote on May 26 that Our Ukraine is going to propose Petro Poroshenko for the post of Verkhovna Rada chairman, implying that the party has already accepted the reinstatement of Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister. "It is interesting that Our Ukraine has not foreseen the return of [acting Prime Minister] Yuriy Yekhanurov to the top echelons of the executive branch," wrote Ukrayina Moloda, which is edited by Mykhailo Doroshenko, a presidential adviser and close aide. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Senate endorses new envoy

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Senate endorsed the appointment of William Taylor as ambassador to Ukraine to replace John E. Herbst, who has been the U.S. envoy to Ukraine since 2003. President George W. Bush nominated Mr. Taylor for the post on May 3. Prior to this appointment Mr. Taylor was a senior consultant to the State Department's coordinator for reconstruction and stabilization. (Ukrinform)

Putin responds to U.S. criticism

SOCHI, Russia – At the European Union-Russia summit in Sochi on May 25, President Vladimir Putin made his first public response to recent criticism of Russian policies by U.S. Vice-President Richard Cheney, Interfax reported. Mr. Putin said that "the United States is one of our biggest partners. We value our relations with this country." He noted that "there are many ... spheres, including the anti-terrorist struggle, where nothing can substitute for the Russian-American partnership." Asked by reporters about Mr. Cheney's criticism of Russian policies toward Ukraine and some other countries, the Russian president replied, "As for our relations with other countries, we will discuss them directly with those countries." He added that Russia sees "how the United States defends its interests and what methods it uses." Mr. Putin argued that Russia similarly "searches for the most acceptable ways of solving its national tasks. I find it strange that someone can misunderstand this." He also said that, "if our Ukrainian partners say they are satisfied with energy agreements with Russia and see them as not just acceptable but as the only right solution, then how can the leaders of other countries say that this is bad?" (RFE/RL Newsline)

Language association created in Europe

KYIV – The European Congress of Ukrainians has decided to create a European Association of Ukrainian Language and Literature and organize an international Ukrainian-language camp for youth, Ukrinform's correspondent in Budapest reported on May 29. The decision was made at a meeting of the presidium of the European Congress of Ukrainians, which took place in the Hungarian capital. Ukraine's ambassador to Hungary, Dmytro Tkach, attended the meeting. The European Congress of Ukrainians unites 29 European organizations. The main task of the association will be to draft and implement a uniform system for studying the Ukrainian language in the diaspora, organize a process for studying the Ukrainian language as a foreign language, retrain teachers of Ukrainian language and literature, and share scholarly research in the area of Ukrainian studies. The international Ukrainian language camp for 150 children from the countries in which the European Congress of Ukrainians has operations will take place on the Greek island of Evia on September 1-10. (Ukrinform)

Petliura monument to be erected

KYIV – By Ukrainian Independence Day, which Ukraine will mark on August 24 for the 15th time, a monument will be erected in the capital city to Symon Petliura, an outstanding figure of the 1917-1921 liberation movement aimed at securing Ukraine's statehood. The Petliura monument will be located near the Mykhailo Hrushevsky monument, in the vicinity of the Teacher's Building, where in 1918 the Ukrainian National Republic's Central Rada was headquartered. According to the Ukrainian National Republic's last president in exile, Mykola Plawuk, commemorating Petliura, who was assassinated 80 years ago in Paris by an NKVD (the KGB's precursor) agent, will be an act of historical justice and a statesmanlike approach to restoring pages of Ukraine's modern history that were deliberately distorted by the totalitarian regime. (Ukrinform)

New Verkhovna Rada is sworn in

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of the fifth convocation, which was elected on

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 20)

March 26, gathered for its first session in Kyiv on May 25, Ukrainian media reported. Newly elected deputies took the oath of office, which was administered by the oldest parliamentarian, Ivan Herasymov of the Communist Party. (RFE/RL Newswire)

President sets out principles for Cabinet

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko addressed the inaugural session of the newly elected Verkhovna Rada on May 25, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Yushchenko said he will endorse the candidacy of a new prime minister proposed by a parliamentary coalition if a future Cabinet sticks to several “principles.” According to Mr. Yushchenko, Ukraine’s new Cabinet should work toward safeguarding the country’s development based on “European values,” consolidating the nation, boosting economic reforms, and securing the observance of human rights and freedoms. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Trade unions protest price hikes

KYIV – An estimated 10,000 people turned out for a protest meeting organized by the Trade Union Federation of Ukraine in Kyiv on May 24 against the government’s increase in tariffs for electricity and public services earlier this year, UNIAN and Reuters reported. Participants in the meeting adopted a resolution demanding that the government compensate people for the tariff hikes. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Institute of National Memory created

KYIV – The Institute of National Memory will be presided over by Academician Ihor Yukhnovskiyi, President Viktor Yushchenko said on May 22 at the Bykivnia forest on the outskirts of Kyiv during commemorations of the victims of the totalitarian regime. Before that, Mr. Yukhnovskiyi was co-chief of the Temporary Special Parliamentary Commission on Monitoring the Elections Law. On instructions of President Yushchenko, the government passed a resolution on the establishment of the Institute of National Memory. According to the Cabinet of Ministers’ decision, the newly established institute will be engaged in a number of activities, including realization of state policy in the sector of restoration and preservation of the national memory of the Ukrainian nation and the repressions of various periods, as well as dissemination of impartial information on the history of Ukraine. The committee will be also involved in efforts to commemorate victims of famines and political persecutions, as well as participants in the liberation movement. (Ukrinform)

Pastor recalls mayor’s first visit

KYIV – Pastor Sunday Adelaja, founder of the Pentecostal Embassy of God Church, explained how he became acquainted with new Kyiv mayor, Leonid Chernovetskyi, in a news item posted by ura.inform on May 10. “Leonid Chernovetskyi came to us for the first time 10 years ago,” said Pastor Adelaja. “As he told me later on, he visited our sermons because a great number of people gathered for them. At that time he was a candidate for deputy and he came to receive the votes of our parishioners. But, after listening to my sermon, he told me his tongue had not returned to him to ask me for support, and he left.” According to the pastor, Chernovetskyi became one of his parishioners, but since that time, though he attends the Embassy of God, he has never

paid the tithe. “All the parishioners of our Church pay a tithe, though we do not make them do this,” said Pastor Adelaja. “For 10 years I haven’t received a single penny from Leonid Chernovetskyi. He and I agreed not to discuss two issues: politics and finances. I do not want the Embassy of God to become somebody’s pocket Church when I am in Ukraine.” According to the pastor, after their discussions Mr. Chernovetskyi created a civic organization, Social Partnership, which provides the poor with food and, in this way, brings its offering to God. Pastor Adelaja refused to answer a question about his organization’s annual revenue, though he said that among Kyivan parishioners 30 percent pay the tithe. He added that in Kyiv the Church has 20,000 faithful, though approximately 250,000 consider themselves parishioners. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Ministry to oversee penitentiaries

KYIV – According to Justice Minister Serhii Holovaty, the Cabinet passed a resolution on May 17 to turn Ukrainian penitentiary institutions over to the Justice Ministry. Commenting on the decision, Mr. Holovaty said it was aimed at making inmates’ conditions more humane. There are 180 penal institutions in Ukraine, including 131 colonies, 19 settlement-colonies, 11 penal institutions for juveniles, 33 custodial facilities, five medical-labor corrective facilities and 21 hospitals, in which about 200,000 citizens are being kept. Subordinating Ukraine’s penitentiary system to the Justice Ministry was among the nation’s commitments in joining the Council of Europe. (Ukrinform)

Courts have final say on language

KYIV – The issue of whether some city and oblast councils’ resolutions to grant Russian the regional language status are legitimate rests with the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, said Mykola Poludennyi, an adviser to President Viktor Yushchenko and head of the Presidential Secretariat’s main service for legal policies. The authorities, he said on May 31, do not intend to use forcible means to solve the language problem. As reported earlier, resolutions granting the Russian language regional status were passed by the Kharkiv, Sevastopol, Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk city councils, and the Donetsk, Mykolaiv and Luhansk oblast councils. (Ukrinform)

Black Sea region news agencies unite

KYIV – Major news agencies from a dozen European nations established the Black Sea Association of National News Agencies (BSANNA) in Kyiv on May 30. The constituent conference’s participants

adopted a declaration on creating the BSANNA and adopting the association’s charter. The BSANNA, which is designed to overcome informational barriers and to create a common information space in the Pontic Region, incorporates Azertadj (Azerbaijan), ATA (Albania), Armenpress (Armenia), BTA (Bulgaria), Kavkaz-press (Georgia), Moldpress (Moldova), ITAR-TASS (Russia), Rompress (Romania), TANYUG (Serbia and Montenegro), ANA (Greece), ANADOLU Agency (Turkey) and Ukrinform (Ukraine). The Ukrainian national news agency, Ukrinform, initiated the BSANNA’s establishment. Ukrinform Director General Viktor Chamara has been elected as the BSANNA chairperson. BTRA General Director Maksim Minchev has been elected the BSANNA’s vice-chairperson. The BSANNA will hold its next session in Bulgaria in 2007. (Ukrinform)

YTB for three languages in Crimea

KYIV – It is essential to introduce three official languages, including Ukrainian, Russian and Tatar in Crimea, said the leader of the Crimean chapter of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), Andrii Senchenko. Speaking on May 16, he said a typical village in Crimea has Ukrainian, Russian and Tatar populations, which means that three different schools should be built there. Ukrainian authorities failed to jump at the chance to solve the language problem in Ukraine, Mr. Senchenko said. Thus far, the Luhansk and Donetsk oblast councils as well as the city councils of Kharkiv, Sevastopol, Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk have passed resolutions on granting Russian the status of a second regional language. (Ukrinform)

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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 & 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

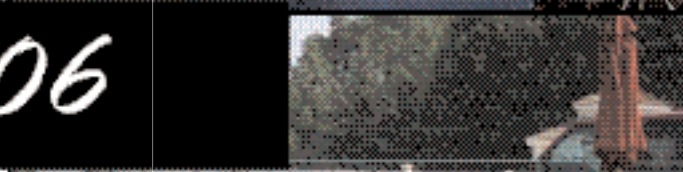
\$610- UNA Members, \$660- Non UNA Members + \$300 Instructors Fee Per Student

\$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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OUT AND ABOUT

June 6 New York	Memorial program in honor of Dr. Wolodymyr Stojko, Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130
June 9 Chicago	Chicago Sister Cities International Program, featuring Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Daley Plaza, gkarawan@sbcglobal.net or 312-744-2172
June 9-24 Montclair, NJ	Neil Simon's play "Fools," comedy about a Ukrainian village cursed with 200 years of stupidity, Studio Playhouse, 973-744-9752
June 11-August 27 New York	Jacques Hnizdovsky exhibit, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
June 10 Ambler, PA	Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub Golf Tournament, Limelkin Golf Club, 215-914-1251 or 215-343-5412
June 16-18 Yonkers, NY	Ukrainian Heritage Festival, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 914-375-4418 or 914-310-0551
June 18 Horsham, PA	Father's Day celebration, featuring Voloshky dancers, Karpaty orchestra and USAF Thunderbirds at Willow Grove Air-Show, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412
June 20 London, ON	Volyn Ukrainian Song and Dance Company, Grand Theater, 416-521-9555
June 21 Hamilton, ON	Volyn Ukrainian Song and Dance Company, Hamilton Place Theater, 416-521-9555
June 23 Glendale, CA	"God Bless America - In Honor of All Who Served," concert featuring bass Stefan Szkafarowsky and Ukrainian National Choir Kobzar, Alex Theater, 818-243-2539 or 909-860-2102

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers; please send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows; photos will be considered. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each.



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Soyuzivka's Datebook

June 5-9, 2006 Eparchial Clergy Retreat	July 16-22, 2006 Discovery Camp, Session #2 SCUBA Diving Course
June 10, 2006 Wedding	July 23-28, 2006 Children's Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp, Session #2
June 11-16, 2006 UNA Seniors' Conference	July 23-29, 2006 Ukrainian Stitch Sports Camp Session #1
June 16-18, 2006 3rd Annual Adoption Weekend	July 23-August 5, 2006 Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #1
June 17, 2006 Wedding	July 30-August 5, 2006 Ukrainian Stitch Sports Camp Session #2
June 18, 2006 Father's Day Luncheon and Program	July 31-August 4, 2006 Golf Day Camp and Beach Volleyball Day Camp
June 23-24, 2006 Plast Kurin "Shostokryli" Rada	August 5, 2006 Dance Camp Session #1 Recital, Auction Fund-Raiser sponsored by Chornomorski Khvyli and Soyuzivka's Heritage Foundation Golf Tournament
June 24, 2006 Wedding	August 6-19, 2006 Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #2
June 25-July 2, 2006 Tabir Ptashat Session #1	August 12, 2006 Miss Soyuzivka Contest followed by zabava with Tempo
June 25-July 7, 2006 Tennis Camp	August 19, 2006 Dance Camp Session #2 Recital, followed by zabava with Fata Morgana
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	

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

Sunday, June 18

HORSHAM, Pa.: The popular Father's Day Ukrainian Folk Festival will commence at noon here at the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, located at Lower State and County Line roads. A stage show featuring the Voloshky School of Ukrainian Dance and various folk musicians, including the Karpaty Dance Band, will take place at 2 p.m. A dance ("zabava") to the tunes of the orchestra will follow the stage show. There will be plentiful Ukrainian ethnic foods (varenyky, holubtsi and kovbasa), picnic fare and refreshments. The center's grounds offer a good view of the aerial acrobatics of the Willow Grove Military Base's 2006 Airshow, featuring the USAF Thunderbirds. Admission: \$5 for adults; free for children 13 and under. UASC Tryzub is a tax-exempt non-profit corporation. Proceeds benefit cultural programming and youth soccer.

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.

Friday-Sunday, June 23-25

ELLENVILLE, N.Y.: The Organization for Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine Inc. invites all to the sixth annual Lemko Vatra in the U.S., which will take place at the campgrounds of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM). The program includes a soccer game at 2 p.m. on Saturday, followed by official opening ceremonies and a concert beginning at 3 p.m. Afterwards there will be a pig roast at 4:30 p.m. and a bonfire (vatra) with the main concert beginning at 6 p.m. There will be two dances at 9 p.m. featuring the Halychany and Chetverta Khvyliya bands. Sunday's program includes divine liturgy at 10 a.m., a lecture at 2 p.m. by Katherine Mycio, followed by a concert spotlighting Akkolada and other performers, and closing ceremonies at 5 p.m.. For information call 973-772-3344 or 203-762-5912, or e-mail vatrausa@aol.com.

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. 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. 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.

The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement.

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;
 - a photo of the graduate (optional);
 - payment for the ad;
 - your daytime phone number.

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

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:
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Parsippany, NJ 07054
Attn. Maria Oscislawski

Or e-mail: adsukrpubl@att.net

For further information, please call (973) 292-9800 ext. 3040 (Maria O.) or visit www.ukrweekly.com