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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Shakhtar wins UEFA cup



UEFA.com

Brazilian striker Jadson nets the deciding goal for Shakhtar Donetsk in overtime against Werder Bremen to win 2-1 in the UEFA Cup final at Sukru Saracoglu Stadium in Istanbul, Turkey, on May 20.

by Yuriy Borysov

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – In the biggest victory for a Ukrainian soccer club on the international stage, Shakhtar Donetsk defeated Werder Bremen of Germany on May 20 to win the UEFA Cup, Europe's second most prestigious soccer tournament behind the Champions League.

Brazilian midfielder Jadson scored the decisive goal seven minutes into overtime for Shakhtar, which held onto its 2-1 lead in the remaining minutes of overtime to bring Ukraine its historic victory before 53,000 fans at Sukru Saracoglu Stadium in Istanbul and an estimated 18 million television viewers in Ukraine.

Piquing the delight of more than 7,000 Shakhtar fans present at the match, Shakhtar team captain Darijo Srna of Croatia gleefully thrust the UEFA trophy in victory while his teammates got

hold of team president Rinat Akhmetov and hoisted him in the air several times.

Other Ukrainian leaders in attendance were Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, Party of the Regions of Ukraine Chair Viktor Yanukovich and Dynamo Kyiv President Hryhorii Surkis. Also present was Michel Platini, president of the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA).

Shakhtar Donetsk was among four Ukrainians teams competing in the UEFA Cup after falling out of the Champions League tournament in November. On May 7 Shakhtar defeated Dynamo Kyiv to qualify for the final with Werder Bremen.

The match was the 38th and last final of the UEFA Cup, which will change its name to the UEFA Europa League in the next season.

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U.S. ambassador bids farewell to Ukraine at frank press conference

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – At a farewell press conference that marked the end of his three-year term, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor Jr. voiced disappointment with the administration of Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko for its lack of stability and failure to make the progress that was expected.

Not naming any names, but striking an unusually critical tone, Ambassador Taylor said on May 21 he had expected his term would be a time for consolidating democracy and economic development in Ukraine, rather than conflict.

"I had come from some exciting places, such as Iraq, Afghanistan and Jerusalem, and I was ready for some less exciting time and more working time," he said. "Some more nuts and bolts, some more lower-level but important reform work needed to be done. But that was not to be."

Mr. Taylor took over as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine in May 2006, just as Yulia Tymoshenko attempted to form a pro-Western coalition of her bloc, the Our Ukraine Bloc and the Socialist Party of Ukraine.

At his introductory press conference at that time, Mr. Taylor said he was delighted to arrive in Ukraine after serving the U.S. government in war-afflicted countries.

"I guess they figured in Washington that I had paid my dues in difficult places



Zenon Zawada

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor Jr. concludes his three-year assignment. No successor has yet been named.

and they were going to send me to a good place this time, so they sent me to Ukraine," he said in June 2006.

However, Ukraine wasn't the oasis of calm and stability he had anticipated.

Within just a few weeks, the pro-Western coalition fell apart after the Socialists

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Controversial aide Viktor Baloha resigns from Presidential Secretariat

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – After running the Presidential Secretariat for more than two and half years and serving as Viktor Yushchenko's right-hand man, Viktor Baloha announced his resignation on May 16 after the president reportedly rejected his proposals on how to extend their political career.

As Mr. Baloha's replacement, President Yushchenko on May 19 appointed Vira Ulianchenko, his longtime advisor and political confidante who became leader of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's Union party the same day Mr. Baloha announced his departure.

Even in resignation, Mr. Baloha resorted to his nasty, bellicose approach to Ukrainian politics that brought the president so much criticism and earned him the reputation among some observers as the cause of President Yushchenko's political demise. He was especially vicious in his resignation letter, made public on May 20.

"I am convinced that you don't have the

moral right to compete in the presidential election," Mr. Baloha wrote to Mr. Yushchenko. "Corruption and nepotism [kumivtsvo] in government, double standards in making government decisions became commonplace. You're indifferent that your entourage is eating away at the government and state, like corrosion. When I reported to you alarming facts, you acted as if you didn't hear me."

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Baloha employed such viciousness in driving away many of President Yushchenko's former key allies, including Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, former Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk, former Defense Minister Anatoliy Grytsenko and Our Ukraine parliamentary faction leader Mykola Martynenko.

Given that cutthroat politics and reckless attacks were uncharacteristic for President Yushchenko, many Kyiv political observers, diplomats and journalists began to believe that it was Mr. Baloha calling the shots in the Presidential Secretariat, with President

(Continued on page 9)

Heritage Foundation grant of \$5,000 supports newspapers' archives project

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Heritage Foundation of 1st Security Savings Bank has donated \$5,000 for the digital archives project of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, whose aim is to digitize all the issues of these two newspapers, and their related publications.

Julian E. Kulas, president of the Heritage Foundation, noted in his letter to Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of The Weekly and Svoboda, "I believe that digitized archives will be of great value to the numerous researchers in Ukraine and learning institutions in the U.S. and Canada. ...I wish you success in bringing this project to completion."

The Chicago-based Heritage

Foundation supports myriad Ukrainian community endeavors and has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to various organizations and projects in keeping with its mission to preserve the Ukrainian ethnic identity, spiritual values and community viability.

In the past, the foundation has supported The Ukrainian Weekly's Copies for Congress project, via which all members of the U.S. Congress receive complimentary subscriptions to a newspaper that serves as the voice of the Ukrainian American community.

Founded, respectively, in 1893 and

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ANALYSIS

Gazprom's murky games in Hungarian gas network

by Roman Kupchinsky
Eurasia Daily Monitor
May 5

Gazprom may be preparing to take over a large part of the Hungarian domestic gas distribution network. A new, highly opaque deal is in the works as a result of which Hungary's energy security could be threatened. On April 28 Emfesz KFT, a major Hungarian gas distribution company owned by Ukrainian businessman Dmytro Firtash, announced that it will stop importing gas from RosUkrEnergo (RUE), a company based in Zug, Switzerland, and will instead buy gas from an unknown company, RosGas AG, also located in Zug.

An Emfesz press release claimed that: "RosGas is a company in Gazprom's network of business interests." Furthermore, the press release stated that: "The new gas acquisition system of Emfesz is independent of Ukraine. Gazprom, whose interest is to keep Emfesz consumers supplied with gas, has played a role in shaping the system. The supply of all Emfesz's gas consumers is continuously guaranteed and the fact that RosGas will be the gas provider of Emfesz involves no perceptible change for the latter's customers" (www.emfesz.hu, April 28).

Emfesz, the second largest Hungarian gas distributor which imports 3 billion cubic meters annually, was forced to turn to another middleman for its gas supplies

after RUE was removed from the Ukrainian-Central Asian gas trade in January (www.emfesz.hu, January 9). However, the owner of Emfesz, Mr. Firtash, has several commercial interests. He is also the 45 percent owner of RUE – 50 percent of which is owned by Gazprom and 5 percent by Firtash's business partner, Ivan Fursyn.

Gazprom spokesman Sergey Kuprianov sharply contradicted the allegation that the company was linked to Rosgas: "It is well-known that the only export channel for Russian gas is the company Gazprom Export. The company RosGas which was named today in the Hungarian media has no relation to Gazprom and is not part of the Gazprom Group" (Interfax Ukraine, April 29).

According to company records located by the Jamestown Foundation (publisher of Eurasia Daily Monitor), RosGas AG was first registered in Zurich, under the name IKRON AG on December 10, 2008, and changed its name eight days later to RosGas AG while relocating to Zug – only a few weeks before the Ukrainian-Russian gas conflict began in January. The two principal shareholders of RosGas are Andras Laki, and Tamas Grazda, a Hungarian national who also happens to be the acquisitions and mergers director for Emfesz and a member of the management board of Emfesz, Poland (www.

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RosGas to control 20 percent of Hungarian gas distribution

by Roman Kupchinsky
Eurasia Daily Monitor
May 11

Barely nine days after the Hungarian gas trader Emfesz KFT announced that it will begin receiving supplies of 3 billion cubic meters annually from the company RosGas AG based in Zug (Switzerland), rather than the now inactive RosUkrEnergo (RUE), the Russian press reported that Emfesz has been sold to RosGas (EDM, May 5; Vedomosti, May 7). Thus RosGas, a little-known company, now controls 20 percent of the Hungarian domestic gas distribution market.

Emfesz was owned by Dmytro Firtash, a Ukrainian businessman who is also the 45 percent owner of RUE. The company was created in 2003, when Mr. Firtash secretly owned the Hungarian-based company, Eural Trans Gas (ETG), which then became the intermediary for Turkmen gas sales to Ukraine.

ETG from its inception was a highly controversial company. Numerous media reports claimed that it was linked to Semen Mogilevich, an alleged member of

the Russian mafia wanted by the FBI for major fraud. ETG denied these charges, but the suspicions did not vanish.

In January 2008 Mr. Mogilevich was arrested in Moscow on charges of aiding and abetting a tax evasion scheme, but many observers believed this was false and that his arrest was directly linked to a struggle between Mr. Firtash and Gazprom over the control of Emfesz. According to informed sources, prior to his arrest Mr. Mogilevich disclosed that Gazprom was determined to take over Emfesz and that he had played a role in this plot.

As the controversy surrounding ETG grew, Gazprom decided to break its links with the company and in 2004 it created RosUkrEnergo to take its place – but Mr. Firtash remained, and he was allowed to control 45 percent of RUE along with Ivan Fursin, another Ukrainian businessman, with a 5 percent share. Gazprom, meanwhile, along with then-Russian President Vladimir Putin and current President Dmitry Medvedev, audaciously claimed it did not know the identity of the 50 percent owners of RUE.

An article in Vedomosti on May 7 written by Irina Reznik, a journalist with long-standing high-level Gazprom contacts, cited unnamed sources "close to Gazprom and Emfesz" who said that RosGas will be controlled by the Bulgarian gas middleman company Overgas.

Overgas, like RosGas, is a highly opaque structure. In February of this year, after the Ukrainian-Russian gas conflict ended and deliveries were restored to Bulgaria, government officials announced that they would again seek to remove two

(Continued on page 8)

NEWSBRIEFS

Yushchenko honors U.S. ambassador

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko met on May 18 with the ambassador of the United States to Ukraine, William B. Taylor, on the occasion of the ending of Mr. Taylor's diplomatic mission. President Yushchenko awarded Ambassador Taylor with the Order For Merit, third grade, for his contributions to the development of Ukrainian-American relations and thanked him for the work. (Press Office of the President of Ukraine)

Presidential Secretariat chief resigns

KYIV – The head of the Presidential Secretariat, Viktor Baloha, has tendered his resignation, the Ukrayinska Pravda online publication reported on May 18. "A month ago, long before my vacation, I handed in my resignation statement to President Viktor Yushchenko," Mr. Baloha told Ukrayinska Pravda. He declined to comment on the move, saying only that he had substantiated his decision in his resignation letter. Mr. Baloha added, "Now it is up on the President to decide." (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko accepts resignation

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has accepted the resignation of Viktor Baloha from the post of head of the Presidential Secretariat. The president disclosed this in an interview with the newspaper Delo. "This is a long-awaited reloading of authority," he said. Asked if Mr. Baloha will engage in the presidential election campaign, Mr. Yushchenko said consultations were proceeding on the issue. "We have not yet discussed it with Baloha. I believe, he is an all-sufficient man and will do what he wants. Or he may assist in the organization of the election campaign – the door is open. If he prefers doing other things, this is his own right," the president said. While heading the Presidential Secretariat, Mr. Baloha strongly opposed Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. (Ukrinform)

Baloha on reason for resignation

KYIV – Viktor Baloha, whose statement of resignation from the post of head

of the Presidential Secretariat was signed on May 19, said the main reason for his decision to resign was his strong disagreement with President Viktor Yushchenko's intention to seek re-election. "I am sure you have no moral right to run for the presidency," said Mr. Baloha's statement, which appeared on the website of the Single Center party, of which he is a presidium member. He accused Mr. Yushchenko of having failed during his presidency to meet the commitments he made to Ukrainian society in the course of the 2004 election campaign. "Millions of Ukrainians saw in each line of the inauguration address hope for a new Ukraine to appear with the new president, a Ukraine having no cynical authority, a proud and rich one," but "not a single of those hopes has ever come true, and time was irreversibly lost," Mr. Baloha wrote. He added that "corruption and nepotism among the authorities, dual standards in decision-making at the state level have become commonness." He also said that one more reason for his resignation was the entourage of President Yushchenko, which was often guided by family or friendly relationships rather than professionalism. In his letter of resignation, Mr. Baloha also raised the question of the president's personal responsibility for the permanent crises and conflicts during all the years of his presidency. "You have never seen a partner in a single institute of power or a political force. Early elections to the Verkhovna Rada in 2007 provided you with the opportunity to reach political compromise and stabilize authority. But you did not make use of this opportunity. For the second time after the first negative voting you submitted the candidacy of [Yulia] Tymoshenko for the post of the head of government, although you could not do so. This country will not recover soon from the results of that decision of yours. That is why neither you nor Tymoshenko may even dream of any seat in power. You both must resign," Mr. Baloha's statement reads. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko to head Presidential Secretariat

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor

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Correction

In the special section "A Ukrainian Summer" (May 3), a photo that accompanied the story about the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute (HUSI) carried the wrong caption. Although the caption given to The Weekly said that it was Steve Seegel, director of HUSI 2008, who was seen in a photo from 2008, in fact it was Alex Dillon, director of HUSI in 2006, seen in a photo from that summer.

Estonian president urges West to 'pay attention to what is going on'

Estonian President Toomas Hendrik Ilves visited RFE/RL in Prague on May 12 to participate in ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the organization's new broadcast headquarters. Correspondent Charles Recknagel took the occasion to ask Mr. Ilves how he assesses the progress of democracy and human rights in the former Soviet world.

President Ilves, you have a unique position of living precisely on the border of the European Union and Russia. And Estonia and the other Baltic states have the experience of having been a part of the Soviet Union. That makes you an observer per force, and par excellence, of Moscow. Where do you see the political trajectory going in Russia, and how would you characterize the style of government that has developed there?

We are not on the border of the EU and Russia; we are the EU. So that's what our perspective consists of, a firmly European view of things. Clearly, the direction that our neighbor has taken when it comes to respect for freedom of speech and human rights is a step back from what everyone hoped.

The term that has been invented to describe this originally was "managed democracy," but that was kind of a public relations failure so now it is "sovereign democracy." In general, when you have adjectives put in front of the word democracy, then you have to watch out. "People's democracies," we know what those were,

"The term that has been invented to describe [the government in Russia] originally was 'managed democracy,' but that was kind of a public relations failure so now it is 'sovereign democracy.' In general, when you have adjectives put in front of the word democracy, then you have to watch out."

—Estonian President Toomas Hendrik Ilves

[so] "sovereign democracy" as opposed to democracy is something that concerns us.

From our perspective, it is very difficult to tell where things are going. Clearly, the error that many of us made – I include myself among them, but I think it was something that we all fell for – was the identification of communism, strictly communism, with a lack of human rights and a [lack of] free markets and freedom of speech. We should have thought back to the 1930s; we should have looked at what was going on in Germany and in Italy, where you had capitalism but you did not have human rights and freedom of speech.

We, of course, couldn't foresee that things would go in that direction, that we would have unreined capitalism and a stifling of political opinion and alternative views.

I think that is the big question that we face today: How we deal with it. Too many

people, I think, in the West have said, "Oh well, there is capitalism so what else is [needed] there, let's do business." And that kind of thinking we see perhaps too much of in the West. The fundamental values that united us in the Cold War don't seem to be as strong in the West as we thought, because you see calls to ignore lack of human rights, a stifling of freedom of speech, in order to make a dollar or to make a euro.

Would you say, then, that the West has essentially abandoned the Russian human rights struggle simply because of the appearance of normalcy which has come with capitalism and an open market?

Well, I think that we in the West would not say yes. But if you talk to the people in the human rights movement in Russia – in Memorial, or the journalists under severe pressure today in Russia itself – they are the ones who actually say the most and point the finger of blame for hypocrisy on the part of the West for not paying attention to what is going on.

Let's be honest, the Cold War forced us to have a certain amount of backbone, moral rigor, that it was, with very few exceptions, unacceptable to just try to make a buck when you were dealing with a totalitarian, communist regime. And then, of course, it was not that easy to do it anyway because they were not capitalist.

But [today] I think that we have this spectrum of opinion on this that is very broad. There are also national interest issues here

regarding energy, which lead to some countries caring less about these issues, about human rights. There are personal interest issues on the part of some people that we have seen and, in fact, we end up with an odd situation in which the former communist countries which have the empirical and experiential knowledge of what it means to have lack of human rights, lack of freedom of speech, in some ways are – how to put this politely – well, in any case, I would say that many of us feel that talking about those very same issues is not popular and in fact almost looked down upon by some of our colleagues in the European Union because it is viewed as somehow antiquated or out of place to talk about human rights and freedom of speech. And I think that is a cause for concern, actually.

Western governments have left much of the task of pressing for human rights to multistate organizations which subscribe to certain standards and then seek to verify that member-states observe those standards in practice. The verification process, in turn, is seen to be a kind of positive pressure which over time encourages recalcitrant members to change their behavior. An example is the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) which, in part, monitors elections for how well they meet democratic standards. How do you rate the strengths and failings of this

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Shakhtar...

(Continued from page 1)

Among Shakhtar's advantages in the match was the support of the stadium's Turkish fans, not so much for geopolitical reasons as the fact that the team's Romanian coach Mircea Lucescu had served as head coach for two Istanbul football clubs – Galatasaray SK and Beşiktaş JK.

Loud chants of "Shakhtar" filled the stadium, while the German support was largely inaudible.

The Shakhtar team also recruited five players from Brazil, a country known as a soccer mecca that consistently produces the world's most talented players in the sport.

It was precisely a Brazilian, striker Luiz Adriano, who scored the first goal after receiving a pass from Willian, another Brazilian, 25 minutes into the match.

Werder's only goal came from a Brazilian as well – Naldo scored a free kick past Shakhtar goalkeeper Andriy Piatov at 35 minutes in the first half.

Throughout the scoreless second half, both teams missed numerous chances to score, with Shakhtar gaining some particularly opportune breaks, thus sending the match into overtime. Jadson scored the victorious goal at the 97th minute with an assist from Darjo Srna.

With the match concluding at 12:15 a.m., soccer fans in all of Ukraine's major cities erupted in celebration, particularly in Donetsk, where they had waited for such a victory for more than a decade after Mr. Akhmetov took over the team in 1996 and began building it into an international powerhouse.

Thousands of Shakhtar fans greeted the team upon its return from Istanbul on the afternoon of May 21.

Natalya Lavska, a 28-year-old translator, watched the match with 2,000 fans in Kyiv's open-air fan zone, consisting of a large plasma screen and wooden benches set up near the Friendship of Peoples Arch in central Kyiv.

She said she's not much of a soccer fan, but this time was different.

"The game was dynamic, especially

the first half," Ms. Lavksa said. "Shakhtar played well, and it was clear they won deservedly. This victory is special for Ukrainian fans because they believed in their own team."

Though Dynamo Kyiv is the biggest soccer rival to Shakhtar Donetsk, she said the historic match enabled Kyiv fans to bring themselves to support even their enemies – they simply chanted "Ukrayina" instead of "Shakhtar."

Indeed, Shakhtar fans such as Yevhen Sazhniev from Berdiansk were entirely comfortable among Kyiv fans, who under other conditions would have likely doled out their fair share of verbal abuse.

"I really enjoyed Shakhtar on its game – fast, beautiful and accurate," he said, adding that Shakhtar's victory raised the prestige of Ukrainian soccer throughout the world.

Among those congratulating Shakhtar on its victory was President Yushchenko, who stated, "Tonight you made millions of your countrymen happy. The whole country celebrates with you. Your success proves that Ukrainian soccer teams belong to our continent's soccer elite and they can achieve the highest goals."

Mr. Yanukovich called the Shakhtar victory a historic event that raises Ukraine's prestige and offers the nation a sense of pride.

"I believe that Shakhtar's leadership in the prestigious European tournament will give a strong push toward developing national soccer and will lead it onto a new level of quality on the eve of Ukraine hosting the European championship final in 2012," he said.

Team owner Mr. Akhmetov, notoriously tight-lipped and behind the scenes, offered no press conference or comments following the match.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said she wore her bright orange Shakhtar jersey and watched the match with her family, "holding hands, rooting for the team, worrying and getting nervous."

"It was so nice," she said in a statement. "I don't know what the neighbors were thinking, but we were yelling, whistling and singing."

Ukrainian celebrities join campaign to protect women

by Hugh Biggar

United Nations Development Program

KYIV – Prominent Ukrainian artists, athletes, politicians and writers are among the Ukrainian men who have joined a new network fighting violence against women in the country.

"We Ukrainian men leaders who have a certain impact on our society and its development have to unite our efforts to fight against this dire phenomenon," Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chairman Mykola Tomenko said.

According to the Ministry of Ukraine for Family, Youth and Sports, there were more than 56,000 domestic violence incidents in 2008. The actual number is believed to be much higher than those figures, since many incidents are unreported. Additionally, 90 percent of domestic violence victims in Ukraine are women.

As a result, Ukrainian men have signed onto the Stop Violence! campaign. Launched in Ukraine in 2008, the program is managed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The European Union will also fund an outdoor social advertising campaign in the spring.

The campaign coincides with the United Nation's multi-year initiative dubbed, "Unite to End Violence Against Women."

Both campaigns are in response to global violence against women. According to the

UNDP, globally one out of three women is beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime. Such violence poses more of a threat to women than cancer or vehicular accidents.

In addition to being a health and safety issue, violence against women also affects human rights and economic development. In Ukraine, for instance, the Ministry of Information reports that more than 400,000 women have left the country in the last decade searching for a better life – a migration that also leaves them vulnerable to trafficking.

The addition of a network of men in Ukraine in response to these concerns is seen as a way to raise awareness, create a culture of change and serve as role models of non-violent behavior.

"We have to take responsibility for women, children and our families, and should stop concealing it," Mr. Tomenko said.

In addition to Mr. Tomenko, well-known Ukrainian men to join the network include former Olympic champion, Serhiy Bubka, world champion swimmer Oleh Lisohor, Olympic champion Denys Sylantiev, journalist Danylo Yanevsky, non-governmental organization leader Oleksander Marchenko, football player Andriy Guisin, artist Ostap Stupka, artist Bohdan Benyuk and publisher Ivan Malkovych.

Friendship blossoms between Arlington and Ivano-Frankivsk

by Ed Lytwak

ARLINGTON, Va. – An eight-person delegation of prominent citizens from the Ukrainian city of Ivano-Frankivsk recently visited the United States to sign a friendship agreement with Arlington County, Va. Under the auspices of the Arlington Sister City Association (ASCA), the friendship agreement represents an important milestone on the way to a permanent sister city relationship between the two cities, one in the foothills of the Carpathians of Western Ukraine and the other across the Potomac River from the District of Columbia.

At an April 22 ceremony County Board Chair Barbara Favola signed the friendship agreement on behalf of Arlington County, while Andriy Romanchuk, deputy of the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council represented Ivano-Frankivsk. Signing for the Arlington Sister City Association was President Sandra MacDonald, while

Ed Lytwak is a member of the board and the newsletter editor for the Arlington Sister City Association (ASCA).



Sitting at the table are (from left): Sandra MacDonald, president Arlington Sister City Association; Barbara Favola, Chair of the Arlington County Board; and Andriy Romanchuk, Deputy of the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Council.

Volodymyr Shvadchak signed for Tsynamonovi Khrusch, the partner NGO in Ivano-Frankivsk.

Among those at the well-attended signing ceremony were all five of Arlington

County's elected board members, the Ukrainian delegation and a large turnout of Arlingtonians, including numerous

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OBITUARY

Oleksa Bilaniuk, 82, president of UVAN, professor of physics



Dr. Oleksa Myron Bilaniuk

WALLINGFORD, Pa. – Dr. Oleksa Bilaniuk, former president of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.A. and an internationally known professor of physics at Swarthmore College, died after a year-long battle with brain cancer on March 27. He was 82.

Oleksa Myron Bilaniuk was born on December 15, 1926, in the village of Sianichek, near Sianok, in the Lemko region. He was the only child of Petro and Maria Bilaniuk.

During World War II he was sent to work as a laborer in Germany, working at a factory and a farm; after the war he wound up in a displaced persons' camp in Germany. He received a scholarship to attend the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, and studied engineering.

He arrived in the United States in September 1951 after winning a scholarship to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. There he earned two bachelor's degrees in engineering and two master's degrees – one in mathematics and the other in physics. In 1957 he earned a Ph.D. in nuclear physics from the university.

In 1960-1962 at the University of Rochester he collaborated with his colleague and friend George Sudarshan on proving that a possible existence of superluminal particles is fully consistent with Einstein's Theory of Special Relativity, even though Einstein himself said that no object could move faster than light in a vacuum. Their publication on the subject ended up among the most quoted physics papers.

He then spent a year in Argentina, helping the government set up an atomic research installation.

Dr. Bilaniuk joined the faculty of Swarthmore College in 1964 as an associate professor of physics. He was an innovative and beloved teacher; although he officially retired in 1990, he continued to teach until 1993. He was Centennial Professor Emeritus of Physics.

During sabbaticals, Dr. Bilaniuk conducted nuclear research at leading accelerators in the United States, Germany, France, Ukraine and Italy. Some of his work involved proving the existence of He₂ (the diproton); production of D⁺⁺ in a hypernuclear reaction; neutron-neutron quasifree scattering and nuclear reactions

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Maritime community shows generosity to orphanage in Ukraine

by William Hryb

MONTREAL – Generosity is defined as “giving charitably, unselfishly, benevolently.” For the international shipping community in Montreal, it is much more than a mere word. Compassion for children, who do not have the same opportunities as their counterparts in North America, recently caught the attention of the annual maritime community's Ship Brokers Goose Luncheon.

The yearly gathering of ship brokers, ship owners/operators, marine lawyers and members of the Shipping Federation of Canada is a venue that considers donations to various charities. Last season, a children's orphanage in Ukraine was targeted to receive donations and gifts of winter clothing, shoes and boots, sleepwear and an array of candy treats of every imaginable kind.

The Kherson Orphanage in Ukraine is an institution that assists children who specifically have problems with the central nervous system. Last winter the

William (Vasyl) Hryb is a freelance journalist and general manager of Lakehead Shipping Company Ltd. in Thunder Bay, Ontario.



Doctor with support staff look at the new apparel and sweets sent to Ukraine by the international shipping community of Montreal.

orphanage was the recipient of boxes of brand new apparel and other assorted items. The unexpected presents surprised the staff and provided some much-needed cheer and excitement for the children.

The port of Kherson is a city of over 400,000 inhabitants and is situated in

central Ukraine on the shores of the Black Sea. Modern Kherson stretches along the high right bank of the Dnipro River, covering almost 110 square kilometers. Famous for its history and rich culture,

(Continued on page 22)

Ukrainian Human Rights Committee meets with Kerry

WASHINGTON – Ulana Mazurkevich and Orysia Hewka of the Philadelphia-based Ukrainian Human Rights Committee met with Sen. John Kerry, the powerful Democrat from Massachusetts who is the chairman of the influential Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to thank him for his strong support of Ukraine.

Sen. Kerry is an outspoken supporter for the new emerging democracies of Eastern Europe. In his opinion article of February 27, in *The Wall Street Journal Europe*, he issued a stark warning about the crash of East European economies. He urged Western nations to act quickly to address the economic crisis. Sen. Kerry called upon the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to support Eastern Europe.

In his op-ed piece the senator bought up the economic situation in Ukraine, stating “Ukraine's dire situation could trigger a domino effect, not only destabilizing Western European banks with a large exposure to the East European market but actually change the geopolitical map as well.”

Mmes. Hewka and Mazurkevich thanked the senator for his continued support of Ukraine and presented Sen. Kerry with Miron Dolot's book on the Holodomor, “Execution by Hunger.”

In a lighter vein, Ms. Mazurkevich presented Sen. Kerry with a campaign button from the 2004 presidential campaign which



Sen. John Kerry with Ulana Mazurkevich (left) and Orysia Hewka of the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee.

read, “Ukrainians for Kerry-Edwards.” Ms Mazurkevich was one of the chairs of the Ukrainians for Kerry.

UAV members attend Vietnam Veterans' Remembrance Day ceremonies

HOLMDEL, N.J. – In 1991 the New Jersey legislature designated May 7 as a special and unique day to honor all who served in the U.S. military during the Vietnam era, from 1959 to 1975. It is estimated that more than 200,000 New Jersey residents served in the U.S. armed forces during that time and 1,562 were killed or missing in action.

Ukrainian American Veterans Post 30 based in Holmdel, N.J., participated in the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Remembrance Day ceremonies held on May 7 on the grounds of the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial to honor all who have served in the U.S. military during the Vietnam era.

The names of those who made the ultimate sacrifice are engraved on this memorial and among them is the patron of UAV Post 30, Maj. Myron Diduryk, who was killed in action on April 24, 1970.

The keynote address was presented by Desert Storm veteran Patrick J. Hurley, New Jersey chapter president of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association.

UAV Post 30 Vice-Commander Gerald Tchir and Past Post Commander Jurij Jacus participated in the wreath-laying ceremony.

Honoring 83 veterans, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs awarded New Jersey State Medals that were individually presented by Col. Stephen Abel (U.S. Army, retired). According to state documents 68 of those served in Vietnam, others included World War I, World War II and Korean war veterans.

For information on eligibility for a state Distinguished Service Medal readers may call 609-530-6980 or log on to www.nj.gov/military/veterans.

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial is located in Holmdel (Exit 116 off the Garden State Parkway). The memorial is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; the Educational Center is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information readers may call 732-335-0033 or visit www.njvvmf.org.



With the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall in the background, (from left) are Gerald Tchir, Bernard Krawczuk, Michael Krawczuk, Anna Krawczuk and Jurij Jacus of the Ukrainian American Veterans.

Oleksa Bilaniuk, 82...

(Continued from page 4)

induced by a 60 MeV gamma rays, among others.

Once he retired, Prof. Bilaniuk remained active in Ukrainian American scholarly organizations until 2006. He was elected president of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.A. (known by its Ukrainian acronym as UVAN), serving from 1998 to 2006.

Dr. Bilaniuk devoted most of his retirement years to UVAN, organizing conferences, co-editing many books and supporting young researchers. He was also a member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America.

He was elected a foreign member of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. He was also on the editorial board of the Ukrainian Journal of Physics and collaborated with Ukrainian lexicographers on a 100,000-word English-Ukrainian-English Dictionary of Physics and Technology, which is to go into press this year.

He was also a certified FAA glider and single-engine pilot and flight instructor, an avid world traveler and fluent speaker of seven languages. He was a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Burlaky fraternity.

He is survived by his wife, Larissa; daughters Larissa (with husband Jeff Sand) and Laada (with husband Ben Fitzhugh); grandchildren Zoriana Sand, Laska Fitzhugh and Larissa Fitzhugh; and mother-in-law Myroslava Zubal.

The funeral liturgy was offered on April 3 at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jenkintown, Pa.; burial was at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

The family has indicated that memorial donations may be sent to: Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.A., 206 W. 100th St., New York, NY 10025-5018.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

“Neighborly” Russia

At the end of April, Ukrayinska Pravda reported the remarks of a spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, Andrey Nesterenko, who stated in response to a report issued by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe that the reason there are so few Ukrainian-language schools in Russia is that there is simply no demand for such schools on the part of parents and community organizations. That comment shocked Ukrainian community members in Russia and Ukrainians in Ukraine, who loudly proclaimed that Mr. Nesterenko's remarks have absolutely no relation to reality.

As analyst Paul Goble points out on in a recent article on his blog “Window on Eurasia” (the article is reprinted in this issue on page 7), the 2.5 million Ukrainians in Russia are the country's second largest national minority. In Moscow, home to 250,000 Ukrainians, there is not a single middle school with Ukrainian as the language of instruction. And the situation is no better elsewhere in Russia.

In another article on his blog, Mr. Goble reported Ukrainian Minister of Education Ivan Vakarchuk's observation that while Russians and others have the opportunity to study in their native languages in Ukraine's educational system, “in Russia there is not a single Ukrainian school financed by municipal governments.” As a result, children of ethnic Ukrainians in Russia have access only to “Sunday schools.”

Meanwhile the situation in Ukraine with respect to the Russian language is far better. Minister Vakarchuk underscored: “Today more than 17 percent of Ukrainian pupils and the same percentage of university students study in Russian.” There are also schools “in the languages of other national minorities” (e.g., Hungarian, Polish, Moldovan, Crimean Tatar and Romanian), he pointed out.

Ukrainians were further outraged by Mr. Nesterenko's distorted ruminations on the reason that there is allegedly no demand for Ukrainian schools in Russia. He said this is because of “the closeness of the Eastern Slavic languages and cultures, the common history (Kyivan Rus', the Moscow State, the Russian Empire and the USSR) and the common Christian faith” of the Russians and Ukrainians. “Eto vsio ravno” – it's all the same, he would have us believe.

Taken together with such other endeavors as the release by Russia of a propagandistic “Taras Bulba” (see review on page 10) and its recent moves to “protect” Russian history from “falsifiers” (more on that in next week's issue), this demonstrates that Russia continues to have “issues” with Ukraine and Ukrainians asserting their independence and distinct national identity. Need we remind our readers of Vladimir Putin's infamous statement to President George W. Bush that “Ukraine is not a state”?

It is eminently clear that Russia continues to want to play the role of “elder brother” and that it still considers Ukraine to be an essential part of its sphere of influence, or within the region where Moscow says it has “privileged interests,” or, better yet, a part of Russia that has temporarily gone astray. These are, to put it plainly, unacceptable positions. And that is something the world's leaders need to understand when they have dealings with Russia.

May
26
2008

Turning the pages back...

Last year, on May 26, 2008, President Viktor Yushchenko visited Canada's capital, Ottawa, during a three-day state visit that included an address to a joint session of Parliament, and meetings with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen.

Michaëlle Jean.

During the visit, Mr. Yushchenko noted “the special partnership established between our friendly countries,” adding that Ukraine and Canada are united by common goals and values, particularly democracy, human rights and freedoms, and the supremacy of law.

Prime Minister Harper and President Yushchenko signed a joint statement confirming their commitment to active development of special partnership relations between Ukraine and Canada, encompassing the political, humanitarian and business spheres.

Prime Minister Harper stated that Canada will continue to support Ukraine's efforts for Euro-Atlantic integration and that the sovereignty of the Ukrainian state is indisputable.

In his address to both Houses of Parliament, President Yushchenko spoke about the deep affection that Ukrainians have for Canada, not only because of the support that the country has given Ukraine in the past, but because of the 1.2 million strong Ukrainian community that acts as a bond between the two nations.

At the time of President Yushchenko's visit, the International Holodomor Remembrance Flame wrapped up its month-long journey across Canada. During a ceremony to mark the event, Jason Kenney, secretary of state for multiculturalism and Canadian Identity, announced that the government of Canada had decided that afternoon to recognize the Holodomor as genocide against the Ukrainian people. The bill (C-450), introduced by MP James Bezan, was before the House of Commons and would be passed in the immediate future. (The bill received Royal Assent on May 29, 2008.)

During a special ceremony on Parliament Hill, President Yushchenko awarded to Liberal MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise.

Commenting on the strength of the Canadian-Ukrainian relationship, as demonstrated by the warm reception of the crowds, Paul Grod, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, said, “We need to act on that strength so that Canada's relationship with Ukraine evolves in to one characterized by strong economic, social, cultural and security ties. Ukraine and Canada have much to offer each other,” he added. “After much hard work on the part of the community to educate Canadians about the true nature of the Holodomor in Ukraine 1932-1933, it was gratifying to hear Secretary of State Kenney announce that Canada will move to recognize the Holodomor as genocide. That is a fitting conclusion to a historic day,” concluded Mr. Grod.

Other stops during the president's visit to Canada included Winnipeg and Toronto.

Source: “Yushchenko visits Ottawa on state visit to Canada,” *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 1, 2008.

FOR THE RECORD

Remembering Volodymyr Ivasiuk

Following is the text of a statement issued on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Volodymyr Ivasiuk's death by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the murder of one of Ukraine's most legendary composers and poets, Volodymyr Ivasiuk. On March 4, 2009, Ivasiuk would have marked his 60th birthday, yet instead on May 18th Ukrainians everywhere will be mourning the tragic loss of this brave and talented individual.

As one of the founders of Ukrainian pop music, author of 107 songs, 53 instrumental compositions and music for several plays, Ivasiuk will forever be remembered for his Ukrainian songs “Chervona Ruta” and “Vodohrai.” In addition to his many musical talents, which included playing the violin, piano, cello and guitar, Ivasiuk was a trained physician. He was also a gifted painter and photographer, as well as an excellent singer. Despite restrictions placed by the totalitarian Soviet regime on

cultural and artistic Ukrainian expression, Ivasiuk continued his work, sharing his love for his culture and Ukraine with its people at the risk of his own life.

And so, Volodymyr Ivasiuk became yet another victim of Soviet terror. His life was brutally stolen from him at the young age of 30. On May 18, 1979, his badly bruised body was found hanged in the Briukhovychi Forest near Lviv in western Ukraine. Despite much evidence to the contrary, his death was proclaimed as suicide by Soviet authorities. The case was closed and locked away for years in the Moscow archives and labeled as classified data.

Only now, three decades later, has Ukraine's Prosecutor General's Office announced that the case will be re-examined and the 30-year-old investigation into Ivasiuk's death, re-opened.

Let us remember this talented and inspirational composer and poet, and let us pray that he – and the Ukrainian people who dearly love him – will finally receive the justice they deserve and the truth will prevail.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Mayemo to scho mayemo...”

Dear Editor:

Roman Kupchinsky's commentary “Is Ukraine a Failed State?” (May 3) raises a very important and rather broad question, and he chose to focus on one of its aspects – namely, the behavior of its so-called elites. In his words these are the “cynical, quarrelsome, greedy, rent-seeking businessmen and corrupt officials” that he suggests are responsible for this sad state of affairs.

True enough. (Let us leave for another time the spectacle of an allegedly drunk government minister and his allegedly drunk teenage son battling it out with German police and border guards at Frankfurt's international airport.) But what of the people? What are we to make of a nation that last year, according to two top Ukrainian polling agencies, supported the country's independence to the tune of a whopping 50.1 percent and 52.1 percent?

Some say that we need to wait until today's youth take over in the country. Really? Last year the proportion of people in the age group 18-29 who supported independence was an underwhelming 54.9 percent.

The current situation is poignantly captured by the image of an independent Ukraine that essentially shuts down for the first two weeks of May in order to ... celebrate Soviet holidays!

Oh well, we have what we have (“mayemo to scho mayemo”), as former President Leonid Kravchuk liked to say. But what I would like to know is: What happened to the rest?

Roman Solchanyk
Santa Monica, Calif.

A commitment to all Ukrainians

Dear Editor:

Let all of us Ukrainians pull together to make every Ukrainian welcome and

informed about his God-given roots. We can be proud of our Ukrainian heritage, in Ukraine, America, Canada and anywhere Ukrainians reside.

Let us all focus on the long-term picture that makes us aware of all the good we can do for our families and our Ukraine. We in America and Canada have the right and privilege to preserve our language, religion, culture and future as citizens of these countries. It is up to us how we inform those Ukrainians who have withdrawn from our community and help them see the beauty in our community.

Our Ukrainian National Association, whose history goes back 115 years, has bridged the gap in building communications with all our organizations. With gentle wisdom comes experience and the knowledge that all Ukrainians must be included in our community life.

God bless Ukraine, America, Canada and all countries that support our people.

Roman Kuropas
Warren, Mich.

The letter-writer notes that he was 2 years old when his family escaped from Ukraine during World War II and that he has been secretary of UNA Branch 20 for 40 years.

We welcome your opinion

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

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

Please note: THE LENGTH OF LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Kyiv disputes Moscow's claim few Ukrainians in Russia want native language schools

by Paul Goble

Moscow's assertion that ethnic Ukrainians in the Russian Federation, that country's second largest nationality, do not have any problems with education in their own national language because they are not asking for it "does not correspond to reality," according to a spokesman for Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry.

On April 27, Andrey Nesterenko, a spokesman for the foreign ministry, said, in responding to a report by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), acknowledged that there were few Ukrainian language schools but said that reflected an absence of demand by Ukrainians for them rather than a Moscow policy against such schools (rus.newsru.ua/ukraine/27apr2009/ukrschool.html).

The lack of such demands, the Russian diplomat continued, reflects what he described as "the closeness of the Eastern Slavic languages and cultures, the common history (Kyivan Rus', the Moscow State, the Russian Empire and the USSR) and the common Christian faith" of the Russians and Ukrainians.

Not surprisingly, Ukrainians and Ukrainian officials were outraged not only because Moscow has always insisted on the provision of Russian-language schools in Ukraine – and complained when any of them are closed – but also because Mr. Nesterenko's claim about the situation in Russia where in fact Ukrainians would like Ukrainian language schools "does not correspond to the facts" (www.vz.ru/news/4/30/282440.html).

Indeed, Ukrainian commentators have pointed out that Ukraine does support Russian language education in its schools and that last year the OSCE commissar on national minorities declared, after examining the situation there, that he did not find "any violation of the rights of the Russian language population in Ukraine" (rus.newsru.ua/ukraine/27mar2008/mova.html).

Vasylii Kyrlych, a spokesman for the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry, said that Mr. Nesterenko's statement was intended to mislead the OSCE by creating "the false impression of the supposedly problem-free nature of Ukrainian national cultural development in Russia," a particular travesty because ethnic Ukrainians at 2.5 million are the second largest national

Paul Goble is a lecturer at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy in Baku. He is a long-time specialist on ethnic and religious questions in Eurasia who has served in various capacities in the U.S. State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the International Broadcasting Bureau, as well as at the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Mr. Goble writes a blog called "Window on Eurasia" (<http://windowoneurasia.blogspot.com/>). This article above is reprinted with permission.

minority there.

He pointed out that in Moscow alone there are now more than 250,000 ethnic Ukrainians but not a single middle school with instruction in the Ukrainian language – something that creates problems both for the indigenous Ukrainian population of the city and the many other Ukrainians who "work temporarily" there and plan to return to Ukraine.

Elsewhere in the Russian Federation, throughout which ethnic Ukrainians are to be found, the situation is even worse, he said. At present "there is no school" anywhere in the Russian Federation where the entire academic program is conducted in the Ukrainian language. There exist only [a few] schools with an ethno-national (ethno-cultural) component."

The Ukrainian diplomat was clearly infuriated by the suggestion that Ukrainians living in the Russian Federation were not interested in preserving their own language through the schools and that, to use Mr. Nesterenko's words, "citizens of the Russian Federation of Ukrainian nationality and Russians among citizens of Ukraine are in a different ethno-cultural situation."

Russian commentaries in support of Moscow's point of view, such as Aleksandr Karavayev's (May 6), have suggested that the Ukrainians have only themselves to blame. Moscow has routinely supported Russian-language efforts in Ukraine, but Kyiv has been largely inactive in supporting Ukrainian programs in Ukraine (www.ia-centr.ru/expert/4599/).

While there is some truth in what Mr. Karavayev says, that claim ignores two longer-standing if unfortunate realities. On the one hand, in Soviet times, Moscow provided Russian-language schools in all republics but did not provide any schools for non-Russians in their language outside their titular territories.

Thus, while Ukrainians living in Ukraine did have schools in Ukrainian, those Ukrainians living elsewhere did not – unlike Russians who in almost all cases had Russian-language schools wherever they lived. The current situation is a relic of that past, one Ukrainians and many other non-Russians decry.

And, on the other, this pattern reflects an even older view, long propounded by Russians and accepted by many Western specialists. According to that view, Ukrainians and Belarusians are "byproducts" of Russian ethno-national development, and thus it is entirely appropriate that they be integrated linguistically and politically with the Russian nation and state.

In fact, as the Ukrainians and Belarusians know and, as statements like that of Mr. Kyrlych show, are increasingly prepared to defend, those two nations have a separate and distinct ethno-national and political history – one that deserves equal treatment and respect not only from the Russians but from all members of the international community as well.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Tarasko's tours

Here are some questions for you baseball fans: What is the baseball capital of Ukraine? Is it Kyiv? Lviv? Poltava?

Actually, it's none of the above. It's Kirovohrad. Beginning with only one team in 1996, today this central Ukrainian city has 12 softball teams (including a girl's softball team), 16 coaches, and a 900-seat baseball stadium.

Softball is also catching on in Ukraine, especially in Luhansk which has the most teams.

Since travel in Ukraine is prohibitively expensive, only four teams are required to form a league. Teams play among themselves during the season. At the end of the season, two all-star teams are selected to play a championship game.

The man who helped bring Little League softball to Ukraine is Basil (Vasyl) Tarasko, a New Yorker whose parents emigrated to the United States when he was 5. He's been traveling to Ukraine since 1991.

A baseball enthusiast since his youth, Mr. Tarasko has been a player, coach and, currently, an associate scout for the San Diego Padres. With the fall of the USSR, he dreamed of bringing Little League softball to Ukraine.

According to a 2008 article in the Kyiv Post by Iryna Prymachyk, Vasyl Tarasko initially hoped to involve all kids in his dream, but this proved impossible since baseball in Ukraine is formally reserved for elite athletes. "The Little League philosophy is just the opposite," Vasyl told Ms. Pryniachyk. It allows all children to participate, regardless of background and skills.

Exclusive participation for a select few is not just limited to softball. A Fulbright teacher who spent a year working with my wife at a DeKalb elementary school was surprised to learn that all children participated in the annual Holiday program (before political correctness, it was the "Christmas" program). "In Ukraine," she informed Lesia, "only the exceptionally talented are allowed on stage."

Mr. Tarasko decided to work with Ukraine's orphans. "One of my friends said there are hundreds of orphanages in Ukraine where children do not know what to do except acquire bad habits," he told Ms. Prymachyk. He identified orphanages with at least 50 children, age 9 to 12, visited with interested directors, and helped get the program off the ground with coaching, planning advice and baseball equipment donated by Little Leagues throughout the United States. In 2008, there were four orphanages actually participating in the program, out of the 14 that received equipment.

Orphans in Ukraine are often sadly neglected. Some can be seen gathering empty bottles to sell and using the money to buy cigarettes, marijuana and vodka. Some of these kids were lucky enough to run into Mr. Tarasko's baseball tour. Quoted in Mr. Prymachyk article was Valeriy Tokarskiy, a 12-year orphan from the Kremenets orphanage in the Ternopil oblast. "Baseball gave me opportunities unlike anything before. The game helped me and my friends to feel like a real team: each person brings something and we work together..."

Last September, Valeriy participated in the world's first ever Little League Orphanage Baseball Championship. Sponsored by the Kyiv Lions Club and

New York's Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, the game was held at Puscha Ozerna, some 20 kilometers from Kyiv. Valeriy's team, the Kremenets All Stars, lost to the Lytuhane All-Stars from the Luhansk Oblast, 12-8.

The young Tokarskiy was sad but upbeat. "This is first time I ever traveled outside my orphanage," he said. "Vasyl [Tarasko] showed us Kyiv, he bought us tickets to the circus... We lost but I don't care, our coach was taking photos all the time like we were champions." Mr. Tarasko also made sure that every participant received a prize of some kind.

Teachers are grateful for Mr. Tarasko's tours. "I was an ordinary physical education teacher in a Kremenets orphanage," Oleksander Korchakovskiy told Iryna Prymachyk. "No one cared. When Vasyl came, I felt support for me and my kids... I noticed them changing, passionately playing baseball better and better at each lesson."

I met Basil Tarasko for the first time in the summer of 2007 when he was in Ostroh promoting softball at the National University of Ostroh Academy, where Lesia and I were teaching. He was looking for an umpire and, amazingly, a Peace Corps volunteer from Texas volunteered. She just happened to be at the university attending a conference on the teaching of English as a second language. The talented Natalia Lominska, an English teacher at the university – and an MEd from Northern Illinois University, I am proud to add – was one of the conference presenters.

I was familiar with Mr. Tarasko's pioneer efforts from my reading of The Ukrainian Weekly. I was delighted to finally meet him. His passion for baseball was obvious. "How's it going?" I asked.

"Great," was his response. "We're really making progress. I just talked Rector [Ihor] Pasichnyk into setting up a baseball diamond at the soccer stadium." Mr. Tarasko's enthusiasm paid off. In 2008 Ostroh hosted Ukraine's first girl's softball championship with three teams participating: Rivne, Lutsk and Ostroh. Rivne, the more experienced team, won.

Other cities with softball teams in 2008 included Ivano-Frankivsk, Zizniche, Cherkasy, Vinnystya and Kyiv.

I spoke to Mr. Tarasko again a few weeks ago. He has just returned from his annual April tour to Ukraine and assured me that his program was on track and expanding. He wanted me to especially mention that for the last two years the official sponsor for the Little League Championships was Hertz Ukraine, headed by Robert Speelman.

Many Ukrainians in North America have found a corner of Ukraine to help and adopted it. Most Ukrainians have not, however. For those still looking for a project that helps kids directly, I urge you to contact Mr. Tarasko in Bayside, N.Y. He can be reached at 718-415-7821. Money for baseball equipment is always welcome.

And, for heaven's sake, if you can coach or umpire baseball games, join Mr. Tarasko's tour. You'll make a contribution and have fun at the same time. Can't ask for anything more, right?

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

1933 issues needed

The Ukrainian Weekly is searching for original issues of this newspaper published in 1933 in order to scan them for our digital archives.

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Randy Bachman, attired in Ukrainian shirt, honored as Officer of Order of Canada

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Randy Bachman, of Bachman-Turner Overdrive (BTO) fame and a founding member of the Guess Who, was honored as an Officer of the Order of Canada on Friday, May 15, at a reception at Rideau Hall in Ottawa hosted by Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean for “his contribution as an iconic Canadian rock musician and for his support of Canadian music as a producer of emerging Canadian artists.”

A native of Winnipeg, who currently resides in British Columbia, Mr. Bachman is half German, and is proud of his matrilineal Ukrainian half, as evidenced when he received his award wearing a Ukrainian embroidered shirt (purchased at Yevshan). Mr. Bachman’s mother is Anne Dobrinsky.

The Order, created in 1967, is the country’s highest civilian honor that recognizes people in all sectors of Canadian

society and holds to the motto, “Desiderantes Meliorem Patriam” (They Desire a Better Country). Three different levels of membership – Companion, Officer and Member – honor people whose accomplishments vary in degree and scope. Appointments are made on the recommendations of the Advisory Council on the Order of Canada, an independent council chaired by the chief justice of Canada.

“You don’t really think about awards or accolades along the way, but to have this happen is a very big honor and very humbling to be with all these other really great Canadians who’ve spend a lifetime working at their passion, be it humanities or education or medicine and art and movies,” said Mr. Bachman.

He was among 75 recipients, 26 at the Officer level, of the Order named on July 1, 2008, by Gov. Gen. Jean.



Randy and Denise Bachman with Canada’s Governor General Michaëlle Jean at the Order of Canada reception in Ottawa.

Gazprom's murky...

(Continued from page 2)

moneyhouse.ch, April 3).

The immediate suspicion is that RosGas AG is yet another in a long line of shadowy intermediary companies created by Mr. Firtash and Gazprom. However, in the case of RosGas this may mask a possible attempt by Gazprom to cut gas supplies to Mr. Firtash’s Emfesz, as a precursor to a company takeover – vastly increasing its share of the Hungarian domestic gas distribution network.

Hungary has been a key target for the Russian state-owned Gazprom since the collapse of communism within Central Europe. Viewed as a potential major European gas hub, Hungary first became a target of the Kremlin in 2002, when the mysterious gas trading company, Eural Trans Gas (ETG) was registered in Budapest. That year ETG took over the contract from a Russian company, Itera, acting as the intermediary for supplying gas from Turkmenistan to Ukraine.

ETG was a totally opaque structure which was later exposed as belonging to Ukrainian gas trader Mr. Firtash and his partner, Ivan Fursyn, a banker from Odesa with close ties to the administration of then-Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma.

ETG was paid for its services with 13 billion cubic meters of gas by the Ukrainian side, which it then sold on the European market for a considerable profit. Soon after it began trading, the company’s owners were suspected of having connections to the Russian mafia. This was denied by the then-unknown owners of ETG, who instituted a number of libel suits against anyone alleging the company had mafia links. The Kremlin became nervous and closed down ETG in July 2004, replacing it with a new intermediary company, RosUkrEnergo (RUE).

The 50 percent owners of RUE were the same individuals who had established ETG, Mr. Firtash and Mr. Fursyn, while

the remainder of RUE was owned by Gazprombank – which at the time was a fully owned subsidiary of Gazprom. The Kremlin, for undisclosed reasons, claimed that it did not know the identity of Gazprombank’s Ukrainian partners in RUE.

According to the company website, one year before the dissolution of ETG, Mr. Firtash created a new Hungarian company: “Emfesz, the First Hungarian Natural Gas and Energy Trading and Service Provider Ltd., was founded in 2003 to develop a major gas and energy business in Hungary following the liberalization of the country’s energy market with the passing of the Hungarian Gas Act in that year.”

Mr. Firtash presumably had the go-ahead to do this from Gazprom and a guarantee that he would be able to buy gas for Emfesz from RUE where he controlled 50 percent of the company. Mr. Firtash’s website stated: “The company (Emfesz) has a long-term, 10 year contract with RosUkrEnergo, a Swiss gas distribution company, for the supply of gas from Central Asia to Hungary.”

As the Firtash-Gazprom relationship began souring in 2008, Gazprom made a number of offers to buy a substantial share of Emfesz, however, Mr. Firtash refused to sell. In April the Russian audit chamber announced that Mr. Firtash owed Gazprom \$514 million, exerting more pressure on him to turn over his Hungarian operation to Moscow (www.ukranews.com, April 21).

If RosGas begins supplying Emfesz with the large quantities of gas it is contracted to sell in Hungary, it will raise questions over the source of that gas. It is possible that RosGas is another Gazprom scheme to possibly siphon off funds for the Kremlin and reward Mr. Firtash for his long-standing loyalty to the Kremlin.

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RosGas to control...

(Continued from page 2)

middleman companies – Overgas Inc. and Wintershall Erdgas Handelshaus Zug AG (WIEE) – from the gas supply chain between Russia and Bulgaria. They intended only to deal with Gazprom Export, a fully owned subsidiary of Gazprom headed by CEO Alexander Medvedev (Moscow Times, February 4). Bulgaria tried to end the role of the two middlemen on two previous occasions, but Mr. Medvedev countered by saying that the companies were only suppliers (www.sofiaecho.com, February 4).

Mr. Medvedev’s argument was at best disingenuous. Overgas does not own any gas fields and relies on Mr. Medvedev’s company, Gazprom Export, for its supply of gas. Despite the best efforts of the Bulgarian government, Overgas was not liquidated and is still functioning. Apparently the government in Sofia is no match for Mr. Medvedev and Gazprom and now, according to Vedomosti, Overgas is being manipulated into acting as Gazprom’s proxy within Hungary. It’s a role similar to that played by Austria’s OMV in its recent takeover of Hungary’s energy giant MOL.

According to the Overgas Annual Report for 2007 (the most recent year available) Gazprom owns 0.49 percent of the company, Gazprom Export – 49.51 percent, and the London-based Overgas Holdings Ltd. – 50 percent. The chairman of the board of Overgas Inc. is Alexander Medvedev who, as noted above, is also the head of Gazprom Export, the company that technically sells Gazprom’s gas to

Overgas. Bulgarian law does not regard this as a conflict of interest.

The executive director of Overgas, Sasho Dontchev, is a graduate of Moscow’s Oil and Gas Institute and, according to media reports, was largely responsible for making Overgas a leading Bulgarian domestic gas distributor (EDM, February 13).

The saga of Overgas and its affiliated directors led to the November 2006 arrest in Canada of a Russian intelligence agent, whose hired representatives were also employed by the Overgas holding company in London known as Energy Consultants Ltd. (EDM, February 13).

There might be serious implications for the European Union, if the Bulgarian Overgas is permitted to buy Swiss RosGas and thereby secure control over 20 percent of the Hungarian domestic gas distribution market acting as a proxy for Gazprom.

Hungary and Bulgaria are rapidly becoming the weakest links in the EU gas diversification strategy and appear to be submitting to Russian pressure – and possibly organized crime links sanctioned by the Kremlin – in order to strengthen Gazprom’s influence within Hungary and by default in Europe.

The EU commission has not yet commented on these developments, but the time is ripe for both the Europeans and the U.S. authorities to have their say on one of the most dangerous of the Kremlin’s long list of criminal enterprises.

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Controversial aide...

(Continued from page 1)

Yushchenko blindly trusting him.

It especially seemed that way after President Yushchenko said "Baloha is me" in a private meeting in March 2008, as reported by David Zhvania, another former presidential ally who was fiercely persecuted by Mr. Baloha.

While isolating the president and turning the Presidential Secretariat into a government organ at war, Mr. Baloha created his own political party, Single Center, built from his access to government resources ("adminresurs") and recruiting a handful of Our Ukraine national deputies from the president's camp.

Single Center earned 14 percent of the vote in the March elections to the Ternopil Oblast Council, which critics allege is a direct result of Mr. Baloha's access to adminresurs and ability to falsify the vote with the help of his ally, Ternopil State Oblast Administration Chair Yuri Chyzhmar.

Around this time, Mr. Baloha reportedly suggested to President Yushchenko that he dismiss Parliament and call pre-term elections, thereby enabling the two to get elected to Parliament and earn deputies' immunity from prosecution, according to a report by the Ukrayinska Pravda website that cited an anonymous source in the Presidential Secretariat.

In pursuing the presidential election, Mr. Baloha reportedly wanted to lead President Yushchenko's re-election campaign and tried to convince him to run on the Single Center party platform, the May 15 report said.

Doing so would have enabled Mr. Baloha to manipulate both the party and government bureaucracies, which he felt was critical, Ukrayinska Pravda reported.

However, President Yushchenko ultimately declined Mr. Baloha's numerous proposals and instead decided to try to resurrect the Our Ukraine People's Union from its current dismal status, nominating Ms. Ulianchenko at the May 16 meeting of the party's political council.

That was the last straw for Mr. Baloha, who claimed he submitted his resignation in mid-April but didn't make it public until learning that Ms. Ulianchenko would lead the Our Ukraine People's Union.

"The election of Ulianchenko to the top



Cutty Sark Co.

Former Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha in an October 2006 file photo.



Zenon Zawada

President Viktor Yushchenko's long-time political advisor Vira Ulianchenko, seen here in a 2007 file photo, is the new head of the Presidential Secretariat.

of Our Ukraine practically led Baloha out of the game," Ukrayinska Pravda reported. "The legendary Vira Ivanivna has tight relations with oligarchs, which allows her to singlehandedly resolve questions about the party's current financing."

policy toward Ukraine.

In response, Mr. Taylor said the purpose of the April 27 visit of U.S. Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg to Kyiv was to describe President Obama's "very clear" foreign policy of supporting Ukraine's territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty.

At the same time, Mr. Taylor acknowledged some changes in President Obama's foreign policy toward the Russian Federation. "However, he is not changing his strong support for Ukraine," he added.

President Obama believes it's possible to have a dialogue with the Russians on areas of agreement, such as arms control, Mr. Taylor said. At the same time, the U.S. will have "parallel conversations with the Russians about NATO expansion or about the Georgia invasion," the ambassador said.

"We will continue to disagree with the Russians on NATO expansion and the Georgian invasion and recognition of South Ossetia and Abkhazia," he said. "But President Obama believes that we can have those two conversations in parallel without having a contradiction between the two."

Ambassador Taylor said his last day of work is May 22, after which he would return home to Virginia and enjoy several weeks of rest. His successor has yet to be named.

IN THE PRESS

Campaign in Ukraine, an assessment of Lenin

"The Viktor and Yulia show, continued," *The Economist*, April 23:

"...Now Ukraine is in the middle of a new election cycle. Mr. [Viktor] Yushchenko's presidential term expires in January and the campaign is under way. ...

"Mr. Yushchenko certainly has ideology and vision. He talks of building a nation-state and taking Ukraine into NATO and the European Union. ... Yet on vision, rhetorically at least, there is little difference between Ukrainian politicians. Ms Tymoshenko talks eloquently of European integration and the need to consolidate a country historically divided between east and west. 'First of all we need to build Europe in Ukraine, because a country can only enter the EU if it has the same blood group, otherwise it will get rejected as an alien body,' she says in an interview. Even Mr. [Viktor] Yanukovich, once backed by Moscow, now subscribes to the notion of European integration. ...

"The problem goes deeper than animosity between two old allies. It is rooted in a flawed change to the Constitution in 2004 that reduced the power of the president but stopped short of turning Ukraine into a parliamentary republic, fudging the responsibilities of president and prime minister. 'Whoever wins the presidential election will next day run into the same problems,' says Ms Tymoshenko.

"Inevitably, all three main leaders insist they will run for president... Many Ukrainians feel that none of the three familiar faces is capable of taking the country forward. Tired of the mudslinging, 20 percent

would either vote against all candidates or simply not turn out. ..."

"'Lenin is Worse than Hitler,' Senior Moscow Patriarchate Official Says," by Paul Goble in "Window on Eurasia" (<http://windowoneurasia.blogspot.com/>), April 22:

"...This year, as in every year since Gorbachev's time, there has been the usual discussion on whether Lenin should be removed from the mausoleum and buried as supposedly was not only his wish but that of his family, with a growing number of Russians saying that they are willing to support or at least not oppose such an action if the government takes it.

"But one statement this year, by Archpriest Dimitry Smirnov, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for Relations with the Armed Forces and Security Services, deserves particular attention because his words likely reflect the views of many in the Church leadership and because they could lead to a break between the Church and some Russian nationalists.

"Queried by the Rusk.ru portal, which has close ties with the Patriarchate, about what should be done with Lenin's remains, Archpriest Dimitry said that 'the time for burying Lenin arrived already in April 1870.' Indeed, the Church official said, 'it would have been better if this bastard had never been born.'

"'For me,' Smirnov continued, 'Lenin is worse than Hitler. The decision of the pow-

(Continued on page 23)

U.S. ambassador...

(Continued from page 1)

defected and formed the Anti-Crisis Coalition with pro-Russian forces, igniting three years of corruption, gridlock and instability in Ukrainian governance witnessed by the U.S. ambassador.

As an example of the instability in Ukraine, Mr. Taylor said he had to work with three different prime ministers, three foreign affairs ministers and three Verkhovna Rada chairs in just three years, in addition to the 2007 snap parliamentary election, "so not much reform got done," he noted.

"There were economic reforms, democratic reforms and judicial reforms that all needed to happen, and I thought the three years of 2006 to 2009 would be a great time to work those," Mr. Taylor said.

He also offered a subtle criticism of the government's handling of the economy amidst the global financial crisis.

"The last thing I would say about my feelings of leaving is that I'm very optimistic," the ambassador said. "I am very sure things are going to get better. I am sure things are going to get better economically, because they can't get much worse."

At the press conference, The Ukrainian Weekly asked Ambassador Taylor when U.S. President Barack Obama would reveal his administration's new foreign

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FILM REVIEW: "Taras Bulba," propaganda made in Russia

by **Illya M. Labunka**

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – At the expense of Ukrainian history, Ukrainian actors and historical Ukrainian architectural landmarks, the Russian Federation has unleashed its latest instrument of chauvinistic propaganda in the form of a feature film. Released in Moscow on April 1, to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mykola Hohol, known to the world as Nikolai Gogol, the latest cinematic incarnation of the Ukrainian-born writer's short novel "Taras Bulba" premiered in Ukraine a day later as a somewhat low-key affair, as Ukraine's political elite took a calculated step and chose not to be seen at the film's opening.

Produced by the state-owned Rossiya television channel and commissioned and financed in part by the Russian Ministry of Culture, the budget for Russia's silver screen "interpretation" of Gogol's Kozak novella amounted to approximately \$25 million, making "Taras Bulba" the costliest film in Russian cinematic history.

Directed by Russian filmmaker Vladimir Bortko, the film features Ukraine's most famous and, arguably, greatest living actor, Bohdan Stupka, in the title role. The supporting cast includes Ukrainian veteran actress of stage and screen Ada Rohovtseva as Taras Bulba's wife, Vladimir Vdovichenkov as Ostap Bulba, Igor Petrenko as the ill-fated Andrii Bulba and Magdalena Mielcarz as the Polish noble girl Elzhbieta who offers her forbidden love to Andrii, which eventually leads to his ultimate demise.

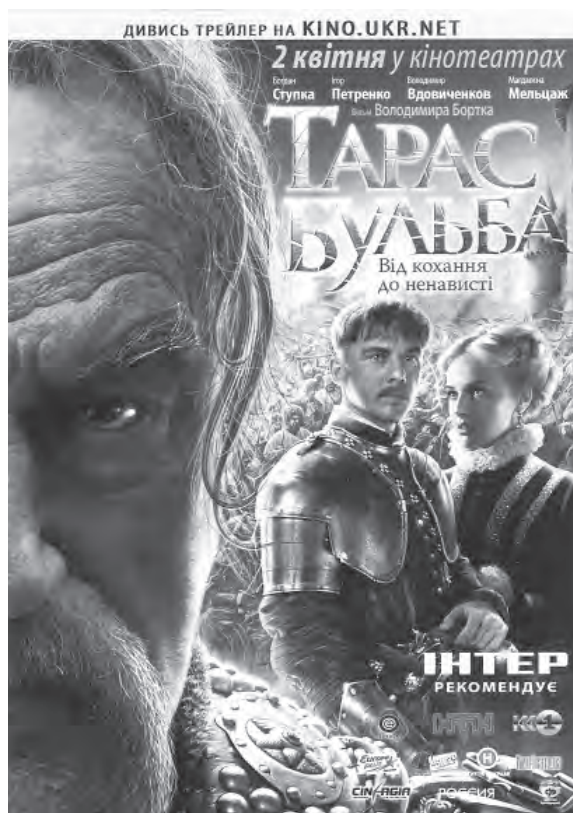
Mr. Bortko, who studied cinematography in Kyiv and began his film career at the Dovzhenko Film Studio in the mid-1970s, spent over two years making "Taras Bulba." Mr. Bortko's adaptation of Gogol's "Taras Bulba" is based on the more obscure, second edition (1842) of the historic novella.

According to information provided by Profs. Michael Naydan (Pennsylvania State University) and Stephen Velychenko (University of Toronto), the original 1835 edition reflects the Ukrainian context of the story. The second edition, which was censored and "revised," is the heavily more pro-Russian version, which includes nationalist themes in keeping with official tsarist ideology at the time.

For example, the phrases "Moskovskiy tsar" and "russkaya syla" (power) among many others, were inserted into the 1842 edition of "Taras Bulba." (Editor's note: Russkaya is the adjectival form of Rus.) As a result, the dominant theme and redundant phrases sounding like a broken record throughout the entire film turned out to be the intertwined notion of "zemlia russkaya" (Rus' land) and "viera pravoslavnaya" (Orthodox faith).

After the first 15 minutes, the viewer begins to lose count as to how many times such blatantly chauvinistic terminology is so profusely projected at the audience. This author tried to keep score but failed, in the end realizing it was far too many instances he would even care to remember. Already in the opening scene during his introductory monologue Mr. Stupka's character utters the phrase "russkaya zemlia" twice along with the complementary expressions "russkaya dusha" (soul). Therefore, it is no coincidence that Mr. Bortko, who has been a member of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation since March 2007, chose to capitalize on Gogol's butchered tale of Ukrainian Kozak heroic past for the sake of "the Orthodox Russian land."

The filmmaker, whose latest film project serves as an extension of his own skewed convictions, considers Russians, Ukrainians and Belarusians one single nation. "My odin narod – Velykaya, Malaya i Bielaya [Great,



Poster for the Russian-made "Taras Bulba."

Little and White] Rus,' " said Mr. Bortko. "Ukrainians and Russians are like two drops of mercury. When two drops of mercury are near each other, they will unite," Mr. Bortko added.

From the historic perspective, it should be noted that the term depicting the territory on which the storyline of the film takes place, e.g. "russkaya zemlia," is not entirely accurate, as the polity of that time was known as Muscovy or the Muscovite Principality.

Offering his reaction to the textual controversy surrounding the two editions of Gogol's "Taras Bulba" vis-à-vis the latest film of the same title, Dr. Mykola Zhulynsky, director of the Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine suggested that both editions need to be carefully studied, compared and put into perspective based on the context they were to be used in and the objective they were meant to achieve.

"If the mission of the first edition of 'Taras Bulba' to preserve and defend the Orthodox faith from Roman Catholic expansion, the Muslim world, Uniate encroachment, Polish arm-twisting and disregard for 'the faith of the forefathers and holy endeavor' rested on the Ukrainian Kozak, then in the 1842 edition the notion of Ukrainian Kozaks' historic and religious mission is noticeably squeezed out by Russian Messianism, while Ukraine's topography is replaced by the topography of 'Rus',' 'russkaya zemlia' and Kozaks are now referred to as 'russkiye' heroes, and Orthodoxy is now declared the 'russkaya viera,'" he noted.

For the record, this author referenced a Ukrainian translation of "Taras Bulba" (based on the 1842 "revised" edition) published in 2009 by the Kharkiv-based Ranok Publishing House, as well as a Russian version (based on the 1835 original edition) which appeared in a one-volume collection containing all of Gogol's novels and short stories published in 2008 by the Kyiv-based Lybid Publishing House.

While the Lybid edition stayed true to form by using the term "Ukraina" nine times, the term "russkikh" only once, the term "russkoye dukhovenstvo" once, the term "malorossiyskie" once, the term "Malorossia" twice and the term "Novorossia" once, Mr. Bortko's film made reference to the terms "Ukraina" or "Ukrainska" on only a handful of occasions throughout the entire film, choosing instead to give overwhelming preference to the amalgamation "russkaya pravoslavnaya zemlia."

In a year when Ukraine is poised to mark

two significant Kozak-era milestones, namely the 300th anniversary of the Battle of Poltava (a tragic loss for Ukraine) and the 350th anniversary of the Battle of Konotop (a resounding victory for Ukraine), the maker of "Taras Bulba" set out to satisfy not only his own Russo-centric, neo-Bolshevik tendencies, but those of his two fellow countrymen, who sit in the Kremlin with complete and utter disregard for Ukrainian history.

In addition to warping an already tampered-with literary text, the film's screenplay fails to afford the actors the opportunity to appropriately develop two key aspects of the storyline, firstly the relationship between Taras Bulba and his sons (particularly the chemistry between Andrii and his father), and secondly the romance between Andrii and Elzhbieta. As a result, the acting suffers significantly as the relationships appear to be too superficial.

For example, despite being an experienced and very capable stage actor, Mr. Stupka never quite managed to successfully transform himself into a truly effective and believable actor on screen. His roles, demeanor, projection and intonation on film seem forced, stunted, one-sided, and "Taras Bulba," unfortunately, is no exception. The pivotal scene where father and son confront each other near the end of the film when Taras is compelled to kill his own son due to treason, simply falls short and seems to come across as an "oh-by-the-way-now-I-have-to-shoot-you,-gee-sorry" scene.

Similarly, the forbidden relationship between Andrii and Elzhbieta just isn't given enough air play and the viewer leaves the theater at the end of the screening with the sense that a much anticipated and supposedly deep and fateful romance never really evolved between the two tragic lovers.

It's precisely this fated romance which is to be the progenitor and catalyst of the tragic rift between Taras Bulba and his son that ultimately brings about Andrii's perdition. Unfortunately, Mr. Petrenko and Ms. Mielcarz just don't deliver; their relationship never really takes off. Mielcarz's character fails to come across as a sympathetic, love-struck woman doomed by her interest in a Kozak. Again, both actors come across as wooden, stiff, out-of-place personalities.

On the other hand, despite all its flaws and misgivings (given the era and circumstances under which the film was made), the 1962 American version of "Taras Bulba" directed by J. Lee Thompson and starring Yul Brynner as Taras Bulba and Tony Curtis as his fated son Andrii, actually manages to come out a winner with respect to both sets of relationships.

Brynner delivers a very competent performance as Taras Bulba. The viewer not only senses the character's disappointment, angst and deep regret vis-à-vis his son's treacherous behavior, but equally feels Taras Bulba's terrible pain and heartbreak when he is compelled to take away his own son's life. The viewer truly feels the tragedy behind that fateful scene. Andrii's remorse for his own misgivings toward his father and his motherland is equally well portrayed on screen, despite the fact that Curtis delivered his lines in a Brooklyn accent.

Similarly, although the screen romance between Curtis and Christine Kaufmann would be viewed as somewhat kitschy by today's standards, at the same time the viewer can at least understand that such a relation-

(Continued on page 20)

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INTERVIEW: Ukrainian writer Viktor Neborak

The Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series, launched in January 2008 and co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University and the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, has served as a consistent forum in the United States for the best in contemporary Ukrainian literature. The series has provided audiences in New York City and Washington a chance to witness readings and performances by some of the leading names in Ukrainian literature today and to converse with these artists in a rare and intimate setting.

In January of this year, the series featured Lviv poet, prose writer, literary critic and translator Viktor Neborak. Mr. Neborak is a founding member of the Bu-Ba-Bu literary group. He is the author of six collections of poetry and a selected works edition "Litostron." He has also published the novel "Bazylevs," a monograph analyzing Ivan Kotliarevskyi's "Eneida" and three books collecting his essays, memoirs and literary criticism. Mr. Neborak works at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of Literature, in Lviv and has recently been a contributor to the monthly journal PostPostup.

Dr. Mark Andryczyk, administrator of the Ukrainian Studies Program at the university and lecturer of Ukrainian literature at Columbia, caught up with Mr. Neborak over a cup of coffee to discuss today's Ukrainian literature, the Ukrainian diaspora in North America and waterways in his native city, Lviv.

During the so-called "Era of Festivals" in late 1980s/early 1990s Ukraine, you and your colleagues in Bu-Ba-Bu transformed the manner of presenting poetry to the public by performing at mass gatherings that had the aura of rock concerts. Do you see any new forums for poetry presentation surfacing in today's Ukraine?

The phenomenon of poetry slams is quite popular in Ukraine today. Poets from other countries come and spar with Ukrainian poets at matches which, from what I hear, elicit a rather aggressive reaction from the poets' fans.

This, however, does not always lead to the popularization of the textual versions of the featured poems. The public that attends such events are, for the most part, there to see these poems performed and thus the poets-slammers accent not so much on the quality of the text as on the form of presenting it. Critics of poetry slams believe that the text ultimately loses from such slams because it is in the interest of these slammers to win their contests and it is their behavior – emphasis, intonation – that is paramount. When these poems appear on paper or on a computer screen, they suffer as a result.

This reminds me of when, in the first single volume publication featuring all three Bu-Ba-Bu poets' works, which was published in 1995, you included a section titled "shliagery" (hits), which featured those poems of yours that also served as texts for popular songs performed by musicians such as Viktor Morozov and Taras Chubai. You seemed to be doing this in order to "reclaim" these texts as poems. So, do you believe that your poems also suffered from such treatments?

Yes, I do.

But doesn't it serve to popularize the poem and the poet?

Yes, but when you later read the poem with your eyes then you see that not all

that was contained in the poem is passed along in the song.

Do you know of any musicians composing and performing songs today, who utilize the texts of the latest generation of poets for their songs? Or have poetry slams replaced the rock music presentation of poetry witnessed in the 1990s?

I think that today, without a doubt, is an era of prose in Ukraine. Interest in poetry is at a much lower level than it was in the 1960s, let alone in the late 1980s/early 1990s. Ideally, poetry appeals to both one's intellects and to one's emotions. For this to occur, a certain amount of concentration is required from the reader.

Today, few people have the time and energy to allot towards a focused, personal reading of a poetic text. To expect that poetry will have a publishing run over 2,000 or 3,000 copies – recall that Lina Kostenko's 1979 novel in verse "Marusia Churai" was published in 100,000 copies – is unrealistic. The same situation is probably true in other countries.

So, if today is a time for prose in Ukraine, what kind of prose would you like to see appear in today's Ukrainian literature?

I think there is lack of prose that is clear and with a dynamic narrative. There is a lot of autobiographical prose or prose that travesties an author's biography. At first, this type of prose was very interesting because, in the time of Soviet socialist realism, writing something based directly on one's personal life was dangerous.

It is hard to imagine a Pavlo Zahrybelnyi or an Oles Honchar writing novels that play with the limits of autobiography like Yurii Andrukhovych's "Taiemnytsia" (A Secret) or Taras Prokhasko's "Z Tsioho Mozhna Zrobyty Kilka Opovidan" (Several Stories Could Come Out of This). In those works a game is played with what is said and what remains private.

At a certain point, however, too much autobiographic prose began appearing in Ukraine. What young writers know best about, at their age, is their own lives, so this is what they write about. Regarding possible themes for contemporary prose, today there are many Ukrainians who have left the country in search of work. Perhaps it is already in the process of being written but I think it would be interesting to read something based on the experiences of such people, who now live in Spain, in Italy, in other countries throughout the world. Or about the experiences of soldiers of the Ukrainian army, stationed in various parts of the world.

Interestingly, when I interviewed a past guest of our Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series, Andrei Kurkov, he pointed out that there is very little Ukrainian-language prose that treats social or political issues, which he, in turn, features in his prose, written in the Russian-language. I believe that in many of these autobiographic prose works, much conscious attention is given to building the public image of the author, Serhii Zhadan's "Anarchy in the Ukraine," for example. However, in Prokhasko's autobiographic prose, I believe that the presence of the author is much less felt. It's more about his surroundings. It's fascinating because he is indeed present in this prose but he's present in the people and in the objects he describes. It's a different approach to the autobiographic novel.

Yes. For Taras Prokhasko, structure is very important. He always searches for a



Viktor Neborak at Columbia University.

new, original form in which to present his prose. The ways he simultaneously jumps from one theme to another is very interesting. Prokhasko is successful by applying his philosophy of accepting his life as it unfolds before him.

He accepts life as a gift that he has received. Maybe that is why he does not feel the need to flaunt his "I" in his writing. Recently, in fact, literary critics and translators are noticing this about his work. At a festival of contemporary Ukrainian literature in Vienna, which Prokhasko and I, among others, attended this past autumn, Austrian translator Erich Klein expressed amazement that Ukraine has a writer such as Prokhasko, who is able to tell of the tragic and the comic in such a calm, restrained tone. It has an almost epic quality.

You mentioned the experiences of recent Ukrainian immigrants as a potential theme for today's Ukrainian literature. In the last few days, you have had the opportunity to meet up with several Ukrainian writers who emigrated from post-Soviet Ukraine and now live in the U.S.

Yes, Oles Berezhny, Vasyl Makhno, Maria Shun. Another writer, Oksana Lutsyshyna, also lives in the U.S., but we did not meet on this trip.

What have you been able to observe about Ukrainian literature produced in the U.S. today? Do you think it is a phenomenon that will constitute a major contribution to contemporary Ukrainian literature?

I think that most such writers did not emigrate for creative purposes. Of all of them, perhaps Vasyl Makhno was most conscious that he emigrated as a writer and that he needs to achieve something as a writer here in the U.S. Makhno knew that he had to create his own New York-themed text – this is the city to which he moved. Others may have emigrated for different reasons – perhaps economic or personal reasons. They did not come here in order to make it as writers in search of an American theme.

Thus, so far there is little of "the American theme" in Ukrainian-language literature. I would expect that it is more present in English-language Ukrainian literature, such as in the prose of Askold Melnychuk or Alexander Motyl. The Ukrainian language is just starting to capture American reality. The American theme is, of course, present in several European literatures. Why shouldn't it also be present in Ukrainian literature? I feel that a literature's ability to reach

(Continued on page 22)

Neborak speaks in Washington



Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Two days after his appearance at the Harriman Institute in New York, Ukrainian writer Viktor Neborak (left) read his poetry and discussed literary trends in Ukraine on January 29 at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. The evening was part of the Kennan Institute's "Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series." With him on the stage were interpreter Oles Berezhny (center) and Blair Ruble of the Kennan Institute.

– Yaro Bihun

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Yushchenko on May 19 appointed Kyiv State Oblast Administration Chairman Vira Ulianchenko as the head of his Presidential Secretariat. On May 16 she was elected to head the council of the pro-Yushchenko Our Ukraine People's Union party. In 2000-2001, Ms. Ulianchenko served as an assistant to then Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko. In 2002-2005 she headed the secretariat of the Our Ukraine faction of national deputies in the Verkhovna Rada. In 2005-2006, she was a national deputy elected on the party ticket of the Our Ukraine bloc. Ms. Ulianchenko is considered to be a unique politician and party organizer because, being an Our Ukraine member, she can maintain good relations with people representing different political camps. In August 2007, she was ranked 22nd on the list of the 100 most influential Ukrainians compiled by the Korrespondent magazine. She was seventh in last year's ranking of the 100 most influential Ukrainian women drafted by Focus magazine. (Ukrinform)

Ulianchenko heads OUPU council

KYIV – The main objective of the May 16 meeting of the party council of the Our Ukraine People's Union was the "renaissance of the party, its restoration in an organizational sense, a return of energy to it," said the OUPU's leader, President Viktor Yushchenko, in his address to the meeting. Mr. Yushchenko noted that the OUPU has a solid ideological basis, which differentiates it from other political forces in Ukraine. "I do not see in Ukraine another political force that would be able in the current political situation to rally people behind it along the path to determining Ukraine's future," the president emphasized. He proposed focusing on the settlement of organizational questions in order to restore the functioning of the party, and within two weeks to call a new meeting to discuss the political situation, economic policy and ideological questions. The president called for supporting the candidacy of Kyiv State Oblast Administration Chair Vira Ulianchenko for the post of the party council chair. Ms. Ulianchenko was subsequently elected to that post. (Ukrinform)

Victims of repression remembered

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on May 17 participated in ceremonies honoring the memory of victims of political repression buried in mass graves unearthed at the Bykivnia National Forest. He reminded his audience that tens of thousands of victims of the Communist regime are buried in the Bykivnia forest outside of Kyiv. He compared Bykivnia with Babyn Yar, the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps and Solovky, places where the Nazis and the Soviets committed crimes against humanity and mass murder. Mr. Yushchenko noted that the memory of the dead should be preserved, and he expressed deep gratitude to all the institutes that helped preserve that memory, in particular, the Security Service of Ukraine which over recent years established over 14,000 names of people buried in the Bykivnia forest. The president noted that Ukraine will continue this work and will hand over data about the dead persons to other states. The largest mass graves of victims of the Communist period are located in Bykivnia. Thus far, it is known that over 100,000 were killed and secretly buried there in 1937-1941. The Bykivnia graves are a symbol of all the mass burials of victims of the Communist regime. (Ukrinform)

14,191 victims' names are known

KYIV – Officials of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) have announced that they have determined the identities of 14,191 people killed by order of Soviet dictator

Joseph Stalin and buried in the Bykivnia forest outside of Kyiv. Prof. Vasyl Danylenko of the SBU archives said there are 18 places in Ukraine that were used to execute thousands of people during the Stalin era. He said Bykivnia was heavily guarded during Soviet times and, though many executions were carried out in Kyiv, the dead were buried in mass graves at Bykivnia during the night. Before World War II, most executions were carried out directly in the forest with the victims lined up before ready-dug graves. Prof. Danylenko said that of the other 18 mass burial sites in Ukraine that have been identified, some are being used as parks, some have department stores built atop them or serve as city cemeteries. Ukraine officially commemorates victims of political repression on May 17 when thousands of people visit Bykivnia to pay their respects. Many people have erected signs on trees with the names of relatives they believe are buried there. (RFE/RL)

Crimean Tatars hold world congress

BAKHCHYSARAI, Ukraine – The World Congress of Crimean Tatars (Kurultai) opened at the beginning of the week in the Crimean city of Bakhchysarai. More than 800 delegates from 12 countries are attending the congress at Bakhchysarai's Khan Palace. Ali Khamzin, the head of the congress's organizing committee, said the congress is focusing on ways to consolidate Crimean Tatars. He said such issues as preserving the group's ethnic identity, and reviving the Crimean Tatar language and culture, are also on the agenda. The congress's plenary meetings will be held in Symferopol, and panel discussions will take place in the Ukrainian peninsula cities of Bilohorsk, Yevpatoria, Sudak and Eski-Kirim. The event continues through May 22. May 18 was marked as the 65th anniversary of the forced deportation of some 200,000 Crimean Tatars to Central Asia by the Soviet regime. Nearly half of the deportees died en route. (RFE/RL)

Ukraine seeks FSB documents

SYMFEROPOL, Ukraine – The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has asked Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB), the successor to the Soviet-era KGB, to declassify all documents regarding the deportation of the Crimean Tatars to Central Asia 65 years ago. SBU Chief Valentyn Nalyvaichenko said in Symferopol on May 18 that the FSB has not yet provided the SBU with the requested documents about the Crimean Tatars. He said the SBU officially requested detailed documents about certain people and their registration cards, biographies, etc., from the FSB two years ago. However, Mr. Nalyvaichenko said Russian authorities provided the SBU only with general statistical data. He added that officials in Kazakhstan – where some of the Crimean Tatars were deported in 1944 – agreed to cooperate and provided the SBU with 10,000 Crimean Tatar registration cards that were issued by Kazakh officials when the Tatars arrived. May 18 is the 65th anniversary of the deportation of some 200,000 Crimean Tatars to Central Asia by Soviet officials. (RFE/RL)

Crimean Tatars demand land

KYIV – A group of Crimean Tatars on May 20 continued a protest action in front of the government building in Kyiv. Some 120 Crimean Tatar activists have been staging the protest since mid-April, demanding land for Tatar repatriates in Crimea. Leaders of the action – Nariman Potelov, Dilyaver Reshitov, Rinat Shaymardanov, and Reshat Seydaliev – told RFE/RL that seven of the protesters are on hunger strike. They say one of the hunger strikers is close to death. The protesters' major demand is for the government to ease the process for Crimean

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

Tatar returnees to acquire land for ownership. Currently, the Defense Ministry, Agriculture Ministry and Academy of Agriculture control the land on the peninsula. The indigenous people of Crimea, the Crimean Tatars, were deported to Central Asia by the Soviets in 1944. They started returning to their historic homeland after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Since then, they have been demanding their ancestral lands from local authorities. (RFE/RL)

Lytvyn comments on Victory Day

KYIV – Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said on May 14 that the member-countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States must consolidate their efforts in preparations for the celebration of the 65th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945. “We have won his victory together, and must celebrate its 65th anniversary together too,” he said. Mr. Lytvyn also expressed the need to adopt a common decision on the establishment of a single memorial reward of the former Soviet republics timed to coincide with the jubilee. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine-Russia interparliamentary ties

KYIV – Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and the head of Russian Federation Council's Federal Assembly, Sergey Mironov, pointed to a strengthening of the interparliamentary component in the countries' bilateral relations, the press service of the Ukrainian Parliament reported on May 14. During their meeting in St. Petersburg within the framework of the 32nd session of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Messrs. Lytvyn and Mironov cited the need to provide a fresh impetus to interparliamentary cooperation both at the bilateral level and in the format of interparliamentary unions. Mr. Mironov expressed satisfaction with “the interparliamentary cooper-

ation between Ukraine and Russia having reached a new level of acceleration.” Mr. Lytvyn pointed to the need for providing a systemic approach to the development of interparliamentary bilateral relations. Both parties also discussed the run-up to the conference on European security issues that will be held on July 13. They also discussed the results of the latest meeting of the interparliamentary commission for cooperation of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada and Russia's Federal Assembly. In addition, Messrs. Lytvyn and Mironov examined a package of questions related to bilateral cooperation in the economic sphere, which need support at the legislative level. Mr. Lytvyn emphasized that, “without the settlement of humanitarian problems in Ukraine-Russia relations, it is extremely difficult to count on successful economic cooperation between the two countries.” (Ukrinform)

Lytvyn: entry into NATO not vital

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said that the question of Ukraine's accession to NATO is not vital at the current stage. He made a statement to this effect during his meeting with Boris Gryzlov, head of the Russian State Duma's Federal Assembly, in St. Petersburg, where the 32nd meeting of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States was in session. In response to Mr. Gryzlov's remark on Russia's “very negative attitude to the possibility of Ukraine's entry into NATO,” Mr. Lytvyn emphasized that “the issue is not on the agenda, and is not a priority among Ukrainian citizens.” He added, “It is exclusively politicians who deal with the subject,” noting that it is necessary to stop all talk about NATO accession and think, instead, of how to guarantee national security on the basis of the Budapest Memorandum. The Rada chairman confirmed his position that Ukraine should be a non-aligned state. Touching on the temporary deployment of the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Ukraine's Crimea, Mr. Lytvyn stressed that both parties' interests must be taken into account in this affair. (Ukrinform)

Diplomats don't have Lutsenko file

KYIV – The prosecutor's office of Frankfurt-am-Main denied giving out documents on the incident concerning Ukrainian Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko without his personal consent, Ukraine's Consul General Oleksander Novoselov told Ukrinform on May 14. The presidium of the Frankfurt police has handed over the papers on the May 4 detention of Mr. Lutsenko and his son at the local airport to the prosecutor's office. The consul says prosecutors told him on May 14 that they would deliver the documents to the Ukrainian party only with the minister's consent. The diplomat reported that the prosecutor's office of Frankfurt had launched an investigation in the case. “That is why any promulgation of the facts will break the secrecy of investigation,” the consul explained. He added that, if the evidence is transferred to a third party, even in a diplomatic way, the rights of one party to the case will be violated, which is forbidden by both German and Ukrainian law. In related developments, Germany's Embassy to Ukraine refuted a statement by Oleksander Yefremov, deputy chair of the Party of Regions' parliamentary faction, who said documents on the Lutsenko case had arrived in Ukraine via the German Embassy. (Ukrinform)

Younger Lutsenko sues Bild

KYIV – Oleksander Lutsenko, Ukrainian Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko's son, filed a lawsuit with the Land Court of Berlin against the German newspaper Bild, which, according to his father, spread untrue information about the incident involving the two at Frankfurt airport on May 4. The suit said information circulated by Bild to the effect that Oleksander Lutsenko threw his cell phone at policemen and that a test had shown content of alcohol in his blood was untrue.

Mr. Lutsenko's suit asks the court to make Bild retract its report and remove the electronic version of the article from its website. The first hearings in the case were to take place on May 19. (Ukrinform)

Rada investigating incident

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on May 19 set up two ad hoc teams for investigations into the incident at the airport in Frankfurt, Germany, involving Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko and his son Oleksander. One of the committees is headed by a representative of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, and the other by a representative of the opposition Party of Regions. Commenting on the situation, Oleksander Yefremov, deputy chair of the Party of Regions' faction, called it absurd to create a committee headed by the pro-government faction to conduct an inquiry into misconduct of a members of the government. He expressed his opinion that the Tymoshenko Bloc will try to shield the delinquent minister. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine's Loboda 12th at Eurovision

KYIV – Ukraine's entry in the 2009 Eurovision Song Contest, Svitlana Loboda, took 12th place, having won 76 points. Ms. Loboda made it to the final after singing the song “Anti-Crisis Girl” in the semifinals. She received the top mark from Poland and Azerbaijan – 10 each. Ukraine gave the top mark to Norway's Alexander Rybak, who is of Belarusian background, who ultimately won the contest. Thus, Eurovision 2010 will take place in Norway. Interestingly, Russia's competitor in the contest, Anastasia Prikhodko, is a singer with Ukrainian roots. She performed a song written by a Georgian with a chorus sung in Ukrainian. Russia hosted Eurovision 2009 by virtue of its representative's, Dima Bilan's, win at last year's contest. (Ukrinform, The New York Times)



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SPORTSLINE

Soccer

• Shakhtar Donetsk made history with its 2-1 victory over Werder Bremen on May 20 in Istanbul for the UEFA Cup. The tightly contested match had early scoring by Shakhtar's Luiz Adriano in the 25th minute, but Bremen responded with a 25-meter shot from Naldo (Ronaldo Aparecido Rodrigues) in the 35th minute. The second half saw both sides missing scoring opportunities, which resulted in extra time. Shakhtar's Jadson (Rodrigues) scored in the seventh minute of extra time off of a cross from Darjo Srna to secure the win for the Ukrainian club. This was the first time since independence that a Ukrainian club had won a European trophy.

• Shakhtar Donetsk defeated Dynamo Kyiv 3-2 on aggregate in the semifinals of the UEFA Cup – 1-1 in the first leg on April 30 and 2-1 in the second leg on May 7. During the first leg, Shakhtar scored first, into its own goal, in the 22nd minute to give Dynamo the lead, but Shakhtar equalized in the second half with a shot by Fernandinho in the 68th minute. During the second leg, Jadson scored in the 17th minute for Shakhtar, Ismael Bangoura equalized in the 47th minute for Dynamo and Ilsinho capped it off for Shakhtar in the 89th minute. In the quarterfinals leading up to the semifinal match, Dynamo tied Paris Saint-Germain FC (PSG) 0-0 on April 9 in the first leg and defeated PSG 3-0 on April 16 in the final leg. Shakhtar defeated Olympique de Marseille 2-0 on April 9 and won 2-1 on April 16 in the final leg. Shakhtar faces Germany's Werder Bremen in the UEFA Cup finals on May 20 in Istanbul, Turkey.

• Dynamo Kyiv won the Ukrainian Soccer League, defeating Tavaria Symferopol 3-2 on May 10. The win gave Dynamo 70 points

from 27 matches to beat second-place finishers Shakhtar Donetsk with 58 points.

• Ukraine defeated the Netherlands 4-1 on March 20 and tied 2-2 against Romania on March 22 at the UEFA Futsal Championship. Ukraine also defeated Andorra 4-2 on March 19. Ukraine leads Group 1 of the tournament with seven points after three games played, with 10 goals for and five against. Ukraine's next stage of the tournament begins in January 2010.

• Ukraine lost to England 2-1 in a World Cup qualifier at Wembley Stadium in London on April 1. England opened up the scoring in the 29th minute with a shot by Peter Crouch. Andriy Shevchenko responded for Ukraine in the 74th minute with a shot on goal, and England answered back with a shot by captain John Terry in the 85th minute. Ukraine, which is in third place in group six with seven points, will face Croatia on June 6. Ukraine trails Croatia and England, which have 10 and 15 points, respectively.

• Ukraine was ranked in seventh place according to the UEFA Team Ranking, determined from the last five years of staging European soccer tournaments. Ukraine had two teams in this year's UEFA Cup semifinal, with Dynamo defeating France's Paris Saint-Germain FC and Shakhtar defeating Olympique de Marseille. Ukraine ranks higher than Romania and the Netherlands in the UEFA rankings.

Boxing

• The World Boxing Council (WBC) named Vitali Klitschko the greatest puncher ever in the heavyweight division on March 24. According to a WBC press release, "Klitschko proved that he is the best fighter in the world nowadays, pound for pound, after defeating Juan Carlos Gomez on

March 25. Klitschko has outdone all other fighters, no matter what division they belong to. The heavyweight world champion is the only one who can claim he is the greatest champion in the world of boxing as nobody can defeat him. Jose Sulaiman, president of our organization, stated today that Klitschko is the pride of the WBC as well as he is the pride of world boxing." He has a record of 37 wins, 36 by knockout, his KO percentage is at 97.2 percent, placing him as the "greatest puncher ever in the heavyweight division."

• Conditions for a fight between Wladimir Klitschko (WBO, IBO, IBF heavyweight champion) and ex-cruiserweight champion David Haye of Great Britain have been agreed on by both parties, it was announced on April 6. The IBF/WBO title bout will take place on June 20 in Gelesenkirchen, Germany at the Veltins Arena.

• Vitali Klitschko's (37-2, 36 KO) next scheduled bout will be against American Chris Arreola (27-0, 24 KO). Many of the details, including location and date are still to be determined, with both fighters agreeing to a bout somewhere in the United States.

• Ukraine hosted the "Golden Boxing II" tournament at the Lokomotiv Sports Palace in Kharkiv on April 22-23. IBF Intercontinental super lightweight champion Sergey Fedchenko (23-0, 11 KO) retained his title by a knockout in the seventh round, defeating Diego Jesus Ponce (16-5-2, 2 KO) of Argentina. This was Fedchenko's second defense of his IBF title.

• In another super lightweight bout, Artem Ayvazadi (5-0-0, 1 KO) defeated Dmitriy Bogachuk (1-3-0, 1 KO) by unanimous decision in the sixth round, 59-55, 60-54 and 60-54. On April 22, lightweight Valentin Golovko (7-0-0, 5 KO) defeated Oleg

Tolchko (1-2-0, 1 KO), both natives of Ukraine, by unanimous decision in the eighth round, 79-76, 80-72 and 79-73. Welterweight Viktor Plotnirov (20-1-0, 10 KO) defeated Alexandre Benidze (10-9-2, 5 KO) of Georgia by unanimous decision in the 10th round. Heavyweight Andrey Rudenko (12-0-0, 5 KO) defeated Yuri Gorbenko (0-2-0) with a TKO in the second round on April 22. Unranked super welterweight fighters Dmitriy Simrenin defeated Igor Nekhay with a TKO in the second round on April 22.

• Upcoming bouts of Ukrainian fighters include the June 6 heavyweight fight in Oberhausen, Germany, between Taras Bidenko (26-2-0, 12 KO) and Denis Boytsov of Russia for the WBA intercontinental title, and the June 27 fight for the WBA super lightweight title at the O2 Arena in London between Andriy Kotelink (31-2-1, 13 KO) and Amir Khan (20-1-0, 15 KO) of Great Britain.

Chess

• Serhiy Pavlov won the seventh Nabokov Memorial International Chess Tournament in Kyiv on April 22. Other Ukrainian winners included Spartak Vysochyn, second place, and Ilia Holychenko, third place. The tournament, organized by the Kyiv Chess Federation, attracted 12 players from Ukraine, Moldova, Russia, Poland and Romania.

• Grandmaster Pavlo Eljanov won the 39th International Chess Super-Tournament 2009, held in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, on May 18. Eljanov scored seven points, defeating Wang Hao of China, Sergei Movsesian of Slovakia, Pedyala Harikrishna of India and Ivan Sokolov, representing the host nation.

(Continued on page 17)



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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

At the 2008 NHL draft with Stars' top pick Tyler Beskorowany

So I'm sitting in section 117, Row F, Seat 1 at Scotiabank Place on Saturday, June 21, 2008, the second day of last year's NHL Entry Draft. It was an encore performance as I had sat in this very same seat the evening prior, when I gleefully observed the gala introductions and the entire first round. Looking to my immediate left, I noticed several well-dressed young men sitting with their families in a section next to mine. Little did I know I would be chatting with one of these young draftees later this day, when I would bump into him and his father while strolling the arena's concourse. Fortunately I was armed with my tote bag which had an official draft cap (for autographs), a mini recorder (for a possible interview) and a pad (for notes).

Here then, is The Weekly's "Hockey Guy" talkin' pucks with the Dallas Stars' top selection in the 2008 draft, goaltender Tyler Beskorowany.

How do you feel right now, knowing you've been selected by an NHL team?

Pretty good, it's been an emotional day. I'm excited and happy to be a part of the Dallas Stars.

Were you nervous heading into today, and how was it getting to sleep last night?

A little bit, I actually did get a few hours of sleep last night. I was actually hoping I'd be able to get in a little nap today.

Who's here with you today to celebrate this big day in your life?

My parents are here with me, that's about it.

Which one of them was more excited about your selection?

Actually, I think my agent was most excited of all.

How does it make you feel now that

you're going to be a Dallas Star and what sort of motivation does it give you for when you return to juniors next season?

I'm definitely going to go back and work hard, then go to development camp and be prepared, work that much harder now, get a few tips from [Dallas goalie] Marty Turco and [goalie coach] Andy Moog and take that back to junior and evaluate myself and keep going from there.

Dallas is an organization known for good goaltenders – Marty Turco, before him, Ed Belfour – it must be good to know there's a solid history here and they selected you to perhaps keep the tradition going.

There's a little bit of pressure in that. The organization told me all the goaltenders they draft end up in the NHL, so I just have to follow in their footsteps.

What personal attribute do you think got you drafted into the NHL ranks?

I come to work my hardest every day. I never give up on my team or quit on a play. I'm out to prove I belong on my team, in this league and I should be back next year.

You've gotten some attention for your play in juniors and there's talk of playing for Team Canada at the World Under-18 Hockey Championships.

It feels good and I feel no added pressure. My dream has always been to play in the NHL. It's been an adventure getting to this point, but I kept working hard and never lost



Ontario Hockey League

Tyler Beskorowany, the top 2008 draft pick of the Dallas Stars.

sight of what I wanted to do. It got me to where I am today.

How has your juniors experience with Owen Sound (OHL) made a difference?

By making it to the Ontario Hockey League, I proved to myself that I am capable of doing anything I want to. I have a lot more confidence.

Times were tough with Owen Sound as

(Continued on page 18)

Sportsline...

(Continued from page 16)

Olympics

Serhiy Bubka, president of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, member of the International Olympic Committee and first vice-president of the International Association of Athletics Federations, was elected to the Board of the Association of Summer Olympics Federations during its General Assembly in Denver on March 25.

Wrestling

Nine Ukrainian wrestlers won medals at the European Wrestling Championships in Vilnius, Lithuania, on March 29 through April 6. In the Greco-Roman form, Volodymyr Shatskykh won silver in the 74 kg division and Vitaliy Lishchynsky won the bronze medal in the 84 kg division. In free style, Andriy Stadnik won gold in the 66 kg division, Ibragim Aldatov won silver in the 84 kg division, and Vasiliy Tesmineckiy won bronze in the 120 kg division. In the women's category, Nataliya Synyshyn won gold in the 55 kg division, Kateryna Burmistrova won the gold in the 67 kg division, Iryna Khariv won the silver in the 59 kg division, and Yuliya Blahinya won the bronze medal in the 51 kg division.

Gymnastics

Ukraine's team at the European Athletics Championship in Milan, Italy, won one gold, two silver and one bronze medal. Yana Demianchuk won gold in the balance beam event, Anna Kalashnyk won bronze in the vault, Oleksandr Vorobiov won silver in the rings event and Mykola Kuksenko won silver in the high bar event. Serhiy Bubka, member of the International Olympic Committee, congratulated the athletes and coaches on their achievements.

Weightlifting

Natalia Trotsenko defended her European title with a gold medal win at the European Championships in Bucharest, Hungary, on April 3-12. Trotsenko (53 kg) lifted 192 kg on aggregate, 87 kg in the snatch and 105 kg in the clean and jerk. Yuliya Kalina won silver in the 58 kg division, with 212 kg on aggregate, 95 kg in the snatch and 117 kg in the clean and jerk. In the women's over 75 kg division, Yuliya Dovhal won bronze with 252 kg aggregate, 111 kg in the snatch and 141 kg in the clean and jerk. In the men's

category, Ihor Shymechko won gold in the over 105 kg division with 433 kg on aggregate, 203 kg in the snatch and 230 kg in the clean and jerk. Oleksiy Torkhtiy won silver in the 105 kg division with a total of 405 kg, 181 kg in the snatch and 224 kg in the clean and jerk.

Strongman

Dmytro Khalaji set a new world record in Kyiv on May 18, where he endured two vehicles that ran over him, weighing two tons and 1.5 tons, respectively. Khalaji pledged to endure twice as large of a load in his next attempt.

Tennis

- Ukraine's women's national tennis team was ranked in seventh place in the Fed Cup national rankings. Ukraine progressed from 12th place to seventh, with a total score of 6,225 points after a victory over Argentina in a play-off match of the World Group and its accession to the tournament's top eight countries.

- Anastasia Lytovchenko and Tetiana Arfyeva won the women's doubles event at the ITF Pro Circuit in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on April 20. The Ukrainian duo was seated in fourth place and defeated Ima Bogush of Belarus and Yevgenia Pashkova of Russia in two sets, 6-4, 6-4.

Fencing

Ukraine won two gold, two silver and two bronze medals at the Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on April 5-13. Anatoliy Herey won silver in the men's junior epee division, and Ukraine won silver in the junior epee team event. Anfisa Pochkalova tied for bronze in the women's junior epee event. Yevgeniy Statsenko won bronze in the men's cadet saber event. Olga Kharlan won gold in the women's junior saber event, and Ukraine's junior women's team won gold in the saber event.

Judo

Volodymyr Soroka, 26, won the gold medal in the 73 kg division at the European Judo Championships in Tbilisi, Georgia, on April 24-26. Heorhiy Zantaraya earned silver in the 60 kg division and Maryna Pryshchepa won silver in the women's 78 kg division. Ukraine finished in third place overall, with three medals – one gold and two silver.

– compiled by Matthew Dubas

UNA SENIORS' WEEK AT SOYUZIVKA JUNE 14-19, 2009

Make your reservations for the UNA Seniors' Conference which will be held at Soyuzivka Heritage Center from Sunday, June 14, starting with wine and cheese in the evening, through Friday, June 19, including brunch.

All inclusive 5 nights, all meals beginning with breakfast Monday, banquet, taxes and gratuities included, entertainment and special speakers.

UNA members - single occupancy \$440 – double occupancy \$370 pp
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UMANA Foundation sponsors CPR, first aid training for camp counselors

by Maria Hrycelak

CHICAGO – On April 25 the Foundation of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA Foundation) inaugurated a CPR and First Aid teaching project for Ukrainian American camp counselors in Chicago, Illinois and Whippany, N.J.

The UMANA Foundation underwrote the cost of professional instructors, supplying four and a half hours of instruction to over 70 trainees in both cities, helping these young counselors become confident and proficient in basic first aid and life-saving skills.

As a pilot project, the UMANA Foundation invited counselors from Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, the Ukrainian American Youth Association, the Association of American Youth of Ukrainian Descent (ODUM), as well as Iskra Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble and the Chornomorska Sitch Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association to send its members to the course. The response from the youth groups was resounding, with 41 participating in Chicago and 30 participating in Whippany.

The Ukrainian community generously supplied teaching space without charge. The Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago and

the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ), allowed their halls to be used for over four hours for this dedicated purpose, Dr. Marta Lopatynsky, chairperson of the Arts, Culture and Education Committee at the UACCNJ, and Dr. Ariadna Holynskij, UMANA President, helped organize the New Jersey courses.

Proceeds from the annual UMANA Illinois Chapter Debutante Ball benefited the UMANA Foundation. The individual debutantes also raised funds for the first aid/CPR project. Katya Iwanik and Diana Kuritz, 2009 debutantes, volunteered to help with registration and refreshments. The Selfreliance Foundation, headquartered in Chicago with a branch in Whippany, donated \$500 to support these courses.

The youth counselors energetically absorbed the intense lessons, and upon completion of the course received two-year certificates of competency in basic CPR. Despite the length of the program, the registrants studiously participated in all the activities. The foundation supplied each participant with a personal first aid kit for use in any eventuality.

The UMANA Foundation, the non-profit educational arm of UMANA, was founded




Participants working on CPR mannequins in Whippany, N.J.

in 1998 to promote medical literacy and medical education among Ukrainians worldwide. It has funded various projects in the United States, Canada and Ukraine, supporting many publications including reference books, brochures, CDs, and web conferences. Over the last three years the Dr. Walter and Olga Prokopiw Scholarship Endowment Fund has awarded over \$6,000 in grants to medical students in the U.S. and Canada.

The UMANA Foundation is planning to continue the first aid and CPR courses in two new cities next year. For more information, or to find out about how to support the UMANA Foundation, readers may e-mail foundation@umana.org or call 773-278-6262.




Participants of the first aid and CPR class in Chicago.



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Selfreliance Super Savers Club is for new and existing members ages 17 and younger. Ask for your free enrollment to receive premiums and to be entered in seasonal drawings. Winners must be active members in good standing and they and their guardians must agree to have winners' names and amounts used for Selfreliance promotional purposes. One boy and one girl will be selected July 3, 2009 from each Selfreliance Office and each Ukrainian School participating in the School Savings Program and notified by mail. Only one entry per member. Only one prize per member during the promotional period. Accounts and custom accounts for children age 17 and younger as of April 18, 2009 qualify to participate in the July 3rd lottery. Prize may be different from illustration. A 1099 form will be issued to winners. A minimum deposit of \$5 is required to open a new account. Previous Super Savers Club winners are not excluded from winning, and will be offered a lesser prize if their name is drawn. Please see our staff in person statement for members opening balances and other requirements.

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At the 2008 NHL draft...

(Continued from page 17)
 the club struggled through a rebuilding year and you saw a lot of shots.

That's what my goal was coming in, just getting as much rubber as I could and as much experience as I can.

Dennis (Ukrainian) and Nicole (French) Beskorowany were immensely proud of son Tyler and how far he's come: the 6-foot-4, 203-pound goaltender was drafted in the 14th round of the OHL draft. On Saturday, June 21, 2008, the Stars took him in the second round, first Dallas pick, 59th overall.

His father, very quick to answer affirmatively when asked if he was Ukrainian, said his son's improvement and success were the results of "a lot of hard work and dedication."

"It's been a long process," said proud mom Nicole Beskorowany. "He's worked really, really hard and had a lot of successes through the years. But, he's also had a few challenges, and he's managed to work his way through those challenges to get himself where he is today."

Dad summed it all up in saying: "We're very proud of what he's been able to accomplish."

In parting with the Beskorowany family I thanked them for their time, got Tyler to sign my hat and wished him the best with his future hockey career. I teased them all by predicting there would be an article about this Ukrainian goalie prospect in The Ukrainian Weekly. They all thought it would be pretty cool.

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Florida cultural center holds annual meeting, elects officers

by Vira Bodnaruk

NORTH PORT, Fla. – St. Andrew's Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center held its annual meeting on March 18 and elected a new slate of officers headed by Dr. Wolodymyr Korol, president.

Also elected were: Julian Helbig, vice-president; Roman Swystun, secretary; Victor Kaplij and Maria Boyduy, treasurers; Prof. Vira Bodnaruk, cultural activities chair; Hanna Cherin, librarian; Daria Tomashoski, membership chair; Halia Lisnyczyj, Maria Nikityn and Anastasia Fatenko, social services; Maria Chorna, head of kitchen; Petro Lobur, Ivan Popiwchak, Halyna Korol, Nadia Lobur, Klara Szpiczka, Mykola Weremijenko and Oresta Swystun, members-at-large; Iwanna Holowaty, Luboslawa Szandra and Zenon Stromeckyj, auditing committee members.

Various events planned for the current year take place at the Cultural Center

Prof. Vira Bodnaruk is cultural activities chair at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center (Oseredok).

(Oseredok) located at 4100 S. Biscayne Drive in North Port, FL; (941) 426-9745.

The pre-Easter Bazaar was held on April 3 at the Oseredok with a beautiful display of decorative ceramics, paintings, embroidery work and pysanky arranged by Halia Shramenko, Ms. Lisnyczyj, and Tamara and Lesia Weremijenko. A traditional Ukrainian Easter basket, as well as Easter breads, were prepared by Nadia Fatenko. The art of pysanka was demonstrated by Marusia Hajowa and Olija Tatarko.

The delicious Ukrainian food and pastry was prepared and served under the watchful eye of Marusia Chorna. The bazaar was a success due to the support and participation of all the Oseredok members.

On April 26 the Community Committee (Hromadskyi Komitet) of North Port organized a commemoration of the 23rd anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. Irene Zabytko, an award-winning writer and filmmaker, was invited to show her short documentary film "Epiphany at Chernobyl" and talk about her book "The Sky Unwashed" about



Board members of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center in North Port, Fla., including President Wolodymyr Korol (third row, second from right).

Chernobyl and life in "the zone."

Divine liturgy is celebrated in the chapel located within the Oseredok at 9 a.m. every Sunday. Following the service, there is an opportunity to visit with friends and family at the Oseredok, where coffee and pastries are served.

During the week on Mondays and Thursdays, 2-6 p.m. the Oseredok is open to members and friends, who take advantage of its well-stocked library, play cards or chess, or meet friends for conversation. On Fridays at 4:30-6 p.m. Ukrainian dinners are available (borsch, varenyky, holubtsi) for a very reasonable price. This is especially convenient for residents of the "Ukrainian Village," which is next to the Oseredok.

Activities at the Oseredok are in full swing from September through May.

During the summer, when many people go north, the pace at the Oseredok slows down.

Various organizations hold their monthly meetings here: Branch 56 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America; the Ukrainian American Club, Ukrainian American Veterans and the Community Committee Club. Throughout the year, commemorations of national and religious holidays are held here, as well as literary evenings, bazaars, dances and lectures.

Membership in the Oseredok is open to all persons of Ukrainian descent (or their marriage) who live in the vicinity. The initiation fee is \$100, with an annual fee of \$20 for each member. For information readers may call the Oseredok at 941-426-9745.

Elizabeth students bring joy to orphans in Zaporizhia



ELIZABETH, N.J. – Upper Academy High School Students in Elizabeth, N.J., inspired by their teacher, Lilia Chaika, prepared 100 goody bags for deaf and mute orphans in Zaporizhia, Ukraine. Sister Mary Bernarda, OSBM, who pays regular visits to orphanages in Ukraine to help the children there, noted: "This was a very beautiful and impressive Christian act of charity. And the joy of the children upon receiving these gifts surely could not be surpassed." She added that this was "an exemplary project worthy of imitation by other groups of schoolchildren" who similarly could bring happiness to hundreds of orphans throughout Ukraine.

Heritage Foundation...

(Continued from page 1)

1933, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, have been working to digitize their archives for the past several years. Grants for the project have been received from the Shevchenko Scientific Society (in December 2007) and Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union (in April 2008).

Digitization of both newspapers' back issues – a project that will be invaluable to researchers and scholars, as well as the Ukrainian community at large – will guarantee broader access to Svoboda's and The Ukrainian Weekly's historic archives. These digitized archives can be made available to universities, libraries, scholarly institutions and other interested

parties around the globe.

The project also encompasses digitization of the Ukrainian National Association Almanacs published annually by Svoboda; the children's magazine Veselka, published in the years 1954-1995; and The Ukrainian Weekly's book publications.

Realization of the project requires a substantial financial commitment that is well beyond the financial means of the Svoboda and The Weekly, which are published as non-profit ventures.

Svoboda and The Weekly are seeking additional sponsors for their digital archives project.

Readers may check out the progress made in the digitization project by logging on to www.ukrweekly.com and www.svoboda-news.com.

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UKRAINIAN FOLK FESTIVAL
Celebrate Ukraine's Independence

Festival Stage Show ~ "Zabava" Public Dance ~ Tasty Ukrainian and Picnic Foods & Drinks

Estonian president...

(Continued from page 3)
approach?

Any consensus-based organization, as the OSCE is, will lead to a common denominator; and the common denominator when it comes to democracy is fairly low. Since it is a consensus-based organization, that means it suffices for only one country to veto and that means you can't go very far.

Specifically, where the problems have come in is in a sub-organization to the OSCE, the ODIHR, which monitors elections. That is what has turned out to be so unpopular in countries where democracy is not where it should be, or where democracy is something other than what we know it to be in the West. And we can see very strong pressure on ODIHR to cease its actions and not to monitor elections, and threats to cut off funding to the OSCE if ODIHR continues to find that elections are not free and fair.

Well, what is the alternative? There is not much, especially since the other main organization that actually monitored human rights consistently was the Council of Europe, which was a normative organization. As opposed to the OSCE, which was consensual, the Council of Europe was normative, it had its principles and if you followed them you were OK and if you didn't follow those principles you were not.

But that has succumbed to political expediency, I would say, especially in the last six or seven years under the leadership which it had, unfortunately, when you have people running an organization that have business interests in countries without democracy it leads to dubious decisions.

So the Council of Europe has given up on its norms, and we don't really have any organization that is all-inclusive, that includes these countries that have democracy problems, where these democracy problems can be discussed and what we really

only have is countries that are democratic that worry perhaps sometimes about lack of democracy in countries that are not, but the organizations themselves that include everyone are stymied.

[Former Czech] President [Vaclav] Havel wrote just yesterday in The Herald Tribune a piece on this same issue. Where are we? I mean, we have human rights organizations being chaired or run by countries whose own record, by any standard – at least for an Estonian or a Czech – is rather dubious.

When you speak to your colleagues in the EU, what do you suggest might be a better way to proceed?

Well, first of all is to pay attention to what is going on and not to sweep it under the carpet in the name of political expediency. And that basically is all that I can really suggest.

Thank you. Is there anything else you would like to add as a final thought?

Well, I would say that I am here for the opening of the new RFE/RL building and, as someone who worked here for nine years during the most exciting period, I think, in the history of RFE/RL, which was from 1984 to 1993, that it is great to be back here and that I find what the radio does remains highly important – especially if you look at the Freedom House report on press freedom that appeared last week or two weeks ago, where you get a fairly depressing picture that maybe the job of the radios is not complete and that the outcome of our work in the 1980s and throughout that period was not as wonderful as we would like to think since of the 28 countries of the post-Communist, post-Soviet space, [only] eight have completely free media today.

I am very proud that Estonia and Latvia and Lithuania and Poland and the Czech Republic are countries with completely free media, and Estonia has the most free media, in that rating at least, of all of the post-Com-

munist countries.

But that means there are 20 countries that do not have a free media [in] the target area of [RFE/RL] in the 1980s. And if you look at the numbers, it is only 18 percent of the people that were in the broadcast area. Eight-two percent of the people that we were broadcasting to in 1988, '86, '89, today remain in an un-free press environment. And

that's depressing.

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"Taras Bulba"...

(Continued from page 10)

ship actually took place. The romance had the opportunity to evolve, there was more interaction, the two fated lovers walked, talked, spent time together, thus adding more substance to their relationship. And that is precisely why the fateful demise of their relationship is that much more tragic.

As both film versions have an approximate running time of just over two hours, one wonders how the American screen adaptation managed to adequately portray the relationship between Taras Bulba and his sons, as well as the romance between Andrii and the young Polish noble woman, while the Russian screen version fails on both counts.

Although Gogol's *Hohol's* tale is set in the fortified city of Dubno in the 16th century's Rivne region of Ukraine, the majority of location shooting for Mr. Bortko's "Taras Bulba" took place at two of Ukraine's most magnificent fortifications, namely Kamianets Podilskyi and Khotyn, situated, respectively, in the southeastern Podillia and northern Bessarabia regions of Ukraine, respectively.

Despite such majestic scenery and battle scene stunt coordination provided by Nick Powell of "Braveheart" fame, Russia's version of "Taras Bulba" is nevertheless plagued by mismatched props, including historically inaccurate armor, footwear and weaponry, and even overly extended offensive ladders that seem to reach the heavens.

To make matters worse, during production, casualties were reported on the set. More specifically, animal rights activists were livid to discover that on May 29, 2007, at least one animal, in this particular case a horse by the name of Malisz, had been killed, while other animals had been traumatized. Malisz had also appeared in a similarly themed film titled "Ogniem i Mieczem" (With Fire and Sword) (1999), which had also starred Bohdan Stupka and was directed by Polish film director Jerzy Hoffman.

Mr. Bortko, whose mother was Ukrainian and father was Russian, received the "National Artist of Ukraine" award in 2003. In April of this year, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine bestowed the Lenin Prize upon Mr. Bortko following the release of his "Taras Bulba." According to the CPU's official website, the award is in recognition of the filmmaker's "highly artistic cinematic contribution to the ideals of friendship between the Ukrainian and Russian peoples, and to propagating a mutually historic and cultural legacy."

Offering his perspective on the Russian cinematic interpretation of "Taras Bulba," Peter Borisow, president of the Hollywood Trident Foundation, assessed that "the only good thing about the Bulba film is that it is so bad it's not likely to be seen by any significant audience." According to Mr. Borisow, "the only thing the worse than the story line is the close tie between worst overdirecting and the worst overacting."

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Nina Ananiashvili in *Le Corsaire*. Photo by Nancy Ellison.

All-Prokofiev Celebration

On the Dnieper

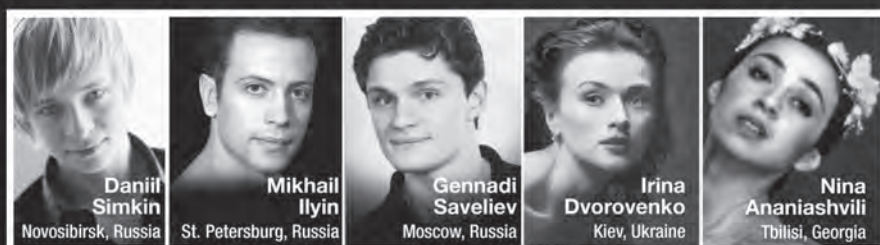
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The program also includes James Kudelka's *Désir*, set to Prokofiev's *Waltz Suite* and *Cinderella* as well as St. Petersburg-native George Balanchine's masterful interpretation of the biblical parable, *Prodigal Son*.

Paloma Herrera, Veronika Part and Marcelo Gomes in *On the Dnieper*. Photo by Fabrizio Ferri.



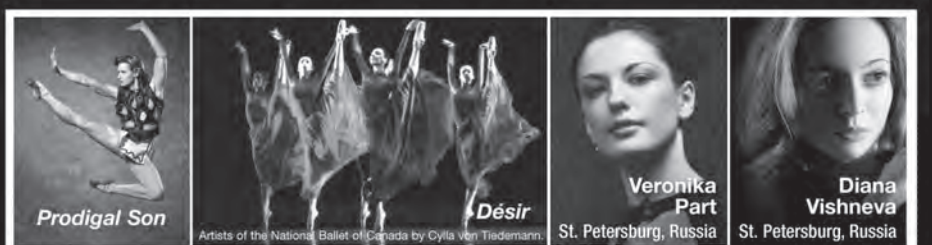
Daniil Simkin
Novosibirsk, Russia

Mikhail Ilyin
St. Petersburg, Russia

Gennadi Saveliev
Moscow, Russia

Irina Dvorovenko
Kiev, Ukraine

Nina Ananiashvili
Tbilisi, Georgia



Paloma Herrera
St. Petersburg, Russia

Veronika Part
St. Petersburg, Russia

Diana Vishneva
St. Petersburg, Russia

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Ukrainian immigrant is valedictorian at LIU

by Alka Gupta

NEW YORK – Six years ago and half-way around the globe from her current home in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, Larysa Doudla was a carefree college student in her native country of Ukraine, in the western Ukrainian town of Irshava.

She was active in school clubs, played piano and had many friends. After completing Irshava School No. 1, she enrolled at Kyiv National Economic University, where she was a student of finance.

She thought she had it all until the day her father and mother, an economist and a schoolteacher, respectively, won the United States Green Card Lottery, a government program that annually grants 50,000 visas to people all around the world, authorizing them to live and to work in the United States. The program allowed the couple, their daughter and a son to immigrate to this country.

“Ever since I was a little kid, I remember my father talking about his dream of moving here,” said Ms. Doudla, a 27-year-old finance and management major.

She was happy for her father, but was concerned about how this opportunity would affect her own life. The transition was tough at first. She spoke very little English and missed her friends. “In the United States,

everything was new for me,” she recounted. “Also, life is very quick here. You have to be on the run all the time.”

Nevertheless, her indomitable spirit and optimism helped the young immigrant to catch up quickly. She became fluent in English, adding to her already in-depth knowledge of Ukrainian, Polish and Russian. In 2005, she enrolled in the School of Business, Public Administration and Information Sciences at Long Island University’s Brooklyn Campus and worked two jobs during most of the time she was taking classes.

She excelled with the support of professors, whom she describes as mentors and friends. As the Brooklyn Campus valedictorian Ms. Doudla, who earned a 3.8 grade-point average, addressed an audience of nearly 1,900 of her fellow students, their family members and friends during the May 14 commencement ceremonies. In addition to graduating with this highest honor, Ms. Doudla has won the Campus’ Managerial Society Award for Excellence and the Most Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award. Despite numerous academic, family and work obligations, she found time to be a member of the Campus Finance Society, the Alpha Chi National Honor Society and the American Academy of



David Gardiner Garcia

Larysa Doudla, 27, an immigrant from Ukraine was the valedictorian at Long Island University’s Brooklyn Campus commencement on May 14.

Professional Coders.

She also married her hometown sweetheart, Ivan Chyipesh. The couple lives with her family in Brooklyn.

Ms. Doudla is quite upbeat about the future despite the tumultuous economic environment. “I see the reality of today’s economy, however, I understand the potential of how bright minds can make things better,” she asserted.

“Ms. Doudla is a wonderful representative of the students who are graduating from the Brooklyn Campus. Many of them are first-generation Americans and first-generation college graduates who have overcome a multitude of obstacles to earn their degrees

and to go on and make the world a better place,” commented Gale Stevens Haynes, provost of Long Island University’s Brooklyn Campus.

In its ninth decade of providing access to the American dream through excellence in higher education, Long Island University is a multi-campus, diverse, doctoral institution of higher learning. LIU offers 590 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degree programs and certificates, and educates over 24,000 students in degree-credit and continuing education programs in Brooklyn, Brookville (C.W. Post), Brentwood, Riverhead, Rockland, Westchester and Southampton.

Elected five times to Board of Ed

ROSELLE PARK, N.J. – Alexander J. Balaban, a second-generation Ukrainian American has now been elected five times to the Roselle Park Board of Education. His latest election victory came on April 21.

Mr. Balaban is a manager with Social Security’s Disability Program through New Jersey’s Department of Labor and Workforce Development. He has been employed by the State of New Jersey for 27 years. He has been awarded Social Security Commissioner Citations for excellence in public service and has attained Certified Public Manager status.

He received his bachelor’s degree in pre-medicine studies from Rutgers University and holds a Certificate in Administrative Law Principles from McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, Calif. He earned a master’s degree in public administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2007.

Mr. Balaban is the only Roselle Park Board of Education member to attain “Master Board Member” certification from the New Jersey School Boards

Association. He is fluent in Eastern European languages.

He is a member of the Roselle Park Library board of trustees of CATV-34 Committee, and is coordinator of Clean Communities. He has also been a member of the Community Alliance Against Substance Abuse, the Roselle Park Environmental Commission and the Roselle Park Historical Society.

Mr. Balaban served on the Roselle Park Board of Education for 12 years, in 1994-1997, 1999-2002, and 2003 to the present. He served on all board committees, and was the chairman of the finance, curriculum, school board operations, and negotiations committees. As well, he served on the Middle School Curriculum Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

He represented Roselle Park on the Union County and New Jersey School Boards Associations. He served as a vice-president of the Union County School Boards Association in 1995-1997 and 2001-2002; he also served on the Union County Educational Services Commission in 1999-2001 and 2006-2008.

Mr. Balaban also lectured on the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine at Roselle Park High School.

Cited as scholar in high school

ATLANTA, Ga. – The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) on April 29 announced that Paramus Catholic High School student Martha S. Lewko from Little Falls, N.J., has been selected for membership. The Society recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have achieved superior academic excellence.

The announcement was made by NSHSS Founder and Chairman Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

“On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored

to recognize the hard work, sacrifice and commitment that Martha S. Lewko has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence,” said Mr. Nobel. “Martha S. Lewko is now a member of a unique community of scholars – a community that represents our very best hope for the future.”

“Our vision is to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources and opportunities,” stated NSHSS President James Lewis. “We aim to help students like Ms. Lewko build on their academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community.”

(Continued on page 22)

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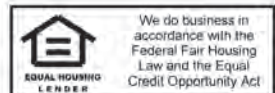
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Ukrainian writer...

(Continued from page 11)

beyond its geographic and national borders in such a manner is a test of that literature's maturity.

Well now let's look at another aspect of Ukrainian literature and the U.S. – the diaspora as an audience. The diaspora has changed much in the years since Ukrainian independence. Readers of your works in the 1990s, generally an older generation of Ukrainian émigrés, who subscribed to intellectual journals such as *Suchasnist*, are gradually passing on. Most of their children and grandchildren, naturally, are assimilating into American society and would have great difficulty reading a Ukrainian-language novel to its completion. As we already mentioned, there is a new wave of post-Soviet émigrés. How important, then, is the diaspora, in its present form, for Ukrainian writers? Do you see it as a potential audience for your writing?

When I first came to North America, to Canada, in 1992, I envisioned the diaspora, through its structure and organization, as a potential example for newly independent Ukraine. But I soon realized that members of the diaspora have their own problems as well, which they brought with them from Ukraine. There exist competing groups, who often fight among themselves. I cannot say that I write with diaspora readers in mind. But I believe that we should cooperate constructively with the diaspora.

This does not have to take the form of grandiose projects in which hard-earned diaspora money is wasted on some foolish idea in Ukraine. The diaspora has already done much for Ukraine and not all of it has been recognized yet. But there has also been much wasted effort because of a lack of discretion as to where funds and energies should be applied.

Since Ukrainian independence, many Ukrainian writers have visited the West. You, however, did not leave Ukraine between 1994 and 2008. Why?

I elected not to travel not based on some kind of principle or to make a statement. I did it for family reasons – it was important for me to be there for my three daughters in those first years after they were born.

You have already published three books containing many essays which

are, in essence, memoirs. In this manner, you have, in fact, been the most successful among your colleagues in fixating your literary generation. Do you think that not traveling gave you a unique point of view – one that those writers who did travel could not have? Did this make you the one that would write about this?

I didn't feel any sense of obligation to write about this. I had no other choice. I had to focus on the local. Many interesting people were coming through Lviv, interesting events.

So then, Lviv. It's a major subject in your poetry and prose. Your novel "Bazylevs" is set in Lviv. You have a series of poems, written between 1983 and 1997 which address the city's Akademichna Street [an old, pre-Soviet name for today's Prospekt Shevchenka – MA]. These poems form a chronicle of sorts, tracing Lviv's changes over that time span. If you were to write a poem titled "Akademichna 2009" how would it depict the Lviv of today?

I titled the final, 1997 poem "Departure from Akademichna Street" because it was my farewell to treating that street in my poetry. If you follow the path that unfolds in that poem, it leads from Akademichna Street to the former Bernadine Monastery, over the restored fortification wall to High Castle Hill and then spirals into heaven.

From that perspective, from up high, my lyric protagonist sees a Lviv which has been reconstructed. He sees that a river flows through the city's center. And this, in reality, is the Poltva River, which today flows beneath Akademichna Street. Therefore, I cannot write another poem on this theme until this vision becomes reality – until the river is set free.

In my own, personal mythology, I believe that certain problems in the mentality of today's residents of Lviv stem from the fact that the river along which the city was founded and built has been turned into a pathway for sewage. And this is a crime about which most residents of Lviv have forgotten – most don't even know that a river flows there. Today, Lviv has to eradicate this mistake made by its ancestors.

This motif is present in other creative works as well. The river often appears in the works of contemporary Lviv visual artist Yurko Kokh. It appears in Andrukhyovych's writing. In the writing of Ihor Kalynets', as well. Bohdan Ihor Antonych too.

Friendship...

(Continued from page 4)

members of the Arlington Sister City Association board.

The Embassy of Ukraine was represented by Marina Zlobina. Sister Cities International Program Manager for Sustainable Development Adam Kaplan offered remarks on how sister city relationships are helping to build a global citizen diplomacy network.

Following the signing of the friendship agreement, there was a tree-planting ceremony that not only marked the friendship of the two cities but also was a fitting celebration of Earth Day. The tree, a sugar maple, was sponsored by American Forests, a tree-planting organization in Washington.

In the fall, the tree turns a bright orange – a vibrant symbol that both Ukrainian citizen democracy and friendship between the two cities has taken root.

Arlington County Board Member Walter Tejada, whose support of the friendship agreement was crucial, spoke about the central role that citizens from both communities play in building strong and lasting relationships.

A group of children from Jamestown Elementary School in Arlington sang songs in languages of each of the sister city countries, including "Liubymo Zemliu Svoyu" by composer Bohdana Filts.

Arlingtonians, under the leadership of local resident Chrystia Sonevtytsky, co-chair of the Arlington Sister City Ivano-Frankivsk committee, have been working towards developing a sister city relationship for some four years. Last June, an ASCA organized tour was warmly received on a visit to Ivano-Frankivsk, resulting in this reciprocal visit.

During their four day stay, the Ukrainians got acquainted with Arlington and what makes the county such a special place. Depending on their interests, they had the opportunity to find out about the county's economic development and tourism, as well as its educational and information technology facilities. Other members of the delegation saw first hand Arlington's commitment to sustainability

and environmental responsibility with its cutting edge waste to energy and recycling programs, its commitment to green spaces and the work being done at a Habitat for Humanity site.

In addition, the group visited the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, the Library of Congress, toured Washington and Arlington National Cemetery, as well as nearby attractions such as Mount Vernon.

Throughout the visit, the Embassy of Ukraine provided generous support. A farewell dinner graciously hosted by ASCA President Sandra MacDonald at her home enabled Arlington's new Ukrainian friends to mingle with and get better acquainted with ASCA board members and other guests from the community.

Ivano-Frankivsk has a population of 230,000 people, very similar to Arlington's 205,000. Both cities are economically vibrant, progressive and inclusive communities that foster a high quality of life through their strong commitment to the arts and culture, education, civic engagement and maintaining a healthy citizenry through participation in outdoor activities. Also like Arlington, Ivano-Frankivsk is a noted cultural center and the friendship agreement opens the way for exciting exchanges. Ivano-Frankivsk is a center for folk culture and performances by its many musical ensembles offers opportunities for learning more about Ukraine's rich cultural traditions.

Established in 1993, the Arlington Sister City Association (ASCA) is a non-profit organization affiliated with Arlington County. ASCA works to enhance and promote the region's international profile and to foster productive exchanges in education, commerce, culture and the arts.

ASCA programs are sanctioned by Sister Cities International of Washington. Locally, the ASCA supports and coordinates four local Sister Cities programs and provides guidance for those interested in establishing new sister cities programs. Current sister city partnerships include: Aachen, Germany; Coyoacan, Mexico; Reims, France; and San Miguel, El Salvador.

For additional information or to find out how you can help build the Arlington Ivano-Frankivsk sister city relationship, readers may visit www.arlingtonsistercity.org.

Maritime community...

(Continued from page 4)

the region is in the plain territory known as the steppes. The area has two ports, comprising a river and seaport, and has the distinction of direct trade with up to 42 countries worldwide. This fact alone explains how the Montreal shipping community got involved with the needs of the children of the Kherson Orphanage.

Organized and enthusiastically supported by members of the Shipping Federation of Canada, the project is an example of how groups can unite and support worthy causes all over the world. Through the networking of various shipping companies, the delivery of the gifts was facilitated with little bureaucratic impediments.

On receiving the items, the staff and physicians in Kherson handed out the clothing much to their delight. Candies and sweets were also made available, giving the occasion a festive atmosphere.

In an open letter from the orphanage staff to the organizers, the orphanage's doctors expressed their gratitude, "May God bless you and your families, and we thank you very much for the thoughtful and wonderful gifts for our children."

No doubt the many children and staff in faraway Kherson will always remember the generosity of their benefactors 9,000 miles away.

The Montreal shipping community can be proud of this charitable gift and act of goodwill that is bound to build on the already strong ties between Canada and Ukraine.

Cited as scholar...

(Continued from page 21)

Membership in NSHSS entitles qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only resources, publications, participation in programs offered by educational partners, online forums, personalized recognition items and publicity honors.

Formed in 2002, the National Society

of High School Scholars recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and encourages members of the organization to apply their unique talents, vision and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world.

Currently, there are more than 300,000 society members in over 120 countries. NSHSS provides scholarship opportunities for deserving young people.

For more information about NSHSS, readers may log on to www.nshss.org.

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OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>May 30
Ottawa</p> <p>May 30
New York</p> <p>May 31
Ottawa</p> <p>June 6-7
Silver Spring, MD</p> <p>June 8 - July 17
Pittsburgh, PA</p> <p>June 12-14
Kingston, Ontario</p> <p>June 13
Baltimore, MD</p> <p>June 13
Cleveland</p> <p>June 14
Lehigh, PA</p> <p>June 16
Washington</p> <p>June 19
Perry Hall, MD</p> | <p>Graduation Dinner and Dance, School of Ukrainian Studies, Villa Marconi, 613-230-0997 or 613-739-9185</p> <p>Lecture by Alla Korzh, "Ukrainian Orphans' Plight: Education in 'Internaty' and its Implications," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130</p> <p>30th anniversary concert, "Colors of Memory," Ottawa School of Ukrainian Dance and the Svitank Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Bronson Center Theater, 613-692-5243</p> <p>Free dance class, Eurasia Dance Society, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, zenia@eurasiadance.org or 202-841-8325</p> <p>Ukrainian language study program, University of Pittsburgh, http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu</p> <p>Art Exhibit, "Lviv, Ukraine Pavilion," Ukrainian Canadian Club of Kingston, Regiopolis Notre-Dame High School, 613-549-5060</p> <p>Flea market, Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-903-2142</p> <p>Open House, Ukrainian Museum-Archives, 216-781-4329</p> <p>Ukrainian film and food festival, Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation, Ukrainian Homestead, 570-708-1992 or 610-377-7750</p> <p>Commemorative events, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, 202-536-2373</p> <p>Crab feast, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, Columbus Gardens Hall, 410-591-7566 or daira.kaczaniukhauff@verizonwireless.com</p> | <p>June 19-21
Yonkers, NY</p> <p>June 21
Horsham, PA</p> <p>June 22 - August 7
Cambridge, MA</p> <p>June 24-27
Champaign, IL</p> <p>June 27
Philadelphia</p> | <p>Yonkers Ukrainian Festival, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 914-963-0209
www.brama.com/yonkersukrainianfest</p> <p>Father's Day Ukrainian Folk Festival, featuring U.S. Amateur Soccer Association's National Cups Region I Championship Tournament, Ukrainian American Sports Center - Tryzub, 215-362-5331 or eluciw@comcast.net</p> <p>Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, Harvard University, 617-495-3549
or http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi.html</p> <p>26th Conference, "Contemporary Ukraine: Challenges and Perspectives," University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 217-356-9195 or shtohryn@illinois.edu</p> <p>Concert, "Steppes: A Ukrainian Journey," featuring the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Prince Music Theater, 215-569-9700
or www.princemusictheater.org</p> |
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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. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.


Campaign in Ukraine...

(Continued from page 9)

ers to bury him will not lead to any social explosion. ...'

"... Smirnov continued with the observation that he 'in general is an opponent of burying the body of Lenin. Instead, he

should be burned in an oven in Franz-Joseph Land and thrown into the sea there so that his ashes will fall on Europe.' ...But whatever is decided, 'one must not bury this evil-doer in Holy Russia,' after all the crimes Lenin and the system he set up committed against the Russian people and the Russian Church. ..."



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Summer Camp Dates and Information

Tennis Camp

June 21 to July 2 \$675 UNA member \$725 non-member

Kicks off the summer with 2 weeks of intensive tennis instruction and competitive play, for boys and girls age 10-18, under the direction of Mr. George Sawchak. Attendance will be limited to 45 students.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop

July 5 to July 18 \$950 UNA member \$1,000 non-member

Vigorous 2-week dance training for intermediate and advanced dancers age 16 and up under the direction of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Foundation, culminating with performances on stage at our Ukrainian Cultural Festival. (Additional information <http://www.syzokryli.com>)

Tabir Ptashat

Session 1: June 28 to July 5
Session 2: July 5 to July 11

Ukrainian Plast camp (tabir) for children age 4-7 accompanied by their parents. To register child please watch for registration form appearing February 27, March 6, April 3 in Svoboda, March 1, March 8, April 5 in The Ukrainian Weekly. For further information please contact Mrs. Neonila Sochan at 973-984-7456.

Exploration Day Camp

Session 1: June 29 to July 3 \$150 per week per child or \$35 per day per child
Session 2: July 6 to 10

A day camp for boys and girls age 7-10, with five hours of supervised fun daily.

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp

Session 1: July 19 to 24 \$160 per week per child staying on premises
Session 2: July 26 to 31 \$200 per week per child staying off premises

A returning favorite for children age 4 to 7. Campers will be exposed to the Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, storytelling, crafts and games. Children will walk away with an expanded knowledge of Ukrainian folk culture and language, as well as new and lasting friendships with other children of Ukrainian heritage.

Discovery Camp

July 19 to 25 \$400 UNA member \$450 non-member

Sleep-away camp for children age 8-15 filled with outdoor activities, sports, and arts and crafts designed to enhance the Ukrainian cultural experience.

Ukrainian Chornomorska Sitch Sports Camp

Session 1: July 26 to August 1 \$395 per week
Session 2: August 2 to 8

40th annual sports camp run by the Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch for campers age 6-17. The camp will focus on soccer, tennis, volleyball and swimming, and is perfect for any sports enthusiast. Please contact Mrs. Marika Bokalo at 908-851-0617 or e-mail sportsschool@chornomorskasitch.org for application and additional information.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Camp

Session 1: July 26 to August 8 \$950 UNA member
Session 2: August 9 to 22 \$1,000 non-member

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky), this camp is for children and teens age 8-16, and offers expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Each session ends with a grand recital. Attendance will be limited to 60 students.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|---|
| May 22-25 Memorial Day weekend
Friday evening: Pete & Vlody on the Tiki Deck
Saturday: Zabava with Svitanok, 10 pm
Sunday evening: Zuki & Mike on the Tiki Deck | June 14-19 UNA Seniors Week |
| May 30-31 Ukrainian American Veterans Reunion | June 19-21 Wedding weekend |
| June 1-3 Wedding weekend | June 21 UNA Father's Day |
| June 13-14 Program to be determined | June 21-July 2 Tennis Camp |
| | June 27 Private party |
| | June 27 USCAK Tennis Tournament Weekend |
| | June 28-July 5 Tabir Ptashat 1st session; Exploration Day Camp I |



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
216 Foordmore Road P.O. Box 529
Kerhonkson, NY 12446
E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

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Being Ukrainian means:

- "Malanka" in January.
- Deb in February.
- Two Easters this April.
- "Zlet" and "Sviato Vesny" in May.
- Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival in July.
- "Uke Week" at Wildwood in August.
- Back to Ukrainian school in September.
- "Morskyi Bal" in New Jersey in November.
- "Koliada" in December.
- A subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 30

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Alla Korzh titled "Ukrainian Orphans' Plight: Education in 'Internaty' and Its Implications." Ms. Korzh holds a master's degree in education from the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Education, and is presently working toward her Ed.D. at Columbia University Teachers College. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Sunday, June 14

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: A film and food fes-

tival, sponsored by the Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation, will be held beginning at 2 p.m. at the Ukrainian Homestead, 1230 Beaver Run Drive. Ethnic foods, baked goods, crafts and gift items will be available for purchase. The afternoon includes the area premiere of the independent film "Folk!" Admission to the festival is \$10; free for children age 14 and under. For information contact Paula Holoviak, 570-708-1992, or Sandra Duda, 610-377-7750, or e-mail holoviak@kutztown.edu. Additional information is available at www.kazkaensemble.org or www.ukrhomestead.com.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: preview@ukrweekly.com or Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**

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