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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Rada in crisis as new pro-Russian coalition is formed

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's government plunged into crisis as pro-Russian groups led by the Party of the Regions announced they had formed a parliamentary coalition on July 11, while their pro-Western opponents called for a dismissal of the Verkhovna Rada and new parliamentary elections.

The pro-Russian Anti-Crisis Coalition was formed just days after Socialist Party of Ukraine leader Oleksander Moroz betrayed the pro-Western Orange coalition agreement he had signed with the Our Ukraine and Yulia Tymoshenko blocs.

In opening the Verkhovna Rada's July 11 session, Mr. Moroz immediately declared the democratic coalition null and void, throwing the Parliament into chaos as pro-Western politicians began brawling and resorting to any measures needed to obstruct the day's work.

"I turn to television viewers and radio listeners: Do you see who doesn't want the Verkhovna Rada to work, bringing in megaphones and other devices to the session hall?" Mr. Moroz asked amidst ear-piercing sirens sounded by Our Ukraine and Tymoshenko Bloc deputies.

"The issue is not resolving political matters and passing the necessary laws. The issue is that certain people, at any

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AP/Sergiy Chuzavkov

National deputies fight in the Verkhovna Rada during the July 11 session after the newly elected Parliament chairman, Oleksander Moroz, announced the formation of the Anti-Crisis Coalition of pro-Russian political parties.

Oleksander Moroz's surprise

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – It had come as a shock to most Ukrainians.

Socialist Party of Ukraine National Deputy Yosyp Vinskyi announced on the afternoon of July 6 that the party's chairman, Oleksander Moroz, had betrayed the democratic coalition he had entered into with Roman Bezsmertnyi of Our Ukraine and Yulia Tymoshenko of the eponymous bloc.

As part of the parliamentary coalition agreement, the Socialists were supposed to support Our Ukraine's nominee for chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, no matter who it was.

"Socialist national deputies and Moroz personally created a system of absurd, imagined and unjustifiable arguments as justification for their anti-party position," stated Mr. Vinskyi, who was first secretary of the Socialist Party's Political Council until he resigned in protest to what he saw as Mr. Moroz's betrayal of the party.

"The goal of these arguments was to hide the true intention of a part of the faction, which is trying to form a coalition with the Party of the Regions," Mr.

Vinskyi added.

Just a few hours later, the Socialists nominated Mr. Moroz as their candidate for the Verkhovna Rada chair, a position he had coveted ever since he lost it in

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Zenon Zawada

Newly elected Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz.

President tries to stay above the fray, wants Rada to resume legitimate work

KYIV — The Press Office of President Viktor Yushchenko released a statement on July 12 on the recent events in the Verkhovna Rada. Ivan Vasiunyk, first deputy chief of staff, told the media that the president wants the Parliament to resume legitimate work and added that continued negotiations with parliamentary parties is imperative, as is the nomination of a "non-controversial" prime minister.

According to the press release, President Yushchenko believes that deputies should observe the Constitution of Ukraine and Ukrainian laws, set national interests as priorities, search for compromises, and be ready to tolerantly, publicly and unemotionally start a dialogue in order to resolve the existing problems.

Commenting on the recent change in coalitions, President Yushchenko said, "Unfortunately, we all see that politicians have not learned to implement those agreements but make political decisions secretly 'under the table'."

In response to the change in the majority coalition in the Verkhovna Rada,

President Yushchenko proposed the following steps: convening the Constitutional Court as the only institution that can settle legal collisions and the nomination of a non-controversial prime minister.

"Yesterday's events in the Verkhovna Rada show that this questionable political performance in Parliament ... obviously contradicts the fundamentals of the European parliamentary culture and Ukrainian laws. It is particularly important in Ukraine, whose new Constitution requires exceptional understanding and knowledge of democratic mechanisms," said Mr. Vasiunyk.

Mr. Vasiunyk added that the president was "indignant that decisions in Parliament were made under pressure with bribery and subornation involved, and so he urges all the forces in Parliament to discard such agreements and decisions, for they devalue democracy, devalue Ukrainian government and promote huge political corruption in Parliament."

"All attempts to contradict the logic of national reunion, including legal and

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ANALYSIS

A fatal blow to the Orange coalition?

by Jan Maksymiuk
RFE/RL Newsline
July 7

The Verkhovna Rada on July 6 resumed its work after 10 days of a blockade organized by lawmakers from the Party of the Regions. In an unexpected move, the Ukrainian Parliament elected Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz as its speaker.

Mr. Moroz was elected by lawmakers from the Party of Regions and the Communist Party, while his anticipated coalition allies – the Yuliya Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine – shunned the vote.

Does the choice of the speaker spell an end to the Orange coalition deal reached in June, after three months of uneasy talks?

An impasse emerged in the Parliament on June 27, when lawmakers from the Party of the Regions led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych blocked the rostrum in and entrance to the Verkhovna Rada hall, thus preventing lawmakers of the coalition from opening a session.

Several days earlier, on June 22, the three allies in the 2004 Orange Revolution – the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (129 seats), Our Ukraine (81 seats), and the Socialist Party (33 seats) – signed a coalition deal, following three months of negotiations.

Regarding the distribution of top government posts, Ms. Tymoshenko was to assume the post of prime minister, while Petro Poroshenko from Our Ukraine was to become Rada chairman. The Socialist Party was entitled under the deal to the post of first deputy prime minister.

Some of the would-be coalition partners were visibly unhappy about the June deal to recreate the Orange government that collapsed in September 2005, after then-Prime Minister Tymoshenko accused then-National Security and Defense Council Secretary Poroshenko of corruption practices and encroaching upon her executive prerogatives. Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Poroshenko, the fiercest enemies in the 2005 feud, were again to assume top government posts, and many saw in this the seeds of a future conflict.

Socialist Party leader Moroz, who aspired to become Rada chairman after the March 26 parliamentary elections, was also apparently unhappy with the fact that this post was offered to Mr. Poroshenko.

And there was the Party of the Regions, which unsuccessfully tried to strike a coalition deal with Our Ukraine in mid-June. After it became clear that the former Orange allies might recreate their governing alliance, the Party of the Regions launched a blockade of the Parliament hall. The blockade was in protest against what the Yanukovych-led party saw as an unlawful scheme to appoint the prime minister and parliamentary speaker in a single, open vote, and against the coalition's failure to offer the opposition sufficient positions on legislative committees.

But the Party of the Regions agreed to lift its parliamentary blockade on July 6, after reportedly reaching an agreement with the Orange Revolution allies. According to this agreement, the election of the Rada chair was to be conducted in a secret ballot, and the opposition – that is, the Party of the Regions and the Communist Party – was offered leadership positions on 50 percent of parliamentary committees.

When everybody thought that the Verkhovna Rada would proceed with approving Mr. Poroshenko as speaker, Mr. Moroz was suddenly proposed as a

candidate for this post. Mr. Poroshenko withdrew his candidacy, calling Moroz's move a betrayal of the coalition deal reached on June 22. Mr. Moroz was approved as chairman with 238 votes exclusively from his party, the Party of the Regions and the Communist Party.

"There is a new coalition. Let them work, while we will be in opposition," Our Ukraine leader Roman Bezsmertnyi commented on what happened in the Verkhovna Rada on July 6.

Ms. Tymoshenko did not comment directly on the election of Mr. Moroz, adding only that she does not understand what is going on.

Meanwhile, Mr. Moroz explained his election as Parliament chairman by his intention to heal the west-east division in Ukrainian society deepened by the 2004 Orange Revolution and the 2006 parliamentary elections.

"We must reduce this tension, which has been artificially created; we must end the split we now see in Ukraine. I'm sure we can overcome this problem. I'm even more sure that we can bring together those who see themselves as the victors and those who see themselves as the vanquished," Mr. Moroz said.

How Mr. Moroz is going to achieve this goal is not immediately clear. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, with its political-support base in western Ukraine, has repeatedly and firmly declared that it will not enter any governing coalition with the Party of the Regions, which is entrenched in eastern and southern Ukraine.

Most likely, Mr. Moroz is expecting that a new "grand" coalition would include Our Ukraine along with the Regions and the Socialists. Only such an alliance could give some credibility to his claim about healing Ukraine's west-east rift.

Could Our Ukraine enter a ruling coalition with its fiercest political opponent, the Party of the Regions? Such an option was suggested by Our Ukraine itself in mid-June, when the pro-presidential bloc turned to Mr. Yanukovych's party to discuss the formation of a new government. There is reportedly a significant group of politicians in Our Ukraine, including acting Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, who prefer to form a government with the Regions rather than with the Tymoshenko Bloc.

What other options are available for Ukraine?

A ruling coalition could be created by the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party. The three parties jointly control 240 votes in the 450-seat legislature. But such a coalition would hardly contribute anything substantial to healing the Ukrainian political split.

If Ukrainian lawmakers fail to approve a new prime minister and Cabinet by July 25, President Viktor Yushchenko will have the right to disband the Verkhovna Rada and call for new elections. But last week, Mr. Yushchenko ruled out such a possibility. "There will be no repeat elections. It is an excessively expensive pleasure for the country and an inappropriate price [to pay] for the ambitions of some politicians," he said in a radio address on July 1.

The Verkhovna Rada on July 7 postponed its session until next week, apparently not knowing how to resolve its coalition-building conundrum.

It seems that the Ukrainian political elite is now waiting for a word from President Yushchenko. It was he who reportedly advised Our Ukraine in June against forging a coalition with the Party of the Regions. Perhaps this time, in order to avoid repeat elections, he will urge Our Ukraine to take this step.

NEWSBRIEFS**Former allies react to Moroz's election**

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, whose eponymous bloc was part of the Orange coalition, responded on July 7 to the election of Oleksander Moroz by calling on President Viktor Yushchenko to disband Parliament. The same day, the deputy head of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine faction, Roman Zvarych, said that Our Ukraine will consider leaving any democratic coalition in which the Socialists participate and instead become an opposition party. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moroz announces new coalition

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada speaker Oleksander Moroz on July 11 announced the creation of a new coalition, which includes lawmakers from the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party, Interfax reported. Mr. Moroz also notified the Parliament of the dissolution of the Orange coalition. Yulia Tymoshenko, the head of the eponymous bloc and the leader of the dissolved coalition, described the new coalition on July 10 as "an illegal majority." The Socialist Party, Ms. Tymoshenko argued, endorsed Orange principles and the Communist Party pledged to fight against corruption, but both formations joined "the clan of criminal oligarchs." The Parliament session descended into chaos as lawmakers scuffled before the new coalition was announced, and afterwards Orange parties' members blocked the rostrum preventing further debate. Lawmakers from President Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine party appealed to the president to call new elections. Viktor Yanukovych, the leader of the Party of the Regions, said his party does not support elections, but does not fear them. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada session erupts into chaos

KYIV – Members of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc successfully disrupted the July 11 session of the Verkhovna Rada, using megaphones equipped with sirens to drown out Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz, international news agencies reported. Scuffles broke out when members of the Socialist Party

attempted to seize the megaphones, and when members of the Party of the Regions and the Tymoshenko Bloc jostled in their efforts to control the rostrum. The Tymoshenko Bloc was protesting the recent formation of the Anti-Crisis Coalition, comprising the Socialist Party, the Party of the Regions and the Communist Party. During the session, Socialist Party Chairman Moroz officially announced the alliance. Two weeks earlier, the Socialist Party joined the Orange coalition with Our Ukraine and the Tymoshenko Bloc. Mr. Moroz reportedly sent the new coalition's nomination for prime minister – Party of Regions Chairman Viktor Yanukovych – to President Viktor Yushchenko. Outside the Parliament building, more than 1,000 supporters of the Party of the Regions gathered to support the new coalition and Mr. Yanukovych's candidacy for the prime ministership. They held placards such as: "Broad Coalition – Guarantor of State Stability," "Yulia, Calm Down" and "Viktors, Unite Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Coalition's legitimacy questioned

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has questioned the legitimacy of the coalition created by the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party, Interfax reported on July 11, quoting presidential administration head Oleh Rybachuk. Mr. Rybachuk said that the formation of the new Anti-Crisis Coalition violates the Constitution of Ukraine and the Parliament's regulations. Under the regulations, any participant that wants to leave a coalition is required to inform his partners about the move 10 days in advance. Mr. Rybachuk also noted that the president on July 25 will have the right to dissolve Parliament if a government is not formed by that time. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko expects new elections

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko announced on July 11 that her bloc does not intend to participate in future Parliament sessions and is preparing for new elections,

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COMMENTARY: The situation in Ukraine: What is at stake?

by Stephen Velychenko

Although the Party of the Regions is commonly called an “opposition” party this is a misnomer that carries with it erroneous implications and assumptions that will lead to erroneous assessments and judgments. The Party is rather a “restorationist” party that will destroy Ukrainian democracy and threaten European security if its leaders come to power again and turn Ukraine into another Belarus.

For all its faults, there is no alternative to the Orange Coalition whose members are trying to peacefully destroy Europe’s second-to-last imperial era “old regime” elite and, therefore, merit support.

Ukrainians re-emerged on Europe’s political map in 1991 after more than 200 years of direct foreign political rule imposed by military might. Between 1709 and 1711, then between 1918 and 1921, and again between 1944 and 1950 Russia invaded Ukraine three times in a series of bloody wars that tied Ukraine to the tsarist and then Soviet empires.

Under Russian rule Ukrainians got Russian-style serfdom, Siberian exile, governmental prohibition of publishing and teaching in the native language, terror and Famine-Genocide. When in 1991 Ukraine emerged as an independent state there was no “liberation war.” Consequently the imperial or “old regime” elites were not exiled or executed.

They remained in power until 2004 and since then have retained positions of influence to such a degree that they can keep their own out of jail. Their constituency, meanwhile, is the product of Soviet migration policies that directed Russians into and Ukrainians out of Ukraine.

This immigration and “ethnic dilution,” combined with deportations and millions of unnatural Ukrainian deaths between 1917 and 1947, created large Russian-speaking urban enclaves in the country’s four easternmost provinces.

In addition, educational and media policies channeled upwardly mobile non-Russian rural migrants into Russian-speaking culture and allowed urban Russians to live, work and satisfy their cultural/spiritual needs without having to use or learn Ukrainian.

Second- and third-generation urban Russian immigrants and assimilated migrants spoke in Russian, lived in a Russian public-sphere and were Moscow- oriented culturally and intellectually. After 1991 most of the urban population accepted Ukrainian independence, but few changed their Russian language-use or intellectual/cultural orientation.

Since 1991 an increasing percentage of Russians and Russian-speakers see Ukraine as their native country. However, in 2005, whereas only 6 percent of Ukrainians still saw themselves as “Soviet citizens,” the percentage for Russians was 18 percent, and while 2 percent of Ukrainians still did not regard Ukraine as their native country, 9 percent of Russians in Ukraine did not.

This means that a percentage of the population in Ukraine today, of whom most are Russian, supports foreign rule

over the territory in which they live – much as did once the French in Algeria, the Germans in Bohemia and Poland, the Portuguese in Angola and the English in Ireland.

This anomie and nostalgia for empire of some Russian speakers would be harmless if not for Ukraine’s neo-Soviet political leaders who exploit it to maintain their bygone imperial-era power in a post-colonial state. Both would be manageable if leaders in Russia, the former imperial power, were able to resign themselves to the loss of their empire, and like the British, help the new national government rather than its imperial-era collaborators. Vladimir Putin is no Charles de Gaulle – who realized in the end that French settlers had to leave Algeria.

Ukraine’s neo-Soviet leaders are organized in four major groups with varying degrees of support covert and overt from Russia and its government – whose ambassador in Kyiv is not known to ever have made a speech in Ukrainian. Ukraine’s Communists and the Natalia Vitrenko Bloc openly advocate the abrogation of Ukraine’s independence and its reincorporation into a revamped imperial Russian-dominated USSR.

The Russian Orthodox Church, which claims an estimated 50 percent of Ukraine’s Orthodox, is not only led by a patriarch in Moscow, in a foreign country, who sits in the Putin government, but is dominated by its chauvinistic, anti-Semitic fringe. This Church does not recognize Ukrainians as a distinct nationality, it publicly supports Ukraine’s Communists, and it fielded priests to run in elections.

In June 2003 the Russian patriarch gave the leader of Ukraine’s Communist Party the Church’s “Order of Prince Vladimir.” No more than 8 percent of Ukraine’s voters back these old Communist Party leaders.

The more serious threat to Ukraine is posed by its fourth major neo-Soviet group – the Party of the Regions. Although 2004 and 2006 election results suggest approximately one-third of all voters in 2006 supported the Party of the Regions, these returns are dubious.

First, they are a product of documented coercion, intimidation and covert operations – albeit smaller in scope and scale than was the case in 2004.

Second, they are based on “machine politics” in Ukraine’s eastern provinces where, controlling the local administration and manufacturing, the party can offer people fearing poverty and insecurity short-term material incentives in return for votes.

Third, they are based on a lingering Soviet-style cradle-to-grave enterprise-paternalism, still stronger in eastern than western Ukraine, that allows managers and owners to politically blackmail their employees – much as “company-town” owners did in 19th century Western Europe and America.

How strong the party would be in Ukraine’s east without the dirty tricks, machine politics and neo-feudal enterprise-paternalist-based intimidation is difficult to determine. But it would have less than one-third of the seats in the country’s Parliament.

The party ostensibly supports Ukrainian independence inasmuch as its leaders regard Ukraine as a territory that they should control as a “blackmail state” – just as they controlled it up to 2004. Yet, its anti-constitutional advocacy of

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FOR THE RECORD

Orange Circle issues statement on recent political events in Ukraine

In response to recent political events in Ukraine, the board of directors of the Orange Circle, a non-partisan, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization headquartered in New York, on July 10 approved the following statement.

1) While the Orange democratic coalition has disintegrated, the effects of the Orange Revolution are permanent. The values of the Orange Revolution have remade Ukraine and created the basis for a more pluralistic society with free media, divided power among the branches of government, and freed economic activity from government intimidation and blackmail. The Orange Revolution stands as a reminder that society will not tolerate the erosion of its hard-won rights, and anyone who holds power will be reticent to test the public’s capacity to mobilize in defense of its rights.

2) Contrary to views of critics, the year and a half since the maidan has not been wasted. The private sector has grown more diverse, prosperous and influential; many business leaders have become less politically engaged; real incomes are up significantly; property values are booming; a middle class is expanding; cultural and intellectual discourse has blossomed; media have deepened their independent roots; a nationwide democratic election based on open contestation and a level playing field was held; society and government are more transparent as corrupt schemes and conflicts of interest have been exposed.

3) There are important forces in the Regions and Socialist parties that understand Ukraine’s future is in European integration and in the acceptance of the social, market and democratic values of the prosperous West. However, in the circumstances of a likely Regions-Communist-Socialist coalition, there will be serious dangers that anti-democratic and anti-Western voices, as well as those who were involved with the criminal falsification of elections, will have significant influence in the new ruling team and on policy. That anti-democratic influence can only be overcome by the consolidation of supporters of the Orange Revolution’s democratic values around the president of Ukraine, who retains significant powers and is responsible for the security of the country and its foreign and defense policy.

4) The Orange Coalition collapsed as

a result of great personal ambitions and the failure to compromise for the sake of the common good. Today, when vigilance on behalf of democracy is crucial, those in Ukraine who supported the Orange Revolution need to set aside personal ambitions and consolidate around the president as the guardian of democratic values.

5) The immediate and most crucial challenge to be faced is the struggle for Ukraine’s heart and soul. To strengthen its integrity as an independent nation, Ukraine must preserve its distinct national identity and the primacy of the Ukrainian language and culture. That challenge will be faced by the government and the president, but its outcome will be determined by civic discourse, by media, and largely by ordinary Ukrainian citizens and the private sector. Whatever the course of events in the coming days, the friends of democratic Ukraine have a huge obligation and opportunity now to offer assistance and support for those democratic values.

6) Today, as never before, those around the world who supported the Orange Revolution must join together to support Ukraine’s reform voices and to work with them, wherever they emerge. Today, as never before, friends of democracy in Ukraine must work together to strengthen the international standing and influence of President Yushchenko, who is chief standard-bearer of democratic values, economic vitality and a Western orientation for Ukraine.

Headquartered in New York, with representation in Kyiv, the Orange Circle is a non-partisan, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization that advocates Ukraine’s integration into global and European institutions. The Orange Circle promotes investment in Ukraine, works to strengthen democratic values and market reform in Ukraine, and engages Ukraine’s leaders in dialogue with their counterparts in North America and Europe.

Our mission is to champion and advance the values that were at the core of Ukraine’s Orange Revolution: democracy, honest and transparent government, and pro-market reform, and to accomplish this through the promotion of policy exchanges with Ukraine’s top government officials, business leaders and poli-

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Quotable notes

“... the whole world closely followed the events on the maidan [Independence Square in Kyiv, the epicenter of the Orange Revolution].

“The United States was among the most ardent supporters of this democratic movement toward Ukraine’s prosperity and well-being. Over the last 18-20 months, relations between the U.S.A. and Ukraine have been developing much more dynamically and comprehensively than ever before.

“Our interest in Ukraine stems from Ukraine’s own strengths, from the realization of its value as a nation and of the significance of its objectives. It would also be fair to say that the success of Ukrainian democracy, its secure borders and its growing economy will set a good example, a model case for the entire region.

“The U.S. president and secretary of state agree regarding the great importance that the U.S. attaches to success stories of democratic choice made by people in different countries. It is well manifested in Ukraine, whose experience is most valuable for Ukrainians and the international community-at-large.

“We in the United States believe that democratic governments are much more effective than non-democratic ones in expediting their national interests and establishing good relations with their neighbors. ...”

– William Taylor, U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, in an interview with Yulia Mostovaya of the online version of Zerkalo Nedeli, July 1-7.

Stephen Velychenko is a resident fellow at the Center for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies and research fellow at the Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto. This commentary was originally published in Action Ukraine Report on July 6.

Hospital opens in Tomashhorod to serve communities contaminated by Chornobyl

by Evhenia Medvedenko

TOMASHHOROD, Ukraine – Despite a driving rainstorm that briefly disrupted their festivities, the townspeople of Tomashhorod in northern Rivne Oblast celebrated the opening of a new ambulatory hospital in their village made possible by a grant from the government of Japan and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) – Chornobyl Recovery and Reconstruction Project.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony took place on June 9 with representatives of the regional and village government, UNDP, local residents and international organizations in attendance.

Speaking on behalf of the UNDP, Dr. Pavlo Zamostyan expressed the satisfaction of his colleagues in seeing this clinic open after a great deal of hard work and fund-raising. He wished the townspeople of Tomashhorod the very best of health: “May you and your children avoid all diseases, and only use this clinic for preventive purposes as much as possible.”

Dr. Zamostyan praised the efforts of the village elders and especially the vision and determination of Tomashhorod’s dynamic young mayor, Ivan Vlasyk, who helped to bring this hospital to completion.

Among the other guests taking part in the opening ceremony were Dr. Viktor Kovaliov, the assistant minister of health for the Rivne Oblast; Oksana Zalipska, the

director of Chornobyl recovery programs for the Rivne Oblast Administration Office of Emergency Preparedness; and Alexander Kuzma, the executive director of the U.S.-based Children of Chornobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF).

Dr. Zamostyan, Ms. Zalipska and Mr. Kuzma were invited to cut the ribbon for the new hospital.

The international guests were greeted by a large contingent of local schoolchildren attired in Ukrainian national costumes and a folk ensemble that regaled them with traditional songs from the region.

The new clinic will serve the growing population of the Rokytenskyi-Tomashhorod District of northern Rivne Oblast that received relatively heavy amounts of radioactive fallout from the Chornobyl nuclear disaster. The soil in this region is relatively poor and marshy, leading to a heavy uptake of radioactive particles in the plants and dairy products. Most families also supplement their diets with berries, mushrooms and meats from wild animals that also concentrate high amounts of radiation. Despite many health problems, the population of this district has continued to grow, with an unusually high number of families with 10 or more children.

In anticipation of the 20th anniversary

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Alexander Kuzma of the Children of Chornobyl Relief and Development Fund, Oksana Zalipska from the Rivne Oblast Administration, and Dr. Pavlo Zamostyan of the United Nations Development Program.



Schoolchildren from Tomashhorod and from the Rokytne District welcome guests at the opening ceremonies for their new ambulatory hospital funded by the government of Japan and the United Nations Development Program.

Reunited cousins remember Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky



A woodcut of Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky by Andriy Maday is flanked by Dr. Tatiana Nikolic (left) and Christina Dawydowycz Gamota, grandnieces of the Ukrainian Catholic Church leader beatified by Pope John Paul II.

by Peter T. Woloschuk

BOSTON – “Having a saint in the family is a tremendous honor and a heavy responsibility,” said Christina Dawydowycz Gamota of Lexington, Mass., as she and her cousin Dr. Tatiana Nikolic of Zagreb, Croatia, caught up on family history and news and talked about their great uncle Bishop Vasyl Vsevolod Velychkovsky, CSsR, of Lutsk, who died in Winnipeg in 1973 and was beatified by Pope John Paul II during his visit to Ukraine in June 2001.

The two cousins had met briefly in Zagreb in the early 1990s, but this was their first opportunity to really get to know each other. Dr. Nikolic had come to North America to attend a medical conference in Toronto and then took the opportunity to visit family and friends in Buffalo, N.Y., Boston, New York City and Washington.

“Our family today, like many Ukrainian families, is scattered all over the world,” Dr. Nikolic said, “and we have branches in Canada, the United States, Argentina, Belgium, Croatia and Ukraine. We trace our roots to three old Galician priestly families, the Dawydowyczs, the Teodorovychs and the Velychkovskys, who have provided the Ukrainian Catholic Church with priests and sisters for more than 400 years.”

“Priests from our family have served all over western Ukraine, in Canada and in the United States as both eparchial clergy and in the Basilian and Redemptorist religious orders,” she continued, “and the nuns in our family in both the Basilian and Redemptorist orders have also served in western Ukraine, Yugoslavia, Belgium and the United States and, in many instances, were ihumenas of their monasteries. In fact, the first group of Basilian sisters to come to the United States was led by one of my cousins, Mother Josephata Teodorovych.”

“The family has a history of dedication to the Ukrainian Catholic Church and there was even a tradition that when one of the priestly members of the family died his wife would enter the convent,” Mrs. Gamota added.

Dr. Nikolic went on: “My grandmother was Bishop Velychkovsky’s sister, and their father was a priest in Stanyslaviv.

She met my grandfather in Lviv while he was studying architecture at the university. He was a Serb from Zagreb and converted to Ukrainian Catholicism in order to marry my grandmother. After he completed his studies, the two settled in Zagreb. They continued to speak Ukrainian among themselves, and they taught my father and the rest of the family as well.”

“My grandparents were very pious and attended liturgy daily, and each one took time for meditation and said the rosary every morning and evening,” Dr. Nikolic said. “They also maintained contact with Ukraine and followed the tragic fate of the Church and of my great uncle very closely. When my great uncle was in Vorkuta both my grandmother and my father petitioned the Soviet leaders and the Supreme Soviet for his pardon and release, and repeatedly indicated their desire to have him with them in Zagreb.”

“My father is also a doctor and was the head of his department at the University of Zagreb medical school, and he used his position as much as possible to work for my great uncle’s release,” Dr. Nikolic recalled.

“I was only 4 when my family got word that Uncle Vasya had been released and was on his way to Zagreb. I remember that my father had to go to the airport to collect our famous relative and I remember his flowing beard and his kind voice,” she said.

“His eyes were always tearing up and I remember my grandmother telling me that Uncle Vasya had been tortured and that he had been injected with chemicals to weaken him and even to cause a premature death. It was said in the family that the Soviets released Uncle Vasya after they had destroyed his health because they didn’t want a martyr on their hands and yet they also didn’t want him to live too long in the West so that he could be a witness against them.”

“Uncle Vasya stayed with us a few weeks,” Dr. Nikolic continued, “and then my father accompanied him by train to Rome, where he spent time with Cardinal [Josyf] Slipyj before moving on to Winnipeg, where he was the guest of his fellow Redemptorist, Metropolitan [Maxim] Hermaniuk. When Uncle Vasya was beatified by the pope in Lviv my

(Continued on page 20)

OBITUARY: Andrew Keybida, 89, community leader, former UNA advisor

MAPLEWOOD, N.J. – Andrew Keybida, a leading Ukrainian community activist in New Jersey and a former supreme advisor of the Ukrainian National Association, died here on July 5. He was 89.

Mr. Keybida was a UNA advisor for 16 years and secretary of UNA Branch 322 for over 35 years.

He retired in 1987 as vice-president and co-owner of Eastern Commodities Co. of Manasquan, N.J.

He served for five years in the U.S. Army, retiring with the rank of captain. Mr. Keybida was in the Asiatic-Pacific theater on Guadalcanal for two years. In 2001 he was awarded the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal.

On June 3, 1984, Pope John Paul II bestowed the papal distinction of Knight of St. Gregory the Great on Mr. Keybida in recognition of his dedicated and unselfish service to his parish and the Ukrainian community.

Mr. Keybida was the recipient of the prestigious James Gyuries Humanitarian Award given by the N.J. State Catholic War Veterans State Department, in recognition of his performance in the

field of human welfare for 10 years. He received the coveted “For God” award from the Essex County Catholic War Veterans.

He was a trustee of St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church for 35 years; chairman of the school, church and gymnasium building funds; president and member of the Holy Name Society; member of St. John’s Catholic War Veterans; and national officer and member of the Ukrainian American Veterans Post 17.

He was a member of the Maplewood Senior Citizens’ Housing Advisory Committee; member of the Maplewood Republican Party and trustee of the Durand-Hadden House and Garden Association of Maplewood. He was a member of the South Mountain District board of directors of the Boy Scouts of America and served on many other committees and fund-raising efforts in Maplewood. He was the recipient of the 1993 Maple Leaf Award sponsored by the Maplewood Civic Association in recognition of his volunteer service to the community.

He was a member of the board of

directors of the Trident Federal Savings and Loan Association; president of the New Jersey Fraternal Congress; president of the Ukrainian American Republican Committee of New Jersey; member of the Essex County Republican Advisory Board; member of the 15th District Republican Committeeman in Maplewood; and served as campaign manager of Republican candidates on the local, state and national levels. He was the Ukrainian representative for the N.J. Governor’s Ethnic Advisory Council for 10 years and served as chairman of the Education Subcommittee.

A native of Clifton, N.J. he lived in Maplewood, N.J., for 50 years.

He was the beloved husband of 63 years to Evelyn (née Kalakura); father of Andrea Severini and Dr. Robert Keybida with his wife, Diane; and grandfather of Christopher and Melissa Keybida, and Lauren and Thomas Severini, with his wife, Michele.

The funeral liturgy was held on Monday, July 10, at St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J. Interment followed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover, N.J.



Andrew Keybida

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to: St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, 719 Sanford Ave., Newark, NJ.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Adoptive Parents weekend held at Soyuzivka



Roma Lisovich

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The third annual weekend for American families who have adopted children from Ukraine was held here at Soyuzivka on June 16-17. More than 70 families participated in the weekend’s events, which are geared toward helping the adopted children maintain contact with their Ukrainian roots and familiarizing Americans with Ukrainian culture. The first Adoptive Families Weekend was held at the Ukrainian National Association’s estate back in 2004. The weekends are jointly organized by the Embassy of Ukraine, Ukraine’s Consulate General in New York and the Ukrainian National Association. In the photo above, children enjoy a game; below, Olya Fryz sings as she plays on the bandura, Ukraine’s national instrument.



Do you know why we’re so happy?

Our parents and grandparents invested in our future by purchasing an endowment and life insurance policy for each of us from the Ukrainian National Association, Inc.

They purchased prepaid policies on account of the low premium rate for our age group. If you’d like to be smiling like us, please have your parents or grandparents call the UNA at 1-800-253-9862.

They will be happy to assist you!

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Order a gift subscription by writing to: Subscription Department, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Cost: \$55 (or \$45 if your colleague is a UNA member).

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Crisis, anti-crisis, crisis

A parliamentary crisis occurred, leading to the formation of an Anti-Crisis Coalition, which led to further crisis. That's pretty much how it went in Kyiv, amidst betrayals, fisticuffs and filings of legal actions. The European Union said Ukraine was "in a sorry state."

It all began when it became clear that Our Ukraine's nominee for chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, Petro Poroshenko, was not accepted by the Socialists – though they had signed an agreement establishing the democratic Orange coalition that spelled out how it would function. That nominee, of course, was meant as a counterbalance to Yulia Tymoshenko, the presumptive nominee for prime minister, whose ascension to the post was accepted only grudgingly by President Viktor Yushchenko and Our Ukraine. The Poroshenko-Tymoshenko tandem had been an abject failure in Mr. Yushchenko's first Cabinet, so it was not understood why it should have worked now. Or was it not supposed to work?

After the surprise election of Oleksander Moroz as Rada chairman, it was announced that a new parliamentary majority had been formed comprising the Party of the Regions, the Communist Party and Mr. Moroz's Socialist Party. Next, the new coalition nominated Viktor Yanukovich, leader of the Regions, as prime minister.

Thus, the president now faces a parliamentary coalition that is hostile to his policies and may soon have an equally hostile prime minister who was his opponent in the 2004 presidential election that resulted in the Orange Revolution.

In the latest developments from Ukraine, Ms. Tymoshenko appealed on July 12 to the people of Ukraine to support her bloc's struggle for democracy and its defense of Ukraine's national interests. She called on Our Ukraine not to negotiate with "the Yanukovich clan." Tymoshenko Bloc supporters rallied to demand that the president disband the Rada, and Pora Party members set up a tent camp, pledging to remain there until that demand is met.

Yanukovich supporters also came out onto the streets of Kyiv, demanding that their man become prime minister and that other parties unite behind him. They erected a tent city near the Rada.

Meanwhile, President Yushchenko tried to stay out of the fray, and was reduced to making pronouncements of dubious value. (The New York Times described him as "appearing increasingly isolated and indecisive.") On July 12, reportedly at the request of the president, representatives of Our Ukraine and the Regions Party met for negotiations. On what exactly, we don't know; that's a secret.

On July 13 the president sent a letter to the Rada in which he wrote that "the withdrawal of some deputies from the coalition of democratic forces, which resulted in its disintegration, is inconsistent with the Constitution and the Verkhovna Rada's procedural rules." Therefore, Mr. Yushchenko added, the circumstances in which the new coalition was formed and its proposals are illegal. He demanded that national deputies resume "effective work in Parliament, settle the coalition issue legally and nominate a prime minister, but try not to make hasty decisions."

Pardon our skepticism, but what are the chances of that happening?

In the meantime, all the turmoil in Ukraine could lead the country back to where it was in November 2004, thus leading to the biggest betrayal of all: double-crossing the millions of ordinary Ukrainians who came out to support what the Orange Revolution stood for.

July
15
1961

Turning the pages back...

It was 45 years ago that The Weekly reported on the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument in Winnipeg by then Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker. According to the article, over 50,000 people witnessed the historic event on June 10,

either in person on the grounds of the Manitoba Provincial Parliament or via the CBC TV broadcast that brought the event into the homes of Canadians nationwide.

The monument was erected through joint efforts and with funding from the Ukrainian Canadian community in conjunction with the Ukrainian Canadian Committee.

A motorcade led the procession to the famous Portage Avenue, which was decorated with 200 blue-and-yellow flags, and ended at the legislature grounds. On either side of the grounds were two monuments, on one side to Queen Victoria, empress of the British Empire, and on the other, to the Ukrainian bard. Among the people who took part in the ceremony were thousands of children, youths and numerous pioneers who established the Ukrainian community in Canada exactly 70 years prior to that historic day.

Opening remarks were given by the Rev. Vasyl Kushnir, who spoke about the monument funded by Ukrainians, about Taras Shevchenko and about the monument's creator, sculptor Andriy Darahan. Then Father Kushnir handed over a metal container that held the names of the contributors to be sealed in the base of the monument.

Premier Duff Roblin of Manitoba said Shevchenko's ideals belong to all people and read a passage from "Uchytesia Braty Moyi" (Learn my brothers...). He announced that the following year Ukrainian was going to be an optional language in Manitoba schools.

At the moment of the unveiling, the prime minister stepped up to the monument and pulled the cord, which revealed the sculpture of the bard sitting with his hands on his lap, one of them over a book. The people in attendance stood at attention as the orchestra played "Zapovit" (Testament), and concluded the ceremony with "God Save the Queen."

From there, the audience was treated to a concert at the university, followed by a banquet at the Hotel Marlborough. Prime Minister Diefenbaker said in his speech at the banquet that there were tears in his eyes at the unveiling of the Shevchenko monument. He praised the freedom-loving people of Ukraine and the Ukrainian settlers in Canada, at which time he stressed the fact that Canada presents a mosaic of cultures and that Shevchenko and his ideals should be the goal of our lives.

Source: "Canadian PM Unveils Shevchenko Monument" *The Ukrainian Weekly*, July 15, 1961.

COMMENTARY

Reforming the judiciary in Ukraine

by Judge Bohdan A. Futey

On March 22 the National Committee to Strengthen Democracy and the Rule of Law in Ukraine adopted a new Concept Paper for the judiciary in Ukraine. This Concept Paper was the result of the mandate given by President Viktor Yushchenko in his inaugural address on January 23, 2005, to establish an independent judiciary and a civil society based on the rule of law.

Therefore, the aim is clear: to strengthen judicial independence and the rule of law in accordance with Ukraine's Constitution, as well as standards approved by the European community and the rest of the free world.

In my opinion, this concept is a valiant effort to strengthen some aspects of court proceedings and guarantee citizens access to the courts, but as a whole it seems to me that it fails to address the problem of reforming the judiciary in-depth, and provides for additional ways to exercise control over the judiciary.

Furthermore, it may be in conflict with the Constitution of Ukraine as enacted on June 28, 1996; it violates the principal of separation of powers (Article 6) and the rule of law commitment (Article 8). The idea of having government inspectors for the judiciary is not an encouraging practice (guarantee) for judicial independence. Also, it fails to address many aspects of the present law on the judiciary and it undertakes to provide solutions that are not very democratic. It barely touches on aspects of education at law schools and the role of legal/professional organizations (like the American Bar Association in the U.S.).

I will not make any additional comments at this time, but I am willing to do so at a roundtable discussion, conference or other fora on this subject.

The judiciary in Ukraine, the United States and Europe should be somewhat alarmed. Judges should be participants in the discussion of these issues as they relate to Ukraine's Constitution, the Law on the Judiciary and the Law on the Status of Judges. Naturally, they should reserve their comments strictly to the relationship of the proposed concept on judicial independence, the Constitution of Ukraine and the rule of law.

Judicial independence does not mean the judges do as they choose, but do as they must in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the country. Judicial independence in the final analysis will depend largely on the conscience and courage of the judges themselves. Judges will not be respected until they respect themselves.

There are two aspects in which judges must be independent. First, they must be honest brokers, in that they are independent from and neutral among the parties that appear before them. Judges must decide matters before them impartially, on the basis of the facts and the law, without any restrictions, improper influences, inducements or threats, direct or indirect, from any party or institution or for any reason. A judge's moral commitment to this form of independence eliminates favoritism and corruption from the nation's judicial system. If judges fail in this duty the public will lose confidence

in the basic equity of its society, generating cynicism, anger and instability.

Second, the judiciary, and hence each individual judge, must act as co-equal and independent of the other branches of government. Judges are independent in this sense if they are not beholden to any other branch of government or political party. It is vital that courts have jurisdiction and the power to restrain the legislature or executive by declaring laws and official acts unconstitutional when they abridge the rights of citizens. Further, for judicial independence to have practical effect, the courts' interpretation must be accepted and enforced by the legislative and executive branches of government.

As there cannot be a market economy without private ownership of property, there cannot be a system based on the rule of law without judicial independence.

In addition, the judiciary needs to have its own constituency, primarily the legal profession and strong bar associations. These will be responsible to expose unethical practices of the judges and/or coercive tactics upon judges and to enlist the press on their side. In the United States the major defenders or critics of the judiciary are members of the legal profession themselves (ABA), law school professors and the news media.

It would be refreshing and welcome news if professors of law schools in Ukraine would start to speak out, along with the association of lawyers, jurists, the Ukrainian Bar Association and, hopefully, the World Congress of Ukrainian Jurists.

There is no question that the judiciary in Ukraine needs to be reformed. Key issues and/or problems with the judiciary are not addressed. For example, the legal crisis with the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, which since October of last year lacks a quorum, is not addressed at all.

What is needed is to strengthen the checks and balances – not control over the judiciary by the executive. Providing adequate salaries for judges, guarantees of appropriate funding and assistance for the courts, prompt publication and availability of judicial decisions, transparency in decision-making and enforcement of judicial decisions are ways to eliminate corruption among the judiciary. Nevertheless, greater access of citizens to judges should not mean or indicate ex parte communications behind closed doors. This practice should be eliminated completely.

In the United States, the Federal Judicial Conference is authorized by Congress to create and enforce rules of procedure and evidence, which the Supreme Court may adopt, modify or reject. The Federal Judicial Conference employs various advisory committees, whose members include judges and lawyers, to propose new rules and modify existing ones. Meetings of the advisory committees are open to the public, and members of the bar may attend to give their suggestions. They may also mail their comments to the committees at any time.

Judges and attorneys often hold conferences to discuss the procedural and evidentiary rules, submit comments to the advisory committees, and publish articles in scholarly journals criticizing the rules and proposing changes. If the rules are adopted by the Supreme Court, these rules become binding.

Also, it would be worthwhile for the National Committee to Strengthen Democracy and the Rule of Law to review the recent assessment done by the ABA Central and East European

(Continued on page 14)

Bohdan A. Futey is a judge on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, appointed by President Ronald Reagan in May 1987. Judge Futey has been active in various rule of law and Democratization Programs in Ukraine since 1991. He served as an advisor to the Working Group on Ukraine's Constitution (adopted on June 28, 1996).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A coup d'état in Ukraine

Dear Editor:

The coup d'état was carried out with surgical precision. When the votes were counted, the candidate from the Party of the Regions, Mykola Azarov, received 0 votes (even he did not vote for himself), while the candidate from the Socialist Party, Oleksander Moroz, received 100 percent of the vote from the Communists, Socialists and Donbas oligarchs.

It was just enough to ensure that oligarchs, Socialists and Communists will rule in Ukraine in the foreseeable future. President Viktor Yushchenko and his hapless Our Ukraine were left holding an empty bag.

Mr. Moroz proved to be a brilliant strategist. Together with Viktor Yanukovich he was able to accomplish in a matter of hours what Mr. Yushchenko and his entourage of "myli druzi" (sycophants) could not accomplish during three and a half months of political maneuvering, to say nothing about a couple of years of his wasted presidency.

Socialist Moroz and "capitalist" Yanukovich, with an assist from Communist Petro Symonenko were able to grab the power that eluded the Yushchenko crowd. That is how successful coups d'état are always done. In a matter of hours everything is over.

Of course, Mr. Moroz will take a hit for his traitorous action of switching sides in the heat of the battle. But, frankly, one cannot blame Mr. Moroz that much. It was and remains public knowledge that the party of President Yushchenko had been negotiating with Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions for months. Expecting a double-cross from Our Ukraine, which would have sidelined him and his party, Mr. Moroz simply pre-empted their move, placing himself and his party at center stage.

It was a brilliant demonstration of survival of the fittest. It was also a demonstration of the Heisenberg Principle of Uncertainty (anything and everything can and does happen) in the practice of Ukrainian politics.

After self-inflicted disaster, President Yushchenko is now campaigning for a broad or "grand" coalition with the Party of the Regions. The president does not want to be in opposition to his own government. That is how ridiculous it got.

But he has a problem here. He cannot dismiss the prospective government of Mr. Yanukovich, the way he dismissed the government of Yulia Tymoshenko. Only Parliament can do so. Mr. Moroz made sure of that when the Constitution of Ukraine was amended in 2004, during the days of the Orange Revolution. And now Mr. Moroz controls the Parliament that controls the composition of the next government.

In spite of the disaster that befell them, the oligarchs of Our Ukraine can claim at least one small consolation prize: they have prevented the much-hated and feared Ms. Tymoshenko from becoming prime minister, which was, after all the object of three and a half months of delays in forming a democratic coalition, and manipulations and intrigue on their part. Ms. Tymoshenko was getting ready to clean the stables, and that was not to be, if they could prevent it. It took them much underhanded maneuvering and the writing of grandiose but false Orange Coalition platform declarations demanded by the president (all meaningless now), but they

finally did it. Ms. Tymoshenko will not be prime minister.

In the process of neutralizing Ms. Tymoshenko, Our Ukraine has lost a lot, including direct access to the government money trough. This golden trough of other people's money will be now controlled by a competing clan of oligarchs from the Donbas.

Of course, Our Ukraine hopes that Mr. Yanukovich will permit them at least partial access to the golden well of corruption. Oligarchs are oligarchs, all are charter members of the former Soviet nomenklatura, birds of a feather. How generous the victorious Viktor will be with Our Ukraine remains to be seen. After all, the Socialists and the Communists stand ahead of them in line for handouts. And the price of admission to the trough has not yet been determined.

In the end nothing much has really changed in Ukraine, in spite of the doomsday predictions in the international press.

A few years back, former President of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk during his visit to Minneapolis told us that the bulk of 600,000 or so bureaucrats ("chynovnyky") that rule the country are former members of the Communist Party. And that includes almost everybody in power, from the lowest "lanonyi" (overseer of a few hectares of agricultural land) to the president of the country and everyone in between. Patriotic and nationally conscious leaders, on the other hand, are mostly poets and literary intellectuals poorly suited to run the affairs of state, said the former head of state (The Ukrainian Weekly, September 14, 1997). The recent history of Ukraine has proved how right he was.

A ruling cabal of the former Communist nomenklatura, be it in the guise of oligarchs, Socialists or Communists, is steered to the core in the Soviet mentality and corrupt way of doing business of government. Messrs. Moroz and Yanukovich

(Continued on page 14)

Thanks for articles on trafficking issue

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your in-depth reporting on the subject of international trafficking of women and children. More specifically, for the recent articles by Andrew Sorokowski and Fran Ponomarenko in the June 25, issue of The Weekly. This gave us, members of American for Human Rights in Ukraine, the impetus to join other NGOs and write a series of letters to the pertinent individuals involved in the 2006 FIFA World Cup tournament.

We wrote 86 letters protesting prostitution in Germany: a letter to Pope Benedict, six letters to members of the German government, 26 letters to all members of the FIFA Committee in Zurich, 46 letters to members of the U.S. government and Congress, five letters to members of the Ukrainian government and 10 letters to the major sponsors.

In the letters we protested condoning prostitution and using the repressed women and children from Eastern Europe for the pleasure and gratification of men during the soccer spectacle and appealed to the organizers to mend their ways in the future.

Bozhena Olshaniwsky
Newark, N.J.

The letter-writer is president of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine.

Double Exposure

by Khristina Lew

I'm with the team

The Ukrainian community in the United States heaved a collective groan when Italy defeated Ukraine 3-0 in the quarterfinal match of the 2006 World Cup on June 30 in Dortmund, Germany. Ukrainians in New York, Cleveland, Chicago and Washington who had gathered in Ukrainian sports clubs, local watering holes and in private homes to cheer Team Ukraine were left disappointed – although not completely. Soccer, it seems, had unified Ukrainians around the world better than any of Ukraine's politicians.

Thousands of Ukrainians from the United States, Canada, England, Scotland, Belgium, France and Australia, as well as from Ukraine itself, traveled to Germany for the World Cup. Taras Jaworsky of Chicago, who began following Team Ukraine back in 1999 at a qualifying match in France, organized a group of 45, mostly from the United States, to travel to Germany, through soccertravel.com.

They came from Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, Toronto, Philadelphia, Passaic, N.J., and Yonkers, N.Y.; three came from Australia. There were families with young children and a father-and-son team. They set up camp at a hotel in Berlin, and took trains to Leipzig for the Ukraine-Spain match on June 14 and to Hamburg for Ukraine v. Saudi Arabia on June 19.

It was on the midnight train from Hamburg back to Berlin that a few of them bumped into former Ukrainian Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Leonid Kuchma. Andriy Futey of Cleveland tells the story: "After the Saudi game, I'm walking through the train cars, and there is Kravchuk, wearing shorts and a Ukraine team jersey, playing cards with Bohdan Mysko [an American businessman]. I'm introduced to the president, and he says to me, 'You look like your father.' A few seats down is Kuchma, also playing cards." Andriy's father is Judge Bohdan Futey of Washington, who has advised Ukraine on legal and constitutional issues.

Andriy Futey and Taras Jaworsky also had a chance to chat with striker Andriy Shevchenko, when they took a side trip to Potsdam to see how Team Ukraine lived. Potsdam's central square was transformed into a Ukrainian "selo," or village, where Ukrainian food was served

and Ukrainian artists, including Eurovision winner Ruslana, performed. "We told Sheva that we supported him," said Mr. Futey.

"It's the first time Ukraine has appeared at a World Cup as a free country. We came to Germany to show the rest of the world that there are fans from all over the world backing Ukraine," he said. Those fans included the current president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, and boxing champions Vitalii and Vladimir Klitschko.

Letting Team Ukraine know that it has supporters is equally important to the Ukrainian Americans who have traveled to France, Norway, Spain, England and Wales for various matches. "We want to let the players know that Ukrainians from the United States, from England, from Scotland and Belgium are behind them," said Mr. Jaworsky.

Lida Mykytyn of New York, who traveled to Hamburg for the Saudi Arabia match and to Berlin for Ukraine v. Tunisia, said the experience was very unifying. "Everyone would meet at the Ukraine booth of Fanfest [an area set up for fans]. Everyone is wearing blue-and-yellow, everybody is friendly. You have a connection because they are wearing a Ukraine shirt and you are wearing a Ukraine shirt, and you start talking ..."

She shared her reaction to seeing a large banner, written in English, carried by Team Ukraine fans from Dnipropetrovsk: "One Nation. One Country. One Team." "You look at that banner and think, 'sport is doing this.' You're Ukrainian and it's something bigger than you are," she said.

But, lest we get lulled into a false sense of peace, love and Ukrainian togetherness, there were media reports of fights breaking out between Ukrainians from abroad and Ukrainians from the Donbas, in eastern Ukraine. Messrs. Futey and Jaworsky described an incident that happened to them.

"There were groups of guys from Ukraine, between the ages of 18 and 28, who would walk away from us when they'd see us coming, or who would ask us why we didn't speak Russian. [During the Ukraine-Spain match] when Spain had three goals, a bunch of these guys starting stomping on the Ukrainian flag.

(Continued on page 14)



Taras Jaworsky

A banner from Dnipropetrovsk reads: "One nation. One country. One team."

President tries...

(Continued from page 1)

political manipulations to appoint top parliamentary and governmental officials, are doomed," said Mr. Vasiunyk. "The president has always supported a national political dialogue, which he believes is the only way to overcome the current stage of parliamentary uncertainties. At the same time, efforts to involve the president in any confrontational scenario are in vain."

Mr. Vasiunyk also said the president was going to send a letter to the Verkhovna Rada to demand that parliamentarians forget words and mere declarations and begin working to consolidate society.

In related news, at the request of President Yushchenko, the Party of the Regions and Our Ukraine spent the after-

noon on July 12 conducting negotiations, reported The Ukraine List, which is published by the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa.

News sources said the Regions side was represented by Raisa Bohatyriova, Mykola Azarov, Olena Lukash, Andrii Kluiev and/or Volodymyr Rybak. The Our Ukraine delegation comprised Roman Zvarych, Mykola Martynenko, Borys Tarasyuk and Anatolii Kinakh.

Afterwards, Mr. Yanukovich appeared optimistic on the prospects of Our Ukraine joining forces in a coalition with the Party of the Regions. However, President Yushchenko was more pessimistic in his remarks to journalists.

Various news sources reported that the negotiations between the Regions and Our Ukraine had taken place but noted that the talks were being conducted in secret.

Oleksander Moroz's...

(Continued from page 1)

1998.

Suddenly, it was apparent that the Party of the Regions was willing to give Mr. Moroz what the Our Ukraine bloc had refused.

President Viktor Yushchenko was the most responsible for this turn of events, which resulted in the collapse of the democratic Orange coalition, said Mr. Vynskyi.

At 11:14 p.m. July 6, it was announced in the Parliament that a de facto coalition involving the Socialist Party, the Party of the Regions and the Communist Party of Ukraine had given 238 votes to Mr. Moroz – enough to return him to the Verkhovna Rada chairmanship after an eight-year absence.

The situation...

(Continued from page 3)

Russian as a "second language" shows it wants to keep Ukraine within the Russian-language communications sphere and out of the English-language communications sphere.

While the Canadian and Polish ambassadors can learn Ukrainian before their appointments well enough to use it publicly, some Party of the Regions leaders have the unmitigated gall to speak in Russian in the Ukrainian Parliament. Some, like Mykola Azarov, have not yet managed to learn Ukrainian after 15 years of independence.

But then how many French in Algeria learned Arabic? How many English in Ireland learned Gaelic? How many whites in Africa knew Swahili or Bantu? How many Japanese learned Chinese or Korean? How many Germans in Breslau learned Polish?

Party of the Regions leaders, additionally, engage in symbolic colonial-homage-type acts that pander to imperial Russian nostalgia and compromise Ukraine's status as an independent country.

In November 2005 in Krasnoyarsk, for example, Viktor Yanukovich publicly gave the speaker of the Russian Duma a bulava – the symbol of Ukrainian statehood. While the party formally supports "Euro-integration" – just like President Putin supports the Euro-integration of Russia – it has not explicitly stated that it is for European Union membership for Ukraine.

Given this omission, there is every reason to believe that if the Regions return to power they will first incorporate Ukraine into the Single Economic Space and only then, via Russia, "integrate into Europe" just like Belarus.

Regions Party leaders learned their politics under Volodymyr Scherbytsky, ran Leonid Kuchma's "blackmail state" and employed criminal Bolshevik-style electioneering practices. They publicly belittle Ukrainian independence, are in constant contact with Russian extremists like Vladimir Zhirinovsky, Konstantin Zatulin and Yuri Luzhkov, and they want the Communist Party included in coalition talks.

All of which shows that, for all their chatter about laws, representation and committees, Ukraine's neo-Soviet Party of the Regions is no mere opposition party. It is more a restorationist party whose purpose is to destabilize the country.

If the Party of the Regions' tactics succeed, they will compromise Ukraine's post-2004 ruling coalition; they will strengthen those opposed to Ukraine's entry into EU and who think that it should remain in Russia's sphere of influence.

Foreign observers must ask themselves how a renewed Party-of-the-Regions led, Kuchma-like "blackmail state" is supposed to fit into the EU? How is Russia, a resource-based autocracy, supposed to be "stable" when resource-based autocracies everywhere else in the world are notoriously unstable?

Ukrainians, for their part, can be sure that Party of the Regions leaders will not trouble Bill Gates about a Ukrainian version of Windows, or Hollywood studios about Ukrainian dubbing and subtitles, or fashion magazine chains like Burda about Ukrainian translations.

To The Weekly Contributors:

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

- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.

- Persons who submit any materials must provide a day-time phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.

Mailing address: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

PLEASE NOTE: Materials may be sent to The Weekly also via e-mail to the address staff@ukrweekly.com. Please do include your mailing address and phone number so that we may contact you if needed to clarify any information.

Please call or send query via e-mail before electronically sending anything other than Word documents. This applies especially to photos, as they must be scanned according to our specifications in order to be properly reproduced.

Any questions? Call 973-292-9800 or e-mail staff@ukrweekly.com

Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union Annual Member Picnic

Sunday, July 23, 2006
2:00 PM

Ukrainian Village
66 Cedar Grove Lane, Somerset, NJ.

Admission

Members

FREE

Non-Members

\$10.00

(Refundable upon opening of new account)



Entertainment provided by

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NEWS AND VIEWS: Kyiv conference focuses on life and work of Vasyl Stus

by Oles Obertas

KYIV – The Ukrainian Samvydav Museum-Archives, Smoloskyp Publishers and Vasyl Stus Humanities Center, earlier this year held a conference at the Smoloskyp Building in Kyiv on the topic: “Vasyl Stus: Twenty Years After His Death: Contemporary Reception and Reinterpretation.” The event focused on the social, political, legal, linguistic, literary and other aspects of the dissident writer’s works from the perspective of current events in Ukraine.

Being that many aspects of Vasyl Stus’s works are connected to the hardships he suffered during his life, the conference participants agreed that it is impossible to interpret his literary works without knowledge about the author’s life.

The February 3 conference, which was featured in a special issue of the journal *Moloda Natsiya* (The New Nation) in March, was a rare event, being that only three such conferences have been held since 1998. The aim of the conference, moderated by Rostyslav Semkiv, Oksana Dvorko and Oles Obertas, was to begin a scholarly discussion and form a circle of researchers of different generations including young scholars (mostly students and post-graduates), as well as respected literary critics of Ukraine, such as Mykhailyna Kotsiubynska, Yevhen Sverstiuk, Vasyl Ovsienko, Dmytro Stus, V. Morenets, R. Veretelnyk, Tamara Hundorova, Vakhtanh Kipiani and E. Solovey, that would study the works of Stus.

Students and writers from all over Ukraine convened at the conference including: Maryna Harbar, Hryhorii Savchuk, Olha Cheremyska, Olena Kozyr, Antonina Tymchenko and Viktor Kysil of the Kharkiv region; Hanna Vivat and Dmytro Shupta of the Odesa region; Ihor Isaiev, Nataliya Kandybka and Kateryna Chernykh of the Zaporizhia region; Volodymyr Kuzentsov, Nataliya Pokolenko, Valerii Babenko, Lesia Olifirenko and Serhii Nesvit of the Donetsk region; Yevheniya Naychuk and Iryna Nosenko of the Poltava region; Olha Dmytruk and Yulia Ostapchuk of the Rivne region; Roman Krylovets, post-graduate of the Ostroh Academy; Iryna Stamplevska of the Kherson region; Uliana Mishchuk and Yurii Khorunzhy of Kyiv; Larysa Podkorytova of Khmelnytskyi; Nataliya Purii of

Drohobych; Olha Fedorchenko, post-graduate of Kerch, Crimea; and Halyna Shmilo of Lviv.

Often called the “Taras Shevchenko of the 20th Century,” Stus has been studied by various generations. The participants of the conference were divided into three groups including: people who had known Stus from 1960 to 1980, scholars who had already begun to study Stus’s works during his lifetime, and young researchers who are investigating the works of the prominent Ukrainian poet from fresh perspectives.

Members of the first group shared their recollections of Stus at a roundtable discussion, while the second group discussed working under the Soviet regime and its influence on their investigations. The third group collaborated on different approaches to Stus’s works and discussed how this kind of teamwork can contribute to inter-generational dialogue.

Lively discussions among the representatives of different generations focused on the topic of Stus’s “mental illness,” the problem of perception and interpretation of Stus’s works by students and others. Mr. Kipiani, a journalist, employed the Smoloskyp archives to research an interesting detail of Stus’s biography: his nomination for the Nobel Prize in literature in 1985.

Mr. Kipiani covered the biographical aspect of Stus studies with the help of more than 1,200 documents from the Ukrainian Samvydav Museum-Archives that were presented electronically during the conference. Among these materials were articles about Stus’s life and work, translations of his works, the texts of Radio Liberty broadcasts, documents of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council and Smoloskyp information services, and other important papers about Stus’s works in different languages from Ukraine and abroad.

In addition to those present at the conference, “virtual” participants Osyp Zinkevych and Nadiya Svitlychna contributed to the gathering. Ms. Svitlychna sent a letter of greeting to the conferees.

She wrote: “... Having learned that the Vasyl Stus conference gathered so many people who are interested in his life, works and immortality 20 years after his martyr death, I greet you sincerely from America, where he had sent his ‘Palimpsest.’”

“These 20 years have changed us and especially our country; a new generation, for whom Vasyl Stus is a kind of abstraction separated from this generation by his enormous talent, has grown. In spite of considerable publications, Stus has not

yet been discovered by our contemporaries. A lot of themes are still waiting for their researchers, among them the role of Viktor Medvedchuk in Stus’s life and death. The palimpsest character of his imprisonment works has not been studied yet; his imprisonment notes delivered from the hermetic closed hard-regime labor camp have not been examined. The archives in the Museum of the Movement of the ‘60s and other collections have not been investigated.

“For our generation, who were lucky to be contemporaries of Stus, he is remarkable as a fighter for human dignity, a talented and conscientious man of letters. We also remember him as a kind and impressionable man with quite mundane weaknesses and virtues.

“He has always been a brother, faithful companion, native spirit for my family, especially for Ivan Svitlychny. My mother recalled ill and weak Ivan to have mystically felt Stus’s death before we were informed about it. Vasyl dreamt in his letter from prison, ‘I pray God that I could meet Ivan, bow our gray heads in quiet friendly chat, hear clear Sverstiuk’s voice, and then I really can die.’”

“Now Ivan and Vasyl have met together ‘outside the golden windows of stars in heavenly Kyiv, where even the eternity is a bit cramped for Stus,’ according to Iryna Zhylenko.”

During the conference the first documentary exhibition about Stus’s life and work was opened and will be on display until the end of August of this year. The exhibit includes rare photos of the poet and his close circle. Many other unique materials are part of the exhibit, including one display that allowed visitors to hear the voice of the poet reciting his poems.

Concluding the conference was Stanislav Chernilevsky, 2006 laureate of the Vasyl Stus Prize with a presentation of the film “The Black Candle.”

The next conference at the Smoloskyp Building will be dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group in the fall of this year. It is expected that attendance at this conference will equal or surpass this recent event dedicated to Vasyl Stus, one of the members of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, and will properly honor the true heroes of Ukraine.

Vasyl Stus, 1938-1985

Vasyl Stus was born on January 6, 1938, in the village of Rakhnivtsi, Vinnytsia Oblast. In 1940 the family moved to the Donbas, where Stus spent his childhood. He studied philology at the Donetsk Pedagogical Institute, and his first poems were published in 1959. After graduation he worked as a teacher in the Kirovohrad Oblast, served in the army and taught Ukrainian language and literature in Horlivka, Donetsk Oblast.

In 1963 Stus began graduate studies at the Institute of Literature in Kyiv. His poems and critical articles started to appear in journals, and he took an active part in the rich literary life of the time.

In 1965 he was dismissed from the institute for taking part in a protest meeting that denounced the secret arrests and closed trials of members of the Ukrainian intelligentsia that had begun that year. He was forced to work at various menial and unsatisfying jobs, but he continued to write poetry, literary criticism and appeals protesting the restoration of the personality cult, Russification and the denial of freedom of thought.

Mykhailyna Kotsiubynska, in her introduction to the collected works of Vasyl Stus, writes: “There was a constantly present conviction that he was wasting his life. This, coupled with an early developed consciousness of his vocation and an objective self-evaluation of his potential, produced a state of mind he later called ‘death-existence’ or ‘life-death’ ... The little compromises with life, the times one had to remain silent – all this gnawed at his soul and pained him. It is rare to meet a person so unamenable to compromise.”

In 1972 Stus was arrested with other dissident writers – Ivan Svitlychny, Yevhen Sverstiuk, Ihor and Iryna Kalynets – and sentenced to five years in a labor camp and three years’ exile. He spent his imprisonment in Mordovia and exile in Kolyma. He returned to Kyiv in 1979 and soon



Vasyl Stus

joined the Ukrainian Helsinki Group. Eight months later, he was again arrested and sentenced to 15 years (10 years’ imprisonment and five years’ exile).

The circumstances of his second incarceration in the strict-regime camp in the Perm Oblast were unbearable. He was allowed no visits, was continually harassed by the authorities and his health was deteriorating – he suffered from chronic stomach ulcers and heart problems. Worst of all for him, he had no opportunity to smuggle out a single line of his writings. His letters were confiscated and everything he wrote in the camp was taken away.

In a state of total nervous exhaustion and during a protest hunger strike, Stus died in solitary confinement on September 4, 1985. He was buried at the camp cemetery in a grave marked only “No. 9.”

On November 19, 1989, his remains were interred at Baikove Cemetery in Kyiv along with those of his fellow inmates Yurii Lytvyn and Oleksa Tykhy, who had died in 1984.

– Oksana Zakydalsky (originally published in *The Ukrainian Weekly* on September 3, 1995).



Participants of the Kyiv conference marking the 20th anniversary of the death of Vasyl Stus.

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A conversation with Prof. Roman Serbyn, historian

by Fran Ponomarenko

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

Roman Serbyn was born in 1939 in Vykhoriv, Western Ukraine. In 1948 he and his family settled in Montreal. In 1960 he obtained a B.A. in political science from McGill University. He went to France, where he first studied French and then history at the Sorbonne. In 1967 he obtained a licence en lettres in history from the Université de Montréal. In 1975 he completed his Ph.D. in history at McGill University. He began teaching at the Université de Québec – Montréal (UQAM) in 1969; he retired from this institution in 2002. Prof. Serbyn is the author of many scholarly publications.

I had the opportunity to speak with Prof. Serbyn on June 2. The interview is published in two parts.

PART II

When did you start work on the way in which World War II was and is being presented in Ukraine? In commemorative events this war is always called the “Great Fatherland War” in Ukraine and in Russia.

I began my regular travels to Ukraine as of 1990 and in 1994 I noted in that year Ukraine was celebrating the 50th anniversary of the “liberation” of Ukraine. Also the 9th of May is a statutory holiday commemorating the end of the war and is always portrayed as a great victory of the Soviet and Ukrainian people. And, of course, the war was referred to as the “Great Patriotic War.”

I found it outrageous that Ukraine should be celebrating the exchange of Nazi tyrant (Hitler) for a Communist tyrant (Stalin), especially as the second destroyed more innocent Ukrainians than the first. I became interested in how the whole mythology got started and what it meant for the Soviet Union and why it was taken over by independent Ukraine.

I asked historians in Ukraine when this expression the “Great Fatherland War” first appeared. No one knew or cared. So I started doing some research. The term was, in fact, invented on the first actual day of the war, that is on June 22, 1941. The next day it appeared in Pravda in an article by Emilian Yaroslavsky titled “The Great Fatherland War of the Soviet People.” In this article you can see the coalescing of various aspects that were used for propaganda purposes and for forging the myth that this was a “war for the fatherland.”

The three components of the myth are: a) the patriotism and élan of the Soviet people, b) the liberation of Ukraine, and c) of victory of the Soviet people. My research and reflection on the German-Soviet war have led me to conclude that for the vast majority of Ukrainians it had little to do with patriotism, it did not liberate Ukraine and the Soviet soldiers can hardly be considered as the real victors.

In Europe the commemoration of the end of the war takes place on May 8. In Russia and Ukraine the date is May 9. Why is there this discrepancy?

I examined this question also. On the 8th of May 1945 Stalin decreed that there would be a holiday on the 9th of May, and so Victory Day was celebrated in 1945, 1946 and 1947. But by 1947 (on December 27 to be precise) a decree was issued that the 9th of May 1948 was going to be a regular workday.

At the same time in 1947 all the invalids on the streets in the big cities started to disappear. They ended up on Valam Island, north of St. Petersburg and in other places of deportation. They were removed in order not to remind the people of the war. Why? In order to start changing the collective memory, to issue a new memory. The Revolution was the foundation myth and the way the war was remembered would become the consolidating myth.

In this regard there were two very revealing toasts proposed by Stalin at victory banquets. In the first one, at the end of May 1945, Stalin singled out the Russian nation as the guiding nation of the USSR. Nations would now bow to the Russian nation. In the second toast, Stalin raised his glass to the “cogs” of the great state mechanism without whom the people in command could accomplish nothing. How true, but cogs are not liberators or victors, they are just cogs, and that’s the way Stalin liked it. After Stalin’s death the “party” replaced him as the main authority focus.

In 1965 Brezhnev brought back the May 9 holiday and monuments started going up. In Kyiv we have the deservedly maligned metal monstrosity of a woman warrior, spoiling the graceful silhouette of Kyiv’s right bank. May 9 replaced Revolution Day as the Soviet Union’s main holiday. Independent Ukraine took the

holiday and the myth that went with it.

The struggle for the historical memory of the Ukrainian nation is clearly still urgent. The UPA does not have recognition. Divizia Halychyna is not even on the horizon, whereas the myth of the Great Fatherland War is alive. Who is promoting this at this moment?

The Communist Party, the Red Army Veterans, the Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate, ethnic Russians and non-Russian Russian speakers who may feel threatened are continuously bolstering this. The myth of the Great Fatherland War is preventing reconciliation between Ukrainians who fought in the three different military formations (even though there were transfers between them): the Red Army, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and those who fought in the Axis armies, especially the Division Halychyna.

It is a disgrace to Ukraine and especially a shame on the Ukrainian political elite that 60 years after the war Ukrainians are still divided on this issue and a shame that must be shared by the president, the government and the Parliament of Ukraine, that the only armed force that was specifically formed to struggle for the independence of Ukraine is not recognized by this independent state today.

There was no liberty for Ukraine after the war. There was liberty in Europe when the Nazis were defeated, but not in Ukraine. Furthermore, victors get spoils and wouldn’t all the peasants who were in the army get the spoils? The commanders did – these spoils were shipped back to the USSR by the trainloads. But not the cogs! Mostly of farmer stock, they would simply have wanted their land back. They got nothing.

They got another famine in 1947. When you first started raising this issue and writing about it, how was your work received in Ukraine? As far as I know, you are the only historian who is looking at this aspect of the construction of historical myth in Ukraine.

Part of the answer would be in the fact that at first only one paper in Ukraine agreed to take my articles on this topic. Now publications on this subject abound and they are getting pretty close to my perspective on the war. These interpretations are also spreading to academic conferences and publications

Perhaps we could touch on the Famine of 1932-1933 for a moment. You have been over the years very outspoken on this tragedy. You have published widely on this subject as well, including a recent entry in the MacMillan Encyclopedia. Is there still resistance to the idea of the Famine as genocide?

Yes! No serious scholar would deny that the Famine took place; most agree that it was man-made, and that the Soviet authorities were responsible. Many Russian scholars accept this. They are primarily interested in the famine in the RSFSR. Some in fact are suggesting that Russians are also victims of genocide. The question that is debated amongst scholars is: Can it be called genocide? If so, was it a national genocide, or was it against the peasantry.

I maintain that Ukrainians were targeted as a group. The fact that Famine also occurred in Kazakhstan does not negate the Ukrainian genocide. All it means is that there were two different groups victimized in a genocidal attack by the Soviet regime.

A weakness in the Russian claim to national genocide is the fact that the famine areas in Russia were inhabited by ethnically mixed populations, in some of which the Russian population was in the minority. In the Caucasus one-third were Ukrainians. In Kuban two-thirds were Ukrainians. Russian sources call these people Russians. What has not been done but needs to be done is to look at the census for each region and break it down into a set of small units and see if in fact there is a difference between the rates of death in Ukrainian and Russian villages, as well as to look at the different policies or different ways of implementing the same policies, and so on.

Russian historians don’t seem to be interested in this type of research, but Ukrainian historians are not doing this either. This would give a more exact picture of the ethnic composition of the famine victims who died. One problem with the Ukrainian presentation is that it often restricts itself to Ukrainian state territories, but even there it does not give national breakdown in the ethnically mixed area.

What were the conditions for Germans and Jews

in the Famine of 1932-1933?

Apparently the Soviets allowed some German aid to get through to the German settlements, so as not to antagonize Germany. As for the Jewish agriculturalists, who were not very numerous, they also received aid from Western Jewish organizations that continued to help Jewish agricultural settlements after the 1921-1923 famine. But this topic needs further exploration. For some reason, historians seem to be avoiding this question.

But to get back to the issue of resistance to the recognition of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide. No Western government except the Balts has, to my knowledge, declared the Holodomor to be genocide. That it’s man-made is a given. However, we have enough solid evidence that it was carried out in a way that fits the requirements of the Genocide Convention to be qualified as genocide. New evidence is provided by the correspondence between Stalin and Kaganovich.

We also have an official document dated January 22, 1933, signed by Stalin and Molotov which was sent to Ukraine and Byelorussia and to regional Russian centers around Ukraine decreeing the closing of Ukraine’s borders. The document says that for the second year in a row peasants are fleeing and they must be stopped at the borders and punished or sent back to their villages. There was to be no escape from hunger; within six months over 200,000 people were apprehended, shot, sent to the gulag or back to the starving villages. Death becomes inevitable. The Genocidal intent on the part of Stalin is clear.

If we couple this closing of the borders with the decrees (naturalni shtrafy) issued in the fall of 1932 whereby foodstuffs were removed from the houses of the villagers, ostensibly as a penalty for not giving over the grain which they did not have, large scale death had to be certain. But now I’d like to ask you, to what extent is Holodomor becoming an important aspect of the educational process in Ukraine? Has it become part of the common consciousness?

Not yet. The Italian historian Andrea Grasiozi made an interesting comment. He said that great calamities are internalized by a society as they happen and become part of the collective memory. But it is hard to resuscitate the memory of the Famine since it was so strongly denied for several generations. Most Ukrainians grew up without any personal experience of this atrocity and with no outside information about it.

It is interesting to compare in this respect what is done by the Jewish community to preserve and honor the memory of the Holocaust in Ukraine and what the Ukrainian state and the Ukrainian nation is doing with regard to the Holodomor. There are already several Holocaust museums and research and study centers devoted to that topic.

The Ukrainian authorities so far have been spending all their energy on discussion of various half-baked projects. At the same time they continue to treat German occupation as the greatest evil and push the Famine-Genocide into the background. Nazi crimes are presented as being larger than Communist ones and the myth of the Great Fatherland War is dominant. In my opinion, this is bad for Ukrainians on all scores. Not enough intellectual work is being done to bring the Famine into the consciousness of the citizenry.

A resolution has been made to build and organize a Ukrainian Institute of National Memory. What do you think of this project and what do you think ought to be their priority task?

First of all, the combining under one roof of all the atrocities committed against Ukrainians by various regimes, as it is presented in the present project – Polish, Communist, Nazi – will have the effect of diluting the central significance of the Holodomor, which was the central assault on the Ukrainian nation. Yad Vashem deals only with the Holocaust. The Washington museum also deals with the Holocaust. Remember that originally there was some discussion of building a Holodomor complex that would house a museum and a research center. This project seems to have gone by the wayside. This is a serious mistake.

There should be two separate institutions: a Famine-Genocide Institute and an Institute of National Memory, say dedicated to the 20th century, which would include material on all the repressions, in the various decades, that were initiated by Soviets and Nazis. The Famine [of 1932-

(Continued on page 19)

Rada in crisis...

(Continued from page 1)

price, are trying to get into power and gain the corresponding authority at any price," he stated.

Both Our Ukraine Legal Department Chair Roman Zvarych and Yulia Tymoshenko announced their political blocs had submitted court complaints to contest the formation of the Anti-Crisis Coalition, which they alleged was illegal because it violated the democratic coalition agreement signed on June 22.

"Given that the Constitution [of Ukraine] doesn't allow for the simultaneous existence of two coalitions of deputies' factions, we will demand that the court recognize as illegitimate the ... Anti-Crisis Coalition's agreement," Mr. Zvarych said.

Additionally, the Constitution requires that anyone leaving a coalition agreement has to give partners 10 days' notice, something Mr. Moroz failed to do.

As a result, Ukraine's Parliament currently has a functioning, pro-Russian majority coalition that hasn't demonstrated a tangible agreement, as well as a legally binding, pro-Western coalition that has no chance of revival.

Fist fights and deafening police alarms couldn't prevent Rada Chairman Moroz from submitting Viktor Yanukovich as the Anti-Crisis Coalition's nominee for prime minister to President Viktor Yushchenko the same day.

Pro-Western national deputies also couldn't prevent the eventual nomination and election of Communist Adam Martyniuk as the Rada's first vice-chairman, which was announced at 11:32 p.m. on July 11.

Besides legal action, Ms. Tymoshenko declared that she wants President Viktor Yushchenko to dismiss the Verkhovna Rada and to unite her bloc with Our Ukraine in the subsequent elections.

"I think that if pre-term elections are held out of this chaos, which was created by unnatural coalitions, there's only one way out: obtain additional authority from the people," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "If pre-term elections are held, absolutely our bloc will enter them with dignity and in full union with Our Ukraine."

New elections are common in European democracies, she said, as in times of crisis, leaders ask the voters to return to the polls in order to reaffirm their support.

Ms. Tymoshenko would stand to gain the most in new elections, having cap-



Zenon Zawada

Viktor Yanukovich, who has been nominated by the Verkhovna Rada's Anti-Crisis Coalition to become Ukraine's next prime minister.



Zenon Zawada

Socialist Party National Deputy Ivan Boki accused Yulia Tymoshenko of ordering her national deputies to throw eggs at him in the Verkhovna Rada on July 11.

tured in the last three months large support from the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine voters who are disenchanted with their leaders, political experts said.

Though many of Mr. Moroz's supporters would remain loyal to him, his act of betrayal has cost the Socialist Party a significant part of its electorate, said Oles Donii, chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research, which is supported by Ukrainian citizens.

Ms. Tymoshenko said she supports legislation to raise the qualifying barrier for Parliament from the 3 percent that was in effect for the March 2006 elections.

"I am convinced that neither the Socialists nor the Communists, who even united their names today with clans, criminals, corruption, oligarchs, will make it into Parliament, regardless if the barrier is raised or not," she told reporters on July 11.

It's unclear how President Yushchenko will deal with the emergence of a parliamentary coalition that is hostile to his foreign policy goal of drawing Ukraine closer to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union.

So far, Mr. Yushchenko has called for negotiations to resolve the crisis, rather than any drastic action.

On July 12, the Ukrainian president invited Mr. Moroz, Mr. Yanukovich and Party of the Regions leaders for coalition discussions at the Presidential Secretariat.

It's apparent that the Our Ukraine bloc would split if its leaders decide to join a broad coalition with the Party of the Regions and the Socialists.

While acting Prime Minister Yuri Yekhanurov favors Our Ukraine uniting with the Party of the Regions, other bloc members such as Mykola Katerynychuk said they would never join such a coalition.

After meeting with Mr. Yushchenko the night of July 11 for 90 minutes, Mr. Moroz said President Yushchenko would support a broad coalition.

Despite the chaos in the Verkhovna Rada, the president hasn't directly addressed the events, instead allowing Secretariat Chair Oleh Rybachuk to comment that the Anti-Crisis Coalition violates the Constitution and the Parliament's regulations.

Though forming a broad coalition with the Party of the Regions and the Socialists remains an apparent option for Our Ukraine, Mr. Yushchenko hasn't ruled out dismissing the Parliament either, Mr. Rybachuk said. He can do so as of July 25, he said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Katerynychuk said pro-Western forces plan to block the Parliament's activity until about that time.

New elections would cost the Ukrainian government \$100 million, which is approximately what the March 2006 elections cost, said Maryna Stavnyichuk of the Central Election Commission.

All the political heavyweights have mobilized citizens to launch protests in Kyiv that will likely last for weeks.

Revealing its solidarity with Ms. Tymoshenko, the Pora Citizens' Party pitched more than 50 tents on Kyiv's Independence Square and asked that Ukrainians join them in their act of civil disobedience until the president dismisses the Parliament.

Meanwhile, 1,500 Party of the Regions supporters have been arriving from other cities and protesting in front of the Verkhovna Rada, calling for Mr. Yanukovich to become prime minister and the other parties to unite behind him.

The July 11 violent fiasco in Parliament came exactly one year after the Communists brawled with pro-business forces to prevent them from passing bills needed for Ukraine's accession into the World Trade Organization.

This time around, it was Our Ukraine and Tymoshenko Bloc deputies throwing the punches and blaring emergency sirens.

Chairman Moroz opened the session, declaring an end to the democratic coalition and the birth of an Anti-Crisis Coalition comprising the Socialists, the Communists and the Party of the Regions consisting of 238 national deputies.

He entered the session hall behind dozens of Party of the Regions national deputies who formed a protective barrier around the chair's rostrum.

When Mr. Moroz called for a vote following the announcement of the Anti-Crisis Coalition, Our Ukraine and Tymoshenko Bloc deputies blocked a main aisle to prevent Regions deputies from returning to their seats to vote.

As the pro-Western deputies pushed the Regions members back, the latter responded with a push forward, and the two groups rocked back and forth in what looked like a wave.

When Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy Oleksander Turchynov attempted to take to the rostrum, Oleksander Stoyan of the Party of the Regions began smacking him over the head with a newspaper.

In this fashion, the first scuffling and fighting erupted.

Highlights included a national deputy getting flipped off his feet, another sustaining a broken nose and an egg splattering the suit of Socialist National Deputy Ivan Boki.

During a break, Mr. Boki lashed out

at Ms. Tymoshenko for allowing her national deputies to fling eggs at him.

"In all my years as a national deputy, I don't remember such a tense situation in the session hall," Mr. Zvarych said. "This is evidence that a significant portion of deputies' body realizes how flagrantly the Rada chair of Ukraine violated regulations and how he cynically violated their rights."

The Anti-Crisis Coalition emerged despite the fact that the Party of the Regions is a pro-business party and the Communists had long ago accused Mr. Moroz of betraying Ukraine's left-wing ideals.

"The Communists are demonstrating we know how to reach the correct conclusions in a certain situation," said Petro Symonenko, the leader of the Communist Party.

"In this situation, we took the step toward compromise that provides a possibility to create a realistic leadership in the Rada and begin the Rada's work. We don't deny earlier statements we made. We know Oleksander Oleksandrovych Moroz. We know his positive and negative qualities. But, in this situation, the Verkhovna Rada has to work."

When asked by a Lviv reporter to confirm if the Communist Party received money for their votes, Mr. Symonenko was visibly irritated.

"I am sick of your stupid questions," he told the reporter from the Vysoky Zamok newspaper. "Just as we were honest and principled, that's how we remain."

Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy Mykola Tomenko accused the Party of the Regions of setting up a \$250 million slush fund to buy the votes of national deputies.

After the session, Mr. Moroz announced that three national deputies had defected into the Anti-Crisis Coalition: Oleksander Volkov and Volodymyr Zaplatynskyi of Our Ukraine and Volodymyr Zubyk of the Tymoshenko Bloc.



Zenon Zawada

Our Ukraine Legal Department Chair Roman Zvarych.

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Yonkers festival highlighted by performances of area dance ensembles

by Karen Chelak

YONKERS, N.Y. – There could not have been a more beautiful day for the 21st annual Ukrainian Heritage Festival in Yonkers, N.Y., sponsored by St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The smell of cotton candy and popcorn, as well as that of varenyky and kovbasa, wafted through the warm summer air as crowds gathered to watch the exceptional performances by the featured

singers and dancers.

The festival ran from Friday, June 16, through Sunday, June 18. Each day was as fun-filled as the one before with non-stop food and drink, as well as rides, games and vendors. There was not a single face without a smile.

Yet, the most exciting aspect of the festival had to have been the wonderful dancers who put on a spectacular show, proud to display their talent, as well as

their pride for their Ukrainian heritage.

The schools that performed throughout the weekend included the Iskra Dance Ensemble from Whippany, N.J., under the artistic direction of Andriy Cybyk; the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky School from Manhattan and the Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Astoria, N.Y., both directed by Orlando and Larisa Pagan; the Ukrainian American Youth Association Dancers of Yonkers and the Barvinok

Folk Dance Ensemble of Bound Brook, N.J., both directed by Hryhoriy Momot; the Obrij Folk Dance Ensemble, created and directed by Roman Lewkowicz; and finally the School of Ballroom Dance of New York City.

The beautiful costumes complimented the superb dancing of each and every one of the talented performers. The exhilarating Hopaks and the exotic regional dances all added to a truly unforgettable weekend.



Russ Chelak

The Barvinok Folk Dance Ensemble of Bound Brook, N.J., performs.



The intermediate/advanced group of the Iskra Dance Ensemble of Whippany, N.J., performs a Hutsul dance.



Dancers from the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky School in Manhattan perform a lively Hopak.



The senior dancers of Iskra Dance Ensemble, Whippany, N.J., under the artistic direction of Andriy Cybyk, prepare to perform a gypsy dance. From left are: Maria Kavatsiuk, Alya Kuzyszyn, Nicole Berezny, Deanna Rakowsky, Lara Chelak and Anna Chelak.

30th annual Ukrainian Street Festival held in New York City

NEW YORK – The streets of New York City came alive with Ukrainian food, dance and song at the 30th annual Seventh Street Ukrainian Festival sponsored by the St. George Ukrainian Catholic

Church on May 19-21. The featured dancers included Iskra Dance Ensemble of Whippany, N.J.; Barvinok of Bound Brook, N.J.; the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky School from Manhattan; the Barvinok

Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Astoria, N.Y.; and the renowned semi-professional ensemble Syzokryli under the artistic direction of Andriy Cybyk. Below are some of the young dancers at the festival.



Russ Chelak

Five scholars receive John Kolasky Memorial Fellowships for 2005-2006

by Bohdan Klid

EDMONTON – In 2005-2006 there were five recipients of the John Kolasky Memorial Fellowship: Viktor Brekhunenko, Olha Luchuk, Myroslav Marynovych, Yurii Pokalchuk and Iryna Tiurmenko.

The first Kolasky Fellow to come to Canada was Ms. Tiurmenko, professor of history at the National University of Food and Technology in Kyiv. Her subject was the life and activities of Metropolitan Ilarion (Ivan Ohienko) and the Ukrainian diaspora.

In Winnipeg, Prof. Tiurmenko did research at the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center (Oseredok) and the University of Manitoba. She also worked in the Ukrainian-related collections of the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa. Prof. Tiurmenko was hosted and assisted by many individuals and institutions, among them Dr. Roman Yereniuk of Winnipeg, the Rev. Ihor Okhrymchuk of Ottawa, the Rev. Ihor Kutash of Montreal, the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and the Volyn Society.

During her stay in Canada, Prof. Tiurmenko appeared often before scholarly and Ukrainian community audiences, where she gave lectures on the state-building views of Metropolitan Ilarion, the architecture of the Ukrainian Baroque style, Ukrainian culture between the Scythian-Sarmatian and Classical periods, the introduction of Christianity in Kyivan Rus', and the Hetmanate of the 17th and 18th centuries.

She is the author of the monograph "Derzhavnytska Diialnist' Ivana Ohienka (Mytropolita Ilariona)" (State-Oriented Activities of Ivan Ohienko [Metropolitan Ilarion]), published in 1998, as well as many articles on his life and activities. She has published articles on Ukrainian culture and learning and on Kozak Ukraine and is co-editor of the textbook Kulturolohiia: Teoriiia ta Istoriia Kultury (Cultural Studies: The Theory and History of Culture), published in 2004.

From January to April, Mr. Marynovych, vice-rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, was hosted by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) and the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies at St. Paul's University in Ottawa. During his stay in Canada, Mr. Marynovych conducted research on the diaspora movement in support of a patriarchate for the Ukrainian Catholic Church and its influence on the formation of a new ecclesiastical identity, as well as on the Church's attitude to ecumenism.

While in Edmonton, Mr. Marynovych worked in the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Library at CIUS, the University of Alberta (U of A) Library and St. Joseph's College at the U of A. He also delivered the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Lecture on religious freedom in Ukraine and spoke on the dynamics of Ukrainian inter-faith and inter-Church relations. Before community groups in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto, Mr. Marynovych spoke on current politics and the religious situation in Ukraine, on Ukrainian church life and prospects for ecumenism, and on his life as a political prisoner.

In Ottawa, Mr. Marynovych conducted research in the St. Paul's University Library. There he gave lectures on the spiritual experiences of prisoners in the Soviet gulag and on ecclesiastical issues facing a post-totalitarian society.

Mr. Marynovych was a co-founder in 1976 of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, a human-rights organization. In April 1977 he was arrested by the Soviet authorities

for his activities in defense of human rights and sentenced to a seven-year term in forced-labor camps, to be followed by five years' exile.

Released in 1987, he returned to Ukraine, where he taught the history of religion in Ukraine at the Drohobych Pedagogical Institute (1990-1994). Since 1997 he has been associated with the Lviv Theological Academy (Ukrainian Catholic University since 2003) as director of its Institute of Religion and Society and, since 2000, as vice-rector for external affairs.

Mr. Marynovych is the author of numerous works on religion, politics and human rights. His latest book, "Ukrayinska ideia i Khrystianstvo" (The Ukrainian Idea and Christianity), was published in 2003.

From January to April, Dr. Brekhunenko, head of the Division of the History and Theory of Archaeography, Institute of Ukrainian Archaeography, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv), was in Toronto, Winnipeg and Edmonton to conduct research on the typology of Kozak communities in Eastern Europe in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Hosted initially by the CIUS office at the University of Toronto, Dr. Brekhunenko spent most of his stay in Winnipeg, where he was hosted by Dr. Roman Yereniuk of St. Andrew's College, and at CIUS in Edmonton. In Winnipeg, he worked in the archive of Metropolitan Ilarion, while in Edmonton he worked largely in the U of A Library.

While in Canada, Dr. Brekhunenko lectured on the Muscovite conception of the Pereiaslav Agreement of 1654 and on political developments in Ukraine since the Orange Revolution. He also spoke on the Dnipropetrovsk school of Ukrainian Kozak history, the Treaty of Pereiaslav (1654), Russo-Ukrainian relations and the current work of the Institute of Ukrainian Archaeography.

Dr. Brekhunenko, a leading specialist in the early history of Kozak Ukraine, is the author of more than 80 scholarly works, including the monograph "Stosunki Ukrayinskoho Kozatstva z Donom u XVI – seredyni XVII st. (Relations between the Ukrainian and Don Kozaks from the 16th to the Mid-17th Century), published in 1998. In his latest study, "Moskovska Ekspansia i Pereiaslavska Rada 1654 r. (Muscovite Expansion and the Pereiaslav Council of 1654), published in 2005, Dr. Brekhunenko traces the origins of Muscovy's conception of the Treaty of Pereiaslav in the context of its expansionist strategies between the 14th and 17th centuries.

In February and March, the well-known

Kyiv-based writer Yurii Pokalchuk was in Edmonton to work on an anthology of Alberta prose writings to be published in Ukraine. Hosted by CIUS at the U of A, Dr. Pokalchuk worked with George Melnyk, professor in the Faculty of Communication and Culture, University of Calgary, on selecting the writings. He also consulted with Jars Balan of CIUS and with the Alberta writers Rudy Wiebe, Robert Kroetsch, Myrna Kostash and Candace Jane Dorsey. The planned anthology consists of writings by 20 authors on the theme of love in Alberta.

For the past 15 years, Dr. Pokalchuk has been a volunteer social worker dealing with juvenile delinquents. While in Edmonton, he gave a lecture co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Canadian Archives and Museum of Alberta on working with Ukraine's juvenile delinquents in the creative arts. On his way back to Ukraine, Dr. Pokalchuk stopped for a brief stay in Toronto, where he spoke about his life as an author and community activist and read some of his poems.

Dr. Pokalchuk is the author of some 15 books of prose and poetry and the vocalist and lyricist of the Ukrainian rock/jazz group Vohni Velykoho Mista. His latest two collections of short stories, "Pamorochlyvyi zapakh Dzhunhlyv" (The Disorienting Fragrance of Jungles) and "Zaboroneni Ihry" (Forbidden Games), were published in 2005-2006. He has also written scholarly studies on contemporary Latin American literature and on alienation among youth in North America. Dr. Pokalchuk has served as president and vice-president of the Association of Ukrainian Writers and as a member of Ukraine's National Radio and Television Council.

In March and April, Prof. Luchuk, of the Faculty of International Affairs at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv and head of the English Department at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, was hosted by the Petro Jacyk Program at the University of Toronto's Center for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies and by CIUS at the U of A.

Prof. Luchuk came to Canada to research the epistolary legacy of the late Prof. George S. N. Luckyj, a renowned specialist in Ukrainian literature. She worked in Luckyj's archive at the University of Toronto and in the archive of Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky at the U of A. In Toronto she gave lectures on George Luckyj and his contemporaries and on new perspectives in contemporary Ukrainian politics, history and culture.

She also participated in a roundtable on the 2006 Ukrainian parliamentary elec-

tions. In Edmonton she spoke on the reception of Ukrainian literature in the U.S. and Canada. Following her stay in Canada, Prof. Luchuk went to the United States to continue her research.

Prof. Luchuk is the author of "Dialogichna Pryroda Literatury" (The Dialogic Nature of Literature), published in 2004, and of scholarly articles on translation and literary studies. She is also a co-author and compiler of "Sto Rokiv Yunosti" (One Hundred Years of Youth), an anthology of 20th century Ukrainian poetry in English translation, published in 2000.

The visits by the five John Kolasky Memorial Fellows in 2005-2006 are further testimony to the success of the fellowship program. Each Kolasky Fellow is required to conduct research or work on a project and to give lectures to academic and Ukrainian community audiences. Many of the Kolasky Fellows are distinguished scholars and experts who have been able to achieve their scholarly goals as a result of their stays in Canada and have shared their wealth of knowledge with academic and community audiences in many Canadian cities. (Communities that would like a member of the CIUS academic staff or a visiting scholar, such as a John Kolasky Memorial Fellow, to give an address, should contact the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 780-492-2972.

Sponsoring scholars and other professionals from Ukraine to work on a project or do research in Canada continues to be of critical importance, as Ukraine's educational and scholarly institutions are still extremely underfunded.

The John Kolasky Memorial Endowment Fund was established as the Ukraine Exchange Fellowship Endowment Fund in 1990 by William and Justine Fedeyko, Peter Kindrachuk (1912-1998) and Pauline Kindrachuk, and John Kolasky (1915-1997) in order to support Ukrainian scholars and professionals conducting scholarly research or updating skills in Canada. The fund was renamed in early 1998 in honor of its initiator and co-founder, the late John Kolasky.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, the capital of the John Kolasky Memorial Endowment Fund now stands at \$750,787, allowing CIUS to sponsor more scholars from Ukraine than in previous years. The last large donation (\$200,179.88) to the fund came in 2004 from the estate of William Lipkewich of Vancouver, B.C.

On establishing the fund in 1990, Kolasky stated that his goal was to continue fund-raising until the capital reached \$1 million. Donations to CIUS can be earmarked for the John Kolasky Memorial Endowment Fund.



John Kolasky Memorial Fellows for 2006 (from left): Viktor Brekhunenko, Olha Luchuk and Myroslav Marynovych.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Interfax reported. "If fresh elections take place, our party will definitely participate in them in a union with Our Ukraine," she said, adding that the Socialist Party and the Communist Party could find themselves left out of Verkhovna Rada following new elections. "I believe that if early elections are held, a transition to a two-party system will take place," Ms. Tymoshenko said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Regions calls for end to confrontation

KYIV – Yevhen Kushnariov, the leader of the Party of the Regions caucus in the Verkhovna Rada, has urged President Viktor Yushchenko to call on the Our Ukraine faction to abandon what he described as its policy of confrontation, Interfax reported on July 11. "The people of Ukraine are witnessing an aggressive and meaningless position assumed by two 'Orange' factions – the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine. They are demonstrating their cynicism and their profound disrespect for the Ukrainian Parliament and the Ukrainian people," Mr. Kushnariov said. He admitted that the Party of the Regions has blocked the work of the Verkhovna Rada, but said it did so to protest attempts by the Orange coalition to violate the country's Constitution and to usurp power. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rybachuk meets with EU, G-8 envoys

KYIV – Presidential Secretariat Chief of Staff Oleh Rybachuk met with European Union and G-8 ambassadors to discuss the current parliamentary crisis. He said President Viktor Yushchenko was going to meet with parliamentary leaders and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz on July 12 in order to jointly resolve the conflict. Mr. Rybachuk added that the president would be able to dissolve the Parliament on July 25 because "no government will probably be formed by that time." He added, "However, this is the last tool the president can use. He will not do it [dismiss Parliament] if there is the slightest chance to make the Verkhovna Rada compromise and unite Ukraine," he said. Mr. Rybachuk said the president insisted that parliamentarians should observe the Constitution and other laws, and expected them to work constructively. (Official Website of the President of Ukraine)

Ukrainian minister talks with Gazprom

KYIV – Fuel and Energy Minister Ivan Plachkov held talks with Gazprom Deputy Chairman Aleksandr Ryazanov to obtain guarantees that Gazprom will supply Ukraine with 16.9 billion cubic meters of gas at \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters in October-November 2006, Kommersant-Ukrayiny reported on July 7. In return, according to the newspaper, the Ukrainian side offered to support Gazprom in agreeing to a united position on the question of further purchases of Turkmen gas. Kommersant-Ukrayiny added that Mr. Plachkov agreed to pay off all debts Ukraine owes Gazprom by the end of August and to convene a meeting of the founders of the International Consortium for the Management and Development of the Ukrainian Gas Transportation System on July 12. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Bush to speak to Putin 'frankly'

MOSCOW – Stephen Hadley, who is President George W. Bush's national security adviser, said in Moscow on July 10 that at the Group of Eight (G-8) summit Mr. Bush will raise concerns about Russian democracy with President Vladimir Putin "frankly but privately,"

Reuters reported. Mr. Hadley noted that President Bush has a good relationship with the Russian president, "and one of the reasons he does is because he thinks it is important for him to be able to sit down privately with President Putin and speak his mind and for President Putin to feel comfortable to do the same." For his part, Mr. Putin told the BBC on July 10 that he considers President Bush "my friend" and a man with whom he can comfortably do business. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Leaders invited to Babyn Yar forum

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has invited world leaders and heads of international organizations to a forum marking the 65th anniversary of the Babyn Yar tragedy. The president said he believes such events will be "an integral part of the continuous international effort to honor the victims of Nazism." Babyn Yar, the site of a mass grave of thousands of people massacred by German Nazi SS squads, is one of the first tragic pages of the Holocaust, but Ukrainians remember it as the place where thousands of Soviet prisoners of war were tortured and killed, he said. "We have a chance to remind the world and particularly the young generation of the importance of remembering the lessons of history and preventing anti-Semitism, xenophobia and ethnic intolerance," he added. (Official Website of the President of Ukraine)

Putin slams U.S. vice-president

MOSCOW – President Vladimir Putin told Western television broadcasters in Moscow on July 12 that he will listen to what he called "well-intentioned criticism" at the upcoming summit of the Group of Eight (G-8) industrialized countries, international and Russian news agencies reported. Mr. Putin stressed, however, that he rejects any attempts to "interfere" in Russia's domestic affairs, by whatever means, and under whatever pretext, "including the idea that our society needs democratization ... We consider this absolutely unacceptable." The Russian president characterized U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney's criticism two months ago of several aspects of Russian policy "a failed hunting shot." Mr. Cheney accidentally shot and wounded a friend during a quail hunt in February. Mr. Putin also said that Mr. Cheney's concerns about Russia engaging in "energy blackmail do not seem sincere and hence are unconvincing." The Russian president likened Western criticism of his country's democracy to the colonialist mentality of a century ago. "There are differences between countries, and it could be very dangerous to ignore these," he added. Defending himself against Western critics who say that Russia does not meet the political or economic criteria for G-8 membership, Mr. Putin said that he considers Russian membership in that body "natural." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lithuania slams Russian 'blackmail'

BERLIN – Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus said in Berlin on July 11 that Russia is using energy policy as a form of "blackmail," the dpa news service reported. Mr. Adamkus charged that Moscow responded to Lithuania's recent decision to sell a refinery to a Polish company instead of a Russian one with "hints that crude oil deliveries could be halted. This has nothing to do with world market prices. I call that political blackmail." He added, "Those who control your energy supply control you politically. This is unacceptable." President Adamkus urged the Russian authorities to guarantee their pledges of gas and oil deliveries at the upcoming G-8 summit. (RFE/RL Newsline)



It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of our beloved husband, father and grandfather.

ANDREW KEYBIDA

on Wednesday, July 5, 2006, at the age of 89.

The funeral services were held on Monday, July 10, at 9:30 a.m. at St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Newark, NJ, followed by interment at Gates of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover, NJ

In profound sorrow are:

Wife, Evelyn Eugenia

Daughter, Andrea Severini

Son, Dr. Robert Keybida with his wife Diane

Granchildren, Christopher and Melissa Keybida

Lauren Severini

Thomas Severini with his wife Michele

Vichnaya Pamiat! – Eternal Memory!

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Andrew's memory may be made to: St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 719 Sanford Ave, Newark, NJ 07106



MIRON F. SUL

On April 5, 2006, at the age of 71, Miron F. Sul died, leaving behind his wife, Maria, and son, Andrei. The deceased was a famous Ukrainian scientist, Merited Geologist of Ukraine and one of the chief directors of the Lviv Geological Research Expedition Center. During his lifetime Miron made significant contributions in historic geological excavations resulting in economic profit to Ukraine and mankind.

MAY GOD REST HIS SOUL!

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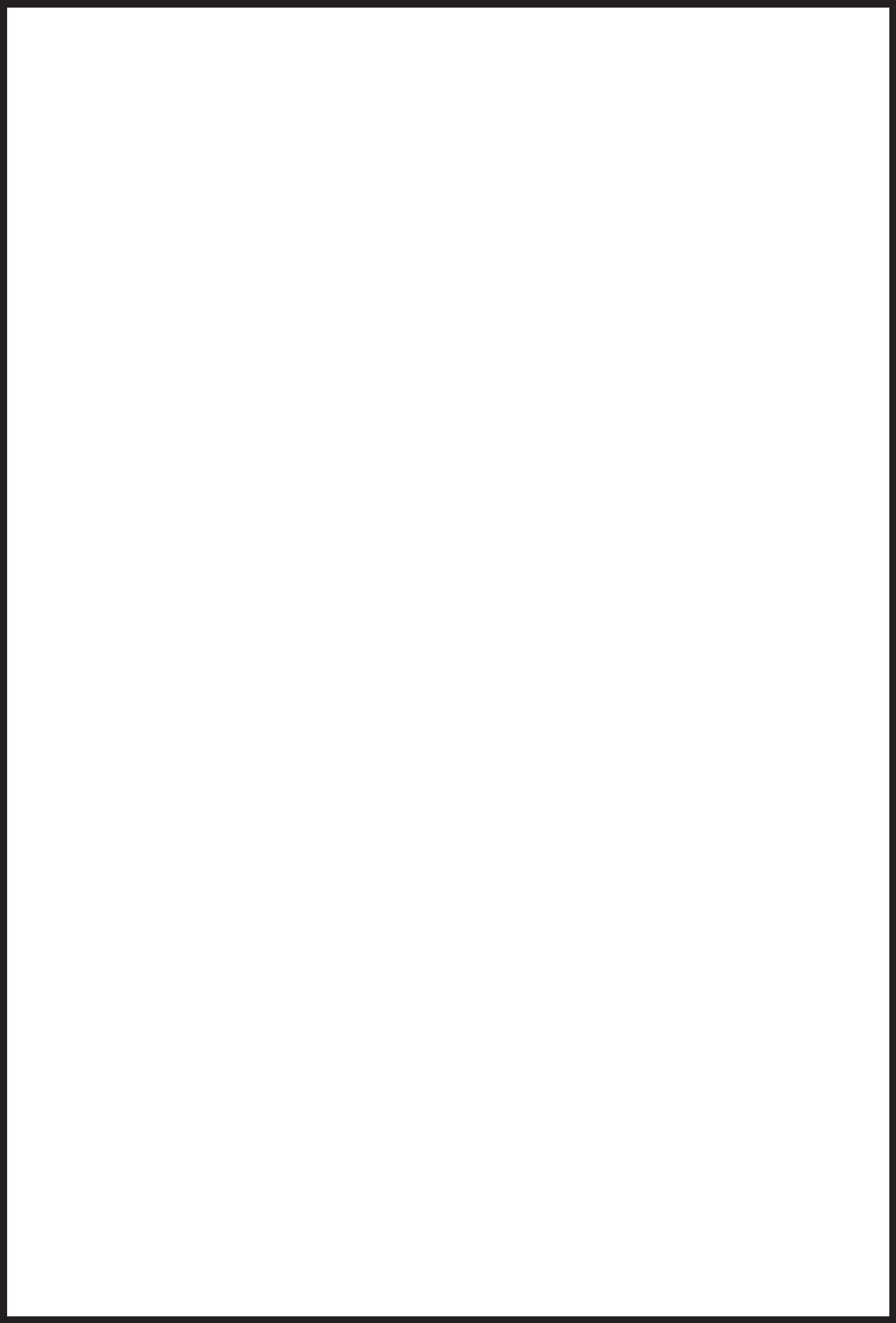
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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Joins law firm in Charleston

CHARLESTON, W. Va. – Nikolas Tysiak on June 15 joined the Business Department of the Steptoe & Johnson law firm. He plans to work in the fields of energy and real estate law at the firm's Charleston office in West Virginia.

Mr. Tysiak graduated from Washington College of Law at American University in May 2005.

A member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 13, he is a past recipient of a Ukrainian National Association scholarship. He studied at the School of Ukrainian Studies in Watervliet, N.Y., where he was a member of the local Ukrainian community.

Mr. Tysiak graduated from the College of William and Mary in May 2002 with a B.A. in government and history, while also studying Spanish and Russian.

During his college experience, in the summer of 2001, Mr. Tysiak worked as an intern at the Ukrainian National Information Service in Washington. Several of his articles, in which he integrated his legal interests with the concerns of Ukrainian Americans, appeared in The Ukrainian Weekly. Topics ranged from human trafficking to reparations for forced laborers.



Nikolas Tysiak

Work at the Department of Labor and the Department of Justice and tending to his own clients at the Washington College of Law Civil Practice Clinic helped Mr. Tysiak to further develop his legal experience.

Mr. Tysiak is the son of Slavko and Cynthia Tysiak of West Sand Lake, N.Y. His father is a newly elected UNA auditor.

Valedictorian at Buffalo school

by Judie Hawryluk

BUFFALO, N.Y. – Mary J. Michalow, 17, gave the valedictory speech for her graduating class of Mount Mercy Academy in June.

Graduation ceremonies were held at Kleinhans Music Hall in Buffalo.

Deemed "the crazy class," Mary noted that it's the people who see things differently who push the human race forward; that the "crazy ones" who believe they can change the world are the ones who do.

Mary attended the local School of Ukrainian Studies and is a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. She will be working with children this summer at the YMCA as a day camp counselor.

In the fall Mary will attend Ithaca College (Ithaca, N.Y.) to study journalism and English education. Her hard work and diligence won her the Ithaca College Park Scholar Award, which provides for full tuition, room and board.



Mary J. Michalow

Mary, her sister, Stephanie, and mother, Ulana Pedersen, are all members of Ukrainian National Association Branch 360 in Buffalo.

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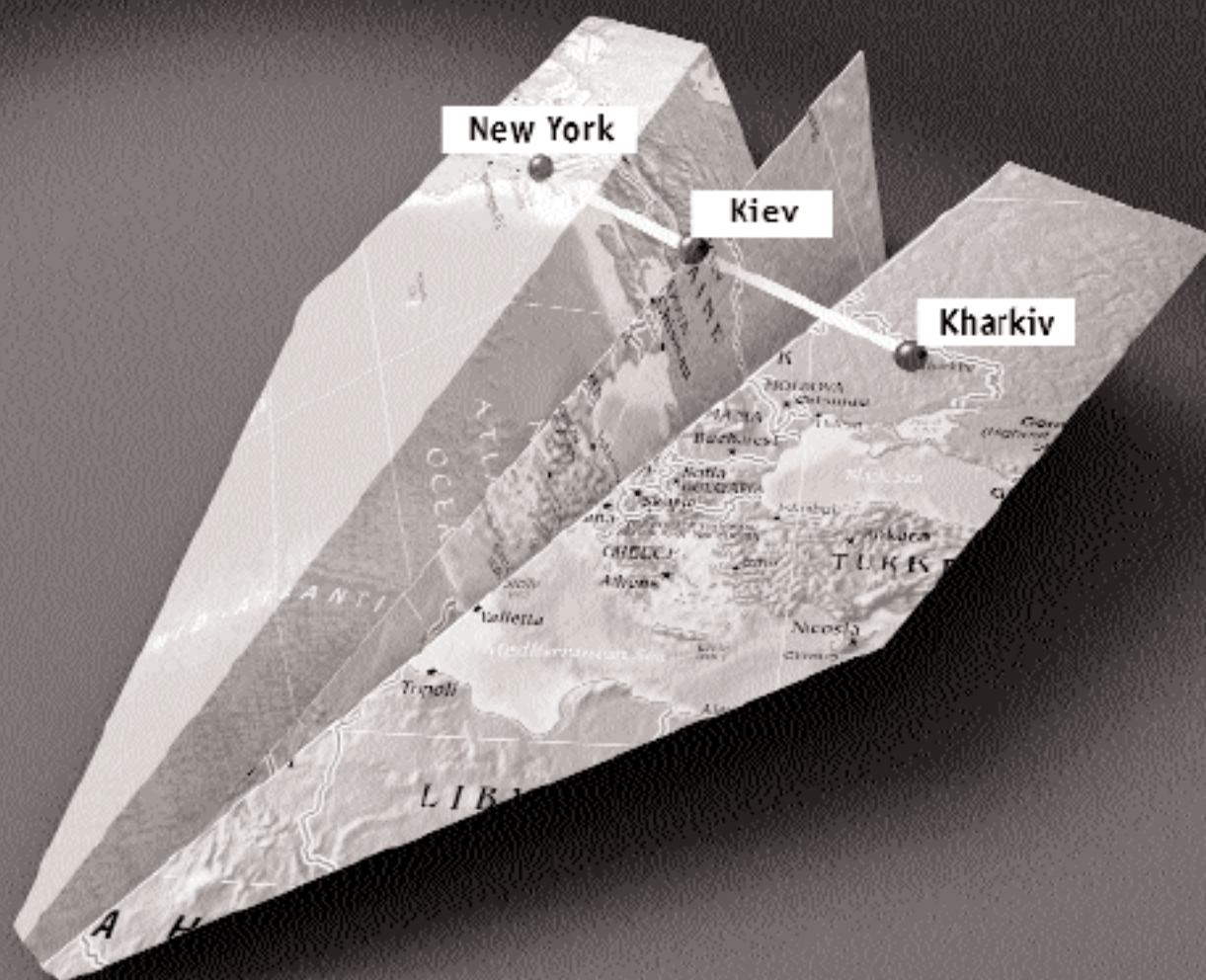
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A conversation...

(Continued from page 10)

1933] was the central assault, however, and it must have its own research center.

Should this Famine-Genocide center also include the "Rozstrilane Vidrodzhennia," the execution of the Ukrainian intelligentsia? The terror?

The starvation of Ukrainian farmers was the part of the genocide which was the most costly in human life, but it cannot be treated in isolation from the rest of the genocide. The assault on the Ukrainian nation included the decimation of the Ukrainian cultural and political elites (Rozstrilane Vidrodzhennia) and this must also be included. The Russification of Ukraine and Kuban is part of the genocide. Ukrainians in the RSFSR must be included. Some mention should be made of the precursor famine (1921-1923) and the aftermath in the Great Terror.

Do you feel that there are currently good historians addressing Ukrainian issues?

The problem is that there is not enough solid work being done by Ukrainian historians. The best work on the Armenian genocide has been done by Armenians. The best work on the Jewish Holocaust has been done by Jews. We are, of course, pleased if non-Ukrainians take up work on Ukrainian history but there are not enough Ukrainians in this field doing the fundamental work. That work urgently needs to be done.

You are one of the few diaspora intellectuals taken seriously in Ukraine. One often gets the impression that there is some negativity to the diaspora. What can be done to accelerate a more positive attitude?

Serious scholars in Ukraine take serious scholars in the West seriously. Hunczak, Szporluk, Subtelny, Kohut, just to name a few, are well respected by historians in Ukraine.

Please comment on your view of the contemporary state of the Ukrainian language. What in your view is a fair resolution of the linguistic situation in Ukraine?

To begin with I think that the diaspora capitulated too quickly in the face of the onslaught of Sovietism. The diaspora preserved some of the basic elements of the Ukrainian language. There was no reason to accept the Soviet "pravopys."

In Ukraine, the Russian language is the language of the former colonial power, which has managed to maintain its status of a dominant imperialist language. The problem is that the Soviet propaganda machine made the Ukrainian people accustomed to accept their subordinate colonial status as a normal state of affairs, and they have difficulty in shaking this mentality. It is not normal that a member of Parliament not know and publicly use the country's state language, to say nothing of the arrogance of ministers who are too arrogant or linguistically challenged to learn and use Ukrainian in

fulfilling their functions in Ukrainian.

Ukrainians no longer need to accept this domination of the language of the colonizer. The recognition of Russian as Ukraine's second official (state) language would be the beginning of the end of Ukrainian as Ukraine's national language. But until Ukrainians have pride and respect for their own language things will not advance.

Is it necessary to reform the National Academy of Sciences? How likely is this to happen?

The very name suggests a lack of self-respect. In France it's the Académie Française. In Russia it's Rossijskaja Akademia Nauk. In Poland it's Polska Akademia Nauk! Why not simply call it the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences? It definitely needs reforms, but it is hard to expect this devalued institution to reform itself. It would first have to purge its own ranks – hardly something we can expect these people to do.

What has always puzzled me is why good scholars from the diaspora have accepted to be nominated to this institution? If they expected to bring about changes, I think they have been mistaken.

I'd like to ask you a few political questions, if I may. What are your views about the ongoing political reform?

I would hardly call it "reform" if by reform we mean change for improvement. Two months after parliamentary elections and there is still no government. This is as primitive as a political system can get. I am opposed to proportional representation in such a situation as we have in Ukraine. In my view it reduces citizen participation in the political life of the country, makes deputies dependent on the party bosses and completely independent of the electorate. You cannot buy

a high place on party list in a system that does not elect its members of Parliament by proportional representation.

Secondly, the source of the political illness in my opinion is the country's system of Parliamentary immunity, which should rather be called parliamentary impunity. Instead of being a guarantee for the elected representatives to fulfill their responsibilities as representatives of their electorate, the system has become a protection for dishonest elements against legal prosecution for crimes committed before or during their tenure.

Political parties are not interested in promoting a genuine political culture. The spirit of otamanschyna dominates Ukrainian political life. This means politicians want privilege.

There are still two major cases outstanding: the poisoning of President Viktor Yushchenko and the Gongadze murder. Will there ever be a just resolution to these?

I seriously doubt it. It seems to me that everyone at the official level is tired of "solving problems," including Yushchenko. Yushchenko has become a Hamlet. The atmosphere in Ukraine is not one where people feel support from the authorities in the resolution of such matters.

How would it be possible to interest Ukrainian financial magnates and oligarchs to become cultural philanthropists?

This will only happen when they develop a sense of personal dignity and a national consciousness. I suppose you need financial incentives set up, too, like tax deductions for pro-Ukrainian philanthropy. But eventually, some Ukrainian robber barons will become Ukrainian philanthropists.

I wonder if you wouldn't mind com-

menting on the Fourth Wave of Ukrainians coming to the West.

I would say that the Third Wave (which was strongly patriotic) did not integrate well with the previous waves of immigration. Because of this lack of fusion with the first and second waves, many talented people were lost to the community organizations. The same error is taking place again. It is important to integrate this Fourth Wave.

This immigration has a much higher level of education, but a much lower level of national consciousness. In the Soviet Union, the state controlled everything but it also paid for all the activities that it sponsored or approved of. This Fourth Wave had a lot of trouble accepting the fact that the Ukrainian diaspora life was organized on voluntary basis and non-paid community participation. We don't have enough psychological studies addressing these problems of assimilation and integration and adherence to ethnic origins.

What are you presently working on?

I am just finishing up an article using U.N. criteria to show that the Famine of 1932-1933 was indeed genocide. As you know, the U.N. Convention recognizes only four groups as victims of genocide: these are national, ethnic, religious and racial. Genocide exists where there is action with intent to destroy one of these groups, in whole or in part. I'll be presenting this paper at the Urbana conference at the end of June.

I continue to write on the myth of the Great Fatherland War. I would like to publish a French anthology of Podolynsky's works, which is almost complete but for which I have no sponsor for publication. I am revising my article on the Sion-Osнова controversy for a publication in Ukrainian, and I also want to get back to the Famine of the '20s.



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of the

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We invite individuals, organizations and businesses to show their pride and support for those individuals who through personal dedication and sacrifice have secured a free and independent Ukraine.

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Please send your greetings, address and
telephone number by **August 12, 2006**, to:

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2200 Rt. 10
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Tel.: (973) 292-9800 ext. 3040
e-mail adsukrpubl@att.net

Reunited cousins...

(Continued from page 4)

family received a special invitation from the Vatican to attend the ceremony. I have been to Lviv several times since and I have also seen a memorial plate that the Lviv city government put on one of the buildings where Uncle Vasya lived in his honor."

Bishop Velychkovsky was born on June 1, 1903, in Stanislaviv and educated there. When he was 15 he joined the Ukrainian Galician Army (Ukrainska Halytska Armiya) and served during the war for the independence of western Ukraine. He joined the Redemptorists in 1920 and completed his studies at the Theological Academy in Lviv.

He made his final profession and was also ordained by Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky in 1925 and was assigned as an instructor at the Redemptorist Minor Seminary in Zboiska. He conducted missions throughout Halychyna at the same time. In 1935 he was appointed superior of the Redemptorists in Stanislaviv and in 1942 he was named to the same position in Ternopil.

Father Velychkovsky was arrested in Ternopil in April 1945 after organizing a mass march of some 20,000 faithful who prayed the rosary and protested Soviet policies. He was sent to Kyiv for trial and was sentenced to death. After several months on death row, his sentence was commuted to 10 years of exile and hard labor as a miner in Vorkuta. He was released in 1955 and allowed to return to Lviv.

In 1958 he was secretly nominated a bishop by the Vatican and it wasn't until 1963 when he received a call from then Metropolitan Slipyj to immediately come to Moscow before the latter's release to

Rome that he was secretly consecrated by Slipyj in his Moscow hotel room.

Bishop Velychkovsky returned to Lviv and continued to serve as an underground bishop until he was rearrested in 1969 and sentenced to three years of hard labor in Kommunarsk. At the end of his term he was released, forbidden to return to Ukraine, and almost immediately sent to Zagreb. After short stays in Zagreb and Rome, Bishop Velychkovsky permanently settled in Winnipeg, where he died the following June.

The Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), the international Catholic cable network, released an hourlong documentary on the life of Bishop Velychkovsky which first aired on June 22. Further information can be obtained on the network's website, www.ewtn.com.

Orange Circle...

(Continued from page 3)

cy analysts; briefings on current economic and political developments in Ukraine; and national and international conferences and seminars.

Led by a small staff of experts with backgrounds in business, government and the non-governmental policy community, the Orange Circle links a network of eminent political scientists, economists, business experts and policy-makers.

The organization's board of directors includes Adrian Karatnycky, Ihor Bardyn, George Chopivsky, Nadia Diuk, Adrian Hewryk, Julian Kulas, Roman Kyzyk, Alex Motyl, Ambassador William Green Miller, Ihor Rakowsky and Jim Temerty.



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Kutztown and Precarpathian universities continue their academic collaboration



Visiting professors from Precarpathian National University in Ukraine, Natalia Chahrak (right) and Iryna Klanichka (second from right), with Pennsylvania State Rep. David Argall and Prof. Paula Holoviak of Kutztown University in Pennsylvania.

KUTZTOWN, Pa. – Two professors from Precarpathian National University in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, recently visited Kutztown University in Pennsylvania as part of the renewed collaboration agreement between these two institutions of higher education.

Prof. Natalia Chahrak of the tourism management department and Prof. Iryna Klanichka of the English Studies program visited Kutztown University on April 4-May 4. During this, their first visit to the United States, the professors lectured to American students regarding education, politics and everyday life in Ukraine.

They visited both public and private elementary schools, toured Washington and Philadelphia, and conducted their own research at the Kutztown University library.

On April 25 the professors visited the state legislature in Harrisburg as the honored guests of House Majority Whip David Argall and House Speaker John Perzel. The professors were acknowledged on the floor of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and received an extensive private tour of the newly renovated capitol building. Rep. Argall's district includes Schuylkill County, home to many second- and third-generation Ukrainian Americans.

Precarpathian University's collaborative agreement with Kutztown was signed in 1993 but recently was re-instituted by Kutztown's new president, Dr. Javier Cevallos, and the new rector of Precarpathian University, Dr. Bohdan Ostafijchuk. The agreement includes student and faculty exchanges, collaborative academic conferences and research and cultural exchanges.

Next summer, American students will be able to earn three to six college credits in language, history or culture while enjoying the beautiful Carpathian Mountains at the Precarpathian University's facilities. Other planned exchanges will involve sports teams, and music and dance ensembles.

Kutztown and Precarpathian universities share similar academic disciplines, making for an ideal match. Both universities train elementary and secondary school teachers, as well as maintain extensive programs in the visual and performing arts, liberal arts and sciences, and business.

Kutztown University's mission includes a strong dedication to internationalizing the curriculum through study abroad programs and student and faculty exchanges around the world. Precarpathian University is seeking to build tourism to the region and to promote the beauty and health benefits of the nearby Carpathian Mountains through its newly created department of tourism.

For more information on the Kutztown student exchange program, contact Dr.

Paula Holoviak, Ukraine Exchange Program coordinator, at (610) 683-4452 or holoviak@kutztown.edu.

UKRAINIAN SPORTS FEDERATION OF U.S.A and CANADA

This summer USCAK youth games will be held on July 29 and 30 at SUM Camp in Ellenville, NY, USCAK member-clubs and organizations are urged to participate in team and individual sports.

PROGRAM

July 29, 2006

Track events ... 5 age groups
Swimming events ... 4 age groups
Tennis ... 2 age groups
Volleyball ... lower age group
Soccer ... lower age group

July 30, 2006

Soccer ... older age group
Volleyball ... older age group

Please direct pre-registration to:

Mr. Roman Pyndus, Secretary
145 Midland Place, Newark, NJ 07106
Tel.: (973) 375-0668

All pre-registrations must be received by July 22, 2006



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<i>Single/Triple & Quad rates upon request</i>	

Please note: Above rates include donation to the UNA institution of your choice!
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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 8-16**

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 Channey 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 Hatushevsky, 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 17th Annual Ukrainian "SITCH" Sports Camp that will take place here at Soyuzivka for the 1st time. Run by the Ukrainian Stich 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 Mariya 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 Anna 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

- July 21-23
Dickinson, ND

North Dakota Ukrainian Festival, "The Year of the Churches," Ukrainian Cultural Institute, 701-483-1486
- July 21
Winnipeg

Rusalka Open Golf Tournament, Bel Acres Golf and Country Club, 204-795-4360
- July 22
Jewett, NY

Barvy ensemble performance, Grazhda Music and Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-263-4619
- July 22
Johnson City, NY

Ukrainian Festival, Voloshky Dancers, St. John Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 607-797-1584
- July 22
Montreal Area, QC

West Island Ukrainian Golf Tournament, Club de Golf Atlantide, 514-932-4545 or 514-694-5957
- July 20-Oct. 15
Chicago

Opening reception for art exhibit "Crossroads: in Ukraine, 1920-1930," Chicago Cultural Center, 312-744-6630
- July 27-30
McKees Rocks, PA

Ukrainian Food and Fun Festival, St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 412-331-2362
- July 29
Philadelphia

Luau hosted by the Ukrainian American Citizens' Association, The Ukie Club, 215-627-8790
- July 30
Uniondale, NY

St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church annual parish picnic, St. Vladimir Parish Center, 516-481-7717

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

Through August 28, 2006

Every Monday: Steak Night with music by Soyuzivka's House Band

Through August 30, 2006

Every Wednesday: Hutsul Night with music by Soyuzivka's House Band

Through September 1, 2006

Every Friday: Odessa Seafood Night with music by Soyuzivka's House Band

July 22, 2006

Zabava with Na Zdorovya Band

July 23-28, 2006

Children's Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp, Session #2

July 23-29, 2006

Ukrainian Sitch Sports Camp, Session #1

July 23-August 5, 2006

Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #1

July 28-30, 2006

Ducia Hanushevsky Exhibit featuring Ukrainian ceramics

July 29, 2006

Zabava with Lvivany Band

July 30-August 5, 2006

Ukrainian Sitch Sports Camp, Session #2

July 31-August 4, 2006

Golf Day Camp and Beach Volleyball Day Camp

August 4, 2006

Zahrava Band performs at the Tiki Bar, 10 p.m.

August 4-6, 2006

Kozak exhibit

August 5, 2006

Dance Camp performance 2 p.m., Auction Fund-Raiser sponsored by Chornomorski Khvyli and Soyuzivka's Heritage Foundation Golf Tournament Zabava with Zahrava Band, 10 p.m.

August 6-19, 2006

Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #2

August 12, 2006

Miss Soyuzivka Weekend and zabava with Tempo

August 12-19, 2006

Club Suzie-Q Week

August 13, 2006

Music concert sponsored by UNWLA Regional Council of NY

August 18, 2006

"Pete and Vlod - unplugged" perform at the Tiki Bar, 10 p.m.

August 19, 2006

Dance Camp performance followed by zabava with Fata Morgana

August 26, 2006

Zabava with Vidlunnia Band

September 1-3, 2006

Labor Day Weekend September 1, Zahrava Band performs at Tiki Bar, 10 p.m.

September 2, Afternoon performance by Hrim Band; performance by Yavir School of Ukrainian Dance, 8 p.m.; zabavy with Luna and Zahrava bands, 10 p.m.

September 3, performance by Yavir School of Ukrainian Dance, 1 p.m.; zabava with Zahrava Band, 10 p.m.

To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
216 Foordmore Road P.O. Box 529
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E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 29

JEWETT, N.Y.: "Music at the Grazhda" presents the Grazhda Chamber Music Society, with Alexandre Brussilovsky, violin; Oleksandr Abayev, violin; Borys Deviatov, viola; Natalia Khoma, cello; and, Volodymyr Vynnytsky, piano. Time: 8 p.m. The Grazhda is located on Ukraine Road off Route 23A; it is five miles west of the town of Hunter, N.Y., in the Catskill Mountains. For directions visit www.grazhdamusicandart.org; for additional information call 518-263-4619.

Sunday, July 30

UNIONDALE, N.Y.: The annual picnic of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church will take place beginning at 1 p.m. at the parish center, 226 Uniondale Avenue. The price of admission, \$15 for adults, includes a meal, soft drinks and all activities. For information call 517-485-0775.

Friday, August 25

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J.: The Khmelnychenky Plast fraternity is sponsoring an all-ages dance at the Wildwood Crest Pier Recreation Center, across the street from

the Pan Am Hotel. Doors open at 7 p.m. with dance music at 7-8 p.m.. The "Party Ptashat" kids' dance will be held at 8-9:30 p.m., followed by the youth "Vechirka" beginning at 10 p.m. Live music will be provided by Hrim from 8 p.m. to midnight. CD dance mixes are welcome at midnight. Admission: kids and students, \$5; adults age 23 and over, \$10. A portion of the proceeds go toward the Vovcha Tropa Plast campground's improvement fund. Donations will be accepted. For information and suggestions, contact Adrian Horodecky, adrian@telligys.com, or log on to www.xml.org.

Sunday, September 10

HILLSIDE, N.J.: Religious Education classes for children will begin shortly before the 10:45 a.m. Sunday liturgy at the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, located at Liberty Avenue and Bloy Street. The program is designed for children from pre-school (age 3) through Grade 8. For further details and registration, please contact Patricia Shatynski, 908-322-7350, by August 13. Additional information may be found on the parish website, www.byzan-tines.net/immaculateconception.

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VISIT UKRAINE WITH SCOPE TRAVEL



Best of Ukraine

Aug 7, 2006

A lovely combination of Kyiv, Odessa, Lviv and Crimea - with extensive sightseeing to Yalta, Bakhchisaraj and Chersonesus + a day excursion to the Carpathian Mts. from Lviv. (16 days)



Western Ukraine + Poland

Aug 18, 2006

Kyiv + Lviv with an accent on the Carpathian area - Yaremche, Kolomyia-Vorokhta-a most colorful ethnic splendor that ends in fascinating Krakow! An Independence Day Tour. (15 days)



Ukraine - Poland - Hungary

Jul 12 & Sep 13, 2006

See the best of Eastern Europe in 12 days on one tour - Kyiv, Lviv, Krakow, Budapest. Special Features: Wieliczka Salt Mines and Szantandra Artisan Villages. (12 days)



Mini Ukraine

Aug 17 & Sep 28, 2006

This tour combines the East and the West of Ukraine - Kyiv and Lviv, the Capital of Galicia during the Austria-Hungary reign. An Independence Day Tour. (9 days)



Eastern Ukraine

Aug 15, 2006

We fly to Kharkiv, continue to Poltava, and attend the awesome Sorochynskyy Yarmarok. Continue to Chernihiv and then to Kyiv for the festivities! End tour in Lviv or join the Hutsul Fest Tour in Kolomyia! An Independence Day Tour. (15 days)

Hutsul Festival Tour

Aug 22, 2006 - Waived Only

Kyiv - take part in all the festivities before boarding your plane towards Karpaty. Be in Kolomyia for the Hutsul Festival - the most colorful dance/song competition you can imagine! End tour in lovely Lviv. An Independence Day Tour. (11 days)

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