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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## A surprise visit from Ruslana



Markian Hadzewycz

Fresh from her performance at the Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka, pop star Ruslana paid a surprise visit on Monday, July 20, to campers at Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's Vovcha Trova grounds in East Chatham, N.Y. Above, Ruslana poses for a photo with some of the campers and counselors; she holds up her right hand in the traditional Plast greeting of SKOB (Sylno, Krasno, Oberezhno, Bystro – Strongly, Beautifully, Carefully, Swiftly). The full story about Ruslana's visit appears on page 12.

## Pylyp Orlyk's Constitution of 1710 is found in Moscow archives

EDMONTON, Alberta – The young Kyiv historian Oleksandr Alfiorov of the Institute of Historical Education, Mykhailo Drahomanov National Pedagogical University, has discovered the only known 18th century Ukrainian-language version of Hetman Pylyp Orlyk's Constitution of 1710.

He found the document in the winter of 2009 while examining an unsorted collection of "Files on Ukraine" at the Central Russian Archive of Older Documents in Moscow.

The Orlyk Constitution was adopted by Kozaks meeting in exile near the small town of Bendery (in present-day Moldova). Mr. Alfiorov's find refutes the suggestion that the constitution, hitherto known only in a Latin original and copies, was a forgery.

It would now appear that the Ukrainian version of the constitution was secretly kept at the Zaporozhian Sich – the headquarters of the Zaporozhian Kozaks on the lower Dnipro River – until 1775, when it was seized, along with other documents, by the Russian troops who destroyed the Sich in that year.

The Orlyk Constitution is regarded as the first in the world to establish the

separation of government powers into legislative, executive and judicial branches. The document consists of a preamble and 16 articles, and the Ukrainian state is variously referred to in the text as Ukraine, Little Russia and the Zaporozhian Host.

According to the constitution, legislative power was vested in the General Council (parliament), which was to hold three annual sessions – at Christmas, Easter and the Feast of the Holy Protection. The hetman and the General Staff Council constituted the executive branch, while legal matters fell under the jurisdiction of the General Court.

Provision was also made for local self-government on the basis of international (Magdeburg) law, which was gradually restricted by the tsarist administration.

Thus, the Ukrainian Constitution of 1710 preceded those of the United States (1787), France (1791) and Poland (1791). Although it was not implemented because of unfavorable political circumstances, it attested to the progressive intentions of the Kozak

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## Arrest in Gongadze case spawns yet another scandal

by Danylo Peleschuk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – A day had not passed since the unexpected July 21 arrest of Oleksii Pukach, a high-ranking police officer involved in the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze, when the Pukach case became a scandal in and of itself.

Claims from Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) officials that Mr. Pukach would name the murder's orderers and locate Gongadze's skull were dismissed by his lawyer, Serhii Osyka, who said his client never gave such information.

"I believe this is stupidity and disinformation of public opinion," Mr. Osyka said on July 22. "If Pukach names some people, then according to procedure the accusations will be presented and the public will learn of this. What Pukach will say will be established, and the procedures will occur in the presence of a lawyer. To make such loud and incompetent statements in a period of an election campaign is incompetent and unsatisfactory in relation to society."

The scandal intensified after Mr. Pukach dismissed Mr. Osyka on July 27.

While President Viktor Yushchenko raised hopes that Mr. Pukach's discovery would lead to the arrests of top-ranking officials, the doubts expressed by Gongadze's widow, Myroslava, that Mr. Pukach's arrest could lead to a dead end are instead gaining credibility.

SBU Deputy Chair Vasyl Hrytsak said at a July 22 press conference that Mr. Pukach confessed to his role in the murder, even claiming that he had strangled the muckraking journalist himself, and disclosed during an all-night interrogation the names of those who ordered the murder.

Mr. Pukach also allegedly offered to reveal where Gongadze's head is buried. The head has been missing since the jour-

nalist's decapitated body was found in November 2000.

Some political observers now doubt the SBU's claims that Mr. Pukach divulged crucial details, citing a lack of credibility that results from a need to pay political dividends. The rapid-fire contradictions only add to the mystery of what Mr. Pukach has said so far.

"If the average Western person lies 10 percent of the time, then those figures are 10 times higher for the SBU," said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Institute of Statehood and Democracy in Kyiv. "They don't understand that they have to come out with several times more effort to prove that this is all true."

Nonetheless, evidence has surfaced that Mr. Pukach could indeed be offering valuable information, as the SBU claimed.

Investigators allegedly found a skull fragment in the Bila Tserkva region outside of Kyiv, where Mr. Pukach told them it was buried, reported UNIAN on July 28. Ms. Gongadze asked that the skull fragment be examined abroad, citing intense political pressure in Ukraine that could hamper the investigation.

Lt. Gen. Pukach served as the Internal Affairs Ministry's criminal investigation chief at the time of the Gongadze murder and is believed to have been the go-between for those who ordered the murder and those who carried it out.

The Procurator General's Office formally charged Mr. Pukach on July 24 with kidnapping, murder and the destruction of documents, amidst wide suspicion within Ukrainian political circles about the arrest's motives and circumstances.

Some allege police knew of Mr. Pukach's whereabouts, as he was living a rural lifestyle in Molochky, a remote Zhytomyr vil-

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## New election bill moves ahead as presidential election approaches

by Danylo Peleschuk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament on July 24 approved the second reading of the presidential election bill, which observers said isn't as harsh as the first version approved July 1 but still contains provisions that alarm them.

On a positive note, district and local election commissions will consist of representatives submitted by the presidential candidates themselves, not by the current five parliamentary factions, as the bill's first reading stipulated – a provision highly criticized by observers.

Yet, the bill still forbids any court appeals until the Central Election Commission

(CEC) issues its final result, after which all complaints must be presented within a two-day period to a single court, the High Administrative Court in Kyiv, whose decision can't be appealed.

"The most dangerous part of this bill is that it would dramatically curtail the rights of citizens, voters and even some of the candidates themselves," said Oleksander Chernenko, chair of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU). "Appeals will be possible theoretically, but realistically it'll be very hard for any commission to appeal successfully."

President Viktor Yushchenko announced on July 27 that he will veto the bill, citing the

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## ANALYSIS

**Vice-President Biden's mission to Kyiv**

by Roman Kupchinsky  
*Eurasia Daily Monitor*

The visit by U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden to Kyiv on July 21-22 was a strenuous test of his diplomatic skills. He needed to avoid the political land mines separating Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and his nemesis, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, as well as present a neutral face to Viktor Yanukovich, the head of the Party of Regions of Ukraine, and presently the most popular politician in Ukraine. In addition, he also met with Arseniy Yatsenyuk, the young former chairman of the Verkhovna Rada who has announced his bid to become president in January 2010.

The meeting with Mr. Yatsenyuk was the last on Mr. Biden's agenda, leaving enough time for a more substantive review of issues and a chance for the U.S. vice-president to formulate an opinion about the young, upcoming politician.

These meetings, however, were only one facet of his delicate task – Moscow was analyzing every word Mr. Biden uttered in Kyiv to see how they corresponded to what U.S. President Barack Obama told his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin during his recent visit to Russia.

Mr. Biden's trip was widely proclaimed as a mission of reassurance to Ukraine. The message was that the U.S. would stand by its past commitments to that vital country while going forward with "resetting" U.S.-Russian relations.

The problem is that many in Ukraine

do not believe or care much for U.S. protection and would prefer to bask in the Kremlin's care.

Mr. Biden's message lost some of its credibility when on July 21 Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the secretary-general of NATO, stated that neither Ukraine nor Georgia are ready to join NATO and that this is unlikely to change soon, citing the complicated political situation in the two states ([www.mosnews.com](http://www.mosnews.com), July 21).

William Taylor, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, was frank when he stated during a televised interview: "We will not select favorites (in the upcoming elections) and will not attempt to influence the outcome – this is a choice for Ukrainians and they have shown that they are able to do so... I am convinced that the American government will cooperate with the winner" (RFE/RL, July 18).

Prior to Mr. Biden's visit, Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Oleh Shamshur, told *Ukrayinska Pravda* that President Yushchenko would ask Vice-President Biden for the U.S. to provide legally binding assurances that Washington would protect Ukrainian independence. Such assurances are unlikely to be offered anytime in the near future, if ever.

Dr. Shamshur most likely had in mind legalizing the 1994 Budapest agreement between Moscow, London and Washington to guarantee Ukrainian independence ([www.pravda.com.ua](http://www.pravda.com.ua), July 18).

The text of the agreement stated in part: "The United States of America, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

(Continued on page 22)

**Biden urges democratic reforms, backs Georgia's NATO ambitions**

RFE/RL

TBILISI, Georgia – U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden has said Washington fully supports a "united" Georgia during a visit to Tbilisi but added that its leaders must do "much more" to strengthen democracy.

The visit prompted a sharp reaction from Moscow, which promised to take "concrete measures" to prevent Georgia from re-arming.

In a speech to the Georgian Parliament on July 23, Mr. Biden said any improvement in Washington's relations with Moscow would not affect support for Tbilisi.

"We understand that Georgia aspires to join NATO," Mr. Biden said. "We fully support that aspiration and, members of Parliament, we will work to continue to help you meet the standards of NATO membership."

Russia crushed Georgia's military during an intervention last year over the Georgian pro-Moscow region South Ossetia. The Kremlin has indicated the conflict was partly prompted by its fury over Tbilisi's drive to join NATO.

**"We will stand with you"**

Vice-President Biden said on July 23 that Washington would not recognize South Ossetia and another pro-Moscow separatist region, Abkhazia, as independent and urged other countries to do the same. But he warned there was no option to re-integrate the two regions by military force.

"We call upon Russia to honor its

international commitments, clearly specified in the [August] 12th cease-fire agreement, including withdrawal of all forces to their pre-conflict positions and ultimately out of your territorial area," Mr. Biden said.

He added that Washington backs Georgia's "journey to a secure, free, democratic, and once again united Georgia."

"We will stand with you," he said.

Lawmakers interrupted the U.S. vice-president's speech with loud applause. But they were largely silent during a lecture about Georgia's need for democratic reform. Mr. Biden said Georgia must find the right balance between its Parliament and presidency, veiled criticism of the powerful president, Mikheil Saakashvili.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Biden held a closed-door meeting with Mr. Saakashvili. The Georgian president asked Mr. Biden for continued training for the Georgian military, according to a source close to the Georgian government. But he said the president did not ask for advanced weaponry, as had been expected.

**Moscow matters**

Moscow responded to Mr. Biden's visit to its southern neighbor with a harsh warning, promising to take "concrete measures" to prevent Georgia from re-arming its military.

The ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Grigory Karasin as saying Russia has "observed efforts by some states to act in an underhanded way to conceal military cooperation with the

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**NEWSBRIEFS****Election law is amended**

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on July 24 passed a bill of amendments to the law on presidential elections. The bill amends the procedure for forming district and precinct electoral commissions, reduces the election campaign period from 120 to 90 days, and eliminates the institute of absentee certificates and subscription lists in support of a presidential candidate. Beside that, the required monetary deposit of a presidential candidate was increased from 500,000 hrv to 2.5 million hrv (7.67 hrv = \$1 U.S.). President Viktor Yushchenko has said he intends to veto amendments to the law on presidential elections. The presidential election is scheduled for January 17, 2010. (Ukrinform)

**CEC warns presidential candidates**

KYIV – Potential presidential runners should avoid statements about election rigging before the start of the election campaign, Mykhailo Okhondovskiy, a member of the Central Election Committee (CEC), told Channel 5 TV on July 28. "Some candidates, who are going to participate in the upcoming election under the Olympic Creed 'not to win but to take part,' now make statements that election returns will be rigged," he noted. According to the CEC official, a certain hysteria is whipped up, "the future progress of the election process is dramatized in advance, and it is now groundless." Mr. Okhondovskiy said the CEC has not yet produced an official position regarding amendments to the presidential election law recently passed by the Verkhovna Rada. He did say that "the main objective of this law is election of the future president by electoral voting, not by a court decision. There is a certain risk that we may start the election campaign under the current law, and after that, during the election process, the amendments to the law will come into force. This is the risk that I, as one of the election organizers, would like to avoid." (Ukrinform)

**Sevastopol wants more for fleet's basing**

KYIV – Sevastopol should get double compensation from the state budget for the basing of the Russian Black Sea Fleet on its

territory, the press service of Sevastopol City Council on July 28 quoted Council Chairman Valerii Saratov as saying. "Sevastopol has the right to count on 50 percent of \$97.75 million (U.S.), which is around 750 million hrv. The city currently receives only 100 million hrv, and this sum remained unchanged in recent years," he said. "The Russian fleet currently occupies over 3,300 hectares in Sevastopol, and much of this land is located in the city's zones that are profitable for development, particularly the mooring that could have been developed, with the city budget being significantly replenished," Mr. Saratov said. Sevastopol Mayor Serhii Kunitsyn said on July 13 that the funds the city receives as compensation for the stationing of the Russian Black Sea Fleet should be tripled or quadrupled. (Ukrinform)

**Russian patriarch arrives in Ukraine**

KYIV – Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia Kirill arrived in Kyiv on July 27. The leader of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Volodymyr, church representatives and clergy met the patriarch at Kyiv's Boryspil Airport. This is the first visit by Patriarch Kirill to Ukraine as primate of the Russian Orthodox Church. The former patriarch of Moscow and all Russia Alexy visited Ukraine in 2008. Patriarch Kirill offered a prayer for Grand Prince Volodymyr, who converted Kyivan Rus' to Christianity, on Volodymyrska Hill in Kyiv on July 27. Kirill will be in Ukraine until August 5. He is scheduled to visit Donetsk and Horlivka in eastern Ukraine, Symferopol and Sevastopol in Crimea, the western Ukrainian cities of Korets, Lutsk and Volodymyr-Volynsky, as well as the Pochayiv Lavra Monastery in the Ternopil region (West Ukraine).

**Kirill visits Kyiv-Pecherska Lavra**

KYIV – After celebrating a divine service at Volodymyr Hill, Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia Kirill arrived at the Kyiv-Pecherska Lavra. Earlier he had described the monastery as "a great shrine, a visit to which gives such a charge of spiri-

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# NEWS ANALYSIS: Washington tries to reassure Ukraine

by Danylo Peleschuk

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – U.S. Vice President Joe Biden's three-day visit to Kyiv was Washington's attempt to assure Ukrainians that the U.S. remains in full support of their Euro-Atlantic integration efforts amidst a delicate strategy to form new cooperation with the Russian Federation, experts said.

The U.S. and Russia should "defuse the zero-sum thinking," Mr. Biden said. With this key statement, he identified the source of strained relations between the two nations and revealed the new approach to the region adopted by President Barack Obama's foreign policy team.

"Moscow sees Ukraine as a major U.S. ally, so if U.S.-Russia relations are difficult, then Ukraine stands the risk of Russian provocation," said Anders Aslund, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington. "When Russian relations are better, then normally Ukrainian relations are better."

Mr. Biden's visit to Ukraine and Georgia, and subsequent comments critical of the Russian government, indicated a two-pronged approach the U.S. would take with Russia, with President Obama playing the good cop and his vice-president the bad cop.

Just as he offset support for Ukraine with criticism for its leaders, Mr. Biden offered his administration's sharpest criticism yet on Russia's domestic policies following a visit that appeared to have set relations on a new path.

In a July 24 interview that Mr. Biden

gave to the Wall Street Journal, he revealed the U.S. expectation that Russia's debilitating socio-economic problems will lead it to concede on U.S. national security demands.

"They have a shrinking population base, they have a withering economy, they have a banking sector and structure that is not likely to be able to withstand the next 15 years, they're in a situation where the world is changing before them and they're clinging to something in the past that is not sustainable," Mr. Biden said.

The Kremlin asked the White House to clarify the vice president's "perplexing" message, which it claimed sent mixed signals soon after Mr. Obama's visit to Moscow.

Just two days later, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton appeared on national television to offset Mr. Biden's comments and ease tensions, assuring "we view Russia as a great power."

Military issues formed the foundation upon which President Obama and his team began to reset relations with Russia at the two-day Moscow summit in early July. Both countries agreed to reduce their deployed nuclear warhead count to less than 1,700 within seven years.

Leaders restarted U.S.-Russia military cooperation, which was suspended following the South Ossetian War of 2008. Russia agreed to allow up to 4,500 U.S. flights, carrying military supplies and personnel, to cross Russian airspace into Afghanistan for the U.S. war.

What further deals or concessions will be struck between the U.S. and Russia to reset relations remains unclear to the

region's foreign policy experts.

Among the biggest questions involve the missile defense shields which the U.S. plans to install in Poland and the Czech Republic, which the Russian government perceives as a direct threat.

The Russian government doesn't trust U.S. claims that the system is designed to defend against threats from Iran, and Russian leaders threatened to aim missiles toward Eastern Europe if the U.S. proceeds with its plan.

Though future deals are unpredictable, President Obama made clear what is not negotiable in his only mention of Ukraine when visiting Moscow.

"State sovereignty must be the cornerstone of international order," Mr. Obama said. "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."

Besides offering firm assurances of support, Mr. Biden also criticized the Ukrainian government for failing to work together to take advantage of the enormous momentum toward political reform that the Orange Revolution provided.

Communication among leaders has broken down to such an extent that political posturing appears to prevent progress, he said in a July 22 address to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "Friendship requires honesty," he said. "The great promise of 2004 has yet to be fully realized."

In order for Ukraine's democracy to mature and survive, he said, the nation must develop institutions such as a free press, independent courts and 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."

"Can you name me a place where democracy has flourished where the economic system has failed?" Mr. Biden asked.

Despite the assurances delivered by both President Obama and Vice-President Biden, political expert Dr. Oleh Soskin of Kyiv said the U.S. is not prepared to engage Ukraine, and Mr. Biden's visit was a façade to ease worries about another tense election.

Mr. Biden overlooked key sources of conflict such as Ukraine's border with Russia, which has yet to be demarcated, he said.

"Basically, they flew in and asked the presidential candidates to calm down and that, God forbid, they stir up the situation"

said Dr. Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation. "But this is all a cross-Atlantic American fantasy."

Given the tensions, significant doubts linger within Ukrainian foreign policy circles about the success of the Obama administration's newly adopted approach.

"Eventually the reset in the Russia-U.S. relations will fail," said Dr. Taras Kuzio, a research professor at the University of Carleton in Ottawa. "This is not the Russia of the 1990s with which the EU and U.S. can work. There are just too many differences."

On the NATO question, experts are more cautious than ever, stating that it's a premature step that could further alienate the public, especially after five years of destructive politics that left the vast majority displeased with President Viktor Yushchenko's policies, let alone NATO aspirations.

NATO integration will occur at a slow pace under the next president.

"It's not in the U.S. interest to push Ukraine into NATO if its population doesn't want to be there," said Steven Pifer, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution and former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine.

The biggest upcoming test for relations between the three countries will be the January 17 presidential elections, experts said.

Voters will likely elect a candidate less centered on the NATO bid and more concerned about renewing relations with Russia, unlike President Yushchenko's foreign policy that has cast him as the "Ukrainian Saakashvili" among Russian leaders, Dr. Kuzio said.

"There needs to be a leader who combines pragmatism toward Russia, with also support for integration westward," Dr. Kuzio said. "That's a very difficult balancing act – no Ukrainian president has ever done that."

U.S. and Russian politicians indicated that they also want to avoid a repeat of the 2004 presidential election, in which Moscow and the U.S. were heavily invested in the conflict that ensued.

Adopting a different approach than in 2004, when the Russian leadership endorsed Viktor Yanukovich, top Kremlin advisor Viktor Chernomyrdin said during a July 22 visit to Kyiv that Russia's leaders would not favor any particular candidate.

The new Russian approach is to maintain relations with all of Ukraine's main political players, including Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who made a concerted effort to improve relations with the nation's former occupier, experts said.

## Russian patriarch visits Kyiv, but motives are questioned

by Breffni O'Rourke

RFE/RL

PRAGUE – Patriarch Kirill, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, on July 27 began a 10-day visit to Ukraine. Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill will visit historical religious sites aplenty during his trip. One of the highlights of the will be when he pays tribute to Grand Prince Volodymyr, who converted to Christianity in 988 and Christianized the medieval state of Rus'.

But it's not ancient history that is pre-occupying many Ukrainians as Patriarch Kirill's visit gets under way. Some suspect the patriarch is intent on increasing Russian influence in Ukraine, a state still in search of its own identity as an independent nation.

Kirill has described his visit as purely pastoral. "I have come here as a pilgrim to the banks of the Dnipro in order to touch the thousand-year-old history of our Church," he said after a liturgy at the Hill of St. Volodymyr in Kyiv.

He told Ukrainian religious media before the trip that he wants to visit believers around the country. He will also meet with theological students and preach on Ukrainian television. And, for the first time, he will conduct a meeting in Ukraine of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church.

But that's too much for some Ukrainian nationalists. They note that the Moscow Patriarchate controls the larger part of the divided Ukrainian Orthodox Church, and they point to the traditional closeness of the Russian Church to the Russian state.

To some nationalists, this adds up to an attempt to use religious links to increase Russian influence over Ukraine's political and cultural life. They see this as complementing the very concrete efforts of the

government in Moscow, led by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, to keep Ukraine within Russia's sphere of influence. The Russian leadership particularly wants to keep Ukraine out of the NATO alliance.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko expressed his desire for an independent, unified Ukrainian Orthodox Church in remarks ahead of the patriarch's visit. He said a truly Ukrainian Church would be a "great historical truth."

In remarks on July 27, Patriarch Kirill referred to Church unity, but he meant the continued bonds between Moscow and Kyiv.

"I appeal to the heavenly hosts shining over these holy lands," he said. "Together with them, we will pray for the well-being and prosperity of Ukraine, for peace and concord of her citizens, for the friendship and brotherhood of [our] kindred nations, which both emerged from the font of the Dnipro, for our unbreakable spiritual and Church unity."

The smaller of the two Churches in Ukraine is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate. But it can't compete with Patriarch Kirill's Church, which has 1,100 dioceses around Ukraine – almost as many as the Russian Church has in Russia itself.

Nationalist-minded Ukrainians have sought to bring a new element into the equation. They are seeking the support of the Istanbul-based Patriarchate of the Greek Orthodox Church, and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, to balance the centuries-old influence of Moscow.

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## IN THE PRESS: Biden's diplomacy

"Mr. Biden's Diplomacy," editorial, *The Washington Post*, July 25:

"... Vice-President Biden performed a valuable service this week by traveling to the capitals of [Ukraine and Georgia]. ... he delivered major public addresses in which he reaffirmed U.S. support for the two countries' sovereign choices. 'As we reset the relationship with Russia, we reaffirm our commitment to an independent Ukraine,' he said in Kiev [sic]. 'We understand that Georgia wants to join NATO. We fully support that aspiration,' he said in Tbilisi.

"To his credit, the vice-president didn't limit his messages to stroking. In Ukraine he forcefully urged feuding political leaders to overcome their quarrels and address their country's heavy dependence on Russian energy imports. In Georgia Mr. Biden publicly prodded President Mikheil Saakashvili to deliver on promised politi-

cal reforms and met with his opposition. He emphasized that two provinces invaded and occupied by Russia last year could be recovered not by military means but only by building a tolerant and prosperous country. ...

"... in Georgia the U.S. delegation was noncommittal in response to Georgian requests that the United States supply defensive weapons and join a European Union mission that monitors the volatile ceasefire line with Russia. The administration may be right to be cautious about weapons sales, while continuing to train the Georgian army. But, if requested by the European Union, it should join in the monitoring mission. Placing U.S. personnel on the ground would eliminate any doubt about America's stance against Russian neo-imperialism – and make it less likely that Mr. [Vladimir] Putin would again attempt to subdue a neighbor by force."

## SBU says Rodina party leader implicated in murder, ethnic unrest in Odesa

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – As the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) searches for Viktor Lozynskyi, an oligarch and politician accused of murdering a simple villager, it has yet to prosecute another oligarch with an appalling record of brutality and violence.

Igor Markov, the leader of the Odesa-based Rodina (Homeland) party, which promotes Russian chauvinist policies, remains a free man although the SBU has confirmed that Mr. Markov played a role in organizing the murder of 21-year-old Maksym Chaika, a self-described Ukrainian nationalist.



Zenon Zawada

**Igor Markov, an Odesa oligarch who has engaged in violence against ethnically conscious Ukrainians, was accused by the Security Service of Ukraine of ordering the murder of Maksym Chaika, a self-described Ukrainian nationalist.**

The SBU also claimed it will prosecute Mr. Markov for his participation in the September 2, 2007, attack against ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian speakers, the video evidence of which is available on the Internet, but no court date has been set.

Instead of facing criminal prosecution, Mr. Markov is actively pursuing a political career, joining with a neo-Kuchmist organization called “New Ukraine” and giving press conferences in Kyiv on topics such as, “Atomic Energy: How and Why is [Viktor] Yushchenko Selling Ukraine to the United States?”

“Markov’s very behavior is evidence that he’s sheltered by Russia,” said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation. “My view is that old KGB agents and the hierarchy of the Russian [Orthodox] Church, also KGB agents, are covering for him. The Ukrainian government is afraid of touching Markov because it fears the KGB.”

(The KGB is the predecessor to the Russian Federation’s Federal Security Service, or FSB.)

The absence of criminal prosecution is not for lack of evidence, according to authorities.

The SBU has evidence that Mr. Markov planned Mr. Chaika’s murder and finances the city’s Antifa youth organization, five members of which were involved in the murder, SBU Press Secretary Maryna Ostapenko confirmed on May 12.

The suspect who fatally stabbed Mr. Chaika, Andrii Dovhan, is hiding in the Russian Federation, she said. No one else has been prosecuted.

The SBU also confirmed it has evidence that Mr. Markov has a criminal history that extends back to 1995, belonging to various criminal gangs and distributing



Zenon Zawada

**Ethnically conscious Ukrainians from Odesa hold a banner in front of the Procurator General’s Office in Kyiv at a May 25 protest. The banner reads: “What will win – Markov’s money or the law of Ukraine?”**

narcotics in Odesa’s leisure venues, Ms. Ostapenko reported in an April 29 press conference.

During this time, Mr. Markov was arrested several times for illegal possession of firearms by authorities from the Administration to Combat Organized Crime, she said.

Mr. Markov has rejected these claims, alleging the SBU has no such evidence and is slandering his name. He has threatened a lawsuit.

Before launching Russian chauvinist political parties and plotting violence against ethnic Ukrainians, Mr. Markov already had a reputation in Odesa as a thug who used his violence and government connections to seize valuable real estate and build upon it.

He allegedly assaulted several directors of Odesa’s Gorky health resort when they tried to block his attempts to take over its territory and build upon it, journalist Hryhorii Shorokhov reported for the Narodna Pravda website.

Mr. Markov also was allegedly responsible for a grenade thrown through the window of Odesa civic activist Zoia Kovaliova, who tried to preserve the city’s Yuvileinyi Park, another property razed for development, Mr. Shorokhov reported.

His Rodina political party has questionable legal standing as well. A national political party must have party organizations in two-thirds of the districts in each

(Continued on page 18)

## INTERVIEW: Pavlo Kyrylenko on culture war in Odesa

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – As the Odesa Oblast chair of the Svoboda nationalist party, Pavlo Kyrylenko is on the front lines of the city’s culture war against violent Russian chauvinists led by Igor Markov.

Never had that realization sunk in deeper than the morning of June 13, when he approached his car parked near his home and found it had been set ablaze the night before.

The arson was committed a few weeks after he led about 20 leaders of Odesa’s Ukrainian community to protest outside the Procurator General’s Office in Kyiv on May 25, demanding the prosecution of Mr. Markov for his alleged involvement in the murder of 21-year-old Maksym Chaika and his participation in numerous violent acts.

On September 2, 2007, Mr. Markov was involved in a brutal attack on some of the city’s ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian speakers peacefully demonstrating against the erection of a monument to Russian Empress Catherine II in their city.

It was no coincidence the fire was set the night of June 12, the Russia Day national holiday.

“The incident is the continuation of anti-Ukrainian activity by pro-Kremlin forces with the goal of pressuring an organization which demonstrated its principles in defending the rights of the Ukrainian nation in the Odesa region,” Mr. Kyrylenko, 32, said after the arson.

Beforehand, Mr. Kyrylenko gave a May 24 interview to The Weekly at the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union party congress in Kyiv.

**The protest on September 2, 2007 pro-**

**test was against the establishment of the monument to Russian Empress Catherine II?**

Yes. These processes began around the beginning of that summer. First, they removed the Potemkin monument. Afterwards they began building the Catherine II monument at that place. The Odesa City Council voted on establishing the Catherine monument beforehand. During the summer of 2007 in Odesa, very many various Ukrainian protests were held against the monument. We picketed the City Council. When the Muscovites came to sanctify the space, we whistled at them and did various counteractions.

All the Ukrainian organizations tried to communicate this problem to Kyiv and the Presidential Secretariat, writing very many appeals and complaints. Court complaints were filed. This led to no results. The monument was established at a very fast pace. The official opening of this monument was planned on Odesa’s City Day on September 2. It was established already, but it was supposed to be unveiled.

President Viktor Yushchenko planned to arrive in Odesa. Knowing this, the Ukrainian organizations had a conference before September 2 where I proposed to hold this protest, announcing to the mass media that Ukrainian organizations were gathering near the Oblast State Administration building to give President Yushchenko an appeal explaining why this monument can’t be established in Odesa. A copy of the appeal was sent to the Presidential Secretariat two days before September 2. After we announced this protest, the president canceled his visit to Odesa, literally in one day.

All the same, we came out on the square



Zenon Zawada

**Pavlo Kyrylenko**

because it was possible someone from the Oblast Administration or government representatives would officially accept the appeal. Instead when we arrived, we saw only a small amount of police officers.

**At your request?**

Of course. The protest was held in full compliance with Ukraine’s laws. We informed the Odesa City Administration that such a protest would be held. The appeal was registered in the city administration, and law enforcement authorities were notified. The day before the protest, the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) called me and asked me not to hold the protest because the president’s visit was canceled. But we

understood that we had to do something because the monument would be unveiled.

By the way, Odesa Mayor [Eduard] Hurvits postponed the monument’s unveiling when the president canceled his visit. From what is known, the city government decided to open this monument after the parliamentary election that was taking place at the time. Hurvits is a member of the Our Ukraine political council. If he had opened this monument, then all of Ukraine would have found out that Our Ukraine has non-respectable mayors, and that would have been a very serious blow.

**So this wasn’t your first protest?**

This wasn’t the first protest. There were many prior to that. By the way, a very important fact is that at that moment in Odesa, the city administration’s deputy director for civic order under the Internal Affairs Ministry was Eduard Dobrynin, who in prior protests threatened me personally and other Svoboda members that if we continue to hold acts of protest, then we will regret it.

When we arrived on September 2, he arrived as well, approached us and spoke with us. When we unfolded our flags, there were eight police officers and Dobrynin. He asked whether we would conduct the protest for long. We said, “Until the moment when a government representative comes and takes our appeal to the president.” Those anti-Ukrainian forces held their own protest that day near the Catherine II monument, which hadn’t been unveiled, as if to defend it. They alleged that some bus from Lviv arrived with “skinhead-Banderites” who wanted to demolish the monument.

(Continued on page 10)



# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## SEEN AT SOYUZIVKA



Andrij R. Wojtowycz

Above, little campers and counselors at the first session of "Tabir Ptashat," held June 28-July 5 at Soyuzivka, take time out for a group photo to mark the 21st year that the Plast day camp for preschoolers has been held at Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian heritage center of the Ukrainian National Association. Forty-nine children attended the first session of the camp, which is organized by the Pershi Stezhi sorority of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Below, a close-up of some of the little campers in their distinctive bird hats; and the camp director, Ania Tereshakovec Tomko, with the administrator/head of the camp organizing committee, Neonila Sochan.



Roma Lisovich



Roma Lisovich

## N.Y. governor greets festival at Soyuzivka

*Below is the text of greetings sent to the Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka by Gov. David A. Paterson of New York.*

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to send greetings to all gathered at "Soyuzivka," the beautiful and historic Ukrainian resort and cultural center nestled in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, for this third annual Ukrainian Heritage Festival sponsored by the Ukrainian National Foundation.

New Yorkers appreciate the contributions made by citizens of various nationalities – including a large representation of Ukrainian Americans – and understand the importance of such contributions to all of our lives. As people who value freedom and democracy both here and in the homeland, Ukrainians have long been integral to the success of our state and nation, having worked to build many communities into thriving centers of social, cultural and family activity.

Generations later, their descendants continue to honor a common ancestry and pride in heritage. All residents of the Empire State benefit from a vibrant Ukrainian American population that generously shares this wonderful heritage, and we are therefore pleased to join in the spirit of events that celebrate the cultural and artistic achievements of your cherished community.

For the past three years, this Heritage Festival has showcased traditional Ukrainian culture and music to the delight of many Ukrainian Americans and people of all backgrounds. All involved in the planning and organization of this event are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to providing the richest array of entertainment in the form of concerts, dance performances – as well as delicious foods and beautiful arts and crafts – at this event.

United by an enduring ancestral association rooted in your precious homeland and a shared vision to improve the world, Ukrainian Americans also make our state and nation better through their support of charitable and humanitarian causes that enrich all of our society. The entire family of New Yorkers is certainly grateful for the many positive ways that you add to life in our state, and I personally applaud the Ukrainian American community and its outstanding efforts that have enabled you to thrive and flourish throughout the years.

Best wishes for an enjoyable, memorable and successful event.

Sincerely,

David A. Paterson

## Take a look at the past:

- Read The Weekly's special section about the Great Famine, or Holodomor, of 1932-1933.
- Peruse our special issues section, including The Weekly's inaugural issue of October 6, 1933.
- Enjoy our "Year in Review" issues published annually since 1976.
- Enter your search terms and find information previously accessible only in hard copy.

Log on to

[www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com)

Our unique website also contains the full texts of all issues published between 1996 and 2007. We are working on making every single issue of our newspaper published since 1933 available online.

Also available – for a limited time only – are the full texts of all issues published in the current year. Soon to come: paid subscriptions to the online version of each week's edition of The Ukrainian Weekly. Take advantage of this opportunity to experience what an online subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly offers.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Strategic partnership moves ahead

U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden's visits to Ukraine and Georgia were a necessary follow-up to President Barack Obama's trip to Russia. For the two countries – both former Soviet republics whom Russia, the “elder brother” in the USSR, continues to bully – the Biden visit provided the strong reassurance they needed that the United States had not abandoned them or chosen to ignore their concerns.

Indeed, even before the vice-president set foot in Ukraine, his national security adviser, Tony Blinken, had told the press that the U.S. attaches strong importance to its relations with Ukraine and Georgia, citing as evidence the fact that traveling along with Mr. Biden was “a very, very strong interagency team, with senior members from the State Department, the Defense Department, the National Security Council staff and the National Economic Council staff.” He underscored that the purpose of the trip was to strengthen the partnership with the two countries “in very concrete ways.”

Russia, for its part, was watching closely, clearly uncomfortable with what it was seeing. The Associated Press reported that Foreign Ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko said at a news conference that countries are, of course, free to choose their partners, but he added, “It is important that this be done transparently, without under-the-carpet games and not at the expense of others' interests.”

The vice-president deserves high marks for what he said and did in Ukraine.

He stressed that the U.S. continues to support Ukraine's bid to join NATO, regardless of Russia's position; that the U.S. does not recognize any “sphere of influence” or “zone of privileged interests”; and that resetting the U.S. relationship with Russia will not come at Ukraine's expense, ... but can actually benefit Ukraine.” He stated that he came to Kyiv “with one simple straightforward message”: that “the United States is committed to a strong, democratic and prosperous Ukraine.”

Vice-President Biden also demonstrated what some analysts described as “tough love” toward Ukraine. He told the people of Ukraine that the promise of the Orange Revolution “remains to be fulfilled.” He criticized Ukraine's leaders for their endless bickering which put the interests of the nation on the back burner and stymied both economic and political reform. “The time for inertia and neglect has long passed,” he said. “The leaders of this country came together once in 2004 because they knew a free and prosperous Ukraine was more important than any one politician or any one political party.” And he sounded an optimistic note: “I have no doubt Ukrainians will come together again.”

Mr. Biden focused much attention on Ukraine's energy security, noting, “Your economic freedom depends more... on your energy freedom than on any other single factor” and pointing out that reform of the energy sector is crucial also to national security. To that end, he announced the establishment of a U.S.-Ukraine working group on energy security.

Addressing concerns about the U.S.-Russia relationship, he said “The more substantive relationship we have with Moscow, the more we can defuse the zero-sum thinking about our relations with Russia's neighbors.” That approach is based on the Obama administration's vision of a “multi-partner world.” (As Secretary of State Hillary Clinton explained in a major foreign policy address on July 15: “It does not make sense to adapt a 18th century concert of powers or a 20th century balance of power strategy. We cannot go back to Cold War containment or to unilateralism. We will lead by inducing greater cooperation among a greater number of actors and reducing competition, tilting the balance away from a multi-polar world toward a multi-partner world.”)

In what was billed as an address to the Ukrainian people, Vice-President Biden said “the United States will stand by Ukraine.” Most significantly, he said that the United States and Ukraine will work together to strengthen their strategic partnership. The first concrete evidence of that will come later this fall, when the U.S. and Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission begins meeting in Washington to discuss cooperation in such areas as security, economy, trade, energy and the rule of law.

And so, buoyed by the Kyiv visit of Vice-President Biden, we will continue to watch how the U.S. moves forward in its strategic partnership with Ukraine, and we will expect great progress for the benefit of both partners.

## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU



### Psyops in Ukraine's regions

It's not every day that I confront an alleged gangster, but my July 9 encounter with one of Odesa's biggest thugs, Igor Markov, was one that I couldn't avoid.

Ever since I was a kid, I didn't like bullies. When I tried standing up to them, I paid the price and was shoved to the ground, never understanding why the bigger guys didn't step up.

Similarly, Ukraine's law enforcement authorities and courts aren't doing their jobs and, consequently, bullies like Mr. Markov are thriving in Ukraine, which is as close to anarchy as a 21st century nation-state can get.

The law simply doesn't function and, as far as I can tell, the only reason the situation hasn't degraded into a modern-day Yugoslavia or Somalia is the Ukrainian people have retained their Christian civility and Slavic sensibility, for the time being. For better or worse, Ukrainians tend to turn to war as a last resort.

Mr. Markov was caught beating up ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian-language speakers, the evidence of which you can view by visiting the YouTube website. In any functioning society, he would have been arrested and prosecuted.

Instead, he's giving press conferences in Kyiv and gaining support from top-ranking politicians affiliated with Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko (currently Oleksandra Kuzhel and formerly Serhii Tihipko).

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has also alleged that Mr. Markov planned the murder of Maksym Chaika in Odesa. The government intelligence agency accusing its citizens of crimes, but not arresting them, epitomizes the complete collapse of law and order in Ukraine.

I told Mr. Markov at his Kyiv press conference that, while beating up ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian-speaking people may be acceptable in Odesa, it's not tolerated in Kyiv. For bullies, a line has to be drawn. Then I asked him why he decided to participate in the September 2, 2007, attack. He dodged the question, labeling it a provocation.

His henchman Igor Dimitriyev, most famous for throwing his shoe at Oleh Soskin during a NATO discussion at a local university, insisted they were merely defending the city from invading Banderites from Halychyna.

“They were outsiders,” Mr. Markov's gaggle shouted to me at the press conference, as if justifying the violence against them.

“No they weren't,” I responded. Those who were beaten on September 2, 2007, were Odesa natives. The notion that someone can speak Ukrainian, embrace one's Ukrainian heritage and hail from Odesa is incomprehensible to them.

Mr. Dimitriyev claimed that leading up to the September 2 incident, Ukrainian extremists were charging through Odesa and beating local residents with whips. Incidentally, Russian media reported similar such “whip-beatings” at the 300th anniversary commemorations of the Battle of Poltava.

To me, these repeated reports of whip-beatings sound like a fear technology hatched within the psyops wing of Russia's Federal Security Service (successor to the KGB) and employed by their agents within Ukraine.

In the psychological operations they are currently employing in eastern and southern Ukraine, pro-Russian radicals seek to create an environment in which merely speaking

the Ukrainian language or acknowledging Ukrainian ethnicity makes you a “fascist,” “ultranationalist” or “extremist.”

This tactic is designed to keep the Russified population within the Kremlin's psychological grip – speaking the Russian language, consuming the Russian media and voting for pro-Russian political parties and candidates.

“Markov is carrying out the KGB's plan of not allowing the Ukrainian government to control Odesa on issues of the Ukrainian language, Euro-Atlantic integration and nation-building,” Dr. Soskin told me.

So Odesites are told that speaking Ukrainian means you're an extremist. Schoolchildren in Luhansk are receiving textbooks telling them Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) soldiers were fascists. An alarming number of Kyiv's high school graduates still believe that speaking Ukrainian makes you a villager.

At the same time, this psyops technique is designed to ostracize those who are reconnecting with the Ukrainian culture and heritage of their ancestors and realizing the country has a bright future if ethnic Ukrainians – an estimated 79 percent of the population – would simply start being Ukrainians and not “malorosy” (Little Russians).

Despite the atmosphere of adversity and persecution that has been created in eastern and southern Ukraine, a small but growing minority of Ukraine's youngest generation is becoming conscious of their Ukrainian identity.

Twenty-one-year-old Maksym Chaika was stupid for posing in photos with Hitler salutes, not realizing how much murder and destruction the Nazis were responsible for in Ukraine. What I initially reported as his ties to neo-Nazis appear to be his involvement with a local gang of soccer fanatics.

Nonetheless Chaika was a Russian-speaking Odesa native who was reconnecting with his Ukrainian roots. He organized a march honoring Roman Shukhevych in downtown Odesa – a revolutionary act after which he began to notice that he was being watched and followed.

It's no coincidence that within a year he was murdered, allegedly by Mr. Markov, according to the SBU.

Chaika was the perfect target because he symbolized the worst fears harbored by the government of Vladimir Putin – that Russified Ukrainians would begin to embrace the language, culture and identity that had been denied for centuries to their parents, grandparents and ancestors.

Diaspora Ukrainians can help Mr. Putin's nightmares become reality by supporting organizations like Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and Prosvita in Ukraine's Russified regions.

Perhaps Chaika would not have taken a wrong turn down the path of soccer hooliganism, street fighting and posing with stupid Nazi salutes, if solid cultural institutions offering a productive life were more widely developed and available.

Odesa Prosvita Chair Oleksander Stepanchenko said local authorities are trying to shut down his office, and he's pleading with the diaspora for help to cover rental debts or acquire property to ensure a critical Ukrainian cultural institution doesn't disappear from the city.

At every meeting and any encounter, diaspora Ukrainians can also pressure Ukraine's pro-Western politicians to elimi-

August  
2  
1989

### Turning the pages back...

Twenty years ago, on August 2, 1989, Rep. James Traficant Jr. (D-Ohio) said at a press conference in Washington that the U.S. Justice Department might have deliberately withheld information that showed a key prosecution witness lied in testimony about John Demjanjuk. Rep. Traficant called on the U.S. Justice Department to reopen the denaturalization case against Mr. Demjanjuk, who was appealing his conviction of Nazi war crimes charges by Israel's Supreme Court.

The Washington Times reported that two Justice Department memos from November 1979 noted that Otto Horn, a Nazi guard at the Treblinka death camp, had difficulty identifying Mr. Demjanjuk as the notorious “Ivan the Terrible.”

Bernard Dougherty, a criminal investigator, noted in his memo that, “As [Mr. Horn] continued to study the picture from the second set [that contained a more recent photo of the defendant.] Mr. Horn indicated that it certainly resembled the man that he had known as ‘Ivan,’ although he stated that ‘Ivan’ had somewhat more hair.”

Rep. Traficant commented on Mr. Horn's testimony: “I'm saying he's a lying Nazi bastard.”

“...I don't think anyone really knows, and we endanger the rights of all Americans by allowing John Demjanjuk to be hung out to dry under such unusual circumstances,” he added.

The congressman asked for Attorney General Richard Thornburgh to authorize an “objective review” of the work done by the Justice Department's Nazi-hunting arm,

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(Continued on page 21)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Odesa Ukrainians call for assistance

Dear Editor:

Odesa's Ukrainian patriotic organizations recently have been the targets of anti-Ukrainian, pro-Muscovite forces in our city.

You may already know that on September 2, 2007, hitmen from the Rodina and Single Fatherland (Yedinoye Otiechiestvo) organizations attacked Odesa's Prosvita members and representatives of other patriotic organizations near the Odesa Oblast State Administration. As a result of the attack, five people were seriously injured. This was the first step in a whole series of anti-Ukrainian provocations.

In 2008 a series of attacks was carried out against the Ivan and Yurii Lypa Library and the Ukrainian Kozaks Museum. But the apogee of Ukrainophobia came after the brutal attack against the Prosvita offices on September 22, 2008, when an organized crowd burned Ukrainian flags and portraits of Roman Shukhevych and Stepan Bandera.

At the end of the criminal act, they shot up the windows of the Prosvita building, causing material damage to the organization's property.

Finally, on April 17 of this year, the leader of the patriotic youth organization Sich, Maksym Chaika, was murdered by a Communist. He actively worked with Prosvita.

Everything recently taking place in Odesa is happening thanks to criminal cooperation of the city government and police with anti-Ukrainian forces. They have drawn up a plan to liquidate the last active center of organized Ukrainians – the Prosvita association.

Since 2006 our organization has been renting property from the government in the center of Odesa, the site of the oblast's only Taras Shevchenko Museum, the Heritage Museum, a library, Ukrainian art exhibits, rehearsals for amateur children's and youth groups, and meetings for activists of Ukrainian organizations.

Beginning in 2007, government organs began raising rent on a monthly basis. As a result, in the last half year, the organization has been unable to pay its rent. At the same time, civic organizations of ethnic minorities (Bulgarians, Jews and others) obtained benefits, receiving significantly better premises.

The Odesa Oblast Council's Property Administration, which owns the property, informed Prosvita that it will turn to the courts, which are supposed to forcibly confiscate Prosvita's premises.

That means valuable exhibits, paintings and books will be thrown onto the street, as well as books by Shevchenko published in his lifetime. The opportunity to hold children's and youth rehearsals will end. As of June 1, the rent owed is 30,000 hrv (nearly \$4,000 U.S.).

All our appeals for help to the President of Ukraine, the prime minister of Ukraine and to the heads of oblast state administrations haven't led to anything. Our single hope now is the help of people with good will, who are not indifferent to Ukrainian culture.

We are turning to you to help purchase this property for the Ukrainian community, or pay the rent owed. Please contact us in Odesa at (8048) 725-63-66 or an e-mail surma-od@ukr.net.

**Oleksander Stepanchenko**  
Odesa, Ukraine

*The letter-writer is chair of the Odesa Oblast Prosvita organization.*

## Kuropas column wrong on Obama

Dear Editor:

Each week I read the column by Dr. Myron Kuropas with great interest. I appreciate many of his engaging ideas and topics.

However, his June 28, column brought up a response of "What?" The same old stuff that has been on the web is repeated. Since Dr. Kuropas is from the Chicago area, I had hoped to read new revelations about President Barack Obama, but there were none.

If I understand Dr. Kuropas, he faults President Obama for all that is wrong in America, even though he has been in office for only six and a half months. Are the last eight years of failed leadership and economic collapse also President Obama's fault?

Does Dr. Kuropas really believe that the philosophy of people like Sarah Palin, Rush Limbaugh or Michael Steele is the "Grand Vision" for America?

I, for one, do not. The world is changing; America is changing. I am from Dr. Kuropas' generation, but I changed a long time ago. Yes, Dr. Kuropas, President Obama is the perfect president for America, and I welcome his change for a greater America, both here and in the world's view.

The majority of Americans did vote for Mr. Obama. So far the results are very impressive.

Thank God we live in a country where one can express his or her opinion, and thanks to The Ukrainian Weekly for offering a forum for this expression. I hope Ukraine will be fortunate enough to find its own Obama.

**Jerry Zinycz**  
Venice, Fla.

## No surprises in Kuropas column

Dear Editor:

There are no surprises in Myron Kuropas's column "Obama, Ukraine and the Age of Zinn" (June 28). Actually, Ukraine is barely mentioned. In case you didn't know it, "today Dr. Zinn's children are running the White House" – so says Dr. Kuropas.

For the record in the real world, Howard Zinn is a professor of history, whose mind-opening polemics in recent years dispelled some of the stench of long-established bleaching and gasification of the historic legacy beginning with the discovery of America.

The Kuropas metaphor, of course, is directed at Barack Obama. It begins with "I respect Mr. Obama because he is my president," but then changes to "His grandfather was reportedly a Mau-Mau supporter." This glint of genealogical dialectics may be exasperating to some, but it is only a minor squiggle in comparison with the truly numbing figment, of claiming U.S. Sens. Chris Dodd and Barney Frank who helped "create the crisis" on Wall Street – in reference to the financial collapse of debt-driven Anglo way of life and to the unmentionable black eye of its "Judeo-Christian heritage."

A continuing crisis, as I see it, is the columnist's reliance on dogma of the 1930s.

**Boris Danik**  
North Caldwell, N.J.

## COMMENTARY

## Russian special services again play the "Jewish card" against Ukraine

by Paul Goble

For entirely understandable reasons, there has been much speculation but little serious discussion about the specific role Moscow's intelligence services have played in relations between Russia and the former Soviet republics in the internal politics of these states, and in the relationship between these countries and the outside world.

A notable exception to this dearth of discussions is provided in an article by Moscow State University expert Aleksandr Karavayev titled "Methods of Adopting Political Decisions and the Role of the Special Services in Russian Policy in the CIS" that was posted online on July 7 ([www.ia-centr.ru/expert/5181/](http://www.ia-centr.ru/expert/5181/)).

But an even more intriguing, if necessarily more narrowly focused, consideration of this question was offered by Moses Fishbein, a Jewish Ukrainian poet, in a commentary titled "The Jewish Card in Russian Operations against Ukraine" that was published on June 20 by the Kyiv Post ([www.kyivpost.com/opinion/44324](http://www.kyivpost.com/opinion/44324)).

Mr. Karavayev begins his discussion by noting that, under Vladimir Putin, officials from the special services rose to senior positions in the Russian government but that their rise did not in many cases always lead to an increase in the role of the institutions from which they came, at least with respect to Moscow's dealings with the Commonwealth of Independent States.

This "paradox," he suggests, reflects the specific nature of that organization: It is a closed club of presidents, and relations among its members are more a reflection of personal friendships or antagonisms than about the interests of one or another country toward the others, something that the special services could affect.

But despite that, Mr. Karavayev continues, it is worth asking whether the "methods and practices" of the Russian special services could be employed in a useful fashion on the territory of the CIS, specifically in Ukraine. And he asks "do there exist untapped reserves of the FSB and SVR [Russia's internal and external security services] relative to Ukraine and in what conditions could they be 'made use of'?"

"For the foreseeable future," the Moscow analyst says, "Russia will not see a 'Ukrainian Nazarbayev,' that is, a president who not just by style but in reality will be ready to work on integration projects with Russia. That means conflicts are inevitable. The difference will only be in their intensity."

In that situation, the special services can play a role and are certainly active, Mr. Karavayev implies when he writes that "for some unclear reasons, [Ukrainian President Viktor] Yushchenko has not expressed his opinion concerning the infiltration of the Russian special services in the organs of power of Ukraine at various levels, even though he understands this perfectly well."

But the Ukrainian leader "has refrained

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

from launching a campaign of spy mania in Ukraine. Is that because to do so would be to play his last card? Or are there no forces" on which he could rely if he were to do so? Or – and this is a possibility Mr. Karavayev does not mention – is the penetration so great that calling attention to it would be an act of suicide?

If Mr. Yushchenko is not willing to do so, Mr. Fishbein certainly is. And in his article, he argues that "Russia's special services are seeking to destabilize the situation in Ukraine, undermine its sovereignty and independence, create a negative image of this country, block its integration into [Western] structures, and turn Ukraine into a dependent and manipulated satellite."

The Jewish Ukrainian poet and translator, who is a winner of the Vasyl Stus Prize, focuses on the specific ways the Russian special services have been seeking to play "the Jewish card" in Ukraine, in the hope of "set[ting] the Ukrainians and Jews against each other," blackening Ukraine's reputation abroad and undermining its chance to become a member of NATO.

Mr. Fishbein takes as his point of departure Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's statement last January that Moscow's desire to block the extension of NATO membership to Georgia and Ukraine "required precise and well-coordinated work on the part of all special security, defense and law enforcement structures and quite a high level of coordination among them."

"I must say straight away," the Russian president said, "on the whole the Federal Security Service [FSB] successfully carried out all its tasks."

In making that statement, Mr. Fishbein argues, Mr. Medvedev not only declared that blocking Ukraine's admission to NATO was "the work of Russian special services, the result of special operations that they had put into motion" but also acknowledged that "the Russian special services are conducting special ops against Ukraine, aimed at undermining its sovereignty."

That is "a brutal violation not just of international law," the Ukrainian writer says. It is "also a brutal violation of Russian laws," given that the latter do not authorize the FSB "to conduct such special operations" either generally or particularly against a neighboring country like Ukraine.

According to Mr. Fishbein, the Russian special services continue their actions even now, with the number of people employed in FSB structures overseeing Ukraine up 150 percent, a trend that as the Ukrainian writer suggests "is reminiscent of the 1950s, when the underground Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) was active in Ukraine."

Of particular concern to Mr. Fishbein is the way Moscow is using "the so-called 'Jewish card'" against Ukraine. Instead of acknowledging as Mr. Fishbein has that there have been anti-Semites among Ukrainians as among other peoples but that most Ukrainians are outraged by and as opposed to anti-Semitism as anyone else, Russian writers often portray all Ukrainians and all Ukrainian history as blighted by that plague.

Not surprisingly, given his outrage at Moscow's falsification of Ukrainian history and of the Ukrainian people, Mr. Fishbein devotes most of his article to a discussion of the facts of the case, including denunciations of anti-Semitism by people Russian authors routinely classify as anti-Semites and outright falsification of the historical record in Ukraine by Moscow.

But most interesting in the current con-

(Continued on page 22)

## 26th Conference on Ukrainian Subjects held at University of Illinois

by Iryna Ivankovych-Bloshchynska

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, Ill. – The 26th Conference on Ukrainian Subjects at the University of Illinois took place on June 24-27 in Urbana-Champaign. The conference, titled “Contemporary Ukraine: Challenges and Perspectives,” comprised four subject categories: Ukraine and the European Union, Ukraine and Russia, Ukraine and North America, and the Ukrainian Diaspora.

The event was sponsored by the Summer Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Russian, East European and Eurasian Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; department of Slavic languages and literatures, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Foundation for the Advancement of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Illinois, chaired by Raisa Bratkiv; and The Heritage Foundation of 1st Security Federal Savings Bank, Chicago.

The organizing coordinator of the conference was Prof. Dmytro M. Shtohryn of the Ukrainian Research Program at the University of Illinois; the chair of the Program Committee was Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky of La Salle University.

In addition to 34 papers presented, both in Ukrainian and English, by scholars from Ukraine and the diaspora, the conference featured roundtable discussions, book presentations, readings of poetry by authors and exhibits. The latter included selected documents and primary sources on the extermination of Ukrainian intelligentsia and destruction of Ukrainian cultural and historical monuments by the Soviet GPU-NKVD, and on the Holodomor (Great Famine) in Ukraine of 1932-1933, organized by the Soviet regime; and the photo

exhibit “Ancient Volyn” by Anatol Mizernyi, Rivne (Ukraine).

The keynote address titled “Russians and Ukrainians: Some Episodes from the Great War, 1914-1918,” was delivered by a leading American scholar on Ukrainian subjects, Prof. Mark L. von Hagen, Arizona State University.

Among the highlights of the program were poetic readings by Moses Fishbein, (Kyiv), Oleksander Irvanets, who delivered a brilliant lecture on “Ukrainian-Russian Interethnic Relations and Their Reflections in Contemporary Ukrainian and Russian Literatures and Films” illustrated with excerpts of poetry, and the American novelist Askold Melnyczuk, University of Boston, who offered an excerpt from his forthcoming novel, entitled “Art House: the Émigré Painter Liuboslav Hutsaliuk,” preceded by the introductory remarks

In addition to presenting his paper on “Emigrations from Ukraine: ‘Free Migration’ or Earnership – Reasons, Conditions and Motives,” Vasyl Lopukh, Shevchenko Scientific Society U.S.A., presented the recent publications sponsored by the Society. Among them were “Activities and Press Reports 2000-2008” compiled and edited by Orest Popovych; “Contemporary Ukraine on the Cultural Map of Europe” edited by Larissa M.L. Zaleska Onyshkevych and Maria G. Rewakowicz; the German translation of Vasyl Barka’s novel “The Yellow Prince” translated by Maria Ostheim-Dzerowycz. Marta Tarnawska, who delivered a paper on “Ukrainian Literature in Anglo-American University Journals 1990-1999,” offered an overview of her publications “Ostap Tarnawsky: A Bibliographical Guide,” a book of Mr. Tarnawsky’s translations of Shakespearean sonnets and some of her

own recent works.

Mr. Fishbein presented his newest collection of poetry and translations titled “Ranniy Rai,” which is also accompanied by a CD with his poems.

Some themes and topics which kept reverberating throughout the conference were: the Holodomor; contemporary Ukrainian language, literature, culture and history; Ukrainian, Russian and Jewish relations; Ukrainian archives and politics, as reflected in the presentations by: Prof. Stanislav Kulchitsky, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; Prof. Roman Serbyn, University of Quebec at Montreal; Prof. Volodymyr Serhijchuk, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv; Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky, La Salle University; Prof. Mykola Musinka, University of Presov; Dr. Oleh Kupchynsky, Shevchenko Scientific

Society of Ukraine; Dr. Alexander Lushnycky, Educational Council of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Dr. Myron Kuropas, Northern Illinois University; Dr. Myroslava Antonovych, National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy; and Halyna Myroniuk, University of Minnesota.

The concluding highlight of the event was the traditional conference banquet. The humorous tone of the evening was set by Oleksandr Irvanets’ recitation of his satirical poem on President Obama’s swatting of a fly. The program included a concise overview on the history of the conferences by Prof. Jaroslav Rozumnyj, University of Manitoba, and the award presentation of the Shevchenko medal to Prof. Shtohryn by Prof. Serhijchuk.

The conference proved to be scholarly, informative and entertaining.

## “Ukraine and the World” is theme of conference at Chernihiv university

by Roman Yereniuk

CHERNIHIV, Ukraine – The Taras Shevchenko State Pedagogical University in Chernihiv, Ukraine, hosted a three-day diaspora conference on May 15-17 titled “Ukraine in the World: Ukraine is There Where Ukrainians Live.” The conference was organized by Prof. Stanislav Ponomarovskiy, head of the university’s Foundation of Public Innovations: Ukraine-Diaspora.

The conference attracted some 100 delegates from Ukraine and the diaspora countries, who presented papers. Another 87 papers were submitted by scholars who could not attend.

The conference had five sub-themes: the analysis and the contemporary situation of diaspora countries and their major institutions and leaders; art, folklore and the Church in the diaspora; language and literature of the diaspora; education and schooling in the diaspora, Holodomor and the diaspora; and research projects on the diaspora young scholars.

*Dr. Roman Yereniuk is acting director of the Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba.*

The opening preliminary session included papers by nine scholars on various themes. Among the more important ones were papers by Profs. Oleh Wolowyna (Chapel Hill, N.C.) – on the Fourth Wave of Ukrainian settlement in the U.S.; Roman Yereniuk (Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, University of Manitoba, Canada) – on the religious press in Canada and its reporting on the Holodomor; Daryna Teteryna-Blokhin (Munich, Germany) – on the political and economic status of Ukraine on the eve of the Holodomor; and Oleksander Kapitonenko (Sumy, Ukraine) – on the Australian period in the life of artist David Buruliuk.

The five sectional thematic papers were well received. Many papers were on themes related to the diaspora of Canada and the U.S. Many of the scholars were on the younger side, age 23-35, and showed excellent research talents in their papers. All of the papers will be published and/or formatted on CDs in the late summer and will be available for purchase.

This was the sixth such diaspora conference in the last five years and showed that the area of diaspora studies has a significant following among scholars in the West as well as in Ukraine.

## Ukraine Analyst receives grant from Dopomoha Ukraini Foundation

TORONTO – The bimonthly Ukraine Analyst, which began publication a year ago, has received a grant of \$22,000 from Ukrainian Canadian Borys Wrzesnewskyj, a Liberal Party member of Parliament who represents the riding of Etobicoke Center, and the Dopomoha Ukraini foundation.

Dr. Taras Kuzio, editor of Ukraine Analyst, said the start-up grant will assist

in developing the publication professionally through the hiring of a doctoral student at Carleton University in Ottawa to assist the editor.

The grant will also enable Ukraine Analyst to be provided gratis to members of the Canadian Parliament to keep them better informed about contemporary developments in Ukraine.

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## BOOK NOTES

## Images of Ukrainians in the Delaware Valley

"Ukrainians of the Delaware Valley" by Alexander Lushnycky, Ph.D., Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 13978-0-7385-6526-2. Softcover, 127 pp. \$21.99.

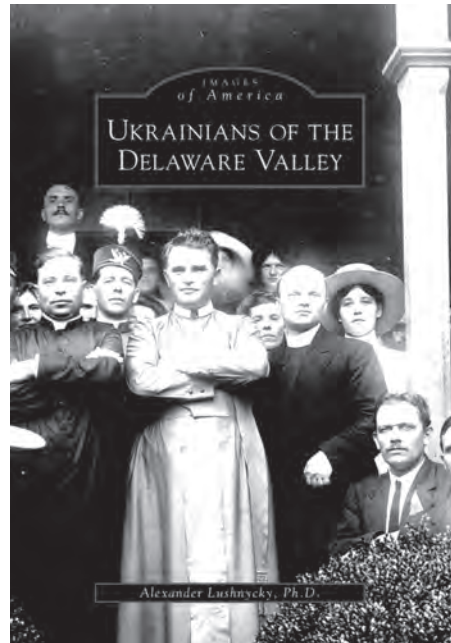
"Ukrainians of the Delaware Valley" is the latest installment of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series. It features a photographic history of Ukrainians in the Delaware Valley from the turn of the 20th century to the present.

With over 200 photographs, the book traces 17 Ukrainian communities located along the Delaware River in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware as they sought to preserve their uniquely Ukrainian culture and customs in the United States. According to the publisher, the volume "documents how each new generation of immigrants added to the kaleidoscope of Ukrainian communities" in the area.

Each of the five chronological chapters features a brief introduction orienting the reader to the context of the coming photos. Each individual photograph is thoughtfully annotated and put in a broader historical context by Dr. Lushnycky, a leading authority on the history of Ukrainian immigration in the United States.

"Ukrainians of the Delaware Valley" is the fourth volume about Ukrainian American history released by Arcadia Publishing in its series on local histories that seeks to "make history accessible and meaningful."

Other volumes in this series dealing with the Ukrainian America experience are: "Ukrainians of Chicagoland" by Myron B. Kuropas, Ph.D. (2006), "Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia" by Dr. Lushnycky



(2007) and "Ukrainians of Western Pennsylvania" by Stephen P. Haluszczak (2009).

Readers may obtain copies at local bookstores, independent retailers, online retailers or directly from the publisher by calling (888) 313-2665 or visiting [www.arcadia-publishing.com](http://www.arcadia-publishing.com).

Dr. Lushnycky is the author of many publications on Ukrainian Americans. He is the author of "Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia" and currently serves as the regional director of the Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Diaspora in the United States. Dr. Lushnycky is also the executive vice-president of the Ukrainian Educational Council in the United States.

## Peasants, nobles and colonists in southern Ukraine, 1774-1905

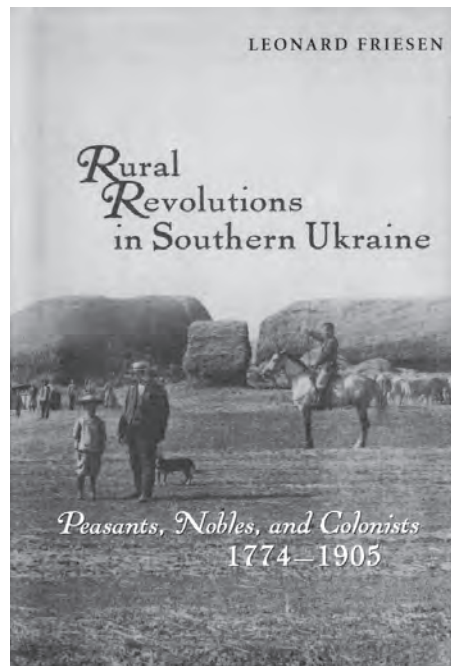
"Rural Revolutions in Southern Ukraine: Peasants, Nobles and Colonists, 1774-1905," by Leonard Friesen, Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University Press, 2009. ISBN: 978-1-932650-00-6. 325 pp. \$39.95 (hardcover).

The development of the rural populations in Ukraine from the mid-18th to the early 20th century was a critical time period in Imperial Russia, with the settlement process, the enfranchisement of once-free peasants and the period of emancipation in 1861. A series of rural revolutions, involving peasants, nobles and estate owners, threatened the empire itself.

Leonard Friesen's study of these revolutions show the emergence of patterns of how agriculturalists made adjustments to long-established agrarian and social practices, and offers a fresh perspective on the link between the decline of the empire and the rural developments that preceded it.

This scholarly treatment by the author illuminates the centuries-long relationship between peasants and nobles in the tsarist period and provides insight into the entrenched mentality of rural Ukrainian village life today.

Other material covered in the book focuses on the beginnings of industrialization, including the production of farming equipment, the construction of railroads, the increase in the number of factories and the population growth of cities.



Case studies of incidents at villages, and in some instances uprisings of whole regions, provides the evidence, in many instances, that the agrarian policy of the time did not work well, which resulted in deaths of peasants, penalties for failure to meet the nobles' harvest requirements and famine conditions. And the situation did not improve quickly for peasants after their emancipation in 1861, leading to the fomenting of sentiments that erupted during the Bolshevik Revolution.

(Continued on page 20)

## A history of Edmonton's Ukrainian Catholic cathedral

"St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Edmonton: A History (1902-200)" by Serge Cipko. Edmonton, Alberta: St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-9784973-1-6. Hardcover, 244 pp. \$25 Canadian, plus \$15 shipping (\$20 outside of Canada).

Written on the occasion of the centennial in 2002 of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, this volume contains five chapters of in-depth history of the church, a chronology of events, as well as numerous photos, including the details of its colorful interior.

More than just a history of the church, this compilation "is also about Ukrainian settlement in Alberta and Canada, and about Roman-Eastern rite relations," according to Raymond Gonzalez of the Western Catholic Reporter. Accordingly, there are numerous pages dedicated to the parishioners and dignitaries who have passed through the church in its over 100 years serving the community.

In addition to the dedicated scholarly efforts by the author, Prof. Serge Cipko, this history was made possible in part by the financial support of Alberta Historical Resources Foundation and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

Readers may obtain copies through the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton by visiting <http://www.edmontoneparchy.com/resources.htm> or directly from St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, 10825 97th St., Edmonton, AB, Canada, T5H 2M4; telephone, 780-422-3181; e-mail [josaphat@telus.net](mailto:josaphat@telus.net).

Prof. Cipko is a professor of history and



is currently the coordinator of the Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Initiative at the University of Alberta. He is also the author of "Ukrainians in Russia: A Bibliographic and Statistical Guide" and "Canada and the Khrushchev Government's 'Return to Homeland' Campaign."

## Addendum

The book "Symon Petliura and the Jews: A Reappraisal" by Taras Hunczak, Ph.D. (July 5) may be purchased for \$20 from the publisher: Ukrainian Historical Association, P.O. Box 312, Kent, OH 44240.

### UKRAINIAN FOLK FESTIVAL

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**Sisters Oros Folk Duo** (NYC)

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 12:00 - 5:00 P.M. - Folk Arts and Crafts Vendors - Displays and "Bazaar"  
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## Pavlo Kyrylenko...

(Continued from page 4)

Dobrynin told us that he would remove them from the Catherine II monument and, literally within 15 minutes after he left, the group of hired bandits came, which so many have seen on those video recordings. Everything happened very quickly. When we read our appeal to the president, we saw this group approaching us very quickly. We couldn't even employ any counter-measures, such as making some kind of circle to defend people. We were disoriented and they began beating people, two, three and five men against one, knocking people down.

### Was Markov among these people?

Markov was among them. At the time, we didn't know who Markov was at all. At that time, Markov was an oligarch who launched the OTV television network not long before, but he wasn't recognized. After about half a year, he began to speak publicly and he was spun as an activist, leader and so forth.

We didn't know that Markov was there, but we knew that those were his fighters. One of our members recognized one of the attackers and gave the police this information. The police arrested this attacker, and he was one of Markov's security guards. They set him free after two days.

### But how do you know that he's a security guard for Markov?

This individual who recognized him worked as a security guard in one of Markov's structures. Meaning he has a business, and in this business there are various financial structures and he worked as a security guard in one of these structures. That's how we knew he was one of Markov's people.

**I asked Valerii Kaurov [Editor's note: leader of the Single Fatherland organization who participated in the September 2, 2007 attacks] his version of events at a press conference, and he said people arrived from Halychyna and were attacking "babusi," (elderly women), and they had to defend the city from invaders. Is this true?**

Anti-Ukrainian forces in Odesa are building their agitation that "Banderites" and Halychany have taken over Odesa and are imposing foreign values upon the city. They want to impose foreign languages upon them and so forth. Their entire agitation is built upon such lies. It's impossible to take this seriously.

As to how the events further unfolded, at the September 2 protest were cameramen from Markov's OTV network, which recorded all this, and afterwards they edited a montage in which some babusi allegedly approached our demonstration, we started beating them, and then some men came to defend these babusi.

But everything is visible on the real video. We had our own cameras and gave them to the police immediately after these events – full recordings, where it's clearly visible how the bandits approached us and there were no conversations or verbal altercations. They came and immediately began carrying out orders.

### So there weren't any babusi there?

When these bandits arrived. At first 15 men came, after which Markov arrived with five more guys. Afterwards, three babusi came with a Russian flag. Another group of six guys came after them. Their network taped and portrayed these very babusi who came only later on.

### Explain the legal steps you took after the attack, and what has been accomplished to this day.

Almost all the participants of our protest immediately filed complaints with the police. The police took testimonies from the five injured protesters who were hospitalized and were able to testify. For those who



The car belonging to Pavlo Kyrylenko, Odesa Oblast chair of the Svoboda nationalist party, was set ablaze near his Odesa home on June 12, the Russia Day national holiday.

couldn't, they recorded the accounts of those who accompanied the injured to the hospital. We filed complaints with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and the Procurator General's Office. Our organization and Prosvita asked the Procurator General to investigate the incident. The president announced afterwards that he would take these investigations under his personal control.

After all these statements were submitted, we began receiving replies that the procurator general submitted to the oblast prosecutor, which submitted to the city, and the division of internal safety conducted some kind of its own analysis in which it claimed there was some kind of verbal altercation between the various groups at the start, after which the fighting started. After about half a year it became obvious that they were trying to bury the matter in the archives.

### Who is trying?

The local police. We received replies from the Presidential Secretariat that they received an explanation from the Odesa police about what happened, and in relation to these events, the one thing that was done was the Shevchenko District chief was rebuked. He was 300 meters away from the events on September 2. That's it.

### How would you evaluate justice in Ukraine?

The concept of justice in Ukraine doesn't exist. It is absolutely absent, which police officers admit. The investigator in the Markov case said he has a large folder which contains all the photographs and videos where Markov is clearly visible. But he said we can't do anything because the matter is decided in Kyiv. He said there's a lobby in Kyiv that is defending Markov.

Even the head of the SBU can announce the fact a crime has been committed, along with evidence, and nonetheless the criminal continues to walk the streets. Moreover, he appears on Ukraine's main television networks, gives interviews and doesn't conceal himself. He walks freely, guarded by his security.

A pile of criminal investigations involve him, and nothing can be done. We tried to explain to the government in a peaceful way that it's necessary to enforce the law and establish legal justice in this country. But if it doesn't exist and the government doesn't turn its attention to this and does nothing to enforce the law, what's left is for citizens to take arms into their hands and enforce the law themselves.

**To which Ukrainian officials can people in the diaspora address their concerns? Some have already begun turning to the European Commission on Human Rights.**

That's appropriate. Other than the Party

of Regions, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc is covering for Markov.

### How do you know?

When the criminal investigation was launched against Markov on March 10, 2009, for the September 2, 2007, incident, he fled to Kyiv for two weeks. He returned to Odesa with Oleksandra Kuzhel [Editor's note – she currently chairs the State Committee on Regulatory Politics and Entrepreneurship], who tried to defend him. [Mykola] Tomenko, one of the key Tymoshenko Bloc leaders, spoke about how political repressions are occurring against the Rodina party and Markov isn't guilty of anything.

**I examined Chaika's recordings on the Internet and he acknowledged that he participated in violence against people. You peacefully protested, but he seemed to be a person involved in fights.**

No, no, no. Don't confuse the matter. He was a football fanatic. There are official soccer clubs which have their fanatics. Unofficially, the fanatics of various soccer clubs agree to meet somewhere in some empty space and engage in a so-called "makhach" (brawl). They fight, but beforehand they raise their arms in the air to show that they are not armed. They simply come for fist fights. When one club wins, they shake hands and remain friends. This is a certain subculture of soccer hooligans and Chaika took part. I am not aware of any recordings where he stated that he beat someone.

### What was his organization, Sich?

Sich was a Ukrainian youth organization, a Ukrainian nationalist organization. In what's traditional for a certain segment of

the youth, Chaika first got involved in some football clubs. These people get older and transform into more mature people with more formulated views. Chaika went from being a soccer hooligan to a normal, reasonable Ukrainian nationalist. At the moment he was murdered, he was already a Ukrainian nationalist, not a hooligan. The film in which he speaks about [the insolent behavior of] immigrants is about a year and a half to two years old. A person's views can significantly change between 18 and 20 years of age.

### He organized a [Roman] Shukhevych march in Odesa?

Yes in 2008. Moreover, he was among the organizers of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) march on October 14, 2008. He was a person who could have given a rebuff. If we develop as an official political party which acts within the framework of the law, then he, in his young age, likely lost faith in the law and believed that since justice doesn't exist, it's necessary to rebuff the actions of anti-Ukrainian forces through other means. He was involved in that.

### So you are convinced that Markov is responsible for his murder?

Absolutely, because Markov finances an entire network of Odesa's anti-Ukrainian organizations. [Editor's note: The SBU reported that he finances Odesa's Antifa.]

The killer stabbed Chaika from behind his back at the moment when another so-called "anti-fascist" held a pistol in his hands. When the fight started, one of these Antifas got a pistol and Chaika's friends were taken aback. It's possible Chaika's attention at that moment was turned to the pistol, and the killer came from behind and made two precise stab wounds to very critical arteries. These were professional stabbings, and it's understood the murderer was trained professionally. [Editor's note – The SBU reported that the suspect in the murder, Andrii Dovhan, is eluding arrest and currently hiding in the Russian Federation.]

### There are photographs on the Internet in which Chaika offers a Nazi salute.

You mean with his arm raised?

### Yes. So you would say that was his past and he has matured since?

I can show you a lot of realistic photographs in which George Bush, Vladimir Putin and Viktor Yushchenko give the same gesture. Every politician, when meeting with people, raises his hands towards his followers. And when it's photographed, it looks like a Nazi salute. But it's not.

If Chaika raised his hand somewhere and greeted someone, and then it's portrayed as some kind of Nazi salute, then that's a complete lie.

## Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

the Office of Special Investigations, on the Demjanjuk case.

"The Office of Special Investigations appears to have deliberately withheld information pertinent to this particular case. [...] Certainly the information of Mr. [Ignat] Danilchenko, Franz Suchomel, Kurt Franz and Richard Glazar leave reason to believe that exculpatory evidence had been deliberately withheld by OSI."

In a July 26, 1989, letter to Rep. Bruce Morrison, chair of the investigation into OSI operations, Rep. Traficant wrote, "The recent developments in the Demjanjuk case lead me to believe that here are serious problems in the Office of Special Investigations," and noted that there is "possible criminal conduct" by its officials, including "serious obstruction of justice."

Neal Sher, OSI director, told The Washington Times, "I really can't comment on that... I frankly don't know what he's got, but this case has been litigated up and down the line, and I don't think it's appropriate to comment."

Rep. Traficant raised the issue on the House floor on June 20, 1989, who said the actions of the OSI "a dangerous precedent" and called for an investigation of both the case and the OSI.

The issue was raised again by the congressman on July 18, 1989, and said, "it appears that they may have the wrong man, but no one is listening." Recently revealed information "suggests strongly that the Office of Special Investigations deliberately withheld key evidence that would have aided Demjanjuk."

Source: "Ohio congressman calls for review of OSI activity in Demjanjuk case," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 13, 1989.

## Sanctuary Project captures Ukrainian religious culture in Canada

EDMONTON, Alberta – Farmers arrive in their pick-ups and open country churches for the fieldworkers and volunteers of the Sanctuary Project.

The project crew comes armed with a film camera, digital cameras, tripods, measuring devices, a computer, and a spray bottle and rag to clean things. In a matter of hours, they photograph the exterior of a Ukrainian Catholic or Orthodox church, every image and furnishing inside the church, every vestment, and every tombstone.

The idea is to preserve in photographs a unique culture that is endangered. Many of the churches the Sanctuary Project visits have been vandalized or robbed within the past five years. Thieves have taken crucifixes, candle stands and gospel books, so many churches have had to

replace the older treasures that were bequeathed to them by the pioneers who originally built the churches.

The rural congregations are also shrinking in size. The crew recently visited a church with a large cemetery, which indicates that in the past this was a vibrant, populous congregation. Today this parish has only 13 members.

Services in most rural churches have been reduced to a few times a year, and bishops have had to make hard decisions about which churches to keep open and which to close. Many of the closed churches will be razed; others will disintegrate slowly.

The fieldworkers preserving a record of these churches and other Ukrainian religious sites are young people interested in Ukrainian history and culture. They do not earn much, and the work – which depends on obtaining funding – is not steady, so one cannot praise their dedication enough.

The volunteers tend to be of an older generation, generally people who have had a long-standing interest in Ukrainian Canadian culture and understand what is at stake.

People seldom realize how special is the Ukrainian sacral legacy in the Canadian prairies. Across a large swath of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, there are Ukrainian rural settlements that give the prairies a distinctive flavor. The onion-domed church rising out of flat grassland has now become a prairie icon.



Cole Dutchik

The first St. Mary's Church in Wildwood, Alberta, now abandoned to the elements.

This territory represents the most extensive colonization in the New World by a culture deriving ultimately from Byzantium, as well as the most Ukrainian-marked territory in North America. Preparing a careful record of it is essential.

After the crew photographs everything, the data is entered on spreadsheets and a database in order to facilitate research by historians, art historians, anthropologists, folklorists and religious-studies scholars. Scholarly work on the record of this culture will be a way of keeping it alive.

"Sanctuary: The Spiritual Heritage Documentation Project" is the creation of three professors at the University of Alberta and is spearheaded by the Research Program on Religion and Culture at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta.

Each professor offers his or her own expertise and unique background.

John-Paul Himka, the director of the reli-

gion and culture program, has worked for many years on church history and iconography in Ukraine, but is now turning his attention to what Yar Slavutych has called "Canadian Ukraine."

Natalie Kononenko, who is Kule Professor of Ukrainian Ethnography, brings to the project extensive experience in fieldwork, both in Ukraine and in Ukrainian communities in Alberta; she also engages the photographic and computer skills of her husband, Peter Holloway.

Frances Swyripa, of the department of history and classics, has worked on the history of Ukrainians in Canada for more than 30 years and has developed a strong interest in sacral landscapes.

For more information on the Sanctuary Project, readers may contact Prof. Himka at [jhimka@ualberta.ca](mailto:jhimka@ualberta.ca), or visit the website of the Research Program on Religion and Culture, <http://www.ualberta.ca/~cius/religion-culture/index.htm>.



J.P. Himka

Michal Mlynarz photographs vestments worn by Keith Hann in front of St. Mary's Church in Wildwood, Alberta, now closed.

## New election bill...

(Continued from page 1)

"obstruction of the rights and freedoms of Ukrainian citizens, and, moreover, the implementation of a control mechanism over the elections' outcome."

"The president needs to make sure that these elections are carried out freely, so that the democratic development of Ukraine is not tarnished," said Iryna Vanykova, the president's press secretary. "As the guarantor of the Constitution, the head of state is solely responsible for free, transparent and democratic elections."

President Yushchenko hasn't yet commented on the bill, but experts expect he will veto it on the grounds that such strict limits on election appeals infringe on voter rights and are unconstitutional.

Political expert Olexiy Haran said the president will use the bill as political ammunition to attack his rivals in the presidential race, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich.

Their parliamentary factions – the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Party of Regions of Ukraine – contributed the majority of the 316 votes cast to pass the legislation at the July 24 special session of the Verkhovna Rada.

After the vote passed, Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn didn't indicate who voted for the bill and from which faction, as he's required to do.

The bill's first reading, passed with 367 votes, stipulated that the five parliamentary factions control between 67 and 80 percent of election commission seats throughout Ukraine's 225 district commissions and 30,000-plus local election commissions.

This would have given much control to

the Party of Regions and the Tymoshenko Bloc, which control at least 329 seats in Parliament, or 73 percent. Moreover, at least half of the 72 deputies of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense factions are allied with the Tymoshenko Bloc.

The new version allows for presidential candidates to nominate at least two members to each district and local election commission.

As a result, presidential candidates such as the 35-year-old newcomer Arseniy Yatsenyuk, who isn't backed by a party, will have the same chance at representation on election commissions as the top two competitors – Mr. Yanukovich and Ms. Tymoshenko.

While President Yushchenko supported this change, he criticized the bill's provision allowing election commissions to make decisions without a full quorum, arguing it's unconstitutional.

The bill allows for election commissions to convene, establish a quorum, and vote on a number of decisions – including the approval of voter lists – so long as at least half of the commission members are in attendance.

In a holdover from the 2004 presidential election that is also drawing criticism, local and district commission members will be drawn from their local regions, making them susceptible to the influence of local politicians, government officials and businessmen.

"If a certain territory is controlled by a 'big boss,' then people from that particular region will be afraid to voice their opinions," said Mr. Haran, a political science professor at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. "But if a member is appointed to a committee other than where he lives, then he

won't care – the pressure will be off."

Among its other provisions, the bill raises the price for entering the presidential race by more than fourfold to 2.5 million hrv (about \$330,000 U.S.) instead of the earlier minimum of 500,000 hrv (\$65,000).

It also allows presidential candidates to raise as much money as possible, but in exchange, limits how much a single person can donate to about \$33,000 (more than 12 times the average annual salary in Ukraine).

This provision is intended to deter mega-millionaires from tipping the scales in the election and is among the finer points in a bill that is otherwise problematic, said Oleksander Palii, a political observer at the

Foreign Policy Institute of the Diplomatic Academy of the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

"Technical candidates are expensive toys that can be used for political purposes," said Mr. Palii. "From a democratic point of view, these particular additions limit their influence and are actually quite reasonable."

The election rules bill cuts the official campaign season from 120 to 90 days in the run-up to the January 17, 2010, election day.

If the president vetoes the election bill, as he has said he will do, the Verkhovna Rada has the option of giving the legislation a third reading. However, the Rada can also choose to override the presidential veto, provided it has enough votes.



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# Ruslana makes surprise visit to Plast's Vovcha Tropa camp

by Markian Hadzewycz

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

EAST CHATHAM, N.Y. – Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival on July 17-19 was a rousing success that brought together thousands of people not only from the Eastern Seaboard, but from all over North America. The starring act was Ukrainian pop singer Ruslana, famous for winning the 2004 Eurovision Song Contest and standing up for democracy during the Orange Revolution in Ukraine.

As July is camp season for Ukrainian American children and teens, many who wanted to see the star's first U.S. festival performance could not attend. However, campers of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization at the Vovcha Tropa grounds in East Chatham, N.Y., just a few exits up the New York State Thruway from Soyuzivka, would get the next best deal: a personal visit by Ruslana.

On Monday, July 20, the camps were told to expect a high-ranking Plast "shyshka," or VIP, who would visit them that evening. The children, and many of the counselors, figured it would be the usual drill as they put on their Plast uniforms: an inspection by the VIP, brief welcoming remarks, the singing of camp songs and the performance of skits for the guest of honor.

But as the campers marched to the site of the welcoming ceremony, they were awestruck to see Ruslana right before their eyes. The young girls in particular let out cheers upon seeing their Ukrainian idol.

The pop star visited Vovcha Tropa accompanied by her hosts, Roma Lisovich, treasurer of the Ukrainian National Association, and Nestor Paslawsky, general manager of Soyuzivka.

Also traveling to the Plast camp with Ruslana were her manager, Andrii Radniuk, and a member of her ensemble of dancers, Lesia Perun. (Ruslana had introduced Ms. Perun to the crowd during her July 18 Soyuzivka show as her best friend and noted that she was celebrating a birthday that day.) Both Ruslana and Mr. Radniuk at one time were members of Plast in Ukraine.

Ruslana was officially welcomed by the leader of the U.S. National Plast Command, Peter Stawnychy, and the head of the regional camp committee for Vovcha Tropa, Katria Harasewych. But the exuberant welcome by the young campers said it best.

Ruslana readily posed for photographs and exchanged greetings and handshakes with children and teens from the various camps. It was clear by her reactions that Ruslana was simply overcome and touched by the warm welcome and sheer numbers of Plast youths at Vovcha Tropa.

Perhaps the most exciting welcome was presented by the younger boys, the



Markian Hadzewycz

Young Plast members are excited to see Ruslana visit their camp.

"novaky," and their counselors, who showed off their Gypsy camp theme by parading in with a covered wagon and playing live music on drums, guitars, tambourines, a mandolin and an accordion.

After having dinner with Ruslana in Vovcha Tropa's open-air pavilion, everyone headed toward the camp bonfire, where several speakers and microphones were set up especially for the occasion. After helping light the campfire with a large wooden torch, Ruslana led the audience in singing several Ukrainian songs, inviting campers to join her and share the microphone.

Next, each camp was called to sing its camp song. A special highlight came when the older girls, the "yunachky," sang Ruslana's "Ples," which was adopted as their Hutsul-themed camp song several years back.

After an evening of songs and smiles, the Plast scouts and cub scouts bid Ruslana farewell, still amazed that the international sensation had taken time out of her schedule to visit their corner of the woods. This intimate visit will no doubt be an event that will remain in their hearts for years to come.

Photos of Ruslana's visit to Vovcha Tropa can be seen on her official website, [www.ruslana.ua](http://www.ruslana.ua).



Ruslana and her new friends sing during the bonfire.



Ruslana at Vovcha Tropa with (from left) Ukrainian National Association Treasurer Roma Lisovich, the head of the U.S. National Plast Command Peter Stawnychy and Soyuzivka General Manager Nestor Paslawsky.



Counselors of the camp for cub scouts (novaky), whose theme was Gypsy life, welcome Ruslana into their band.

# PHOTO FOLLOW-UP: Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival



Christine Syzonenko

Dumka Chorus conductor Vasyl Hrechynsky.



Russ Chelak

A trio of dancers backstage.



Russ Chelak

Ruslana in concert.



Markian Hadzewycz

Young men of Iskra wait to take the stage.



Markian Hadzewycz

UNA executives get a hug from Misio the bear.



Roma Hadzewycz

A group of festival-goers near the popular Tiki deck.



Roma Hadzewycz

"Mr. Ukraine Baseball" Basil Tarasko sells sports apparel.



Markian Hadzewycz

A welcome from a Zolotyj Promin dancer.



Roma Hadzewycz

Lialia Nahnybida and her husband, Sam, consider purchasing appropriate T-shirts, emblazoned, respectively, with the words "Lialia" (doll) and "Staryi" (old man).



Roma Hadzewycz

Friends enjoy a chance to catch up on the Veselka patio.

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# NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

tual energy that one can draw from it for a  
long time." He also had said that the Kyiv  
Pecherska Lavra "is the first throne of the  
primates of the Russian Orthodox Church."  
The official Press-Center for the patriarch's  
visit quoted him as saying: "When I  
received, by the tradition, the staff of St.  
Peter, metropolitan of Kyiv, as a symbol of  
spiritual power from the hands of His  
Beatitude Metropolitan Volodymyr [primate  
of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church -  
Moscow Patriarchate], I felt the internal  
need to visit Kyiv as soon as possible, the  
Holy Land of our Church, to bow unto the  
relics of the venerable fathers of Kyiv  
Caves." Patriarch Kirill was met at the Near  
Caves of the monastery by the hierarchs of  
the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, in particu-  
lar by Deputy Abbot of the Kyiv-Pecherska  
Lavra Archbishop Pavel of Vyshhorod.  
After that, the patriarch went to the Church  
of the Exaltation of the Cross, where he  
prayed to the Wonderworking Icon of the  
Dormition of the Theotokos. (Ukrinform)

### Yushchenko, Kirill discuss Church unity

KYIV - Ukraine is seeking an open dia-  
logue on the question of creating a single  
national Orthodox Church, Ukrainian  
President Viktor Yushchenko said after a  
meeting with Patriarch of Moscow and all  
Russia Kirill, the presidential press service  
reported on July 28. "The goal of our dia-  
logue is to speak trustingly, openly and  
honestly about the things that are sensitive  
in Ukraine's religious life. We spoke about  
one of the problems in the Ukrainian  
Church - the current Orthodox separation,"  
he said, adding that the "greatest desire of  
the Ukrainian people is to live in a single  
national first apostolic Church." Mr.  
Yushchenko described Orthodox disunity as  
a Church problem, adding that this has a  
negative effect on the social stability and  
spiritual unity of Ukrainians. According to  
the website patriarh.in.ua, Patriarch Kirill  
said that "during these days, we're honoring  
the memory of St. Prince Volodymyr who,  
through his great deeds - the  
Christianization of Rus', favored the foun-  
dation of our national Church that existed  
for a thousand years. This Church, Mr.  
President, exists. There's a national Church  
in Ukraine. If it didn't exist, there would be  
no Ukraine today," the patriarch said.  
(Ukrinform)

### Payments to depositors to be resumed

KYIV - The Ukrainian Cabinet of  
Ministers is planning to resume the pay-  
ment of compensation for depreciated  
deposits in the former Soviet-era Sberbank  
after the current economic crisis wanes,  
Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on  
July 28 during a phone-in interview with  
farmers. "We'll resume the payment of  
1,000 hrv [to each depositor of the former  
Soviet Sberbank] as soon as the crisis  
begins to decline," she said. On May 20 the  
government decided to allocate 250 million  
hrv (7.67 hrv = \$1 U.S.) for 2009 to pay  
compensation for deposits in the former  
Soviet bank, which were placed before  
1992. Under a resolution of January 9,  
2008, the government decided to pay 6 bil-  
lion hrv last year as compensation for  
depreciated deposits, including 5.76 billion  
hrv directly to depositors, and 240 million  
hrv to the successors of deceased deposi-  
tors. (Ukrinform)

### Poland to open two more Consulates

KYIV - Poland intends to open two new  
Consulates in Ukraine during 2009, Polish  
Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski  
announced at a July 27 press conference in  
Lviv. "We will open two new Consulates in  
Vinnytsia and Sevastopol this crisis year.  
These decisions demonstrate that we back a  
European course of Ukraine's development

in fact, not merely in word," he said. Four  
Consulates of Poland currently operate out-  
side Kyiv: in Lviv, Lutsk, Odesa and  
Kharkiv. (Ukrinform)

### Ukrainian TV news blacked out in Poland

KYIV - Polish television management  
stopped airing the only TV news program  
in the Ukrainian language, it was reported  
on July 27. The Association of Ukrainians  
in Poland made a statement on the occa-  
sion. "This is a new time when, under the  
pretext of reforms and lack of money, pub-  
lic television heads want to black out the  
only program in an ethnic minority lan-  
guage broadcast all across the country,"  
the statement reads. On radio and TV, the  
association underscored the significance of  
a Ukrainian-language program and  
requested public support for the collection  
of signatures on a petition to be presented  
to television management and members of  
Parliament. The Ukrainian TV news had  
been broadcast on public channels of  
Polish television for about 14 years.  
(Ukrinform)

### IMF welcomes new bank law

KYIV - The International Monetary  
Fund (IMF) has welcomed amendments to  
laws on the recovery of Ukraine's banking  
system that were approved by Parliament  
at an extraordinary session on July 24. A  
statement released by the IMF Resident  
Representative Office in Ukraine noted:  
"We welcome the set of reforms to the  
legal framework for bank resolution adopt-  
ed today by the Parliament of Ukraine.  
The reforms represent significant progress  
toward restoring financial stability, because  
they provide a robust framework for  
resolving problem banks consistent with  
international good practices." The state-  
ment also noted: "The legal amendments  
substantially broaden the bank resolution  
toolkit, facilitate lowest-cost resolutions,  
and provide incentives to engage private  
investors consistent with the objective of  
protecting depositors." Furthermore, "The  
adoption of the reforms will help enhance  
confidence and promote the sustainable  
development of the banking sector, both of  
which are key in returning Ukraine to a  
path of growth and prosperity," the state-  
ment said. (Ukrinform)

### Biden pledges support for Georgia

TBILISI, Georgia - U.S. Vice-President  
Joe Biden reiterated Washington's support  
for Georgia a year after its military was  
crushed during a five-day war with Russia.  
His pledge came as Moscow promised to  
prevent Tbilisi from rearming its military  
in a sharp reaction to Mr. Biden's visit. Mr.  
Biden last visited Georgia during Russia's  
invasion in August. Speaking next to  
Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili on  
July 23, ahead of a closed-door meeting in  
Tbilisi's gleaming new palace, the U.S.  
vice-president said he was glad to be back  
"not watching Russians planes fly over  
and not seeing explosions in the distance."  
He added, "The reason why I am here  
today - I would like to come back under  
any circumstances, but the president asked  
me to - to make a demonstrable showing  
that we stand with you. It is about the  
future. And we, to the extent you want us  
to, want us to help you build that future, a  
strong, independent and prosperous  
future," Mr. Biden said. Mr. Saakashvili  
heaped praise on Mr. Biden and said  
Georgia was not concerned about U.S.  
President Barack Obama's attempt to reset  
relations with Russia during his visit to  
Moscow earlier this month. "I want to  
thank President Obama for his very strong  
stand in Moscow, his talk about not allow-  
ing, in today's world, the 21st century, the  
spheres of influence. And for a country  
like Georgia, it is like music to our ears.  
We thank him for his moral leadership and

(Continued on page 15)

## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

for his absolute clarity on this," Mr. Saakashvili said. (RFE/RL)

### Agreement with NATO is in effect

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on July 20 signed a decree enacting the agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on the transit shipment of cargoes via Ukraine to Afghanistan. The text of the document was put on the presidential website. (Ukrinform)

### Lytvyn comments on NATO

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said he is convinced that a statement by NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer on Ukraine's unreadiness to join the alliance will bring calm to the country. Speaking on Channel 5 TV on July 21, he said he welcomed the statement of the NATO secretary general, adding that his stand is in line with the opinion of the majority of Ukrainians. The Rada chairman also noted that while talking about Ukraine's accession to NATO it is necessary to focus not on the form, but on the matter of this process. The key point of this process is that Ukraine has to ensure its national security. The NATO secretary general had said on July 21 in London that neither Ukraine nor Georgia are ready to join NATO, and neither is likely to be ready for membership soon. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine to dispose of arms

KYIV – Ukraine will dispose of 6,000 tons of ammunition and arms within the framework of a government agreement with NATO, a Cabinet resolution reads. The government agreed to a proposal of

the Defense Ministry to ensure the fulfillment of the Implementation Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the NATO Maintenance and Supply Organization (NAMSO) on the destruction of portable air defense systems, small arms and light weapons, as well as conventional ammunition. The resolution stipulates that the Defense Ministry will hand over to the UkrOboron Service State Enterprise 6,000 tons of ammunition for disposal. Earnings from the discarded ammunition will be transferred to the state budget. (Ukrinform)

### Police halt transfer of Russian missiles

SEVASTOPOL, Ukraine – Crimean police in the city of Sevastopol stopped two Russian Black Sea navy vehicles that were carrying missiles without the necessary permit, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. The incident took place on July 21, two weeks after a similar event in Sevastopol in which a convoy carrying three missiles was stopped by Ukrainian police. Ukrainian Security and Defense Council Deputy Secretary Volodymyr Ohryzko said the rockets were sent back to their place of origin. He added that, due to a Ukrainian-Russian agreement about the Russian naval fleet based in Ukraine, the transfer of any military cargo must be discussed with Ukrainian officials. Ukrainian officials called the first incident unacceptable, but Russian military representatives said no agreements had been violated. (RFE/RL)

### Security services have new powers

MOSCOW – On July 6 the Russian Ministry of Communications posted Order 65 on its official website (www.minkomsv-jaz.ru). Effective July 21, the order decrees that Russian postal services must make available for inspection on demand to the Federal Security Service (the main succes-

sor to the Soviet KGB) and seven other Russian security service agencies any private mail or shipments, as well as exhaustive data on senders and addressees. Special rooms where security officers will be able to open and inspect private mail were decreed to be established at post offices. Order 65 also cancels the privacy of electronic correspondence. Operators will now formally grant the security services access to their electronic databases. Though Soviet or Russian security services never hesitated to intercept, monitor, inspect or confiscate private correspondence, nothing like Order 65 has ever occurred openly, formally or so

blatantly – not even under Soviet rule. Order 65 contravenes the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, a United Nations treaty based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Russia is a signatory to both international agreements. Experts said the new order also violates Article 23 of the Russian Constitution, which proclaims the complete privacy of telephone, postal and other communications, and states unequivocally that this privacy can be lifted solely on the authority of the courts. The order leaves such decisions to the discretion of the security services. (Eurasia Daily Monitor)



## Michael Bohdan Kowal

May 30, 1951 – June 13, 2009

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved son, brother, and uncle.

In deep mourning:

Parents Osyp and Sophia Kowal  
Sister Anna with her husband Stephen Panas  
Nephews Stephen and Andrew Panas

extended Kowal and Jaremko family in Ukraine

Богдане, Вічна Тобі Пам'ять.



On February 17, 2009,

## John Lypka

much beloved husband and father, died at the age of 83 after a long and difficult battle with Alzheimer's disease. He died at home with his wife, daughter, and beloved dog and protector by his side.



John was a long time resident of the Tampa Bay area in Florida after moving from New York in 1994. He was born on July 25, 1925, in Wola Matiaszowa, Poland. He came to America in 1965 with his wife and son, the birth of his daughter came years later.

He will without doubt be remembered for his strong views on politics and strongly worded opinions. More importantly, he should be remembered for his love and hope for a free and prosperous Ukraine. While living in communist Poland, he worked tirelessly to create and maintain an active social movement among Ukrainian young adults. He fought to introduce the Ukrainian language into the curriculum of every Polish school at every level so the Ukrainian youth had the honor and opportunity to learn their native language. Above all, he devoted much of his time and all his personal resources to help defend and free as many unjustly jailed UPA members as was personally possible.

John leaves behind:

Wife Jozefa  
Son Orest  
Daughter Katrunia

A personal note from his daughter:

"Daddy, I love you more than words can say  
and I keep you in my heart always."

Rest in peace.



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- св. Тройці в Дрогобичі, Україна;
- в катедрі св. Юра у Львові, Україна.

У суботу, 8 серпня 2009 р.

- у церкві св. Івана Хрестителя в Гантері о год. 9-й ранку.

У четвер, 6-го серпня 2009 р. о год. 11-й ранку відправиться Панахида над могилою Покійного на Українському православному цвинтарі св. Андрія в South Bound Brook, NJ.

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\*The Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009, signed into law May 20, 2009, includes a provision extending \$250,000 share insurance coverage provided by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund through December 31, 2013. For more information on how to maximize your savings coverage visit: [www.NCUA.gov/resources/shareinsurancetoolkit.aspx](http://www.NCUA.gov/resources/shareinsurancetoolkit.aspx). APY - Annual Percentage Yield based on 4.0% rate. \$500,00 minimum deposit required to open a share certificate. Penalty assessed for premature termination of certificate.



## COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

# UCCA Illinois Division elects new president at annual meeting

by Katya Mischenko-Mycyk

CHICAGO – The Illinois Division of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA-Illinois) held its annual meeting and election on May 13 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago's Ukrainian Village. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Julian Kulas, founding president of UCCA-Illinois.

Organizational greetings were presented by representatives of Ukrainian American

Youth Association, Organization for Defense of the Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Woman's Association for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union and UZIR television.

The current president of the UCCA-Illinois Pavlo T. Bandriwsky, presented an overview of 2008-2009 activities and programs. UCCA-Illinois took an active role in coordinating and planning activities commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide as part of the local Ukrainian Genocide-Holodomor Commemoration Committee. Those activities included the coordination of the International Holodomor Torch Relay in Millennium Park, the "Breaking the Silence on the Unknown Genocide" exhibit and conference at the Cervantes Institute, and the community procession and solemn ecumenical requiem at Holy Name Cathedral.

UCCA-Illinois stood beside Georgian Americans during the Russian invasion of Georgia during the summer of 2008. Members of UCCA-Illinois participated and coordinated public demonstrations in downtown Chicago. A working group of community representatives of former captive nations of the Soviet Union was formed in response to the Georgia-Russia crisis. UCCA-Illinois board members participated in discussions with represen-

tatives of the Georgian, Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian communities of Illinois.

Bohdan Melnyk, vice-president and chair of the Relations with Ukraine Committee, reported that UCCA-Illinois hosted a successful public meeting in the fall to shed light on the political situation in Ukraine and its implications for the upcoming elections.

Oryssa Kolyasa, UCCA-Illinois representative to the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC), gave a briefing on the tremendous support received from the Ukrainian community in Illinois following the floods of July 2008 in western Ukraine. The UUARC, with the financial help of UCCA-Illinois, was able to collect enough supplies and clothing to fill an entire cargo shipping container. The community stepped up and donated so many sup-

plies and clothing that a second shipment is currently being coordinated.

In addition, Ms. Kolyasa runs the UCCA-Illinois-sponsored English as a Second Language School in Chicago. Students of the program donated funds to send dozens of wheelchairs to Ukraine for invalids.

Stepan Strilchuk, UCCA-Illinois treasurer, stated that, despite the economic downturn in the United States, UCCA-Illinois had a very successful fund-raising year. Profits from the annual Taras Shevchenko concert allowed UCCA-Illinois to make a donation to St. Nicholas School in the amount of \$2,100.

The 2008 UCCA-Illinois Ukrainian Days



Pavlo T. Bandriwsky receives thanks for leading UCCA-Illinois for the past three terms.

Festival generated over \$41,000 in profit and attracted over 13,000 attendees. This year's Ukrainian Days Festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, August 22-23 at Smith Park near Chicago's Ukrainian Village.

Dr. Kulas briefed meeting attendees on the involvement of UCCA-Illinois in the Euro-Cup U.S.A. Championship Committee and the Chicago 2016 Olympic Committee. UCCA-Illinois is prepared to assist in making Ukrainian Olympic athletes and trainers feel at home in the Ukrainian community and Ukrainian Village of Chicago if

(Continued on page 22)



The newly elected president of UCCA-Illinois, Dr. Oles Strilchuk.

## Selfreliance Foundation supports Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Diaspora

by Nadia Zajac

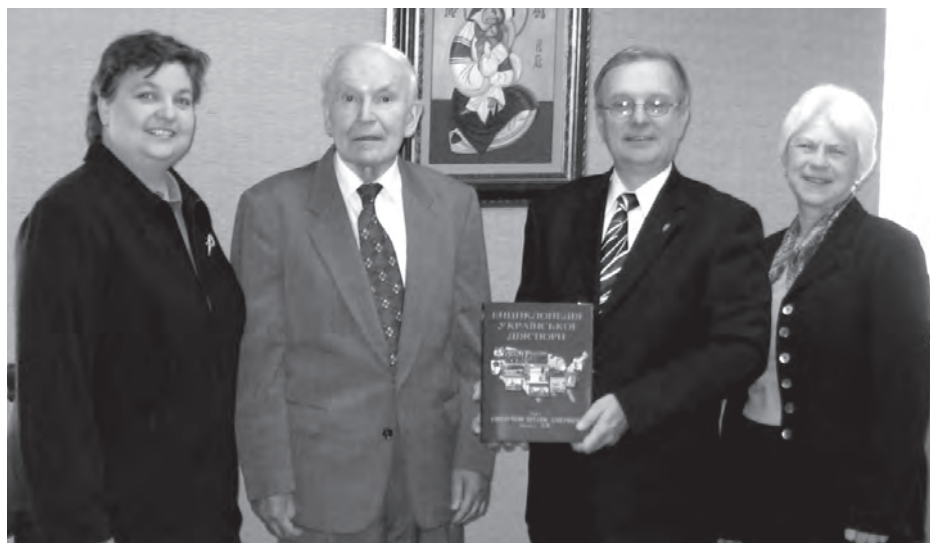
CHICAGO – The Selfreliance Foundation of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union in Chicago has donated \$3,000 for the continuing research work of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora. For many years Selfreliance has been a sponsor of the encyclopedia, helping in the cost of renting the editorial offices located in the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago.

This year the first book of the American volume of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora (EUD) was published under the auspices of the Shevchenko Scientific Society of America (New York). The editor-in-chief, Dr. Vasyl Markus presented a copy of the

Nadia Zajac is administrator of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora.

book to Bohdan Watral, president and CEO of Selfreliance, thanking the credit union for all the years of its financial support for the momentous work of documenting the history of the Ukrainian diaspora in America. Mr. Watral stated that Selfreliance will continue to support the EUD project's American volume.

The first book (A-K) of the American volume of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora is available for purchase in Chicago, at the editorial office located in the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; telephone, 773-489-1339; e-mail: encukrdiaspora@gmail.com. Its cost is \$40; for members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society – \$32. Orders may also be placed with the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave., New York, NY 10003 (add \$6 for shipping); e-mail: info@shevchenko.org.



At the headquarters of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (from left) are: Nadia Zajac, Dr. Vasyl Markus, editor of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora, Bohdan Watral, president/CEO of SUAFCU, and Dora Turula.

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## SBU says Rodina...

(Continued from page 4)

of Ukraine's oblasts, a standard that Rodina falls far short of.

Instead, Mr. Markov took control of a nominally existing political party, the Progressive-Democratic Party of Ukraine, and simply changed its name to Rodina, also legally questionable because the law requires names of parties in the Ukrainian language. (Rodina means "fatherland" in Russian. Rodyna means "family" in Ukrainian.)

Based on such dubious conditions, the SBU stated it will attempt to disqualify Rodina's status as a national political party.

In a March 23 statement, Odesa's community of ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian speakers, consisting of political parties and organizations, stated that law enforcement authorities and the oblast procurator's office have done nothing to protect them

from Mr. Markov's campaign of ethnically motivated violence.

It was signed by the Prosvita All-Ukrainian Association, the Ukrainian People's Party, the Reforms and Order Party, the People's Rukh of Ukraine, the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists and three local Kozak organizations.

About 20 Ukrainian-speaking Odesites held a protest outside the Procurator General's Office (PGO) in Kyiv on May 25 to demand Mr. Markov's arrest and prosecution.

Pavlo Kyrylenko, leader of Odesa's nationalist Svoboda party, said he received hollow assurances from the PGO's public relations department chair that it will ask its Odesa prosecutor, Vasyl Prysiashniuk, to further pursue the criminal investigations.

"In our country, it's no secret that the law is practically inactive, and money and the common interests of certain influential people decide everything," Mr.

Kyrylenko said. "In this country, only a change in government can change anything – conducting lustration and removing from power those people who propagate ideas and ideologies that are hostile to our country."

In anarchic Ukraine, arresting Mr. Markov could prove a challenge even if authorities had the will.

On March 21, Mr. Markov allegedly had his thugs pull three SBU agents from their car and drag them to his nearby Rodina party offices for questioning and a beating.

"This led to Mr. Markov, the suspect in two crimes who is not yet isolated from society, even conducting a cynical questioning of the detained [SBU officers], which was broadcast on the [ATV] television network under his control," said a March 23 statement issued by the city's Ukrainian organizations.

Mr. Markov alleged they were illegally

spying on him, while the officers claimed they were conducting surveillance on an entirely separate matter involving contrabandists, for which they had court warrants.

Special Alfa forces had to break into Mr. Markov's offices to rescue their fellow officers, a move that Mr. Markov also alleged was illegal.

The lack of arrest or prosecution leads Odesa's community of ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian speakers to believe that Mr. Markov has found cover among powerful politicians in Kyiv.

During her March visit to Odesa for example, Oleksandra Kuzhel, an influential bureaucrat appointed by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, demanded that law enforcement authorities "stop criminal persecution of Markov."

Mr. Markov has found allies within the New Ukraine civic organization, serving on the organizational committee alongside Party of Regions member Mykola Azarov and Serhii Tihipko, the head of Viktor Yanukovich's 2004 presidential candidate who was a temporary advisor to Ms. Tymoshenko last year.

"If you speak about Markov, then believe me – there are very many people in Kyiv who support him and will help him," Mr. Tihipko reportedly said in an interview broadcast on ATV, as reported by the Ukrayina Moloda daily newspaper. "Nobody will do anything to him."

Mr. Markov also has protection within the Russian Orthodox Church hierarchy, Dr. Soskin said, pointing out that he traveled as a lay representative to the Moscow synod that selected Patriarch Kirill as successor to Alexey II.

"The Russian FSB is sheltering Markov," he said confidently. "Only that can explain why he hasn't been arrested by the Ukrainian special services [SBU]."

As law enforcement authorities do nothing, Odesa's community of ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian-language speakers said Mr. Markov has created an atmosphere of terror and persecution in a city known for its supposed tolerance and diversity.

Mr. Markov's local television network regularly smears ethnically conscious Ukrainians as "fascists," "extremists" and "ultraradicals" for simply speaking the Ukrainian language or expressing their Ukrainian identity through political or cultural activity. (ATV is operating despite its license being canceled by the National Radio and Television Council.)

On its website, Rodina smears Prosvita as an "ultranationalist" organization when it's among Ukraine's oldest and most respected cultural institutions, tracing its roots to 1868 in the Halychyna region where it was founded amidst persecution of Ukrainian language and culture.

More than a century later the persecution is ongoing, as Rodina organized a protest on September 28, 2008, outside Odesa's Prosvita headquarters, shooting up the office's windows with pellets of red paint, said Oleksander Stepanchenko, the Odesa Prosvita chair.

The protest was filmed and broadcast on the ATV network, conveniently omitting the pneumatic gun attack.

If law enforcement authorities don't act to defend Odesa's ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian speakers, they will have to defend themselves, community leaders said.

"If state law enforcement structures are incapable of ensuring calm, civic peace and the state's territorial integrity from the encroachment of pro-Russian extremist structures, which are hatched abroad, we don't have a choice other than turning to all of Ukraine's patriots for support and creating voluntary formations to defend civic order according to the law, [formations] which are capable of executing functions which corrupt law enforcers don't want to or can't implement," the March 23 statement said.

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# Chicago's UIMA presents artworks by Dubovyk, Fedorouk

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art is presenting a selection of recent artworks by Olexander Dubovyk and Vasily Fedorouk on August 2-30. Both Dubovyk and Fedorouk are highly successful contemporary Ukrainian artists creating and exhibiting within the international community.

The pairing of these two artists offers a glimpse into the breadth of contemporary Ukrainian art, both retaining their roots in traditional technique and aesthetic, yet progressing outside of national borders.

Mr. Dubovyk, born in 1931 in Kyiv, studied and taught in Kyiv's art schools, but did not begin exhibiting his work widely until soon before the dissolution of the Soviet Union. He created underground

due to Ukraine's political climate at that time.

Though conceptual and decorative, Mr. Dubovyk's work communicates a potent expressive quality resultant of that experience. His work follows contemporary aesthetics of cubism, pop art and geometric abstraction, with a particularly rich emphasis on color and shape.

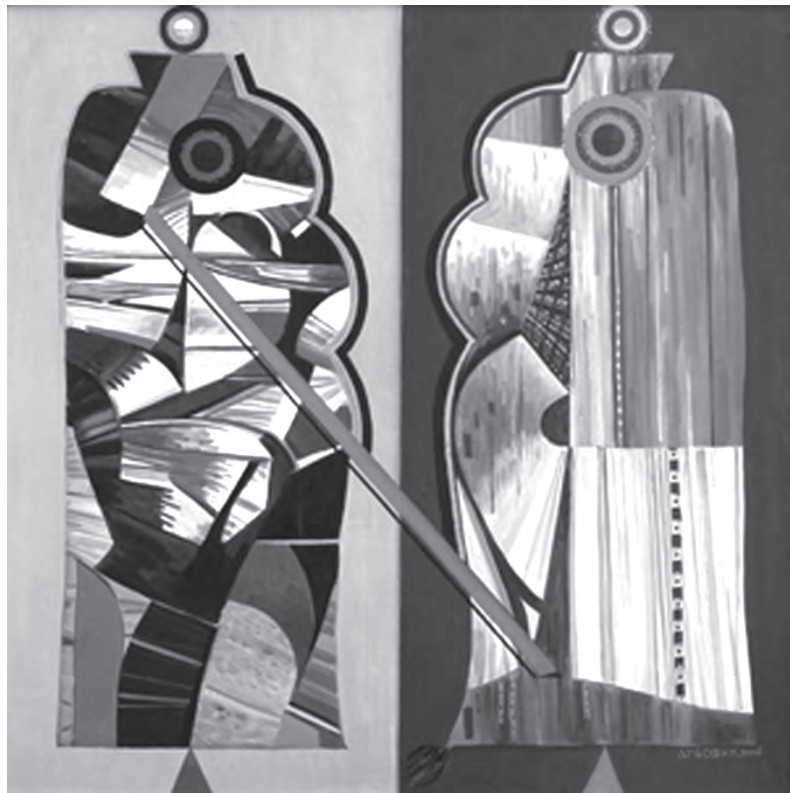
Mr. Fedorouk also displays an acute grasp of shape in his sculptures, whether figurative or non-figurative geometric abstraction. His works display a mastery over his chosen media of granite, stone, marble and ceramic.

Born in 1950 in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast of Ukraine, Mr. Fedorouk was highly trained as a sculptor within the prestigious art schools of Lviv and Kosov. His fluency with classical techniques and aesthetics is apparent in his work, yet the creative direction is uniquely his own.

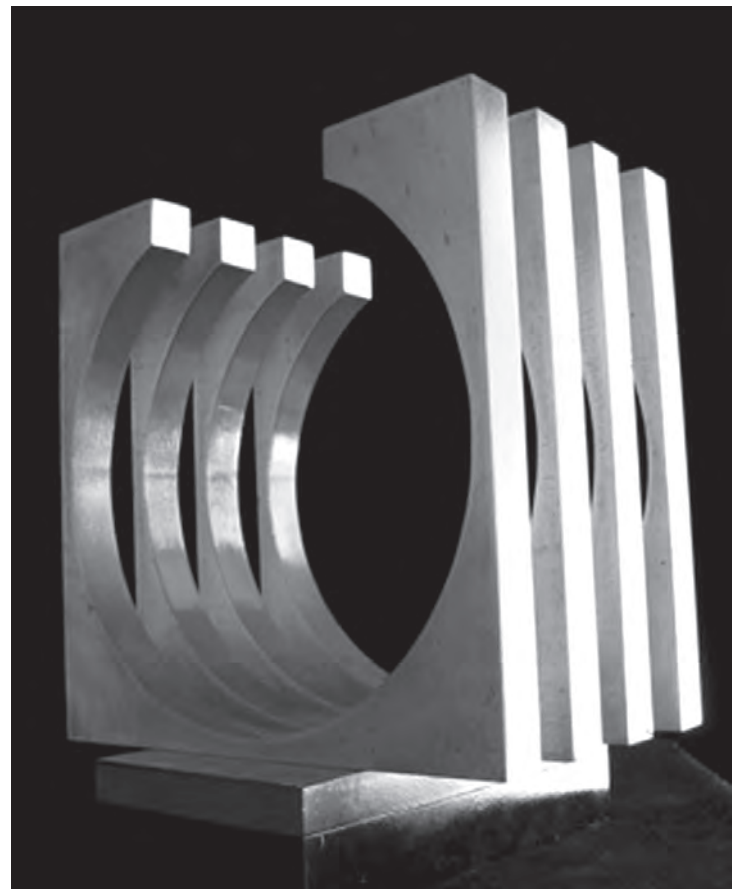
Mr. Fedorouk has relocated from Ukraine to Illinois, while Mr. Dubovyk continues to work from his native Kyiv.

Both Mr. Dubovyk's and Mr. Fedorouk's respective artworks are found within the permanent collections of museums in Ukraine and Russia, as well as within public and private collections throughout the world.

The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art is located at 2320 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago. The UIMA is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, non-4 p.m. There is a \$5 suggested donation for admission. For more information readers may call 773-227-5522 or log on to [www.uima-chicago.org](http://www.uima-chicago.org).



One of the works of Olexander Dubovyk.



A sculpture by Vasily Fedorouk.

## Making contact with The Weekly

Readers/writers who send information or queries to The Ukrainian Weekly are kindly asked to include a daytime phone number and a complete mailing address. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact correspondents regarding additional information, clarifications, questions, etc.

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**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 Shyman

**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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## Arrest...

(Continued from page 1)

lage, long before his arrest.

Hennadii Moskal, a former criminal police chief and deputy chair at the Internal Affairs Ministry, said Mr. Pukach was in frequent contact with police, never went into hiding and was easy to find.

Before moving to Molochky, Mr. Pukach lived in the Donetsk, Kharkiv and Luhansk oblasts, even making several trips back to Kyiv, the SBU reported.

Mr. Pukach's lawyer, Mr. Osyka, said nobody was trying to find his client, he was not hiding, and he had decided to give himself up.

Former Justice Minister Serhii Holovatyi said he believes Mr. Pukach had been under the control of law enforcement authorities ever since his release in 2003 and it was planned that his arrest would be used for political gain.

That the arresting officers immediately released videotape on which Mr. Pukach immediately acknowledges his guilt in the murder is also suspicious, skeptics said.

"The YouTube video of Pukach's arrest was a public relations gimmick," wrote Taras Kuzio, a research professor at Carleton University in Ottawa.

The timing of Mr. Pukach's arrest – several days after President Yushchenko's announcement of his candidacy in the January 17, 2010, presidential election – raised suspicions that the arrest in fact served a crucial political function heading into election season.

The president immediately promised that "society will become witness to big news."

"The only chance, in Yushchenko's mind, to remain for a second term is to radically alter the political tide," said Serhii Taran, director of the International Democracy Institute in Kyiv. "The way to do that is either with war, another major conflict, or key political revelations. Pukach, in this case, was meant to act as a detonator."

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko decided to cash in politically as well and weighed in on the investigation. She sharply criticized both President Yushchenko and investigators for their sluggish action in the case.

"I can express only regret that we've had to wait nine years while our grand power

structure searched for a person who was under their noses the entire time, and who, practically, wasn't even trying to hide," Ms. Tymoshenko said at a press briefing on July 29.

"It seems to me that the investigators, who were engaged in virtual inactivity before, are now acting only out of political motive," she added.

Should Mr. Pukach reveal the murder's orderers, he could implicate very high-profile politicians.

Gongadze's widow, Myroslava, said she remains certain several top officials, among them former President Leonid Kuchma and Verkhovna Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn, his presidential administration chair at the time, ordered the murder.

Voices believed to be those of Mr. Kuchma and Mr. Lytvyn were captured on the secretly recorded Melnychenko tapes, made public in November 2000, in which they discuss indirectly dealing with Gongadze.

When the voice similar to Mr. Kuchma's said he is considering suing Gongadze for his articles, as his lawyers had advised him, the voice similar to Mr. Lytvyn's said, "No, we don't need to do that."

"I know what to do with Heorhii Gongadze," the voice similar to Mr. Lytvyn's said. "Allow Yurii Kravchenko to visit me."

The most incriminating dialogue involved the voice similar to Mr. Kuchma talking to the voice believed to be Mr. Kravchenko's, his internal affairs minister at the time.

"We are working on him," said the voice similar to Mr. Kravchenko's.

"I am telling you, haul him out, throw him out," said the voice similar to Mr. Kuchma's. "Give him to the Chechens, (inaudible), and then ransom."

The voice similar to Mr. Kravchenko's several seconds later stated, "I have this fighting team right now, these Orly (Eagles),

who will take care of everything you want."

Indeed Mr. Lytvyn canceled a July 28 visit to Washington two days after Mr. Pukach's arrest, reported Ukrayinska Pravda, a top news website, citing no immediate cause.

In March 2005 Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun said he planned to question Mr. Kravchenko in the Gongadze death, but he was found dead only hours before he was to appear in court.

Though Mr. Kravchenko's death was officially labeled a suicide, the two gunshot wounds he sustained to the head sparked the widespread belief that it was ordered.

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), a Belgium-based organization, urged the Ukrainian government on July 23 to build on the opportunity of Mr. Pukach's arrest and conclude one of the darkest chapters of the Kuchma presidency.

"The murder of Georgy [sic] has been a tale of turns and twists which many believe were diversionary tactics to shield powerful individuals who are behind it from accountability," IFJ President Jim Boumelha said in a statement on the organization's website. "That is no longer an option with the arrest of Pukach and the information he is able to disclose. We expect the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

In March 2008 three low-level police officers were sentenced in connection with the Gongadze murder, all of whom claimed they acted on direct orders from Mr. Pukach. Mykola Protasov received 13 years in prison, while Valerii Kostenko and Oleksander Popovych both received 12-year sentences.

After Mr. Pukach's arrest President Yushchenko acknowledged the potential threat to his life, and had him moved to a secret location. "I gave the order yesterday that not a single hair falls off Pukach's head and that he be kept at a location where every second the security of his life is monitored," the president said on July 22.

## Peasants, nobles...

(Continued from page 9)

Prof. Friesen is a faculty member of the history department at Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, and the founding chairperson of the university's Global Studies Program. He is the author of several chapters and one edited book about aspects of southern Ukrainian history.

The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute was established in 1973 and supports research associates and visiting scholars who are engaged in projects concerned with all aspects of Ukrainian stud-

ies. The institute also works in close cooperation with the Committee on Ukrainian Studies, which supervises and coordinates the teaching of Ukrainian history, language and literature at Harvard University. The publication of this book was made possible by Ilarion and Donna Kalynewych Ukrainian Fund at the Ukrainian Research Institute.

Readers may obtain copies by contacting Harvard University Press, 79 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138, by calling, 800-405-1619, or by visiting [www.hup.harvard.edu/insidehup/contact.html](http://www.hup.harvard.edu/insidehup/contact.html). Books are also available for purchase at online retailers, such as amazon.com.

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## Psyops....

(Continued from page 6)

nate the illegal Rodina (Homeland) party and prosecute Mr. Markov for his crimes.

Ms. Tymoshenko deserves particular criticism for allowing one of her top officials, State Committee of Regulatory Politics and Entrepreneurship Chair Kuzhel, to defend Mr. Markov.

"Power needs to be applied, but who will do that when a large part of the Ukrainian government is under Moscow's control?" Dr. Soskin commented.

Stepan Pasicznyk of Great Britain reported that Amnesty International was informed

about Mr. Markov's assault and launched a letter-writing campaign to British members of Parliament, as well as the European Court of Human Rights, asking them to demand from Ukrainian officials that Mr. Markov be brought to justice.

Bullies like Mr. Markov and his mentor, Mr. Putin, need to be shown that Ukrainians are a serious force, not only within the country but also beyond its borders. Only then will they desist in their physically and psychologically violent campaigns.

The line needs to be drawn now, otherwise speaking Ukrainian in the nation's capital may get you labeled as an "extremist" or "fascist" some day.

## Pylyp Orlyk's...

(Continued from page 1)

elite.

Along with the constitution, Mr. Alfiorov found the document of Hetman Pylyp Orlyk's oath on the Gospel acknowledging the inviolability of the adopted law, as well as a charter from King Charles XII of Sweden acknowledging Orlyk's election as hetman and the validity of the constitution.

There is also a letter from Charles XII to the commander (otaman) of the Zaporozhian Sich, Yakym Bohush, assuring the Kozaks of his intention to continue the war against Muscovy.

The constitution was written in the middle Ukrainian (Ruthenian) chancery language that was in use in the early 18th century. The margins of the document discovered by Mr. Alfiorov contain handwritten Russian translations of many words, showing that the Ukrainian language was not readily comprehensible to contemporary Muscovite officials.

As Mr. Alfiorov acknowledged, the copies of documents that he brought from Moscow were almost confiscated by Russian custom officials at the border. On

June 18 the historian presented his find to the Museum of the Hetmanate in Kyiv and held a press conference.

The constitution is now on display in the exhibition "Pylyp Orlyk, Author of the First Constitution of Ukraine." The text is to be published soon, and King Charles XII's letter to the Zaporozhian Kozaks is to appear in a bilingual (English and Ukrainian) Ukrainian-Swedish anthology based on the exhibition "Ukraine and Sweden at the Crossroads of History."

This historic discovery was made possible by the financial support of the Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta. The program is supported by the Michael and Daria Kowalsky Endowment Fund, established in Toronto in 1987, whose purpose is to revive Ukrainian studies in eastern Ukraine.

Major components of the program include the Kowalsky Eastern Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the Vasyl Karazin National University of Kharkiv, the Canada-Ukraine Baturyn archaeological project, an annual contest of student papers, research grants and the journal Skhid-Zakhid (East-West).



Courtesy of Viktor Kruk

Oleksandr Alfiorov (right) presents the Orlyk Constitution of 1710 at the Museum of the Hetmanate. Also seen in the photo is the director of the museum, Halyna Yarova.

### Seeking information about the Kohler / Kalle / Kola / Czepil / Chappel / Wywanko / Wyjwanko / Andersen /Anderson / Andresen families.

Sophie Kohler's (nee Czepil) second marriage was to Prokop WYWANKO (1925-30). Sophie died in 1958 and Prokop died in 1965. They are both buried in the St Andrew Cemetery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, in Somerset NJ.

Sophie / Sofia Czepil born circa 1882 Zabronie (?), Austria (Galicia) immigrated to the US between 1905-1907.

Sophie married John/Adam (?) Kohler circa 1907 and they had 3 children: (i) Joseph Kohler b. 1909 NY, (ii) Marie Kohler b. 1913 NY & (iii) Stella Kohler b. 1919 NY

Joseph died in 1982. Marie married Archer Andersen/Andresen in 1935 and they had a daughter Carol (born 1937). Archer died in 1965 and Marie died in 1981.

Stella married Alex Buryiak in 1940 and died in 1998.

This matter is in the interests of the heirs of this Kohler and/or Andersen families.

We are especially interested in talking to anyone who knew either; Sophie, Prokop or her children Joseph, Marie and/or Stella!

If you knew any member of these families, and/or have information about them please contact Johan Boakes at:

Global Shareholder Services, Inc

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Tel 941-309-5393, fax 941-309-5151 and email: jboakes@gssiworld.com



Zoya Lisowska



Jacques Hnizdovskij

## ATTENTION ARTISTS

by Oksana Trytjak, UNA National Organizer

It does seem a little early to be thinking about Christmas cards, when we are just entering the glorious summer season and just experienced a very successful 3rd Annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka. But the Ukrainian National Association is already preparing for the next Christmas card project. As you well know this project is multifaceted- it encourages and popularizes Ukrainian artists, the proceeds are allocated to support the renaissance of Soyuzivka, and last but not least it promotes and recognizes the spirit of Christmas and goodwill. In the past few years the community has been very supportive and this UNA project has received funds averaging \$40,000 a year that have been allocated to Soyuzivka and its rebirth, specific donations to Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly and the UNF foundation. UNA will continue this project as long as we are fortunate enough to have artists participate and the community share in supporting the project.

We encourage and invite Ukrainian artists to join in this year's UNA Christmas Card Project. Over the years, UNA was very pleased to have had very many talented Ukrainian artists participate such as: Jaroslav Adamovych, Anatoli Balukh, Krystyna Baransky - Nana, Bohdan Borzemsky, Anatolij Burtovyj, Marta Cisyk, Mykhajlo Dmytrenko, Tatianna Gajecy, Maria Harasowska-Daczyszyn, Jacques Hnizdovskij, Petro Holovatyj, John Jaciw, Natalia Josypchuk, Oleksander Kaniuka, Andriy Khomyk, Moki Kokoris, Danylo Koshtyra, Natalia Kovalenko, George Kozak, Yarema Kozak, Zenowia Kulynych, Zoya Lisowska, Pavlo Lopata, Oksana Lukaszewycz-Polon, Vitaliy Lytvyn, Andrij Maday, Roman Markovych, Marta Anna Shramenko-Rondazzo, Luba Maksymchuk, Liudmyla Mosijchuk, Leo Mol, Natalka, Chrystyna Nykorak, Lydia Palij, Rev. Serhij Pastukhiv, Aka Pereyma, Lidia Piaseckyj, Orest Poliszczuk, Myron Ryzhula, Christina Saj, Martha Savchak, Ilona Shyjiuk, Ivan Skolozdra, Roman Smetaniuk, Christine Sobol Jaroslav Stadnyk, Olena Stasiuk, `Youlia Tkatchouk, Yuriy Trytjak, Irene Twerdochlib, Halyna Tytla, Markijan Vitruk, Yuriy, Viktiuk, Olvin Vladyka.

This year, again, the UNA will be publishing approximately 150,000 cards. We encourage artists to submit their works. The theme of the art should be Ukrainian Christmas in diversified genres; oil, watercolor, tempera, computer graphics, gouache, woodcuts, mixed media or others. Please participate and submit either a slide, photo, original work or forward copy of art by e-mail that can be reproduced by September 30, 2009 to:

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## Biden urges...

(Continued from page 2)

Georgian side." He said that included "masking it under the guise of 'humanitarian aid.'" Moscow has previously accused Washington of secretly arming Tbilisi.

Mr. Biden's visit is part of a four-day trip to Georgia and Ukraine meant to reassure the two former Soviet republics of American support following President Barack Obama's visit to Moscow earlier this month.

Ahead of his meeting with Mr. Biden, Mr. Saakashvili said American support for Georgia is vital.

"We are also a country under attack, under partial occupation, and we face constant challenges toward our democracy and our security," President Saakashvili said. "But despite all of that, our choice is irreversible. We decided to join the free world, Europe, the North Atlantic alliance."

Tbilisi has asked for unarmed U.S. observers to monitor separatist Abkhazia and South Ossetia. Russia maintains thousands of troops in both provinces in violation of a French-brokered cease-fire ending last summer's hostilities.

### "Joe" and "Mr. President"

Mr. Saakashvili heaped praise on Mr. Biden during their meeting, calling the U.S. vice-president "Joe."

"You know, we've known each other for many years, and I can remember each single meeting we had," Mr. Saakashvili

said. "I can quote any of these phrases, not only because you are so eloquent, but because you are so important to us and for me personally."

Mr. Biden was less effusive. He called Mr. Saakashvili "Mr. President."

Mr. Biden also met with some of Mr. Saakashvili's main political rivals, including Georgia's former U.N. Ambassador Irakli Alasania and Nino Burjanadze, former speaker of Parliament.

Opposition leaders have been calling on President Saakashvili to resign, accusing him of authoritarianism and leading Georgia into a disastrous war with Russia. Since May they have staged ongoing protests in the capital, blocking its main avenue.

Mr. Biden ended his trip by visiting internally displaced children from Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Unlike the cooler reception Vice-President Biden received in Kyiv, his overall welcome in Tbilisi was effusive. But Georgian officials will be wondering what concrete steps Washington is willing to take to back its promises of support.

*RFE/RL correspondent Brian Whitmore contributed to this report from Tbilisi, and RFE/RL correspondent Gregory Feifer contributed from Prague.*

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## Russian special services...

(Continued from page 7)

text are the various examples he gives of the ways in which the Russian special services "continue to play the 'Jewish card' in their special operations against Ukraine." All are instructive, but one is particularly noteworthy because it exactly parallels the methods the KGB widely used in Soviet times.

In April 2008, Mr. Fishbein reports, the Russian news agency Regnum carried a report that "an Israeli historian named Yury Vilner had published a book titled *Andrii Yushchenko: The Person and the 'Legend.'*" Its research "proves that during the second world war, the father of the president of Ukraine may have been a camp policeman and Nazi informer."

"Few people paid any attention to the stylistic shortcoming of the phrase 'proves that... he may have been,'" or to other aspects of this work that subsequently was posted on the Internet. As posted, Mr. Fishbein continues, it was dedicated "To the humanist Aron Shneer," a researcher and scholar at Yad Vashem in Israel.

Mr. Fishbein reports that he spoke with Mr. Shneer on the telephone but, while the Israeli scholar had read Mr. Vilner's text on the Internet, he "had no idea who

Yury Vilner was." And it quickly became apparent, Mr. Fishbein says, that "no one either in Israel or in Russia – or anywhere else for that matter – neither scholars nor journalists knew about the existence of this 'Israeli.'"

The Kyiv poet said that in an effort to find out more, he looked at the ISBN number, which is "a unique numeric commercial identifier" for a book. In the case of Vilner's text, that number was 969-228-292-5. Because the first three numbers identify the country of publication, Vilner's book should have been published in Pakistan.

But a search in the ISBN data bank showed that "such a book did not exist," Mr. Fishbein continues. And that "means that the ISBN was fabricated, and hence the 'book' itself and its 'author' are fabrications created and launched into circulation by means of anti-Ukrainian special operations" intended to "create difficulties" for Ukraine.

Few people have been as dogged as Mr. Fishbein in tracking down this and other Russian falsifications and slanders against Ukraine, but his work in this area deserves to be better known not only because it provides an answer to the question Mr. Karavayev posed but also because it explains why so many Ukrainians want to gain the protection of Western institutions like NATO.

## Vice-President...

(Continued from page 2)

Ireland, reaffirm their commitment to Ukraine, in accordance with the principles of the CSCE [Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe] Final Act, to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine."

The Russian media reported that Mr. Biden's visit to Kyiv was to bid farewell to Mr. Yushchenko in anticipation that he will lose the January presidential elections and to evaluate his potential successor (Kommersant, July 27).

Ukrainian media reports about the Biden-Yushchenko meeting stressed that the U.S. vice-president rejected all Russian claims to have a "sphere of influence" on any country and that each country has the right to determine the type of relations it deems necessary.

Mr. Biden, in no uncertain terms, also told the Ukrainian leadership that the U.S. was exasperated by the lack of transparency in the country. He lectured the chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament, Volodymyr Lytvyn, on the need to improve, among other things, the court system and insure greater transparency in the law-making process. The vice-president called on the Ukrainian Parliament to

begin an honest dialogue which was needed in order "in order to avoid any interference by foreign middlemen" ([www.pravda.com.ua](http://www.pravda.com.ua), July 22).

And while Mr. Lytvyn agreed with his high-level American visitor (their meeting lasted twice its planned length), many observers in Ukraine have little, if any confidence in Mr. Lytvyn's ability – or sincerity – to implement changes. Mr. Lytvyn is still under suspicion in many Ukrainian circles as a key co-conspirator in the murder of Heorhii Gongadze, an Internet journalist critical of official corruption in Ukraine.

Mykola Pysarchuk, a political commentator for the UNIAN news service, predicted that there will be no rapid breakthrough in U.S.-Russian relations and that should Mr. Obama visit Kyiv after the January 2010 presidential elections for talks with the newly elected president of Ukraine, he will discover that any hopes for an improvement in U.S.-Russian relations, at the expense of Ukraine would prove to be illusionary (UNIAN, July 20).

*The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, [www.jamestown.org](http://www.jamestown.org).*

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## UCCA Illinois...

(Continued from page 17)

Chicago wins the bid to become the host city of the 2016 Summer Olympics, he underscored.

Following all the reports the new board for 2009-2010 was elected. Dr. Oles Strilchuk, is a Chicago-area dentist, was elected president. The father of three grown children, he is active in the Ukrainian American Youth Association and has served as both vice-president of UCCA-Illinois and as chair of the UCCA-Illinois Youth Relations Committee.

Also elected were: Bohdan Melnyk, Mr. Bandriwsky, and Bohdan Buchwak, vice-presidents; Ivanna Gorchynsky, secretary; Stepan Strilchuk, treasurer; and Lida Tkachuk, Ukrainian National Fund coordinator.

The remainder of the 2009-2010 UCCA-Illinois Board comprises: Mychajlo Baransky, Walter Bratkiv, Ivanka Bryan, Ivan Dewan, Marta Farion, Olha Fedak,

Halyna Hrytsak, Maria Iwanec, Nadiya Ilkiv, Myroslav Kalyniuk, Ms. Kolyasa, Taras Konowal, Roman Kuropas, Andrew Luczak-Glubisz, Nicholas Mischenko, Katya Mischenko-Mycyk, Zeonid Modrycky, Olena Tchoryk, Lyubomyra Sheremeta, Maria Scherbiuk, Myron Wasuniec, Nadiya Wozny, Nestor Wozny and Eva Zelenko.

The Audit Committee consists of Orest Baranyk, Lubomyr Klymkovich and Ivan Telwak. Honorary Members of UCCA-Illinois board are Petro Baran and Pavlo Slobodian.

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Bandriwsky was presented with a certificate and bouquet in appreciation for his unwavering dedication and hard work during the past three years of his presidency. Mr. Bandriwsky will remain actively involved in UCCA-Illinois as a member of the presidium.

Further information about the Illinois Division of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America can be found on the website <http://www.uccainillinois.org>

# OUT AND ABOUT

Current through August 30 Chicago	Art exhibit, featuring works by Olexander Dubovyk and Vasily Fedorouk, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522	August 17 East Meadow, NY	Free Concert, "Ukrainian American Night," Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater Parking Field 6 and 6A, ukyfly@hotmail.com
August 6 Mississauga, ON	Concert, "Nostalgia," featuring the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble, Meadowvale Theater, 888-222-6608 or www.ticketweb.ca	August 22 Sunny Isles Beach, FL	Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, Ukrainian Cultural-Educational Center of Miami, Town Center Park, 305-798-0190 or 954-893-5288
August 8 Jewett, NY	Concert, "Music at the Grazhda" Chamber Music Society, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479	August 22 Toms River, NJ	Ukrainian Festival, St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church, 732-505-6053
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 22 Emlenton, PA	Bandura Camp final concert, All Saints Camp, amurha@aol.com
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 22-23 Glen Spey, NY	Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America - Illinois Division, Smith Park, 773-772-4500
August 13, 15 New York	Performance presentation, "The Yellow / Memory," with Svitlana Matviyenko, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660	August 23 Horsham, PA	Eurasia Arts Festival, Eurasia Dance Society, Mountain View Manor, zenia@eurasiadance.org or 202-841-8325
August 14 Jewett, NY	Children's music concert, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479	August 23 Virginia Beach, VA	Ukrainian Independence Day Festival, Ukrainian American Sports Center - Tryzub, 215-343-5412
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 28 Wildwood Crest, NJ	Ukrainian Independence Day picnic, Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association, First Landing State Park, 757-692-6881 or www.tuca.us
August 15-16 Lehighton, PA	Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621, www.ukrhomestead.com		All-ages dance, Kmelnychenky Plast fraternity, Wildwood Crest Pier Recreation Center, Adrian@telligys.com

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](mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com).

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## Soyuzivka's Datebook

- July 26-August 8** Dance Camp session 1
- 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



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Thursday, August 13, and Saturday, August 15**

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America will present "The Yellow/Memory," a site-specific dance performance addressing the collective nature of memory. This experimental performance was created by Svitlana Matviyenko and will be performed by her colleagues/dancers Inka Juslin and Susan Kozel. The performances will begin at 8 p.m. at the institute, located at 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue); a reception will follow. General admission: \$12; seniors and students, \$9. As seating is limited, reservations are suggested; call 212-288-8660.

**Saturday, August 22**

**TOMS RIVER, N.J.:** St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church at 1344 White Oak Bottom Road, Toms River, NJ 08755 will hold its annual Ukrainian Festival at noon-7 p.m. There will be Ukrainian food and beverages, live music, dancing, vendors, a 50/50 drawing and a raffle for a Bermuda cruise. Ukrainian dancers will perform at 3 p.m. There will be fun for all ages; all are welcome. For more information call 732-505-6053.

**MIAMI:** South Florida will be celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day at the Town Center Park, 172nd and Collins Avenue in Sunny Isles Beach. This festivities, scheduled for 4-8 p.m., will feature a stage program with distinguished artists from Ukraine, vocalists Oleksander Vasylenko and Olena Bilous and poetess Nina Shavarska. The Miami Ukrainian Dancers, the Maksymowich Trio and the South Florida Ukrainian Regional Choir will add local talent to an outstanding program. Chef Paul Galadza will man the culinary tables with traditional Ukrainian food. Also featured will

be Tamara Huryn's bead art and a display of Ukrainian art and folk crafts prepared by Ulana Danyliw. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 305-798-0190 or 954-893-5288.

**Saturday-Sunday, August 22-23**

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Division, presents Ukrainian Festival 2009 at Chicago's Smith Park, 2526 W. Grand Ave. (corner of North Campbell Street) from noon to 10 p.m. both days. This is the largest Ukrainian festival in the Midwest; it featured performers from Ukraine and Canada, as well as local talent. Festivities include: Ukrainian food, crafts, music, dance groups and much more. Pony rides and children's attractions add to the entertainment for the whole family. The celebration of Ukraine's Independence Day will begin on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. For more information contact Pavlo T. Bandriwsky, 773-772-4500.

**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@tel-ligys.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.

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

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