

INSIDE:

- Lenin statue in Kyiv is vandalized – page 3.
- A young Ukrainian displaced person's memoir – page 8.
- Chicago and Cleveland troupes unite in dance – page 13.

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Kyiv consecration of bishop is historic for Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

by Yuriy Borysov

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church consecrated Studite monk Yosyf Milyan as auxiliary bishop of its Kyiv Archeparchy in a June 18 chirotony attended by 20 hierarchs of the Catholic Church, 100 clergy and more than 400 laity at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ.

The ceremony, held under the cathedral's unfinished domes and without electricity, was the first public consecration performed in Kyiv by the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church since it was established by the Union of Brest in 1596, said Taras Antoshevskiy, director of the Religion Information Service of Ukraine.

"The proclamation itself didn't evoke satisfaction or elation," the Rev. Milyan said of his appointment. "I accepted it very calmly. However, there is anxiety in my soul."

The chirotony began the prior evening when the bishop-designate accepted his appointment and took an oath before the Church Synod. Having already received Pope Benedict XVI's blessing on April 16, the Church selected June 18, Holy Eucharist Day, as the day of the new bishop's consecration, because the Rev. Milyan had served as the supervisor of Holy Eucharist Church in Lviv for 10 years, explained Ihor Yatsiv, the Church's press secretary.

Trembita players in folk costumes greeted attendants, led by Major Archbishop and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, Metropolitan Ivan Martyniak of the Peremyshl-Warsaw Archeparchy, Bishop Yulian Voronovskiy of the Sambir-Drohobych Eparchy and Bishop Petro Stasiuk of the Australia, New Zealand and Oceania Eparchy. Also present was the apostolic nuncio in Ukraine, Archbishop

Ivan Jurkovic.

The last time a Ukrainian Catholic consecration was performed in Kyiv, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky was on his way to exile in northern Russia in 1914 and then ordained two priests in secret, Mr. Antoshevskiy said.

In his homily, Archbishop Husar, the head of the UGCC, to whom many refer as patriarch, thanked Bishop Milyan's parents "for raising a bishop and giving him up for God's service."

He also spoke of his Church's survival of many trials: "If we have survived the severe hardships of the last few centuries, it is only through the grace of God, who operated through us. Our survival was not achieved through our own merit. It is a gift from the Good Lord. ...The Lord is behind this historical success."

In turn, the new bishop said he would try to establish contacts with traditional Christian Churches in Ukraine's capital. Roman Catholic hierarchs and priests, as well as clergy from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate also attended the consecration.

Among the elements in his bishop's crest, Bishop Milyan chose an anchor as a symbol of hope, "because I am hoping very much for God's help," and the motto "Z Namy Boh" (God Is With Us). Other symbols

"I think I won't be a stranger here," he said in a June 15 statement. "I built my monastic and priestly service on the experience the Church gained during its great history, which is a very valuable rock for me. Therefore, I hope that I won't differentiate myself from the Kyiv clergy within our Church, as well as those close to our tradition and spirit."

The Rev. Milyan spent half his Church

(Continued on page 4)

Ukrainians mark 45th anniversary of Shevchenko monument in D.C.

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – The Embassy of Ukraine and the Ukrainian American community of the greater Washington area marked the 45th anniversary of the Taras Shevchenko monument's unveiling with a commemorative ceremony on June 27.

The ceremony was held on the grounds of the Ukrainian poet's memorial in the U.S. capital, where on that same June day in 1964 former President Dwight D. Eisenhower unveiled the monument in front of an estimated crowd of more than 100,000.

Addressing a much smaller crowd this time, Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Oleh Shamshur called that historic event an enormous achievement of the Ukrainian American community and "convincing proof of their enthusiasm and commitment to the liberty of their historic motherland."

He said the monument – the work of sculptor Leo Mol and landscape architect Radoslav Zuk – was one of the best in the world to honor Ukraine's premier poet. The ambassador also noted the work of Ukrainian American community leaders, singling out Dr. Lev Dobriansky, then-president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, for initiating and bringing the project to completion.

Describing Taras Shevchenko's importance to Ukraine's long struggle for freedom and his vision of America as a



A combined church chorus performs at the 45th anniversary commemoration of the unveiling of the monument to Taras Shevchenko in Washington.

model, Ambassador Shamshur noted that "it is both natural and highly symbolic that the American nation, which has been built upon the foundations of freedom, acknowledges the genius of this great Ukrainian hero."

Archbishop Alexander Bykowitz of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarch in his brief remarks at the commemorations contrasted the condition of

(Continued on page 5)

Our Ukraine party gets overhaul, declares opposition to Tymoshenko

by Danylo Peleschuk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Led by President Viktor Yushchenko and Presidential Secretariat Chair Vira Ulianchenko, an overhauled Our Ukraine party declared its opposition to Yulia Tymoshenko at its June 27 party congress and ostracized those politicians loyal to the prime minister, who are led by millionaire natural gas trader Mykola Martynenko.

The opposition declaration proved to be more show than substance, however, as the party backed down from requiring its min-

isters to abandon Ms. Tymoshenko's Cabinet, a political maneuver that could have dissolved her government and led to pre-term parliamentary elections.

"On the one hand, Our Ukraine said it will withdraw its politicians from the coalition, but it didn't call off its ministers," said Ihor Zhdanov, president of Open Politics, a Kyiv-based think-tank. "From the point of view of political logic, it's absurd. This logic is distorted, involving leaving people [in the Cabinet] in order to have access to resources."

(Continued on page 16)



Yuriy Borysov

Bishop Yosyf Milyan (center) is the first Ukrainian Greek-Catholic bishop publicly consecrated in Kyiv since the Church's establishment by the Union of Brest in 1596.

ANALYSIS

Constitutional instability in Ukraine leads to continuing "legal turmoil"

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL

On June 28, 1996, Ukraine became the last Soviet republic to adopt a post-Soviet Constitution, and that day was designated Constitution Day, a national holiday. Two years later, on October 21, 1998, the Crimean Autonomous Republic adopted its own constitution, recognizing the peninsula within Ukraine.

Leonid Kuchma's re-election as president in 1999 gave rise to Ukraine's first non-left parliamentary majority that sought to ditch the country's "semi-presidential" Constitution in favor of a full presidential system. The relevant four questions were put to an April 2000 referendum in April 2000 that was not internationally recognized, and were approved by a suspiciously high percentage of voters.

But Mr. Kuchma's plans were undermined by the onset of the Kuchma-gate cri-

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sis in November of that year, when tapes made illicitly in his office allegedly proved that he ordered violence against journalist Heorhii Gongadze, who was kidnapped on September 16, 2000, and found decapitated on November 2, 2000.

Ukrainian politicians traditionally approached constitutional, and indeed all other issues, from the standpoint not of national interests, but personal advantage. Following the 2002 parliamentary elections, Mr. Kuchma shifted 180 degrees from his constitutional position two years earlier toward support for a parliamentary system. The architect of this strategy, which had two objectives, was presidential chief of staff Viktor Medvedchuk, leader of the Social Democratic Party-United.

Disarming Yushchenko

The first objective was to split the opposition by persuading the left, perennial supporters of parliamentarism, to support the constitutional reforms advocated by pro-presidential centrists. The second was to strip popular opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, if he were elected, of the extensive presidential powers

(Continued on page 21)

U.S.-Russia summit in Moscow presents last opportunity to avoid war in Georgia

by **Pavel Felgenhauer**
Eurasia Daily Monitor

During the summit between Presidents Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev in London on April 1, it was decided in the words of Mr. Obama, "to prepare by the end of this year a legally binding and suf-

ficiently bold" new nuclear arms control agreement to replace the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), which expires in December. It was provisionally planned that during the U.S. president's visit to Moscow beginning on July 6, a framework agreement outlining a new START treaty will be endorsed (Eurasia Daily Monitor, April 9).

Russian and American negotiating teams have been regularly meeting and reporting good progress in START talks. The commander of the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces, Col.-Gen. Nikolai Solovtsov, announced that by 2012 Russia may reduce its strategic nuclear arsenal to 1,700-2,000 warheads and could eventually go down to 1,500, "if there is a political decision" (Interfax, June 10). The reduction seems steep, compared to the 5,000-6,000 limit allowed by the 1991 START-I treaty.

Recently the U.S. has announced that it has already unilaterally cut its number of operationally deployed strategic warheads to 2,200, and Russia apparently has just over 3,000 operationally deployed, as its cold war built strategic arsenal declines.

The most optimistic statement about a possible U.S.-Russian breakthrough came this month from U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who was widely quoted in the Russian media as suggesting a possible joint deployment of an anti-Iranian Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) shield in Europe with interceptors in Poland and radars in Russia.

Mr. Gates was also quoted as saying that he had convinced former President and now Prime Minister Vladimir Putin that the missile threat from Iran is real, while Russian intelligence assessments to the contrary are erroneous (RIA Novosti, June 10).

The Russian Foreign Ministry swiftly denied any change in official policy, stat-

(Continued on page 20)

Correction

In the story headlined "The New York Times spotlights continuing legacy of Surma" (June 28), the website address for the Ukrainian shop should have been given as www.surmastore.com.

Clarifications

In the "Reporter's Notebook" published on May 31, Zenon Zawada reported that President Viktor Yushchenko and his close associate Yurii Yekhanurov set up the RosUkrEnergo natural gas intermediary. RosUkrEnergo was originally set up as one of numerous gas trading companies in 2004 under Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. Mr. Yushchenko and Mr. Yekhanurov significantly enhanced its economic role in January 2006 by making RosUkrEnergo the exclusive exporter to Ukraine and Europe, eliminating all other competitors.

In his interview with Dr. Oleh Soskin published on May 31, Zenon Zawada reported that RosUkrEnergo billionaire Dmytro Firtash owns Nadra Bank. No documents prove that Mr. Firtash owns the bank or has shares in its ownership. However, it is widely believed that he is the primary owner, something that is asserted also by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. (Also Mr. Firtash is no longer a billionaire, according to a survey released on June 11 by Kyiv's Korrespondent magazine.)

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine marks Constitution anniversary

KYIV – Adoption of the Constitution in 1996 marked the completion of the legal formation of the Ukrainian state, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said in his message of greetings on the occasion of Constitution Day, June 28. He said the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe called the Constitution of Ukraine one of the best among democratic countries of the world. Within the framework of holiday festivities, flowers were laid at the monuments to poet Taras Shevchenko and the first president of the Ukrainian National Republic, Mykhailo Hrushevsky. Participating were Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, government members, national deputies and Presidential Secretariat Chair Vira Ulianchenko. (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko comments on coalition

KYIV – A possible withdrawal of the Our Ukraine party from the ruling coalition will not affect the unity of the Parliament majority, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told a news conference on June 24. "I know that President Viktor Yushchenko has set a task to his team to reach at the Our Ukraine People's Union rally slated for Saturday [June 27] a decision to quit the coalition and withdraw the ministers from the Cabinet," she said. "I am convinced that this will have absolutely no impact on the unity, integrity and cohesion of the coalition, and no influence on the unity and integrity of the government," the prime minister stressed. She added that, "if the decision is finally made, I just regret that such decisions can arise at all. This will be a decision against Ukraine. ...My stance is the opposite: I am ready to actively work with all branches of power, and I regret that someone offers other policy." (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko on consolidation of forces

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said on June 30 that the main objective of his party, Our Ukraine, is consolidation of political forces. He made a statement to this effect upon the conclusion of the seventh congress of the Our

Ukraine political party. "Task No. 1 is consolidation of political forces," Mr. Yushchenko noted. He said that, despite the fact that in the past few years his political force lived through a rather difficult period, today the party "is spreading its wings." He said, "Our task is to strengthen consolidation, reach out to each other, offer unity not only among the political party, but also to outline common policy in Parliament," the president noted. (Ukrinform)

YTB says Tymoshenko must run

KYIV – According to news reports of June 30, Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy Oleh Liashko of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) said he is convinced that Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko will not repeat the mistake of 2004 and refuse to run for the presidency. Commenting the resolution of the Our Ukraine party congress urging Ms. Tymoshenko to either give up her presidential ambitions or resign, Mr. Liashko said: "We have already made the strategic mistake, having turned down the presidential race in 2004 and supported [Viktor] Yushchenko, and now we have what we have, as [Leonid] Kravchuk once put it. I hope Yulia Volodymyrivna this time will not repeat this mistake." He added that Prime Minister Tymoshenko has no presidential ambitions, but the situation is such that she must run for the president and win. (Ukrinform)

PRU sees Yatsenyuk as PM

KYIV – Oleksander Lavrynovych, the first vice-chairman of the Verkhovna Rada and a member of the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), said he assumes that National Deputy Arseniy Yatsenyuk of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense bloc, could be elected prime minister if PRU leader Viktor Yanukovich becomes president. News media reported on June 30 that Mr. Lavrynovych made this statement on the TBi TV channel. He noted that this scenario is theoretically possible if Mr. Yatsenyuk's political force sets up a faction in the Parliament and

(Continued on page 14)

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Crimean Tatars divide Ukraine and Russia

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

President Viktor Yushchenko has strongly condemned the 1944 deportation of Crimean Tatars on many occasions and ordered the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) to open a special investigative unit examining crimes against humanity committed by the Soviet regime against them. Since the 1998 Ukrainian parliamentary elections, Rukh and President Yushchenko's Our Ukraine have included Tatar leaders within their party lists.

The SBU unit will investigate the 1944 deportation and the earlier persecution of the Crimean Tatar intelligentsia. The SBU has declassified 63 criminal cases against Crimean Tatar members of the Milly Firqa separatist organization that operated in 1918-1928. SBU chairman Valentyn Nalyvaichenko recently outlined how the special unit would investigate who was responsible for the deportations.

Crimean Tatars seek to have all former KGB documents pertaining to them declassified and made available for public scrutiny on the Internet. The SBU promised the declassified documents would be given to families who suffered during the repressions.

On the 65th anniversary of the deportation of Crimean Tatars, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko condemned it in no uncertain terms: "This terrible and severe page in our history we, as Ukrainians who ourselves went through the Famine-Genocide and repression, and for a long period of time defended their right to independence, feel the sufferings and consequences of each and every Crimean Tatar" (www.kmu.gov.ua May 18).

The anniversary coincided with the first World Congress of Crimean Tatars attended by 800 delegates from 11 countries. The congress, held in the famous Bakhchysarai palace, the former seat of the Tatar Khanate, was followed by a procession to the historical Zincirli Madrasah. The congress released the pent-up frustrations felt by Crimean Tatars who are dissatisfied with the manner in which they have been treated by successive Ukrainian governments. Throughout much of May the Crimean Tatar protesters stood outside the Cabinet of Ministers' office in Kyiv, demanding greater attention for their economic and social plight.

Crimean Tatar leader Mustafa Dzhemilev (sometimes spelled Jemilev), a veteran Soviet dissident, complained that no legislation has ever been adopted in Ukraine to reinstate the social and legal rights of his

people (Voice of America Russian service, May 18). The Crimean Tatars' congress called upon the Ukrainian president and prime minister, "to take urgent steps to deliver on all the previously reached agreements, and your instructions and promises regarding the fair resolution of land disputes in Crimea and providing Crimean Tatars with land" (UNIAN, May 23).

All of the infrastructure of the Crimean Tatars up to their 1944 deportation – theaters, schools, mosques, and other buildings – were expropriated by the Soviet regime and have not been returned. Crimean Tatar place names were subsequently Russified. Currently 15 out of 650 Crimean schools provide instruction in Crimean Tatar, but only 13 of these do so in the first three grades.

Land is the major source of dispute, as many Tatars live illegally as squatters, pushed into rural areas by developers taking prize urban real estate. High unemployment forces many Crimean Tatars to eke out a living within the shadow economy, as shuttle-traders where they regularly face violence from organized criminal gangs who control the street markets.

The issue of the plight of the Crimean Tatars is seen in diametrically opposite ways by Ukrainians and Russians.

Russian nationalist and Communist parties and NGOs in Crimea hold to the Russian world view of Tatars as rabidly anti-Russian and "Nazi collaborators." They, and the Russian authorities, see Tsarina Catherine as a great builder of the Russian empire.

Ukrainians and Tatars see her as a destroyer of their autonomy and independence in the last two decades of the 18th century. Following the Russian occupation of Crimea, between the 1780s to 1914, hundreds of thousands of Tatars emigrated to Ottoman Turkey, where in modern Turkey they remain a vocal lobby.

The charge of "Nazi collaborators" was first raised in May 1944 when Soviet leader Joseph Stalin ordered the deportation of 200,000 Crimean Tatars to Uzbekistan. Between 25 percent (the Soviet government figure) and 46 percent (the Crimean Tatar estimate) died in the first year in exile. Smaller numbers of Germans, Armenians and Bulgarians also were deported. The place of these four ethnic groups was largely filled by ethnic Russians. The autonomous status of Crimea within the Russian SFSR was abolished in 1944 and only revived in 1991 in the Ukrainian SSR to which Crimea was transferred in 1954.

The USSR unleashed ideological tirades

against Ukrainian, Baltic and Crimean Tatar nationalist diasporas by equating "Nazi collaborationism" with "(separatist) bourgeois nationalism." This linkage escaped the anti-communist Russian diaspora as it, like the majority of Russian dissidents, never supported the secession of the Russian SFSR from the USSR. Russian nationalists and the majority of Russian democratic dissidents either supported the transformation of the USSR into a "Russian (or eastern Slavic) state" or the USSR's democratization, not its dissolution. In 1967 the Soviet government dropped all charges of "Nazi collaboration." But Tatars only began to return to Crimea in the late 1980s, and they now number 300,000 (12 percent of the population). The ethnic Russian majority is in decline from 65 percent (1989) to 58 percent (2001). Approximately 100,000 Crimean Tatars continue to live in Uzbekistan.

Under Vladimir Putin the positive steps taken in the Gorbachev and Yeltsin eras in overcoming Soviet stereotypes and false criminal charges have been reversed. President Dmitry Medvedev's creation of a "historical commission" coincides with a bill "opposing the rehabilitation of Nazism, Nazi criminals and their accomplices" in the former USSR. The "falsification of history"

is better applied to Russian leaders who have ordered school textbooks to portray Stalin as an "effective manager," and his mass crimes against humanity explained away as the only manner in which to overcome the USSR's economic and security challenges.

However, as the Moscow-based political analyst Yevgeny Kiselyov recently observed: "The worst 'falsifier' of history, of course, has been the Kremlin" (Moscow Times, June 3). Stalin came in third place in the "Name of Russia" nationwide television contest held in November 2008.

Ukraine's strategy of declassifying KGB documents pertaining to Soviet crimes against humanity began in the 1990s, and was speeded up under President Yushchenko. The policy is diametrically at odds with Russia under Putin, which continues to block access to archives. Soviet documents on the 1933 Ukrainian Famine and other Soviet crimes are being declassified in Ukraine, while they remain a "state secret" in Russia (Moscow Times, June 9).

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Nationalists damage Lenin statue



KYIV – Members of the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists damaged a statue of Vladimir Lenin in downtown Kyiv on June 30. The group, led by Mykola Kokhanivskyi, scaled a ladder shortly before dawn in order to chip away at the face and hands of Lenin's likeness. Five people were arrested, while two escaped, according to television reports. Police said the vandals could face up to seven years in prison. The CUN members took full responsibility for the act; they have yet to be formally charged. The statue is located near the intersection of the Khreschatyk and Taras Shevchenko Boulevard, across from the Bessarabskyi Rynok (market).

– Danylo Peleschuk

Quotable notes

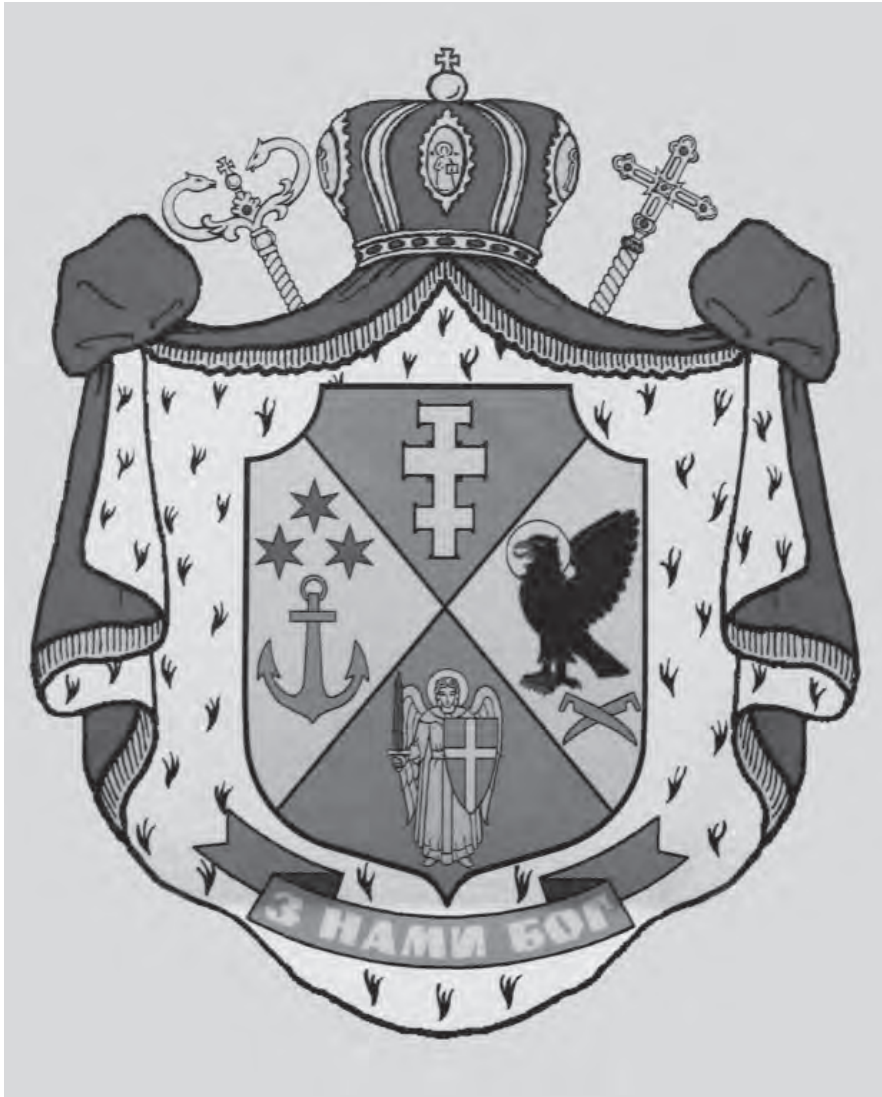
"Your advocacy of strong U.S. ties with these nations is of vital importance. I share your deep affection for those special countries of Central and Eastern Europe. As a child, I remember watching as men and women demonstrated their support of the Captive Nations, marching in the annual parades. ...Like yours, however, my focus stems from far more than warm ties and deep affection. It derives from the recognition that the political and economic trajectories of this region are of direct importance to the U.S.

"The history of these lands, though replete with inspiration, has nevertheless been wrought with tragedy. From the Famine in Ukraine in the 1930s to Budapest in 1956 and Prague in 1968, from the Soviet occupation of the Baltic countries to the establishment of martial law in Poland, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe have felt the painful weight of oppression in a way that is scarcely imaginable to many of us. And so it is all the more inspiring to see the majority of these countries establish stable and increasingly prosperous democracies, open to the West and destined for a bright future.

"That is why I have long supported the expansion of trans-Atlantic institutions, including NATO, to the emerging democracies in Central and Eastern Europe. It is why we must work closely with these countries in fields as varied as trade, energy and defense. And it is why, while we cannot close off opportunities for Russia to re-engage in a productive way, we must not yield any hint that we will cede this region to a re-established, Moscow-centered sphere of influence."

– Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), speaking on June 10 at the policy seminar "Security in Central and Eastern Europe on the Eve of the Obama-Medvedev Summit" hosted by the Central and East European Coalition in Washington.

The new bishop's crest



- The yellow cross on top symbolizes the Studite cross and membership in the Studite monastic order.

- The angel on the bottom is St. Michael the Archangel, patron saint of Kyiv.

- The three red stars and anchor on the left symbolize the immaculate nature of the Mother of God and hope in God and maternal protection, respectively.

- The black eagle and crossed scythes represent the bishop's native region. An eagle is the symbol of St. John the Theologian, whose name adorns the par-

ish church in the village of Dobriany. The crossed scythes are part of the ancient heraldry symbolizing the village of Dobriany, dating back to 1437.

- All four sections of the shield are divided by St. Andrew's Cross, a big "X." According to legend, St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle reached and blessed the Hills of Kyiv.

- The motto "God Is With Us" (Z Namy Boh) represents the bishop's personal conviction, faith and belief in the Almighty's help in spreading Christ's Word.

— Illya M. Labunka

Biography of Bishop Yosyf Milyan

- July 7, 1956 – born in the village of Dobriany in the Horodok District of the Lviv Oblast to a family of Ukrainian Catholics.

- June 5, 1979 – received a blessing from Father Yulian Voronovskyi to begin his monastic studies.

- March 8, 1983 – pledged his final monastic vows and took the name Yosyf (Joseph).

- May 9, 1984 – ordained a deacon.

- December 30, 1984 – ordained a priest by Bishop Volodymyr Sterniuk.

- 1992 – appointed superior of the order of St. Joseph in Lviv.

- May 1993 – appointed spiritual director of Christian youth organizations.

- June 1996 – earned a master's degree in theology at Lublin Catholic University.

- June 1997 – receives licentiate in theology and begins doctoral studies program.

- February 1997 – appointed chair of the Patriarchal Committee on Youth Issues.



Bishop Yosyf Milyan

- March 3, 1997 – appointed supervisor of Holy Eucharist Church in Lviv and the Pastoral Center for Youth.

- November 1, 2008 – appointed pastor of Annunciation of the Holy Mother of God Church at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Kyiv.

Kyiv consecration...

(Continued from page 1)

service in the Studite order during the Soviet era, learning of underground monastic life in his native Dobriany through the clandestine parish of St. John the Theologian.

He took seminary courses under the Rev. Voronovskyi (today bishop of Sambir and Drohobych) and other members of the Studite order. He often met with and was taught by the leader of the underground Church, Bishop Volodymyr Sterniuk, who had been secretly ordained a bishop in 1964.

He was ordained a deacon on May 9, 1984, and on December 30, 1984, he was ordained a priest by Bishop Sterniuk.

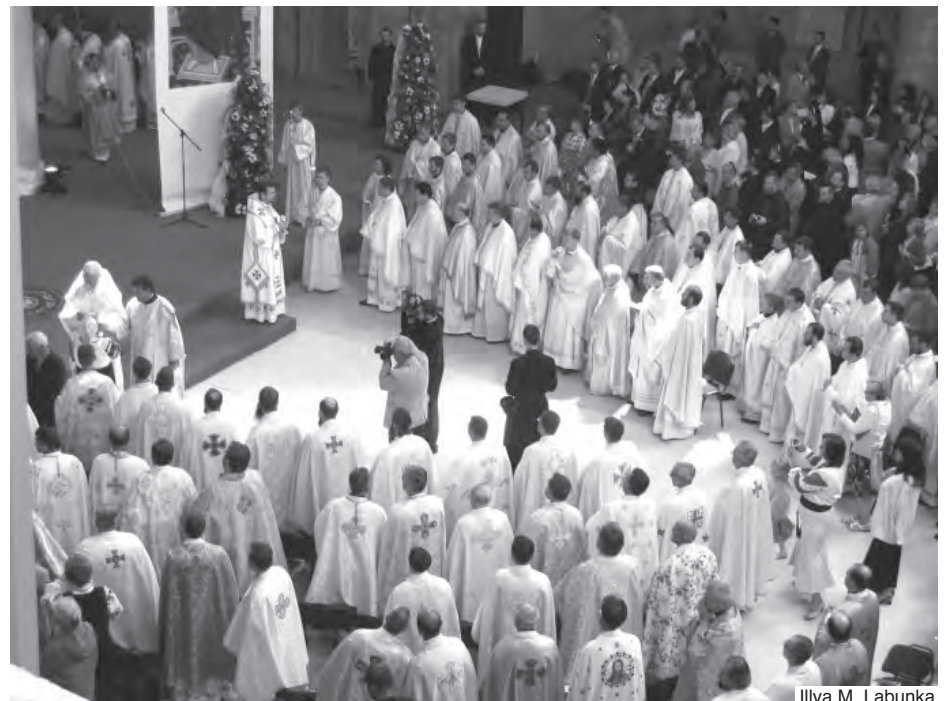
The Rev. Milyan worked at a Lviv factory from 1984 until the Church emerged from the underground. During that time he taught catechism and served believers in parishes throughout the Lviv Oblast.

When the "Church of the Catacombs" came forward in the late 1980s, he served a parish in the village of Univ and the surrounding villages of the Zolochiv district. He became the first Ukrainian Greek-Catholic priest to serve at St. Illia the Prophet Studite Monastery in Yaremche.



Yuriy Borysov

Bishop Yosyf Milyan is consecrated as auxiliary bishop of the Kyiv Archeparchy of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.



Illya M. Labunka

Clergy and faithful watch as newly consecrated bishop (left) distributes holy communion.



Yuriy Borysov

Bishop Yosyf Milyan and Archbishop Major Lubomyr Husar surrounded by the new bishop's parents (seated on either side of the archbishop) and relatives.

NEWS AND VIEWS: Argentina has a new Ukrainian Catholic bishop

by Oleh Wolowyna

LVIV – Sometimes the stars in the sky come together in a perfect alignment. This is what happened in Lviv on April 7, when the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church's new auxiliary bishop for Argentina, Sviatoslav Shevchuk, was consecrated.

This event deserves to be reported, as it is an ideal example of collaboration between Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora. I was in Ukraine at that time on a Fulbright Scholar research grant, and had the privilege of attending the consecration. I also spent a few days at the Holy Spirit Seminary of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) in Lviv, where I gave a lecture to the seminarians and had a chance to get acquainted with this extraordinary institution.

The episcopal consecration was a festive occasion. It was presided by Patriarch and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar and attended by the apostolic nuncios of Ukraine and Georgia, 18 archbishops and bishops of the UGCC, and the Argentinean ambassador in Ukraine.

St. George Cathedral was packed with people and the whole ceremony was televised. A reception followed the ceremony and Argentina was the theme of many speeches and interviews.

The events that led to Bishop Shevchuk's consecration are really extraordinary. As a young seminarian he traveled to Argentina in 1991 as part of a program by the first Ukrainian Greek-

Oleh Wolowyna is president of Informed Decisions Inc. based in Chapel Hill, N.C. He recently spent six months in Ukraine as a Fulbright scholar doing research at the Institute of Demography and Social Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv.



Newly consecrated Bishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk

Catholic bishop in Argentina, Andrij Sapelak, to bring young seminarians from Ukraine to study in Argentina.

Young Sviatoslav Shevchuk studied for two semesters at the Center of Studies of the Salesian Order in Buenos Aires, and on Saturdays he taught Ukrainian children at one of the local Ukrainian parishes. After almost two years in Argentina he returned to Ukraine, was consecrated as a priest and then traveled to Rome for further studies.

His story in Argentina gave him a chance to learn Spanish, get to know the Ukrainian community in Buenos Aires and get acquainted with the Argentinean people and culture.

He developed close friendships with young members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and parishioners in Buenos Aires, and stayed in touch with

his Argentinean friends. As he told me, "I met some extraordinary people in Buenos Aires who helped me in many ways, and I always hoped to have the opportunity to repay them for all their kindness."

Almost 20 years later, his wish became reality.

In 2003 the Rev. Shevchuk made his second trip to Argentina. He was invited by the Basilian Sisters in Argentina to preach a mission for them. By then he had completed his doctorate in theology and was the vice-rector of Holy Spirit Seminary in Lviv. During this trip he preached first in Buenos Aires and then in Posadas, Misiones. He visited the major Ukrainian settlements in this Northern Province of Argentina, and got acquainted with the Basilian priests and nuns working in this province.

Two years later he made his third trip to Argentina, at the invitation of the Ukrainian Catholic University branch in Buenos Aires. He participated in the yearly summer courses in Ukrainian studies held in Misiones, where he met young third- and fourth-generation Ukrainians eager to learn about Ukrainian history and culture. He also visited many Ukrainian parishes in Misiones and Buenos Aires, and visited for the first time Ukrainian settlements in the province of Chaco.

Thus, when Cardinal Husar nominated the Rev. Shevchuk auxiliary bishop for Argentina, he could not have made a better choice. This is a young Ukrainian priest with excellent scholastic credentials, wide administrative experience (former administrator of the Patriarchal Curia of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and, until recently, rector of the Seminary in Lviv), with close ties to the Ukrainian community in Argentina, who also speaks Spanish and has first-hand knowledge of the Argentinean people and culture.

On July 5 Bishop Shevchuk will celebrate his first liturgy in Argentina, and this will be a very happy day for the Ukrainian community in Argentina.

This is an excellent example of collaboration between Ukraine and the diaspora, and hopefully will serve as an example on how to revitalize our Church outside of Ukraine. One hopes that the history of Bishop Shevchuk will serve as an example on how to make sure that priests from Ukraine are well-prepared for their pastoral work in other countries.

Allow me to also say a few words about Holy Spirit seminary in Lviv. The seminary has a long and illustrious history. It was inaugurated in 1783 under the patronage of Emperor Joseph II of Austria; thus last year the seminary celebrated its 225th anniversary. The work of the seminary was interrupted during World War I and restarted in 1924. Starting in 1926, Father Josyph Slipyj was its rector for 13 years, and in 1929 he created the Theological Academy. The seminary was closed by the Soviet regime in 1939 and was reopened in 1990.

The current facilities of the seminary were inaugurated in 2007. It is housed in a modern complex of buildings on a large plot of land donated by the city of Lviv. There are currently 203 seminarians from Ukraine and other countries.

Living in the dorm, sharing meals and lecturing gave me an opportunity to get to know these young men, and I was highly impressed by the caliber of these students. They are polite but firm when necessary, and are not shy about asking questions or making comments.

The seminary has several computer labs, many students have their own notebook computer and they make good use of them. Lights in the computer labs burn

(Continued on page 22)



Addressing the gathering is former Under-Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, daughter of Dr. Lev Dobriansky, who played a key role in efforts to erect a Shevchenko monument in the U.S. capital.

Ukrainians mark...

(Continued from page 1)

the Ukrainian people 45 years ago and now. Then, he said, they were a disunited people, often mistaken for Poles or Russians in the West, and subjugated within the Soviet Union at home. Now this is a joyous event, he added. "For 17 years now we commemorate Shevchenko as a new, united and free family."

Also speaking at the ceremony were Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Karen Stuart, former Under-Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs

Paula Dobriansky (Dr. Dobriansky's daughter), National Park Service Supervisory Park Ranger Rebecca Karcher, and two Ukrainian American community leaders, Borys Hlynsky of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and Bohdana Urbanovych of the Shevchenko Memorial Committee.

Washington Mayor Adrian Fenty did not attend but sent a letter of greetings, which was read by the Embassy's first secretary, Olexandr Aleksandrovych.

The musical part of the commemoration program was performed by a combined Ukrainian church chorus conducted by Gregory Oleynik, with soprano Solomiya Dutkevych as the soloist.

Representing the U.S. government at the event, Karen Stuart spoke about the enduring friendship between the American and Ukrainian peoples and stressed that the "United States remains committed to a prosperous democratic Ukraine and supports Ukraine's sovereignty and self-determination."

"I am certain that our friendship will remain strong and continue to flourish into the future," she said.

Paula Dobriansky spoke about the

"special meaning" the Shevchenko monument had for her father, who died last year. She noted that his widow, her mother Julia Dobriansky, and her sister Larisa were among those who came to mark this 45th anniversary.

She said her father firmly believed that the Soviet Union was so inimical to the human spirit that it would not last. The Shevchenko monument, she added, "is a reminder to future generations to never take liberty for granted."



While many of those who came to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the Taras Shevchenko memorial in Washington June 27 photographed its highlights with their pocket digital cameras and cellphones, Andrei Kushnir recorded the event the old-fashioned way: oil on canvas, one brush stroke at a time. The Ukrainian American artist is known for his work in New York City, where until February of this year he had an art gallery in the Ukrainian section of the East Village. He now lives in Washington and is the owner of the American Painting gallery in the Palisades area of the capital.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Casinos in Ukraine

Besides garbage-strewn forests and widely available liquor, among the more offensive scenes in Ukraine in recent years have been the pervasive gambling casinos that plague virtually every urban neighborhood. With their neon lights blazing throughout the night, they attract unsavory customers who do dangerous things. The last straw came on May 9, when a Dnipropetrovsk casino caught on fire, killing nine and injuring 10. Police determined arson was the cause, noting that the casino was frequented by drug addicts, one of whom was arrested but not prosecuted.

Given that a presidential election campaign is under way, Ukraine's casino operators couldn't have fallen victim to arson at a worse time. Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko pounced on the opportunity, declaring her opposition to casinos with sophisticated electronic equipment operating in residential buildings and noting that gaming operators routinely ignored fire hazards, such as the lack of proper exits.

These casinos have long been a stick in the craw of average Ukrainians who want clean and safe neighborhoods, and Parliament approved the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc's legislative initiative to ban all casinos in Ukraine on May 15. Only a politician as clumsy as President Viktor Yushchenko would miss the bandwagon, on June 4 handing down a veto, which the Parliament overrode a week later, collecting 390 out of 429 votes. Gambling was banned in Ukraine on June 11.

"Just as the phrase 'Vse propalo' (Everything is lost) has become popular now, the gaming industry is also gone," said Ms. Tymoshenko, referring to her now-famous phrase (uttered recently when her teleprompter experienced technical difficulties). "The gaming business won't be branched out in Ukraine as it had been. You can also believe that we will close it reliably and not allow it to operate tacitly."

The president supported strict limits on Ukraine's billion-dollar gambling industry, but argued the Tymoshenko legislation threatened the jobs of more than 200,000 gambling employees and would result in a very significant loss of tax revenue.

Despite the ban, Ukrainian media have reported that casinos and slot joints are still running, simply moving to back alleys or second floors of buildings, or operating behind shuttered windows and doors.

Despite the prime minister's confident statements, politicians of the Tymoshenko Bloc are now re-considering gambling's return to Ukraine. National Deputy Vitalii Pysarenko suggested creating four gambling zones, as well as million-euro casino licenses. As Ukraine's most popular tourist destination, Crimea is an obvious choice for such a zone. Mr. Pysarenko's proposal also suggests economically depressed regions in the Luhansk Oblast, which borders the Russian Federation, as well as the Lviv and Volyn Oblasts, which border Poland.

Creating a Ukrainian Las Vegas is a worthwhile idea, and it ought to be Crimea. It's doubtful many tourists would travel to far-off regions just to gamble at a few casinos. After all, it took decades before millions would flock to the desert outpost of Las Vegas. Nothing in Lviv, Volyn or Luhansk will ever compare, particularly with the regions' pothole-plagued roads.

Perhaps National Deputy Hennadii Moskal has the best proposal: to allow casinos to operate in cities of more than 100,000 people, but only under strict zoning restrictions and with financial penalties for violations of fire safety and other codes. He also said he wants to increase the likelihood of winning on the slot machines and reduce "social risks" of gambling. And, all taxes collected ought to be directed toward medicine and education.

All these proposals are intriguing. But let's keep the casinos to Crimea and the five Ukrainian cities with more than a million residents, with strict rules about where and how they can operate. Casinos should be restricted from the storefront properties of multi-floor residential buildings. Gambling zones should be created on the cities' outskirts, away from residential areas. Strict fire and electrical inspections must be conducted.

Such solutions will prevent a tragedy similar to what happened in Dnipropetrovsk on May 9 from happening again. Just as importantly, residential neighborhoods will be more attractive and safer as a result.

July
9
2007

Turning the pages back...

Two years ago, on July 9, 2007, diplomats, politicians, policy analysts and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) advocates converged at Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a special meeting to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Ukraine

signing the Distinctive Partnership Charter with the alliance.

Ukraine's former Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko was in government when the initiative was launched during the mid-1990s. "The United States, Germany, France – everyone pushed us aside," Mr. Udovenko said. "They didn't want to listen to Ukraine's intention to join NATO and become a civilized European country. Unfortunately, we don't have a team like that anymore."

Ukraine's former NATO Mission Chairman Borys Tarasyk proposed the term "special partnership" to describe the relationship between Ukraine and NATO, but the United States insisted on "distinctive partnership." This was agreed on, because the two words were not distinguishable in most member-states' languages, including Ukrainian.

NATO signed its charter with the Russian Federation before Ukraine, even though Ukraine completed it earlier, because "NATO wanted to stress its distinct attitude and respect for the Russian Federation as a partner," Mr. Tarasyk explained.

The signing of Ukraine's charter with NATO marked the first time the alliance recognized Ukraine as a critical factor in Europe's political stability and security. "Ukraine was essentially lifted to the level of a subject in Euro-Atlantic politics, as opposed to its role as an object until then," Mr. Tarasyk said.

Source: "Ukraine commemorates 10th anniversary of its Distinctive Partnership with NATO," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, July 15, 2007.

COMMENTARY

Moscow sees Ukraine as 'failed state' ripe for seizure, says Shcherbak

by Paul Goble

Yuri Shcherbak, Kyiv's former ambassador in Washington, says that some Russian leaders are actively considering the possibility of seizing all or part of Ukraine and are preparing public opinion in Eurasia and the West for such a move by pushing the notion that Ukraine has become "a failed state."

In a lengthy article in the May 21 issue of the Kyiv newspaper, *Den*, Dr. Shcherbak says that "aggressive conversations relative to Ukraine and the possible dividing up of its territory are being conducted" now in Moscow by a variety of Russian nationalist politicians and analysts (www.day.kiev.ua/274238/274238 and www.day.kiev.ua/274251/).

Among the people he names are the followers of Konstantin Zatulin, the first deputy head of the Duma Committee on Compatriots and director of the Institute of CIS Countries; Aleksandr Prokhanov, the novelist and "Zavtra" commentator; and Aleksandr Dugin, the leader of the Eurasian Movement.

And while these individuals are notorious for their openly imperialistic views, Dr. Shcherbak says that he is convinced that "the idea of the division of Ukraine into parts is completely seriously being worked out at various levels of the powers that be in Russia." And he reminds that it was not so long ago that Bolshevik "fantasies" informed Moscow's "bloody reality."

Moreover, he adds, many Russians took note, even if few in the West did, of Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's comments at the Bucharest summit when he burst out: "Ukraine is not a state! What is Ukraine? One part of it is Eastern Europe, but another – and a very large part – was given by us!"

Such statements, the former Ukrainian diplomat warns, "are called in military language the ideological-propagandistic preparation of a future operation for the seizure of the territory of a sovereign state." And like most such efforts, they rely on a mix of facts and fiction in order to appear plausible to the greatest number of people.

The idea that Ukraine is a "failed" state,

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.

he continues, is simply not true. According to one recent international ranking, neither Ukraine nor Russia falls in the category of a failed or failing state, but Ukraine's obvious problems combined with Moscow's vastly more powerful propaganda effort have allowed Russia to put Ukraine in that box.

Indeed, two articles by Russians have appeared in the late May that appear to provide evidence of the Ukrainian ambassador's point. In one, Andrey Stavitsky pointedly asks "has the sentence already been returned" on Ukraine in the current economic crisis? And will that entity thus "disappear as a state?" (odnarydina.ru/articles/6/666.html).

And Konstantin Zatulin wrote that Moscow must view the Russian diaspora in Ukraine and elsewhere as an ally, "in the same rank with the army, the fleet and the Church," thus making a direct appeal for Russia to act before ethnic Russians in Ukraine disappear through assimilation (www.russkie.org/index.php?module=fullitem&id=15609).

Many in Ukraine, the West and even in Russia will be inclined to dismiss Dr. Shcherbak's article as an overreaction to overheated Russian nationalist commentaries in Moscow. One very much hopes that such a dismissal is appropriate, but unfortunately, there are increasing indications that at least some in the Russian government are actually thinking about partition.

In the wake of Moscow's invasion of Georgia and the West's failure to take tough action to punish the Russian government for this breach of international law, more and more people in the Russian Federation are thinking about the possibility of redrawing borders in the post-Soviet space.

An example of that is provided by Mikhail Chernov, the secretary of the Movement for a Single Ossetia, which wants that nation to unite under the aegis of the Russian Federation, in an interview he gave to the Israeli journalist Avraam Shmulyevich that was posted online in Russia on May 19 (www.apn.ru/publications/article21616.htm).

In the course of the wide-ranging interview, Mr. Chernov suggested that incautious actions by Georgia's Mikheil Saakashvili could again lead to war and to the Russian conquest and dismemberment of that Caucasus republic. Indeed, he suggested that such an event could lead to further redrawing of the borders in the region.

Asked whether Russia might be "playing with fire" if it pushes for further border changes, Mr. Chernov replied that "it is impossible to stop this process" and that if Russia wants "to survive," Moscow must have "its own projects for the redrawing" of the map of the world before others can achieve their goal of "the destruction of the Russian state as a single whole."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Russian depictions of a "failed state"

Dear Editor:

I don't want to walk into a mine field of debate on Ukraine as a "failed state" between Roman Kupchinsky and Alexander Motyl. Both have their points. What is important is not to play into Russian hands.

As I have written in Eurasia Daily Monitor (June 12), Russia's ideological crusade against Ukraine includes a campaign to depict it as a "failed state" that requires international (i.e., Russian) supervision. Former Ukrainian Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak extensively analyzed and condemned this Russian depiction of Ukraine as a "failed state" in the newspaper Den (an English-language version is available at <http://www.day.kiev.ua/274533/>).

Perhaps Mr. Kupchinsky could find a better term rather than the highly charged "failed state." We should not, after all, provide ammunition to those who seek to destroy Ukrainian statehood.

Taras Kuzio
Toronto

The stark reality in today's Ukraine

Dear Editor:

Re: the editorial of June 14: While the current election system in Ukraine (via closed party lists) is indeed anachronistic and corruption-prone, in the early 1990s it was the Rukh organization (which later became a party) that advocated its adoption. It did so at the time for a good reason: the reformist national democrats would win more seats in the Parliament along party lines than on their own. Lack of individual name recognition (beyond a small number of former dissidents) was a major drawback for Rukh candidates.

This motivation was confirmed by none other than Vyacheslav Chornovil at an open meeting in Newark, N.J., at the St. John's Church gymnasium. Our Ukraine later was perhaps the biggest beneficiary of that system.

As for the overall assessment of the Tymoshenko-Yanukovich deal-making and its collapse criticism is understandable, but not entirely sustainable.

The stark reality is that Viktor Yanukovich now leads in opinion polls regarding the presidential election – mainly because of the current debilitating economic downturn in Ukraine. It is worldwide and mostly beyond the control of national governments.

The question is: How can the Party of Regions be stopped from a sweeping victory? Over the last several months (coinciding with the deepening economic downturn) it became apparent that Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko needs to gain more ground on that Party's turf. The extent of her vote advantage in central and western Ukraine may not be sufficient.

Contemplation of a coalition between the Tymoshenko bloc and the Party of Regions was fictional from Day 1. Skeptics knew that it could not last ten days, much less four or five years. But the use of such an idea as a ploy for attracting a segment of hesitant voters and maybe seeding some discord "on the other side" (and, of course, blaming the other side for failure) is not without merit. Such a strategy might backfire; on the

other hand, it may be more effective than patriotic straight talk that is not of much use or inspiration for the growing ranks of unemployed blue-and white-collar workers.

The upcoming presidential election will most probably culminate in a face-off between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich. It is much too late for any other candidate to gain traction.

Boris Danik
North Caldwell, N.J.

Obama's travels and Ukrainians

Dear Editor:

Who decides where President Barack Obama should travel – the Ukrainian government or the Ukrainian American Community? Neither.

I do not profess to be a political science professional, but I do know that a head of state does not barge in to another country without first being invited by the head of state of that country. An open invitation by President Viktor Yushchenko in his inauguration letter to President Obama does not constitute an official invitation. President Obama cannot travel to Ukraine on an open invitation without a mutually agreed upon agenda.

Perhaps letters should be addressed to President Yushchenko asking him to invite President Obama to visit Ukraine for an official state visit.

This is not the first time that the government of Ukraine and the Ukrainian American diaspora are going in different directions. What else is new? It takes time to plan and prepare an official state visit – not a last minute letter-writing campaign as suggested by the Ukrainian National Information Service.

Jerry Zinycz
Venice, Fla.

Ukraine's revival will come again

Dear Editor:

If we understand clearly the political and national situation in Ukraine, with its completely irresponsible and corrupt elites, then we come to the conclusion that Ukraine has failed miserably as a state.

Several factors contributed to this state of affairs. The diffusion of the Soviet political and economic system in Ukraine worked to the detriment of the young democracy.

However, any thoughts of despair must be pushed away. Ukraine always had its period of revival and this time will not be different.

In the year 1934 when I was 7 years old, I remember reading *Dzvinok*, an illustrated magazine for children. Then I reached for a calendar of Chervona Kalyna. On the second page of the calendar was a picture of two Ukrainian soldiers (Sichovi Striltsi) standing in the trenches and singing "Vydesh, Brate Miy" while watching migrating birds flying to warm countries. I still see that picture in my mind and my eyes fill with tears from emotion.

My love for my country, Ukraine, will never perish.

Volodymyr Stryzakowski
North Port, Fla.

Let's talk about it

BY YARO BIHUN

"Still another part of 'us' disappears"

That was how my old friend Andrew Zwarun concluded his response to my e-mail informing him about the recent intentional sinking of the USNS Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg off the coast of Florida. There, six and a half miles south of Key West and 140 feet below the surface, that missile-spacecraft-satellite-tracking ship on May 27 was turned into the world's second largest artificial reef.

We have shared a strong emotional attachment to that ship since we were 7 years old, when – in its previous incarnation as the USNS Gen. Harry Taylor – it brought us and our families from war-torn Europe to the United States.

The Gen. Taylor was part of a fleet of World War II U.S. troop carriers re-commissioned after the war to ferry the hundreds of thousands of Europe's war refugees, the so-called displaced persons, to America. Between 1949 and 1952, the Gen. Taylor made 39 trips from Germany to the United States, bringing across nearly 40,000 DPs to their "new world."

The Zwarun family of four came from Bremerhaven to New York in April of 1950; our family of six followed three months later, in August. Thousands of other Ukrainian refugees walked its gangplanks to our "new world" as well. My older sister Marta Kowcz recalls composer Ihor Sonevsky being on our ship. And an Internet search showed that in 1952, the Gen. Taylor brought to New York the renowned bandurist virtuoso, Dr. Zinovij Shtokalko (according to a New York Times clipping quoted by Helen Smindak in her "Dateline New York" column in the January 24, 1999, issue of *The Ukrainian Weekly*).

After another historic refugee assignment – in 1957 it transported several thousand Hungarian freedom-fighter refugees to Australia – the Gen. Taylor was transferred to the Air Force in the early 1960s, completely rebuilt for the new, high-tech space mission it would perform for the next 20 years under its new name. In 1983 the Gen. Vandenberg was mothballed for the last time on the James River in Virginia. Its only activity since then was the brief role it played in 1998 as a set for a few scenes in the science-fiction horror movie "Virus," in which it was a Russian ship, *Akademik Vladislav Volkov*, before being towed last month to its final resting place off Key West.

There, the Gen. Taylor/Vandenberg has not really disappeared, as my good friend Andrew lamented. Already inhabited by thousands of fish and other sea creatures that have found a new home in its reef environment, it is also attracting a growing number of scuba divers, snorkelers, fishermen and – who knows – possibly some of its former, now somewhat older, reminiscing DP passengers.

Our Gen. Taylor, I'm relieved to say, has been laid to rest in a much more respectful fashion than other DP ships. Another friend on my e-mail alert, Bohdan Malanczuk, came over on the Gen. Blatchford, which later served in the Korean and Vietnam wars, was privatized and converted into a container ship and, in 1979, was sold for scrap.

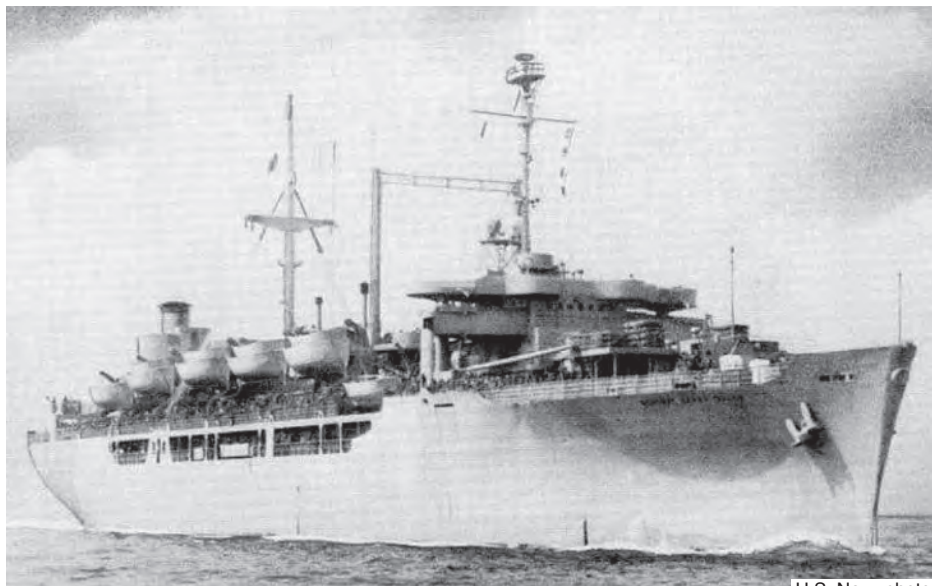
The Gen. Taylor/Vandenberg sinking, however, brought to mind the recent "passing" of other institutions that have played a role in my life.

Soon after coming to the United States, Andrew, Bohdan and I found ourselves in the Ukrainian American community environment of Cleveland, Ohio, with its many active institutions and organizations. One of its pillars was the Ss. Peter and Paul (later renamed St. Josaphat) parochial elementary school in Parma. After more than 60 years of service in educating generations of Ukrainian-American (and other) children, it was shut down last year. There may have been sound reasons for its closing – demographic and economic, to cite but two.

A number of Ukrainian parochial schools in other cities have preceded its demise, and more will surely follow. But that does not lessen the sorrow I feel for today's and future generations of Ukrainian American children in the Cleveland area who will not share in what we experienced within its walls a half-century ago.

On the very last day of 2008 I witnessed yet another painful passing: the last Voice of America Ukrainian radio broadcast (Ukrainian TV and Internet services continue). I had spent the 1970s behind its radio microphones, informing our brethren in Ukraine about what was going on in the world and within their own country – information they could not otherwise get in their Soviet state-controlled environment.

(Continued on page 22)



U.S. Navy photo

The USNS General Harry Taylor, a World War II troop carrier that brought thousands of Ukrainians and other displaced persons from war-torn Europe to the United States in 1950-1952.

A displaced person's memoir: "The Great Divide"

The following is an excerpt from a memoir written by Andrew Zwarun, Ph.D., in which, through the eyes of a 7-year-old, he describes his voyage across the Atlantic as a displaced person aboard the USNS Gen. Harry Taylor from Bremerhaven to New York in April 1950. That ship, in its more recent incarnation as the USNS Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, was sunk as an artificial reef off Key West, Fla., in May (see Yaro Bihun's piece on page 7). Although he retired early last year, Dr. Zwarun still lectures on soil science at the department of agriculture at Texas State University.

...As the line moved up the gangplank, all were divided into two groups. Males 12 years and older were to go to the stern, females and boys under 12 toward the prow. I was 7, so I had to stay with my mother and sister, which was already somewhat embarrassing to me.

We moved toward a metal door that was arched at the top, and had to proceed down metal stairs in dim light. We went down one floor, then another, and another. And all floor decks looked exactly alike. I wondered if I'd ever find my way out again. Finally, after about four or five decks, we were told to proceed into a huge hall. The hall was filled with symmetrical rows of stacked metal bunk beds, four bunks high. Somewhere in the maze were our three beds.

The hall quickly filled and was transformed into a typical refugee holding area. Various smells, babble in many languages, crying, screaming kids, pieces of incongruent clothing hanging every which way. We were in familiar surroundings. But the overwhelming sensation was the rhythmic thumping of the engines.

Soon everyone went up on deck. ... I noticed that almost everyone was standing

against the railing and looking toward the rear of the ship. Off in the distance, about a few hundred yards, the docks were receding. We were moving. We had left for America! A new home, a new way of life, a new unknown. But this time it was going to be different: no more fear. We were going to America!

Yet, with more than 1,2000 refugees on board, the mood was sad and eerily quiet. Almost all stared at the slowly disappearing shore, the last glimpse of Europe, in which were home, family, war, life and so much death. I saw many adults with tears quietly flowing down their faces, both men and women. No one seemed to move until it became totally dark and even the distant shore lights disappeared. The only sounds were the steady thump of engines and an occasional sob.

The next morning we woke up and immediately noticed that something was not right. There was an acrid stench in the air, and the floor would not stop moving – up for a few seconds and then down for a few seconds. Puddles of vomit were everywhere. ... More and more people were getting seasick.... The second and third days were horrible. Even though it was moving on an open ocean, the entire ship stunk of vomit. I was sick the entire second day and part of the third. Then I got my sea legs. Most people became adjusted by the third day, although there were a few who were still throwing up as we entered New York harbor.

Food was another experience, and also an experiment. One entered the mess hall, and the sailors had the tables all clean and set up with plates and utensils. It was so nice to look at, especially after years of soup kitchens. It wasn't only because the mess hall was so neat and efficient; one also sensed that there was an aura of kindness, as if we

were also humans.

American sailors were so strange. They were huge, polite and easy-going, and usually smiling. Didn't they know who we were? They also constantly chewed something, just like cows after morning grazing. Why didn't they ever swallow?

The food was also strange. Milk was available without limit, even to adults. So was water, something we never had with meals. At breakfast, there were small wood chips that one mixed with milk and, oh joy to a boy, as much sugar as one wanted. But how did one eat wood chips? Oatmeal, bread and grits were common breakfasts in Europe. ... If one didn't want milk and wood chips (later someone explained that the material was flakes of corn), one could have standard breakfast – bread with jam. But again a problem. The bread looked somewhat like bread, but it was extremely soft and tasteless, almost like mattress stuffing. And if one wanted to spread jam or butter on it, it usually tore. ...

At noon and evening meals, we started seeing hints of America's bounty. On a ship in the middle of an ocean, there was meat, milk, eggs, fresh vegetables and fruit, and pastries. And not just for the American sailors, but for us refugees also. It really made even a small boy stop and wonder.

But one had to proceed cautiously. The sailors always served water and milk with the main meals. Yet even small boys knew that the human digestive system would not tolerate drinking water or milk while also eating meat. This just could not be done for health reasons. ... Yet the Americans did it, and they seemed all right after such a meal. But then the Americans always seemed to feel fine, as long as they were chewing something.

Fresh fruit was also a problem. How can a ship on the Atlantic in mid-April have fresh apples on board? Apple trees just start flowering toward the end of April. Where did these apples come from? ... There was something unreal about them. They were perfect in shape and color. No fungal rot, not



Zwarun family photo
Andrew Zwarun (right), then a 7-year-old Ukrainian DP, posing with his newfound friends — a refugee girl and an American sailor — on the deck of the USNS Gen. Harry Taylor, which brought his family from Germany to the United States in 1950. The sailor's and the young girl's names are unknown.

even a wormhole. ...

We often had emergency drills. The alarm would sound; we'd put on our life vests and then walk to a place designated for our group. These places were close to lifeboats. ... Occasionally there'd be a storm at sea. If it was not too bad or rainy, we could stay on top. But I remember one bad storm when waves started coming on deck. Few things are as frightening as a moving mountain of black-green water. The alarm sounded and we had to stay in our bunks below deck, pitching and rolling in our life vests, until the storm passed a half-day later. ...

I enjoyed the journey. It was fun to be on deck. ... We also had a constant companion – a sparrow. It traveled with us from Bremerhaven to New York, happily hopping all over the deck and rigging of the ship. During the first few days, there were also sea gulls accompanying us, but after several days, they disappeared. But the entire ship seemed to be aware of and happy for our little sparrow. It was one of us.

(Continued on page 22)

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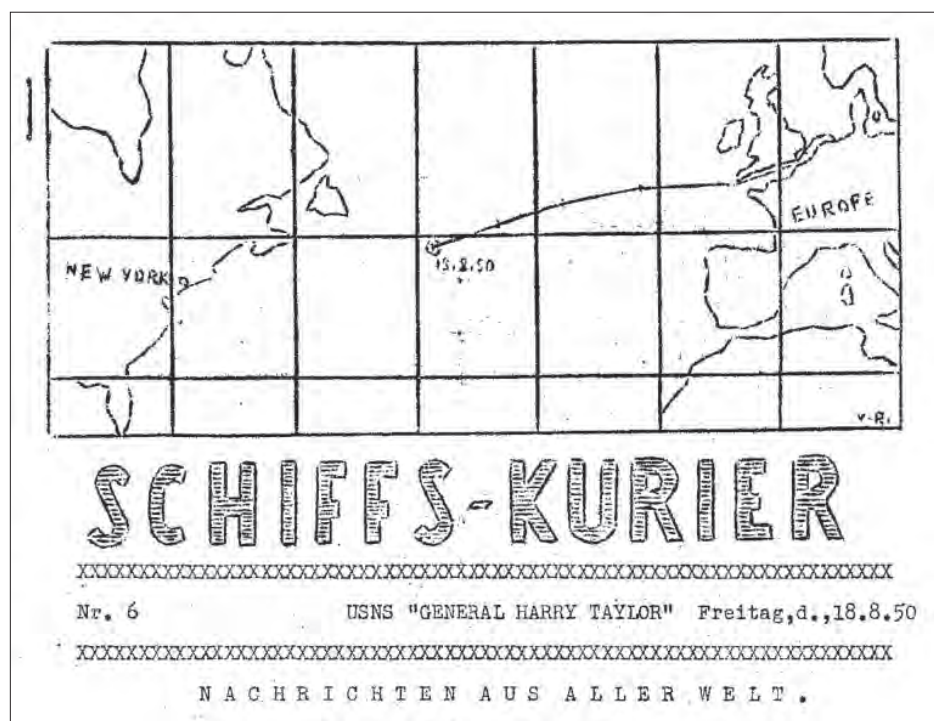
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The masthead of the USNS Gen. Harry Taylor's newsletter, dated August 18, 1950, showing the progress in its WWII Displaced Persons' resettlement voyage from Bremerhaven to New York City. The newsletter was printed in German, considered the lingua franca of the 1,200 or so DPs on board, among them the writer of this article Yaro Bihun and his family.

BOOK REVIEW: Hunczak on Symon Petliura and the Jews

“Symon Petliura and the Jews: A Reappraisal” by Taras Hunczak, Ph.D. New York: Ukrainian Historical Association, 2008. ISBN: 1-879070-22-7. Softcover, 128 pp., \$20.

by Markian Hadzewycz

Symon Petliura (1879-1926) remains one of the most controversial figures in Eastern European history. A leader celebrated by Ukrainians but despised by many Jews, his legacy remains a key area of dispute between the two communities. While the former respect the man for his attempts at securing Ukrainian statehood in the years after the first world war, Jewish groups allege he was an anti-Semitic and leader of pogroms.

Dr. Taras Hunczak, professor emeritus of history at Rutgers University, has delved headfirst into the dispute with his 2008 book “Symon Petliura and the Jews: A Reappraisal.”

Based on a landmark scholarly article of the same title by Prof. Hunczak that appeared in the journal *Jewish Social Studies* in 1969, the second edition of this work has been expanded with the incorporation of new documentation and analysis.

The argument is straightforward: despite the decades of rumors and myths, the accusations of Petliura being a murderer of Jews simply do not coincide with the facts from that tense time period.

Even well before his entry into Ukrainian politics, Petliura had been a defender of the rights of Jews, and his concern for minority rights only increased in scope during his time as commander of the army of the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR) and president of the Ukrainian Directory.

The UNR passed progressive legislation and proclamations that affirmed the rights of national minorities in Ukraine, specifically Russians, Poles and Jews. They were granted representation in the executive branch of government through the position of under-secretaries, all laws and administrative decisions were written in the four main languages (Ukrainian, Polish, Russian and Jewish), and all ethnic groups were granted “national-personal autonomy in order to secure for themselves the right and freedom of self-rule.”

That last piece of legislation, from the Third Universal of November 1917, was, at that time an unprecedented step for Jewish rights and was widely hailed by Jewish community leaders and government officials throughout the young Ukrainian republic.

Unfortunately, many Jews remained beholden to the notion of a “united Russia” and were skeptical of Ukrainian independence, while others saw communism as the future and backed the Bolsheviks. The collapse of the eastern



front meant hundreds of thousands of troops were returning home at the onset of the Russian Civil War, and, for various reasons, such as the decades of anti-Semitism preached by the tsarist government, soldiers lashed out at civilians, particularly Jews. When coupled with the political and military weakness of Kyiv during these anarchic times, the Ukrainian government was accused of knowingly con-

doning or perpetrating these crimes against civilians.

Despite the many documented cases of the Ukrainian Directory working to uphold the law against pogroms – including making public declarations to soldiers and civilians, paying reparations to Jewish communities, organizing Jewish self-defense units, and conducting trials, and executions of pogromists – and the vocal backing of Jewish politicians and supporters of Petliura, it is the victors who write the history and the Ukrainians did not come out on top during the Russian Civil War.

Dr. Hunczak’s important work is full of incontrovertible quotations, documentation, and government, eyewitness and neutral reports from Jews, Ukrainians and others testifying to the positive efforts of Petliura and his government to establish a Ukrainian state that would protect and respect all ethnic minorities.

The Ukrainian Directory, outgunned and outnumbered throughout the conflict, was simply overwhelmed by outside forces during the chaos of the collapse of tsarist Russia.

It is clear that Dr. Hunczak’s goal with the release of his “Symon Petliura and the Jews: A Reappraisal” is to improve relations between Jews and Ukrainians. Any impartial student of history would agree that this is an important book that should go a long way toward that goal.

NEWS AND VIEWS: Kent State is first of Ohio universities to host Holodomor exhibit

by Marusia Kvit-Flynn

As the newly elected vice-president for external affairs for Ohio’s United Ukrainian Organizations, I have made it my mission to become a part of an overall Holodomor awareness campaign by holding a Holodomor exhibit at as many universities as possible in Cleveland and surrounding areas.

The exhibit in question is a professionally created exhibit prepared by the League of Ukrainian Canadians, in cooperation with the Museum of Soviet Occupation of the Kyiv Memorial Society in Ukraine, with the Ukrainian Research Institute (of which Orest Steciw is president) as their research partner. The exhibit consists of 101 color laminated panels, 11-by-17 inches in size, with a supporting readable and searchable CDROM and printed collateral materials.

The exhibit includes panels covering topics ranging from opposition to collectivization, to why the genocide was organized as well as the blacklisting of villages, ban on travel, and export of grain abroad. It presents strong evidence on how and why the Holodomor was indeed a genocide. The exhibit also includes a glossary, a map of the Holodomor area, panels on the organizers and perpetrators of the genocide, panels on denial and cover-up, panels on protests and attempts at relief, statements of survivors, government documents on the Famine and eyewitness reports.

Kent State University was the first Ohio venue of this exhibit, which was on display for two weeks in Ohio. Dr. Michael Kalinski, a professor of exercise physiology who came from Ukraine in 1991 and has been teaching at Kent State since 1998, hosted the exhibit and tied it in with the university’s annual Symposium on Democracy.

The symposium was held on May 4-5, and its theme was “Remembering: Framing, Embracing and Revising History.” The symposium stands as a living memorial to the events of May 4, 1970, when four students lost their lives

at Kent State. “The symposium explores critical questions for our democratic society, in the hope that democracy can lead to a more peaceful world,” University President Lester Lefton said.

Prof. Kalinski also invited Dr. Roman Serbyn, a retired professor from the University of Quebec in Montreal who is a Holodomor expert, as a guest speaker. Dr. Serbyn’s presentation took place on Friday evening, May 1, and his theme was “Photographic Evidence of the Ukrainian Genocidal Famine, 1932-1933.” The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session. Dr. Serbyn was sponsored by the United Ukrainian Organizations of Ohio of which Wasyl Liscyynsky is president.

Dick Russ, managing editor of WKYC-TV also came to interview Dr. Kalinski, who emphasized the importance of linking the Famine directly to Joseph Stalin as well as the validity of the Famine as genocide. The feature was shown on the evening news on May 7.

A second exhibit went to Youngstown State University on May 19. Retired history professor Dr. Yuri Kulchytsky, who taught at YSU for 38 years was instrumental in contacting the head of the history department, Dr. Martha Pallante, and securing the exhibit showing at YSU.

Dr. Kulchytsky’s young successor, Dr. Brian Bonhommé, professor of modern history and an expert on Stalin, coordinated the exhibit. The exhibit at YSU was displayed through May 26. A student feedback sign-in book was provided, capturing interesting comments from the student body.

Future exhibits are already being scheduled for the following universities in the area: Cleveland State University, Slippery Rock University, Ohio State University and Akron University. Continuing efforts and contacts are being made with additional universities. (Similar efforts are being made by Lana Babij in Connecticut.)

To acquire this Holodomor exhibit for your area, readers may e-mail Steve



Dr. Michael Kalinski (left) with Laura Davis (center), co-chair of the symposium at Kent State University, and Marusia Flynn, vice-president for external affairs of Ohio’s United Ukrainian Organizations.

Ostafichuk, the exhibit coordinator, at steve@holodomoreducation.org, or call him at 416-800-2388 or toll free at 866-714-4132. The exhibits are valued at \$2,500 (Canadian). One hundred such exhibits have been donated by the Dopomoha Ukraini Foundation and the Wrzesnewskyj Family from Toronto, Canada.

To date, most of these exhibits have been donated to major universities. However, rentals of these exhibits are available at \$300 (Canadian) for three months. In this time frame the exhibit could be circulated to multiple universities.

The foundation is also looking for new donors so that these exhibits could be gifted to more universities. For more information on the exhibits and this project, please visit the website at www.holodomoreducation.org. All currently participating universities are listed.

I strongly urge all Ukrainian communities to continue this invaluable effort. We have many Ukrainian professors as well as friends in the educational field, and there are still many more universities that need to be contacted. There is no better way to educate future generations than through educational institutions.

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GENERATION UKE

Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej

Chornomorska Sitch defeats SC Portugal to win Garden State Semi-Pro League Cup

by Omelan Twardowsky

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Chornomorska Sitch Ukrainian Athletic Educational Association defeated Sport Club Portugal 1-0 to win the Garden State Soccer League's Semi-Pro Elite League Cup, on June 21 at Montclair State University. Chornomorska Sitch was one of 80 clubs competing for the cup.

Both teams demonstrated tremendous skill and heart in the final match. Sitch's high level of discipline was evidenced by the team being cautioned only twice by the referee, as compared to the Portuguese, who were yellow-carded seven times.

SC Portugal included players from Portugal and Brazil, and dominated its division this season. In the 10th minute of play, SC Portugal had a scoring chance in front of Sitch's goal, but Sitch's goalkeeper Alexander MacDonald and captain Andrew Panas thwarted the Portuguese attempt. The first half ended scoreless.

The field at Montclair State University is Astroturf and it took the players a bit of time to get used to the playing surface. The field choice was a last-minute substi-



Natalie Hordynsky

Chornomorska Sitch celebrates its victory. Sitch president Omelan Twardowsky (far right) beams with pride for the team.



Team members watch the critical shootout.



Diehard Ukrainian soccer moms brave the downpour to watch the game.

Memoirs of a mistress of ceremonies

by Adrianna Rudyk-Odomirok

I stood on the open stage with a microphone in my hand, staring at the hundreds of people sitting in the audience. Thank goodness I don't get those butterflies in my stomach anymore. I have no need to be nervous! I've been prepared for this all my life and it's time to get this show started.

As a little girl, I remember the countless times I stood backstage with my mother, Olia Szkafarowsky-Rudyk, an orator. As the master of ceremonies would finish announcing her as the next act, she leaned over to give me a kiss. Then, as the curtain reopened, I watched my mother pull her shoulders back and confidently glide onto the stage. I watched her bow to the clapping audience and take a deep breath. As the first words of the poem started streaming from her lips, I quickly turned my gaze back to the paper I was clutching. I don't know why she always insisted I stay back there as her prompter. She knew that poem as if she herself had lived through the story the poem was telling. She became the characters in the poems she memorized.

She spoke the last words and the audience just sat still. Then, as if they had

suddenly awoken, a burst of applause filled the hall. Once again, my mother had captured the audience, taken them on a journey through a war, a broken heart or back to their childhood home and then as if in a time capsule, they were transported back to the present. I was so proud of her! As I watched her, I knew that someday, I would join her on that stage, carry on her talent and command an audience of my own.

The Ukrainian National Association gave me my first break when it invited me to be mistress of ceremonies during the summer of 2000. Every Saturday evening I introduced talented performers to the hundreds of guests and visitors to the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y. I would walk out on the stage knowing that some 30 years ago my mother, while working at the resort, performed her recitations here as well. As an emcee on the other hand, I shared the stage with every entertainer. My job was to keep the pace between acts and save the audience from boredom during "technical difficulties".

Bigger challenges followed in the years to come. The Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) in Yonkers,

N.Y., in conjunction with St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church, hosts a three-day Heritage Festival every year in June during the Father's Day weekend. In June of 2003 I was invited to emcee the festival for the first time. I was so honored (and nervous) and since then, I look forward to coming back every year



Emcees Roman Wasylyk and Adrianna Rudyk-Odomirok.

as though coming home. So much work goes into preparing for this festival. The Very Rev. Archpriest Philip Weiner, pastor of St. Michael's, serves as honorary chairman and takes an active part in overseeing the festival. The co-chairpersons of the festival committee are Peter Duda and Tracey Kuzemchak, who seem to have boundless energy and enthusiasm. Within the festival committee, there are countless volunteers in charge of food, games, sponsorship, vendors and, of course, the show.

Every year on Friday night, right after the ribbon-cutting kickoff, the Yonkers branch of UAYA proudly presents its dance groups. This year the following ensembles, with dancers ranging in age from 5 to 18, performed on Friday evening; Chervona Kalyna, Halychany, Hony Viter, Sumivski Zirochky and Metelyky. Also included in the program was the Korinya Folk Band from Ulster County, N.Y., who play on traditional wooden flutes of various types, banduras and fiddles. Towards the end of the evening the band The Wave took the stage and played into the late hours of the night while festival-goers danced.

The Saturday and Sunday afternoon programs featured great performers from

(Continued on page 11)

Hofstra University undergraduates vote to include Holodomor in Genocide Awareness Week

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – On April 23 Hofstra University's undergraduates voted 1,471 to 649 on Referendum No. 6, to include a university-sponsored event, at least once every year, to commemorate victims of government-sponsored mass murder, such as the Armenian Genocide, the Ukrainian Terror-Famine and the Holocaust.

The referendum came about from the Long Island university's commemoration of Genocide Awareness Week, held from April 27 through May 1. Maximilian Longley, a law student at the university and a Ukrainian Catholic convert since 2006, proposed the referendum because, while the university has programs to commemorate some mass atrocities, he explained, this institution of higher learning somehow overlooked the Ukrainian Holodomor of 1932-1933. There is also a university-sponsored Genocide Fellows program, that includes material on the Holocaust, Armenian and Rwandan genocides, but not the Holodomor.

The proposal referred to the

Holodomor as "government-sponsored mass murder" rather than genocide to untangle the debate, according to Mr. Longley, between scholars on the Holodomor as ethnically motivated versus politically motivated killings.

The United Nations adopted the 1946 definition of genocide to include mass murder motivated by the victim's politics. Two years later, when approving the text of the Genocide Convention, the United Nations suddenly reversed its decision and stated that mass political murder would not automatically constitute genocide. The leading lobby group for this change was the Soviet delegation, under the leadership of Joseph Stalin.

In his arguments for the inclusion of the Holodomor in Genocide Awareness Week at Hofstra, Mr. Longley cited Leo Kuper's "Genocide: Its Political Use in the Twentieth Century" (Yale University Press, 1981). Mr. Kuper declares, "One can only suppose that many of the governments represented in the debates on the [Genocide] Convention did not wish to be denied their right to dispose of their

political opponents, by radical means if necessary, and with the minimum of outside interference." In 1979, the Soviet Union under Leonid Brezhnev, tried to revive the political definition of genocide in order to condemn Pol Pot's massacres in Cambodia.

According to Mr. Longley, Hofstra has honored apologists for Joseph Stalin, the man behind the Holodomor, but not the victims. In 2007 Hofstra's School of Law invited Lynne Stewart, a known communist sympathizer and a civil rights attorney whose clients have included Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, known for his links to terrorist organizations, to speak at the university. (Ms. Stewart was disbarred for her felony conviction of conspiring and providing material support for terrorists.) Mr. Longley distributed anti-Stewart leaflets to inform his classmates of Ms. Stewart's stance on Stalin and provided information about the Holodomor. In a 2002 interview with Monthly Review, Ms. Stewart was quoted as saying, "I don't have any problem with Mao or Stalin or the Vietnamese leaders or certainly Fidel [Castro] locking up people they see as dangerous."

A spokesperson for the university administration indicated that while the university was opposed to the proposed referendum, and, according to Mr. Longley, would rather have had a back-room dialogue, Hofstra may commemorate the Holodomor victims in the future.

Mr. Longley, who graduated in the spring of 2009, is currently studying for the bar exam. A North Carolina native, he returned to his home state after graduation and is soon to launch his mystery novel "The Three Ecumenical Detectives," by Monograph Publishers,



Max Longley

which also published his first book, "The Conservative In Spite of Himself."

Mr. Longley is a parishioner at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ruthenian Catholic Church in Cary, N.C. His godfather, Lazar Odzak, penned the book "Demetrios is Now Jimmy," about the history of Greek immigrants in the American South.

Mr. Longley said he hopes that the Ukrainian community can help inform the university administration at Hofstra about the Holodomor with educational materials and ways in which a commemoration can be held. Readers interested in providing information may contact Hofstra's university relations department, at 516-463-6818, or the dean of students, at 516-463-6913.

Memoirs...

(Continued from page 10)

the metropolitan area, including the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky School of Dance (New York City), Trembita Dance Ensemble (Westchester, N.Y.), Anya Oleksiv, soloist (Yonkers, N.Y.), Yaremika and Zoriana Makarenko, duet (Yonkers, N.Y.), Barvinok Dance Ensemble (Astoria, N.Y.), Vesna Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Spring Valley, N.Y.), and Prolisok Choir (Yonkers and New York City).

The Festival Committee also invited Roman Wasylyk to host the Saturday and Sunday evening programs, which included performers from Ukraine: Ludmila Fesenko, soprano, Valerij Zhmud, violinist, Andriy Solodenko, musician, and Solomiya Melnyk, pop singer. The Hrim band from Yonkers, played throughout the weekend. The highlight of the weekend was the Arkan Dance Company from Toronto. These talented dancers wowed the audience with their professional routines and beautiful costumes.

I remember dancing during the festival when I was a member of the youth dance ensembles of UAYA of Yonkers, and now I have the stage all to myself. I don't have a dance partner, nor do I really have a script. An emcee's job is to keep the crowd's attention, provide information about the festival, and most importantly, keep the show moving. But the latter isn't always so easy. Sometimes

the music stops playing or a dancer is missing a costume and suddenly my responsibly really kicks in. What else can I say at this point? I don't have any words to a poem. I didn't memorize anything for this part of the show. By the time I fumble with the notes in my hands, it will be too late.

Instead, I move my gaze from the sound booth guy who is still pulling an imaginary rubber band and take a look at the audience. With a deep breath I smile, and without realizing it, my lips start moving. Sometimes I don't remember what I said but it must have worked. I get a laugh out of the crowd and once again I feel comfortable with the people surrounding me, as if I'm just chatting at the dinner table.

I'm so happy I stuck it out those first few nerve-racking years. I enjoy emceeing these shows a lot. And considering it's been my seventh year back at the Yonkers Ukrainian Heritage Festival, I think the crowd likes me too.

I am so proud of the Yonkers branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association and St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church for working together in organizing this festival. I am also proud to take part in it to show off our heritage and culture. After all, it is the youth association and church that helped instill in me a passion for all things Ukrainian.

I know I never need to be nervous again. It's because my mama is standing in the wings watching me, just like her little daughter used to watch her.

Chornomorska...

(Continued from page 10)

tution made by league officials.

After the half, Chornomorska Sitch appeared more comfortable on the field and became more aware of the field's characteristics in play. This allowed for Sitch to open up scoring chances. Toward the end of the match, it began to rain and game time was shortened. At the end of regulation time, the scoreless match ended in a 30-minute overtime, which also ended scoreless. In the end, the match was determined by shootout, with Sitch winning over SC Portugal 5-4.

This was a key moment in the 85-year

history of Chornomorska Sitch and the 40-year history of the Chornomorska Sitch Sports School. Chornomorska Sitch's team included: Mr. MacDonald, Andrew Kudryk, Stepan Kolodiy, Andrew Mandzy, Peter Kasiyanenko, Mark Hordynsky, Antin Danes, Taras Okonel, Mark Vytvytsky, Roman Tabatchouk, Alexander Shashkevych, Lawrence Devlyak, Andrew Panas, Dmytro Tereshchuk and Dan Lewycky. Trainers included Mr. Panas and Greg Serheev, and coach Nick Hordynsky.

Also in attendance was Ukrainian National Association Treasurer Roma Lisovich. The UNA is the sponsor of the team and funded Chornomorska Sitch's uniforms.

Ruslana to travel to Suzy-Q for Ukrainian Cultural Festival

by Danylo Peleschuk

KYIV – Ukrainian pop sensation Ruslana will perform at the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka Heritage Center in Kerhonkson, N.Y., on July 18, a year after the release of her latest English-language album, "Wild Energy."

The first Ukrainian to win the Eurovision Song Contest, Ruslana will travel to Soyuzivka with eight Lviv dancers to headline the third annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival, where she'll showcase an array of new songs and choreographed dance routines.

"It'll be like a journey to Ukraine, or to the Carpathians themselves," Ruslana told The Weekly. "In order to have some serious summer fun, we'll bring some real Ukrainian energy to the performance."

As part of her visit to the U.S. – her first in more than six months – Ruslana plans to travel to Washington, Los Angeles and Miami, among other major U.S. cities, for promotional and humanitarian work, including her campaign against human trafficking.

While working at Miami's Hit Factory, the Lviv native recorded tracks with renowned R&B artists such as T-Pain and Missy Elliot for "Wild Energy."

"There is a real potential for artistic creation in America. It has the ability to reach the entire world, and it will be



Yevheniya Maschenko

Pop star Ruslana

professional. Because of this, we are bringing our music from the Carpathians to America to make music that people will truly understand and have greater access to," Ruslana enthused.

In its next issue, The Weekly will feature an exclusive interview with Ruslana about her recording career and impressions of the U.S., as well as hints of what to expect at her July 18 concert at Soyuzivka.



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- Ruslana & her Ensemble
 - Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Workshop
 - Nadia Kobelak, singer – Toronto
 - Oleh Kulchytsky, violinist – Ukraine
 - Filip Zmacher, singer – Ukraine
 - Victor Mishalow, bandurist – Canada
 - Lydmilla Fesenko, singer
 - Koriny ensemble
 - Dumka chorus
 - Iskra, dance group – Whippany
 - Zolotyj Promin, dance group – Hartford
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George Dzundza
Lida Kulbida
Andrij Stasiw
Sasha Gutmacher – Varenyky eating contest

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Friday, July 17, 2009

Ukrainian Arts & Craft Vendors 11 am
Food Court BBQ 5-11 pm
Dinner in Dining Room 5-7 pm
Evening Stage Show 7pm
Zabava - Hrim, Zahrava/Klooch
With special appearance by Ruslana

Opening Ceremonies on Stage 1:00

Afternoon Cultural Stage Show
Dinner in Dining Room 5-8pm
Evening Show 6 pm
Intermission: beverages, entertainment at Vending Area
RUSLANA & her Ensemble
Zabava - Hrim, Zahrava/Klooch

Saturday, July 18, 2009

Ukrainian Arts & Craft Vendors 10 am
Food Court 11 am - midnight
Vending Area Festivities all day incl. food, drink & entertainment – Matt Dubas, Hurt Udych, Walter Mosuriak (Zuki)
Varenyky Eating Contest – Sasha Gutmacher
DUMKA Chorus 12:00-Veselka Hall

Sunday, July 19, 2009

Family Day
Ukrainian Arts & Craft vendors 11 am
Baloons, Face painting, Moon Walk etc.
Stage Cultural Show - noon
Food Court 11 am-3pm
Finale with Ruslana

For more information,
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In the event Soyuzivka has no vacancies, contact the nearby Hudson Valley Resort at 888-9-HUDSON. Shuttle service will operate between Soyuzivka and the Hudson Valley Resort Saturday throughout the day until 1 A.M.

For bus service from Brighton Beach to Soyuzivka, contact New Tours Agency at 718-934-7644 or visit www.newtours.us

Two cities, two ensembles; one culture, one show

Chicago's Hromovytsia and Cleveland's Kashtan present joint concert

by Greg Karawan

CHICAGO – It would be difficult to choose the most exciting aspect of the joint concert recently held by the Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Chicago and the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance of Cleveland.

Some would say it was the union of two of North America's most storied and deeply rooted Ukrainian dance ensembles, while others would agree it was the friendships and bonds that quickly formed between these Ukrainian Americans from Chicago and Cleveland.

Perhaps it was the camaraderie, both onstage and off, among the dancers, whether young or old.

While it would be hard to choose one as the most exciting, it's easy to say that every aspect contributed to a remarkable experience for all those involved. On Saturday, May 16, Hromovytsia and Kashtan teamed up for an evening of Ukrainian dance at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts just outside Chicago. Under the artistic-direction of Roxana Pylypczak of Hromovytsia and Dave Wozniak of Kashtan, this inaugural union of two Ukrainian dance ensembles with a combined history of nearly 60 years showed an abundant audience that Ukrainian dance in America is alive and well.

The collaborative effort between Hromovytsia and Kashtan had been in the works for almost a year and the idea was openly embraced and eagerly anticipated by the dancers and staffs of both ensembles. The framework of the show consisted of an even split of numbers by each group, as well as guest performances by the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Church Ukrainian School of Dance of Chicago and the Zorya Vocal Ensemble of Cleveland.

In addition to Hromovytsia and Kashtan performing their own repertoire of dances, the two literally joined forces in the dance "Saved by the Bell," in which four dancers from each side took part in an entertaining "competition" of eight "boxers" inspired by the success and larger-than-life stories of Ukraine's Klitschko brothers.

The four members of Kashtan, its artistic-director and its board president spent a weekend in Chicago with Hromovytsia in early March to learn the choreography in what was the official start of a long-lasting partnership between the dancers of these two Midwest cities.

Other than that weekend, show preparations consisted of independent rehearsals in their respective studios and the ensembles did not come together on the same dance floor until the evening before the show. A concern early on in the planning stages, this proved to be surprisingly easy and ran very smoothly for both groups.

Promoting the concert in Chicago incorporated a widely distributed poster with the words "Passion," "Heart" and "Soul" boldly printed at the top, as well as a combined Hromovytsia/Kashtan logo and a blurred photograph of several dancers rehearsing in a studio – symbolizing faceless dancers who share the same culture and equal fervor for Ukrainian dance regardless of city, style or background.

Introducing Saturday's show was a short video that illustrated the coming together of two cities and two ensembles, with footage from the months of rehearsals and photos of the friendships that have developed.

Kashtan opened the concert immediately after the video with its traditional "Welcome Dance," or "Pryvit". Other dances performed by Kashtan included the entertaining and popular "Varvarka," the exuberant women's composition "Sviatkovy," the powerful and precise "Kozak Suite," and traditional dances from the Hutsul and Bukovyna regions of Ukraine.

Hromovytsia's repertoire comprised "Hutsul Rhapsody" – the newest addition to its collection of dances, "Brothers for Eternity," in which the women of Hromovytsia portrayed modern-day Ukrainian Kozaks, the unique and captivating story line of "The Night of Ivan Kupalo" and the trendy, hand-clapping trio in the Ukrainian polka "Drianda."

The customary end to the show was the pinnacle of Ukrainian dance as the ensembles treated audiences to a double dose of the "Hopak" with brilliantly colored costumes, intricate footwork and dazzling acrobatics. The two finales were fused together by another video compilation that created a seamless transition from one "Hopak" to the other. The evening concluded with a strong show of support from Hromovytsia's premier sponsor, the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union of Chicago, as board member Oleh Karawan presented \$5,000 to the ensemble on behalf of the credit union.

During their weekend stay in Chicago, the more than 40 dancers and staff of Kashtan were accommodated by several members of Hromovytsia and the Ukrainian School of Dance, strengthening the friendships that were created on stage and in rehearsals.

Following Saturday evening's perfor-



Peter Koutun

Hromovytsia performs "The Night of Ivan Kupalo."



Olya Soroka

Hromovytsia and Kashtan square off in "Saved by the Bell."

mance, a cast party took place in the auditorium of the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Church, where Hromovytsia and Kashtan celebrated their collaboration, achievements and hard work. Accompanying their celebration were discussions and plans for next step of their alliance, a second concert for Cleveland audiences this fall or in the spring of 2010.

Audience members who also attended the party applauded the combination of these two ensembles and their guest performers, emphasizing how well the groups and their styles of dance complemented each other.

The next morning the two ensembles gathered alongside Kashtan's bus as the troupe readied for its trip back to Cleveland. The good-byes, handshakes

and hugs would soon turn to phone calls, text messages and Facebook posts. The combined logo would metaphorically "separate" until their next meeting, and the dancers and staff would return to their respective hometowns and carry on as the students and professionals they are off-stage.

But as the bus pulled away and headed east, the members of Hromovytsia and Kashtan reflected on an evening during which the borders of Chicago and Cleveland disappeared and the difference in their styles, ages and backgrounds became irrelevant. They reflected on an evening in which these dancers shared one stage, one culture and one passion – a passion in their hearts and forever a part of their souls.



Greg Karawan

Dancers from Hromovytsia and Kashtan after the "Hopak."



James Basso

Chicago and Cleveland in a show of unity.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

enters a coalition with the PRU after parliamentary elections. Meanwhile, Mr. Yatsenyuk has said he considers Mr. Yanukovych as his main rival in the presidential elections. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovych for simultaneous elections

KYIV – Viktor Yanukovych, the leader of the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) said that presidential and parliamentary elections should be held simultaneously, and as soon as possible, according to news reports of June 30. Mr. Yanukovych said such simultaneous elections are possible if politicians have enough political will. “And after that the country will have to ensure stability, overcome the economic downturn and win.

And the politicians should end this political war,” Mr. Yanukovych said. “There is only one enemy: poverty that should be overcome. It is necessary to build a strong country. This is a major task, I believe, for every political party, every politician,” he noted. (Ukrinform)

Kuchma to be subject of documentary

KYIV – Russian film director Andrei Konchalovsky will shoot a documentary about mutual relations between Ukraine and Russia, and ex-Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma will be one of the main heroes in the movie, it was reported on June 25. The title of the film and its release date are not yet known, and it is unclear who will finance the shooting of the movie. Earlier, Polish film director Jerzy Hoffman shot a film titled “Ukraine: The Birth of a Nation.” Mr. Kuchma’s

book, “Ukraine is not Russia,” inspired Mr. Hoffman to produce the film. (Ukrinform)

New survey on candidates

KYIV – Ukrainians have clear positions on potential candidates for president, revealed a survey conducted by the Oasis Information and Marketing Center in all Ukrainian regions on June 13-19. As noted by Deputy Director Hennadii Lukiv, 21.5 percent of respondents are ready to vote for Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko; and 26.2 percent are going to support opposition leader Viktor Yanukovych. However, if these candidates meet in the second round of the presidential elections Ms. Tymoshenko will have a slight advantage of approximately half a percent. Mr. Lukiv explained that the prime minister’s activi-

ties work in favor of her rating. Almost half of the survey’s respondents expressed the opinion that the Cabinet is making the greatest efforts to overcome economic instability in the country. According to the survey, other candidates will not have even half of the votes that Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovych would each receive. Arseniy Yatsenyuk had the support of 7.2 percent of respondents; as while Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko had 4.4 percent support. A total of 12.5 percent of respondents said they intend to vote against all candidates. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko proud of presidency

KYIV – At his meeting with Kharkiv regional media on June 24, President Viktor Yushchenko summed up some results of his presidency. He said he believes that these four and a half years were a time of significant economic and foreign policy success for Ukraine. In particular, the gross domestic product has doubled, the country has seen considerable economic development, and minimum pensions and average salaries have grown significantly. Noting positive shifts in social policy, the president said the demographic situation had substantially improved over the past four years. There is progress regarding national adoptions; about 8 billion hrv have been allocated from the budget for the needs of young families, mothers, children and invalids. Mr. Yushchenko also drew attention to the considerable growth of foreign investment, as well as progress in Ukraine’s Euro-integration. Evidence of such success will be the signing within several months of an association agreement between Ukraine and the European Union. It is important, Mr. Yushchenko said, that Ukraine over these four years enjoyed the rule of law, democracy, and freedoms of speech, press, assembly and choice. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko: Amend Constitution first

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has said that the process of amending the Constitution of Ukraine should start before the presidential election is held. He said in Kyiv on June 25 that politicians should honestly express their views of the constitutional amendments. He underscored that the Constitution should guarantee the “impossibility of a return to totalitarianism.” (Ukrinform)

Bohatyriova: Rada could be dissolved

KYIV – The Ukrainian president could call parliamentary elections before the presidential election if he has legal grounds for this, National Security and Defense Council Secretary Raisa Bohatyriova told journalists on June 30. She said that the Parliament’s inability to function and the governmental coalition’s failure to change the economic situation could serve as grounds for this. However, Ms. Bohatyriova said that there were currently no grounds to call snap elections. “If the situation takes shape in such a way that any constitutional clause can be applied and there is no other solution, the president will have to take such a decision,” Ms. Bohatyriova explained, adding that he will be obliged to do so in order to rule out “unpredictable developments and an unpredictable process of the presidential elections.” The president can dissolve the Verkhovna Rada if a new coalition is not formed within a month after parliamentary elections or after the dissolution of the previous coalition; if the Parliament fails to appoint government within two months; or if the Parliament does not meet for a month. (Ukrinform)

Politkovskaya defendants to face new trial

MOSCOW – Russia’s Supreme Court

(Continued on page 15)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

has overturned the acquittals of three defendants in the shooting of journalist Anna Politkovskaya, ordering a retrial in a case that many observers regard as a key test of authorities' commitment to the rule of law. Ms. Politkovskaya, a journalist at the opposition paper Novaya Gazeta was a fierce critic of the Kremlin and often wrote about human rights abuses in Chechnya, was fatally shot in the stairwell of her building in downtown Moscow in October 2006. The Supreme Court concluded on appeal that there were violations in the original case, and ruled that "the sentence of the Moscow district military court is canceled and the criminal case is sent for a new hearing in the same court." Prosecutors had appealed the verdict in the original case, which ended in February with an acquittal for Chechen brothers Ibragim and Dzhabrail Makhmudov and former Moscow police officer Sergei Khadzhikurbanov. None of the three had been suspected of being the triggerman in the Politkovskaya case. The Makhmudov brothers were cleared of acting as accomplices in the murder, and Mr. Khadzhikurbanov was cleared of organizing the crime. The case reportedly went before a military court because of the involvement of a fourth defendant – former Federal Security Service (FSB) Colonel Pavel Ryaguzov – who initially faced related charges but eventually was later accused of abuse-of-office and extortion. Ms. Politkovskaya's son, Ilya Politkovsky, criticized the court's decision to order a new trial, saying the case needed more investigative work, not another trial. He said, "We are still certain that those who were on the court bench are connected – not guilty, but connected – and the case should be sent for further investigation." A Supreme Court spokesman said the case would be examined again with new jurors. (RFE/RL)

Lytvyn on official visit to Minsk

KYIV – The chairman of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada, Volodymyr Lytvyn, arrived on June 29 in Minsk for an official visit. The main objective of the visit to Belarus is to deepen bilateral interparliamentary cooperation. At his meeting with Boris Batura, the chairman of the Council of the Republic of the Belarusian National Assembly, Mr. Lytvyn noted that "cooperation at the parliamentary level should be of an accomplished nature." He added, "We cannot but meet, as the processes that are taking place in the world and Europe, make us realize the importance of each other in order to overcome the crisis and not to get lost in these processes." Mr. Batura emphasized that the two countries' parliaments have good relations. "There is an understanding in the political area, and this is proved by the summit meetings that have been recently held." He also said that Ukraine and Belarus would strengthen interaction in the international arena. The parties discussed the state of interparliamentary cooperation, prospects for the development of trade and economic ties, and other topics. (Ukrinform)

IMF mission chief arrives in Kyiv

KYIV – The International Monetary Fund's mission chief to Ukraine, Ceyla Pazarbasioglu, has arrived in Ukraine, the IMF office in Ukraine reported on June 30. The first stage of the mission's work started on June 23 and focused on the program's technical issues. Ukraine is planning to ask the IMF to increase the amount of the next tranche to \$3.8 billion to finance the country's budget deficit. The IMF approved a stand-by arrangement for Ukraine worth a total of \$16.4 billion in early November of last year,

when it also extended a first tranche of \$4.5 billion. The IMF mission supported Ukraine's proposal to increase a second tranche to \$2.8 billion and use half of that amount to cover the state budget deficit. The schedule of allocating funds foresees the allocation to Ukraine of a third tranche of \$3.27 billion after a second review of the program scheduled for June, and a fourth tranche of \$3.84 billion if a third review of the program is successfully completed in November. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine opens Consulate in Italy

KYIV – Ukraine has opened the office of its honorary consulate in Reggio di Calabria, Italy, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Vasyl Kyrlych said on June 30. He said at a briefing that Reggio di Calabria is the second largest regional center in southern Italy, and that a great number of Ukrainian citizens live there. (Ukrinform)

26 Ukrainians still held hostage

KYIV – Somali pirates are still holding hostage 26 Ukrainian sailors on board the Hansa Stavanger (two sailors) and the Ariana (24 sailors), Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Vasyl Kyrlych said on June 30. He noted that the owners of the ships were not disclosing the details of the talks being held with the pirates. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine, Russia sign security plan

KYIV – Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) Secretary Raisa Bohatyriova and Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev have signed a cooperation plan between the two countries' security agencies for 2009-2010. The NSDC press service said the document had been signed on June 30 during Ms. Bohatyriova's visit to Russia. The two sides agreed to maintain a constant dialogue at the level of secretaries, and to strengthen the coordination of the Ukrainian-Russian interstate commission's activity. Particular attention was also paid to regional security problems. The sides agreed to deepen a comprehensive dialogue on security issues, particularly on the situation in Transcaucasia and Transnistria region. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv, EU discuss free-trade zone

KYIV – Ukraine's Economy Minister Bohdan Danylyshyn has opened the seventh round of talks between Ukraine and the European Union on the creation of a free-trade zone, the economy ministry press service reported on July 1. He pointed out that the holding of official talks has a complex character. "The purpose of creating a free-trade zone is to form an effective common economic space of Ukraine and the EU through gradual implementation of four freedoms – free traffic of goods, services, capital and workforce," he emphasized. In this context, Mr. Danylyshyn pointed out the importance of reaching compromise positions within the framework of formulating an optimal model of mutual relations. According to an analysis of indicators of foreign trade in goods and services of Ukraine for the first quarter of 2009, the European Union was Ukraine's biggest foreign trade partner, accounting for 29.75 percent of the total foreign trade turnover. (Ukrinform)

Minimum wage increases

KYIV – The minimum wage in Ukraine increased as of July 1, rising from 625 hrv to 630 hrv (7.64 hrv = \$1 U.S.) per month. The new increase is to be in effect through September 30. This is envisaged by the law on the state budget of Ukraine for 2009. (Ukrinform)

CCRDF honored by Verkhovna Rada



KYIV – Volodymyr Yavorivskyi (right), who has supported the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund since its inception in 1990, presented Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, founder and president of CCRDF, with an award on behalf of Verkhovna Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn in recognition of its contribution to Ukrainian medicine. The presentation was made at the CCRDF's fourth annual International Gala Fund-Raiser in Kyiv on June 6. "You earned the highest awards that Ukraine gives, long ago," Mr. Yavorivskyi said. "I only apologize for the Ukrainian government, and myself, if I could have done something more to give at least a little more warmth and more government attention. But you have what's most important – that those children you helped rescue remember and love you."

– Zenon Zawada



With great sorrow we announce that our beloved husband, father, grandfather and uncle

STEFAN CZUJKO

passed into eternity on Sunday, June 7, 2009.



He was born on January 29, 1919, in the village of Symakivchi in Ukraine.

Former husband of the late Kateryna Balash-Czujko and brother of the late Michael Czujko and the late Maria Hrabarowskij.

Stefan was president of the Ukrainian Community Center for over a decade. He was a member of the Ukrainian National Home in Jersey City, NJ, for over 50 years, where he was also a member of the Board of Directors for over 20 years. He was an active member of Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Funeral services were held June 11, 2009, at Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jersey City, NJ, followed by interment at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington, NJ.

With deep sorrow he leaves behind:

Wife	Anna
Daughter	Anna Czujko-Rozij with husband Roman
Son	Roman Czujko with wife Nancy
Grandsons	Stefan and Alexander Czujko
Nephews	Bohdan and Andrew Czujko
Niece	Rosalie Dolan

As well as many other close and further relatives in the diaspora and Ukraine.

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Our Ukraine...

(Continued from page 1)

The party congress also voted to trim its old moniker of Our Ukraine People's Union to simply Our Ukraine, the name of the nine-party bloc that has since fallen apart, splitting between loyalists of the prime minister and the president.

Adopting a simpler name hasn't made it easier for the party to redefine itself amidst the devastated public support for its leader, Mr. Yushchenko, who has little chance for re-election as president.

The pro-Western electorate once firmly held by Mr. Yushchenko and Our Ukraine has since been conquered by Ms. Tymoshenko, former Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk and Svoboda party leader Oleh Tiahnybok.

With enough work, Our Ukraine could revive itself by 2012, said Mr. Zhdanov, a

former party member. Yet, with Mr. Yushchenko's current poll ratings, which hover around 3 percent, the party has had trouble recruiting financial backers, he said.

Many have left its ranks, including millionaire businessmen Petro Poroshenko, Oleksander Tretiakov and David Zhvania, a former ally who is godfather to the president's youngest son, Taras.

"The question of finances is very serious. It will loom over the party all the time," Mr. Zhdanov said. "Earlier, oligarchs were able to provide money for the party, but now that [Yushchenko] has no chance for re-election, nobody will want to donate."

Most recently, Mr. Yushchenko called on Mr. Martynenko and three other influential party members to abandon their support for Ms. Tymoshenko and her government.

Besides financing the party, Mr. Martynenko is the parliamentary faction chair for the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense bloc and chair of the party's Kyiv

organization.

In response to the developments at the party congress, on July 1 the Kyiv organization's political council led by Mr. Martynenko voted to leave Our Ukraine. Its members were absent from the June 27 congress.

Although numerous politicians have abandoned Our Ukraine, including Mr. Marynenko, Roman Zvarych and Olha Herasymyuk, they will remain members of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense parliamentary faction.

A slight majority of its 72 members support the de facto coalition government led by Prime Minister Tymoshenko. The coalition hasn't had a majority since national deputies loyal to President Yushchenko abandoned it last year.

Though he didn't attend the party congress, Viacheslav Kyrylenko, the rare Ukrainian politician with an untarnished and patriotic image, remains a close ally of Mr. Yushchenko.

He is actively building the Za Ukrainu (For Ukraine) civic movement, which Mr. Zhdanov described as a potential back-up political party in case Our Ukraine should falter.

"If it becomes clear that Our Ukraine is on the rise and gathers some strength, then Kyrylenko will remain there and support the president," he said. "If, however, we see that Our Ukraine stalls, then For Ukraine has the potential to become a strong political base."

Following the turmoil that plagued Our Ukraine, the congress revealed those most loyal to Mr. Yushchenko, even at his lowest political depths: Ms. Ulianchenko, Presidential Secretariat chair and party political council chair; Roman Bezsmertnyi, party executive committee chair; and Yevhen Chervonenko, who is actively involved in preparing Kyiv for Euro-2012.

In addressing the congress, Halychyna politicians Lilia Hryhorovych and Volodymyr Viaznyvskyi compared President Yushchenko to Ukrainian icons Taras Shevchenko and Ivan Franko. Mr. Viaznyvskyi also referred to the president as the second Moses.

However, Ukrainian voters remain unconvinced. In a Research & Branding Group poll conducted between June 12 and 22 of 2,079 respondents, Mr. Yushchenko didn't rank among the top six presidential candidates. He registered only 2.1 percent popular support.

Danylo Peleschuk, a journalism graduate of Northeastern University and a former summer intern for The Ukrainian Weekly (in Parsippany, N.J., in 2005 and in Kyiv in 2008), will be reporting from Kyiv during July and August. In the fall he will begin studies toward an M.A. in European, Russian and Eurasian Studies at the University of Toronto.

Congratulations to

Kristina "Lutsi" Lucenko

who received her Ph.D. in English Literature from the State University of N.Y. at Buffalo on May 8, 2009. She is currently teaching at Stony Brook State University on Long Island.

We are very proud of you and your achievements.

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Congratulations to

Danylo Peleschuk

Дорогий Данило,

Congratulations on receiving your Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from Northeastern University.

We are also very proud that you were awarded The New England Press Association Award.

We wish you continued career success and personal satisfaction as you go on to graduate studies at the University of Toronto.

With love and pride,
Mama, Tato, Ivanka, Baba Natalia Sygida,
Dido Wasyl Peleschuk.

Congratulations to

Damian Paul Hruszkewycz

Damian graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Ohio State University with a B.S. from the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences with Research Distinction in Chemistry.

Damian will begin doctoral studies in organic chemistry at Yale University in August.

We are extremely proud of you!

Love, Mama (Marta), Tato (Jaroslav), Stephan and Adrian



Congratulations to

Stephan Oleksander Hruszkewycz, Ph.D.

Stephan completed his doctoral studies in Materials Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University.

Stephan has a post-doctoral appointment at Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, IL, focusing on synchrotron x-ray science and computational materials physics.

We are extremely proud of you!

Love, Mama (Marta), Tato (Jaroslav), Adrian and Damian



Fifty years ago: a Ukrainian soccer milestone in the U.S.

by Walter Kulba

This year, the New York Ukrainians sports organization is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its Junior Soccer Team's (under-19) victory of the U.S. Junior Soccer Championship in 1959.

Although the Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals Tryzub were a four-time winners of the U.S. Open Cup professional championship in the 1960s, and the New York Ukrainians of the Ukrainian Sports Club (USC) also won it once in that decade, it was the New York Ukrainians USC Junior Soccer Team that became the first Ukrainian soccer team to win a national championship. A few years earlier, the Ukrainian Lions (Levy) of Chicago (U-19) had been crowned co-champions because the finals were not held.

The journey to the championship for USC's U-19 team began years earlier in the post-war displaced persons (DP) camps of Germany and Austria, which were filled with refugees from Soviet Union. Since childhood, our parents taught us to be proud of our Ukrainian nationality, religion and culture. For us, playing soccer was not only a form of validation, but also a means of nurturing our self-identity.

Our team was composed mainly of Ukrainian players whose parents had immigrated with their families to New York City following World War II. We settled in the "Ukrainian ghetto" on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Most attended St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church and School, and honed our skills playing soccer for countless hours at Tompkins Square Park, a two-block haven in the midst of the "asphalt jungle."

We started playing for USC at the age of 12 or younger. At first we had little success, but slowly we started to improve and became more competitive. By the time we reached the junior level, we were one of the best teams in New York. In the Junior Cup competition, we defeated all the New York teams and started a series of road trips.

Our first game in Fall River, Mass., was almost our last. Although we played the entire game in the opponent's half, we were one goal behind with four minutes left. Buoyed by the vocal support of the Ukrainian Nationals players, who were to play Fall River later, we scored the tying goal and three more in overtime to win our first road game.

The Tiverton Orioles of Baltimore were our next opponents. Despite trailing because of a penalty kick, we tied the score before halftime and scored twice more in the second half to win. With this victory we became the East Coast champions of the United States. Our most painful and difficult game occurred against Heidelberg of Pittsburgh. We won this game by two goals but spent most of the game avoiding kicks



Junior soccer players of the Ukrainian Sports Club of New York in 1959 (standing, from left): Walter Kulba, Andrij Zholudko, Dino Sartori, Wasyl Panczak, Jaroslaw Kulba, Jaroslaw Schmotolocha, Jaropolk Kalyna, Walter Schmotolocha, (kneeling) Stephen Kachmarskyj (coach) Walter Kozdoba, Philip Vogiagoglu, Jurij Renner, Anatole Popovych, Alexander Chowaylo, Michael Katynsky, Wilhelm Franz, Bohdan Wasylshyn (coach).

and ducking punches.

It seemed that would be our last game, because the Chicago Fichte Rams, the West Coast champion, was unable to raise the money to travel to New York for the finals. However, their coach found some sponsors and the game was scheduled at Eintracht Oval in Astoria, N.Y. To build interest in this match, the German newspaper Die Staats Zeitung, the official organ of the German American Soccer League (GASL), printed the pictures and biographies of every Chicago Fichte Rams player. Two of their best players were Ukrainians.

Before the final, as before all our games, the players and coaches knelt in the middle of the field and prayed in Ukrainian. When the game started, it was obvious that both teams were nervous. We were lucky that a hand ball in our penalty area was not considered deliberate, and slowly we started to take the initiative.

Both sides had a few chances to score but with five minutes to go Wilhelm "Yanush" Franz, a Polish player, received a perfect pass from our captain, Walter "Dzunio" Schmotolocha, and gently tapped the ball into the left corner of the net. The final minutes seemed like an eternity, but the final whistle sounded and

we were the champions.

Instinctively, all the players ran to the middle of the field and knelt to thank God. Before the prayer was over, we were joined by parents, relatives, friends and

fans. We were happy to share this moment with them, because we knew that we couldn't have done it without everybody's help. Truly, our journey was over, because we had finally arrived.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



Lauren Koltowski, granddaughter of Mrs. Sophie Koltowski of North Plainfield, NJ, and daughter of Mr. Edward Koltowski of Hatfield, PA, and Mrs. Linda Warrick of Lansdale, PA, is to be married to Michael Fink, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fink of Hamilton, NJ, on August 1, 2009, at St. Maria Goretti Roman Catholic Church.

Lauren is from Hatfield, PA, where she attended North Penn High School and graduated in 2000. From there, she went on to attend Villanova University to study Biology and Chemistry. At Villanova, Lauren participated in the Chi Omega Sorority and the Villanova Voices. She is currently attending Drexel University, where she is pursuing her Ph.D. in Molecular Pathobiology.

Michael comes from Hamilton, NJ, having graduated in 2001 from Steinert High School. He also attended Villanova University, studying English and Education and participating in the Villanova Singers and Spires, New Student Orientation, and volunteering for special Olympics. Michael is currently employed as an English teacher at Council Rock High School North in Newton, PA.

Temerty tapped as parade marshall for Toronto Ukrainian Festival

TORONTO – The Organizing Committee of the Toronto Ukrainian Festival announced that businessman and philanthropist James Temerty will serve as the festival parade marshall for 2009.

Mr. Temerty joins the ranks of such parade marshalls as former Prime Minister John Turner, rock 'n roll legend Randy Bachman, Sen. Raynell Andreychuk and Member of Parliament Gerard Kennedy.

His long list of accomplishments include serving as chair of the board of governors of the Royal Ontario

Museum. He played an instrumental role in bringing to Toronto the exhibitions "Legacy in Gold: Scythian Treasures from Ukraine," and "Mysteries of Ancient Ukraine: The remarkable Trypilian Culture." These two outstanding exhibits were sponsored by his company Northland Power Inc.

Mr. Temerty was awarded the Order of Canada on May 15 by Canada's Governor General Michaëlle Jean.

Now in its 13th year, the 2009 Toronto Ukrainian Festival is scheduled for September 18-20.

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

A year in the life of Zach Boychuk: from prospect to pro

Exactly one year ago the talk of the 2008 NHL Entry Draft was all about Steven Stamkos and a bumper crop of defensemen. This left another group of quality youngsters feeling a bit unappreciated.

"They're obviously great players and they deserve to be rated that high," said Ukrainian Zach Boychuk in a June 2008 conversation with NHL.com correspondent Adam Kimelman. "I just hope that I can eventually get drafted and create an opportunity for myself to fight for a spot on an NHL team."

In scouting Boychuk for the 2008 draft it was never a question of if he'd get drafted, but how early in the first round this Lethbridge Hurricanes (WHL) center would be selected. His NHL Central Scouting rank peaked at No. 8 among North American skaters, No. 3 among all forwards. Most experts agreed Boychuk had all of the required skill levels to excel in today's NHL.

In any discussion of today's NHL, usually the first topic for mention is speed – at 5-foot-10, 175 pounds, Boychuk is blessed with the speed and elusiveness to leave checking forwards and big defensemen in his rear view mirror. Boychuk's draft-year juniors season demonstrated how well he utilized his speed as an attacking forward: 33 goals and 72 points in 61 regular season games, with another playoff-leading 11 goals and 21 points in the postseason.

NHL Director of Central Scouting E.J. McGuire penned the following evaluation of Boychuk in his final prospect handbook: "He might be the best two-step quickness guy in all of junior hockey. In two steps he is at top speed and he can hit the brakes and delay the play with the best of them. Zach is an all-around offensive player who sees the ice well and just a treat to watch."

McGuire also noted "The question is whether or not his average size is enough to get him through the rough periods and the checking. There are other players in the NHL who have beaten the rap; Patrick Kane and Sam Gagner are two great examples. There is no reason why he shouldn't be a top offensive guy in the NHL."

Boychuk said he has adopted the offensive game of another smallish NHL player – the Flyers' Daniel Briere. Why not copy a success story?

"I think we're similar in size (Briere is 5-10,179)," Boychuk told kimelman of NHL.com. "We're both pretty small out there. I feel we both have similar speed and skill set. He's a guy that likes to score the big goals at key times, and that's similar to me, as well. He works hard, he's pretty thick for being a small guy. I hope that I can put on some weight and have a similar build as him. I know how hard he competes, and I feel that's similar in my game. I certainly love to stand backdoor and wait for those little chip passes. Also, you see how much speed and skill he has, he gets so many breakaways with that. I try to play like him, for sure."

The defensive aspect of Boychuk's game was never overlooked despite the obvious offensive prowess. A plus-19 and an improved plus-26 in his last two junior campaigns showed a commitment to two-way play.

"The past few years I've tried to work on my defensive game," he said. "I know it takes strong defense to win championships. If you can't play defense you probably won't be able to make it to the next level. I definitely have been working on that the past few years and I think it's

shown in my game. I've been a lot more aware, and with my team I've gotten a lot more time on the penalty kill, and my plus-minus has been going up and up."

"I'm a guy that likes to set my goals high," Boychuk concluded in his talk with NHL.com. "Anything can happen. It just inspires you to see guys like Patrick Kane, Sam Gagner and all those guys, kind of smaller skill guys similar to myself, who had great rookie seasons in the NHL, and it makes me push that much harder. Once that day comes when I get drafted by a team, I'm going to put all my heart and soul into it and try to give myself an opportunity for a spot."

Drafted fourteenth

At the 2008 NHL Entry Draft in Ottawa, Jim Rutherford, president and general manager of the Carolina Hurricanes, announced that his club had selected Boychuk of the Western Hockey League's Lethbridge Hurricanes as their 14th overall pick of the first round.

"Zach is a two-positional player who had 91 points as an underage in the WHL and was one of a few 17-year-olds to make Team Canada for the World Juniors," said Rutherford, in an official Carolina press release. "He's a talented and highly skilled player."

Boychuk, 18 when drafted, led all WHL skaters in 2008 with 13 playoff goals as Lethbridge won three post-season series and the WHL's Eastern Conference title before falling to the Spokane Chiefs in the finals. Boychuk finished the 2007-2008 regular season ranked second on his team with 72 points, tied for second with 33 goals and leading the team with a plus-26, though he played in only 61 of the Hurricanes' 72 games. The Calgary, Alberta, native played in all seven of Team Canada's games en route to its fourth consecutive gold medal at the 2008 IIHF World Junior Championships.

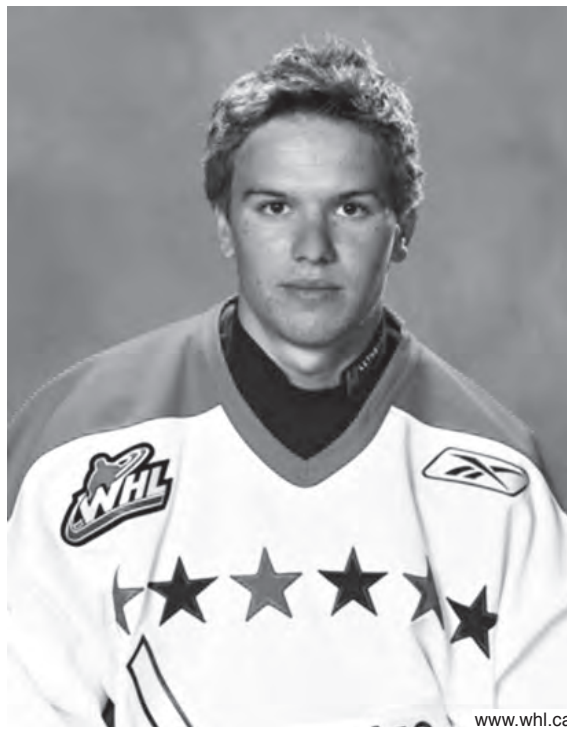
Wrist woes

On July 15, 2008, the Carolina Hurricanes issued an official announcement that Boychuk had undergone successful surgery on his left wrist in Raleigh, N.C. The surgical procedure was performed by Dr. George Edwards, who repaired a fracture in the forward's wrist. The recovery time for such a procedure was estimated at about three months.

The final day of September 2008 brought a follow-up on Boychuk's summer surgery in which it was made public he had a pin removed from his left wrist. Again performed by Dr. Edwards, this post-surgical procedure would prevent Boychuk from contact in practice for another two weeks. This effectively precluded the young Ukrainian from any training camp scrimmages or exhibition games.

Signing on

Despite missing over two months of training time due to his wrist injury, Boychuk was signed by Carolina to a three-year, entry-level contract. Terms of the standard rookie deal included a \$787,500 annual salary beginning with his first full professional season at the NHL



Zach Boychuk of the Lethbridge Hurricanes.

level, or \$65,000 per season in the minor leagues. For signing his first pro contract, Boychuk got a \$262,500 signing bonus.

President and GM Rutherford issued the following statement in a Hurricanes press release: "Zach is an important part of our team's future and we are very happy to get this deal done now. He is a quick, exciting player who has demonstrated an NHL skill level in a short peri-

od of time during training camp."

Back to the juniors

In the third week of October 2008, for Boychuk, there was a proverbial good news/bad news situation. The good: making his NHL debut in Los Angeles on a Friday night, followed by more ice time in a Sunday win at Anaheim. The bad: getting the official news that he was being returned to his junior team of Lethbridge.

Carolina's president and GM commented to the press: "This has been a good experience for Zach. Despite the fact that he was recovering from hand surgery, his play progressed very well. Another year of junior hockey will be good for his development."

In his debut in a 4-3 overtime loss at Los Angeles, Boychuk saw 9:21 minutes of ice time and recorded four hits. In the Canes' 3-1 victory at Anaheim two days later, Boychuk was a plus-1 in 14:45 minutes of ice time.

Though he didn't tally a point in his first two NHL games, by no means did he play himself off the team. Having zero exhibition games under his belt, making direct jump from junior hockey and undergoing wrist surgery were three major adjustments almost impossible to handle.

He actually came close to notching his first NHL goal in the Anaheim contest when he one-timed a pass from fellow Ukrainian Ryan Bayda just wide of the net

(Continued on page 22)

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In the News: Peter Doroshenko

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The American-born artistic director of the PinchukArtCentre in Kyiv, Peter Doroshenko, was mentioned in a June 8 article in the British newspaper The Times as the de facto curator of Ukrainian Pavilion at the prestigious 53rd International Art Exhibit of the Venice Biennale, held in Venice, Italy.

Although the curator for this exhibit, funded by Ukrainian billionaire Victor Pinchuk, is officially billed as heavyweight boxing champion Wladimir Klitschko, Mr. Doroshenko is said to have done the heavy lifting for the exhibition.

The exhibition is called "Steppes of Dreamers" and is meant to be a journey into a dream world. The Times has hailed the Ukrainian Pavilion as "one of the most ambitious entries among the 77 nations aiming for ... the top prize."

The choice of Mr. Klitschko as the official curator is meant to encourage examination about the idea of the curator and his image appears in advertisements for the Ukrainian Pavilion at the contemporary art competition, which will run through November 22.

Mr. Doroshenko was featured in The Weekly's April 8, 2007, and November 9, 2003, issues upon his appointment to PinchukArtCentre and to the directorship of the Museum of Contemporary Art S.M.A.K (Stedelijk Museum Voor Actuele Kunst) in Ghent, Belgium, respectively.

He was also the commissioner of the Ukraine Pavilion in the 2007 competition. In addition to his work at PinchukArtCentre and S.M.A.K., he has also worked as the head of the BALTIC Center for Contemporary Art in Gateshead, England, at the Institute of Visual Arts in Milwaukee, Wis., the Contemporary Arts Museum in Houston, and the Everson Museum in Syracuse, N.Y.

In 2002 Mr. Doroshenko was awarded the Diploma of the Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters, an Order of France bestowed upon those who have significantly contributed to the fields of arts and literature.

– Tyrssa Korduba

U.S.-Russia...

(Continued from page 2)

ing that Russia does not believe that Iran posed any missile threat that could warrant the U.S. BMD in Europe, and that any possible "joint discussions" of a U.S.-Russian BMD collective project may begin only after Washington officially rejects any plans to deploy BMD in Europe (Interfax, June 11).

Most recently during a late June visit to the Netherlands, President Medvedev issued an official statement about U.S.-Russian START negotiations "making a good start." Medvedev added, "Russia cannot agree with U.S. plans to deploy a global BMD" and that "a legal link between BMD and strategic nuclear weapons must be part of a new treaty" (www.kremlin.ru, June 20). This seemed to counter Washington's insistence that the new START treaty must not include the controversial BMD issues.

The Obama Administration seems to be ready to tacitly promise that the deployment of BMD in Poland and the Czech Republic might be delayed, while efforts to press Iran to curtail its nuclear and ballistic missile programs continue. But putting legal restraints on future U.S. BMD plans seems to be politically unacceptable (Moscow Times, June 11; Interfax, June 22). The Russian linkage of BMD and START in a new treaty could undermine the coming summit in Moscow (Kommersant, June 22).

There are other outstanding contentious issues. Kremlin-connected Russian political commentators have been stating, "an Obama visit to Moscow can only be successful if he publicly announces a 20-to-25-year moratorium on Georgia and Ukraine joining NATO" (RIA Novosti, June 20). In exchange for the recognition of Georgia and Ukraine being within Russia's sphere of control, Moscow could offer Mr. Obama help in the transit of supplies to troops in Afghanistan. There have been reports that the U.S. might be allowed to continue to use the Manas airbase in Kyrgyzstan (Kommersant, June 16).

Manas has been used by coalition forces to support operations in Afghanistan since 2001, but in February the Kyrgyz government announced its closure after receiving pledges of over \$2 billion in aid from Moscow. This week the U.S. and the Kyrgyz authorities announced a deal that the Manas base will stay for at least another year under the name of a "transit center."

The Russian Foreign Ministry is reported to have

expressed its outrage over the reversal of the Kyrgyz decision, but some sources in Moscow still believe the Manas reversal could be part of a bigger covert Obama-Medvedev deal (Kommersant, June 24).

While the Obama visit is being prepared, Moscow is continuing military and propaganda preparations for a possible full-scale military invasion to change the present pro-Western regime of President Mikheil Saakashvili in Georgia. Senior Russian generals and diplomats have been accusing Georgia of preparing "a new aggression" (EDM, June 18).


In mid-June a Georgian lieutenant, Alik Bzhania, 35, who served in the Georgian coast guard and apparently defected to Russian-controlled Abkhazia, was promoted by the Gazprom-owned liberal Ekho Moskvy radio. He was promptly given asylum and held a high-profile press conference in Moscow. Mr. Bzhania announced, "Saakashvili is preparing an aggression and I do not want to fight Russia" (Interfax, June 19).

A Moscow journalist who interviewed Mr. Bzhania, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Jamestown that the orders to publicize the defector came directly from Prime Minister Putin's office. If Russia is planning full-scale military action in Georgia, it clearly needs an excuse that it is in self-defense – countering an alleged "Georgian aggression."

On June 29 Russian troops begin massive military exercises on Georgia's borders, as well as in occupied Abkhazia and South Ossetia - Kavkaz 2009 (EDM, June 18). The exercises are planned to end on July 6, when President Obama lands in Moscow. The troops will be deployed and fully ready to go into action for at least several weeks after July 6, which apparently makes July the most dangerous month in the troubled South Caucasus.

Mr. Obama's visit to Moscow may be the last slim hope to avoid a war: if the U.S. president understands the threat and decides to put Georgia at the center of his negotiations instead of START – which is deadlocked anyway by the BMD linkage. It may be still be possible to pull off a diplomatic miracle by pressing or persuading Mr. Putin to stand back.

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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.

Summer Camp Dates and Information

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.

Constitutional...

(Continued from page 2)

enshrined in the 1996 Constitution.

The second vote in April 2004 failed after some pro-presidential centrists rebelled in protest at the change earlier that month of the election law from mixed to fully proportional. That change had been a condition of support by the left for the constitutional reforms.

Ironically, the reforms adopted on December 8, 2004, in a parliamentary vote were identical to those rejected eight months earlier. During those eight months, the authorities waged an all-out campaign to prevent Mr. Yushchenko from being elected with the powers enshrined in the 1996 Constitution. The widespread fraud that marred the presidential ballot led to the Orange Revolution, triggered by Europe's largest post-war mass protests, in which one in five Ukrainians participated.

Three European Union-sponsored roundtables resulted in the December 8, 2004, compromise agreement that led to a repeat vote on December 26 that Mr. Yushchenko won. In return, Mr. Yushchenko granted verbal immunity to Mr. Kuchma, and Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine supported the vote on the constitutional reforms to come into force in 2006. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) was the only parliamentary force to vote against the constitutional amendments.

Constitutional questions

After being elected president, Mr. Yushchenko complained about, but failed to repeal, the constitutional reforms.

First, between September 2005, when the Tymoshenko government was removed, until February 2007, when the Orange alliance was reconstituted, the YTB and Our Ukraine were at loggerheads and divided. Mr. Yushchenko and Our Ukraine did not support the YTB's call to invoke the October 2005 Constitutional Court ruling that constitutional reforms required a national referendum. The YTB campaigned for such a referendum in the 2006 and 2007 elections.

Second, Mr. Yushchenko did not establish his National Constitutional Council until December 27, 2007, and presented his reform proposals only on March 31 of this year. But by then he had no hope of implementing them as his popularity rating had collapsed to 2 percent and he had no support in Parliament. Our Ukraine had voted to rejoin the coalition in December 2008, against his wishes.

The conflict between the president and prime minister continued throughout 2008, and the onset of the global financial crisis in the fall failed to dampen it. During that time, legal and constitutional experts and different political factions all reached the conclusion that the president's daily intervention in economic and energy issues is unconstitutional. (Under the 2006 Constitution, the government reports to the Parliament, not to the president.)

In an April 2008 speech to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Tymoshenko announced a dramatic shift within the YTB toward support for parliamentarism.

The experts' second conclusion was that without presidential support for the holding of a referendum, the only way the Constitution could be changed was through a constitutional majority. But two successive attempts, in September of last year and May of this year, to form a YTB-Party of Regions coalition with the aim of pushing through constitutional reforms that would strengthen the Parliament both failed, partly due to personal mistrust but also to Party of Regions demands to have their cake and eat it.

While supporting a president elected by Parliament (i.e., a full parliamentary system), Party of Regions Chairman Viktor Yanukovich simultaneously sought a "guarantee" of two presidential terms with extensive powers similar to those bestowed on the

president in the 2006 constitution. German Chancellor Angela Merkel pointed out to Ukrainians in May that parliamentary presidents are ceremonial.

Halfway to nowhere

Two further factors are of direct relevance. "Semi" political systems, whether presidential (as in the 1996 Constitution) or parliamentary (as in the 2006 Constitution), are recipes for instability and conflict. If Ukraine really wants political stability and an escape from constitutional and legal chaos, it should change the Constitution either to a full presidential system or toward a full parliamentary system.

Prime Minister Tymoshenko acknowledged the inevitability of that choice in the course of a lengthy interview on Channel 5 on June 11. "Semi" systems do not divide powers clearly and, therefore, are recipes for "chaos," she stressed.

Nearly two decades after the disintegra-

tion of the Soviet empire, the 27 post-Communist states are divided into two groups: those in Central-Eastern Europe and the Baltic states have parliamentary systems, and those in Eurasia – presidential systems. The two exceptions are Ukraine and Moldova, with semi-parliamentary and parliamentary systems, respectively.

Parliamentarism and democratization went hand-in-hand in Central-Eastern Europe and the Baltic states, facilitating their integration into NATO and the European Union. Parliamentarism, therefore, could further integrate Ukraine into Europe.

Ukraine's transition from a semi-presidential to a semi-parliamentary Constitution has completely overshadowed Mr. Yushchenko's presidency. Personality, ideological and gender factors have been compounded by constitutionally unclear divisions of powers. U.S. Judge Bohdan Futey noted this month in a Ukrainian legal

journal that "these [constitutional] changes interlaced the power of the executive and legislative branches, leaving the country in legal turmoil to this day."

The Yushchenko presidency has been dominated by political crises, governmental instability, elite in-fighting and constitutional chaos that have combined to undermine the potential generated by the Orange Revolution. With the constitutional question still unresolved as the Yushchenko era nears its end, Ukraine will enter the January 2010 election campaign in the same state of constitutional uncertainty as it did five years ago.

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A year in the life...

(Continued from page 19)

from out in front. It's a shot he's probably nailed countless times in practice and his junior career.

NHL experience

When it was time to part ways with his newfound NHL brethren, Boychuk masked any disappointment he may have felt. According to Hurricanes' blogger Mike Sundheim, Boychuk was totally upbeat after his conversations with team executive Ron Francis and coach (at the time) Peter Laviolette. He shook hands with teammates and staff members as they boarded the charter to return to Raleigh following the California road trip. His farewell line to all: "See ya next year."

The experiences the young centerman collected during his time with Carolina could have as great a positive impact on his future development as the disappointing summer surgery had on limiting his first training camp. He got to observe stars like Eric Staal, Ray Whitney and captain Rod Brind'Amour preparing on a daily basis for the rigors of NHL play. He experienced the travel factor to the max, going cross-country to the west coast. Perhaps best of all, Boychuk had the rare opportunity to witness hockey's highest level of speed and intensity from the best possible vantage point – at ice level, in regular sea-

son games which count in the standings.

Finishing juniors

Boychuk proceeded to lead Lethbridge in playoff scoring for the second consecutive year, notching 7G,7A for 13PTS in 11 playoff games. At the end of the regular season and in March he totalled 22 points (14G) in his last 17 games, including four game-winners. He won the team's plus-minus award and was the team's co-mvp. He tallied his first WHL playoff hat trick against Saskatoon and earned a point in 14 straight game. In the 2008-2009 regular season he scored 28 goals with 29 assists for 57 points, finishing his career as the club's seventh all-time leading scorer.

Boychuk also capably assisted Team Canada in their gold-medal win at the 2009 World Junior Championships with four goals and seven points.

Joins Albany

Boychuk picked up his first professional point with an assist in an early April game in Albany. Having just completed his junior eligibility, he joined Albany of the AHL for the last week of their regular season. As the River Rats did not qualify for the playoffs, Boychuk got to play in only two games. The talented first-round pick actually got to make his professional debut twice in one season: in October for Carolina, then again in April for Albany.

You'll see him full-time as a Carolina Hurricanes center in 2009-2010, for sure.

A displaced person's...

(Continued from page 8)

But we children had a special friend on board that I still can picture clearly. He was an American sailor, not very tall, older than the other sailors and a bit overweight. Quite often, he was in his blue dungarees and shirt, with a hat and a protruding stomach. But two features made him lovable. He always had a cigar butt stuck in the side of his mouth and he always smiled at us. He'd hold our hands, say nice-sounding things to those who could feel but not understand, and frequently passed out gum, candy and large comma-shaped nuts. We loved him. He became our archetypal American father figure – non-communicating like an adult, yet loving like a father. After a few years in America, I realized that a lot of middle-aged men looked just like that old sailor. ... And in my now-American mind, he represents the typical American working stiff, most likely from Brooklyn. ...

After over a week at sea, people started to get restless and began to talk of land. Anticipation started to rise. And then one day, while on deck, I noticed a strange yet familiar smell – land. There was no land on the horizon, none even two days later. But I could smell an odor that I told my father was land. The next day we saw several sea gulls appear on the ship's rigging. People were now really getting impatient to see "Ameryka." But still no land.

April 19 was a very long day. The ocean had a greener tint, there were more birds, the

sailors seemed to be scurrying about faster, and everyone stood at the railing looking forward. The odor of land was overpowering... or was it our anticipation? That night everyone appeared to be packing their valises before going to sleep. I slept soundly, but I think I was an exception.

Very early, before six in the morning on April 20, 1950, I was awakened, dressed and taken up on deck. My parents were very eager to show me something important. Almost everyone was on deck and crowding the railing on the port side. Through the cold, early morning mist, when the whole world was colored in shades of gray, I saw a colossal woman passing slowly to our left. She was in a gown and wore a crown while holding a book. Her other arm was raised high, holding a torch. She slowly drifted by in silence. The entire ship was stunned in silence and awe. My father whispered that this was the Statue of Liberty.

As if on some unknown signal, everyone broke silence and rushed to the starboard railing. The ship even listed slightly to the right. Then shock and utter bewilderment. People made sounds, but nothing sounded coherent. Everyone saw for the first time the skyline of Manhattan – the skyscrapers of the Battery. It was unreal. I was giddy. This just could not be possible. So tall, so many, so varied, and so huge and mighty. This was America! No ruins, no destruction, no ancient style. Just America, and power! Our new world.

People looked, but they couldn't believe or comprehend. America! America! The ultimate heaven.

"Still another..."

(Continued from page 7)

VOA was my second employer in my chosen profession after college. The Geneva Free Press, a small-town daily newspaper in northeastern Ohio, which hired me as reporter-photographer right out of John Carroll University, was the first. It folded a few years after I left for Washington. And for 15 years after VOA until retirement I worked for the U.S. Information Agency's African and Near-East/South-Asian press services. The USIA was "reinvented" as the U.S. International Communication Agency

and, in 1999, it was absorbed by the State Department as its "public diplomacy" arm.

Maybe it's part of the aging process, but powers beyond my control seem to have been "burning bridges behind me," to borrow a phrase from the old country song.

The trans-Atlantic voyage to America was an experience few refugees can forget. Andrew Zvarun recalls his observations and feelings in one chapter of his memoirs, which he started writing some 10 years ago. Selected excerpts from that chapter, "The Great Divide," appear on page XX.

Argentina has a new...

(Continued from page 5)

until the late hours, and everybody makes good use of the Internet.

Besides praying and studying, the seminarians participate in many extracurriculum activities: a choir, a highly regarded chamber group, a wind orchestra, a professional soccer team, their own newspaper. The course of study is seven years and in the last year of their studies the seminarians have practicums, during which they teach in schools, work in orphanages, hospitals and senior homes, participate in Christian youth organization, and do pastoral work at the military lyceum of the Lviv Polytechnic Institute."

These young men are the future of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, and they deserve support from our community. During my stay, members of the famous Byzantine Choir from Utrecht, Holland, visited the seminary and I was told that they have made generous donations to the seminary.

The next time you are in Lviv, make it a point to visit the seminary. You will be as impressed as I was and, hopefully, will support this very important institution.

I also encourage the large contingent of Ukrainian Argentineans in the United States to support Bishop Shevchuk's work in Argentina. He needs help to bring priests from Ukraine and revitalize the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic church in Argentina.

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OUT AND ABOUT

July 10 Washington	Lecture by Tetiana Stawnychy, "Rebuilding Civil Society in Ukraine: The Role of the Church," U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 240-205-1889 or samboritanus@hotmail.com	July 24 Lakewood, OH	Solo exhibit, "Of the Seasons" by Aniziya Karmazyn, featuring paintings, woodcut and mixed media works, The Beck Center for the Arts, 216-521-2540 or www.beckcenter.org
July 11 Jewett, NY	Concert, violinist Eugene Fodor and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479	July 25 Jewett, NY	Fund-raiser concert, violinist Alexandre Brussilovsky, cellist Nataliya Khoma and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479
July 11 Ellenville, NY	60th anniversary banquet, Ukrainian American Youth Association, UAYA Resort, 845-647-7230	July 27 Cambridge, MA	Film presentation by Yuri Shevchuk, "Ukraine: A View From the Outside," Ukrainian Film Club and Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, Harvard University, 617-495-4053
July 13 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by Oxana Shevel, "The Politics of Memory in a Divided Society: A Comparison of Post-Franco Spain and Post-Soviet Ukraine," Harvard University, 617-495-4053	July 31-August 2 Dauphin, MB	Canada's National Ukrainian Festival, Selo Ukraina (Ukrainian Village), 204-622-4600
July 17-19 Kerhonkson, NY	Ukrainian Cultural Festival, Soyuzivka Ukrainian Heritage Center, www.soyuzivka.com, 845-626-5641	August 1 Jewett, NY	Piano recital by Juliana Osinchuk, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479
July 20 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by Mykhailo Minakov, "Logic of Political Populism and Institutional Responses." Harvard University, 617-495-4053	August 1-3 Edmonton, AB	Servus Heritage Festival, featuring Ukrainian Pavilion and Shumka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Edmonton Heritage Festival Association, 780-488-3378 or www.heritage-festival.com
July 20-24 Ottawa	Ukrainian Arts Day Camp, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 613-841-9489	August 3-7 Jewett, NY	Pysanka workshop, with instruction by Sofika Zielyk, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479
July 22 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by Adrian Slywotzky, "Surviving the Perfect Storm: How we got into this economy and how we can get out," Harvard University, 617-495-4053	August 3-7 Emlenton, PA	Mommy and Me/ Daddy and Me Camp, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., All Saints Camp, www.uocyouth.org/UOCCP.html or 412-279-1076
July 23 Beamsville, ON	Concert fund-raiser, featuring bass-baritone Pavlo Hunka, Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, Rosewood Estates Winery and Meadery, 416-253-6700 or www.musicaeopolis.com/evites/view.cfm?id=10	<p><i>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.</i></p>	

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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|---|---|
| July 5-12 Tabir Ptashat 2nd session, Exploration Day Camp 2 | Ukrainian Heritage Days |
| July 11 Zabava with Fata Morgana, 10 pm | August 7-8 Friday evening: Pete & Vlodya on the Tiki Deck |
| July 5-18 Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Workshop | Saturday: Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation Golf Tournament / Fund-Raiser; Dance Camp 1 |
| July 17-19 Ukrainian Cultural Festival | Recital, 3 pm; Sitch Sports School 40th Anniversary |
| July 19-24 Heritage Camp session 1 | Commemoration; Zabava with Svitank, 10 pm |
| July 19-25 Discovery Camp | August 9-22 Dance Camp session 2 |
| July 25 Zabava with Oberehy, 10 pm | August 14-15 Friday evening: Slavko Halatyn on the Tiki Deck |
| July 25-August 1 Sitch Sports Camp Session 1 | Saturday: Miss Soyuzivka Pageant (interviews begin at 7 pm); Zabava with Tempo, 10 pm |
| July 26-31 Heritage Camp session 2 | August 21-22 Friday evening: Hrim unplugged on the Tiki Deck |
| July 26-August 8 Dance Camp session 1 | Saturday: Dance Camp Recital, 3pm; Zabava with Hrim, 10 pm |
| July 31-August 1 Friday evening: Kagero on the Tiki Deck | August 23-29 Joseph's School of Dance (Ballroom Dance) |
| Saturday: Film Festival, hosted by Dr. Yuri Shevchuk and the Columbia Film Club; Zabava with Na Zdorovya, 10 pm | Friday: recital, 8 pm |
| August 1-8 Sitch Sports Camp Session 2 | August 27-30 Church of Annunciation Weekend |
| August 2-5 Adoptive Parents | August 29 Wedding weekend |
| | August 31-September 7 Labor Day week |
| | Weekend entertainment to be announced |



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, July 10

WASHINGTON: Tetiana Stawnychy, development director, Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Patriarchal Curia, Kyiv, will speak on "Rebuilding Civil Society in Ukraine: The Role of the Church." The lecture, to be delivered in English, will be at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1701 K St. NW, Suite 903. Coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m.; the webcast presentation begins promptly at 7 p.m. To watch the webcast on line, go to www.usukraine.org/events/civicsociety071009.shtml. The event is sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Washington branch, The Washington Group and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. Admission is free; contributions are welcome. For further information call 240-205-1889.

Friday, August 28

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J.: The Khmelnychenky Plast fraternity is sponsoring an all-ages dance at the Wildwood Crest Pier Recreation Center, across the street from the Pan Am Hotel. Doors open at 7 p.m. with dance music at 7-8 p.m. The "Party Ptashat" kids dance will be held at 8-9:30 p.m., hosted by MC Bratchyk Levko. The "Wildwood Idol" dance contest with guest judge Ania Bohachevsky Lonkevych begins at 10 p.m. with cash prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25 per couple. The teen "Club Crest" "vechirka" will follow the dance contest. Admission: kids and students. \$5; adults age 23 and over, \$10. Proceeds go toward Plast camps; donations accepted. Volunteers wanted. For more info, e-mail Adrian Horodecky, adrian@telligys.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 should be **no more than 100 words long**; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment 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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