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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ruslana headlines Soyuzivka's 3rd Ukrainian Cultural Festival



Russ Chelak

Ruslana and her ensemble of dancers perform at the Ukrainian Cultural Festival.

Three-day event attracts 6,000-7,000

by Roma Hadzewicz

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Between 6,000 and 7,000 visitors arrived at Soyuzivka on July 17-19 for the third annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival, headlined by internationally known pop star Ruslana of Ukraine. It was perhaps the largest crowd ever to assemble here at the Ukrainian National Association's heritage center in the Shawangunk Mountains of

New York state.

Following her appearance – her first festival performance in the United States – Ruslana enthused: "Soyuzivka is truly a piece of Ukraine. It's no longer just a word... it's the 26th oblast of Ukraine."

She added, "We are ready to come here again, again and again, and to sing for you again and again."

The greatest number of guests arrived on Saturday evening, July 18, in time for the 6 p.m. outdoor stage concert showcasing the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

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Vice-President Biden reaffirms steadfast U.S. support for Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada
and Danylo Peleschuk
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – U.S. attempts to bolster relations with the Russian Federation won't come at Ukraine's expense, said U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden during a July 20-22 visit to Kyiv, in which he underscored steadfast U.S. support for Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration and energy sector reform.

"We're working, as you know, Mr. President, to reset our relationship with Russia," Mr. Biden told President Viktor Yushchenko at a July 21 press conference. "But I assure you and all the Ukrainian people that it will not come at Ukraine's expense. To the contrary, I believe it can actually benefit Ukraine."

Mr. Biden flew to Kyiv two weeks after U.S. President Barack Obama made his first visit to Moscow in order to "reset" relations between the two nations, which so far has mainly meant cooperation in reducing nuclear arms and offering support to the U.S. war in Afghanistan.

The vice-president met with President Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, Verkhovna Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn, opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich and upstart presiden-



Zenon Zawada

U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden and Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko address a press conference in the Chimeras Building on Bankova Street in Kyiv on July 21.

tial candidate Arseniy Yatsenyuk, before leaving for Georgia on July 22 for a three-day visit.

In his public remarks, Mr. Biden indicated that his trip was aimed to reassure the two former Soviet republics – under constant pressure from Russia to avoid alliances with the West – that the U.S. will maintain support and cooperation in helping to achieve their Euro-Atlantic integration goals.

"We do not recognize – and I want to reiterate it – any sphere of influence," Mr. Biden said. "We do not recognize anyone else's right to dictate to you or any other country what alliances you will seek to belong to or what bilateral relationships you have."

President Yushchenko was eager to establish relations with the new U.S. administration and extended an invitation to President Barack Obama after he was elected.

Instead, President Obama sent a strong signal of his desire to reset relations with Moscow by making his visit to Russia the top priority, bypassing all of the former Soviet states in the near term.

Nevertheless, the pro-Western Ukrainian government was eager to host Mr. Biden, with Mr. Yushchenko and the Presidential Secretariat extending its best efforts to make his three-day visit as productive and hospitable as possible.

More than 4,000 Ukrainian police officers were deployed as security for the U.S. vice-president, whose entourage arrived with its fleet of black Cadillacs with District of Columbia license plates.

Traffic throughout central Kyiv was diverted to allow for Mr. Biden's entourage to travel along streets decorated with U.S. flags.

Mr. Biden spent his two nights at the luxurious Hyatt Regency Kyiv hotel, located on the Volodymyrskyi Passageway in the historic city center, situated between

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Leo Mol, world-renowned sculptor, dies at age 94

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – World-renowned sculptor Leonid Molodoshanin – known as Leo Mol – died at the age of 94 of Alzheimer's disease on July 4 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Among the sculptures for which he is best known is the monument to Taras Shevchenko erected 45 years ago in Washington.

Mr. Mol leaves behind his wife, Margareth, his grandniece, Olga and her family of Calgary, and his sister, Iryna, and family in Irkutsk, Siberia.

The native of Polonne (near Zabolottia), Volodymyrskyi raion of the Rivne Oblast, in the Ukrainian Polissia region, learned to create in clay at his potter father's knee. Art was always on his mind, and as a teenager he studied and worked with artists in Vienna.

Later, in 1936-1940, he studied at and graduated from the now St. Petersburg Academy of Fine Arts (at the time the Leningrad Academy). During World War II he was conscripted by the Germans and spent much of the war in Berlin.

He and his wife Margareth left for The Netherlands, and then emigrated to Canada after the war. Mr. Mol liked to tell the story that artists and sculptors were not on the desired immigration list, so he arrived in Canada as a farmhand.

While his multilingual wife worked as a rural teacher, Mr. Mol quickly found work as an iconographer in Manitoba. Both by diligence and word of mouth, he built up a clientele among many

(Continued on page 4)



Leo Mol with his sculpture of Patriarch Josyf Slipyj.

ANALYSIS

IMF confirms sharp contraction in the economy of Ukraine

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The International Monetary Fund completed the second review of its stabilization program for Ukraine on July 10. A visiting IMF delegation recommended that the IMF board grant Ukraine the third \$3.3 billion tranche of the \$16.4 billion standby loan. Kyiv received the previous two tranches of the loan totaling \$5.3 billion in November 2008 and May 2009.

Indeed, the results of the review were a setback for the government of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Less money will arrive than she expected. The third tranche, if approved by the IMF board later this summer, will be \$500 million less than the \$3.8 billion that she wanted.

Moreover, the IMF presented new conditions in addition to those that the government previously failed to meet, such as pension reform and improving the management of the state-owned oil and gas behemoth Naftohaz Ukrainy. Now the government will have to increase domestic gas prices every quarter in order to lower Naftohaz's budget deficit. This will be painful not only for the domestic industries that rely heavily on gas, but also for the population whose real incomes plummeted by 13 percent in the first quarter of 2009 alone.

Possibly the most painful setback for the Tymoshenko government was the correction of the IMF's forecast for Ukraine's economic performance in 2009. The IMF now expects gross domestic product (GDP) to contract not by 8 percent as it originally expected, but by a staggering 14 percent – which is another confirmation that the Ukrainian economy was severely damaged by the global recession.

Ms. Tymoshenko might eventually admit that her forecast for 0.4 percent GDP growth, on which the state budget was based, was overly optimistic as her arch-rival President Viktor Yushchenko warned when the budget was passed late last year.

Consequently, the IMF expects the state budget deficit to jump from 4 percent, as agreed with Ms. Tymoshenko earlier, to 6 percent. On the positive side, the IMF cor-

rected its forecast for inflation from 16 percent to 13 percent (www.imf.org, July 10).

The revision of these forecasts was due to the negative developments in the first quarter of 2009, when the economic downturn was more pronounced than expected, as the IMF explained. Ukraine's GDP fell by 20.3 percent in the first quarter – the worst contraction in the region and probably the fastest quarterly contraction of the national economy since 1991.

The IMF's forecast for GDP was its most pessimistic so far. In late June a pool of local analysts forecast a 12.8 percent decline (Interfax-Ukraine, June 22). The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) said in early May that it expected Ukraine's GDP to contract by 10 percent in 2009.

There has been more optimism concerning 2010, with the IMF and the World Bank expecting 1 percent growth and the EBRD forecasting zero growth. Taking into account the low GDP figure for the first quarter, which was made public by the Ukrainian statistics committee only in late June, other international financial organizations should also correct their forecasts.

Despite these gloomy predictions, the IMF mission praised the Ukrainian government, noting that, "macroeconomic and financial policies in Ukraine have been broadly on track." The targets agreed with the IMF during the first review in the spring regarding base rates and the central bank's reserves were met, and the government "made good progress in the resolution of the systemic problem banks," the IMF said (www.imf.org, July 10).

Between the first and second reviews of the IMF stabilization program, the government completed the bailout of three mid-size banks out of the five agreed with the IMF. However, the bailout of two larger banks, Nadra and Ukroprombank, is far from complete since the government has refused to buy them until after they restructure their foreign debts.

Ahead of the January 17, 2010, presi-

(Continued on page 30)

Russian about-face on Belarus?

by Roman Solchanyk

Are Russians becoming "normal?" Normal, that is, insofar as how they view Belarus and Belarusians.

It certainly looks that way if one considers the latest polling by the Levada Center in Moscow, Russia's premier polling agency. In spite of the long-running farce called the Russian-Belarusian Union State that traces its origins to the mid-1990s, it seems that ordinary Russians have undergone a serious transformation with respect to their expectations about relations between the two states.

The survey, conducted in mid-June of this year, shows that slightly more than a third of Russians would like to have things remain as they are—that is, they favor retaining the fiction of a Russian-Belarusian Union State. This represents an increase

over the 24 percent of Russians who felt that way 10 years ago.

But asked if it would be in the interests of Russia to have a total "fusion" [sliyanie] of Belarus with Russia into a single state, only 15 percent answered in the affirmative. Ten years ago that figure was 43 percent. Similarly, today 40 percent of Russians think that the best way to go is for the two countries to remain independent and maintain good-neighborly relations. In 1999 the corresponding figure was only 15 percent.

President Alyaksandr Lukashenka of Belarus seems not to have gotten the memo. In his speech at the Independence Day parade in Minsk on July 3 — the day Minsk was liberated from German forces in World War II, not July 27 when Belarus proclaimed its sovereignty in 1990 — Lukashenka said that Belarusians and Russians are, apparently at one and the same time, "fraternal peoples" and "one people."

Mr. Lukashenka notwithstanding, the shift in how ordinary Russians view ordinary Belarusians is good news all the way around.

But here's the obvious question: What about Ukraine?

NEWSBRIEFS

Biden, Yushchenko converse at pub

KYIV – Politics and energy apparently weren't the only topics of conversation between Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden, who is on an official visit to Kyiv. The two men ended their discussion on July 21 in an Irish pub, where Biden praised the beauty of Ukrainian women. They also reportedly discussed their favorite churches. Mr. Biden was overheard saying: "I cannot believe that a Frenchman visiting Kyiv went back home and told his colleagues he discovered something and didn't say he discovered the most beautiful women in the world." It was unclear which Frenchman Mr. Biden was referring to. The two seem to have enjoyed the unscheduled stopover away from the cameras. According to RFE/RL correspondent Brian Whitmore, who is traveling with Mr. Biden, the vice-president left the pub with his arm wrapped around Mr. Yushchenko's shoulder. But this friendly embrace should in no way be attributed to an excess of Irish ale; Vice-President Biden and his President Yushchenko reportedly stuck to Coke. (Claire Bigg – RFE/RL)

Presidents could meet in the fall

KYIV – The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry is considering the possibility of holding a meeting between Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and U.S. President Barack Obama this autumn, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Kostiantyn Yeliseyev said at a press briefing on July 16. He said that preparations for a possible meeting would be discussed during U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden's visit to Ukraine on July 20-22. "Preparations for a possible meeting between the two presidents in the near future, perhaps in autumn this year, will be one of the important elements during the visit," he said. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine to get \$250 B from IMF

KYIV – The executive board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has backed an allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) equivalent to \$250 billion (U.S.) to provide liquidity to the global

economic system by supplementing the fund's 186 member-countries' foreign exchange reserves, an IMF press release reported on July 21. Ukraine will receive SDR 1.017 billion (\$1.585 billion) under the current rate. (Ukrinform)

Experts' advice on dissolution of Rada

KYIV – An expert from the Foreign Policy Institute of the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry's Diplomatic Academy, Oleksander Palii, has advised President Viktor Yushchenko to dissolve Parliament by mid-August so that this does not affect the presidential election campaign, Ukrinform reported on July 16, citing the LIGA web publication. Mr. Palii said the Verkhovna Rada currently is not a representative body. "Statements by any of the leaders are more important for political forces, than the position of their voters, a certain region, plant and the entire country," he noted. As previously reported, the Verkhovna Rada failed to work for two weeks due to a blockade by national deputies of the Party of Regions of Ukraine, who demanded that the living wage, the minimum wage and pensions be increased. Attempts to hold extraordinary sessions of the Rada also failed. (Ukrinform)

Mayor wants higher rent for fleet

KYIV – Sevastopol City Mayor Serhii Kunitsyn said July 13 that the amount of funds added to the city's budget as compensation for the stationing of the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Crimea should be tripled or quadrupled. "A Cabinet of Ministers resolution says that the city of Sevastopol receives 50 percent of the funds being paid by Russia to Ukraine for the basing of its Black Sea fleet. This year the Cabinet of Ministers allocated 100 million hrv to us. The fight for next year's budget is ahead. Our task is to ensure this sum is increased to 370 million to 400 million hrv," he said on July 13. Mr. Kunitsyn also noted that the U.S. dollar exchange rate had grown last year. "I think it would be honest if everything was properly recalculated, because Russia makes payments in [foreign] currency, and it's one thing

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Correction

Due to a typographical error, the website address for Babunya's Gourmet Spice was incorrectly rendered in the July 19 issue. The address is: www.babunyas.com.

NEWS ANALYSIS

U.S. vice-president: 'Reset' will not come at Ukraine's expense

by Brian Whitmore

RFE/RL

July 21

KYIV – U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden, on a visit to Kyiv, has delivered a positive message to a beleaguered Ukraine.

Despite Kyiv's paralyzing domestic political feuds and a deep recession, Mr. Biden said Washington's efforts to repair strained ties with Russia will not hurt U.S. support for Ukraine's push to integrate with the West.

Vice-President Biden – who is on a three-day tour that will also take him to Georgia – made his comments at a joint news conference in Kyiv following talks with President Viktor Yushchenko.

"We're working, as you know, Mr. President, to reset our relationship with Russia," Mr. Biden said. "But I assure you and all the Ukrainian people that it will not come at Ukraine's expense. To the contrary, I believe it can actually benefit Ukraine."

The U.S. vice-president spent his first full day in Kyiv holding separate talks with each of Ukraine's key political protagonists: President Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich and opposition leader Arseniy Yatsenyuk. All four are contenders in Ukraine's January presidential election.

Mr. Biden said the U.S. backed Ukraine's ambitions to join NATO and upheld Ukraine's freedom to choose its allies – a veiled jab at Russia, which strongly opposes its neighbor's NATO bid.

"If you choose to be part of the Euro-Atlantic integration, which I believe you have, we strongly support that. We do not recognize – and I want to reiterate it – any sphere of influence," Mr. Biden said. "We do not recognize anyone else's right to dictate to you or any other country what alliance you

will seek to belong to or what relationships, bilateral relationships, you have."

Mr. Biden is expected to deliver the same message when he moves on to Georgia July 22-23, another former Soviet republic whose aggressive bid to join NATO has angered Moscow.

But the vice-president was also expected to signal that U.S. support comes with conditions. In Ukraine, that would mean reform of the country's energy sector, while in Georgia, it would have more to do with democratic reform.

Ukraine's energy sector has been plagued by financial woes and aging infrastructure.

Bitter gas pricing disputes between Moscow and Kyiv, which prompted Russia in January to halt supplies to Ukraine, have also battered Ukraine's reputation as a reliable transit route for Russian gas to Europe.

President Yushchenko told Vice-President Biden that Ukraine would like foreign investors to help upgrade its gas transport network, which he described as "an integral part of the European gas market."

"We underscored the importance for Ukraine to integrate into new European projects to supply oil and gas from traditional and nontraditional [oil- and gas-producing] regions," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Mr. Biden's national security adviser, Tony Blinken, told reporters last week that the vice-president also intended to urge Ukrainian leaders to put their differences aside and "live up to the promise of the revolution."

Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko, allies in the 2004 Orange Revolution that propelled Mr. Yushchenko to power, have been engaged in a protracted dispute after falling out over a number of issues.

In addition to his meetings with Ukrainian officials, Mr. Biden laid flowers and candles

at a monument to the victims of the Great Famine of the 1932-1933, which killed millions and which Ukraine insists was a deliberate act of genocide by Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin.

The vice-president leaves Kyiv for Georgia on July 22.

RFE/RL correspondent Claire Bigg con-

tributed to this piece from Prague.

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Quotable notes

"...the United States strongly values our partnership with Ukraine and Georgia. And the main purpose of the trip is to strengthen each partnership in very concrete ways. ... we're not seeking to build spheres of influence or to dominate a particular region. Rather, we are looking for strong partners to help us meet common challenges. And Ukraine and Georgia are perfect examples of exactly that. Each has been a partner for progress with us and with other countries in places like the Balkans, in Iraq and Afghanistan. ..."

Our efforts to reset relations with Russia will not come at the expense of any other country. This is not, for us, a zero-sum game. We will continue to reject the notion of spheres of influence, and we will continue to stand by the principle that sovereign democracies have the right to make their own decisions and choose their own partnerships and alliances.

"I think one of the highlights of recent Ukrainian history is having a very open, competitive political environment, as well as a very free and very vibrant press. And that's been a tremendously positive development in Ukraine.

"Less positive, quite honestly, has been some of the political paralysis we've seen in recent times, and hopefully in the months ahead, before the election, irrespective of the election, leaders in Ukraine will find a way to work closely together on the challenges that the country faces, that start with the economy and the very difficult situation Ukraine is in, the hard choices that have to be made.

"...Our hope is that these leaders who really, many of whom were part of inspiring not only their own people, but the entire region – the entire world – not so very long ago, will, in their day-in and day-out action, live up to the promise of the revolution and make the hard choices and work together. And in many ways, people in Ukraine, with this incredibly open and free and vibrant society, seem to be a little bit ahead of some of the political leadership right now, and we hope that the leadership will do just that – lead."

– Tony Blinken, national security advisor to Vice-President Joe Biden, at a July 17 press briefing on the vice-president's trip to Ukraine and Georgia.

"We all understand that a deal must come with Russia, but we do not believe that a deal can be made at the expense of the security interests of the countries of our region or of Georgia and Ukraine."

– Eugeniusz Smolar, senior fellow at the Center for International Relations, a non-profit, non-partisan research group in Warsaw, as quoted on July 17 in *The New York Times*.

FOR THE RECORD: President Obama's proclamation of Captive Nations Week

Following is the full text of the proclamation on Captive Nations Week 2009 issued by President Barack Obama on July 17.

Fifty years ago, President Eisenhower issued a call of solidarity to peoples across the world living under communist rule. This first Captive Nations Week Proclamation expressed concern that too many people lacked fundamental freedoms, and it affirmed that the people of the United States stood alongside those who yearned to be free. Since this declaration, more nations have chosen the path of self-determination and respect for basic human rights. Brave American men and women have contributed to this story, making great sacrifices while serving in our Armed Forces or working in government, private industry and other organizations.

The Cold War is now consigned to the history books, but the ideals that President Eisenhower proclaimed remain vibrant and inspiring today. Just as in years past, people still hope to have the freedom and opportunity to pursue their dreams. People, young and old, still yearn to speak their minds. Citizens still believe governments have an obligation to be honest and transparent, uphold the rule of law and allow civic participation.

We regard these universal principles as guiding values, and we stand in solidarity with those who aspire to live by them – not only because it is right, but also because our Nation's fate is connected to

that of other nations. In an interdependent world, instability, disease and hardship abroad affect us here at home. Governments that are responsive to the concerns of their citizens can better tackle these challenges and contribute to a more secure, healthy and prosperous world.

Nations must advance these values through example. At home and abroad, the United States strives to honor the principles enshrined in our nation's founding documents.

The challenges of a new century require us to summon the full range of human talents to move all nations forward. The United States stands with all governments and peoples committed to unlocking the potential of their people, and to peace, the rule of law and respect for all citizens.

The Congress, by joint resolution, approved July 17, 1959 (73 Stat. 212), has authorized and requested the president to issue a proclamation designating the third week of July of each year as "Captive Nations Week."

Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim July 19 through July 25, 2009, as Captive Nations Week. I call upon the people of the United States to reaffirm our commitment to all those seeking dignity, freedom and justice.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

Pukach confesses to involvement in murder of Heorhii Gongadze

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – After an international manhunt of more than five years, law enforcement authorities on July 21 arrested Oleksii Pukach, a high-ranking police officer, who immediately confessed to his involvement in the September 2000 murder of muckraking journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

During an all-night interrogation by prosecutors, Mr. Pukach offered to show authorities where Gongadze's missing head is located and to identify who ordered the killing. It's widely suspected that top government officials, particularly former President Leonid Kuchma, wanted Gongadze dead for his journalistic work.

The arrest of Mr. Pukach, who is suspected of serving as the go-between for those who ordered the murder and the killers as the Internal Affairs Ministry's criminal investigation chief, could lead to arrests among Ukraine's political elite, which has evaded responsibility for crimes throughout the decade, including such contract killings.

"Ukraine has never had a criminal prosecution of such a scale that could involve the highest government officials," said Oleksander Palii, an expert with the Foreign Policy Institute at the Foreign Affairs

Ministry. "This could lead to the largest criminal prosecution ever."

At minimum, "society will become witness to big news," President Viktor Yushchenko assured the public on July 22.

Gongadze's disappearance on September 16, 2000, and the subsequent discovery of his decapitated body, was the spark that led activists, fed up with the government's crimes and corruption, to launch the Ukraine Without Kuchma protests of 2001, also considered the precursor to the Orange Revolution.

The murdered journalist became a rallying symbol for all those opposed to the authoritarian Kuchma administration, and its investigation has resulted in more scandal and controversy.

In March 2008 three police officers were convicted of the Gongadze murder. Mykola Protasov was sentenced to 13 years in prison, while Valerii Kostenko and Oleksander Popovych each received a 12-year sentence.

However Gongadze's family wasn't satisfied with the convictions, insisting the matter wasn't resolved until the politicians who ordered his murder were brought to justice.

It was that looming possibility that may

(Continued on page 29)

Leo Mol...

(Continued from page 1)

churches of all denominations. He also prepared stained glass sketches for a synagogue.

In those early years, for income, he created porcelain figurines of baby robins, square dancers and Eskimo figures, which sold for about \$25 to \$50. These are now collectors' items worth thousands of dollars, because few want to part with the ones they own.

Mr. Mol was accomplished in painting, sketching, sculpting, pottery and stained glass. His works are in collections around the world, including many permanent gallery and museum collections in Canada, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation in Toronto, Oseredok – the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in Winnipeg and the Vatican Museum.

In addition to ordinary people, he sculpted popes, prime ministers, presidents, poets and a queen. Their bronze images stand in Winnipeg, Ottawa and other Canadian cities, Washington, Buenos Aires, Prudentopolis (Brazil), London, Munich, Rome, the Vatican and St. Petersburg.

Mr. Mol created many commissions on the anniversaries of settlement in Canada – for the Dutch, Chinese and Ukrainian communities. His large statues also adorn the lawns – and at least one condo balcony – of the wealthy throughout Winnipeg. The smaller sculptures, usually in editions of 10 or less, quickly sold out.

There was some controversy about the placement of the monument of Shevchenko in St. Petersburg, but Mr. Mol had been invited to sculpt it by a previous mayor of that city and fought determinedly to have Shevchenko stand in the city where the poet and artist lived and studied.

Mr. Mol worked in the classical, realistic style of sculpture. He once noted that fine arts students nowadays do not study anatomy – so how can they create the human body in art without that knowledge? Prominent Canadian artist Ivan Eyre “was appreciative of Leo’s knowledge of the human figure and impressed that as a pioneer he brought the knowledge of bronze casting to Manitoba,” noted the Winnipeg Free Press.



Guests stand around the famous pond at the Leo Mol Sculpture Garden at Assiniboine Park.

There is a large mosaic of the Holy Trinity on the façade over the entrance to Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Winnipeg. The Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of Ss. Vladimir and Olga in Winnipeg is adorned with Mr. Mol’s masterpiece – the series of 16 stained glass windows depicting the history of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Church. He created 80 stained glass windows in churches and institutions in Manitoba.

One of each of his works can be seen in his legacy to Winnipeg and Canada, the Leo Mol Sculpture Garden in Assiniboine Park, the largest park in the city. Mr. Mol donated his works to the city (worth \$4 million in 1992), and through the vision and perseverance of David Loch, his art dealer, and Hartley Richardson, a prominent businessman and philanthropist, the garden was established. Partners in the Park, a not-for-profit organization promoting the arts in Assiniboine Park, cares for the garden and its over 300 works of art.

There is a Ukrainian “section” of the garden, with such monuments as the smaller models of his various Shevchenkos and the Kobzar-Banduryst. The sculpture garden hosts the Leo Mol Sunday Jazz Series on Sundays in the summer, and is also available for summer weddings. This is the only out-

door sculpture garden devoted to one artist anywhere. It attracts about 250,000 visitors annually (<http://www.partnersinthepark.org/leomol.html>).

His obituary noted: “The placement of his work in the Vatican Museum of Modern Art and the establishment of the Leo Mol Sculpture Garden were two things which gave him the greatest satisfaction.” The artist could often be found in the garden, walking around, or sitting and observing the visitors, and engaging in conversations. This garden was “the dream of my life,” he said.

Mr. Mol was the recipient of many honors, including honorary doctorates from the universities of Alberta, Manitoba and Winnipeg. He received the Order of Canada and the Order of Manitoba, as well as the Order of Merit



Master of ceremonies Orysia Tracz introduces Margareth Mol to William Solomon, conductor of the Hoosli Male Chorus.

presented by the president of Ukraine. Canada Post issued a commemorative stamp with Mr. Mol’s “Lumberjacks” sculpture in June 2002.

The artist was the subject of a number of award-winning film documentaries.

Slavko Nowytski’s “Immortal Image” (1979) showed Mr. Mol creating a bust of composer Mykola Lysenko. The lost-wax method of casting bronze, from start to finish, is shown, along with Mr. Mol’s observations about the art.

“Leo Mol in Light and Shadow” by director Elise Swerhone (1994, Credo Group Ltd. and National Film Board of Canada) is biographical: “For almost 50 years, sculptor Leo Mol hid his past behind a veil of half-truth and deliberate misdirection... This emotional documentary sets the public story of his artistic success against a private drama of loss, exile and guilt.”

This misdirection in his early biographies was, as he once told this writer, “a lie” and had a purpose. He was not an “only son.” After World War II his family had been exiled to Siberia, and his father and brother were killed. His sister survived. Mr. Mol, having no knowledge of or contact with his family, was afraid for their well-being, because after the war it was not safe for Soviet citizens to have relatives abroad. This is one of the reasons he shortened his name to Leo Mol after leaving Europe.

Through a convoluted trail, his sister in Siberia found him. During the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine in 1988, one of Mr. Mol’s monuments to St. Volodymyr the Great, the ruler who brought the faith to Ukraine in 988, was erected in London, England. A photograph of that statue, with the sculptor’s full name, appeared in a Russian newspaper. Somehow Leo Mol’s

Special evening in D.C. honors the memory of Oleksa Bilaniuk

WASHINGTON – A special evening in memory of renowned physicist Oleksa-Myron P. Bilaniuk was held here on June 19 at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, D.C. The event was hosted by the Ukrainian Engineers’ Society of America, The Washington Group, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, under the patronage of the Ukrainian Embassy.

Introductory remarks were made by George Masiuk, followed by a tribute by Albert Kipa, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.

Dr. Kipa, a friend and colleague of Dr. Bilaniuk, gave a personal account of his interactions with Dr. Bilaniuk, and noted some of Dr. Bilaniuk’s personal and professional achievements and passions.

Boris Hlynsky, president of the Washington Branch of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, then gave his own brief tribute to Dr. Bilaniuk. Dr. Hlynsky’s comments were followed by a lecture given by Theodor Kostyuk titled “Is the Earth Unique? A Search for Earths in the Universe.” Dr. Kostyuk spoke on the topic of comparing planets to see if they are viable for life, a topic of great interest to the late Dr. Bilaniuk.

Dr. Kostyuk, a chair of the Washington chapters of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. and the



Albert Kipa speaks at an evening in honor of the late Oleksa Bilaniuk.

Ukrainian Engineers Society of America, and a member of the Ukrainian Astronomical Association and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, concluded his talk with a few words about how important Dr. Bilaniuk’s life work has been to physics.

He noted that John Mather, winner of the 2006 Nobel Prize in physics, had studied under Dr. Bilaniuk at Swarthmore College. Dr. Kostyuk ended his presentation by reading a memorial note from Dr. Mather in which the Nobel laureate grate-

fully acknowledges his professor’s influence on his career.

The final tribute of the evening was a rendering of Bach’s Sonata for solo violin by renowned Ukrainian violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv, a musician of whom Dr. Bilaniuk thought very highly.

At the close of the program, Dr. Larissa Bilaniuk thanked the participants and audience for a meaningful tribute to her husband. The evening concluded with a reception.

– Harriet S. Hughes

(Continued on page 10)

FOR THE RECORD

Statement by U.S. vice-president after his meeting with Ukraine's president

Following is the text of the statement by U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden after his meeting with President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine. The text was released on July 21 by the Office of the Vice-President.

Mr. President, thank you very much for your hospitality. And on behalf of President Obama, I want to express our admiration, as well as our thanks – our admiration for what you and your colleagues began in what was an inspiration to other parts of the world and your neighbors, the Orange Revolution, and also thanks for your cooperation and help in the Balkans and Iraq and Afghanistan. And I agree with you, I think we had a very productive meeting.

I come to Kyiv, Mr. President, with one simple, straightforward message that I don't want anyone to misunderstand. That is, the United States is committed to a strong, democratic and prosperous Ukraine.

Your success, Mr. President, we believe will be our success. We in the United States are trying to build a multi-partner world in which we work with like-minded countries to make common cause on common challenges. And, quite frankly, the stronger our partners, the more effective that partnership will be.

We worked together to tackle, as I referenced earlier, common security problems – threats in the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan – and we meet what President Obama and I believe is one of humanity's greatest challenges, and that is reducing nuclear arsenals and securing nuclear materiel.

We consider, Mr. President, Ukraine to be a vital European partner for advancing stability, prosperity and democracy on the continent. And the President and I agreed that the United States and Ukraine will work together in the months and years to come to strengthen the strategic partnership.

It is not for the United States to dictate what that partnership will be but to reiterate – and President Obama and I have

stated clearly that if you choose to be part of Euro-Atlantic integration, which I believe you have – that we strongly support that. We do not recognize – and I want to reiterate it – any sphere of influence. We do not recognize anyone else's right to dictate to you or any other country what alliances you will seek to belong to or what relationships, bilateral relationships, you have.

I reaffirmed to the President what I said in Munich, as I said, in the earliest days of our administration, and it's worth repeating again in a brief statement, and that is – and President Obama, I might add, made it clear in his visit to Moscow this month – the United States supports Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and freedom, and to make its own choices – its own choices – including what alliances they choose to belong.

We're working, as you know, Mr. President, to reset our relationship with Russia. But I assure you and all the Ukrainian people that it will not come at Ukraine's expense. To the contrary, I believe it can actually benefit Ukraine. The more substantive relationship we have with Moscow, the more we can defuse the zero-sum thinking about our relations with Russia's neighbors.

We also talked about many important challenges facing Ukraine today, made more difficult by the economic crisis the world is facing. And we discussed ways in which the United States can help Ukraine undertake what are obviously tough reforms needed to build its democracy and economy, and to strengthen its energy sector.

To that end, I was pleased to learn that the government has taken the final decision necessary to bring the Overseas Private Investment Corporation back to Ukraine. That will make it easier for American companies to reinvest in Ukraine, and invest in the first place, which will help both our economies in the current downturn.

I know it's hard, I know it's hard, and these are tough decisions that your gov-

ernment has to make. And I also know from experience of being in public life for a long time, it's harder to make tough decisions in election years. It's a difficult time in any democracy. I told the President what I will tell other officials with whom I'll be meeting today: that working together, especially in times of crisis, is not a choice, it's an absolute necessity. And compromise, I might add, is not a sign of weakness, it is evidence of strength.

Ukraine has come a long way in the short time since declaring independence in 1991. And Ukraine's vibrant civil society – and it is vibrant – it's engaged and

free media, as we witnessed here today – and its lively democracy show the world that Ukraine will continue on its chosen path toward a prosperous future as an integral part of Europe.

The United States, Mr. President, is committing to walking that path with Ukraine to see to it that it becomes a vital part of Europe.

And again, Mr. President, I want to thank you for your hospitality. I look forward to continuing the discussions we had today at a working-group level, and I am – confident that Ukraine's democracy will take deep root in the 21st century.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Vice-President Joe Biden's speech to the Ukrainian people

Below is the text of remarks by Vice-President Joe Biden on July 22 at the Ukraine House exhibition center in Kyiv. The event was billed as an address to the Ukrainian people.

Ladies and gentlemen, it's an honor to be here. I want to thank you for your coming today. And I want to thank the people and the government of Ukraine for their warmth and hospitality they've shown me the last two days.

It's a special honor to be here in Kyiv.

I know times are difficult for many today, but I'm inspired, and still inspired, as many Americans are, by what happened here less than five years ago. That sea of orange that flooded Independence Square, the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who poured into Kyiv demanding peacefully that their votes be counted and that their voices be heard, is something that will not be forgotten for a long, long time.

Forty years before that momentous event, the momentous events of 2004, a former president of the United States and general, Dwight D. Eisenhower, stood in the center of Washington, D.C., and unveiled a monument to a great Ukrainian poet, Shevchenko. It was 24 feet high, the statue, and it bears these words: "Dedicated to the liberation, freedom and independence of all captive nations."

Back in 1964, we looked at Shevchenko for hope because he never stopped dreaming of a free Ukraine. And 40 years later, in 2004, we saw what the power of a free people demanding justice could accomplish.

Today, Ukrainians should take pride in what they have achieved. Free and fair elections have become the norm, freedom of speech is exercised vigorously, as you're all learning and observing, and freedom of the press, as witnessed by the number of cameras that are here today, is well respected in your country.

Ukraine today is one of the most free and democratic nations in this region.

Near the end of his life, one of the authors of America's freedom, Thomas Jefferson, who is credited with writing the Declaration of Independence, wrote a letter to his old friend and political foe, John Adams – Adams had been the second president of the United States and Jefferson the third – and they were great friends but political competitors. And he wrote a letter to Adams – there was a long correspondence for decades. He wrote a letter to Adams about 35 years after our revolution. And in the letter, he said, "The generation which commences a revolution rarely completes it. The genera-

"As we reset the relationship with Russia, we reaffirm our commitment to an independent Ukraine."

tion which commences a revolution rarely completes it."

In any true democracy, freedom is the beginning, not the end. Freedom is merely the beginning, not the end. And here in Ukraine, yours is a revolution still in progress whose promise remains to be fulfilled.

More than anything else, I'm here to say this to the Ukrainian people: Ukraine, as it continues on the path to freedom, democracy and prosperity, the United States will stand by Ukraine. These are your choices, not ours. But rest assured that we stand with you as you make those choices.

The Obama administration will not waver in its support of a strong and independent Ukraine. Charting the future course of Ukraine is, of course, a decision to be made by all of you, not by anyone outside.

Based on my discussions yesterday with the bulk of your political leadership, we want for Ukraine what it appears Ukrainians want for themselves – a democratic and prosperous European nation.

My visit to Kyiv comes soon after President Obama's visit to Moscow.

As a matter of fact, they were planned simultaneously. And I know there was some speculation that our decision, as I said in a speech in Munich at the front-end of our administration – to press the reset button with Moscow – I know it created some speculations that improving relations with Russia would somehow threaten our ties with Ukraine.

Let me say this as clearly as I can. As we reset the relationship with Russia, we reaffirm our commitment to an independent Ukraine.

And we recognize no sphere of influence, or no ability of any other nation to veto the choices an independent nation makes as to with whom and under what conditions they will associate. We also do not believe in zero-sum thinking. We do not believe that a partnership with one

(Continued on page 12)

UCCA statement on eve of vice-president's trip to Kyiv

Following is the text of a statement by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America regarding the trip of Vice-President Joe Biden to Ukraine. Although the statement was dated July 15 (prior to the vice-president's trip), it was received at the editorial offices of *The Weekly* too late to be included in last week's issue. We publish it here for the record.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the representative organization of the 1.5 million Americans of Ukrainian descent, welcomes Vice-President Joe Biden's upcoming trip to Ukraine at the end of July.

During his meetings in Ukraine, the UCCA urges Vice-President Biden to work toward strengthening the U.S.-Ukraine strategic relationship with the reconstitution of the Clinton administration initiative of a presidential bilateral commission. Such a commission would, as it has already historically been proven, be productive not only in furthering the development of our bilateral relations – defined by both parties as a strategic partnership – but also in enabling both countries to maintain high-level contacts to address issues of

mutual importance and concern regularly and in a systematic fashion.

Likewise, the UCCA encourages further negotiations regarding the establishment of an American diplomatic presence in Crimea, as outlined in the Charter of Strategic Partnership and supported by the Obama administration, and trusts that progress in the establishment of such an outpost will occur.

Furthermore, to increase the mutual appreciation and enhance the understanding between our two nations, the UCCA supports increasing our people-to-people contacts and expanding our cultural, educational and professional exchange programs.

As a staunch ally of the West, Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration, democratic transition and reform processes are of critical importance to the national interests and security of the United States. The UCCA truly hopes that Vice President Biden's trip to Ukraine will confirm and enhance our support for Ukraine and that U.S. commitment for the independence, territorial integrity and inviolability of Ukraine's borders will constitute the foundation of the upcoming bilateral discussions.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Preserving Ukraine's legacy

Fortunately, Ukraine's television reporters brought to the nation's attention the murder of Ukrainian villager Valerii Oliinyk allegedly committed by Viktor Lozynskyi, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc national deputy who vanished after the Procurator General's Office filed criminal charges.

A lesser known chapter in this politician's career is that, almost a month before the murder, Mr. Lozynskyi played an instrumental role in leading the Holovanivsk Village Council to replace a "tryzub" (trident), the symbol of Ukrainian nationhood, with a hammer and sickle in the town center.

But it gets worse. Not only are statues of Soviet leaders not coming down throughout Ukraine, they're actually being restored.

In the village of Trytelnyky, Khmelnytskyi Oblast, local Communists renewed a statue of Vladimir Lenin in May, removing weeds and adding a new coat of paint. "However, the Communists don't intend to stop at cosmetic measures," declared the official website of the Communist Party of Ukraine. "This year, a total renovation of the monument is being planned with the efforts of the teaching faculty and older students."

Over in eastern Ukraine, Kharkiv is planning to name one of its new metro stations Zhovtneva (October) to mark the October Revolution that brought the Communists to power.

These are disturbing developments in post-Orange Ukraine. They demonstrate that too little has been done to inform the next generation about the genocide and spiritual destruction Communism wrought upon the Ukrainian people. Not only are Soviet monuments returning, but attempts to restore Ukraine's national heritage are being suppressed – no case being more distressing than in Poltava, where Ukrainian patriots are trying to establish a statue to Hetman Ivan Mazepa.

After endless hurdles set up by the Russophile City Council and Poltava Mayor Andrii Matkovskyi (another Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc politician), the City Council voted on July 15 to cancel its previous resolution approving the land in the city center for the statue. And the goal appears to be to scrap the project altogether.

Instead of leading the fight for Ukrainian heritage, the Tymoshenko Bloc teamed with pro-Russian forces in the Poltava region to suppress it, disregarding a presidential decree, Cabinet resolutions and agreements reached with the Poltava State Oblast Administration to unveil the Mazepa statue on August 24, Ukrainian Independence Day.

Among the reasons cited by the City Council for its change of heart are up to 10 acacia trees that would be cut down at Cathedral Square to accommodate the monument. Children were even recruited to appear on the local television station to voice such worries.

There was no mention, however, of the hundreds of trees local officials eagerly cut down throughout the city and at the Poltava Battlefield site to accommodate the 300th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Poltava held in June.

The planned Mazepa statue is already 70 percent completed thanks to the donations of hundreds of Ukrainian patriots and politicians like Viktor Baloha. Out of \$234,000 needed, \$149,000 has been raised, said Mykola Kulchynskyi, an Our Ukraine national deputy leading the effort. The 10-foot-tall bronze statue portrays a confident, broad-shouldered Mazepa, seated and holding a bulava in his right hand, as a symbol of power, and a scroll in the other, representing his political and cultural legacy.

One way or another, some time and somewhere in Poltava, that grand work of art and tribute to Ukrainian history will go up. (The Ukrainian diaspora can help ensure that happens by sending contributions to an account set up by Mr. Kulchynskyi at UkrSotsBank: Kharkiv, MFO 320984, Beneficiary Bank Account 04416150 and account number 26005710001231.)

It's certainly a sad state of affairs – harking back to the Soviet era, local government officials hate their own nation and culture so much that they won't allow public displays of their heroes and symbols. Meanwhile, earnest patriots like Mr. Kulchynskyi are desperately trying to raise funds for public tributes to Ukraine's heroes.

Establishing an impressive statue of Mazepa will send the right message to the citizens of Poltava: Your leaders might have contempt for Ukrainians and their culture, but there are enough people beyond the city and throughout the world who will fight to preserve and foster Ukraine's rich historical legacy.

FOR THE RECORD

Open letter to Obama administration from Central and Eastern Europe

Following is the text of an open letter to the Obama administration from 22 Central and East European leaders. The text of the letter, released on July 16, is reprinted from the website of the Polish newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza.

We have written this letter because, as Central and Eastern European (CEE) intellectuals and former policy-makers, we care deeply about the future of the trans-Atlantic relationship, as well as the future quality of relations between the United States and the countries of our region. We write in our personal capacity as individuals who are friends and allies of the United States as well as committed Europeans.

Our nations are deeply indebted to the United States. Many of us know firsthand how important your support for our freedom and independence was during the dark Cold War years. U.S. engagement and support was essential for the success of our democratic transitions after the Iron Curtain fell 20 years ago. Without Washington's vision and leadership, it is doubtful that we would be in NATO and even the EU [European Union] today.

We have worked to reciprocate and make this relationship a two-way street. We are Atlanticist voices within NATO and the EU. Our nations have been engaged alongside the United States in the Balkans, Iraq and today in Afghanistan. While our contribution may at times seem modest compared to your own, it is significant when measured as a percentage of our population and GDP. Having benefited from your support for liberal democracy and liberal values in the past, we have been among your strongest supporters when it comes to promoting democracy and human rights around the world.

Twenty years after the end of the Cold War, however, we see that Central and Eastern European countries are no longer at the heart of American foreign policy. As the new Obama administration sets its foreign-policy priorities, our region is one part of the world that Americans have largely stopped worrying about. Indeed, at times we have the impression that U.S. policy was so successful that many American officials have now concluded that our region is fixed once and for all and that they could "check the box" and move on to other more pressing strategic issues. Relations have been so close that many on both sides assume that the region's trans-Atlantic orientation, as well as its stability and prosperity, would last forever.

That view is premature. All is not well either in our region or in the trans-Atlantic relationship. Central and Eastern Europe is at a political crossroads, and today there is a growing sense of nervousness in the region. The global economic crisis is impacting on our region and, as elsewhere, runs the risk that our societies will look inward and be less engaged with the outside world. At the same time, storm clouds are starting to gather on the foreign policy horizon. Like you, we await the results of the EU Commission's investigation on the origins of the Russo-Georgian war. But the political impact of that war on the region has already been felt. Many countries were deeply disturbed to see the Atlantic alliance stand by as Russia violated the core principles of the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris, and the territorial integrity of a country that was a member of NATO's Partnership for Peace and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council – all in the name of defending a sphere of influence on its borders.

Despite the efforts and significant contri-

bution of the new members, NATO today seems weaker than when we joined. In many of our countries it is perceived as less and less relevant – and we feel it. Although we are full members, people question whether NATO would be willing and able to come to our defense in some future crises. Europe's dependence on Russian energy also creates concern about the cohesion of the alliance. President Obama's remark at the recent NATO summit on the need to provide credible defense plans for all alliance members was welcome, but not sufficient to allay fears about the alliance's defense readiness. Our ability to continue to sustain public support at home for our contributions to alliance missions abroad also depends on us being able to show that our own security concerns are being addressed in NATO and close cooperation with the United States.

We must also recognize that America's popularity and influence have fallen in many of our countries as well. Public opinions polls, including the German Marshall Fund's own Trans-Atlantic Trends survey, show that our region has not been immune to the wave of criticism and anti-Americanism that has swept Europe in recent years and which led to a collapse in sympathy and support for the United States during the Bush years. Some leaders in the region have paid a political price for their support of the unpopular war in Iraq. In the future they may be more careful in taking political risks to support the United States. We believe that the onset of a new administration has created a new opening to reverse this trend, but it will take time and work on both sides to make up for what we have lost.

In many ways the EU has become the major factor and institution in our lives. To many people it seems more relevant and important today than the link to the United States. To some degree it is a logical outcome of the integration of Central and Eastern Europe into the EU. Our leaders and officials spend much more time in EU meetings than in consultations with Washington, where they often struggle to attract attention or make our voices heard. The region's deeper integration in the EU is, of course, welcome and should not necessarily lead to a weakening of the trans-Atlantic relationship. The hope was that integration of Central and Eastern Europe into the EU would actually strengthen the strategic cooperation between Europe and America.

However, there is a danger that instead of being a pro-Atlantic voice in the EU, support for a more global partnership with Washington in the region might wane over time. The region does not have the tradition of assuming a more global role. Some items on the trans-Atlantic agenda, such as climate change, do not resonate in the Central and Eastern European publics to the same extent as they do in Western Europe.

Leadership change is also coming in Central and Eastern Europe. Next to those, there are fewer and fewer leaders who emerged from the revolutions of 1989 who experienced Washington's key role in securing our democratic transition and anchoring our countries in NATO and EU. A new generation of leaders is emerging who do not have these memories and follow a more "realistic" policy. At the same time, the former Communist elites, whose insistence on political and economic power significantly contributed to the crises in many CEE countries, gradually disappear from the political scene. The current political and economic turmoil and the fallout from the global eco-

(Continued on page 20)

July
29
1993

Turning the pages back...

Fifteen years ago, on July 29, 1993, John Demjanjuk was acquitted of all war crimes charges and was ordered to be set free by Israel's Supreme Court. The five Supreme Court judges said Mr. Demjanjuk was not the notorious Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible," and overturned his 1988 death sentence due to mistaken identity.

Chief Justice Meir Shamgar said that new evidence had implicated Ivan Marchenko as the brutal guard. Mr. Demjanjuk was also acquitted by the court of being a guard at other Nazi camps.

Israeli law states that a court has the discretion to convict on charges emerging during a trial on condition the accused was given a reasonable chance to defend himself. A new trial would, the judges stated, mean an extension of the hearings beyond an acceptable time limit. However, the court did find, based on the controversial Trawniki ID card, that Mr. Demjanjuk belonged to a Nazi guard unit.

After 16 years of attempting to prove his innocence, Mr. Demjanjuk's son, John Jr., commented to the Associated Press, "This nonsense should stop right now. Our family has been through hell... It would be unthinkable to say that now [...] he should be left

(Continued on page 29)

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



In the year 1939

Seventy years ago in November, my parents Alexandra ("Lesia") and Alexander ("Liunyk") were married in the Polish city of Jaroslaw. Both have long since died, so there won't be any celebration. And there will certainly not be a celebration of another, vastly more portentous anniversary that's also approaching: the August 23, 1939, Hitler-Stalin Pact that launched the second world war and, incidentally, was directly responsible for my parents' getting married when they did and where.

Lesia and Liunyk's "wedding" was not a happy one. Four people attended: the two of them, an elderly priest who performed the ceremony and a witness – some stranger, probably the cantor. She was 23; he was 24. They had gotten engaged that spring. Liunyk gave Lesia a ring, carefully following her instructions as to size, shape and form.

Like the decade that preceded it, 1939 was traumatic. In March, the tiny Carpatho-Ukraine region in Czechoslovakia declared independence. Ukrainians in Polish-administered Galicia just across the border were electrified by the news, only to be deeply disappointed days later when Hungary, acting on behalf of Nazi Germany, crushed the nascent republic.

In June, Lesia's family was shattered by the death of her father. But the real bombshell fell in August when fascist Germany and the communist Soviet Union – hitherto ideological foes seemly on a collision course – signed a non-aggression pact. Unthinkable, yet there it was.

After a bitter defeat in World War I, Germany was on the march, reoccupying the Rhineland in 1936, annexing Austria and Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland in 1938, and then early in 1939, Bohemia and Moravia. Hitler made no secret that he wanted nothing less than total control of Europe – a preposterous goal, but no more outlandish than Joseph Stalin's ambition to impose Russian-style communism over the entire world. That's why the Hitler-Stalin Pact was so stunning: two ruthless dictators with conflicting goals, agreeing to collaborate.

My father was among the first to hear the news. A student at Lviv University, he worked evenings for the populist newspaper *Dilo* (The Deed), monitoring short-wave radio broadcasts and recording the news in shorthand for the editors to use in the next day's edition.

A week after the agreement was signed, Germany invaded Poland. Two weeks after that, the Red Army invaded from the east, annexing western Ukraine. Within days, *Dilo* was shut down and the NKVD was compiling lists of Ukrainian activists to be arrested for execution or deportation. Liunyk was one of the obvious targets. He not only worked for a "bourgeois nationalist" newspaper, Polish police had arrested him in 1934 for distributing revolutionary literature for which he served two years in prison. Staying in Lviv would have been suicide. And, so along with other activists, teachers, journalists, scholars, etc. – prime targets for Soviet "liquidation" – he fled into Nazi-occupied Poland. Hundreds of thousands who didn't were either shot or deported, including my father's younger brother Slavko, whose crime was preparing to be a Catholic priest and singing in a "bourgeois nationalist choir." He died in Siberia. No one knows how or when – just that he died, like millions of others.

Both Stalin and Hitler were strategic

thinkers, brilliant organizers and social engineers who acted on a genocidal scale. For them, mass murder was one of the tools of statecraft to hasten their respective visions of a utopian society or a master race.

When my father left Lviv, Lesia, who had stuck with him when he had been a political prisoner, joined him, linking her fate to his with that lonely exchange of vows 10 miles from the new border dividing their home in Ukraine from exile in Poland. It could have just as easily been 10,000.

Did they ever imagine on their wedding day that six years later Europe would be utterly shattered with tens of millions killed? That they would be in a refugee camp in Austria; for their 10th anniversary, they'd be living in a tenement in Philadelphia and for their 20th in a working-class neighborhood in Cleveland? That they would send three boys to college in America and would eventually be buried, side by side in a cemetery in Parma, Ohio? Of course not.

Like their compatriots, they expected their exile to Poland to be temporary. But then, two years after agreeing to cooperate, Hitler and Stalin faced off in a conflict more horrendous than the world had ever seen. There was the hope that the two tyrants would destroy each other and an independent Ukraine would emerge from the ruins. But history takes its own course and, to survive, individuals accommodate themselves to the reality of armies advancing and retreating, with borders and politics changing in the process. And so Stalin won and Hitler lost. Tyranny prevailed.

But history also delivers unintended consequences with hidden time bombs. One of the biggest was the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), which had taken on the impossible mission of opposing both Hitler and Stalin. Defeated on the battlefield, its surviving warriors were shipped to the gulag where they continued their struggle, this time against the gulag itself. No less an authority than Alexander Solzhenitsyn credits them with bringing down Stalin's slave system. As for my parents and thousands of exiles like them, their fervor for Ukraine helped to shape their adopted countries' Cold War attitudes and policies, contributing significantly to the eventual defeat and collapse of the Soviet Union.

In November, my brothers and I will certainly stop to remember our parents. Russia will almost certainly not reflect on Stalin's collaboration with Hitler. In fact, President Dmitry Medvedev announced the creation of a Historical Truth Commission: its unstated mission is to enforce an airbrushed version of history that celebrates the Soviet triumph over Nazi Germany, but does not acknowledge Soviet complicity in starting the war in the first place, let alone apologize for it. Unlike Germany, which has long since disavowed Hitler and disdained territorial claims beyond its current borders, Russia still promotes Stalin as a hero and "effective manager," and arrogates influence over its "near abroad," basically the same policy agreed to 70 years ago. Too bad. The world has moved on since 1939. It's time Russia also joined the 21st century.

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Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Lost without a trace!

My first visit to Ukraine was with my dad in 1963. It was an unforgettable journey. At long last I was in that "mythical" region of the world called "Ukraine," a land I had heard about since childhood. I pinched myself. Meeting close relatives for the first time, rubbing elbows with "real Ukrainians," wow. Unbelievable!

Intourist had planned every minute of every day with excursions to museums, parks, factories and the like. All were expected to follow the itinerary. Not me. I wanted to meet and greet people, to observe the behavior of those "exotic" creatures living in Soviet Ukraine.

One morning I was sitting on a park bench in front of the Lviv Opera House, observing. It was a pleasant summer day. I watched as adults rushed to work and children played. I recall thinking that people in Ukraine seemed little different from Americans. I scrutinized faces, hoping I could spot "nationalists" by their expressions. Dumb!

I hardly noticed when an elderly gentleman sat down near me. Looking around furtively, he began to speak in Ukrainian. "You're a Canadian," he said.

"No," I replied. "I'm an American."

He seemed surprised. "We don't see many Americans around here," he said. "Are you a progressive?"

"No," I answered, "I'm not a Communist if that's what you mean." He remained quiet for a time.

"I'm a Canadian," he began, speaking quickly. "I shouldn't be talking to you but I'm too old to care. You must hear my story to warn others of what happens when one believes the Soviets."

His story was a sad one. It began in Winnipeg where he had lived much of his life. His wife of many years had died, he had no children, and he was lonely. The Ukrainian Canadian Communist newspaper was running ads and articles urging Ukrainian elderly to "return to the homeland," to "Batkivschyna," to live "free and prosperous," to die in Ukraine and be buried in the "warm native soil," not in some cold, foreign land.

"I believed," the man told me. "I sold all my property and bought a one-way ticket to Kyiv. I received a royal welcome when I arrived, both in Kyiv and Lviv. I was interviewed and I said some foolish things about how "bad" life was in Canada. The newspapers made much of all of this. The authorities took my passport and all of my cash, 'so I wouldn't worry,' they explained."

For a while, all went well. He was placed in a four-room apartment. Rent was paid out of the money he had given the authorities. Change came within a few months, however. A city official asked him if he was lonely, suggesting he needed a roommate to keep him company. The old man protested but to no avail. In time he had not one, but three roommates to keep him company.

"They have all my money and give me a monthly pension to live on," he exclaimed. "They won't return my passport or give me a visa so I can't leave. They told me that I am now a Soviet citizen. Please tell our people in America not to be fooled by the Soviets," he pleaded. "They lie about everything."

When he had finished, he looked around slowly, stood up and walked away.

I was reminded of all of this while

reading "The Forsaken: An American Tragedy in Stalin's Russia." Written by Tim Tzouliadis, it's the tragic true story of Americans who emigrated to the Soviet Union during the Great Depression. Some were true socialist believers eager to build a new world. Most were ordinary Americans looking for employment.

The book haunted me for days. It's a horrific story of honest, hard-working Americans from all over the country, either executed or sent to slave labor camps during Stalin's Great Terror. They were America's forsaken.

It's also the disturbing story of State Department depravity. Accepting the Soviet contention that Americans became naturalized Soviet citizens the instant they stepped on Soviet soil, American Embassy officials refused to assist Americans wishing to return. Embassy officials knew about the disappearance of Americans as early as 1934, but ignored pleas for assistance and even collaborated with the Soviets in turning over fellow Americans to the NKVD.

One also learns of the repulsive, pro-Stalin behavior of U.S. Ambassador Joseph Davies who purchased pre-revolutionary Russian art and jewelry at bargain-basement prices. Millionaire Andrew Mellon, in charge of FDR's economic policy with the USSR, was another beneficiary of Soviet thievery, picking up classic paintings for a pittance.

Mr. Tzouliadis describes Walter Duranty who "spent long hours briefing" president-elect Roosevelt on "the Soviet experiment," convincing FDR that the Soviet Constitution reflected true Soviet life. President Roosevelt ignored all information to the contrary and "set out to persuade the American public that Stalin's regime was at the forefront of 'peace and democracy in the world.'"

Other facts about FDR emerge in the book. "Late in November, 1941," FDR told his first ambassador to the USSR to avoid traveling across the Pacific because "I am expecting the Japs to attack any time now, probably within the next three or four days." So much for the "surprise" of Pearl Harbor. FDR also knew the Soviets operated slave labor camps, and that the Katyn Forest murder of Polish officers was a Soviet enterprise.

Read the book and learn why thousands of Americans who moved to the USSR never lived to tell their story. The Ukrainian Canadian I met in Lviv back in 1963 was lucky. He did live. He told his story. I've been back to Lviv many times. The park bench is still there.

MEA CULPA: I wish to apologize to the gracious Lydia Tkaczuk for not mentioning her in my last column. As the vice-president of the Ukrainian National Museum, Ms. Tkaczuk was the prime mover behind "Snapshot Chicago." I also forgot to mention Irene Gajecy, who led the student tour of the museum. I ask their forgiveness.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Who is naive: Obama or Sarkozy?

Dear Editor:

French President Nicolas Sarkozy's condescending remark that "Mr. Obama is naive," cited by Victor Babanskyj to justify his and Myron Kuropas' antipathy to President Barack Obama ("Congratulations to Myron Kuropas," July 12), is ironic given Mr. Sarkozy's deferential attitude toward Moscow and his role in blocking NATO Membership Action Plans for Georgia and Ukraine last year.

In a major speech in Moscow recently, President Obama told Russia's leaders that they must respect the sovereignty of their neighbors, Georgia and Ukraine. So, who is naive: President Obama or President Sarkozy?

Walter Iwaskiw
Arlington, Va.

Others share views of Kuropas

Dear Editor:

In her recent letter to The Ukrainian Weekly (July 12), Maria Proskurenko, who very actively supported the benighted Barack Obama's campaign for the presidency, asks whether there are any "other Ukrainian American Republicans respectful of the two-party system who could share their conservative views" ... other than Dr. Kuropas.

The answer, Ms. Proskurenko, is that there are lots and lots of them, but that they all share his disdain for Mr. Obama and his policies. The problem is not in Dr. Kuropas – whom you would, in true Stalinist fashion, love to censor – but in your acknowledgment that you read only the first two paragraphs of his articles.

I strongly doubt whether you would (or have) read more than the first two paragraphs written by any other Republican with conservative views. However, if you really want to educate yourself, you may want to start with Mark Levin's "Liberty and Tyranny: a Conservative Manifesto." It's been a New York Times best seller for the last four months. In fact, you'll find many of Dr. Kuropas' views clarified in that book.

George Woloshyn
Linden, Va.

Rational discussion or hateful 'agitatsia'?

Dear Editor:

If the "Faces and Places" column by Myron B. Kuropas of June 28 is an example of what free speech has come to in the United States, I share the author's concern about America's future.

That Kuropas column regrettably wallows in tasteless and mean-spirited innuendo – "Obama seems to believe that America is a diseased, depraved nation in need of major surgery;" "Obama seems to think that American prosperity is the result of oppression of the downtrodden at home and the exploitation of others

abroad;" "[Obama] joyfully accepts anti-American books;" "[Obama] listens intently to offensive [Marxist] rants;" "[Obama's] old 'hood remains one of the most destitute gang dominated sections of Chicago," and "[Obama] fell in with Chicago's political machine."

And there's this twisted insinuation of cultural subversion: "[Obama] has begun to replace historic White House paintings with more 'contemporary' art."

Not stopping at mere insinuation and innuendo, this column's extraordinary character assassination ramps up racial and radical and religious heat by recycling the moral nadir of the Extreme Right's recent campaign rhetoric – readers are reminded of President Barack Obama's middle name and Jeremiah Wright and Bill Ayers, and told "that's our president's pedigree." And "[Obama] may not be a product of America," "Obama is a product of his origins and his time. Recall his lineage. His was a broken home. His Kenyan father, a Muslim, left his mother, a white liberal." To further unleash racial tension, the column specifically notes "his [Obama's] white grandmother."

So this is what the First Amendment has come to in the author's America? This is an answer to the author's own question – "what kind of America will it be?"

Rational discussions of political differences are always welcomed in America, but when those discussions degenerate into vicious character assassinations, reasonable discussion ends in a sorry sewer of hateful "agitatsia."

Here in Ukraine, publication of offensive slander and character assassination of the Ukrainian president, prime minister or other politicians produces lawsuits for wrongdoing; by contrast, American libel law is more forgiving of those who assault "public figures" in print, but it is nonetheless expected that newspapers and their columnists will behave responsibly with civility and decency, and without malicious defamation.

It is surprising and disappointing to see The Ukrainian Weekly's enabling malpractice in providing ink for this savage sophistry; it is even more disappointing to see the readership's indifferent tolerance of that column's shameful slander, which can only again embarrass the Ukrainian American diaspora.

Weldon T. Johnson
Kyiv

The continuing Demjanjuk fiasco

Dear Editor:

The ongoing John Demjanjuk fiasco resembles a circus with clowns as actors. In the beginning – the 1970s – there were "clowns" from the United States, Israel and the Soviet Union, shamelessly acting sometimes in unison and sometimes as adversaries. They were ready to sacrifice an innocuous and innocent human being on the worldwide altar of justice during a show trial in Israel in which they tried Mr. Demjanjuk as "Ivan the Terrible" for killing 800,000 Jews during World War II at the Treblinka death camp in Poland. The story included kangaroo courts, false witnesses, inferior judges and attorneys, lies and falsifications. The Israeli Supreme Court overturned the guilty verdict of the lower Israeli court and returned Mr. Demjanjuk to the U.S. where his citizenship and social security pension were restored.

To everyone's relief, it appeared as if the

Demjanjuk circus might finally be over. However, it was too good to be true. Now another tent is being erected in Germany for a revival of the Demjanjuk circus. Is it Germany this time that wants to have a piece of the action and a depiction of being "thorough and vigilant" about prosecuting Nazi war crimes? This time Mr. Demjanjuk is being prepared for a trial in Germany for being as accessory to the deaths of nearly 29,000 during World War II at the Sobibor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland. German Nazi war criminals are protected against further trials by the statute of limitations in Germany, but Mr. Demjanjuk is not.

Responding to this turn of events, Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU), a defender of Mr. Demjanjuk since 1985, has written close to 100 letters to officials in several governments (the United States, Ukraine and Germany), appealing for understanding mercy and a resolution to this inhumane case. Months have gone by with no replies. Could it be that members of these governments are so busy that they cannot find time to answer? Or perhaps they are not fully informed about this case.

What about the members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and others in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate? They find the time to issue non-binding and non-controversial resolutions, but when it comes to this bizarre case of injustice their silence is deafening.

Bozhena Olshaniwsky
Newark, N.J.

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

Thanks for editorial about credit unions

Dear Editor:

What a pleasant surprise it was to read your editorial "Our credit unions" in the July 12 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly. It certainly follows that being a member of an Ukrainian American credit union benefits not only the individual member, but the community at large.

It is not often our credit unions are acknowledged for their donations and support. Thank you so very much for recognizing their contributions and urging your readers to become credit union members!

Orysia Burdiak
Chicago

*The letter-writer is president of the
Ukrainian National Credit Union
Association.*

We welcome your opinion

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

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

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

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Vice-President Biden...

(Continued from page 1)

St. Michael and St. Sophia Squares.

On the day of Mr. Biden's arrival, Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur briefed the press, revealing that among the candidates to become U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine is John Tefft, a career foreign service officer who is completing a three-year term as ambassador to Georgia.

It wasn't until the next morning on July 21 that Mr. Biden began a series of negotiations.

The president's diplomatic team was led by National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) Chair Raisa Bohatyriova, NSDC First Deputy Secretary Volodymyr Ohryzko, Presidential Secretariat Chair Vira Ulianchenko, and Dr. Shamshur, whose designation as the new foreign affairs minister has yet to be acted upon by Parliament.

At an afternoon press conference, President Yushchenko said he and the U.S. vice-president discussed the need for "radical reforms" in the energy sector and modernizing Ukraine's natural gas transit system to involve "as many international creditors and investors," including those from the U.S.

They discussed their cooperation in improving the safety of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, their participation in global initiatives to improve energy and nuclear safety and Ukraine's integration in European projects to buy oil and natural gas from "traditional and non-traditional regions of supply," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Specifically, the two leaders discussed the European Oil Transit Corridor (EOTC) project that would transport oil from the Caspian Sea basin through the Odesa-Brody pipeline into Europe, bypassing Russia.

"If we carry out the necessary reforms, I am convinced that Ukraine will have the ability to not only make its energy politically independent, but to also secure prosperous economic development," President Yushchenko said.

The two leaders decided to convene at year's end a bilateral working group on energy and security, said Mr. Yushchenko, also noting that Ukraine's first annual, national program on security would be introduced within days.

The Ukrainian president also asked the U.S. to not allow spheres of foreign influence to form, at the expense of Ukrainian interests, as it resets its relations with Russia. Mr. Biden's remarks in response, broadcast live on television, assured the Ukrainian public that wouldn't happen.

"The more substantive relationship we have with Moscow, the more we can defuse the zero-sum thinking about our relations with Russia's neighbors," the vice-president said.

Such remarks were duly noted by the Russian Foreign Ministry, whose spokesman Andrei Nesterenko acknowledged that government authorities would closely monitor Mr. Biden's visit.

Former Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin visited Kyiv on July 22, stating that Ukraine doesn't have a role to play in U.S.-Russian relations.

"Our relations with the U.S. are our relations," he said. "Ukraine doesn't have any relationship to this. We have our own problems, our programs with the U.S."

Mr. Biden lauded the Cabinet of Ministers for passing on July 17 the last resolution needed to bring the Overseas Private Investment Corp. (OPIC) back to Ukraine, which is critical in providing businessmen with political risk insurance, as well as assisting in investment ventures.

"We're closer than we've been in the last 10 years," said Morgan Williams, director of government affairs for the SigmaBleyzer venture capital firm. "It's



Danylo Peleschuk

Vice-President Joe Biden speaks on July 22 to the American Chamber of Commerce in Kyiv.

very good news and it's very possible that within a couple of months, we can get OPIC open for Ukraine, but it's not a done deal yet."

Following their press conference, the two leaders embarked for the newly constructed Candle of Memory Holodomor Victims Memorial near the Kyivan Caves Monastery, where they placed wreaths and chatted with the public.

President Yushchenko then invited Vice-President Biden to a nearby Irish pub, where they drank Coca-Colas and the Ukrainian leader shared his passion for Ukrainian church architecture.

However, Mr. Biden's interests with piqued by a different aspect of Ukraine, noting the country has "the most beautiful women in the world, that's my observation." That became his latest off-the-cuff remark to make headlines.

In his meetings later that day with Ukraine's political leaders, Mr. Biden urged them all to work together, which he said is an "absolute necessity" in times of crisis.

Vice-President Biden and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko spent more than an hour in discussions, longer than planned, the 1+1 television network reported.

The U.S. delegation included National Security Council (NSC) Senior Director for Russian and Eurasian Affairs Michael McFaul, NSC Director for European Affairs Kristina Kvien, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia and Eurasia Celeste Wallander, and NSC Senior Director for International Economics David Lipton.

They met with Vice Prime Minister for Euro-Integration Hryhoriy Nemyria, Economy Minister Bohdan Danylyshyn, Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Prodan and Ambassador Shamshur.

When meeting with Mr. Yanukovich, opposition leader and presidential front-runner, Mr. Biden immediately set the tone for a relaxed discussion when joking, "Is it possible that I'm meeting with the next president of Ukraine?"



Danylo Peleschuk

Vice-President Joe Biden meets with Verkhovna Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn in one of the Parliament's meeting halls.

"If only God can hear your words," Mr. Yanukovich replied.

"God doesn't listen to them too often," replied Mr. Biden.

In their discussion, Mr. Biden repeated one of his key messages to Ukraine – that the U.S. improving relations with Russia is also good for Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Mr. Yatsenyuk said he and Mr. Biden focused their meeting on the global economic crisis and the need for renewed Russian-Ukrainian relations, and avoided discussing the presidential election or NATO.

"Very shortly we arrived at Ukrainian-Russian relations," Mr. Yatsenyuk said. "We need a new agenda for Ukrainian-Russian relations, and I briefly expressed my view on that agenda."

The next morning, Mr. Biden shared a working breakfast with President Yushchenko, First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko, Ms. Ulianchenko, the vice-president's National Security Advisor Tony Blinken and U.S. Embassy to Ukraine Chargé d'Affaires James Pettit.

They enjoyed varenyky, black caviar sandwiches and assorted French cheeses, and discussed activating a bilateral political dialogue, the new U.S.-Russia relationship, and strengthening energy cooperation and Ukraine's energy security.

That morning, Mr. Biden addressed more than 300 members of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Ukrainian government officials, invoking the image of President Dwight D. Eisenhower unveiling the statue of the "great Ukrainian poet" Taras Shevchenko in Washington in 1964.

"It was 24 feet high, the statue, and it bears these words: 'Dedicated to the liberation, freedom and independence of all captive nations,'" Mr. Biden said.

"Back in 1964, we looked at Shevchenko for hope because he never stopped dreaming of a free Ukraine. And 40 years later in 2004, we saw what the power of a free people demanding justice could accomplish. Today, Ukrainians should take pride in what they have achieved."

(Continued on page 28)

Ukrainian Americans attend New Jersey campaign events



Corzine 09 Press

HOLMDEL, N.J. – Ukrainian Americans were among the capacity crowd of 17,500 that attended New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine's re-election rally with President Barack Obama at the PNC Bank Arts Center here on July 16. In the photo above, Michael Koziupa, president of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine and second vice-president of the Ukrainian National Association, is seen in the background wearing an embroidered Ukrainian shirt. Earlier, on June 2, Ukrainian American community representatives – among them Camilla Huk Masier, Mr. Koziupa, Roma Lisovich (treasurer of the UNA), John Burtyk, Bozhena Olshaniwsky, Ihor Laszok and Yaroslav Zaviysky – attended the Corzine campaign's kick-off rally at the Richard J. Codey Arena in West Orange, where Vice-President Joe Biden was the main speaker. Ms. Masier, who is a member of two councils advising the governor – the Ethnic Advisory Council and the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policies, noted: "I had an opportunity to speak with Vice-President Biden, just about a minute, to remind him how much our community would like the president to visit Ukraine, especially at this time, and how much the support of our government would mean to them."



Dear Readers!

The Ukrainian Weekly is accepting greetings on the occasion of the

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Leo Mol...

(Continued from page 4)

sister saw the newspaper, and began a search for him through the Red Cross.

Once she located him, he made plans to see her. But because of the coup and the risks involved, travel to the Russian Federation was prohibited by Canadian authorities. Even though Mr. Mol already had tickets for August, he did not see his sister until September 1991. Afterwards, he brought her and her granddaughter to Winnipeg for a visit. Later, he and his wife sponsored their grand-niece, a doctor, to Canada, where she re-qualified and is now practicing.

The artist was a modest and generous man. He was happy to donate his works to charity fund-raising events. This writer, a member of the Winnipeg Library Foundation, asked if he would donate something for the inaugural fund-raising ball and auction, and he removed a framed drawing off his wall and gave it to me.

At events where he was the featured guest, he often walked up to people and introduced himself, as if they did not know who he was.

A celebration of his life

The internationally renowned artist's death generated a genuine outpouring of admiration and grief. The local media carried it as the lead story on the television news and on the front pages of the newspapers.

The comments to online information demonstrated how genuinely beloved he and his works are. "...The art world has lost a rare gem. His wonderful memory will be perpetuated through his works he generously donated to the city." – Dr. Morry A. J. Schwartz, letter to the editor, Winnipeg Free Press, July 8, 2009.

"My wife and I visited Assiniboine Park on Sunday. ... to the English Garden and Leo Mol's refuge are regularly visited by us as it is so peaceful and beautiful there. I recall thinking yesterday that this represented the best of humanity, in stark contrast to so much of what is in the news these days. It was beautiful and quiet. People were everywhere from every background and ethnicity peacefully enjoying the good things here.

The guest book showed that people from all over the world came here and marveled at what Leo Mol and our Creator gave us. Leo Mol left a very wonderful footprint in Winnipeg. RIP." – ZipVadar, CBC Winnipeg website, July 6, 2009.

A celebration of his life took place in his sculpture garden on Monday, July 13, at 7 p.m. This was probably the only obituary that said "Standing room only, please bring a lawn chair." And people did – approximately 700 of them according to a report in the Winnipeg Free Press.

With Orysia Tracz as the presider, the ceremony included comments by Premier Garry Doer of Manitoba, and an appreciation of Mr. Mol's life by Murray Gibson, a close family friend.

Premier Doer said: "I believe tonight, as we offer our condolences and we commemorate the life of Leo Mol, we are in the most beautiful place in all of Canada. A beautiful place that has been created with its natural beauty by God, and its artistic and creative beauty by Leo Mol."

Archbishop-Metropolitan Emeritus Michael Bzdel officiated at the panakhyda (memorial service), with the Hoosli Ukrainian Male Chorus, directed by William Solomon, singing.

In attendance were Bishop Andriy, auxiliary bishop to the metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada; Archbishop-Metropolitan Lawrence Huculak for Ukrainian Catholics in Canada; and Archbishop-Metropolitan Steven Soroka for Ukrainian Catholics in the United States; as well as many priests and nuns.

Among the dignitaries were Lieutenant Governor John Harvard and Mayor Sam Katz of Winnipeg.

Hoosli also sang a few liturgical songs at the beginning of the ceremony, and concluded the memorial service with "Zhuravli" (The Cranes) by Bohdan Lepky. Mrs. Mol personally thanked the director and the chorus members for their moving and beautiful singing. All were invited to the pavilion of the park for refreshments afterwards.

A private burial was scheduled, and on August 12, on the 40th day after his passing, there will be a service at 7 p.m. in the Cathedral of Ss. Vladimir and Olga in Winnipeg.

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Oleh Mahlay - former Artistic Director and Conductor of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus. During his twelve year tenure the ensemble performed in seven countries and released six recordings, including a critically acclaimed Divine Liturgy. Prior to this post, Mr. Mahlay was the conductor of the St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in music history and literature from Case Western Reserve University and is on the faculty of the Hryhory Kytasty School of Bandura. Mr. Mahlay will be conducting the rehearsals and leading the listening lectures during this course.

Rev. Protodeacon Dr. Ihor Mahlay - St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Parma, Ohio. Father Deacon Mahlay completed Theological studies with the St. Stephen's Theological Program. He is involved with various Ministries of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. A frequent lecturer on topics dealing with the Church, Deacon Mahlay will present lectures and lead discussions at this course. He has been involved with Ukrainian sacred music and church choir conducting for over 30 years. Deacon Mahlay has previously performed with the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and is presently the administrator of the Hryhory Kytasty School of Bandura in Parma, Ohio.

CONTACTS

Anatoli Murha, Kobzarska Sich Administrator (734.658.6452) / KS@bandura.org
Rev. Deacon Ihor Mahlay (440.582.1051) / imahlay@yahoo.com

To download the registration form, please visit www.bandura.org/bandura_school.htm



New book honors work of philanthropists Peter and Doris Kule

EDMONTON, Alberta – Peter and Doris Kule, exceptional individuals who have influenced the course of Canadian higher education, were honored on July 2 with the presentation of a book dedicated to them and their work.

Titled “Champions of Philanthropy: Peter and Doris Kule and the Endowments,” the book was edited by Serge Cipko and Natalie Kononenko. The two editors made the presentation.

Also present were Kule family members Nick and Josephine Kuleba, Ken and Debbie Pasnak, Christine Enns and Richard Turner, Peter Radesh and Audrey Manuel, the spouses of the two editors, Jacqueline Tait and Peter Holloway, and Anna Biscoe and Catherine Szabo, who represented the Faculty of Arts at the University of Alberta.

The book dedicated to the Kules gives their biographies and chronicles their contributions to Canadian higher education. Mr. Kule, a retired accountant, came to Canada as a young man of 18. He quickly learned English and used his remarkable aptitude for mathematics to begin studying for a career in accounting. Enterprising, resourceful and exceptionally innovative, he not only mastered his chosen field, becoming a trusted and admired accountant, but also learned from

everything he did.

He turned his experiences working as a busboy, a part-time job he held to support himself, into a second career as an enormously successful real estate investor in the hospitality industry.

Boundlessly energetic and dedicated to the Ukrainian community, Mr. Kule helped found the Ukrainian Professional and Businessman’s Club in Edmonton and began volunteer work early, offering free accounting services to many organizations.

Mrs. Kule was born east of Edmonton in Boian, Alberta. As energetic as her husband, she was an award-winning athlete, a craftsperson, a gardener and a person who deeply loved education. After earning her degree in teaching, she worked in several rural schools and then in Beverly, which later became part of Edmonton.

Together with her husband, Mrs. Kule engaged in a variety of volunteer activities, especially through the Ukrainian Catholic Women’s League of Canada at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Edmonton.

As the book attests, the Kules have not only led exemplary lives, these have been major supporters of higher education, endowing chairs and providing other forms of support to the University of



At the book launch for “Champions of Philanthropy: Peter and Doris Kule and the Endowments,” (from left) are: Nick Kuleba, Josephine Kuleba, Peter Radesh, Audrey Manuel, Natalie Kononenko, Peter Holloway and Serge Cipko; seated are Peter and Doris Kule.

Alberta, to Grant MacEwan University in Edmonton, to the University of Ottawa and St. Paul University in Ottawa.

A formal launch for “Champions of Philanthropy: Peter and Doris Kule and

the Endowments” is planned for the fall. It will be hosted by the University of Alberta and all contributors to the book, as well as family and friends, will be invited to attend.

Australian cross-country runner to raise funds for CCRDF

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Australian Steven Marlborough has been in Ukraine for only nine months but he’s already doing his part to make a positive difference.

The cross-country runner is flying to France to race in the Courchevel Xtrail 2009 on August 8 to help the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF) raise funds to buy an urgently needed respirator unit for the Volyn Regional Children’s Medical Hospital.

The 30 K (18.6 miles) course crosses mountains and ski slopes, two kilometers (6,560 feet) of which is elevation gains and losses.

“I may need to use that respirator unit myself,” quipped Mr. Marlborough, 41, who has prepared by completing a 28-kilometer run in Austria the weekend of June 28. So far, Mr. Marlborough has raised \$1,317 of the \$18,000 needed. Donations can be made by visiting the CCRDF web-

site, or <http://www.firstgiving.com/steven-marlborough>.

“Some have donated just for running, others have done it per kilometer, other friends are doing it hoping I will be injured, and they’re sponsoring me per injury,” said Mr. Marlborough, an employee of Shell Ukraine.

This year’s run by Mr. Marlborough is a prelude to his goal for 2010: the Gore-Tex Transalpine Run, which involves eight days of running through four European countries in the Alps for 35 kilometers (21.7 miles) each day, including elevation gains and losses of more than two kilometers each day.

The race is run in pairs within two minutes of each other, and Mr. Marlborough’s partner got injured this year, postponing their effort until next year.

Alexa Milanych, CCRDF country director for Ukraine, said of Mr. Marlborough: “He immediately became one of our biggest supporters and helped us out on several projects. This is his way to give back with his talent and skill.”



Steven Marlborough with his wife, Andrea, in Kyiv.

Canada Post releases stamp featuring Vegreville pysanka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The influence of Ukrainians on Canadian culture was once again acknowledged on July 6 when Canada Post issued a postage stamp featuring the world’s largest pysanka, located in Vegreville, Alberta.

The pysanka, or Ukrainian Easter egg, is on display at the entrance to Elk Island National Park. It was officially unveiled on July 28, 1975, in commemoration of the centennial of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The pysanka weighs 5,000 pounds and towers 31 feet above the ground, and was designed by Prof. Ronald Resch of the University of Utah.

The stamp featuring this enormous tribute to Ukrainian culture, as well as to Canadian law enforcement, is part of a series called Roadside Attractions. The series, which will be available through September, is designed to showcase monuments that “capture

the spirit of small-town Canada,” according to Canada Post.

In addition to the pysanka, three other man-made attractions are featured in this set: the giant log man, Mr. PG, in Prince George, British Columbia; the over 64,000 signs which make up the Watson Lake Signpost Forest in Watson Lake, Yukon; and Inukshuk, a symbol of the 1978 Arctic Winter Games found in the Northwest Territory. Over the next two years, two more sets of four stamps will be issued featuring different roadside attractions.

A souvenir sheet of four of this series is \$2.16 Canadian and a booklet of eight stamps is \$4.32. Readers may purchase either product by downloading the order from at <http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mr/assets/pdf/personal/productlisting.pdf> or by calling 1-800-565-4362 (in Canada).

– Tyrssa Korduba



Vegreville’s famous giant pysanka.

Vice-President...

(Continued from page 5)

nation must come at the expense of another. It has not. It does not, and it will not.

As I said, referencing the Munich Security Conference just weeks after taking office, it holds true again – I want to re-emphasize it. We reject the notion of spheres of influence as 19th century ideas that have no place in the 21st century. And we stand by the principle that sovereign states have a right to make their own decisions, to chart their own foreign policy, to choose their own alliances.

President Obama, in his speech in Moscow two weeks ago, strongly affirmed this principle. He said, and I quote, “State sovereignty must be the cornerstone of international order. Just as all states should have the right to choose their leaders, states must have the right to borders that are secure and to their own foreign policies. Any system that cedes those rights will lead to anarchy. That is why this principle must apply to all nations, including Ukraine.”

We also re-affirmed the security assurances that the United States, Russia and the United Kingdom provided Ukraine in the 1994 Budapest Memorandum.

Our commitment to Ukraine is evidenced through our aid program – \$120 million this year to bolster peace and security, strengthen democratic institutions, promote economic growth, modernize your military, secure Chernobyl, fight AIDS and HIV, and improve child health.

We also strongly supported, and continue to support, the IMF’s decision to provide \$16 billion to help Ukraine make it through what is an incredibly difficult time as a consequence of a worldwide recession.

We have worked with Ukraine to transform your military, so that you can protect your homeland and contribute to global security. Young Ukrainian officers have studied in our military academies. American officers have come here to take part in education, training, planning, and organization and exercises. And we’re grateful to Ukraine for its contributions to international security. Ukraine’s armed forces have been committed peacekeepers from the Balkans to Iraq, even as far afield as Liberia.

And we mourn – we mourn along with you – the six Ukrainians who perished in last week’s helicopter crash in Afghanistan. We have, unfortunately, significant experience in mourning.

Ukraine has also been a leader in what President Obama and I believe is our greatest security challenge – the greatest security challenge that is facing the world – and that is reducing the world’s arsenal of nuclear weapons, renewing the non-proliferation system and securing vulnerable nuclear fissile material.

Last December, the United States and Ukraine agreed to a Charter on Strategic Partnership. And today, your president and I agreed that the U.S. and Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission would begin meeting this fall in Washington to deepen our cooperation in areas of security, economy, trade, energy and the rule of law.

The United States also supports Ukraine’s deepening ties to NATO and to

the European Union. But again, we recognize they are your decisions, your choices, not ours, whether you choose the EU or seek to, or NATO. We recognize that how far and how fast to proceed on your choices is, again, a uniquely Ukrainian choice – it is not ours.

The United States does not seek a sphere of influence. We are trying to build a multi-polar world, in which like-minded nations make common cause of our common challenges – the stronger our partners, the more effective our partnerships.

And in that spirit of partnership, I’m also here to offer my honest opinion. Friendship requires honesty. And the honest truth is that the great promise of 2004 has yet to be fully realized. Again, if the poet Shevchenko were here today, what would he be writing? What would he write about this moment? I’m sure he would be heralding the openness and pluralism, the freedom of the press – a model for your neighbors. I’m sure he would take pride in Ukraine’s vibrant civil society and marvel at your competitive elections.

And to those cynics who have asserted for centuries that this part of the world could never practice democracy because its culture and values are different, Ukraine today stands as resolute rebuttal to that centuries old assertion.

But I think he would also be wondering why the government was not exhibiting the same political maturity as the people, why communications among leaders has broken down to such an extent that political posturing appears to prevent progress.

Especially now, especially in difficult economic times, Ukraine, in my humble opinion, must heed the lessons of history – effective, accountable government is the only way to provide a stable, predictable and transparent environment that attracts investment, which is the economic engine of development. That’s why this Chamber of Commerce, I suspect, exists.

Functioning democracies are more capable of committing to and implementing economic reforms, sometimes even painful reforms that are necessary to stimulate economic recovery and economic growth. And I would note parenthetically, can you name me a place where democracy has flourished where the economic system has failed?

Mature democracies survive because they develop institutions such as a free press, a truly independent court system, an effective legislature – all of which serve as a check on the corruption that fuels the cynicism and limits growth in any country, including yours. And in a democracy, compromise is not a sign of weakness; it is evidence of strength.

In my meetings yesterday, there was a clear recognition that much work remains to be done to make Ukraine more competitive and attractive to investors, from reforming your tax code to acting against corruption.

The path to renewed prosperity runs through the International Monetary Fund, which is offering now a way out of the current crisis. But, as you might guess, there are strings attached. My mother says, out of every crisis comes an opportunity. This may be your opportunity.

The fund requires that your government, and your government agreed to critical reforms to cut the budget deficit,

“We do not believe that a partnership with one nation must come at the expense of another. It has not. It does not, and it will not.”

revive a striving banking system, and phase out energy subsidies, which I know from experience is a very difficult thing to do. Carrying out this agreement requires very hard choices and tough action, but it will help put you on the road to growth and competitiveness.

And as a politician, I understand how difficult these decisions are.

But sometimes one has to ask why one is involved in politics in the first place. Whenever a young man or woman asks me about what they should be thinking about if they wish to enter public life, I say, ask yourself the first and most important question: What is it you care about that is worth losing over? What is it that you care about that is worth losing over? If you can’t figure that out, then it’s merely ambition that’s driving you. Every country needs politicians who know what is worth losing over.

As you take action, you will not stand alone. The United States wants to work with you to improve the investment climate, expand trade and investment between our two countries, and help in any effective way we can, knowing full well we do not have the answers. We are struggling economically, as well; a different struggle, but a real struggle.

Ultimately, democracy and free markets will flourish when they deliver on what people want most – honesty, the elimination of corruption, a decent job, the ability to care for their parents and educate their children, physical security and economic opportunity, a chance to build a better life. No one wants anything more than a chance.

When democracy and free markets deliver on these basic desires, then those promoting alternative forms of government, whether from within or without, are never able to gain a foot hold.

Nowhere is the relationship between democracy, development and security clearer than when it comes to energy. Right now, in the United States, we’re making significant efforts at some political expense, I might add, to diversify our energy supply, to invest in efficiency, and to make some very difficult decisions about how to deal with the carbon footprint we’re leaving our children and our grandchildren and our great-grandchildren. None are without cost.

Just as it is in our interest to diversify our sources of energy and reduce the influence of those we depend on for our energy, I might add too is it in your overwhelming interest. Your economic freedom depends more, I suspect, in this country on your energy freedom than on any other single factor.

Ukraine has abundant reserves of energy, and reform of your energy sector should reduce your dependence on foreign suppliers. Moving toward market pricing for energy is brave, but also absolutely necessary pre-condition.

Promoting energy efficiency and conservation also will go a long way toward increasing your independence.

Ukraine uses energy about three times less efficiently than the EU average, including your next-door neighbor,

Poland. If you lift Ukraine to European standards, your need for energy imports will dramatically decline, dramatically decline – just that one single action, none other. That would be a boon to your economy and an immeasurable benefit, I respectfully suggest, to your national security.

The time for inertia and neglect is long past. It’s time for action, as I know you know better than I.

I’m pleased that Ukraine and the United States have agreed to hold our first meeting of our working group on energy security, so that we can look together for solutions to some of today’s biggest challenges.

The leaders of this country came together once, in 2004, because they knew that a free and prosperous Ukraine was more important than any one politician, or any one political party. I have no doubt the Ukrainians can, and will, come together again.

When Shevchenko imagined freedom, he looked to the United States and its young revolution. In the words of a poem he wrote in 1858, he said, “When will we greet our own George Washington at last with the new law of righteousness?” Today’s American revolution is not so young. And when the Shevchenkos of today imagine freedom, they don’t have to look to the United States, they can rightfully look to Ukraine.

The idea and promise of Ukraine’s peaceful revolution, remains an inspiration for the world and for this region. Just as your Orange Revolution did not end in 2005, it did not stop at Ukraine’s borders. We hear its echoes wherever people peacefully stand and demand their voices to be heard, a cacophony of voices, and they refer back to your Orange Revolution.

I have never met a Ukrainian – my very good friend, John Hynansky, a very prominent businessman from Delaware is here. I had breakfast with him the other day. And I come from a city, where I was born, Scranton, Pennsylvania, has a large Ukrainian-American population. I’ve never met a Ukrainian who doesn’t think in terms of centuries.

Centuries from now, what will Ukrainians say of this time? Will they say of their leaders? Will they say they returned to the past?

Will they say that the beginning of the 21st century launched a new era of prosperity, freedom and independence, and hope for all Ukrainians?

I hope you choose the progress – the path of progress, for the people of Ukraine, for your children and for a watching world – for literally, you are standing at a moment in history that you have never stood at before – literally. It sounds like hyperbole to suggest this, and we politicians have a tendency to hyperbole, but the God’s truth is you have never been at this place before, the chance for your people to establish a truly independent, free and prosperous country with defined borders for the 21st century.

When your children look back, what will they say of us? What will they say of what the United States did to help or not help? And what will they say of all of you? My sincere prayer is they will say that it was the beginning, the beginning of a dream we have dreamt for over 400 years. I pray to God that happens because, quite frankly, your success will bear on the success or failure of many peoples in this part of the world.

I thank you for giving me the honor of being here, for listening. And I sincerely hope that you understand I know we don’t have all the answers, but I know your answer lies in freedom. And freedom lies in the development of genuine democratic institutions. I wish you the best, and we stand ready to walk that path with you.

Thank you very, very much.

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Ukrainian American scientist and colleague win prestigious Marconi Prize

NEW YORK – Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs scientists Andrew R. Chraplyvy and Robert W. Tkach, research partners for more than two decades, have been awarded the 2009 Marconi Fellowship and Prize for their research into optical fiber nonlinearities and their development of novel mitigation techniques that vastly increased the transmission speed and capacity of optical fiber communications systems.

The duo will receive the prestigious award on October 9 at the annual Marconi Awards Dinner at the Palazzo Re Enzo in Bologna, Italy. The dinner and the preceding two-day Marconi Symposium are being hosted by the Bologna-based Fondazione Guglielmo Marconi.

The Marconi Society at Columbia University was established in 1975, through an endowment set up by Gioia Marconi Braga, daughter of Guglielmo Marconi, the Nobel laureate who invented radio (wireless telegraphy). The society annually recognizes a living scientist whose work in the field of communications and information technology advances the social, economic and cultural improvement of all humanity.

Recent winners have included Professor David Payne of the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom, another optical fiber pioneer who led the development of the erbium-doped optical fiber amplifier; Google founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page; Prof. Ron Rivest of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, co-inventor of RSA encryption; Prof. John Cioffi of Stanford the inventor of modern high-speed modems that enabled DSL; and French Prof. Claude Berrou, whose discovery of turbo codes led to important advances in mobile telephony,

satellite and radio communications.

“By demonstrating the dramatic capacity limitations imposed by nonlinearities on long-distance transmission via fiber, Andy and Bob not only brought attention and resources to address the challenge but went on to find novel mitigation techniques,” said Robert Lucky, chairman of the Marconi Society and a former Bell Labs colleague and manager of the two scientists.

“They developed the concept of dispersion management – and also conceived a new optical fiber type. The effect of these innovations was to enable wavelength-division-multiplexed (WDM) fiber transmission systems with capacities beyond one Terabit/second per fiber – a 100-fold capacity increase in a mere 10 years,” he explained.

Optical fibers, used in communications systems to carry voice, data and images that have been translated into laser light pulses, are the backbone of the Internet and modern telecommunications systems. However, when optical fibers first were installed, few scientists anticipated how quickly capacity limitations would come into play. Volume has exploded over the past 20 years, and engineers have raced to stay ahead of the demand.

That helps explain the importance of the contributions of Drs. Chraplyvy and Tkach. Even before they invented the new optical fiber that has become an industry standard – and subsequently developed their innovative dispersion management techniques to mitigate fiber nonlinearities – they faced the uphill battle of convincing other scientists that this was a problem worthy of significant attention.

In what he described as an “idle calcu-



Drs. Andrew Chraplyvy (left) and Robert Tkach, winners of the prestigious Marconi Prize.

lation” while raking leaves in his backyard, Dr. Chraplyvy, a Ukrainian American, realized at what point optical nonlinearities in communication fibers would severely limit the fibers’ ability to carry large amounts of information and that the world’s communications networks could reach gridlock in a matter of years rather than the decades that had been assumed. The incremental approach to improving transmission efficiency that had sufficed until then was no longer an option.

As luck would have it, at about that same time, Dr. Tkach, who is of Czech origin, joined Bell Laboratories. He proved the ideal collaborator and the two became inseparable investigators of opti-

cal fiber nonlinearities and how to overcome their damaging effects.

By careful investigations of the effects on optical nonlinearities of an inherent material property in optical fibers (called chromatic dispersion), Drs. Tkach and Chraplyvy realized that a new type of optical fiber with precisely controlled chromatic dispersion would be able to support large numbers of wavelengths carrying high-speed signals. Implementing these discoveries and working with a Bell Labs development team in Atlanta, they devised a new type of fiber, branded TrueWave® Fiber that optimizes transmission capacity of communications sys-

(Continued on page 27)

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Soyuzivka's Tennis Camp continues to attract young athletes

by Petrusia Sawchak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Tennis Camp opened the camp season at Soyuzivka on June 21 for 12 days of vigorous tennis instruction and fun-filled days both on and off the courts. The sounds and faces of the youngsters invigorated the Ukrainian National Association's heritage center like all the camps that are part of the Soyuzivka experience.

This was the 43rd year for the camp since its inception in 1967. Director George Sawchak, a United States Tennis Association (USTA) player, organizer, teacher and captain of Middle States, taught the tennis program, which included technical, physical and mental conditioning that the sport demands.

He was joined by Tetiana Sawchak Louer, who is a United States Professional Tennis Registry (USPTR – an international organization) certified teaching pro at Upper Main Line YMCA tennis club in Pennsylvania. She is also a former Division I collegiate player. This year the camp was also fortunate to have Don Kopach on the courts. He is an accomplished player and has won a number of USCAK tournaments.

The 33 campers, ranging from 10 to 17, came from eight U.S. states and from Canada. With about 70 percent of the campers returning from previous years many were familiar with the routines of camp. Some had parents who attended years ago.

The staff also included long-time counselors Adam Ogonowski, Tatyana Romanyuk and Adrienne (Ada) Kowcz, who were once campers themselves. The 24-hour dorm supervisor was Olya Czerkas, who made the campers feel at home at the camp facilities known as camp Lviv, newly renovated this year. Coordinating activities was camp liaison, Petrusia Sawchak. Both "Pani Olya" and "Pani Petrusia" are school teachers who provided additional supervision of the campers.

Every morning the camp began with calisthenics, which helped condition the youngsters before actual playing, followed by instruction in the skills needed to play tennis well. Then the campers divided into smaller groups to practice what they had learned, whether it be proper forehand and backhand strokes, or serves and overhead smashes.

They were also instructed in court movements, game strategies, tennis etiquette, as well as other finer points needed to be proficient in tennis. The instructors rotated groups so everyone had an opportunity to learn from different people.

The second week was devoted mostly



Campers and staff of the 2009 Tennis Camp at Soyuzivka.

to tournament play, except for one beginner group that continued to be drilled in the basics.

Off-court activities were a little different this year. This year's campers, besides loving tennis, were also board game advocates. They played scrabble, monopoly, chess, card games and a paddle cup game. Sometimes they played their games or watched a film in the Main House, but more often than not they enjoyed the newly renovated game rooms at Camp Lviv, which had new carpeting and lounge-type sofas and chairs. They also swam in Soyuzivka's Olympic-sized pool.

Soyuzivka's manager, Nestor Paslawsky, and chef, Andrij Sonevytsky, prepared a wonderful "Hutsul Night" especially for the campers during the first week. The kids – a few dressed in Ukrainian embroidered shirts – were treated and served royally by the staff complete with "Shirley Temple" drinks and hors d'oeuvres. A dance to Ukrainian music completed the evening.

A gala banquet was held at the end of camp in Soyuzivka's main dining room, where certificates were distributed and awards were presented. Mr. Sawchak thanked the management of Soyuzivka, especially Mr. Paslawsky and Sonia Semanyshyn for all their service and cooperation always delivered with a smile. Mr. Paslawsky welcomed the campers and encouraged them to revisit the estate for many years to come.

Mr. Sawchak also thanked the entire tennis camp staff and congratulated the campers for their progress on the courts and their positive attitude, which are so



Winners of tournament awards (front row, from left) Adrian Burke, Daniel Tylawsky, Anastasia Kowal, Ariadna Louer, Tusia Kopach, Mark Lucenko, George Sawchak (back row) Paul deVassal, Olesia Foty, Andrei Tabatchouk, Marta Cherpak, Lidia Kowinko and Matthew Kohout.

very important in a camp environment.

The tournament results and trophies were presented by Mr. Sawchak. The winner in the Girls' I Group was Olesia Foty, the runner-up was Marta Cherpak and Lidia Kowinko placed third. In the Girls' II Group Tusia Kopach and Ari Louer tied for first place, while Anastasia Kowal took third.

Daniel Tylawsky was the winner, the finalist was Adrian Burke, and the third place went to Paul deVassal in the Boys' I Group. In the Boys' II Group Andrei Tabatchouk took first place, Matthew Kohout was second and Mark Luchanko

placed third. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, the Boys' III Group did not complete its matches. They were to finish the next day.

When it was time to announce the coveted Best Campers Awards, Mr. Sawchak commented on how difficult the decision was this year because there were so many who qualified for the honor. The entire staff finally decided that Olesia Foty from Canada and Larysa Boyko from Pennsylvania were the Best Girl Campers for 2009. The boy winners were Andrei

(Continued on page 29)



Petrusia Sawchak

Recipients of the Best Camper Awards for 2009 (from left): Larysa Boyko, Olesia Foty, Andrei Tabatchouk and Matthew Kohout.



Tennis Camp staff members (from left): Olya Czerkas, Ada Kowcz, Adam Ogonowski, Tatyana Romanyuk, Petrusia Sawchak, Tetiana Sawchak Louer and George Sawchak. (Missing from photo: Don Kopach.)

Ruslana...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian Dance Workshop and the 9 p.m. show presented by Ruslana and her eight-member ensemble of dancers.

The workshop's dancers were the stars of the early evening concert, presenting a program of folk dances from Ukraine's Lemko, Hutsul, Zakarpattia and Poltava regions, as well as the "Pryvit" (Welcome), a wreath dance and a terpsichorean staging of the Kozaks' preparations for the historic Battle of Poltava (1709). The concert concluded with a rousing "Hopak."

Also on the Saturday evening bill were operatic singer Lyudmilla Fesenko, formerly of Ukraine and now of New York; vocalists Nadia Kobelak of Mississauga, Ontario, and Filip Zmacher of Ukraine; bandurist Victor Mishalow of Toronto; and violinist Oleh Kulchytsky of Ukraine.

The main draw of the night was Ukraine's Ruslana Lyzychko, winner of the 2004 Eurovision Song Contest, whose Hutsul-inspired beats and melodies catapulted her to fame. The excitement on the Soyuzivka grounds was palpable as show time approached and ever more people arrived for the pop singer's late evening show.

Ruslana wowed the crowd during the 75-minute concert with her unique music,

The festival by the numbers

Guests: 6,000-7,000

Performers: 197

Vendors: 45

Soyuzivka staff: 67

Volunteers: 71

Security: 14

Varenyky: 15,000

Holubtsi: 3,000

Kovbasa: 5,000

boundless energy and elaborate stage costumes. Her eight-member ensemble of professional dancers added to the excitement. A special treat of the evening was one number featuring a group of Ukrainian Dance Workshop participants performing with Ruslana.

The energized audience – which filled the seats on the tennis courts, occupied the hillside near the stage and overflowed onto the pool's deck and the Veselka patio – clapped and sang along.

"Ruslana, we love you!" shouted Toma Mandicz, a teenager who had traveled to Soyuzivka from Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's camp in East Chatham, N.Y.

"That was the best festival ever – all because of Ruslana and the dance workshop," said an enthusiastic Adrian Horodecky of Mount Laurel, N.J.

That night and the next day, countless compliments were addressed to festival organizers for such a dynamic show.

Several days after the record-breaking weekend, Soyuzivka General Manager Nestor Paslawsky – who along with Ukrainian National Association Treasurer Roma Lisovich and UNA National Organizer Oksana Trytjak was a key organizer of the festival – reflected: "The most amazing thing was looking out onto the crowd from backstage and seeing the mass of people. I just couldn't stop watching the crowd. It was very impressive."

"And this only the third year for our festival," he added. "We knew this was going to be big, but we couldn't have imagined how big."

Among the multitudes attending the Ukrainian Cultural Festival over the course of its three days were Ukraine's diplomats from the United States and Canada, including Ambassador to the United Nations Yuriy Sergeyev, with his wife, Nataliya; Counselor of the Embassy of Ukraine in the U.S. Oleksander Mykhalchuk with his wife, Tetyana; and Honorary Consul to Vancouver, British Columbia, Lubomyr Huculak.

Among other special guests attending were New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, New York State Sen. John Bonacic and U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey.



Lev Khmelkovsky

Near the festival's grand stage (from left) are: UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich, UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj, and Counselor of Ukraine's Embassy in the U.S. Oleksander Mykhalchuk with his wife, Tetyana.



Russ Chelak

Ukraine's Ambassador to the United Nations Yuriy Sergeyev addresses the festival audience.

Gov. David A. Paterson of New York sent a written greeting, a portion of which was read to festival-goers by masters of ceremonies Lida Kulbida, best known as a former newscaster for WNYT-TV in



Lev Khmelkovsky

Ukraine's Honorary Consul in Vancouver, British Columbia, Lubomyr Huculak.

Albany, N.Y., and Andriy Stasiw, composer, conductor and pianist of New York.

A third master of ceremonies, Ukrainian American actor George Dzundza, whose listing on festival advertisements had been marked with an asterisk and the notation "schedule permitting," sent his regrets due to on-location shooting of a new film.

A rainy start

The festival got off to a rainy start on Friday evening, July 17, as the outdoor program was delayed and had to be moved from the large stage erected on Soyuzivka's tennis courts to the Veselka auditorium.

Early arrivals were treated to a program of music and dance featuring the singers Ms. Kobelak, Mr. Zmacher and Ms. Fesenko, musicians Mr. Mishalow and Mr. Kulchytsky, and the Ukrainian Dance Workshop, which presented but a taste of what was yet to come on the large outdoor stage.

The first of the cultural programs on Saturday was the noontime concert by the Dumka Chorus of New York, conducted by Vasyl Hrechynsky. The hour-long concert was presented in the Veselka auditorium.

Shortly after 1 p.m. the festival was officially opened on the grand outdoor stage with a welcome by UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj, and the singing of the national anthems of Ukraine, Canada and the United States by Sviatoslava Kaczaraj.

Thanks were expressed to the chief sponsors of the festival, the UNA, Aerosvit airlines and Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union; and it was noted that the festival was taking place under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine and the Ukrainian National Foundation, the UNA's charitable arm.

Ambassador Sergeyev offered congratulations and hailed the initiators of the festival, the Ukrainian National Association and its Soyuzivka Heritage Center, who he



Roma Hadzewycz

A view of the gathering crowd during Saturday's early evening program at the Ukrainian Cultural Festival.

(Continued on page 29)



Russ Chelak

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop.



Roma Hadzewycz

Ruslana with young performers.



Christine Syzonenko

The Dumka Chorus of New York.



Russ Chelak

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop.



Roma Hadzewycz

MCs Andrij Stasiw and Lida Kulbida with a young dancer and Soyuzivka's Misio.



Roma Hadzewycz

Lyudmilla Fesenko and Victor Mishalow.



Russ Chelak

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop.



Christine Syzonenko

The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Academy of Whippany, N.J.

PHOTO REPORT: Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival



Zolotyj Promin of Hartford, Conn.

Markian Hadzewycz



The Korinnia ensemble.

Roma Hadzewycz



Filip Zmacher of Ukraine.

Russ Chelak



Nadia Kobelak of Ontario.

Christine Syzonenko



Violinist Oleh Kulchytsky of Ukraine.

Christine Syzonenko



Nadia dance ensemble of Perth Amboy, N.J.

Russ Chelak



The Zolotyj Promin dance troupe.

Markian Hadzewycz



Ruslana and her ensemble.

Russ Chelak



The younger dancers of Iskra.

Roma Hadzewycz

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

[when we get] 100 million hrv at a rate of 4.5 [per dollar], but it's another thing [when we get the same amount] at a rate of 7.50-8.00 [per dollar]. It's necessary to ensure that assignments are increased and the resolution is implemented. These additional [funds] could resolve social problems in Sevastopol," he said. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine's capital going dry

KYIV – Kyiv City Council deputies at their July 13 meeting endorsed a program on countering alcohol abuse and drug distribution in Kyiv for 2009-2013. In particular, the sale of alcoholic products will be prohibited on the Khreschatyk (Kyiv's main boulevard), in parks and recreation areas, and near educational institutions. A total of 22.8 million hrv (7.62 hrv = \$1) is planned to be earmarked for the program. According to Kyiv City Council official Alla Shlapak, centers of social services for youth, and departments of education and health care will establish units of social work in residential districts, at youth clubs of education institutions and at educational facilities for parents of alcohol and drug addicts. (Ukrinform)

Absentee deputies are named

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chairman Mykola Tomenko on July 13 made public the names of national deputies who missed over 60 registrations at plenary meetings during the current parliamentary session. There are nine such deputies – eight of them from the opposition Party of Regions and one from Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense. Among the persistent absentees are: Rinat Akhmetov, Ihor Humeniuk, Oleksander Darda, Serhii Kyi, Oleksander Leschynskyi, Volodymyr Maltsev, Serhii Momot, Anton Pryhodskyi and Davyd Zhvania. Mr. Tomenko also said that only 18 national deputies did not miss a single Rada meeting without a valid reason. The situation is no better as regards attendance at committee meetings. Mr. Tomenko said deputies did not take part in a single committee meeting. The vice-chairman called on lawmakers to shoulder administrative responsibility. "This administrative responsibility must involve salary deductions for truancy," Mr. Tomenko said. (Ukrinform)

Court orders NATO, SES referendum

KYIV – Viktor Medvedchuk, head of the Legal State center council, has won a lawsuit against President Viktor Yushchenko, it was reported on July 9. The District Administrative Court of Kyiv fully satisfied Mr. Medvedchuk's appeal concerning a referendum on Ukraine's accession to NATO and the Single Economic Space (SES). The court said the president's inaction on calling a referendum was unlawful and illegal, and it ordered the president to call this referendum via publication of a relevant decree. In the beginning of 2006, a total of 4,431,673 million signatures of Ukrainian citizens were collected on a petition calling for a referendum on Ukraine's entry into NATO and its participation in the SES with Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. But the referendum has not been initiated thus far. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine's population: 46 million

KYIV – Ukraine's population decreased in May by 0.04 percent (16,700 persons) as compared with April and it totaled 46,044,700 as of June 1, the State Statistics Committee announced. The urban population as of June 1 was 31,541,800, or 17,900 persons less compared than on May 1; the rural population was 14,503,000 persons, or 8,000 less than the

previous month. In 2008 the Ukrainian population declined by 0.5 percent (229,000 persons). According to the 2001 census Ukraine's population was 48,415,500 people were living in. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv among most expensive cities

KYIV – Kyiv is in 81st place in the ranking of the world's most expensive cities for expatriates, according to the Worldwide Cost of Living survey conducted by the U.S. consulting firm Mercer Human Resource Consulting. The Mercer survey covers 143 cities across six continents. According to Mercer, Kyiv lost 20 places in the rating, scoring 71.9 points in 2009, compared to 91.7 points in 2008. Tokyo is now the world's most expensive city for expatriates; Osaka is in second place, while Moscow is now in third. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv street named for Petliura

KYIV – The Kyiv City Council has renamed a street in honor of Symon Petliura (1879-1926), supreme commander of the Army of the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR) and later president of the Directory of the UNR, on the occasion of the 130th anniversary of his birth. Petliura was assassinated on May 26, 1926, in Paris by Shalom Schwartzbard, who claimed he was acting in revenge for Petliura's responsibility for pogroms in Ukraine during the revolutionary period of 1918-1920. As noted in the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, "Petliura has frequently been invested with the responsibility for those acts. Petliura's own personal convictions render such responsibility highly unlikely, and all the documentary evidence indicates that he consistently made efforts to stem pogrom activity by UNR troops." (Kyiv Post, Encyclopedia of Ukraine)

EU expands blacklist of airlines

BRUSSELS – The European Union's blacklist of unsafe airlines grew significantly on July 14 with the addition of nearly all of Kazakhstan's airlines (71 in total), as well as carriers from Ukraine and Zambia. "We cannot afford any compromises in air safety; we have to remain vigilant," said Antonio Tajani, the European commissioner for transport. "This list has greatly contributed to making Europe's skies safer," he said. The commission argues that its blacklist gives airlines strong incentives to fix safety defects. The July 14 publication is the 11th update of the blacklist since it was created in March 2006. It now includes airlines from Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, North Korea, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Ukraine and Zambia. The Ukrainian airlines now on the list are: Motor Sich, Ukraine Cargo Airways, Ukrainian Mediterranean Airlines and Volare. (www.europeanvoice.com, www.eyefortransport.com)

Traveling exhibit of Shevchenkiana

KYIV – A monumental exhibition of Shevchenkiana by Ukraine's renowned photographer-monumentalist Ruslan Telipsky, who is a researcher of Taras Shevchenko, is traveling across Canada, it was reported on July 10. The exhibit aims to draw the attention of the Ukrainian community in Canada to the upcoming unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko Monument in Ottawa. The artist presented more than 100 works at the exhibition that had opened on June 30 at the Embassy of Ukraine in Ottawa. Mr. Telipsky's photographs show monuments, busts and memorial plaques erected in honor of Shevchenko both in Ukraine and abroad.

(Continued on page 19)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 18)

(Ukrinform)

Lytvyn to run for president

KYIV – The chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Volodymyr Lytvyn, on July 16 announced his presidential run. “I’ve finally decided to run for president,” Mr. Lytvyn said at a news briefing, adding that he is going into the election to win. According to Mr. Lytvyn, Ukraine needs a new and clear course, firm order and responsible authorities. The presidential election is set for January 17, 2010. (Ukrinform)

PDP leader to run for president

KYIV – The leader of the People’s Democratic Party, Liudmyla Suprun, declared her intention to run for president of Ukraine. “We are forming a people’s democratic movement – a union of non-governmental organizations and political parties, and we will surely take part in the presidential election, which is a component part of parliamentary elections and elections to local government bodies,” Ms. Suprun said on July 9. Political analysts predict a record number of presidential candidates in the January 17 elections: up to 40. In previous presidential campaigns from six to 24 candidates ran. (Ukrinform)

Cabinet endorses Great State Emblem

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers has unanimously approved a bill on the Great State Emblem of Ukraine. The decision was made at a Cabinet meeting on July 17. Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko showed the image of the Great State Emblem and noted that it organically combines the whole history of Ukraine and its key symbols. The Great Emblem includes the Small State Emblem of Ukraine – a blue shield bearing the gold “tryzub” (trident) emblem of Prince Volodymyr the Great, as well as the image of a lion, symbolizing the western Ukrainian region, and the image of a Kozak with a musket symbolizing eastern Ukraine. In addition, the emblem contains the image of the “kalyna,” or guelder rose, symbolizing Ukraine, and a crown, symbolizing state sovereignty. The prime minister proposed that the Verkhovna Rada begin its work in September by approving the Great State Emblem. The Small Emblem of Ukraine was adopted on February 19, 1992. (Ukrinform)

Australian coin recalls Poltava battle

KYIV – A jubilee silver coin of 1 dollar was released in Australia by the 300th anniversary of the Poltava battle, Poltava (Center Ukraine) Mayor Andrii Matkovskiy said on July 20. “The coin shows a fragment of the battle. Thus, a far-away continent with a huge Ukrainian diaspora honored the 300th anniversary of the battle,” Mr. Matkovskiy said. The fact that the coin is a jubilee issue is seen on the inscription on its reverse side: “The Battle of Poltava 1709-2009.” A glyph of the monument to the Russian tsar in the center of the reverse side is rendered in the classical manner of coin minting, he added. (Ukrinform)

Thai king pardons Ukrainian

KYIV – Ukrainian citizen Viktoria

Mamontova, who was sentenced to death in Thailand, was pardoned by the Thai king and is returning to Ukraine, said the secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada’s Human Rights Commissioner, Nina Karpachova. On July 17 Ms. Mamontova’s mother told Ms. Karpachova that her daughter had left a Bangkok prison where she was held in the morning of June 16. Ms. Mamontova spent eight years and 10 months in prison. Four years ago the appeals court of Thailand commuted her death penalty to 33 years and four months of imprisonment; later the term was cut by five years and five months due to an amnesty. President Viktor Yushchenko had appealed to the king of Thailand to pardon Ms. Mamontova. She was detained in Bangkok on September 28, 2000, after 1,293.3 kilograms of heroin were seized from her hotel room. (Ukrinform)

Fewer Ukrainians get divorced

KYIV – In the first half of the year, 69,000 married couples divorced, which is 15 percent less than in the first six months of 2008 and 20 percent less than during the same period in 2007. These figures confirm the trend noted for many years of a gradual decrease in the number of divorces, the Justice Ministry’s press service reported on July 21. Meanwhile, the number of divorces has traditionally been 20 percent to 40 percent less than the number of marriages. This positive tendency is reported year after year and thus is a stable phenomenon. Since the beginning of this year over 118,000 marriages have been registered, which is 42 percent more than the number of divorces. (Ukrinform)

Localities disappear from Ukrainian map

KYIV – Every year almost 25 populated localities disappear from the Ukrainian map, said Anton Tretiak, deputy head of the State Land Committee. Speaking at a press club meeting on the development of rural areas, he noted that in the past 15 years, the rural population was reduced by 2 million. As of June 1, 2008, a total of 220 villages on 5,770,39 million hectares of lands lost their status as populated localities; in another 12,560 functioning localities the social infrastructure is unsatisfactory, he said. (Ukrinform)

Green education in Ukraine

KYIV – The Project Coordinator of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe is helping to introduce environmental education into Ukraine’s secondary-school curriculum in cooperation with the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe and Ukraine’s Ministry of Education. A multi-media educational kit – known as the Green Pack – will be adapted for use in Ukraine, and the Office of the OSCE Project Coordinator will also organize training courses for teachers on environmental education techniques. Developed by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe, the Green Pack covers 22 topics related to environmental protection and sustainable development. It has been implemented in 14 countries in the OSCE region since it was launched in 2001, and in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan with the OSCE’s assistance. (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe)



Dr. Ludmila Schmitt Ph.D.

professor of foreign languages at Rider University, and former chair of the foreign languages department at the university, died suddenly Tuesday at Capitol Health-Trenton. She was 63.

Born in Regensburg, Germany, she emigrated to Argentina with her parents in 1949. She was educated in Argentina, receiving an art degree in technical school and moved to the Philadelphia area in 1963. She and her parents settled in the Olney section; Ludmila attended Temple University, earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Spanish. She then attended the University of Pennsylvania where she earned her Ph.D. in Latin-American Literature.

Dr. Schmitt began her teaching career while a graduate student at Temple and Penn. Her first teaching job was at Vassar College; she then taught briefly at Lafayette University before returning to Vassar where she later became the chair of the foreign languages department. Ludmila joined the faculty at Rider University in 1983. She was the author of a book ‘El Laberinto en la Narrativa Hispanoamericana Contemporanea’, published in 1981, as well as hundreds of papers on the Spanish language and Latin-American literature. She received several grants during the course of her career to support her writing on the Hispanic literature of exile and on the Latino culture and writers in the United States.

When she joined the faculty of Rider in 1983, she settled in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. In 1987, she married John Bruce Schmitt. Ludmila stepped down from her position as chair of the foreign languages department to care for her mother and father.

At Rider University, she participated at an exhibit of her late father’s works sponsored by the Slavic Club. Entitled “Life’s Journey Through Sculpture”, the exhibit showcased the sculpture of Petro Kapschutschenko, internationally known artist, who had received various awards from the President of Ukraine, Victor Yushchenko, for his contributions to international sculpture.

Dr. Schmitt’s viewing will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2009, from 9 to 11 AM at St. Andrew’s Memorial Church, 298 Main Street, South Bound Brook, New Jersey 08880. Requiem Services will be sung at 11 AM. Burial will follow at St. Andrew’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery.

The Wrzesnewsky Family wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to the Ukrainian community for the overwhelming attendance at the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church for the funeral rites in memory of

Roman Wrzesnewskyj

beloved husband, father and grandfather. Almost 3,000 persons attended the rites on two successive days and signed the visitors’ register book.

Our sincere thanks go to the Most Reverend Stephen Chmilar, Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Toronto and Eastern Canada Eparchy, the parish priest Very Reverend Father Roman Lobay and Reverend Father Oleh Juryk. We are grateful to Bishop Stephen, Father Roman and Father Oleh for the very memorable and deep-felt words of farewell to Roman’s soul.

The presence at the Holy Liturgy of the Most Reverend Yuri Kalistchuk, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, Eparchy of Toronto, was like a healing balm. We recognize it as an explicit manifestation of respect to Roman’s life of service to all.

We are ever so grateful to the Vesnivka and Orion choirs of the Ukrainian Youth Association for their participation. It was an expression of sentiments of love and devotion to our native land, which will never wither in Roman’s family.

We were particularly touched by the presence and by expressions of deep sorrow and mourning by Mr. Roman Zavadovych from Chicago, Roman’s only close relative.

We shall always remember the sincere condolences of the numerous representatives of the Ukrainian organizations and societies and their spokespersons: Mrs. Maria Shkambara – Ukrainian World Congress and World Federation of Ukrainian Women Organizations; Dr. Oleh Romanyshyn – League of Ukrainian Canadians; Mrs. Christina Bidiak – League of Ukrainian Canadian Women; Mr. Taras Pidzameckyj – Ukrainian National Federation; and Mr. Roman Melnyk – Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation.

We also want to express our thanks for the offering of prayers, numerous Masses, flowers and donations towards the betterment of life of the orphans in Ukraine.

The lighted candle of reverence and love for Roman shall burn brightly in our hearts like Lesia Ukrainka’s “... embers of a great fire will never go out.”

Eternal Rest Grant Him O Lord! Vichnaya Pamiat’!

Irena - wife
Ruslana - daughter with Andy
Boris - son with Lina
Petra, Yara, Anka, Olenka, Victoria - grandchildren
Closer and distant relatives

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Open letter...

(Continued from page 6)

conomic crisis provide additional opportunities for the forces of nationalism, extremism, populism and anti-Semitism across the continent but also in some of our countries.

This means that the United States is likely to lose many of its traditional interlocutors in the region. The new elites replacing them may not share the idealism – or have the same relationship to the United States – as the generation who led the democratic transition. They may be more calculating in their support of the United States, as well as more parochial in their world view. And in Washington a similar transition is taking place as many of the leaders and personalities we have worked with and relied on are also leaving politics.

And then there is the issue of how to deal with Russia. Our hopes that relations with Russia would improve and that Moscow would finally fully accept our complete sovereignty and independence after joining NATO and the EU have not been fulfilled. Instead, Russia is back as a revisionist power pursuing a 19th century agenda with 21st century tactics and methods. At a global level, Russia has become, on most issues, a status-quo power. But at a regional level and vis-à-vis our nations, it increasingly acts as a revisionist one. It challenges our claims to our own historical experiences. It asserts a privileged position in determining our security choices. It uses overt and covert means of economic warfare, ranging from energy blockades and politically motivated investments to bribery and media manipulation in order to advance its interests and to challenge the trans-Atlantic orientation of Central and Eastern Europe.

We welcome the “reset” of the American-Russian relations. As the countries living closest to Russia, obviously nobody has a greater interest in the development of the democracy in Russia and better relations between Moscow and the West than we do. But there is also nervousness in our capitals. We want to ensure that too narrow an understanding of Western interests does not lead to the wrong concessions to Russia. Today the concern is, for example, that the United States and the major European powers might embrace the Medvedev plan for a “Concert of Powers” to replace the continent’s existing, value-based security structure. The danger is that Russia’s creeping intimidation and influence-peddling in the region could over time lead to a de facto neutralization of the region. There are differing views within the region when it comes to Moscow’s new policies. But there is a shared view that the full engagement of the United States is needed.

Many in the region are looking with hope to the Obama administration to restore the Atlantic relationship as a moral compass for their domestic as well as foreign policies. A strong commitment to common liberal democratic values is essential to our countries. We know from our own historical experience the difference between when the United States stood up for its liberal democratic values and when it did not. Our region suffered when the United States succumbed to “realism” at Yalta. And it benefited when the United States used its power to fight for principle. That was critical during the Cold War and in opening the doors of NATO. Had a “realist” view prevailed in the early 1990s, we would not be in NATO today and the idea of a Europe whole, free and at peace would be a distant dream.

We understand the heavy demands on your administration and on U.S. foreign policy. It is not our intent to add to the list of problems you face. Rather, we want to help by being strong Atlanticist allies in a U.S.-European partnership that is a powerful force for good around the world. But we are not certain where our region will be in five

or 10 years time given the domestic and foreign policy uncertainties we face. We need to take the right steps now to ensure the strong relationship between the United States and Central and Eastern Europe over the past 20 years will endure.

We believe this is a time both the United States and Europe need to reinvest in the trans-Atlantic relationship. We also believe this is a time when the United States and Central and Eastern Europe must reconnect around a new and forward-looking agenda. While recognizing what has been achieved in the 20 years since the fall of the Iron Curtain, it is time to set a new agenda for close cooperation for the next 20 years across the Atlantic.

Therefore, we propose the following steps:

- First, we are convinced that America needs Europe and that Europe needs the United States as much today as in the past. The United States should reaffirm its vocation as a European power and make clear that it plans to stay fully engaged on the continent even while it faces the pressing challenges in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the wider Middle East and Asia. For our part, we must work at home in our own countries and in Europe more generally to convince our leaders and societies to adopt a more global perspective and be prepared to shoulder more responsibility in partnership with the United States.

- Second, we need a renaissance of NATO as the most important security link between the United States and Europe. It is the only credible hard-power security guarantee we have. NATO must reconfirm its core function of collective defense even while we adapt to the new threats of the 21st century. A key factor in our ability to participate in NATO’s expeditionary missions overseas is the belief that we are secure at home. We must therefore correct some self-inflicted wounds from the past. It was a mistake not to commence with proper Article 5 defense planning for new members after NATO was enlarged. NATO needs to make the alliance’s commitments credible and provide strategic reassurance to all members. This should include contingency planning, prepositioning of forces, equipment and supplies for reinforcement in our region in case of crisis as originally envisioned in the NATO-Russia Founding Act.

We should also rethink the working of the NATO-Russia Council and return to the practice where NATO member-countries enter into dialogue with Moscow with a coordinated position. When it comes to Russia, our experience has been that a more determined and principled policy toward Moscow will not only strengthen the West’s security but will ultimately lead Moscow to follow a more cooperative policy as well. Furthermore, the more secure we feel inside NATO, the easier it will also be for our countries to reach out to engage Moscow on issues of common interest. That is the dual-track approach we need and which should be reflected in the new NATO strategic concept.

- Third, the thorniest issue may well be America’s planned missile-defense installations. Here too, there are different views in the region, including among our publics which are divided. Regardless of the military merits of this scheme and what Washington eventually decides to do, the issue has nevertheless also become – at least in some countries – a symbol of America’s credibility and commitment to the region. How it is handled could have a significant impact on their future trans-Atlantic orientation. The small number of missiles involved cannot be a threat to Russia’s strategic capabilities, and the Kremlin knows this. We should decide the future of the program as allies and based on the strategic pluses and minuses of the different technical and political configurations. The alliance should not allow the issue to be determined by unfounded Russian opposition. Abandoning the pro-

gram entirely or involving Russia too deeply in it without consulting Poland or the Czech Republic can undermine the credibility of the United States across the whole region.

- Fourth, we know that NATO alone is not enough. We also want and need more Europe and a better and more strategic U.S.-EU relationship as well. Increasingly our foreign policies are carried out through the European Union – and we support that. We also want a common European foreign and defense policy that is open to close cooperation with the United States. We are the advocates of such a line in the EU. But we need the United States to rethink its attitude toward the EU and engage it much more seriously as a strategic partner. We need to bring NATO and the EU closer together and make them work in tandem. We need common NATO and EU strategies not only toward Russia but on a range of other new strategic challenges.

- Fifth is energy security. The threat to energy supplies can exert an immediate influence on our nations’ political sovereignty also as allies contributing to common decisions in NATO. That is why it must also become a trans-Atlantic priority. Although most of the responsibility for energy security lies within the realm of the EU, the United States also has a role to play. Absent American support, the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline would never have been built. Energy security must become an integral part of U.S.-European strategic cooperation. Central and Eastern European countries should lobby harder (and with more unity) inside Europe for diversification of the energy mix, suppliers and transit routes, as well as for tough legal scrutiny of Russia’s abuse of its monopoly and cartel-like power inside the EU. But American political support on this will play a crucial role. Similarly, the United States can play an important role in solidifying further its support for the Nabucco pipeline, particularly in using its security relationship with the main transit country, Turkey, as well as the North-South interconnector of Central Europe and LNG terminals in our region.

- Sixth, we must not neglect the human factor. Our next generations need to get to know each other, too. We have to cherish and protect the multitude of educational, professional and other networks and friendships that underpin our friendship and alliance. The U.S. visa regime remains an obstacle in this regard. It is absurd that Poland and Romania – arguably the two biggest and most pro-American states in the CEE region, which are making substantial contributions in Iraq and Afghanistan – have not yet been brought into the visa-waiver program. It is incomprehensible that a critic like the French anti-globalization activist Jose Bove does not require a visa for the United States but former Solidarity activist and Nobel Peace prizewinner Lech Walesa does. This issue will be resolved only if it is made a political priority by the president of the United States.

The steps we made together since 1989 are not minor in history. The common successes are the proper foundation for the trans-Atlantic renaissance we need today. This is why we believe that we should also consider the creation of a Legacy Fellowship for young leaders. Twenty years have passed since the revolutions of 1989. That is a whole generation. We need a new generation to renew the trans-Atlantic partnership. A new program should be launched to identify those young leaders on both sides of the Atlantic who can carry forward the trans-Atlantic project we have spent the last two decades building in Central and Eastern Europe.

In conclusion, the onset of a new administration in the United States has raised great hopes in our countries for a trans-Atlantic renewal. It is an opportunity we dare not miss. We, the authors of this letter, know firsthand how important the relationship with the United States has been. In the

1990s, a large part of getting Europe right was about getting Central and Eastern Europe right. The engagement of the United States was critical to locking in peace and stability from the Baltics to the Black Sea. Today the goal must be to keep Central and Eastern Europe right as a stable, activist and Atlanticist part of our broader community.

That is the key to our success in bringing about the renaissance in the alliance the Obama administration has committed itself to work for and which we support. That will require both sides recommitting to and investing in this relationship. But if we do it right, the pay-off down the road can be very real. By taking the right steps now, we can put it on new and solid footing for the future.

Valdas Adamkus

Former President of the Republic of Lithuania

Martin Butora

Former Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States

Emil Constantinescu

Former President of the Republic of Romania

Pavol Demes

Former Minister of International Relations and Advisor to the President, Slovak Republic

Lubos Dobrovsky

Former Defense Minister of the Czech Republic, former Ambassador to Russia

Matyas Eorsi

Former Secretary of State of the Hungarian MFA

Istvan Gyarmati

Ambassador, President of the International Center for Democratic Transition in Budapest

Vaclav Havel

Former President of the Czech Republic

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Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister, Czech Republic

Vaira Vike-Freiberga

Former President of the Republic of Latvia

Lech Walesa

Former President of the Republic of Poland

Canada's UNYF holds 75th anniversary national convention

by Taras Babyuk

TORONTO – The 75th anniversary national convention of the Ukrainian National Youth Federation (UNYF) of Canada was held at Hawkestone, Ontario, on July 3-5. Some 50 UNYF branch delegates, alumni and guests from across Canada participated.

The convention coincided with the 50th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Federation's Camp Sokil – a 250-acre Ukrainian campground near Barrie, Ontario, offering parkland, sports fields, camping and a sandy beach on Lake Simcoe.

The highlight of the convention was the election of a new, eight-member national executive team, headed by National President Volodymyr Grytsiv (Edmonton, Alberta), as well as a three-member controlling committee.

On the evening of July 3, some 100 convention participants and guests welcomed banquet guest speaker Borys Sirskyj, former executive assistant to the late Sen. Paul Yuzyk, who spoke about the senator's life, indefatigable personality, and his momentous contribution to the Ukrainian Canadian community and to Canada.

On Saturday, July 4, Convention participants had a chance to compete in sports tournaments; many volunteered to provide "Ivan Kupalo" and other activities for children. In the evening, Convention participants and campers were treated to a concert



Convention delegates and guests gathered for a group photo.

Lesya Panko

program, one of the highlights of which was a traditional Kupalo performance by UNF Edmonton's Amateur Drama Club Suziria, directed by Nataliya Grytsiv. The concert was followed by a dance for everyone.

The convention concluded on Sunday with a divine liturgy at the Camp Sokil chapel and a blessing ceremony for the new UNYF national executive flag. The blessing was performed by the Rev. Ostap Chornij of

Toronto.

The UNYF was founded in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1934 as part of the Ukrainian National Federation of Canada. Its aim is to unite youth of Ukrainian Canadian ancestry in order to educate them to be conscious of their heritage, as well as their role in and contribution to Canadian

society.

The UNYF currently has branches in Vancouver, British Columbia; Edmonton, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Toronto, West Toronto, Hamilton and St. Catharines, Ontario; and Montreal. Branches are under development in Sudbury, Ontario; Saskatoon and Regina, Saskatchewan.



The swearing in of the new UNYF national executive.



A view of the business session of the Ukrainian National Youth Federation's 75th anniversary national convention.

New Jersey's UNWLA Branch 98 celebrates its 21st anniversary

by Irene Krawczuk

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – Branch 98 (Holmdel/Middletown, N.J.) of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) celebrated its 21st anniversary on Sunday, June 7 at the Sisterhood Hall of St. Andrew's Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, N.J. The event was dedicated to the branch's patroness, St. Olga.

On a sunny afternoon, members and guests enjoyed a lovely luncheon along with a full program of activities.

Branch President Victoria Mischenko began the festivities by extending a warm welcome to all. Luba Bilowchtchuk served as the mistress of ceremony and led the group in singing the UNWLA anthem.

UNWLA Honorary President Anna Krawczuk read the UNWLA special prayer.

Branch godmothers Maria Polanskyj and Mrs. Krawczuk presented the branch with a Ukrainian embroidered "rushnyk" (ritual cloth). Many greetings and letters of congratulations followed, including one from Marianna Zajac, national president of the UNWLA.

A singing duo, Ania Dzera and Yaroslava Kochman, provided entertainment, regaling the audience with their lovely renditions of Ukrainian songs.

Mrs. Mischenko followed with a brief



Participants of the 21st anniversary celebration of Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 98.

and sometimes personal history of the branch. Over its 21-year history, the branch elected seven presidents. Four of them, Dr. Margaret Putykewych, Mrs. Mischenko, Mary Bonanno and Orisia Jacus, remain members, with Mrs. Jacus currently serving as the branch treasurer.

Mrs. Mischenko, noted that, while small in membership and without a parish, Branch

98 conducted clothing drives, film screenings of "Harvest of Despair" and "Between Hitler and Stalin" at local libraries, as well as displays of Ukrainian folk art and many fund-raising events. She gave special recognition to the late Mykola Bojczuk, who financed the mailing of 65 packages of clothing to Brazil and Ukraine.

A raffle of two paintings and an icon

by Ukrainian artists followed. Three lucky winners were chosen to take these beautiful works home. The fun continued with everyone's participation in a sing-along and then a tricky-tray auction.

In her closing remarks, Mrs. Mischenko thanked all for attending and for their ongoing support of the goals of the UNWLA.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Teacher honored by Smithsonian

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Andriy Oleksiuk, a teacher at Columbia College in Chicago, was honored by The Smithsonian Institute for his work in the field of philately. He was asked to contribute to the Smithsonian National Postal Museum’s Collecting Ancestral Homelands web exhibit, a high profile internet-based showcase.

On the Smithsonian’s Postal Museum website, Mr. Oleksiuk indicated that his appreciation has grown from an interest in stamps as graphic art to stamps as a window to history. He credits his father with sparking his interest in philately.

Mr. Oleksiuk has a permanent philately exhibit at the Chicago Ukrainian National Museum. Additionally, he has exhibited his collection at many venues in Chicago and Wisconsin.

This award is not Mr. Oleksiuk’s first achievement in philately. He was awarded the prestigious 2008 Chicago Philatelic Society Russo Award, the 2007 American

Philatelic Society Ernest J. Kehr Award and the Ukrainophilex 2001 Grand Award for his exhibit Ukraine Postal History: 1900-1945. He is on the Board of Directors of the Chicago Philatelic Society, an officer of the Illinois Postal History Society and a member of the Chicago Ukrainian Philatelist Organization.

On July 5, Mr. Oleksiuk will conclude his fifth annual Stamps for Kids giveaway, a program which will distribute over 1.5 millions collectable postage stamps to Chicago children.

Mr. Oleksiuk is a former member of Plast, the Ukrainian Scouting Organization, in Chicago and is a graduate of The School of Ukrainian Studies in Chicago. He earned his undergraduate degree from Columbia College and is currently a Master of Fine Arts candidate at the Electronic Visualization degree program at the School of Art and Design at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Mr. Oleksiuk’s contribution to the exhibit may be viewed by logging on to <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/homelands/Oleksiuk.html>.

Artist to display works at Grazhda

TANNERSVILLE, N.Y. – Taras Schumylovych from Tannersville, N.Y., will take part in the 2009 Annual Exhibition of Ukrainian Artists in the U.S., at the Grazhda, the Ukrainian Cultural Center situated near St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jewett, N.Y.

The center is surrounded by the beautiful Catskill Mountains, luscious meadows and

neatly kept properties and houses, many of which belong to Ukrainians.

This year’s group art exhibition takes place from July 5 to September 1. It will feature over 79 artists. Mr. Schumylovych will show two oil paintings, “Autumn Stories” and “Sunflowers.”

Mr. Schumylovych will also display two of his paintings at the 62nd annual art exhibit of Twilight Park Artists in nearby Haines Falls, N.Y., on August 8-9. Also participating in that show, among more than 100 artists, will be his grandchildren Xenia, Justin and Larissa Schumylovych.

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The Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble (PFE) is a dynamic Ukrainian Dance Company based out of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. PFE is excited to bring together the art of Ukrainian staged dance through its “Nostalgia” tour, 2009, featuring special guest performer, violin virtuoso, Vasyll Popadiuk. The ensemble is touring from Saturday, July 25th, to Friday, August 7th, throughout the USA and Canada including Chicago, Pittsburgh, Whippany, Mississauga, and Montreal. Experience the passion and enchantment that is PAVLYCHENKO!

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Sunday, July 26, 2:00 pm
Northside College Prep High School
5501 N. Kedzie

Pittsburgh
Wednesday, July 29, 7:00 pm
Upper St. Clair Theater
1825 McLaughlin Run Road
Upper St. Clair, PA

Whippany
Sunday, August 2, 2:00 pm
Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey
60 North Jefferson Road
Whippany, NJ

Montreal
Monday, August 3, 7:00 pm
Collège Jean-Eudes
3535, Boul. Rosemont
Montréal, QC

Toronto
Thursday, August 6, 7:00 pm
Meadowvale Theatre
6315 Montevideo Rd.
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Chicago July 26, 2:00 pm, Northside College Prep High School
Pittsburgh July 29, 7:00pm, Upper St. Clair Theater
Whippany August 2, 2:00pm, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey
Montreal August 3, 7:00pm, Collège Jean-Eudes
Toronto August 6, 7:00pm, Meadowvale Theatre
Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door. Canadian orders: www.ticketweb.ca 1-888-222-6608
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USCAK-East Tennis Championships held at Soyuzivka

by George Sawchak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Soyuzivka was again the site of the annual USCAK-East Tennis Tournament. Held on the weekend of June 27-28, this 53rd annual event sponsored by the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (known by its Ukrainian acronym as USCAK) attracted 36 players, many from the Soyuzivka Tennis Camp, which was in session during this time. They competed in 11 groups: six singles groups, three doubles groups, and two mixed doubles groups.

A young Canadian, Alexandra (Olesia) Foty, became the women's USCAK-East champion when in the final round of the group she defeated Ada Kowcz of Connecticut 6-3, 6-1.

In the semi-finals Foty overcame Lidia Kowinko, and Kowcz received a walk-over from Christine Toth. Kowinko gained third place in the group with a feed-in win over Katherine Petryczka.

For the third consecutive year New York State resident Mykola Stroynick won the men's group of the tournament. With the score at 5-0 in the first set, his opponent, Steve Sosiak of Colonia, N.J., could not continue the match.

In the semi-finals Stroynick defeated Paul deVassal 6-1, 6-1, and Sosiak beat Greg Serba 6-2, 6-3. In what was one of the best matches of the tournament, deVassal defeated Serba 0-6, 6-1, 7-6 (3) to gain the third place in the men's group.

The men's senior championship went to Ivan Durbak of New Jersey when in the final round he defeated Sosiak, who played in two singles groups, 6-0, 6-1.

In the semi-finals Durbak beat George Hrabec 6-1, 6-1 and Sosiak defeated Ihor Buhaj 6-1, 6-2. Hrabec won the feed-in of the senior group with a pro-set score of 8-6 over Walter Dziwak.

In a round-robin format, Marta Cherpak from Maryland won the girls' singles group of the tournament without losing a single game. Larysa Boyko, a Pennsylvania resident, defeated Alexandra Patrylak 6-1, 6-3 to gain second place in the girls' singles.

Boys' singles competed in two age groups. In the younger, 14 and under group, a Floridian, Christopher Bula, in the final round won over Oliver Chernyk of New York 6-0, 6-3.

In the semis Bula won over Mark Watson, and Chernyk defeated Julian Bernard 6-4, 6-1. Matt Kohout won the feed-in of the group with a win over Watson 6-3, 6-0.

The boys' 16 and under championship went to Daniel Tylawsky of New Jersey. In the finals of the group he defeated Adrian Burke of New York 6-0, 6-1.



Petrusia Sawchak

Tournament participants and trophy winners during closing ceremonies.

In the semi-finals Tylawsky beat Peter Chudolij 6-0, 6-1, and Burke, Marko Luchanko 6-1, 6-1. Chudolij won the feed-in of the group with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Marko Luchanko.

Women's doubles winners were singles' finalist Foty and Kowcz, who defeated Larysa Boyko and Kowinko 6-4, 6-0.

Kowcz teamed up with Serba to win the mixed doubles group 6-3, 6-4 over husband-and-wife team from Pennsylvania, Val and Anna deVassal. Their son, Paul, with partner Marta Cherpak won the junior mixed doubles group with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Patrylak and Bernard.

Tylawsky and Burke won the boys' junior doubles when they defeated Chudolij and Frankie Owens 6-0, 6-1 in the finals.

In the semi-finals Burke and Tylawsky won over Chernyk and Bula, and Chudolij and Owens beat Luchanko and Kohout 6-0, 2-6, 7-5. The feed-in of the group went to a team of Daniel Hankevych and Andrei Tabachouk when they defeated Luchanko-Kohout 6-0, 6-4.

For the third year in a row the men's doubles winners was the team of Don Kopach and his father-in-law, George Sawchak. In the finals of the group they defeated Durbak and Hrabec 6-4, 6-2, and in the semi-finals Serba and Dziwak 6-2, 6-2.

To reach to the finals Durbak-Hrabec defeated a father-and-son team, of the deVassals 6-2, 6-3. Serba-Dziwak took the feed-in, thereby taking third place in the group by beating the deVassals 6-3, 6-3.

At the conclusion of the tournament, trophies were presented to winners and final-

ists by members of USCAK's tennis committee Durbak, Hrabec and Sawchak (chairman), who conducted the tournament.

The next Ukrainian tennis tournament will be USCAK's singles championships, which will be held on the courts of Soyuzivka on September 5-7.



Presenting trophies to men's singles champion Mykola Stroynick (third from left) and finalist Steve Sosiak (far left) are George Sawchak and George Hrabec.



Marta Cherpak, girls' winner (second from right) and Larysa Boyko, finalist, receive awards from committee members (from left) Ivan Durbak, George Sawchak and George Hrabec.



Women's trophy winners Olesia Foty (far right) champion, Ada Kowcz, finalist (third from left), Lidia Kowinko, third-place winner (second from left) with committee members Ivan Durbak (far left) and George Hrabec (second from left).

"Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide" wins award at Monaco film festival

LOS ANGELES – "Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide" was awarded the "Grand Jury Award for a Feature or Short for the Most Outstanding Movie, Award of Discovery and Human Interest" at the Monaco Charity Film Festival held in May in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

The documentary film directed by Bobby Leigh and produced by Marta Tomkiw, whose small, independent companies are based in Los Angeles, was officially selected out of 350 originally submitted films from all over the world, and won this distinctive award out of 55 films.

On hand to accept the prestigious award in Monte Carlo were Director/Producer Bobby Leigh (Mr. Leigh has had three films play in Monaco), Producer Marta Tomkiw and Executive Producer Luba S. Keske.

Also holding down the fort world-wide while Mr. Leigh, Ms. Tomkiw and Ms. Keske were working both the fourth Monaco Charity Film Festival in Monte Carlo as well as the 62nd Cannes Film Festival in France were Executive Producer Nestor Popowych in Chicago, Co-Producer Maya Lew in New York City, Production Coordinator Viktoriya Hubska in Kyiv, and researcher/scholar and Holodomor expert Taras Hunczak in New Jersey.

Dr. Hunczak also co-wrote the narration script with Mr. Leigh and works daily with Mr. Leigh to make sure that every element of the film is authenticated and historically correct.

"Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide" is a 20.5-minute short cinematic look at a very dark and horrific time in which millions of people died due to the Famine in Ukraine perpetrated by Joseph Stalin.

Last spring, Mr. Leigh, Ms. Tomkiw, Ms. Lew and Ms. Hubska spent several weeks in Ukraine interviewing and film-

ing Holodomor survivors in the Kyiv, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Chernihiv and Cherkasy regions of Ukraine. Also interviewed were Holodomor survivors throughout the United States and Canada.

The film's team is quickly approaching the completion of a 96-minute feature-length documentary film. "We are in the final phases of editing, and have held many focus groups all over the country and have received very positive feedback," said Mr. Leigh.

"I didn't want to make this film look or feel like a documentary. It definitely has a narrative studio feature film feel; it's not slow or boring. It's very emotional, educational and it also enlightens," he explained. "Plus, I think we really prove the fact that this was a genocide against the Ukrainian people. We are also actively seeking A-List celebrity narrators and have made offers to some very big stars, but we want someone whose heart is in this story as much as ours is."

Mr. Leigh continued. "We are close to locking the picture and moving into final post-production, and are actively seeking theatrical worldwide distribution."

"Once we lock the picture," Ms. Tomkiw added, "we still have a lot to do. We are still fund-raising heavily to complete the post-production phase, so every single penny counts. It's very expensive to make a high-quality independent feature film that can compete with films made by the major studios. Our main mission right now, besides to complete this film, is to make the world aware of the Holodomor and to help make 'Holodomor' a household name."

To learn more about the full-length feature film and/or to make a donation,



A photographer in Monte Carlo snaps a picture of Marta Tomkiw and Bobby Leigh.

readers may log on to

www.HolodomorTheMovie.com. To make a U.S. tax-deductible donation, please make checks payable to Filmmakers

Alliance (with "Holodomor the Movie" in the memo) and mail to: Holodomor the Movie LLC, 8306 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 947, Beverly Hills, CA. 90211.

BOOK NOTES

Ukrainian professional version of "Atlas of Human Anatomy"

"*Atlas Anatomiyi Liudyny*," Ukrainian translation of Frank Netter's "Atlas of Human Anatomy," fourth edition, professional version. USA: AUMF / Lviv: Nautilus, 2009. ISBN 966-8574-09-5. Hardcover, 589 pp.

by Roman B. Worobec

The 2009 Ukrainian translation of the professional version of Frank Netter's "Atlas of Human Anatomy," fourth edition, follows the well-received translation of the second edition published in 2004. The fourth edition of the atlas has been extensively revised and updated, and contains a total of 548 plates, many of which encompass several illustrations to clarify an anatomical detail.

Anatomy is the most fundamental of the medical sciences: it was the study of anatomy by astute observers hundreds of years ago that laid the foundations for modern medicine by providing an initial understanding of how the body works.

The increased focus on 21st century medicine in the atlas is reflected in the numerous x-rays, arteriograms, and magnetic resonance and computed tomography images that have been added to the new edition to complement Netter's drawings. Moreover, 17 of the plates are new to the atlas, some either prepared or modified by artists-clinicians following in Netter's footsteps and adhering to his artistic style.

Netter's atlas is recognized worldwide for its unsurpassed clarity and accuracy in depicting human anatomy, while avoiding clutter and confusing minutiae, characteristics that made this book the best-selling anatomy atlas in the world. To date, the atlas has been translated into 16 languages and earned Netter the title of "medicine's Michelangelo." The atlas is divided into eight color-coded sections corresponding to the logical divisions of the human body, Ukrainian equivalents are listed alongside the Latin terms, and a 26-page index provides easy access to the image of interest.

The overall appearance of the atlas is that of an elegant book. The fact that the pages are identified by plate numbers makes the book feel almost like an art book rather than an anatomy textbook, a feeling reinforced by the inclusion a red placeholder ribbon – a



feature seldom seen in medical books.

The availability of the atlas in Ukrainian will enable more Ukrainian health-care professional to refer to this classical reference work in their native language – the language in which information is best retained – and obviate the need to rely on translations in other Slavic languages.

The appearance of the Ukrainian translation was made possible by the American Ukrainian Medical Foundation headed by Dr. Paul J. Dzul, with the financial assistance of Lubomyr and Daria Kurylko, Stefania Zaricznyj (in memory of her husband Dr. Basilius Zaricznyj) and the Antonovych Foundation.

Prof. Yuriy Chaikovskiy of Kyiv served as the editor-in-chief of the project; the editorial advisory board consisted of Drs. Andriy Tsehelskyi (primary translator,) Oleksander Lutsyk, Yuriy Kryvko, Dzul and this writer.

Finally, Dr. Oleksander Zavadka, head of Nautilus Publishers, and Dmytro Teloshevskiy deserve special mention for overseeing the book's production in an incredible four weeks – because of contractual obligations among several international publishers – a feat that required fine-tuning the operations of three independent printing concerns in Lviv.

Further information about the atlas may be obtained from the American-Ukrainian Medical Foundation, 18530 Mack Ave., Suite 146, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; e-mail, foundation@aumf.net.

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Since 1894

“Holiday of Heroes” marked at Ukrainian American Youth Association grounds

by Oxana Bartkiv

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – As the people of the United States commemorated Independence Day on July 4, Ukrainians gathered at the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) grounds here in the Shawangunk Mountains to remember the Ukrainian and American heroes who gave their lives in the battle for independence.

Members of UAYA and other Ukrainians commemorated the “Holiday of Heroes.” The organizers of the event were the UAYA national executive, the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU), veterans of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and the Organization in Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine.

In attendance were participants of the UAYA camp named in honor of Stepan Bandera and representatives from East Coast branches of the youth association, as well as officials from various other organizations.

The commemoration began with a

divine liturgy celebrated by Bishop Paul Chomnycky and the Rev. Bohdan Danylo. Responses were sung by choir members from St. Nicholas Parish in Passaic, N.J.

Bishop Chomnycky also blessed the camp flag, bearing a portrait of Bandera, legendary leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, which was designed and created by the campers.

After the liturgy, the bishop officiated at a “panakhyda,” or memorial service, on the stage in front of memorials to four Ukrainian heroes who gave their lives in the battle for a free Ukraine.

Afterwards John Burtyk, representative of ODFFU, spoke about the importance of the OUN and the UPA. The main speaker was Andriy Bihun, head of the UAYA national executive, who ended his moving address with the words “Slava Ukraini. Heroyam slava” – “Glory to Ukraine. Glory to the heroes.”

Wreaths were then laid at the foot of the monuments to Ukraine’s heroes.

(Translated by Olga Zahnijnyj-Colon.)



A view of the wreath-laying at the monuments to Ukraine’s heroes.



Ukrainian American Youth Association members arrive at the liturgy bearing the Ukrainian flag and their camp banner.



Bishop Paul Chomnycky and the Rev. Bohdan Danylo during the divine liturgy.

Ukrainian American...

(Continued from page 13)

tems. The new fiber, now known generically as Non-Zero Dispersion Fiber (NZDF), has become an industry standard that has enabled the explosive growth in communications bandwidth. Roughly 50 million miles of NZDF have been installed worldwide.

Based on NZDF Drs. Chraplyvy and Tkach went on to invent the concept of dispersion management, which further increased fiber optic capacity and is now used in all high-speed, high-capacity fiber optic communications systems throughout the world. By 1996 their technological innovations had led to breaking the Terabit/second (one trillion bits per second on a single fiber) barrier.

Dr. Chraplyvy and Tkach work at the fabled Crawford Hill Laboratory of Bell Labs (now part of Alcatel-Lucent) where fiber optic research began in the 1960s and where so many communications breakthroughs have taken place.

Dr. Chraplyvy joined Bell Labs in 1980 after working three years in the physics department at General Motors Research Laboratories, where he studied ultra-high resolution spectroscopy of gases and impurity modes in solids. Prior to joining GM he had received his undergraduate degree in physics from

Washington University in St. Louis, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Cornell University.

He currently is Optical Transport Networks Research vice president at Bell Labs. He holds over 30 patents in the areas of lightwave systems and fiber optics and is the recipient of many of the industry’s highest honors, including the 2003 John Tyndall Award, the 1999 Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award, the 1999 New Jersey Inventor of the Year Award, and the 1998 Lucent Technologies Patent Award.

He is a Bell Labs Fellow, a member of the National Academy of Engineering a fellow of the Optical Society of America and a fellow of IEEE

Dr. Chraplyvy is also a member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Chornomortsi fraternity, and the Ukrainian National Association.

“Very few scientists have accomplished what Andy Chraplyvy and Bob Tkach have,” said Rod Alferness, Bell Labs chief scientist. “Over the course of their careers they have not only made numerous breakthroughs that have revolutionized optical technology, but in the process have improved the research of others and made the organization successful through unfailing collaboration, passion, and inventiveness.”

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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.

Luhovy's new Holodomor documentary tours cities in Canada

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – Yuri Luhovy's new documentary film, "Okradena Zemlia" (Plundered Land) has been launched in Quebec and Ontario. The film, a 75-minute documentary on the Holodomor, is based on newly released archival material revealing the genocidal intent of Stalin's man-made Famine.

It features interviews with historians and specialists on Holodomor research, as well as interviews with survivors in affected areas of eastern Ukraine, particularly near the Ukraine-Russia border.

The film is in Ukrainian but an English-language version, with a working title of "Genocide Revealed," is in the works.

Mr. Luhovy, a professional cinematographer with 35 years' experience, was the co-producer and editor of the first documentary on the Holodomor made in 1984 by the Famine Research Committee (later renamed the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center) which went on to win several prizes at film festivals and was broadcast by such networks as CBC and PBS.

He is a member of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television and has produced and directed several films on Ukrainian themes, including "Bereza Kartuzka (1934-1939)," a one hour documentary on the internment of Ukrainians during the Polish occupation of Western Ukraine; and "Freedom had a Price," a one-hour documentary on Canada's first internment operations of 1914-1920 which was broadcast on the CBC and other TV stations in Canada. Mr. Luhovy has worked extensively with the National Film Board.

With the approach of the 75th Holodomor commemoration, Mr Luhovy said he realized no new documentary on the



Yurij Luhovy with the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center at the premiere of "Okradena Zemlia" in Toronto (from left): Milia and Wasyl Janiszewsky, Yurij Luhovy, Iroida Wynnycka, Oksana Zakydalsky, Vsevolod and Christine Isajiw, Oleh Romanyshyn and Ivan Wynnyckyj.

famine, which would feature the new documentation and include interviews with survivors from areas of Ukraine which had been inaccessible when "Harvest of Despair" had been made in North America.

As well, since the mid-1980s the focus of the study of the tragedy of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, has changed from proving that the Famine had taken place and that it was man-made, to proving that the Holodomor not only encompassed actual starvation of the population of Ukraine, but included a whole program aimed at the destruction of the Ukrainian nation: executions of the Ukrainian intelligensia and an all-encompassing plunder of Ukrainian material culture.

Furthermore, newly revealed documenta-

tion supports the position that the architects and instigators of the Holodomor were Joseph Stalin, Lazar Kaganovich and Viacheslav Molotov, the central leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The first showing of Okradena Zemlya took place on May 20 in Montreal, Mr Luhovy's home town where, he received a standing ovation from the 300 people present. The film was shown in Toronto on June 14, and then in Oshawa and Hamilton, Ontario, with Mr Luhovy present at the screenings.

In Toronto, the evaluation of the film was very positive, with audience members pointing to its narrative strength, its weaving of

political events of the period into the narrative, and in particularly for its contextual framing with the wider meaning of the Holodomor as a genocide against the Ukrainian nation.

Mr. Luhovy explained that the next important step will be releasing an English-language version of the film so it can serve as "an educational resource for courses in genocidal studies, the teaching of the Famine-Genocide in Canadian and American schools and universities, as well as to further public awareness worldwide."

For further information or to book a showing of "Okradena Zemlia," readers may contact Mr. Luhovy at 514-481-5871 or mmlinc@hotmail.com.

Vice-President Biden...

(Continued from page 9)

Mr. Biden demonstrated his familiarity with the Ukrainian American community, having grown up in Scranton, Pa., which had a large Ukrainian American community.

He said he met in Kyiv for breakfast with his "very good friend, John Hynansky, a very prominent businessman from Delaware." Mr. Hynansky is among Delaware's top auto dealers and launched the Winner Ford car dealership franchise in Ukraine.

Ukraine is among the most free and democratic nations in the post-Soviet sphere, Mr. Biden said in a speech that sought to inspire Ukrainians following their disappointment after the Orange Revolution.

He quoted Thomas Jefferson's words, "The generation which commences a revolution rarely completes it," adding that the Orange Revolution is still in progress and its promise has yet to be fulfilled.

Ukrainians are standing at a moment in history where they have never stood before: the chance to establish a truly independent country with defined borders, he said.

The U.S. vice-president urged Ukraine's political forces to settle their differences and live up to the promises they made during the Orange Revolution.

"Especially in difficult economic times, Ukraine must heed the lessons of history," he said. "Effective, accountable government is the only way to provide stable, predictable and a transparent environment that attracts investment, which is the economic engine of development."

The Obama administration will not waiver in its support of a strong and independent Ukraine, he said, adding that he knew attempts to reset relations with Russia would lead some to believe that would threaten ties with Ukraine.

He pointed out that during his trip to Moscow President Obama specifically referred to Ukraine when stating that "state sovereignty most be the cornerstone of international order."

"Our commitment to Ukraine is evidenced through our aid program – \$120 million this year to bolster peace and security, strengthen democratic institutions, promote economic growth, modernize your military, secure Chernobyl, fight AIDS and HIV, and improve child health," he said.

Young Ukrainian officers have studied in American military academies, Mr. Biden said, and U.S. officers have come to Ukraine to take part in education, training, planning, and organization and exercises.

After signing a Charter of Strategic Partnership in December 2008, the U.S. and Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission will meet this fall in Washington to deepen cooperation in security, economy, trade, energy and the rule of law.

The U.S. and Ukraine maintain a delicate relationship, built more on helpful advice than on strict orders, experts said.

"One side of U.S. relations with Ukraine has remained unchanged – in the sense of a strategic partnership," said Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Kyiv-based Penta Center for Applied Politics.

"But on the other hand, there won't be any heavy-handed advice. It won't lecture Ukraine to 'do this,' but instead, it will simply offer advice from one partner to another."

Although President Yushchenko extended an invitation to his American counterpart to visit Ukraine in the fall, Mr. Fesenko and most experts don't expect a visit from President Obama until after the presidential election.

"Any signal from the president himself will come next spring," said Mr. Williams, who also is president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council based in Washington.

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Lviv, Ukraine

Dobriansky Brothers Quartet
New York, NY

Guest of Honor (August 15th)

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A veteran of two missions ('06, '08) & five space walks

Traditional Ukrainian foods, folk art and exhibitions

Live Demonstrations: Embroidery, Gerdany (beadweaving), Pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs)
Traditional Ukrainian Ritual Bread display, and "The Christmas Eve Dinner" Table display

Programs

Saturday, August 15th

1:00 – 3:00 Stage Show

4:30 – 6:30 Stage Show

7:00 ZABAVA (Dance)

Festival Admission

\$5/person – one day

\$7/person – both days

FREE – Age 14 & under

FREE Parking!

Sunday August 16th

11:00 Liturgy at St. Andrew's Chapel

1:30 Stage Show

Children's Games • Horseback rides

'Pyrohy' (pierogie) eating contest

Ukrainian Cossack encampment

Swimming • Vendors galore!

Enjoy a weekend of Ukrainian music, foods, arts & crafts, culture and history!

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Ruslana...

(Continued from page 15)

said are strong supporters of the beautiful and vibrant Ukrainian culture.

Immediately afterwards, the featured performers of the Ukrainian Cultural Festival took to the stage. They were joined by the dance troupe Nadia, directed by Nadia Lemega, from Perth Amboy, N.J.

In between the afternoon and evening programs, festival guests had the opportunity to enjoy the music of the Klooch band, playing on the Veselka patio, and the trio of Walter Mosuriak, Matthew Dubas and Mike McCormack, performing on a bandstand erected on the volleyball court near Soyuzivka's popular Tiki Deck.

Klooch of Canada and Hrim of the U.S. played for dances on both Friday and Saturday evenings.

Festival attendees enjoyed the festival's specially erected food court, as well as the diverse offerings – folk art, recordings, books, jewelry, sports apparel, T-shirts, etc. – of 45 vendors. The Hurt Udych duo of musicians entertained shoppers in the vendor's marketplace.

Family Day

Sunday, July 19, was designated as Family Day at the Ukrainian Cultural Festival. Admission was only \$5 (compared to \$10 for Friday and \$20 for Saturday; or \$25 for a three-day pass), and the program was geared to the younger set.

There was a special appearance by Soyuzivka's Misio bear, entertainment by a clown, face-painting, and a raffle of gifts and games for families.

The featured performers were two dance ensembles of young Ukrainian Americans: Iskra of Whippany, N.J., directed by Andrij Cybyk; and Zolotyj Promin of Hartford, Conn., directed by Orlando Pagan. The Iskra Dance Academy presented dances by its three ensembles of dancers, grouped by age and ability.

Joining the dancers on the bill was the Korinnia Ensemble, a local music ensemble composed of the pre-teens and teens of the Shepko and Hamilton families, whose four members play the violin, sopilka, cello and bandura, as well as sing. Also performing were Ms. Kobelak and Mr. Mishalow.

A special treat was a guest appearance by Ruslana. After briefly wading into the audience, she invited the afternoon's young performers to join her on stage. She addressed the audience and then invited all to join her in singing the beloved song by Volodymyr Ivasiuk "Chervona Ruta" (Red Rue).

Ruslana concluded the performance by commenting on her very enjoyable stay on the beautiful Soyuzivka property so reminiscent of her beloved Carpathian Mountains.

The program concluded with the traditional "Hopak" – one each presented by Iskra and Zolotyj Promin.

Ruslana, meanwhile began signing auto-

graphs for the eager public. She did so non-stop for three and a half hours, personalizing each signature with a dedication.

Overflow crowd

All 90 rooms at Soyuzivka were reserved months in advance, and more than 300 rooms at the nearby Hudson Valley Resort, as well as accommodations at the Ukrainian American Youth Association grounds, were filled. Visitors arrived on buses from Brooklyn and Riverhead, Long Island, as well as in vans from the Philadelphia area.

Most, however, arrived by car, and parking was at a premium, with spaces at Soyuzivka and the local Ukrainian Catholic Church filling quickly. There was additional parking at the Hudson Valley Resort, courtesy of its manager, Orest Fedash, and shuttle buses transported guests between the resort and Soyuzivka.

License plates were spotted from various U.S. states and Canadian provinces, among them Florida, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, the District of Columbia, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec.

With traffic backed up on Foordmoore Road due to the overflow crowd and some festival-goers illegally parking on both sides of the road, New York State Troopers closed the thoroughfare to allow tow trucks to remove vehicles blocking the flow of traffic.

A renewal of diaspora life

Back at the UNA's Home Office in Parsippany, N.J., UNA President Kaczaraj said the festival was "extraordinarily successful."

He credited "the professional organization, the masses of people – the crowd of 6,000 to 7,000 that filled the concert grounds, the high artistic level of the concert performers, as well as the skillful masters of ceremonies, Lida Kulbida and Andrij Stasiw." As well, Mr. Kaczaraj noted the colorful marketplace of Ukrainian arts and crafts, and the food court's delicious Ukrainian menu.

"I am extremely pleased because we attained our goals at the festival," he continued. "One of those goals was to integrate the Fourth Wave [of Ukrainian arrivals to North America] into our community life. Also, seeing the number of people who arrived at the festival from throughout the United States and Canada, as well as other parts of the world, I think we have good prospects for the future."

"The UNA has existed for 115 years. We want the UNA and our Soyuzivka to exist for many, many years so that our youth could congregate here and build lifelong ties," Mr. Kaczaraj commented. "The scope of the festival and its results are proof that Soyuzivka can truly become a center of our community's unity."

"Some of our guests," the UNA president said, "very aptly characterized this festival as a renewal of our diaspora life."

arrangements and help. The banquet concluded with a dance.

The camp officially closed the next day on the courts as it continued to rain. The Boys' III Group was unable to finish its matches but, based on results to that point, Paul Kravchuk placed first and Stephan Iwanik took second place.

As a memento of the camp Mrs. Czerkas gave each youngster a CD that contained addresses of all the participants and many photographs taken during the camp.

Mr. Sawchak again thanked everyone for coming, invited them to return again next year and most importantly encouraged them to continue playing tennis, a game for a lifetime.

Pukach confesses...

(Continued from page 3)

have led to the death of former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Kravchenko, which police authorities reported as suicide but is widely viewed as an ordered killing because of his suspected involvement and ties to politicians as the top police officer at the time.

Kravchenko was found with two bullet wounds in his face – in the temple and chin – which has led the public to believe suicide wasn't possible.

President Yushchenko immediately ordered authorities at the Procurator General's Office (PGO) and the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) to take maximum measures ensuring Mr. Pukach's safety.

"I gave the order yesterday that not a single hair fall off Pukach's head and that he be kept at a location that monitors his life every second," the president said on July 22.

Mr. Pukach disappeared after police arrested, questioned and released him on bail in November 2003. Deputy Procurator General Viktor Shokin said in late 2005 that Ukrainian authorities had located Mr. Pukach in Israel in 2005 but failed to transfer the necessary legal evidence for Israeli authorities to arrest him.

The SBU and PGO authorities arrested Mr. Pukach in a Zhytmyr village, where he lived for a year, fished and tended to cows, didn't hide and was known to his neighbors as Petro. Police staked out the village for three days before arresting him.

Myroslava Gongadze, the wife of the slain journalist, said she suspects Mr. Pukach will attempt to shift blame onto those dead colleagues who were involved – Internal Affairs Ministry Col. Eduard Fere and Internal Affairs Ministry Col. Yurii Dahayev.

Unfortunately, Mr. Pukach's arrest doesn't guarantee those that who ordered the murder will be prosecuted and convicted, Ms. Gongadze said.

Other than the former president, among those suspected of being involved is Verkhovna Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn, who enjoys immunity from prosecution. He's also a candidate in the January presidential election.

"I hope that, this time, Ukrainian jurisprudence won't be able to distance itself from public opinion by turning in the bit players of this process ... and that, this time, the actual orderers of this murder, who continue to live luxuriously, will be brought to accountability for this murder," Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on July 22.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

with a label that has never been tried in a court of law."

Having been stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1981 and extradited to Israel in 1986, it was unclear where Mr. Demjanjuk would go.

Rabbi Marvin Hier of the Simon Wiesenthal Center commented to CNN that the center had already sent a message to Attorney General Janet Reno urging that Mr. Demjanjuk be barred from re-

entering the U.S. Rabbi Hier continued to insist that Mr. Demjanjuk was a major Nazi war criminal.

Subsequently, Mr. Demjanjuk was allowed to return to the U.S., and his citizenship was reinstated. However, a new case against him was opened by the U.S. Justice Department in 1999, alleging that he was a guard in Flossenburg, Majdanek and Sobibor.

Source: "Demjanjuk acquitted, Israeli Supreme Court decision is unanimous," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 1, 1993.

AT SOYUZIVKA 2009 UKRAINIAN FILM FESTIVAL

AUGUST 1st & AUGUST 2nd

Aug. 1 SATURDAY

Program I: New Films from Ukraine (Feature shorts)
 River Tamara Karpynska
 "I", 2009, Mykhailo Kaliuzhny
 The Law, 2008, Vitaly Potrukh
 Oath, 2007 and Rain, 2007, Maryna Vroda

Aug. 2 SUNDAY

Program II: Fairy Tale for Children (US Premier)
 An Awesome Tale, 2008, Roman Shyrman

Program III: New & Old Ukrainian Immigration in Film (US Premier)
 The Fourth Wave, 2008, Victoria Melnykova
 Red Soil, 2001, Serhiy Bukovsky

Program IV: Ukraine: A View from the West
 Surprise Screening (TBA)

(All films are with English subtitles)

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Soyuzivka's Tennis Camp...

(Continued from page 14)

Tabatchouk from New Jersey and Matthew Kohout from Illinois.

Mrs. Czerkas and the counselors presented funny certificates to all the campers; this touch of levity was enjoyed very much by the campers. Chef Sonevytsky was given a standing ovation for the outstanding dinner at the banquet and for all the nutritious and delicious meals served during camp. At the banquet the campers had a choice of three scrumptious entrees: chicken stuffed with three cheeses, salmon and prime rib. A thank-you went also to "Pani Sonia" for her behind-the-scenes

Rochester credit union presents scholarships

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – The Ukrainian Federal Credit Union (UFCU) scholarship award ceremony was held on Saturday, June 13 at the UFCU Community Center. Parents, friends and relatives joined the 2009 scholarship recipients at this special event.

Scholarship committee members Anne Kornylko and Christine Hoshowsky presented this year's awards. Joining them were Bohdan Zakharchishin, Educational Committee co-chair, Tamara Denysenko, UFCU CEO, and Wasyl Kornylko, chair-

man of the board, who greeted the scholarship recipients and extended warm wishes for much success in all their future educational endeavors.

Ms. Denysenko noted that over the years the UFCU has awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships, and this year the total exceeded \$16,000. She strongly encouraged students to consider UFCU as their primary financial institution now and for many years to come.

The 2009 Special Designation Memorial scholarship awards were

received by Samantha Choma (\$1,500 – Bohdan Wenglowkyj Memorial Award); Ulia Huley (\$1,500 – William Andrushin Memorial Award) and Andrew Wowelko (\$3,000 – Walter Hawrylak Memorial Award). Adam Hill and Ulia Huley presented "thank you" remarks on behalf of all the students.

This year almost 50 member-students of the credit union applied for the scholarship program. Twenty-four students were awarded scholarships.

IMF confirms...

(Continued from page 2)

dential election, the IMF has inevitably become a factor in domestic politics. It refused to allow Prime Minister Tymoshenko to use the whole \$3.3 billion tranche of its loan to cover the budget deficit, forcing her to tighten fiscal discipline, which means that the demand of the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) to increase wages and pensions cannot be met (EDM, July 8).

This is a boon to the PRU's presidential candidate, Viktor Yanukovich, who will not miss any opportunity to portray himself as a defender of the people's interests, while his main rival Ms. Tymoshenko has accepted the conditions of the "foreigners" from the IMF.

The PRU also accused the IMF of indirect interference in the election campaign. Mykola Azarov, the PRU's shadow Finance Minister, claimed that the IMF continues to assist the government in order to help Ms. Tymoshenko's party stay in power. He said that when the PRU was in power, the IMF did not provide assistance to Ukrainian governments ahead of crucial elections.

"The IMF would tell us in an election campaign that it would take no decision until after the election," said Mr. Azarov. He noted that Ms. Tymoshenko's government has been aided by the IMF despite its failure to meet IMF conditions, in particular on the budget deficit and on reforming Naftohaz Ukrainy. According to Mr. Azarov, this provides proof that the IMF is guided by political considerations (UNIAN, July 6).

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



Students attending the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union scholarship award ceremonies in Rochester, N.Y. (first row from left) Ulia Huley, Lydia Nestorowycz, Samantha Choma, Kristina Boberskuj, Carol Loan, (second row) Bogdan Zakharchishin (Scholarship Committee member), Adam Hill, Christine Hoshowsky (Scholarship Committee member), Tamara Denysenko (CEO of UFCU), Anne Kornylko (Scholarship Committee member), Petro Chomik and Wasyl Kornylko (president of the UFCU board).

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OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| August 1
Ottawa | Concert, "Junior Rising Stars - Performances by Young Artists," featuring Aidin Tomosky Beck, Southminster United Church, www.chamberfest.com | 518-989-6479 |
| August 1
Kerhonkson, NY | Golf tournament, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Hudson Valley Resort, 860-729-5181 | August 6
Mississauga, ON
Concert, "Nostalgia," featuring the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble, Meadowvale Theater, 888-222-6608 or www.ticketweb.ca |
| August 1-2
Kerhonkson, NY | Ukrainian Film Festival, presented by Yuri Shevchuk and the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 845-626-5641 | August 8
Jewett, NY
Concert, "Music at the Grazhda" Chamber Music Society, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479 |
| 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 | August 9
Edmonton, AB
Ukrainian Day, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council and the Alberta Council for Ukrainian Arts, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, www.ukrainianvillage.ca |
| August 2
Hempstead, NY | Church picnic, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 516-481-7717 | August 9-22
Emlenton, PA
Kobzarska Sich Bandura Camp and Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop, All Saints Camp, ks@bandura.org or 734-658-6452 |
| August 2
Whippany, NJ | Concert, "Nostalgia," featuring the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 866-468-7619 or www.ticketweb.com | August 14
Jewett, NY
Children's music concert, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479 |
| August 3
Montreal | Concert, "Nostalgia," featuring the Pavlychenko Folklorique College Jean-Eudes, 888-222-6608 or ticketweb.ca | August 15
Jewett, NY
Lydia Krushelnytsky Memorial Tribute, with members of the Ukrainian Stage Ensemble, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479 |
| August 3-7
Jewett, NY | Pysanka workshop, with instruction by Sofika Zielyk, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479 | August 15-16
Lehighton, PA
Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621 or www.ukrhomestead.com |
| 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 | August 17
East Meadow, NY
Free Concert, "Ukrainian American Night," Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater Parking Field 6 and 6A, ukyfly@hotmail.com |
| August 3-14
Jewett, NY | Ukrainian folk-singing course for children ages 4-9, with instruction by Anna Bachynsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, | |

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.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

July 25-August 1 Sitch Sports Camp Session 1

July 26-31 Heritage Camp session 2

July 26-August 8 Dance Camp session 1

July 31-August 1 Friday evening: Kagero on the Tiki Deck
Saturday: Film Festival, hosted by Dr. Yuri Shevchuk and the Columbia Film Club; Zabava with Na Zdorovya, 10 pm

August 1-8 Sitch Sports Camp Session 2

August 2-5 Adoptive Parents Ukrainian Heritage Days

August 7-8 Friday evening: Pete & Vlod on the Tiki Deck
Saturday: Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation Golf Tournament / Fund-Raiser; Dance Camp 1 Recital, 3 pm; Sitch Sports School 40th Anniversary Commemoration; Zabava with Svitanok, 10 pm

August 8-16 Club Suzy-Q Week

August 9-22 Dance Camp session 2

August 14-15 Friday evening: Slavko Halatyn on the Tiki Deck
Saturday: Miss Soyuzivka Pageant (interviews begin at 7 pm); Zabava with Tempo, 10 pm

August 21-22 Friday evening: Hrim unplugged on the Tiki Deck
Saturday: Dance Camp Recital, 3pm; Zabava with Hrim, 10 pm

August 23-29 Joseph's School of Dance (Ballroom Dance)
Friday: recital, 8 pm

August 27-30 Church of Annunciation Weekend

August 29 Wedding weekend

August 31-September 7 Labor Day week
Weekend entertainment to be announced



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

Sunday, August 23

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center – Tryzub (www.tryzub.org) – will host the 18th annual Ukrainian Independence Folk Festival at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads, Horsham, PA 19044. Doors will open at noon; the festival stage show will begin at 1:30 p.m. with headliners: the Kozaks Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Toronto); violinist Innesa Tymochko Dekajlo; the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia); the Luna band (New Jersey); and the Sisters Oros Duo (New York City). A zabava/dance to the music of Luna will follow the stage show, at 4:30 p.m. Delicious Ukrainian foods and baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments will be plentiful. Vendors are welcome; an arts and crafts bazaar and a children's fun area will be open all day. Admission: \$15; free for children under 13; free parking. For further information call 215-343-5412, or log on to www.tryzub.org. The sponsor is a 501(c) (3) tax-

exempt organization; proceeds benefit youth soccer and cultural and community programs.

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.

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.

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