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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXVII

No.38

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

History of Ostarbeiters now being told in Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Viktor Pedak was a loyal Communist editor in Zaporizhia when he first heard the word “Ostarbeiter” in 1990. Until then, all he knew was what the Soviets told him: the Nazis and anyone working for them were evil, and the Soviets were heroes.

Once Ukraine gained independence, he received a letter from Zaporizhia resident Marta Ponomariov, who mustered the courage to admit what had been taboo for the Soviets – that she was among the millions of Ukrainian youths forced to work for the Nazis.

“The letter was a revelation for me,” said the 70-year-old Mr. Pedak, his circular blue eyes gleaming. It sparked a mission that began with finding Ms. Ponomariov’s German hosts in 1994, and eventually led to more than 120 reunions between Ukrainian Ostarbeiters and their German colleagues since. He also retrieved documents proving Ostarbeiter servitude for at least 50 victims.

Mr. Pedak’s 16 years of experience in Ostarbeiter research and reunions were published this year in a 317-page work, “Hirke Slovo Ostarbaiter” (“Ostarbeiter – A Bitter Word”), which was presented at a September 2 ceremony at the Great Patriotic War National History Museum in Kyiv.

Of the many chapters of Ukraine’s tragic 20th century history overlooked by the world’s historians, the story of the Ostarbeiters is among the most forgotten, even among Ukrainians themselves.

In addition to the 5.5 million civilian and 2.5 million military casualties Ukraine endured in World War II, an estimated 2.3 million to 2.4 million Ukrainian youth were rounded up by the Nazis and shipped to provide slave labor for German families, factories and offices, said Mykola Zhulynskiy, chair of the National Council on Culture and Spirituality.

Ukrainians accounted for about 85 percent of the total Ostarbeiter workforce of 2.8 million that was dragged by the Nazis from the Soviet Union, Dr. Zhulynskiy reported. [Editor’s note: Some estimates of the total workforce range as high as 5.5 million.]

The Ostarbeiters ranged from as young as 10 to their mid-20s, and an estimated 200,000 Ukrainian Ostarbeiters immigrated to the West, Mr. Pedak said.

Those who settled in the West generally established new lives, while those who returned to Soviet Ukraine were subjected to persecution, more forced labor and imprisonment under the absurd Stalinist position that they had collaborated with the Nazis and betrayed the Soviets.

“According to the Soviet historical propaganda, we had only dead heroes or victors during the Great Patriotic War,” Mr. Pedak wrote. “There weren’t any victims who survived enslavement or were deported to Germany.”

Upon such treatment, Ukraine’s



Zenon Zawada

Researcher Viktor Pedak holds a copy of his book, “Hirke Slovo Ostarbaiter” (Ostarbeiter – A Bitter Word), a collection of his 16 years of research, interviews and experiences.



Former Ostarbeiter and Washington journalist Roman Ferencevych discussed his experiences at the book presentation held at the Great Patriotic War National History Museum.

Ostarbeiters kept their experiences secret.

Ms. Ponomariov (née Shevchenko) was among those who, upon returning to Ukraine, kept secret her experience of working two years for a German family. She sought Mr. Pedak’s help in finding documents to prove her Ostarbeiter status to earn compensation given by the German government.

He began writing persistently to German newspapers, eventually getting a response in 1993 that led to a reunion journey the next October.

That first reunion led to letters from dozens of Germans and Ukrainians after it was written up in a German newspaper, and Mr.

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Separate anniversary commemorations evidence of split in once-powerful Rukh

by Zenon Zawada
and Yuriy Borysov
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – During the first major Rukh split in 1998, Vyacheslav Chornovil knew he had to secure the powerful Lviv organization and tapped his longtime associate Yaroslav Kendzior to take charge.

After leading it for 10 years and building it up to 10,000 members, Mr. Kendzior confronted the party’s second major split late last year, only to find himself on the outside and tossed from its ranks in January.

“Why has the People’s Rukh of Ukraine, which always had the reputation of a right-wing national-democratic organization, suddenly made a union, and why is it becoming a type of service personnel for the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc?” Mr. Kendzior said at a September 9 press conference.

As the People’s Rukh (Movement) of Ukraine commemorated its 20th anniversary this September, the legendary civic organization that paved the way for Ukrainian independence finds itself on the margins of Ukrainian politics, withered by years of internal strife and power struggles.

The conflict between President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Tymoshenko has further split Rukh, with the majority of its members supporting party chair Borys Tarasyuk’s decision to ally with the more popular Ms. Tymoshenko and force out Yushchenko loyalists such as Mr.



Yuriy Borysov

The Presidential Secretariat didn’t invite People’s Rukh of Ukraine Chair Borys Tarasyuk to the state-sponsored 20th anniversary commemoration because of his alliance with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

Kendzior and Ivan Stoiko.

The conflict even affected the 20th anniversary commemorations, in which two separate ceremonies were held: a September 6 commemoration organized by the party and attended by Prime Minister Tymoshenko,

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Millionaire wanted for questioning flees from Ukraine to Moscow

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Igor Markov, the Odesa millionaire who assaulted ethnically conscious Ukrainians but was never arrested, fled to Moscow after being called in for questioning by Mykolayiv law enforcement authorities in relation to his September 2, 2007, assault on Ukrainians peacefully protesting in Odesa.

Two days before his flight, the Ministry of Justice on September 8 issued a decree canceling the registration certificate of his radical Rodina party after an investigation proved it was illegally obtained.

The recent measures indicate the Ukrainian government is enforcing the law against Mr. Markov, a Russian radical who is accused by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) of also organizing the April murder of 21-year-old Maksym Chaika, a self-described Ukrainian nationalist and Odesa native.

The Rodina party promotes open hostility to ethnically conscious Ukrainians, smearing them as “fascists,” “extremists” and “ultraradicals” simply for speaking the

Ukrainian language or expressing their Ukrainian identity through political or cultural activity.

Rodina has also attacked the Odesa offices of Prosvita, one of Ukraine’s oldest and most respected cultural institutions.

In an interview with the Most-Odesa news site published on September 14, Mr. Markov acknowledged he was going to a suburban Moscow medical clinic, claiming he was seeking treatment related to “the hunt launched against me and the danger of undergoing treatment within Ukraine.”

The Procurator General’s Office transferred the investigation of the September 2, 2007, incident from Odesa police officials to the investigations division of the Internal Affairs Ministry Administration in Mykolayiv.

The investigative unit of the Mykolayiv Internal Affairs Ministry Administration repeatedly sent notices requesting his presence, which he ignored, law enforcement authorities said.

After he didn’t appear for questioning on

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ANALYSIS

Yanukovich and Tymoshenko court Moscow ahead of election

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The Russian factor might well determine the outcome of the January 2010 presidential election in Ukraine. The two leaders in the presidential race, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, both seek Moscow's support.

Mr. Yanukovich has played the Russian language card in order to win the hearts and minds of the Russophones in the east and south of Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko is more pragmatic, seeking rather economic favors and taking advantage of the good relationship she has established with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

Speaking recently in Odesa, where Russian culture and language dominate, Mr. Yanukovich pledged to do his utmost to make Russian the second official language along with Ukrainian. This, he pointed out, is one of his major policy differences with Ms. Tymoshenko, who is against granting Russian a higher status (UNIAN, September 2).

Mr. Yanukovich had promised the same to his Russian-speaking electorate in the run-up to the 2004 presidential election, which he lost to Viktor Yushchenko, who ran on a nationalist ticket. However, many local Russian speakers recall that Mr. Yanukovich did nothing to elevate the status of Russian in 2006-2007, when he was prime minister and his Party of Regions dominated Parliament.

After visiting Odesa, Mr. Yanukovich traveled to Saur-Mohyla, a World War II memorial in his native Donetsk region, where he promised to erect a monument to the Soviet liberators at the geographical point where the borders of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus converge. He made it clear that this would be his response to the "heroization of the traitors of Ukraine and nationalists" by Mr. Yushchenko (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 5).

Mr. Yanukovich has never concealed that he shares the Russian official view on the common history of Ukraine and Russia. He had hailed Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's August 11 letter to President Yushchenko in which he accused his counterpart of spoiling bilateral relations, in particular of "heroizing Nazi collaborators." Mr. Medvedev also blamed Mr. Yushchenko for pushing Russian influence from various spheres of life (www.kremlin.ru, August 11).

Mr. Yanukovich also called for restoring "the traditional strategic brotherhood with Russia," saying, "I am sure that the centuries-long traditions of friendship between the Ukrainian and Russian nations will be continued." He reiterated that he would do his best to elevate the status of the Russian language so that the rights of Russian speakers will not be violated (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 5).

Such pronouncements, which are not expected from Mr. Yushchenko and which Ms. Tymoshenko avoids, are consistent with the pan-Slavonic ideology that dom-

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Ukraine's coal mining industry: problem child or savior?

by Roman Kupchinsky
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Coal mining, and especially coking coal, has been a very problematic industry in Ukraine. It is highly inefficient due to outdated machinery and the depth of its mines. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), "The average mine depth is more than 700 meters; in approximately 20 percent of mines it is 1,000-1,400 meters." It is dangerous for miners and has depended for years on large state subsidies.

Despite the dangerous working conditions – Ukraine has the world's second largest fatality rate in coal mining accidents after China – and outmoded production methods, coal is the only domestically available alternative fuel Ukraine has to keep its demand for Russian gas from mushrooming out of control.

Latest figures show that coal accounts for 40 percent of fuels used in Ukrainian power plants, 10 percent in district heating plants and 45 percent in industry. Estimates of Ukrainian coal reserves vary. The World

Energy Council estimates total coal reserves in Ukraine at 52 billion tons – the eighth largest in the world.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration claims that: "Ukraine has 37.6 billion short tons in proven coal reserves, 17.9 billion short tons of which is anthracite and bituminous coal, and 19.7 billion short tons of which is lignite and sub-bituminous, accounting for about 15 percent of the former Soviet Union's total reserves. Production and consumption of coal in Ukraine have been relatively flat since 1996, after a precipitous fall off in production after gaining independence. In 2004 the country produced 69.3 million short tons of hard and brown coal, while consuming roughly 77.5 million short tons, making Ukraine a net coal importer, despite its sizeable resources" (www.eia.doe.gov).

The Ukrainian coal mining industry has also been a controversial political issue for the country's leadership. Located in the heavily industrialized and populous eastern region of the Donbas, where the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) has its main support base. Western-oriented politicians, try as they may, have been unable to establish any significant following in this critical region.

In September Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko decided to strengthen her hand in the coal industry by seeking to begin in 2010 a large-scale effort aimed at the modernization and reconstruction of the country's coal mines.

In 2008 and 2009 Ms. Tymoshenko increased wages and pensions for coal

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NEWSBRIEFS

CPJ statement on Gongadze case

NEW YORK – On the eve of the ninth anniversary of the murder of Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze, the Committee to Protect Journalists issued the following statement. "Nine years after the murder of Georgy [sic] Gongadze, his family and friends still do not know who ordered the brutal slaying of our colleague," said CPJ Executive Director Joel Simon. "Authorities achieved progress by arresting his killers and locating valuable evidence, and we commend that. However, to accomplish long overdue justice in this case, Ukrainian prosecutors should bring to court the masterminds of this brazen crime," said the September 15 statement. (Committee to Protect Journalists)

Dialogue between UOC-KP and UOC-MP

KYIV – The Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) has praised a decision of the Holy Synod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) to set up a working group to hold a dialogue between the two Churches, it was reported on September 11. "This decision shows that the words of representatives of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate about a desire to overcome schism in the Ukrainian Orthodoxy are gradually nearing to real actions," said the head of the Information and Publishing Department of the Kyiv Patriarchate, Bishop Vasylykivsky Evstratiy (Zorya), according to the Press Center of the UOC-KP. "Both we and UOC-MP want the Orthodox Church in Ukraine to unite. This goal – the unity of the Church – serves a basis to launch the dialogue," the bishop said. At the same time, he said that there are different approaches to achieve the goal. "We see this unity through unification into the local, i.e., autocephalous, Church. And the UOC-MP says the unity should be reached within the Moscow Patriarchate, and then autocephaly." He also reported that the UOC-KP would soon establish a similar working group. The UOC-MP's decision was taken at a meeting of its Holy Synod at the Pochayiv Lavra monastery on September 9, which was chaired by Metropolitan of Kyiv and all Ukraine

Volodymyr (Sabodan). The UOC-MP press service said that the newly established working group had been tasked to prepare for dialogue with representatives of the UOC-KP, which is considered among Orthodox believers to be non-canonical. (Ukrinform)

UAOC seeks Constantinople's recognition

KYIV – The Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church is seeking recognition from Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople, the spiritual leader of the world's 250 million Orthodox Christians, UAOC officials said on August 31. The Associated Press reported that the appeal to Constantinople comes weeks after the head of the Moscow-based Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill, visited Ukraine and criticized splinter Churches seeking independence. The UAOC said it "is ready and strives" to come under Constantinople's jurisdiction as an independent group. UAOC spokesman Yevhen Zapletniuk told the AP that winning recognition from Patriarch Bartholomew would help heal the rifts among Ukraine's Orthodox believers, many of whom want to come out of Moscow's shadow. The UAOC has some 1,200 parishes and 700 priests in Ukraine, according to the State Committee on National Religions. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyiv Patriarchate claims 14 million parishioners and some 3,000 priests. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchate claims 28 million followers in Ukraine and more than 9,000 priests. (Associated Press)

Euronews on National TV channel

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko met Euronews President and Executive Director Philipp Cayla. The meeting was held on the occasion of the signing of an agreement on September 11 between the National TV and Radio Broadcasting Company and the Euronews information service on setting up a Ukrainian-language version of Euronews. The matter concerns a 15-minute newscast aired Monday through Friday on the National TV Channel

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices. (ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editors: Matthew Dubas
Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, September 20, 2009, No. 38, Vol. LXXVII
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Correction

In "Rada overrides veto of election laws restricting CEC and appeals process" (August 30), our Kyiv Press Bureau incorrectly reported that Central Election Commission member Mykhailo Okhendovskiy said the second-round runoff in the presidential election is set for February 2. In fact, it is scheduled for Sunday, February 7.

Fears rise that Russia 'reset' may run aground in former Soviet bloc

U.S. President Barack Obama has made improving ties with Russia one of his foreign-policy priorities. But there are serious concerns in Eastern and Central Europe that Washington will sacrifice support for its allies who were once part of the Soviet bloc. In the second of a three-part series, RFE/RL examines fears that Moscow's drive to reassert its influence won't be checked.

by Gregory Feifer
RFE/RL

When the results of parliamentary elections in Moldova were announced in a hotel conference room in the capital, Chisinau, last month, many believed their country's future hinged on the outcome. Long ruled by the Communist Party, Moldova cultivated close political and economic ties with Moscow. Many young Moldovans accused the Communists of keeping their impoverished former Soviet republic mired in the past. They supported a group of liberal parties that promised to put Moldova on a path to European integration.

Despite widespread accusations of vote rigging by the Communists, the opposition won a majority – something university student Alexan Yulian says has given Moldova new hope.

"Everyone is expecting very big changes for the better," he said. "And we very much want support from Europe, clear support, that's the most important thing."

Moldova was the latest battleground between a resurgent Russia trying to re-establish influence over its former Soviet territory and Western countries seeking to encourage democracy there. It's in such places that Kremlin critics are worried U.S. President Barack Obama's drive to improve relations with Russia will diminish U.S. support.

Using levers

In July, a group of former Central and Eastern European leaders published an open letter to President Obama shortly after he visited Moscow for a summit billed as the launch of a "reset" in U.S.-Russian relations. Former Czech President Vaclav Havel and Poland's Lech Walesa were among signatories who expressed deep concern about dangers facing their new democracies.

Among the threats, Russia "asserts a privileged position in determining our security choices," they said. "It uses overt and covert means of economic warfare, ranging from energy blockades and politically motivated investments to bribery and media manipulation in order to advance its interests and to challenge the trans-Atlantic orientation of Central and Eastern Europe."

In Moldova, Russia promised the Communist government \$500 million before the elections. Soon after, Communist President Vladimir Voronin criticized the European Union's Eastern Partnership program, aimed at boosting ties with Moldova and other EU neighbors.

Moscow's influence is also felt in business: Russian state-controlled companies and Kremlin-connected business oli-

garchs are snapping up Moldovan companies. Economist Tatyana Larushin says 75 percent of the Moldovan media is already Russian-owned, and broadcasting Kremlin propaganda. "Moldova is unlucky because Russia is using its state corporations to carry out its foreign policy," she noted.

But Russia's biggest trump in Moldova is its support for the pro-Moscow breakaway region of Transdniestria, which split after a brutal war in 1992. Soon after Mr. Voronin criticized the EU's Eastern Partnership program, the Kremlin flew him to Moscow for talks with Transdniestria's separatist leader that were widely perceived to be a reward for his loyalty.

Political analyst Igor Muntianu says the Kremlin is using its levers of control over Moldova to thwart political change it sees as a threat to Russia's interests. "The Russians try to use the vulnerabilities of the [Moldovan] national elites, the Communist Party leaders, in order to pursue their own interests and to counteract other policies of the European Union," Mr. Muntianu said.

"Sphere of interests"

Moscow's actions in Moldova reflect wider policy in Russia's so-called near abroad. The Kremlin has cut off natural-gas supplies to Ukraine and blocked food imports from a number of former Soviet allies.

But it was the invasion of Georgia over its pro-Moscow separatist region of South Ossetia that prompted the most serious fears that Washington would stand by as Russia sets out what it calls its "privileged sphere of interest."

The Czech minister for European affairs, Stefan Fule, says underestimating the importance of the recent letter to Obama would be a mistake. "The fact that there are a number of permanent figures who served their countries well, that they thought it was important to write such a letter," he pointed out, "is a reflection that there is such a concern in this part of Europe."

Mr. Fule says it's too soon to judge whether Mr. Obama's new Russia policy has resulted in any real changes. But he says it can succeed only if Washington is unflinching in its stand on the most divisive issue. "It is realistic," he noted, "only if it is followed by a strong policy rejecting any attempt to reestablish the sphere of influence."

Difference in perceptions

Some believe Washington faces an impossible task because of a fundamental difference in the way Moscow and Western countries see the world. In Moscow, former independent legislator Vladimir Ryzhkov says Russia's hard-line authoritarian leaders define their interests in opposition to the West.

"The ideological foundation of [Prime Minister Vladimir] Putin's regime strictly follows Soviet models," he said. "It issues anti-liberal, anti-American and anti-Western propaganda, and it discredits liberal values and democracy."

Mr. Ryzhkov says Russian actions that

appear incomprehensible to outsiders are often best explained not by their benefit to the country, but to its leaders. Shutting off natural gas to Ukraine in January seriously damaged Russia's image by disrupting supplies to millions of Europeans during the middle of a record cold winter. Russia's Gazprom lost more than a billion dollars in profit.

But among Russians, the shutoff bur-nished the tough-guy image of Prime Minister Putin, who stepped down as president last year – and who some believe relies on personal displays of power to show he's still in charge of the country.

It may be no coincidence Mr. Obama has indicated getting past the impasse in relations will require engaging not only Russia's leaders, but also a broad swath of society. During his visit to Moscow in July, the U.S. president met Russian businessmen, opposition politicians and human rights activists.

Mr. Ryzhkov, who was among them, praises Obama's efforts as necessary, but says they've done nothing to affect rela-

tions.

"Obama's visit to Moscow didn't have the effect the U.S. administration was probably counting on," he noted. "There hasn't been any progress, the positions on almost every issue have remained essentially the same."

That's cold comfort to those in former Soviet bloc countries worried about Moscow's next possible intervention. Many believe it will be in Ukraine, whose presidential elections in January 2010 may determine the course of that country's future.

The third part in this series examines the difficulties in Europe of forging a unified policy on Russia.

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The rulers and the ruled

by Roman Solchanyk

On the face of it, the rulers and the ruled in Russia seem to be in near perfect harmony.

In August, according to the Levada Center, Russia's premier polling agency, 76 percent of Russians approved of President Dmitry Medvedev's policies and an even higher proportion, 82 percent, supported Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. These almost Soviet-style statistics would seem to suggest an almost Soviet-style society in today's Russia.

But, if one digs deeper beneath the stultifying sameness one discovers a more complex reality. Take, for instance, the Kremlin's increasingly hostile attitude toward Ukraine, which reached a new low point with Mr. Medvedev's nasty letter and video blog addressed to Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, accusing the latter of all manner of "anti-Russian" sins. With few exceptions, most everyone in Ukraine as well as commentators in the Western capitals saw Mr. Medvedev's broadside as another example of "Putinism" in action – i.e., another clumsy, rude and overbearing attempt on the part of Moscow to dictate to its "fraternal" former Soviet republics how they should conduct their domestic and foreign policies.

The ultimate goal of "Putinism" is to restore a virtual Soviet Union in place of the real thing (now beyond Moscow's reach), whose demise, let us recall, was described by former President Putin as a "genuine tragedy" for the Russian people and "the greatest geopolitical catastrophe" of the last

Roman Solchanyk, formerly a senior research analyst at the RAND Corp., is the author of "Ukraine and Russia: The Post-Soviet Transition."

century. The premise is that Russia cannot be Russia, the "real Russia" without imposing its will on its immediate neighbors.

But is that what ordinary Russians really want? Clearly, this is a complex issue that involves feelings of pride, patriotism and much else, but there seems to be a disconnect between what the Putin-Medvedev duo envisions and how the Russian man in the street sees things.

Recent polling by the Levada Center suggests that Russians have little interest in any kind of Soviet Union, virtual or otherwise. In May, a clear majority of 55 percent wanted Russia and Ukraine to remain independent states, with friendly relations and open borders without customs controls; another 25 percent preferred the same kinds of relations as with other states – that is, closed borders, visas, customs and the like; only 14 percent favored a unification of the two into a single state. At the beginning of this year, in January, that figure was even lower and stood at 11.8 percent.

It is worth noting in this context that less than a decade ago, in 2001, a total of 56 percent of Russians supported for the unification of Russia and Ukraine into a single state.

The data for Belarus is even more instructive. Ten years ago, 43 percent of Russians supported the total fusion (polnoe sliyanie) of Russia and Belarus into a single state; in June of this year that figure was only 15 percent. Conversely, in 1999 only 15 percent of Russians favored the independent development of the two Slav states; now that figure has increased to 40 percent.

If Russian public opinion is not on board with "Putinism" insofar as Ukraine and Belarus are concerned, what can be expected when it comes to the rest of the "fraternal nations?"

Quotable notes

"When you look at what is still the world's second-largest nuclear power and second-largest military power and a key exporter of military technology and a country with vast international influence, to not look at it as a potential risk would be unrealistic and a failure on the part of the intelligence community."

– Anthony Cordesman, a former intelligence analyst for the U.S. State and Defense departments who is now with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, commenting on the National Intelligence Strategy report which says that Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea pose the greatest challenges to U.S. national interests. He was quoted on September 16 by RFE/RL. The report, which is compiled every four years, said that Russia "may continue to seek avenues for reasserting power and influence in ways that complicate U.S. interests."

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\$10 million internee endowment fund launched in Canada

UCCLA

OTTAWA – The Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund was launched officially on September 14 with a notice published in the national edition of *The Globe and Mail* (Focus & Books section).

Thousands of postcards and posters are also being distributed to individuals, public and university libraries, and various ethno-cultural communities across the country, providing information about how to apply for a grant to do research, commemorate or otherwise recall what happened to thousands of Ukrainians and other Europeans during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920.

The endowment, valued at \$10 million, was established on May 9, 2008, following over two decades of work on the part of the Ukrainian Canadian community. Interest earned on that principal shall be distributed annually by an endowment council representing several of the affected communities. The fund is held in trust and managed by the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The foundation was established by an act of Canada's Parliament in 1963.

Commenting on the endowment's goals, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and a member of the council, said: "The few internees who were alive when we began our campaign for symbolic redress always told us that what was important to them was that other Canadians should learn about how they had been branded 'enemy aliens,' interned, forced to do heavy labor for the profit of their gaolers, disenfranchised and subjected to other state-sanctioned indignities – even though they were innocent of any wrongdoing."

"The Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund fulfills their hope of an acknowledgment for, fundamentally, this initiative is about memory, not money," he added. "I am proud that I was able to play a role in hallowing all of the internees and in righting an historic injustice, making sure that no other Canadian ethnic, religious or racial minority ever again suffers what the victims of Canada's first national internment operations did."

Reconnaissance, restitution et réconciliation

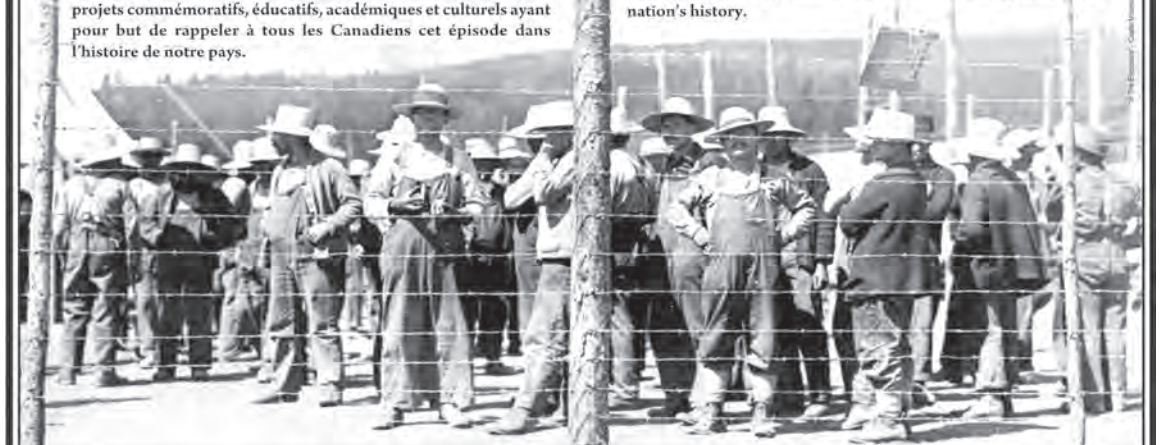
Lors des premières activités nationales d'internement au Canada en 1914-1920, des milliers d'hommes, de femmes et d'enfants ont été stigmatisés comme étant des « ennemis étrangers ». Plusieurs furent emprisonnés. Dépouillés du peu de richesses qu'ils possédaient, forcés d'effectuer des travaux difficiles dans l'arrière-pays du Canada, ils ont également été privés de leurs droits et soumis à d'autres censures sanctionnées par l'état – non pas à cause de quoique ce soit qu'ils avaient fait, mais uniquement à cause de l'endroit d'où ils venaient et de qui ils étaient.

En mai 2008, des représentants de la communauté ukrainienne du Canada ont conclu un accord avec le gouvernement du Canada qui a mené à la création d'un fonds de dotation pour financer des projets commémoratifs, éducatifs, académiques et culturels ayant pour but de rappeler à tous les Canadiens cet épisode dans l'histoire de notre pays.

Recognition, Restitution & Reconciliation

During Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920 thousands of men, women and children were branded as "enemy aliens." Many were imprisoned. Stripped of what little wealth they had, forced to do heavy labour in Canada's hinterlands, they were also disenfranchised and subjected to other state sanctioned censures – not because of anything they had done but only because of where they had come from, who they were.

In May 2008 representatives of the Ukrainian Canadian community reached an agreement with the Government of Canada providing for the creation of an endowment fund to support commemorative, educational, scholarly and cultural projects intended to remind all Canadians of this episode in our nation's history.



Fonds canadien de reconnaissance de l'internement durant la Première Guerre mondiale

Pour présenter une demande de subvention ou pour obtenir plus d'information, veuillez consulter l'adresse www.internmentcanada.ca ou appelez sans frais le 1-866-288-7931

Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund

To apply for a grant or for more information please go to www.internmentcanada.ca or phone toll free at 1-866-288-7931

The notice published in the national edition of *The Globe and Mail* announcing the launch of the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund.

History of Ostarbeiters...

(Continued from page 1)

Pedak began his work, which led him to become informally known as the Ostarbeiter ambassador.

He was dubbed the "bridge-builder" by one German newspaper and earned a German Service Order award given by German President Johannes Rau at a 2001 ceremony at the Zaporizhia Oblast State Administration. Until then, his efforts were disregarded by local politicians, he said.

"While some were building their palaces in Ukraine, I was building relations between people," Mr. Pedak said.

A map in his office denotes the hometowns of 70 German and 50 Ukrainian families he has helped reunite.

Beyond that, Mr. Pedak spent thousands of hours working in archives and contacting authorities to retrieve the documentary evidence needed by Ostarbeiters to prove they provided forced labor, in order to receive compensation from the German government.

Among those supporting Mr. Pedak's efforts was U.S. journalist Roman Ferencevych, himself an Ostarbeiter who was forced to work by the Germans when he was 14 years old.

At the September 2 presentation, which was attended by about a dozen former Ostarbeiters, Mr. Ferencevych and Dr. Zhulynskyi also attempted to review what they knew of compensation efforts.

The differing accounts revealed just how complex the history of Ostarbeiter compensation is for Ukrainians, with much remaining to be investigated and confirmed.

German, Austrian and Swiss corporations and governments paid a series of Ostarbeiter compensation claims, whether forced or voluntary, which Mr. Pedak attempted to examine and document in his book.

Ostarbeiter compensation could have begun as early as the war's conclusion, Mr. Pedak's research confirmed. Many Ostarbeiters in fact earned meager salaries, which were deposited in savings accounts.

Freed Ostarbeiters had the right to

retrieve this wage money, but were largely ignorant. That money may have helped many Ukrainians ahead of the 1946-1947 famine, Mr. Pedak pointed out.

While slave laborers in Western Europe began to receive compensation, the Soviet government forbid any Ostarbeiter compensation efforts for four decades following World War II, a decision that would severely inhibit Ukrainians' efforts later on. Valuable time was lost in retrieving crucial documents.

The German government reportedly paid an undetermined sum of Ostarbeiter compensation to the Soviet government, Mr. Ferencevych said, none of which reached any Ukrainians despite assurances.

Mr. Ferencevych said he learned of this compensation payment when serving as a Voice of America journalist in Kyiv and inquiring with an unnamed consul at the German Consulate in Kyiv in January 1993.

"For many years, West Germany paid Kriegsreparationen (war indemnities) and compensation for prisoners of war and civilian forced laborers directly to Moscow, which promised to distribute the funds to the republics, particularly Ukraine and Belarus, which suffered most during the war," he said. "The consul said the German government was aware that Ukraine and Belarus never received this money."

Meanwhile, Mr. Pedak's research confirmed two Ostarbeiter payments in the 1990s, the first a 1993 "good will" payment of 1 billion Deutsche marks (DM) for removing the last Russian soldiers from German territory, of which 400 million was earmarked for Ukrainian victims of the Nazis, not necessarily Ostarbeiters.

"Former slaves, deported children, concentration camp prisoners and victims of pseudo-medical experiments were supposed to receive this compensation money," a German journalist wrote at the time. "But many Nazi victims got lost in the perfidy of Ukrainian bureaucracy – applications were lost, archival documents neglected. Almost 90,000 who had the right to compensation didn't receive money."

Corruption was another hurdle. Former National Deputy Viktor Zherdytskyi was

arrested in 2000 and charged with embezzling and laundering a portion of the compensation, or 86 million DM.

Of the 400 million DM, 154 million reached Nazi victims, Mr. Pedak reported. German prosecutors were unable to recover most of the money embezzled by Mr. Zherbytskyi, who was sentenced to a mere five years in prison.

A second Ukrainian convicted in the Ostarbeiter fraud scheme, Ihor Didenko, returned to Naftohaz Ukrainy and secured his former position as first deputy chair.

A separate agreement to compensate Ostarbeiters exclusively was reached on January 29, 1993, between Germany, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Belarus, and resulted in a payment of 400 million DM earmarked for both Russia and Ukraine.

While the average Russian Ostarbeiter received an approximate payment of 1,000 DM, the average Ukrainian payment was 615 DM, Mr. Pedak reported.

"Ukrainian officials didn't wish to argue with their 'older brother' for just compensation for those long considered second-class people," he wrote.

The final round of compensation began when the eastern European members of the Mutual Understanding and Reconciliation Fund asked the German Bundestag in January 1999 to create an all-German fund to pay Ostarbeiters a minimum of 12,000 to 15,000 DM.

On February 17, 1999, the German government announced that the country's 21 largest firms would create a compensation fund. The 10-billion DM goal originally suggested by Stuart Eizenstat, the U.S. special envoy for property claims in Central and Eastern Europe, eventually was reduced to 2.5 billion DM, estimated to be a thousandth of the real sum that was owed.

Between June 2001 and December 2006, about 468,000 Ukrainian Ostarbeiters received 1.7 billion DM, or 881 million euros in compensation, Mr. Ferencevych said, which amounted to \$1,900 to \$2,000 per victim, regardless of country of residence.

Mr. Pedak reported that the sums ranged

between 300 and 7,500 euros, depending on the workplace and work performed, and the payments concluded September 30, 2006.

During the book presentation, Dr. Zhulynskyi said the Ukrainian government helped its citizens receive "appropriate compensation," later telling *The Weekly* it was extracted from Austrian firms.

He couldn't confirm the amount, or whether that was in addition to the German corporate compensation, because he left his government posts soon after the dismissal of then-Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko.

(Until August 2001, Dr. Zhulynskyi served as the chair of the Nazi Victims Compensation Payments Joint Commission and supervisory council chair of the Mutual Understanding and Reconciliation Fund.)

Mr. Ferencevych wrote the foreword to Mr. Pedak's book and recruited the Philadelphia-based Ukrainian Federation of America and the director of its educational programs, Dr. Volodymyr Bandera of Temple University, to finance and publish the work in Lviv for an undisclosed sum.

The book's 500 copies will be distributed in Ukrainian libraries and schools, and Mr. Ferencevych said some copies are available in the U.S.

Most books on the Ostarbeiter experience are memoirs, and only a handful offer a contemporary historical analysis. As a result, Ukrainians know very little about the Ostarbeiter experience to this day, Mr. Pedak said.

Though January 2007 marked the 65th anniversary of the Nazi launch of Ostarbeiter operations, no Ukrainian politician even mentioned the Ostarbeiter horror and few events were held to honor the victims, he said.

He recalled Socialist Party Chair Oleksander Moroz making one reference in 2002, the 60th anniversary of the first Ostarbeiter operations in January 1942.

"I wrote the book to stress the issue," Mr. Pedak told *The Weekly*. "We must continue the struggle for their memory. The Holocaust was discussed immediately after the war, but it took half a century for this page of Ukrainian suffering to gain recognition."

NEWS AND VIEWS

Promising prospects in Ukraine of interest to whole Christian ecumene

by Myroslav Marynovych

LVIV – From June 8 to 12, the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., invited this writer to give a 15-hour course of lectures, in English, on the theme “Religion in the Post-Soviet World: Burdening Heritage and Promising Prospects.” My emphasis, of course, was on Ukraine. The university’s reason for establishing this course was that, in the U.S., there is generally little knowledge about social processes in this part of the world, and even more so regarding religious processes. The course was designed, to a certain extent, to fill in this gap.

Since the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) has a partnership with the University of St. Thomas, it’s no surprise that they invited us to conduct this course. The UCU community gratefully accepted the invitation.

I had 15 students: St. Thomas University professors from various disciplines, as well as people from outside the university who wanted to gain a deeper knowledge about my topic. Among them were those who were connected by expertise with the post-Soviet space, two Americans who had lived for quite some time in Russia and Uzbekistan, and also immigrants from Russia and Romania.

For this lecturer, it was fairly difficult having such a mixed group, inasmuch as they had widely differing orientations to and familiarity with the topic. Thus, let us say, it was challenging to teach in an interesting and convincing way at the same time, for example, a theologian and a professional musician. Nevertheless, it actually turned out that my listeners were joined by their sincere desire to learn about this part of the world, and this helped overcome objective limitations.

In addition to essential lecture materi-

Myroslav Marynovych is vice-rector for university mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University. The article above was translated by Matthew Matuszak, associate at the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation.

als, the course also foresaw independent acquaintance with the literature that I proposed, which we eventually discussed during the lectures. Short films prepared at the Ukrainian Catholic University, about the Lviv pseudo-synod of 1946 and persecution of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church; about the holy martyrs of this Church and the Russian Orthodox Church; and also about the “Christmas Together” event organized in Lviv by UCU, became invaluable aids to understanding the topic in question.

It did not seem artificial or discriminatory to give special attention to Ukraine. For it is well-known that the Ukrainian Churches of the Kyivan tradition, which are at the epicenter of world inter-Church and ecumenical relations, are encountering problems. Here I have in mind not only the problem of “Uniatism,” which forever remains the order of the day at inter-Church meetings that are part of the Catholic-Orthodox dialogue. How can you discuss the rivalry between Constantinople and Moscow’s influence on the Orthodox communities in Estonia without mentioning a similar situation in Ukraine, even potentially more important in its consequences?

It is also important that a discussion of the situation in Ukraine give an understanding not only of the difficulties that post-Soviet religious communities face, but also those positive opportunities and prospects that are so visibly increasing in Ukrainian society. In this context, it is sufficient to mention the pan-Ukraine discussion initiated by Patriarch Lubomyr Husar of the UGCC regarding prospects and criteria for the uniting of the historic Kyivan Church. My listeners were not always ready to discuss problems of such complexity, but it seems to me that I was able to convince them that possibilities are ripening in our land which could be interesting for the whole Christian ecumene.

Such issues, however, were quite familiar to others I met in America.

Before my visit to St. Thomas University, a short stay in New York gave



UCU Vice-Rector Myroslav Marynovych enthusiastically lectures to staff at the University of St. Thomas about Ukraine’s complicated religious situation.

me the opportunity to make a few important visits to express gratitude to benefactors of the Ukrainian Catholic University. The administration of Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union – namely, Bohdan Kurczak, president and chief executive officer, and Bohdan Sawcyky, treasurer and chief financial officer – devoted nearly two hours of their time to discuss UCU’s prospects for growth and the particularities of the political situation in Ukraine, in which our university has to operate. I was joined by Daniel Szymanski Jr., executive director of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation. On other visits, we met with Mykola Haliv, former editor of the magazine Patriarchate; and Dr. Maria Shevchuk-Chaban and Bohdan Chaban, founders of The Tymish and Genovefa Shevchuk Endowed Lectureship. These gracious hosts hospitably welcomed us in their homes. Meetings with them and also with a number of other friends of UCU, such as Wasyl Nykyforuk, Yaroslawa Rubel, Anna and Dr. Wolodymyr Rak (all of whom are committee members of the

New York Friends of UCU), Irene Jarosewich, Orest Kyzyk and Andriy Lencyk (secretary and co-chairmen, respectively, of the New York Friends of UCU), gave me an invaluable opportunity not only to acquaint my interlocutors with the most recent achievements of our university but, in a sense, to look on our affairs with other eyes: the eyes of people who are very concerned and have generous hearts. As always, the treasurer of the New York Friends of UCU, Oksana Lopatynsky, who directs the Self Reliance Association of American Ukrainians, was there with her husband, Oleh, and were well-disposed to our needs.

By the way, I also had the opportunity to tell our fellow countrymen in St. Paul-Minneapolis about UCU’s achievements. Above all I wish to thank Prof. Walter Anastas, who made some serious efforts in a short time to organize such a pleasant dinner with my local countrymen. Of course, this would not have been possible had not my friend Prof. Kenneth Kemp of the University of St. Thomas who arranged my lectureship.

Canada’s Dauphin and Ukraine’s Kosiv sign sister-city agreement

DAUPHIN, Manitoba – The cities of Dauphin, Canada, and Kosiv, Ukraine, concluded an official sister-city designation with the signing of the first preliminary document on May 24, in Kosiv. Signing on behalf of Kosiv was Mayor Volodymyr Piteliak. Dauphin School Principal Stephan Jaddock signed with the permission of Dauphin Mayor Alex Paul. Assisting in the signing was Prof. Roman Yereniuk, a Manitoba consultant working on projects in Ukraine.

The signing took place after several years of exchanges between the two cities. It is anticipated that the official signing with both mayors in attendance will take place in early October.

The preliminary agreement provides for the following: sharing of know-how on municipal policies and procedures; exchanges in the field of business; exchanges in the fields of the arts, higher education, public education, youth services, health and non-governmental community organizations (NGO’s); and projects for developing and promoting tourism (all projects are dependent on funding and grants).

Mayor Paul is planning to take municipal, business and community based leaders to Kosiv, on a one-week sister-city

exchange in order to formally conclude the agreement and to begin the process of short- and long-term dialogue. It is anticipated that the Dauphin delegation will include some 10 to 15 community leaders.

Dauphin is a progressive major rural centre of 10,000 residents that services the central east area of Manitoba and has a strong agricultural base and a small business sector. It is also an educational center for Assiniboine Community College and houses the Beautiful Plains School Division with 16 prominent educational facilities.

It hosts Canada’s National Ukrainian Festival each year and other events such as Country Fest and the Agricultural Fair. Approximately 30 percent of Dauphin’s population have an ethnic affiliation with the 118-year-old Ukrainian Canadian cultural tradition.

Just south of Dauphin is the former hamlet of Kosiw, which is named after the town in western Ukrainian that is being twinned. This fact played a major role in the choice of a sister city for Dauphin.

Kosiv is located in the Carpathian Mountains and is one of Ukraine’s jewels in the area of cultural arts. It is the center of the rich tradition of the Hutsul people.

The city has approximately 10,000 inhabitants, but during the summer its population swells to 25,000. Kosiv has one of the largest arts markets in Ukraine, and is the hub for the local affiliate of the Lviv Institute of Fine and Decorative Arts, which produces many of the finest graduate artists and artisans in Ukraine.

Kosiv is also a major municipal center and services a mountain area of several hundred square kilometers with a strong

agricultural and a small market garden, as well as a small business economy.

In addition to the twinning of Dauphin and Kosiv City Halls, the two school divisions are being twinned. As a result of the trip to Kosiv, Dauphin’s Smith Jackson School has been twinned with Kosiv School No. 1. Opportunities exist to twin other educational institutions as well as community institutions in the two sister cities.

Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Moskal retires, Bishop Bura tapped to serve Parma Eparchy

WASHINGTON – Pope Benedict XVI accepted the resignation of Bishop Robert M. Moskal of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio, and named Auxiliary Bishop John Bura of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia to serve as the apostolic administrator, the Catholic News Service (CNS) reported recently.

The appointment was announced on July 29 in Washington by the apostolic nuncio to the United States, Archbishop

Pietro Sambi. Bishop Moskal, 71, retired for medical reasons, according to CNS, which confirmed that information with the Ukrainian eparchy in Parma.

Bishop Bura, 65, was born in Wegeleben, Germany, and moved to Jersey City, N.J., when he was 6. He was ordained a priest in 1971 for the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, and after several parish assignments he was named an auxiliary bishop of the Archeparchy in 2006.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Back to the hromada

Most of us have had two to three months to recuperate, relax and regroup for the coming school year – but not only in terms of school. The academic year is also a convenient calendar that corresponds to our multifaceted Ukrainian community life. After all, just like schools, our community organizations take a well-deserved break for the summer from their regular activities. To be sure, many of them have special summer programs (e.g., the summer camps offered by our youth organizations), but these also offer a change of pace from what takes place between September and May-June.

If nothing else, the length of this week's Preview of Events column signals that a new year of community activity has begun. It's the longest compilation of Preview listings we've carried in quite some time! There are film screenings, festivals, scholarly presentations, lectures, a celebration of the harvest season, sports events, anniversary commemorations and fund-raisers. That's all between now and mid-November. And, those are only the special events that tend to get listed in Preview of Events.

We mustn't forget all the usual community activities that get rolling with the beginning of September: the scout meetings, sports training, Ukrainian studies classes, dance lessons, the meetings of our many, many organizations and committees that are responsible for countless events that enrich our lives. Sometimes we wonder how we can fit all this activity on our calendars!

All this hustle and bustle of activity does not just happen on its own. It is organized by someone – some dedicated group of community activists or some organization within our community, our hromada. Perhaps, Dear Readers, you belong to one – or more likely, several – of them. But are you contributing to the group's activity? Are you an active member, or just a name on a list? Are you someone who gives back to your organization, or just someone who sits back and enjoys the fruits of its activity? (Or, worse yet, are you an active complainer, but not an active organizer?)

Consider these questions to be our exhortation to you to become involved.

Of course, you can become involved in many ways and to various degrees. Sure, you can be the leader of a community organization, but you can also be one of its officers, or a committee member, or a volunteer for a specific event. (Can't take charge of running the parish Bingo night? Well, how about volunteering to run a single coffee hour after liturgy? Can't take on the responsibility of being the scoutmaster for a group of kids? How about organizing a special field trip? Can't organize the big fund-raising event for your favorite organization? How about volunteering to do the mailing of invitations?) If you can't be an active leader or play a supporting role, if you can't make a definite commitment of time, whether large or small, you can at least help by providing financial support. That's always welcomed by our community groups.

And, by the way, now is also the time to gear up for reporting your community news to the wider Ukrainian American community by sending in information, stories, photos, preview listings, etc. to The Ukrainian Weekly. We welcome your submissions (and hope they are sent in a timely fashion).

So, September is here, our community life is in full swing, and it's time for all of us to step up to the plate – time to give back to the hromada.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: proper use of term "America"

Dear Editor:

In his letter (July 12) bestowing accolades on columnist Myron Kuropas, Victor Babanskyj keeps referring to the United States as simply "America": "living in America," "people of America," "...change coming to America," etc. It's annoying!

Let's remember: the name of this country is the United States. My Canadian relatives also live in "America." My relatives in Brazil also live in "America." The Pan American Games involve Mexico, Peru, etc., and not just Illinois, New York, Wisconsin, etc. The group called Organization of American States is composed of Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, the United States, etc., and not Illinois, Indiana, California, etc. Remember: you do not need United States citizenship to be an American.

I know, I know – you'll say it's common usage. So was referring to everyone and everything coming out of the Soviet Union as simply "Russian." We Ukrainians didn't like that.

Bob Pauk
Chicago

Conservatives also for healthcare

Dear Editor:

A rational discussion is not "too much to ask for" if Alex Kuzma were to stop demonizing those who disagree with him and misrepresenting their positions. "Hysterical rants," "panik-machers," "fear-mongering," "laissez-faire fanatics." Golly gee, is this the sort of "hysterical rant" that community organizers do?

First of all, Mr. Kuzma's numbers are wrong. President Barack Obama – in his speech on September 9 – backed off from "46 million citizens" to "over 30 million citizens" uninsured. People like Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh had "called him out" on his facts, and he must have conceded that they had been right all along. The difference between the two numbers is primarily illegals.

Secondly, according to U.S. Census data released in 2008 (which provided estimates of the uninsured for 2007), another 17 million of the "uninsured" earned over \$50,000 per year but chose not to buy insurance. Another 18 million uninsured Americans are under 34, and surveys have shown that many young people don't feel a need for insurance even if an employer covers part of the cost. Several more millions would be eligible for Medicaid and SCHIP if they enrolled. The most reasonable estimate of the truly uninsured – who can't afford insurance and aren't eligible for Medicaid or SCHIP – is closer to 10 million.

This brings me to the second point: conservatives are not against healthcare reform, just against Mr. Obama's reform. They don't believe that the U.S. healthcare system has to be taken over by the government in order to fix existing problems in the system and extend coverage to the less than 3 percent of the population that could use some help from their fellow Americans. For example, they would like to see medical malpractice tort reform, which, by some estimates, costs the healthcare industry \$100 billion per year. The problem is that trial attorneys are among

Mr. Obama's biggest political contributors. As regards Sarah Palin's "death panels," even a lawyer could recognize that cutting \$500 billion out of Medicare to fund "universal coverage" can only lead to the rationing of care for the elderly, and rationing necessarily results in premature death or greatly diminished quality of life for our parents and grandparents.

George Woloshyn
Linden, Va.

The dangers of bureaucracy

Dear Editor:

About the only thing that can be concluded from Bishop Paul Chomnycky's satisfactory encounters with the English health system (letters, August 23), is that he was not very ill when he had these encounters.

I have spent time as a medical officer in the armed forces and the Veterans Administration, and could offer less happy anecdotes about government bureaucracy. But to what avail? It would be more reasonable to look to someone such as Theodore Dalrymple who has spent many years working in the English health system and describes its effects on the population.

Surely we realize that modern medicine cannot be free. The health workers, computer operators, maintenance people, drug makers and equipment makers, builders all have to be paid. We all realize that our system has maldistribution and excessive cost problems. But these can be solved by prayerful openness and rational discussion.

But a government bureaucracy in total control has no need of these messy methods. It decides at the top who wins and who loses, i.e. who lives and who dies. The only group that never seems to lose is the abortion "industry."

The effects of an overwhelming bureaucracy upon a nation and its people have been described by many writers (Gogol, Kafka, Dalrymple, Steyn among others): dead nations and dead souls.

Z.J. Bilos
Elk Grove Village, Ill.

New columnist is welcome

Dear Editor:

Alex Kuzma's column, in The Ukrainian Weekly (September 6), is an outstanding analysis of the current healthcare debate.

What amazes me is that so many in the Ukrainian American community are so blindly fooled not by Rush Limbaugh and company, but by our own commentators. Has everyone forgotten the consequences faced by retirees before Medicare – when a serious illness evaporated lifelong savings after retirement?

If the right is so concerned with the cost of healthcare reform, I suggest they propose an end to the war in Iraq and Afghanistan and seriously reduce foreign aid. That should cover the cost of providing coverage for U.S. citizens.

I welcome Mr. Kuzma's column and wish him success. I hope his future columns bring sanity and balance.

Jerry Zinycz
Venice, Fla.

Sept.
23
2008

Turning the pages back...

Last year, on September 23, 2008, the U.S. House of Representatives passed Rep. Sander Levin's (D-Mich.) H.R. 1314 on the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor that noted: "in 1932 and 1933, an estimated 7 [million] to 10 million Ukrainian people perished at the will of the totalitarian Stalinist government of the former Soviet Union, which perpetrated a premeditated famine in Ukraine in an effort to break the nation's resistance to collectivization and communist occupation."

The resolution cited findings from the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, which noted that the victims of the Holodomor were "starved to death in a man-made famine" and the Joseph Stalin and those around him committed genocide against Ukrainians in 1932-1933."

The legislation also cited H.R. 399 of the 73rd U.S. Congress, introduced in 1934 by Rep. Hamilton Fish, which called for the condemnation of the Soviet government for its acts of destruction against the Ukrainian people.

Also noted in the resolution, "the Soviet government manipulated and censored foreign journalists, including New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty, who knowingly denied not only the scope and magnitude, but also the existence, of a deadly man-made famine in his reports from Ukraine."

Journalists who were targeted by the Soviet Union for their honest reporting of the Holodomor were recognized in the legislation, including Gareth Jones, William Henry Chamberlain and Malcolm Muggeridge.

The resolution stated that the House of Representatives:

"(1) solemnly remembers the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine (Holodomor) of 1932-1933 and extends its deepest sympathies to the victims, survivors and families of this tragedy;

"(2) condemns the systematic violations of human rights, including the freedom of speech, of the Ukrainian people by the Soviet government;

"(3) encourages dissemination of information regarding the Ukrainian Famine (Holodomor) in order to expand the world's knowledge of this man-made tragedy; and

"(4) supports the continuing efforts of Ukraine to work toward ensuring democratic principles, a free-market economy, and full respect for human rights, in order to enable Ukraine to achieve its potential as an important strategic partner of the United States in that region of the world."

H.R. 1314 was introduced on June 26, 2008, and was passed by voice vote. It had 29 co-sponsors.

Source: "House of Representatives passes resolution recognizing Holodomor," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 28, 2008.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



Panning for gold

One of the privileges I have as director of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives (UMA) is going through boxes of stuff that people donate. And every week there's something. What do we do with all of this? Well, first we have to find out what's there.

The truth is, much of what's donated we already have. Ukrainian Americans for the most part, bought the same books and periodicals, attended similar events, wore many of the same commemorative buttons and shared experiences in the DP camps or in the Second Wave/Second Generation Ukrainian community. And yet, so often there's something in the boxes that speaks to the turns individual lives can take as they intersect with history and each other.

Ten to 12 years ago, a friend of mine brought several boxes of books from his late father's library. Amidst a typical collection of Ukrainian poetry, memoirs, political tracts and novels was a thick book in Russian, published in 1942: "Battlefield Surgery." It shows how to remove bullets, amputate limbs, treat brain injuries, etc. using the most primitive of instruments. I knew my friend's father had been a physician, but who knew this had been part of his past?

But then he wasn't unique. My uncle Yuriy had been a private in the Red Army. Years later, he became a professor at Indiana University. His shrapnel-riddled tunic with faded bloodstains from 1939 is now on display in the UMA's immigration room. My own nephew, Alex, brought it back from Ukraine where our family had kept it for decades until donating it – in a bag, not a box.

One memorable donation was anonymous: a box of trinkets, including some kind of ceramic wrapped in a newspaper. I checked it out: a cheap, mass-produced vase with red and black decal-embroidery. It had no value... But then there was the wrapping. It was a 1932 copy of Surma (Clarion), an underground, revolutionary newspaper published in Lithuania and smuggled into Polish-administered western Ukraine. That same year, my father, still in his teens, had been sentenced to two years in prison after being caught with a bundle of precisely this kind of literature.

I carefully smoothed out the crumpled paper and found a chronicle of arrests and trials of political activists. I recognized at least half a dozen surnames from families I knew in Cleveland's Ukrainian American community: close relatives, no doubt, of people who just a few years later would fall into the crucible of world war and then in overwhelming numbers endure exile, labor camp and violent death. A few lucky ones made it to America.

Then there was the elegant, elderly woman who came to the UMA with letters from relatives in Ukraine she asked us to translate. She also invited me to come to her home to examine a bunch of Ukrainian books from the 1910s, 1920s and 1930s that her uncle had collected and take them to the UMA if we wanted. So I visited her in a 1920s mini-mansion on Lakewood's "Gold Coast." What are these books, she asked? Gently, I told her that her uncle had been a socialist – well, more like a Communist – and opened to the first page of a songbook of Soviet anthems. Oh... is this the song, she asked, and starting singing the "Internationale." I kid you not.

Particularly poignant are the 1912-1913 insurance reports that the Ukrainian National Association issued to members –

folded, faded and torn when they came in. They listed members whose families had received a payment along with the cause of death: "killed in a mine," "crushed to death on the job," "scalded to death on the job," "killed by a train." Three to five industrial fatalities a month! And these were just Ukrainians. These documents tell of the hardships immigrants faced, risking their lives to put food on the table. They also provide a backdrop for the American labor movement.

Later in the 1950s, Third Wave immigrants, some of whom had walked the guerilla trails in Ukraine fighting the Nazis and the Soviets a decade earlier, became UAW members and worked the assembly line, beneficiaries of an earlier generation's struggle for fair wages and safe working conditions.

On occasion, the UMA receives an entire collection, lovingly put together over the course of an entire lifetime. That was the case when Philadelphia artist Roman Wasylyszyn and his wife, Volodymyra, donated dozens of his lithographs and canvases.

This year, the Hnatiuk family donated a huge collection of Ukrainian embroidery, pysanky, ceramics, apparel, etc. which the late Dr. Myroslav Hnatiuk and his wife, Anna, had assembled and displayed in a basement museum in their home in Livonia, Mich.

Forty years ago, Osyp Maidaniuk donated thousands of books and periodicals he collected, starting as a young diplomat at the Embassy of the Ukrainian National Republic in Stockholm and continuing throughout his life as an émigré in Sweden.

Fifty years ago, UMA founder Leonid Bachynsky donated his collection. And so on...

In the course of accepting all these donations, the UMA – as do similar Ukrainian institutions – faces a big challenge. Where to put all this stuff and what to do with the mountains of duplicates? Five years ago, we built an archival facility with space-saver shelving. On September 1, we purchased a vacant and sorely neglected funeral home next door, providing room for growth. As for the duplicates, we've sent hundreds of boxes to the Institute for Diaspora Studies in Ostroh, Ukraine, and other institutions, but that's a costly proposition.

As with so many worthy causes, it boils down to resources: money, staff and volunteers. Can't do it if you don't have it. The UMA has all three, but hardly enough.

But, I'm not complaining. As a lifelong activist in the Ukrainian community, I marvel at the energy and love that went into creating the books, publications, artwork and countless events documented by thousands of fliers, photographs, etc. in our collection. Today, I see no diminution of the activity and passion of past generations. Just "Google" Ukraine and a hundred million references come up: boundless energy packaged into an infinite sequence of zeroes and ones.

What record of this will remain a generation, a century from now, as websites come and go, formats change and CDs lose their electrical charge? I don't know the answer. I just happily go through the boxes and like an old-timer panning for gold, keep looking for the nuggets that people bring to the door.

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Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Ya gotta luv 'em!

I love my critics. I don't agree with much of what they say, but I am happy that they read my column and are impelled to respond. They think, they care, they respond.

Because I respect my detractors, I believe it is only proper that I provide some suggestions that might improve their approach, their style, and their ability to persuade.

Don't inflame the debate is my first suggestion. It is now commonplace in our increasingly uncivil and divided society to demonize the opposition. This approach reflects the Chicago back-of-the-yards style of community organizer Saul D. Alinsky. Rule No. 13 in his book "Rules for Radicals: A Pragmatic Primer for Realistic Radicals" reads: "Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it." This is an extension of Rule No. 5, which states that "ridicule is man's most potent weapon." Forget persuasion.

Weldon Johnson, writing from Kyiv, wrote that my assessment of Mr. Obama's past was a "sorry sewer of hateful agitatsia," "savage sophistry," and "tasteless and mean-spirited innuendo." This has a nice onomatopoeic ring to it, but it's hardly persuasive. Nor does it address the nature of Mr. Obama's experience and background, which helps explain the direction in which he is taking our country.

Roman Kupchinsky took me to task because I "tore into President Barack Obama with a viciousness rarely seen outside of the lunatic ravings of the Republican far right." Wow. Mr. Kupchinsky believes that my "outrageous charges and innuendos will only serve to discredit the Ukrainian American community in Chicago..." Does Julian Kulas know that?

In her letter to the editor, Oksana Pisetska Struk suggested that people have dropped their subscriptions to The Weekly because of my column. Perhaps. But think of this: The Ukrainian Weekly is 32 pages long. It is filled with information about Ukraine and our community found in no other publication. Presently, The Ukrainian Weekly has 10 columnists. Does Ms. Struk want us to believe that some people would drop their subscriptions because of one columnist who's published twice a month taking up one-half page out of 24 or 32 pages? Suggestion: If you don't like my column, don't read it!

Boris Danik praises Prof. Howard Zinn for his "mind-opening polemics" and because he "dispelled some of the stench of long-established bleaching and gasification of the historic legacy beginning with the discovery of America." Dr. Zinn, the son of Ukrainian Jews, is the author of the best-selling "A People's History of the United States" (2 million copies sold). "I was a radical," he once declared, "believing that something fundamental was wrong with this country... something rotten at the root." He admits that his history text, de rigueur in our universities and high schools, is not objective. "I am not troubled by that," he explains. "I wanted my writing of history and teaching of history, to be part of social struggle... So that kind of attitude towards history, history itself as a political act, has always

informed my writing and my teaching." This brand of pedestrian Marxism is what Prof. Zinn's celebrated text is all about.

America's Declaration of Independence, he wrote, ignored "the existing inequalities of property." Maoist China is "the closest thing, in the long history of that ancient country, to a people's government, independent of outside control." The execution of the Rosenbergs, convicted atomic spies who worked for Joseph Stalin against their own country, "was a demonstration to the people of the country... of what lay at the end of the line for those the government decided were traitors."

No citations can be found in Prof. Zinn's 700-page harangue, which omits mention of Washington's Farewell Address, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as well as Reagan's "Tear Down This Wall" speech at the Brandenburg Gate. Also missing are the Wright Brothers, Alexander Graham Bell, Jonas Salk and America's walk on the moon. Not overlooked, however, are Sacco and Venzetti, McCarthyism and the My Lai massacre. For an antidote to Prof. Zinn's view of America, read my column of September 30, 2001, devoted to 9/11, which can be found on The Weekly's website.

The Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky's letter informed us that the free medical care he received while living in Canada and the U.K. were on a par with the care he received in the U.S., except that here he had to pay "hefty out-of-pocket costs" despite "astronomical and ever-escalating premiums..." I'm happy for his Canadian care. I agree, moreover, that insurance premiums can be exorbitant. I don't think the Obama health plan as currently crafted, however, is the answer, especially since it includes taxpayer-paid abortions on demand and end-of-life counseling. Tort reform is not even mentioned.

I subscribe to The Sower and enjoy reading Bishop Chomnycky's homilies. It is for that reason that I am troubled by the good padre's description of socialism as a "boogeyman," a word that connotes a kind of inordinate fear. Like most Americans, I am very afraid of socialism, an atheistic ideology once practiced by Moscow and Beijing, now common in Havana and Pyongyang, and emerging in Caracas. Given the threatening and divisive posture of the Obama administration towards the opposition ("I will call you out," said our president), I don't believe my fear is irrational. I hope I'm wrong.

"Roma Hadzewycz's Fairness Doctrine": On September 4 I was informed by The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz, that now, after more than 25 years of twice-monthly publication, "Faces and Places," will henceforth be a monthly column. Since there is a growing list of columnists, and their commentaries appear only once a month, she explained, it is only fair that my column also appear once a month. I agree.

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Opinions in The Ukrainian Weekly

Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Filmmaker Andrij Parekh's "Cold Souls" is hailed by critics

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Andrij Parekh, 38, of New York, is director of photography for "Cold Souls" by writer/director Sophie Barthes, which was released on August 7. The movie stars Paul Giamatti playing a character named Paul Giamatti, who suffers from severe soul-sickness. After finding an advertisement from Soul Storage, a high-tech company promising to alleviate suffering by putting the soul into deep freeze, Mr. Giamatti hopes his soul anxiety is behind him.

Mr. Giamatti's character is agonizing over his interpretation of the role of Uncle Vanya in an adaptation of the Anton Chekhov play of the same name. And a soulless actor is just what Chekhov had in mind for Uncle Vanya. Once the performance is over, Mr. Giamatti hopes to reunite with his soul, but complications ensue, taking him to St. Petersburg, Russia.

The Wall Street Journal hailed Mr. Parekh's work on the film as "haunting, yet his style is unusually fluid and full of surprises." And The New York Times called Mr. Parekh's work, "elegantly shot, [...] that shows hints of Stanley Kubrick

and Charlie Kaufman."

Mr. Giamatti won the "Best Actor" award and Ms. Barthes was nominated for the Crystal Globe at the 2009 Karlovy Vary International Film Festival for "Cold Souls." Ms. Barthes was also nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival.

The film has a running time of 1 hour, 41 minutes, is released by Samuel Goldwyn Films and is rated PG-13. The film was inspired by a dream in which Woody Allen discovers that his soul looks just like a chickpea.

Mr. Parekh is of matrilineal Ukrainian descent and of paternal Indian descent. He studied cinematography at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, earning a Masters of Fine Arts degree (2001) and the FAMU School in Prague. He currently lives and works in New York, shooting features, commercials and music videos.

In 2004 he was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Indie Film." Recently he was included as one of Variety Magazine's "Ten Cinematographers to Watch."



Adam Bell / Samuel Goldwyn Films

Andrij Parekh filming on the set of "Cold Souls."

FILM CLIPS: "Fatal Promises": Documentary on human trafficking

by Christina Kotlar

NEW YORK – It begins innocently enough: "I could give you an opportunity to go to the United States of America. We will provide a student visa, you will learn English. Don't worry, you don't have to pay us back..." Then suddenly the beautiful young Ukrainian student is told she owes \$30,000, the hard-working but unemployed fisherman is taken to an

unmarked sailing vessel in the middle of the ocean, and everything changes.

Told through stories of victims from Ukraine and other Eastern European countries, "Fatal Promises," written and directed by Kat Rohrer, is an in-depth, hard-hitting documentary about the brutal realities of human trafficking. Human beings are now a commodity within a global industry coming in second behind drugs and just ahead of arms on the black

market.

Since 1991 hundreds of thousands of men, women and children have become victims of labor and sexual exploitation, with the United States among the top 10 destinations. "Fatal Promises" is meticulously researched, with tallied, mind-boggling statistics, as experts and activists speak out against "a crime that shames us all."

Filming took place for five years in

Ukraine as well as at a recent United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (U.N. GIFT) conference in Vienna, where politicians seek recognition and affirmation of their efforts, without actually coming up with a plan to stop the actual crimes. A musical extravaganza for conference attendees was paid for by the very Arab nation named as a benefi-

(Continued on page 19)



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UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY 2009

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

by Al Kachkowski

SASKATOON, Saskatchewan – A beautiful cloudless day greeted an estimated crowd of over 7,000 on August 22 as the ninth annual Ukraine Day in the Park celebrated the 18th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine. This year’s version of Saskatchewan’s outdoor Ukrainian festival was presented by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) Saskatoon Branch.

Early that morning, the Ukrainian Museum of Canada served breakfast on its patio. Later, the program continued in the traditional location in downtown Saskatoon’s Kiwanis Park, immediately south of the city’s landmark hotel, the Delta Bessborough. Fifteen performing groups from cities throughout the province, including Prince Albert, Hafford and Saskatoon provided a dynamic program of entertainment on the large outdoor stage.

At 11 a.m., an ecumenical prayer service (moleben) was led by Bishop Bryan Bayda with Ukrainian Catholic priests the Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Protosyncellus Vladimir Mudri and the Rev. John Sianchuk. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church was represented by the Very Rev. Archpriest Bohdan Demczuk and the Very Rev. Archpriest Alex Hupka. Responses were sung under the directorship of cantor William Gulka. The service took place on the main stage at

the festival site. Many festival participants and passers-by respectfully listened to the service.

After the service, two costumed members of the Bayda Kozaks, Paul Bunka and Joe Bayda, presided over the raising of the Ukrainian flag. The flag was raised by two costumed dancers, Shaunda Arsenie and Paul Breckner. Joining them on the flag-raising platform was Kelly Block, member of Parliament for Saskatoon, Rosetown and Biggar. With the flag waving boldly in the breeze, everyone present participated in the singing of the Ukrainian national anthem. The flag was transferred from City Hall, where it had flown to mark Ukraine Week, which was proclaimed by Saskatoon City Council.

Attention was then diverted to the festival stage, where a continuous program of music, song and dance was presented all-day. Food and beverage services were supplied by vendors representing various Ukrainian organizations. The beer garden again featured Ukraine Day’s own private label beers, “Zabava” and “Bood’mo.”

The featured cultural display consisted of a photo exhibit mounted by several Saskatoon Ukrainian dance groups. A repeat feature at Ukraine Day in the Park was the “Village of Origin” display manned by Ludvik Marianych of Smokey Lake, Alberta. Marianych spent the entire afternoon discussing Ukrainian origins with patrons of Ukraine Day.

The Bayda Kozaks provided a number of costumed members to pose for photographs. The Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School Council organized a “make-your-own headband or bookmark” activity for children, while a face-painting and picture-coloring station was provided by the Mendel Art Gallery. A number of vendors lined a park walkway selling handcrafts, books and souvenirs.

MCs George Hupka and Lesia Sorokan, presided over the official opening ceremonies. They commented on Ukraine’s centuries-long aspirations and struggles for freedom that finally led to independence, which was declared on August 24, 1991.

Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison greeted the crowd and commended the Ukrainians for organizing

such a popular annual event in the city. He mentioned that Saskatoon’s sister city in Ukraine, Chernivtsi, had celebrated its 600th anniversary last October and that he was pleased to attend that celebration on behalf of the citizens of Saskatoon.



Balloons sparkle in the sun.

Al Kachkowski



Girls celebrate with flags.

Hans Madsen



Dancers move onto stage.

Hans Madsen



Dancers await their turn.

Hans Madsen



Saskatoon School of Dance members dressed as mice.

Al Kachkowski

(Continued on page 17)

UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY 2009

Passaic, N.J.

by Marion Hrubec

PASSAIC, N.J. – On Monday evening, August 24, about 200 parishioners of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Parish, in Passaic, N.J., gathered on the front plaza of the church to celebrate and witness the celebration of the independence of Ukraine.

As the afternoon sun shown down on the group gathered, several young children of the parish dressed in Ukrainian embroidered shirts and blouses led the procession of altar boys and the Rev. Andriy Dudkevych from the church's front doors to the outdoor altar for the celebration of a moleben to the Mother of God, in thanksgiving for the blessings and freedom that Ukraine has enjoyed since 1991.

The altar was adorned with an Icon of Our Lady as candles glowed and colorful mums reflected the joy of the people and the occasion.

In his homily the Rev. Dudkevych spoke of the difficulties and blessings the Ukrainian people are experiencing.

Antin Mykych and Mr. Mykhaylo Paranchak then came forward to raise the Ukrainian flag, with all the children surrounding them. As the flag was raised, everyone sang the Ukrainian national anthem.

The pastor thanked everyone for attending and invited all to a short concert program of Ukrainian songs and music, which was followed by a wine and cheese



Parishioners of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Parish gathered on the front plaza of the church in Passaic to celebrate the 18th anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine.

social prepared by the young women of the parish.

This event was also part of the pre-

centennial celebration preparations for St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church. The official opening of the parish's 100th

anniversary will be on December 6, the Feast of St. Nicholas, patron saint of the parish.



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South Florida

by Elise Kristen Lindley

SUNNY ISLES BEACH, Fla. – The Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center of Miami decided to dedicate the celebration of Ukraine's 18th year of independence to Taras Shevchenko's lament, "When can we expect our Washington, with a new and righteous law?"

Instead of limiting the festivities to local parishes as in the past, this year the occasion would be witnessed and enjoyed by a wider audience. The celebration was brought to the city of Sunny Isles Beach, which is described as South Florida's Riviera with its beautiful beach and luxurious ocean side condominiums.

The Washington of Ukraine is the people of Ukraine: Ukrainians, Russians, Jews, Tatars, Belorusyns, Bulgarians, Gypsies, Hungarians, Poles, Moldovans and others. All these nationalities recently immigrated to Sunny Isles Beach, and since they all participated in the vote for Ukrainian Independence, the Festival was to honor them. The goal was to remind them that

freedom is a precious gift and that gift giving requires some form of gratitude from people who hold freedom dear.

The festival was held on Saturday, August 22, in the Town Center Park. Ukrainian folk and popular music resonated on the main thoroughfare and adjacent streets. The event brought out people from as far away as Tampa on the west coast of Florida.

The stage program began with the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami welcoming everyone with the dance "Pryvit," followed by the singing of the Ukrainian and American national anthems.

The mayor of Sunny Isles Beach, Norman Edelcup, honored the occasion with welcoming remarks. City Manger Rick Connor and Selectman Gerry Goodman also came to the event to show their support. They were very pleased that their city was chosen for this celebration.

Oksana Piaseckyj, the MC for the event, praised the city administrative staff of Sunny Isles Beach for giving strong support and

(Continued on page 18)



The choir of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church.

UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY 2009

Horsham, Pa.

by Eugene A. Luciw

HORSHAM, Pa. – The blue and yellow colors adorning Tryzubivka gleamed with special vibrancy in the Sunday afternoon sun that greeted over 1,800 people, young and old, as they assembled on August 23 to celebrate 18 years of Ukraine’s independence.

The anticipation was palpable as the Karpaty Ukrainian Dance Orchestra warmed the crowd with a rich variety of folk songs. Everyone expected “the fireworks”: a grand explosion of color, sound, movement and energy that is Ukrainian folk music and dance.

After Tryzub’s president, Jaroslav Kozak, greeted the people, Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Metropolitan Archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S. and the Rev. Protopresbyter Frank Estocin, pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, led the faithful in a moving prayer. The national anthems of Canada, the United States and Ukraine followed.

A uniquely acrobatic and entertaining cabaret group from Toronto, The Kozaks, joined the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Philadelphia to compose an especially diverse and varied collection of folk dances.

Stage MCs Tanya Husar and Gene Luciw, intertwined the numbers with a bounty of music performed by violinist-virtuoso Innesa Tymochko Dekajlo (Lviv), the Sisters Oros Duet (New York City) and the Luna Band (New Jersey). The people showed their appreciation with resounding applause matched by cheers, grins and smiles.

“The affair was a huge success,” said Tryzub Executive Vice-President Orest Lesiuk. “It’s a reflection of the hard work of Tryzub’s unsung heroes, its volunteers – the people in the kitchen, the program and facilities managers, the sports coaches, the festival and other event organizers and a tireless crew of other volunteers – that keep Tryzubivka in tip-top shape.”

Ms. Husar, festival organizer and co-MC, added that the festival is “a testament to the beauty and strength of the Ukrainian spirit and to the value of cooperation among Ukrainians.” She said she was especially pleased to see Ukrainians of all generations and immigrations working and celebrating together as one.

A significant non-Ukrainian presence, said Ms. Husar, accomplished other very

important missions: “to showcase our beautiful Ukrainian culture and to heighten peoples’ awareness about Ukraine, its people and their very strategic role in the world.”

It is important to note that the Philadelphia Inquirer and nearly every newspaper of general circulation in the Greater Philadelphia area and in the Lehigh Valley featured this year’s festival in many of its various sections, including the food section of the Allentown Morning Call. The features were filled with attractive photos of the entertainers and informative interviews.

Tryzub presented the entertainment in partnership with the United States Census Bureau, which maintained a special presence at this year’s festival of freedom. The bureau disseminated valuable information about the census that will be taken in the spring of 2010.

The agency’s partnership specialist, Jesse D. Selness, addressed the audience. He underscored the importance of the census to U.S., to its representative form of democracy, and to local communities and ethnic groups. The U.S. government allocates trillions of dollars based upon census results, he noted. Many strategic decisions, national and international, in both the public and in the private sectors are made based upon U.S. Census statistics and studies.

Mr. Selness also made Ukrainians and other ethnic groups aware that there is a special section in the 2010 Census form that allows persons to list their ethnic heritage; and that information gathered from an individual in the census is jealously guarded and protected through privacy statutes. “It’s easy, it’s important and it’s safe,” said Mr. Selness. “It’s in our hands: You being counted will help the Ukrainian community for the next 10 years,” proclaimed a festival banner.

The stage show also included a magic act by the Kovkiv brothers of Philadelphia. A zabava (dance) to the tunes of Luna followed.

Festival-goers also had an opportunity to visit an arts and crafts bazaar and to snack on tasty homemade Ukrainian ethnic and barbecue-grilled foods. One non-Ukrainian first-timer said: “Wow! A fantastic show. Before today, I knew nothing about these folks, let alone how engaging, thrilling and beautiful they and their customs are. They did a great job; we had a wonderful time.”



“Hopak” presented by Voloshky.

Chris Syzonenko



Taras Demerson of “The Kozaks” (Toronto) leaps into the air during the Kozatsky Dance.

Carl Kosola/Intelligencer-Record



Emily Knihnicky of Voloshky performs during the Ukrainian Gypsy Dance.

Carl Kosola/Intelligencer-Record



Innesa Tymochko Dekajlo entertains the crowd.

Chris Syzonenko

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To find the missing “G”: My trip to the Sanok lands

by Michael Buryk

Part II

The Czerepaniak homestead

Before my trip, I obtained a digital copy of the 1852 property map of the village painstakingly assembled by the Austrian government for tax purposes over a period of several years. It included a list of the numbered properties that the Czerepaniaks had owned. Volodya and I had studied it together for several months before the trip so that we would know exactly where to look.

Aunt Katerzyna confirmed what the map had suggested: the Czerepaniak family had owned a good chunk of property, although they were not nobility. It lay where the main road branches off to the next village of Krecow, not too far from the nobleman’s “dwor,” or manor house and estate. It was very well-situated and included flat land pasture, as well as hills and forest – the perfect location for a family farm.

The Czerepaniak family also owned the grain mill. The story told is that my great grandfather, Isidore (Sydor) Czerepaniak had gotten it from the “pan” of Siemuszowa as he lay on his deathbed as a reward for his long and steadfast service on the estate. The mill sat on a small canal that had been dug from the river farther up to bring fresh water to turn the millstone.

The old mill was long gone since it was torn down after Akcja Wisla, but Aunt Katarzyna pointed to a new house that had been built on the spot where it once stood. As we walked along the road that had bordered the Czerepaniak homestead, Aunt Katarzyna told stories from crisp memories filled with the tiny details of life when she was growing up after World War I. Volodya and I were both amazed at the sharp mind of this 87-year-old Baba and wished we could find a way to do a data dump from it to our Mac computers.

The sun was beginning to fade behind the mountains, signaling that it was time to go home. We passed Aunt Katarzyna’s old blue house on the road to Tyrawa Woloska and then took the serpentine road back to her new place. Her son-in-law Walter had come back from the celebration of a major church event – Pentecost. Apparently the Orthodox Church (since there were no more Greek-Catholic churches in the area) celebrated it as a big feast on Saturday and he was lending a hand.

We coaxed some more Czerepaniak family stories from Aunt Katarzyna as we ate a light dinner and were soon on our way back to the hotel in Sanok. Volodya and I were suffering from information overload and were bone tired from the long drive that day. I called home to let my wife, Rosie,

know that all was well in Podkarpaska and Volodya sent off some e-mail home from his computer. The wireless Internet connection seemed to work more slowly than the ones either of us were used to. Soon we both dropped off to sleep and deep into dreams of the San valley.

The Romaniuks

Sunday would be an important day in the history of our family. It would be my first meeting with Vladek Romaniuk, a long-lost second Gburyk cousin and the grandson of my grandfather’s youngest brother, Iwan. The excitement was building.

Volodya and I rose early Sunday morning to get a bite to eat before my cousin Vladek and his wife Zofia would arrive. It had been very difficult communicating with them since I neither speak nor write Polish and they know no English.

Luckily I had found Zofia listed in the directory for the Skype online phone service about a year ago and occasionally dropped her an instant chat note to let them know that I was still hoping to come for a visit. About two weeks before this trip, we exchanged Skype text messages with a plan to meet me on Sunday morning at the Hotel Jagiellonska in Sanok promptly at 9 a.m. to drive to Siemuszowa.

You never know what to expect with these reunions. My first one with the Hlib family in western Poland in 2004 was challenging without an ability to communicate in Polish. My distant cousin Maria Walczak-Czerepaniak and her daughter Alex came along and helped with that one. This time I hoped it would be easier.

Fortunately, Volodya’s Ukrainian visa arrived a few days before he was scheduled to head to Przemysl (Peremyshl) to meet me. He was my back-up translator. Vladek had also mentioned in his note that he would bring along a local boy who spoke English. I really wasn’t sure how that would work out, but I was hopeful.

Volodya and I met Vladek, Zofia and Eric, the interpreter, for the first time on the street in front of the hotel. We all exchanged warm greetings and then hopped into their car. Through Eric, Vladek told us that we would go to his house first to meet some of his family who had arrived that morning to see us. We drove back along Przemyska Street past Aunt Katarzyna’s house, which we pointed out to our new family and then to Vladek’s house not far in the next area called Bykowce.

We turned onto a very pleasant street that looked out onto a broad, flat meadow and then right into Vladek’s driveway. Directly in front of me again was not a village “khata,” but a rather large, stuccoed and tiled two-story house that was as nice as any I had seen before.



Aunt Katarzyna Czerepaniak-Tymczak and Volodya Cherepanyak in the old cemetery in Siemuszowa.

We climbed up the stairs into the house and were immediately met by Vladek and Zofia’s daughter, Renata, her husband, Adam Szatankiewicz, and their children, Jakub and Izabela. We all exchanged warm greetings and moved immediately into the large and pleasant dining room that looked out over the meadow. This could have been a very nice house built in the 1970s in semi-rural Sussex County in New Jersey or a similar place where you could still find traces of a rich farming heritage. But, there were no roosters crowing outside here.

We spent the next two hours getting to know each other with the help of Eric as Volodya jumped in from time to time, listening intently to the Polish conversation and then replying easily in Ukrainian. Everyone seemed to understand each other in this modern tower of Babel!

I had come armed with a family tree, the 1852 land map of Siemuszowa, family photos and numerous other documents that were quickly examined and passed around. The kids, as they would in any other country, seemed vaguely bored, but polite. Adam and Renata were very interested in all this new information about the Gburyk side of the family that Vladek had never known.

Zofia was warm and supportive of all the family history talk, and Vladek shared what little he knew of his Gburyk past. The Turkish coffee was thick, muddy and strong, and the sweets on the table made it all seem like just any ordinary family get-together. It was all very comfortable and pleasant. But, the weather outside had turned rainy yet again and so our drive and visit to Siemuszowa, which was about to commence, would be damp, gray and muddy. So this is life in the mountains!

Vladek, Zofia, Volodya, Eric and I hopped into his old model car and we climbed the serpentine road again heading for Tyrawa Woloska, where we made a left on the road to Siemuszowa. Our goal was to visit the inside of the old wooden church and to discover the local site where the Gburyk homestead had stood.

The old wooden church

It’s really hard to describe the feeling that came over all of us as we walked into the church. Here was the place where my Baba Julia and Mike were baptized and married, and where their parents and grandparents had done the same. All of their brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and cousins stretching back to 1841 had celebrated significant events of their lives here. And before that, there was a similar church on the same spot.

The inside of the church was decorated in a style not unlike a few Greek-Catholic ones that I have visited before and yet this

one was very special. We all walked around very reverently, examining each detail as if we had just been doing an archaeological dig and uncovered some ancient relics. Although the day was gloomy, rainy and wet outside, the inside of the former “tserkva” seemed to radiate its own glow. I could feel the presence of Siemuszowa’s long history and its very soul right here. It was hard to leave.

We got back in the cars and drove to the center of the village to the house of Pani Bocak to talk with her about any memories of the Gburyk family and where their property had been. Our local guide, Bohdan, knocked on the small, red painted wooden door and a few of us entered the house. In front of us appeared a tiny, very old woman who looked like she had lived here forever.

Bohdan and Vladek began chatting with her in Polish, asking questions that we hoped would reveal something about the Gburyks. No luck. Too much had happened in the village since 1947 when its Lemko and Ukrainian inhabitants had been scattered to the four winds and Pani Bocak’s memory did not seem as good as Aunt Katarzyna’s.

At that point I asked Volodya to take a photo of me with Pani Bocak. As I moved closer to her, she shot back in Polish: “If you get any closer, you’ll have to marry me!” We all got quite a laugh out of that. Even in Siemuszowa, an available woman is never too old for matrimony. Bohdan and the rest of us bid her good-bye and headed back to the cars. Shortly we were driving further down the poorly paved road toward the dark forest when the road abruptly stopped with a locked metal pole spread across it. We couldn’t go any farther. Vladek then turned the car around in the direction of the second road that had originally run parallel to the first one. We quickly reached a dead end there as well and got out to try to go farther on foot. It was no use.

The rain was coming down harder and the grass too wet, slick and muddy for a casual hike to find our Gburyk ancestral homestead near the forest. This happy event would have to wait for another day.

The Polish State Archives

Finding traces of the elusive “G” family over the last 30 years was difficult at best and downright impossible a lot of the time. Untimely tragic death, poverty, indifference and the erosion of memory by time had left not many anecdotes about who the Gburyks and Czerepaniaks were and how my own grandparents had come to settle in Minersville, Pa., in the 1920s. So I made it my own personal quest over these many

(Continued on page 20)



The former Czerepaniak farmstead in Siemuszowa.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

unable to work until after the presidential election. (Ukrinform)

Communist deputy told to apologize

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada Committee on Freedom of Speech and Information on September 9 called on Communist national deputy Oleksander Tkachenko to present a public apology to the STB TV Channel crew for an incident that took place in the Parliament on September 1. The committee called on the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) to review Mr. Tkachenko's actions. Mr. Tkachenko broke a microphone of the camera crew of the STB TV. A journalist working for the channel, Olha Chervakova, had asked Mr. Tkachenko to comment on his proposal to cut the number of journalists accredited in Parliament. Mr. Tkachenko said that journalists should cover rural life instead of spending time in the lunchroom of the Parliament. He refused to make any comments, snatched the journalist's microphone and threw it down the stairs. (Ukrinform)

150,000 HIV positive in Ukraine

KYIV – According to the Family, Youth and Sports Ministry, over 150,000 HIV positive persons are registered in the country, and 15 percent of them are children. According to Vice Minister Tetiana Kondratiuk, youths from age 15 to 24 are the most vulnerable. It was reported on September 11 that she emphasized that not only state establishments, but also parents, should act to save young people from HIV. "Dear parents, talk to your children more often. Explain to your child what he/she should know while becoming a grown-up person. Do it before he/she gets to know about it in a hospital having received a HIV positive analysis," Ms. Kondratiuk said. (Ukrinform)

European Heritage Days marked

KYIV – European Heritage Days are

being marked nationwide on September 9-12 in Ukraine. Within the framework of this event, free access for visitors is allowed to historical monuments and buildings usually closed to the public. In addition, there are excursions, exhibitions, concerts and other events demonstrating local traditions and crafts, architecture and art. According to the Culture and Tourism Ministry's press service, in Zakarpattia, the international cultural-artistic-educational project has been dubbed "Ukraine: Country of Castles and Fortresses." European Heritage Days are celebrated each year in the countries that joined the European Cultural Convention. It is a common action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission aimed at focusing attention on cultural heritage and its role in the development of modern society. (Ukrinform)

First couple cut ribbon at stadium

DONETSK – President Viktor Yushchenko and first lady Kateryna Yushchenko took part in the opening of the Donbas Arena on August 29 in Donetsk. The new stadium, which has a capacity of 50,000, is the first in Ukraine and Eastern Europe designed and built according to the "elite" standards category of the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA). There are 22 stadiums of this category in Europe. (Official Website of Ukraine's President)

Apartments, land in Kyiv drop in price

KYIV – Over one year, real estate in Kyiv and its suburbs on average lost about 50 percent of its value, reported the newspaper Gazeta po Kyivsky on September 10. A "mad" growth in prices for Kyiv housing stopped in April 2008, and September of that year is considered to be the start of the crisis and a rapid drop of real estate prices in Ukraine. According to independent market analyst Yaroslav Tsukanov, due to the rise in price for foreign currency, prices for apartments will considerably drop. He said that by spring of 2010 apartments would lose 30 to 40 percent of their current price. (Ukrinform)

Elton John banned from adopting

KYIV – Pop star Elton John has been banned from adopting a boy from a Ukrainian orphanage, the Ukrainian Family, Youth and Sports Ministry reported on September 14. The ministry said that, according to Ukrainian law, those who adopt a child should be married; the homosexual union of Mr. John is not recognized in Ukraine as marriage. The New York Times, citing a story by the Associated Press, reported that Mr. John is also too old to adopt, according to Ukrainian law. Mr. John and his partner, David Furnish, wanted to adopt a 14-month-old boy named Lev who is HIV positive. "I don't know how we do that, but he has stolen my heart," Mr. John said. "And he has stolen David's heart, and it would be wonderful if we can have a home." However, Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yuri Pavlenko said, "The

law is the same for everybody." (Ukrinform, The New York Times)

Medvedev comments on open letter

KYIV – His open letter to Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko did not aim to influence the alignment of political forces before presidential elections in Ukraine, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said during his meeting with the participants in the Valdai international discussion club, it was reported on September 15. Mr. Medvedev said he just "wanted to draw attention to the causes behind degradation of Russia's relations with Ukraine." He added, "I said everything I wanted to say. Have I reached my objectives? I think, I have. There was such a response that everyone became interested. This letter caused a mixed reaction, which is normal," Mr. Medvedev said. (Ukrinform)



З глибоким смутком і жалем повідомляємо членів Клубу, приятелів та українську громаду, що в п'ятницю, 14 серпня 2009 р. після довгої недуги - паркінсона, проживши 82 роки, відійшов у вічність наш довголітній член і змагун, ентузіаст тенісового спорту



СВ. П.

ВІКТОР ГЕРЛИНСЬКИЙ

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Управа КЛК



Глибоко засмучені, повідомляємо, що в неділю, 9 серпня 2009 р. відійшов у вічність на 97-у році життя наш дорогий тато, дідо і прадідо

СВ. П.

інж. Богдан Володимир Пашковський

народжений 9 жовтня 1912 р. в місті Бережани, Україна

Покойний був членом Пласту, 8-го куреня УПС ім. Григора Орлика та членом Товариства Українських Інженерів Америки.

Похоронні відправи відбулися 12 жовтня 2009 р. в Українській Католицькій Церкві св. Миколая в Баффало, Н.Й.

донька – Ліда Костинюк і муж Григорій
син – Юрій Пашковський і дружина Марія
внуки – Христя Пашковська і наречений Джозеф Велш
– Ліда Мазепа і муж Тарас
– Данило Пашковський і дружина Криста
правнуки – Калина і Адріян Мазепа
та родина в США, Канаді, Польщі й Україні.

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З глибоким смутком повідомляємо, що в понеділок, 14 вересня 2009 р. відійшов у вічність

СВ. П.

СИДІР НОВАКІВСЬКИЙ

нар. 13 травня 1916 р. в селі Богородчани в Україні.

СЛУЖБА БОЖА буде відправлена 18 вересня 2009 р. в церкві св. Николая у Вільмінгтоні, Де.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбудуться в суботу, 19 вересня 2009 р. в похоронному заведенні Флечер-Насевича у Філядельфії, Па., а відтак на цвинтарі на Факс Чейс Па.

У глибокому смутку залишилися:

дружина – ЕВГЕНІЯ НОВАКІВСЬКА
доньки – ДАРІЯ ЛИСИЙ з мужем ІГОРЕМ
– МИРОСЛАВА НОВАКІВСЬКА-ВОЛОШИН
син – РОМАН НОВАКІВСЬКИЙ з дружиною ОЛЕЮ
внуки – ПЕТРО ЛИСИЙ
– НАТАЛІЯ ЛИСИЙ з мужем КЕВИНОМ БИТТОРФ
– ТАМАРА НОВАКІВСЬКА з мужем ХРИСТОФОР МУРЕЙ
– ХРИСТОФОР НОВАКІВСЬКИЙ
– МАРКО НОВАКІВСЬКИЙ
швагерка – МАРІЯ КАСІЯН з мужем МИКОЛОЮ і родиною ближча і дальша родина в США й Україні.

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Ukrainian American Veterans Post 24 hosts golf outing



HINCKLEY, Ohio – Ukrainian American Veterans Post 24 of Cleveland, which is led by Post Commander Bohdan Samokyszyn, on July 25 hosted its 21st annual golf outing. Seventy-two golfers participated at the beautiful Pine Hills Golf Club in Hinckley, Ohio. All enjoyed the course and delicious lunch and dinner. Through the generosity of all the sponsors and golfers the post was able to raise almost \$1,000 from the prize raffle to benefit all the activities it supports. The winning team scored 10 under par. Pictured (from left) are: Hank Krutkewicz of Mississauga, Ontario; Leo Samokieszyn (UAV Post 24 golf coordinator) of Parma, Ohio; team sponsor Zen Golembiowsky of Educational Sports Productions Inc. in Hinckley, Ohio; Petro Stefaniuk of Mississauga; and Alex Popovich of Basking Ridge, N.J.

– Bohdan Samokyszyn
and Leo Samokieszyn

Millionaire wanted...

(Continued from page 1)

September 10, investigators searched for him at his residence and an Odesa hospital, where his lawyer claimed he was seeking treatment. They announced a nationwide search.

Mr. Markov joined a mob of hired thugs in an attack on about 50 ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian-language speakers peacefully protesting in front of the Odesa State Administration building against the establishment of the monument to Russian Empress Katherine II. The video evidence of Mr. Markov's participation is widely available on the Internet, including YouTube.

The attackers inflicted injuries on about half the demonstrators, and five were hospitalized, among them Serhii Nazarenko, who suffered a brain concussion and spent a month in the hospital.

It's no coincidence that Mr. Markov found refuge in Moscow, experts said. Oleh Soskin, a Kyiv political expert and NATO supporter assaulted by another Rodina leader, Igor Dimitriyev, said he's confident Mr. Markov and his pro-Russian radicals are financed by the Kremlin.

In related news, Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry announced its intention on July 23 to expel Aleksandr Grachev, a diplomat in Odesa's Russian Consulate who is accused by the city's ethnically conscious Ukrainians of providing support to pro-Russian radical parties such as Rodina.

Just days later, however, the Foreign Affairs Ministry suspended that decision in the interest of "demonstrating a constructive approach," UNIAN reported on July 31.

Assaulting and plotting the murder of ethnically conscious Ukrainians isn't the only crime Mr. Markov stands accused of.

Rodina violated party registration procedures because its August 20, 2008, party congress didn't have the necessary quorum of authorized delegates, the Justice Ministry ruled in an investigation requested by the SBU.

It was at this party congress that Rodina members took control of the dormant Progressive Democratic Party of Ukraine, changed its name to Rodina, and changed the party program and its legal address, all of which the Justice Ministry recognized with an October 2, 2008, resolution.

Rodina also violated a law that Ukrainian parties must have a Ukrainian-language name. Rodina means "homeland" in Russian.

The SBU in April announced its intention to ban the Rodina party, alleging it threatens Ukraine's national security, the public order and the rights and freedoms of Ukraine's citizens.

The Rodina party vowed to appeal the Justice Ministry's ruling in court.



Zenon Zawada

Odesa millionaire Igor Markov, who assaulted ethnically conscious Ukrainians, fled to Moscow after dodging a September 10 appearance requested by police investigators in Mykolayiv.



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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Summer relocation for several Ukrainian skaters

Suffices to say most of the heavy off-season NHL wheeling and dealing has concluded. The 2009 National Hockey League Entry Draft came and went with nary a Ukrainian hopeful being selected. The only mentions of any Ukrainian pucksters were heard in two trade announcements in between draft selections, when Edmonton traded Kyle Brodziak to Minnesota and Vancouver dealt Shaun Heshka to Phoenix. The annual free agent frenzy began on July 1 with only modest participation by Ukrainian hockey stars. Compared to years past, Ukrainian player movement was limited: of the nine Ukrainian transactions, four were re-signings, while five skaters were on the move to new organizations. Hopefully, the moves will lead to better career opportunities. Below are the headline comings and goings.

Cut in pay okay for Cup winner Fedotenko

The Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins re-signed forward Ruslan Fedotenko to a one-year deal for \$1.8 million, some \$450,000 less than the Ukrainian earned in 2008-2009. Fedotenko, 30, tallied 16 goals, 23 assists for 39 points, with a second best plus-18 rating in 65 games with the Penguins during the recently completed season. Ruslan saw action in another 24 post-season games with Pittsburgh, notching another seven goals and 14 points.

The 6-foot-2-inch, 195-pound winger has been in the league for eight seasons, playing for Philadelphia, Tampa Bay and Pittsburgh. Fedotenko won his first Stanley Cup in 2004 with the Tampa Bay Lightning, scoring both goals in a 2-0 victory over the Calgary Flames in Game 7 of the finals. In 597 career regular season NHL games he has collected 278 points (139 goals, 139 assists), while scoring 31 additional points in 77 playoff contests.

The Kyiv native played in one game for Ukraine at the 2006 Olympics, scoring a goal against Switzerland. He is the first Ukrainian-born player to win the Stanley Cup. Having just won his second cup with Pittsburgh, he willingly took a cut in pay with the hope of repeating in 2009-2010.

Tkachuk not Blue about stayin' in St. Lou

He truly wanted to remain a Blue in St. Louis, this five-time All-Star who signed

up for his 18th NHL season. One week prior to the 2009 entry draft, St. Louis Blues President John Davidson announced the club re-signed Keith Tkachuk to a one-year, \$2.15 million contract.

"Keith is a veteran leader who played a key role with our club's success this past season," said Davidson in an official Blues press release. "He and his wife Chantal are first-class people and have been tremendous to the St. Louis Blues organization and the St. Louis community."

Tkachuk skated in 79 games for the Blues this past season, totaling 25 goals, 24 assists for 49 points with 61 penalty minutes. This was the 15th out of 17 seasons that the Ukrainian sniper hit the 20+ goal plateau. Last November 30 in Atlanta, Tkachuk became the 72nd NHL-er to hit 1,000 points, only the seventh American-born player. He further earned status as only the fourth player to hit both 1,000 points and 2,000 penalty minutes.

Zajac deals means more Devilish days

July 22 saw the New Jersey Devils avoid salary arbitration and re-signed Ukrainian center Travis Zajac to a four-year, \$15.55 million contract. Devils' President/CEO/General Manager Lou Lamoriello stated in an official press release, "During his previous three seasons in the National Hockey League, Travis Zajac had proven to be among the top young players in the game and has developed into one of the core players on our team. We are pleased that we were able to work out a long-term agreement."

Zajac, 24, will be participating in his fourth NHL training camp this coming September. He notched career highs of 20 goals, 42 assists for 62 points and a team-best plus-33 in the 2008-2009 campaign, dressing in all 82 games for the second consecutive season. The 6-foot-3-inch, 195-pound pivot added a goal and four points in seven playoff games.

Woywitka seeing Stars with Dallas move

One full week into the free agent frenzy period this summer, the Dallas Stars made a surprising move. In an effort to reenergize an aging defense unit, new General Manager Joe Nieuwendyk announced on July 7 that the club signed

defenseman Jeff Woywitka to a two-year, free agent contract, worth a total of \$1.3 million (\$600,000 for 2009-2010, \$700,000 for 2010-2011).

"We are pleased to welcome Jeff Woywitka to the Stars organization," said Nieuwendyk at his press conference. "He's gained some solid experience the last few years with St. Louis and we feel he brings valuable depth and stability to our defense corps."

Woywitka, 25, saw action in 65 games with the Blues this past season, scoring three goals with 15 assists for 18 points and 57 penalty minutes, all career highs. He played in four post-season contests with the Blues in their surprising run to the playoffs. The youngster has dressed in a mere 152 NHL games, with 35 career points and 106 penalty minutes.

Brodziak to live on the Wild side

Originally picked by the Edmonton Oilers in the seventh round of the 2003 NHL Entry Draft, Kyle Brodziak heard his name called yet again during draft festivities. This time it was late June in Montreal, when he was acquired by the Minnesota Wild along with the Oilers' sixth round pick in exchange for the Wild's fourth and fifth selections.

This year Minnesota took the transaction to the next level on July 23 when new Wild General Manager Chuck Fletcher announced Brodziak's signing to a three-year, \$3.45 million contract. A surprise gesture on Minnesota's part, it proved the new regime of G.M. Fletcher and new coach, Todd Richards, really want Brodziak to be a part of the team's upcoming makeover.

Brodziak, 25, tallied 11 goals, 16 assists and 27 points with three game-winning goals in 79 games with Edmonton in 2008-2009. He averaged 12:43 minutes of ice time as a third-line center, winning 51.6 percent of his face-offs. Mild-mannered, he incurred only 21 penalty minutes, but did end with a plus-4 rating. The 6-foot-2-inch, 209-pounder notched career high scoring totals in 2007-2008, getting 14 goals, 17 assists in 80 games as an Oiler.

Fedoruk struck by Lightning deal

In a major salary cap induced transaction, the Tampa Bay Lightning traded right wing Radim Vrbata to the Phoenix Coyotes, in exchange for tough guy Todd Fedoruk and defenseman David Hale. Tampa Bay actually received two vital role players plus a couple of million dollars in salary savings while giving up the over-priced Vrbata, who barely played in 2008-2009.

"We are pleased to make a trade today that makes sense for both teams," Lawton said in his official press release. "Lightning fans will be pleased to see we have added some size and toughness up front with Todd, while David helps us continue to add depth to our blue line. At the same time, Radim moves back to Phoenix where he has experienced some success in the past."

Fedoruk, 6-foot-2-inch, 235-pounds, played in 72 games with the Coyotes last season, recording six goals and 13 points in 10:35 average minutes of ice time. He finished fourth in penalty minutes while tying his career high for goals in a season. He has two years left on his contract:

\$2,175,000 in 2009-2010, \$1.05 million in 2011-2012.

IN THE MINORS

Blueliner Boychuk back in Beantown

Depth defenseman Johnny Boychuk re-upped for one year at \$500,000 with the Boston Bruins. The still-young 25-year-old won the American Hockey League's Eddie Shore Award for top defenseman in 2008-2009, after his 20 goals, 45 assists and 65 points regular season totals in 78 games. His goals and assists led all AHL defensemen and he set a Providence Bruins team record for points by a rearguard.

He was voted a starter for the Canadian team at the 2009 AHL All-Star Classic and was named a First Team AHL All-Star. He spent a week with the parent club last December and saw action in a 3-1 Boston win over Tampa Bay.

Boychuk was brought back to fulfill the dual role of emergency defenseman for the parent Bruins, while continuing to lead the blueline corps for the P-Bruins. Hopefully he gets a deserved chance in Boston.

Wily Heshka now a Coyote

Shawn Heshka, 24, was acquired by the Phoenix Coyotes in a June 27 draft day trade with the Vancouver Canucks in exchange for a seventh round choice. Phoenix General Manager Don Maloney announced Heshka's signing to a one-year, \$515,000 contract on July 3.

Last season, the 6-foot-1-inch, 198-pound Heshka played in 77 games with the Manitoba Moose of the AHL, where he tallied 3 goals, 23 assists and 26 points with 25 penalty minutes and a plus-17 rating, good for second on the club in defenseman points, and tied for overall plus/minus. He contributed five blueline points in 22 Moose playoff games, helping Manitoba advance to the Calder Cup Finals.

Haydar hopes for Rocky Mountain high

One of the most interesting pick-ups by the Colorado Avalanche this off-season has to be Darren Haydar, as undersized right winger with limited NHL experience who has set the AHL aflame over the past several years. A little guy – just 5-foot-9-inches, 170-pounds – he's quick on his skates and has established himself as a consistent goal-scorer at the minor league level.

Considering the lack of experience and talent at most positions of the Avalanche offense as the team undergoes an extensive rebuild, Haydar has an outside chance of making the team straight out of training camp in September. While it's more likely he'll make a big impact with the AHL's Lake Erie Monsters, his speed and offensive touch could prove impressive in camp. Haydar's diminutive size will work against him. Nonetheless, on a team so low in experience and ability, Haydar could provide some points if given a shot to play extended time by the Avalanche.

Haydar, 29, spent 2008-2009 with Grand Rapids of the AHL, where he led the club in 31 goals, 49 assists and 80 points. He signed a one-year, unrestricted free agent contract for \$525,000.

Saskatoon...

(Continued from page 9)

Other out-of-town entertainment came from the Barveenok Dancers from Prince Albert and the Cheremka Dancers from Hafford. Appearing for the first time at Ukraine Day was Olena Guryn, a young vocalist trained in Ukraine, who sang popular Ukrainian folk songs.

A long-time popular Ukrainian dance band, Golden Melody, provided a stimulating musical interlude during the stage show, and played until 9 p.m. in the Beer Garden. Another musical ensemble, invited as special guests, was Pacarinka Okarina, a five-member folk-music group from Ecuador that was visiting Canada for the summer. When they played their pan flutes and sopilky, closing one's eyes enabled one to easily imagine a Ukrainian Hutsul group was on stage.

Rounding out the schedule of entertainers were the Saskatoon dance groups, the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble, Yevshan Ukrainian Folk Ballet Ensemble, Rushnychok, Boyan, Sonia's, Sonechko, Vesnianka, Saskatoon School of Dance and Leleka.

The stage show concluded with the now-traditional launching of 500 blue and yellow helium-filled balloons that sparkled in the sunshine as they rose into the sky to the stirring patriotic sounds of the song "Ty Moja Ukraina," sung live by Katya Khartova.

Ukraine Day in the Park, a well-known and popular event, is possible only with the support of its sponsors, namely, the New Community Credit Union, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Saskatchewan Provincial Council, Saskatchewan Lotteries and the Shevchenko Foundation, as well as many financial contributors.



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Contact Vira Popel at 732 297-0786 or virapopel@aol.com for more information

Californian walks 2,000 miles for Lviv's Dzherelo Center

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Kurt Schroeder, a former businessman and resident of Los Angeles, completed a 2,000-mile walk from Rome to Santiago de Compostela, Spain, back on May 12. Mr. Schroeder set out on this medieval pilgrimage, known as "El Camino de Santiago de Compostela" or "The Way of St. James," in order to raise money for the operating costs of the Dzherelo Center in Lviv, Ukraine, a rehabilitation and education center dedicated to improving the lives of severely disabled youth.

Mr. Schroeder began his 91-day walk by hearing divine liturgy and receiving the "Blessing of the Pilgrim" at Ss. Sergio and Baccus Church in Rome on February 15. He began the pilgrimage alone, but in Le Puy en Velay, France, the starting point for those intending to make the 1,000-mile version of the pilgrimage, Mr. Schroeder met up with other pilgrims. Over the course of the pilgrimage, these strangers became his "Camino family," a traditional family of pilgrims who walk together to Santiago de Compostela.

Describing his celebration upon arriving in Santiago de Compostela, Mr. Schroeder said, "We sat, we ate, we drank and most importantly, we didn't walk anywhere." He then began planning his next pilgrimage: an eight-month walk from Istanbul to Santiago de Compostela.

After completing the pilgrimage in Santiago de Compostela in Spain with his "Camino Family," Mr. Schroeder continued on for the traditional four additional days to walk to Capo Finestree and then on to Muxia, Spain. There, Mr. Schroeder said, "I left my well-worn boots on the rocks above the sea. After 91 days, my pilgrimage had ended when I had walked as far west and as far north as one can."

Mr. Schroeder chronicled his experience on the Dzherelo website, and his daily diary and photos can be viewed by visiting http://www.projekt-nadija.de/homepage_jakob-sway.html.

Although Mr. Schroeder is not of Ukrainian heritage, he was inspired to become involved with Dzherelo in 1995,

during a trip to Germany. His friend Michael Zaczkiewicz, whose parents are from Ukraine, had organized an annual concert tour of a Ukrainian choir, the proceeds of which went to Dzherelo.

Mr. Schroeder first visited the center for himself in 2001. He met with Zenia Kushpeta, one of the center's founders, and was impressed by the quality and dedication of the Dzherelo programs.

In 2006-2007 Mr. Schroeder and his friend Gerhard Scheuermann of Leistadt, Germany, took part in a shorter version of "The Way of St. James" across Spain and France, to raise money for Dzherelo. The two raised over \$6,000 for the 1,100-mile walk by soliciting donations from sponsors they found among their friends and family.

Having exhausted his friends and family as sponsors, Mr. Schroeder is asking for support from the Ukrainian community to help raise money for Dzherelo. He says he has approached many Ukrainian churches in the United States, but indicates that he feels "the early lack of responses is disheartening." Although he is perusing multiple avenues on behalf of Dzherelo, he has not been able to raise nearly as much for Dzherelo for his latest pilgrimage as he did for his 2006-2007 pilgrimage.

Mr. Schroeder has set up a California 501(c)(3) non-profit organization called "No Man is an Island." Donations to Dzherelo, as well as numerous other charitable causes, can be made to this organization. According to Mr. Schroeder, all proceeds will go directly to the Dzherelo Center.

Pledges can be made by e-mailing Mr. Schroeder at nomanisanislandcharity@gmail.com. Donations can be made by mailing a check made out to No Man is an Island and sent to: No Man is an Island, 3737 S. Durango Ave., Los Angeles, CA, 90034-3314.

For more information about the Dzherelo Center or Mr. Schroeder's contributions to the center, readers may contact the center directly at rhcentre@mail.lviv.ua; or by visiting the center's Ukrainian-language website at www.dzherelocentre.org.ua.

Horsham...

(Continued from page 10)

assistance in putting the festival together. She also thanked Miami Dade Commissioner Sally Heyman for donating the performance stage.

Although the temperature was around 92 degrees, the enthusiastic performers put on a stage show that brought praises from the diverse audience.

A Cuban lady commented, "This is the most wonderful, lively music. I love it. I just want to keep dancing to it." Another woman who identified herself as Russian, but had lived in Ukraine, had tears in her eyes, commented that she misses hearing this music. "I grew up listening to it," she said.

Performers Alla Kutsevych, Andrij Turchin and Andrij Pidkivka, at the last minute substituted for artists from Ukraine who were supposed to headline the program, but due to visa problems could not appear. The three received a warm reception from the audience.

The local, seasoned and well known Ukrainian Dancers of Miami under the direction of Donna Maksymowich-Waskiewicz wore their beautiful costumes,

and in spite of the extreme heat performed a variety of traditional dances. Some of the youngest members of the troupe stole the show.

The Maksymowich Trio entertained with a lovely medley of Ukrainian popular folk songs. The MC noted that the three sisters who hail from South Florida have been invited to perform in several cities in Ukraine at the end of September.

Rusia Osaulenko, a well-known vocalist from Ukraine who now resides in the Miami area, sang several contemporary Ukrainian melodies specifically for the children.

The choir of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church ended the festivities with the hymn "Bozhe Velykyj."

This Ukrainian Independence Day event was coordinated by Ms. Piaseckyj and Dr. Irena Dzubinsky, president of the Ukrainian Cultural-Educational Center of Miami. Mark Odynak prepared the musical arrangements and acoustics for the program. Paul Galadza managed the food concession with the assistance of many volunteers.

Many commented that this first festival was a great success and should be repeated, but definitely during the cooler season.



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Separate anniversary...

(Continued from page 1)

and a state-sponsored September 12 event organized by the Presidential Secretariat and attended by President Yushchenko.

The Presidential Secretariat excluded Mr. Tarasyuk from the organizational committee, and gave the party only 100 invitations for an auditorium with 3,000 seats, denying its request for 1,000 tickets. Mr. Tarasyuk estimated that Rukh currently has 67,000 members.

"We were denied, and instead we know many students were invited to fill seats in the National Ukayina Palace," Mr. Tarasyuk said at a press conference the same day.

Such resentments over a marginal political party, incapable of qualifying for the Ukrainian Parliament on its own, lie in its symbolic role as the nation's original pro-Western, pro-democratic force that threw open the doors to Ukraine's independence in 1991.

Launched in September 1989, the Narodnyi Rukh Ukrayiny za Perebudovu (People's Movement of Ukraine for Perebudova – the Ukrainian word for perestroika) gained election to the Verkhovna Rada of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic in March 1990, formed a parliamentary faction and led Ukrainians toward independence.

Once that was achieved, the renamed Narodnyi Rukh Ukrayiny (People's Movement of Ukraine) didn't become a political party until February 1993.

By then, the party had already reached its peak in influence, squandering its immense political potential and beginning its decline, said Ivan Lozowy, the president of the Institute of Statehood and Democracy, who joined Rukh in March 1991 having recently arrived in Ukraine from his native New York City.

Rukh's leadership declined to nominate its party chairman, Chornovil, as a candidate in the 1994 presidential elections for reasons largely unknown to this day, and the party earned only 9 percent of the vote in the 1998 parliamentary election.

"It was a complete failure of grassroots organization and leadership," commented Mr. Lozowy. "These people were part of a failed project since day one that went downhill and accelerated over time until it splintered. They never gained access to power, and they don't affect anything in society."

Chornovil clung to power for as long as he could and supported the former Communist and former Soviet-era diplomat Hennadii Udovenko as the party's candidate for the 1999 presidential election instead of Yuri Kostenko.

That endorsement resulted in a revolt from which the party never recovered in February 1999, when 30 of Rukh's 48 parliamentary deputies declared Mr. Kostenko their new faction leader instead of Chornovil.

The splinter Ukrainian People's Party led by Mr. Kostenko emerged as a new compet-

itor in the crowded field of national democratic parties.

In May 2003 Mr. Tarasyuk was elected chair of the People's Rukh of Ukraine. He spent most of his diplomatic career climbing the Communist Party ranks, serving as an international relations instructor in the Foreign Affairs Ministry at the time of independence.

"The history of Rukh nowadays is divided into two periods – Chornovil's Rukh, which was always dedicated to Ukraine, and Tarasyuk's Rukh, which has traded in Chornovil's ideals," said Mr. Kendzior, the Lviv Oblast Organization chair and national deputy who became the source of the second major party rift.

He and Mr. Stoiko were evicted from the party on January 25 for insubordination and spreading false information in the mass media. The real reason was their opposition to the party's alliance with the Tymoshenko Bloc and their loyal support for President Yushchenko.

The rift spilled over into 20th anniversary commemorations, which the warring factions marked with events on separate days.

The party's September 6 program began with a ceremonial meeting at the Chornovil monument on Hrushevsky Street, after which 1,500 members began a march through the capital's central streets that eventually swelled to 5,000 participants and extended 2.5 kilometers (1.6 miles).

They descended upon St. Volodymyr Cathedral, where Ukrainian Orthodox Church Patriarch Filaret led a "For Ukraine, For the People" Orthodox moleben. The party held a conference that evening, led by Mr. Tarasyuk and attended by Patriarch Filaret and Prime Minister Tymoshenko.

Ms. Tymoshenko voiced her complete support for Mr. Tarasyuk, which confirmed their alliance. "With such a leader, Rukh can go forward confidently and achieve new victories," she stated.

It's doubtful she wanted a competitor, however. Just two days later, Mr. Tarasyuk called a press conference to announce he was running for the Ukrainian presidency and called upon all patriotic parties to unite around him. He said his candidacy will become official at the party's October congress.

Such declarations don't necessarily mean Mr. Tarasyuk will follow through, and it's unlikely he has the funds to do so, Mr. Lozowy said.

With its support for the Tymoshenko Bloc, Rukh spoiled its relations with President Yushchenko and his Secretariat, which organized a September 12 concert to which Mr. Tarasyuk was not invited. The lifelong diplomat called that an "inadequate attitude" toward the party leadership. He described it as the Presidential Secretariat's latest attempt to split Rukh further.

Ms. Tymoshenko also took a swipe at the president in her September 6 remarks. "From our entire team, I want to offer the warmth of our hearts, the wish for your team's flourishing and strength because

ments and music videos performed by Eurovision star Ruslana, most innocently believe "this could never happen to me." But it does happen, as former victims bear witness, and human rights advocates, journalists and documentary filmmakers take a stand against the "fatal promises" that break the human spirit.

"Fatal Promises," (Greenkat Productions) is being shown at Cinema Village, 22 E. 12th St., New York City, September 24. For showtimes visit www.cinemavillage.com. A special screening at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue) will be held on Thursday, September 24, at 8 p.m. For tickets call 212-288-8660 or visit www.ukrainianinstitute.org. For more information on "Fatal Promises," visit www.fatalpromises.com.



Zenon Zawada

Yaroslav Kendzior (seen here in a 2006 photo) was expelled from the People's Rukh of Ukraine in January for supporting President Viktor Yushchenko. The party has aligned itself with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

when you're near, we feel ourselves surer, and when you're strong in Ukraine, the country feels more hopeful," she said. "I don't want anyone to ever again lift their hand against your unity."

In Mr. Kendzior's view, it was Ms.

Tymoshenko's actions that purposefully split the party. Under Mr. Tarasyuk's leadership, a once influential party is reduced to a supporting role in her political ambitions, he said.

In serving the Tymoshenko Bloc, Mr. Tarasyuk is allowing the prime minister to take votes away from President Yushchenko and take advantage of the Rukh brand, Mr. Kendzior said at a September 9 press conference. Mr. Tarasyuk worked for the KGB and is currently serving the Russian Federation's Federal Security Service (FSB), he alleged.

"It's a tiny internal conflict by people who are trying to divide up nothing," Mr. Lozowy said. "Kendzior has been accused of being a KGB agent as well. Who really cares? They don't have much influence, even in western Ukraine."

The results of Rukh's tragic fate were apparent at the president's ceremony, which was attended by legendary veterans of the Ukrainian independence movement, such as Ivan Drach, Mykhailo Horyn and Pavlo Movchan.

Many of them have moved on, while others like Mr. Tarasyuk, who never were part of the Ukrainian independence movement, have taken their place.

"The enterprise disintegrated and the small remnants that we see today led by Tarasyuk and Kostenko are largely irrelevant," Mr. Lozowy said.

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"Fatal Promises"...

(Continued from page 8)

ciary of a recently smashed trafficking ring in Ukraine that sent over more than 500 women.

Academy award-winning actress and human rights advocate Emma Thompson speaks out against the idea of women as an economic asset and points to the need for a real change to combat the rhetoric and the political corruption surrounding the issue of human trafficking.

Ms. Thompson ends her comments by stating that we "ought not have the 21st century written up as the century that a new slave trade began."

And while it is noted that people in Ukraine are aware of human trafficking through various public service advertise-

To find the missing...

(Continued from page 13)

years to find this out and share it with anyone who might be even vaguely interested.

My cousins Vladek, Zofia, Volodya and I climbed the rickety, old stairs in the tiny archives building that stood on Sanok's main Rynek (Market) Square. I let them do the talking with the civil servants who manned the place, as they asked us to take a seat in the small room with the grammar-school like desks that overlooked the square.

There were several forms to fill out stating who we were, why we came there and agreeing that we wouldn't put the metryky books under our T-shirts as we left. This would have been virtually impossible since a very stern looking staff member always watched us as we did our research.

Finally, two not so large, A-4 (European paper sized) books with hard green covers were placed on the desks in front of us. Inside them a small window quietly opened up that faced deep into the history of all the families of Siemuszowa who had been born, married or died there since 1784. Record No. 1. Mykola Sz wajlyk. Married 1783. Volodya and I plunged into the books immediately. He took marriages and I took births.

In the meantime, a very scholarly looking guy in his mid-20s with very European-looking glasses appeared with a thick packet of photos, copies and a disk. I had e-mailed the Sanok archives a few weeks before our arrival to let them know when I would be there and asked if it was possible to make copies of the metryky records. The archives director replied with a completely incomprehensible bureaucratic answer that made it seem like you would probably need a court order as well as a line of credit to their bank to accomplish this. I gave up thinking about this project and settled into the idea of just taking

copious notes.

So it was a pleasant surprise when the staff researcher plopped the package down on the desk and explained it would be 100 Polish zlotys for their research, the copies and the disk. Since this works out to about \$30 (U.S.) at current exchange rates, it sounded like quite a bargain. The usual hitch was that you could only pay by a funds transfer to their bank account. Cousin Vladek and Zofia came to the rescue and offered to do this immediately while we dug into the books. This had become a real Buryk/Cherepanyak/Romaniuk team effort. Our ancestors would be proud.

While Vladek and Zofia headed off to either their bank or the local post office to send in the payment, I got a chance to go through the research packet. The archives had taken the time to sketch out a family tree from Grandpa Mike Gburyk going back to his great-great-grandparents and listing many of the aunts, uncles and cousins along the way. This was really amazing! And, there were both paper and electronic copies of all this. I was in genealogy heaven.

Since I hadn't made the same request for the Czerepaniak side because my original query by e-mail seemed to be going nowhere, Volodya began some really serious note-taking, probably honed in his university days in Lviv. Two hours flashed by in a second and Vladek and Zofia came back with a receipt for their payment in hand. Unfortunately, since we didn't want to appear to be ungrateful guests by burying ourselves in the archives for the rest of the day (which we could easily have done for the remainder of the week, or the year...), I picked up my research packet while Volodya gathered his notebook and we left the wonderful metryky at the archives and joined the Romaniuks again for another adventure.

My first visit to the Polish archives was definitely just a tiny taste of the Olympics

of genealogy. Volodya and I were on team Ukraine and closing in on the gold. What a sense of satisfaction I felt as I pored over the birth and marriage records of my grandparents, great-grandparents and great-great-grandparents and their siblings and children. It was only scrawly words on very brown pages of a very old book, but somehow I felt much closer to all of them.

Yes, they had all been real people once. They ate, drank, lived and loved like we do now, but this was the only trace of their former presence here in these books. Volodya and I had now seen our family in a way that probably no one had ever seen them before, or might not again. It was a very special day for both of us and I could see it in his face as we left with the Romaniuks to get some lunch at the nearby "karczma," a recreated Lemko village tavern.

At Dwor Szatankiewicz

At around 5 p.m. Vladek and Zofia drove us to their daughter Renata's house about 45 minutes away in Wrobluk. The Romaniuks had once worked there when the house, an old "dwor" from some Polish noble, was part of a rather large collective farm under the Communists. It seems their university education in agronomy had launched their career as staff on the farm.

And, as luck would have it, when the Polish Communists finally threw in the towel like the governments in several other East European countries in the late 1980s, the dwor was sold off to the Romaniuks and the farmland cut up and sold to new farmers. They had lived there for a while in the 1990s, but eventually passed the house along to Renata, Adam and the children.

It was a sprawling two-story house. It was nothing ostentatious, but definitely could easily be a restaurant with a very nice bed and breakfast with much room to spare. It was not quite as elegant as the

Dwor Ostoya, in which I had spent my first night in Poland, but it definitely had potential. Renata and Adam are gradually renovating the place and now live in about 30 percent of it with their children.

We all spent a very enjoyable evening eating Polish delicacies like fat mixed with garlic and some better known items like the ubiquitous Polish ham. Old photos both in print and on Volodya's Mac were passed around and the discussion turned to Vladek's Gburyk grandfather, Iwan, who had been missing in action in France so many years ago. I agreed that I would try to track him down, or rather any trace of his descendants there. I had once come across a Francois Buryk who lived in Brittany in northern France. My letter to him had been returned by the French post office with the word "deceased" stamped in red. But, this search would need to wait for another day.

We headed back in Vladek's car around 8:30 p.m., and as we bounced along the old, narrow Polish roads from Wrobluk to Sanok, we passed dark, flat fields and signs pointing to various town like Barwinek, the birthplace of my maternal grandfather, George Sych. I shot off a quick e-mail to my daughter Alexis to try to capture the moment and share it with her. In the blue glow of my Blackberry in the back seat of Cousin Vladek's car it was all very magical.

Before too long Volodya and I climbed the wide stairs once more to our second floor sanctuary at the Hotel Jagiellonska. It was time to get some rest for my last day in the Sanok lands.

This article is an excerpt from my much longer Sanok/Siemuszowa 2009 travelogue. I would like to hear from readers with family and ancestors from this area of Poland. Please contact me at: Michael.buryk@verizon.net. Copyright Michael J. Buryk 2009 All Rights Reserved.

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Yanukovych and...

(Continued from page 2)

inates in the Kremlin.

Prime Minister Tymoshenko, whose mostly nationally-minded electorate would not forgive her for such statements, courts Russia differently, and she has already secured favors.

She persuaded Prime Minister Putin to allow Ukraine to buy less natural gas than stipulated in the January contracts between Naftohaz Ukrainy and Gazprom. After meeting with her in Poland on September 1, Mr. Putin agreed that Ukraine will pay in 2009 for as much gas as it consumes. The contracts contained a clause according to which Ukraine had to pay for at least 41 billion cubic meters (bcm) of gas in 2009, no matter whether it needed such quantities.

Mr. Putin confirmed that Russia will proceed from the understanding that "the Ukrainian economy consumes as much energy today as it needs." It may need as little as 27 bcm, according to Ms. Tymoshenko (Interfax-Ukraine, September 1).

President Yushchenko estimated that Russia could penalize Ukraine for as much as \$5 billion for the difference. He warned that Ukraine might pay by losing economic and political independence (Inter TV, September 6).

Many observers in both Russia and Ukraine wonder what was behind Mr. Putin's generosity. Kommersant-Ukraine daily reported on September 2 that Ms. Tymoshenko made several commercial offers to Mr. Putin in exchange for the Russian agreement not to penalize Ukraine. According to the daily, Ms. Tymoshenko offered Mr. Putin discounts on gas transit fees, support for Russian banks' expansion into the Ukrainian market and some preferences concerning the

participation of Russian companies in Ukrainian privatization. Also Kommersant-Ukraine cited Ms. Tymoshenko's aide, Oleksander Hudyma, as saying that Ukraine will probably prefer Russia's TVEL to the U.S.-based Westinghouse as partner in building a nuclear fuel plant.

Ms. Tymoshenko denied this, saying that Ukraine will charge 65-75 percent more for Russian gas transit to Europe in 2010 (Kommersant-Ukraine, September 4).

However, President Medvedev apparently disagreed with this and other statements made by Mr. Putin and Ms. Tymoshenko in Poland. He instructed Gazprom head Aleksey Miller not to deviate from the January gas agreements, which provide both for transit fees lower than those promised by Ms. Tymoshenko and for penalties for Ukraine's failure to buy less gas than agreed (RIA Novosti, September 7).

Segodnya, a Ukrainian daily known to support Mr. Yanukovych, tried to explain the apparent disagreement between Messrs. Putin and Medvedev by referring to their preferences in the upcoming election. According to one diplomatic source, Mr. Medvedev prefers Mr. Yanukovych, while Mr. Putin is inclined to support Ms. Tymoshenko (Segodnya, September 8).

Meanwhile, the Russian daily Vedomosti quoted sources in the Russian government as saying that Mr. Putin plans to allot a loan in the range of \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion to Ukraine in order to help Ms. Tymoshenko pay for Russian gas deliveries. The newspaper also quoted a Fitch Ratings analyst warning that the money could be used to support one of the candidates in the upcoming election (Vedomosti, September 8).

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Ukraine's coal...

(Continued from page 2)

miners and is now looking to get to the core of the industry's problem. She announced on September 10 that she intended to pay for the technical modernization of the mines from the state budget for 2010 and from the government's stabilization fund. A sum of 1 billion hryv (\$110 million U.S.) will be earmarked for construction costs and 250 million hryv (\$27.7 million) for renovation (UNIAN, September 10). This, according to the prime minister, will increase coal production in 2010 by 1.5 million metric tons and would gradually rise to 7.8 million tons.

How realistic are Ms. Tymoshenko's plans and projections? With the drastic fall of the Ukrainian hryv in 2009 (from 4 hryvnia to the dollar in 2007, reaching 9 hryv to the dollar this year), the investment figures cited by Ms. Tymoshenko seem to be too little, too late.

This was not the first time that Ms. Tymoshenko has attempted to reform the coal industry. She tried to reform the industry while she was vice prime minister from 1999 to 2001. She was abruptly removed from office in January 2001 by former President Leonid Kuchma, charged with fraud and money laundering, and jailed for several weeks. The charges against her were eventually dismissed.

The coal industry's losses have been growing rapidly and when the Ukrainian steel-making industry collapsed earlier this year, the coal industry saw catastrophic losses. The coking coal industry is a case in point.

For the past decade, successive Ukrainian governments have provided massive subsidies to the coking-coal industry. This policy has been, in fact, a subsidy to the metallurgical industry that provided it with low-cost coke. These subsidies, in turn, led to accusa-

tions of Ukrainian manufacturers dumping steel onto world markets. On her website, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow stated that, "from 1997 through 2000, carbon steel slab imports [into the United States] from key producers have risen dramatically: Brazil up 25 percent; Mexico 13 percent; Russia 106 percent, and Ukraine 542 percent."

However, the troubles in Ukraine's coal industry far surpass those of its other energy sectors:

- 1. Restructuring the coal industry would mean the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs in a politically sensitive region.
- 2. Retraining programs for coal miners are not in place; the prospects for miners performing other jobs are bleak.
- 3. Entire municipalities in the Donbas rely on the coal industry to pay for medical care, schools, public transportation, and other vital infrastructure.

How the Ukrainian government intends to handle this problem is difficult to forecast. Any coal reforms are sure to provoke angry reactions from vested interests in the Donbas and from members of Parliament involved in the metallurgical and energy-generation sectors of the economy.

The Donbas has shown itself willing to raise the specter of territorial separatism in order to maintain existing coal subsidy policies and schemes. The country's eastern regions had also threatened to secede as a possible response to the Orange Revolution demonstrations in Kyiv.

The reality of the threat of separatism remains questionable, but few have any doubts that the owners and managers of the coking coal-coke-metallurgical industries in Ukraine will lobby to prevent the implementation of far-reaching reforms and will continue to use coal as a political weapon.

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Yevshan Ensemble to perform at Washington parish's 60th anniversary

WASHINGTON – On Saturday October 10, at 7:30 p.m., Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Parish will celebrate its 60th anniversary with a concert of Ukrainian liturgical music. The program features the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble of Connecticut.

This event offers a unique opportunity to hear selections from three centuries of sacred choral music in the acoustically rich setting of the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine at 4250 Harewood Road NE, Washington, D.C.

In the Ukrainian Church, whether Orthodox or Greek-Catholic, the role of the choir is to promote an intimate dialogue between the Word of God and the soul of Man. In most Eastern Churches, liturgy is incomplete without music. It is a vital element in the liturgical life of Eastern Christians. The Ukrainian Church has developed a unique fusion of Eastern and Western musical traditions combining classical and folk traditions.

Aware of the challenges that stand before every choir whenever it sings sacred music, the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble devotes considerable time to studying and promoting Ukrainian

folk and classical liturgical music. Its members hail from the state of Connecticut and perform a repertoire of ancient liturgical chants of Eastern Christendom, as well as classical compositions from the 18th through the 21st centuries.

The October 10 program will feature the works of Dmytro Bortniansky, Artem Vedel, Mykola Leontovych, Kyrylo Stetsenko, Yevhen Stankovych and others.

Music Director Alexander Kuzma is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music and Yale University. A native of Hartford, Conn., he is the former director of the Yale Russian Chorus (1974-1977) and has served as a parish choirmaster in Boston (1981-1989), Hartford (1987-1992) and New Haven (1996-2002). From 1996 to the present has served as music director of Yevshan.

Suggested donation for attending the concert is \$15.

On Sunday, October 11, at 10:30 a.m. Yevshan will sing the responses during a pontifical divine liturgy at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family.



The Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble.

Want to see your name in print?

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Preview of events...

(Continued from page 24)

released Ukrainian-language documentary film on the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide in Soviet Ukraine is based on recently uncovered archival documents, eyewitness accounts, interviews with historians and specialists. The documentary is under the patronage of the Ukrainian World Congress. The screening will be held at Holy Trinity Cathedral Auditorium, 154 E. 10th Ave., at 1:30 p.m. For details call Lydia, 604-437 1464.

Sunday, November 1

NEW YORK: The New York Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to "UCU Today & Tomorrow: A Reception, Presentation & Celebration." Enjoy a complimentary sit-down meal as special guests from the Ukrainian Catholic University – including an accomplished vocalist who will perform – update and thank you for the support that allows them to shape souls and educate minds for the good of Ukraine and beyond. The event will take place at the Ukrainian National Home, 140 Second Ave., at 1 p.m. For details contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

Saturday, November 7

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa.: The

Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to "UCU Today & Tomorrow: A Reception, Presentation & Celebration." Enjoy a convivial and informative experience as special guests from the Ukrainian Catholic University – including an accomplished vocalist who will perform – update and thank you for the support that allows them to shape souls and educate minds for the good of Ukraine and beyond. The event takes place at the Basilian Spirituality Center, 710 Fox Chase Road in Fox Chase Manor, Pa. For details, contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

Sunday, November 8

CHICAGO: The Chicago Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to "UCU Today & Tomorrow: A Reception, Presentation & Celebration." Enjoy a convivial and informative experience as special guests from the Ukrainian Catholic University – including an accomplished vocalist who will perform – update and thank you for the support that allows them to shape souls and educate minds for the good of Ukraine and beyond. The event will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. For details contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

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

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

OUT AND ABOUT

- Current through October 4
Toronto

Art exhibit, featuring works by Maria Prymachenko, Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation Gallery, 416-766-6802
- Current through October 31
Rocky River, OH

Art exhibit, "Art & Interiors," featuring works by Anizia Karmazyn, Kevin Steffanni Interior Design Studio, 440-333-3630 (by appointment)
- Current through October 2
Cleveland

Fall Art Show/Sale, Ukrainian Museum-Archives, 216-781-4329
- September 23
Winter Park, FL

Film screening, "Epiphany at Chernobyl" by Irene Zabytko and Peter Mychalcewych, 2009 Global Peace Film Festival, Rollins College, www.globalpeace.bside.com
- September 25
Ottawa

Cocktail evening, "Mambo Ukrainiano," Ukrainian Canadian Professionals and Businessperson Association, Mambo Restaurante, 613-523-7952
- September 25
Toronto

Lvivsky Ball, featuring Burya and Kavalery, Trident Banquet and Convention Center, 416-253-6002
- September 26
Chicago

Uketoberfest, St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral hall, klopitband@yahoo.com
- September 26
Winter Park, FL

Film screening, "Epiphany at Chernobyl" by Irene Zabytko and Peter Mychalcewych, 2009 Global Peace Film Festival, Winter Park Library, www.globalpeace.bside.com
- September 26
New York

Harvest Season Vechornytsi, Ukrainian Wave Community Cultural Initiative, East Village Ukrainian Restaurant, 212-571-1555 ext. 35

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

September 25-27 Wedding weekend	October 9-11 Wedding weekend
September 28-30 Mittenwald Reunion	October 16-18 Plast USA (KP Zyizd)
October 2-4 Carpathian Ski Club (KLK) 85th anniversary celebration	October 24 to be announced
	October 30-November 1 Halloween weekend



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To take advantage of this special offer, just fill out the form below and mail it with a check to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Or, phone The Weekly's Subscription Department at (973) 292-9800, ext. 3042, and charge the subscription to your credit card.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, September 23, and Saturday, September 26

WINTER PARK, Fla.: "Epiphany at Chernobyl," the award-winning film short by Irene Zabytko and Peter Mychalcewycz, will be shown at the 2009 Global Peace Film Festival on Wednesday, September 23, at 8:30 p.m., at Bush Auditorium, Rollins College, and on Saturday, September 26, at 1:15 p.m. in Winter Park Library. For more information log on to http://globalpeace.bside.com/2009/films/epiphanyatchernobyl_globalpeace2009.

Thursday, September 24

NEW YORK, NY: The Ukrainian Institute of America will open its film series with a screening of "Fatal Promises," a documentary on human trafficking told through the personal stories of young Ukrainians and others fallen victim to white slavery, as well as interviews with government officials, experts, activists and reports from the 2008 U.N. GIFT (Global Initiative to Fight Trafficking). The screening will begin at 8 p.m., concluding with conversations with the filmmakers, followed by a reception. General admission: \$15; \$10 for UIA members, seniors and students. The Ukrainian Institute of America is located at 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue). For more information call 212-288-8660.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University will open its sixth season of 2009-2010 with the New York City premiere of "The Fourth Wave" (2008), a new feature documentary by Victoria Melnykova. The Kyiv-born filmmaker is a graduate of the Ivan Karpenko-Karyi University for Film, Theater and Television. She is a recognized filmmaker in her own country and well-known to and liked by the club's audiences in the U.S. and Canada who have seen her earlier films, "Consonance" and "With Best Wishes, Enver." Her new film discusses the reasons and implications of a massive emigration from Ukraine in the last decade. It is a masterfully told and gripping story. The screening will take place at 7:30 p.m. at 703 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University Main Campus. The film will be shown in the original Ukrainian-language version with English subtitles. The event is free and open to the public. Dr. Yuri Shevchuk will introduce the film and mediate the post-screening discussion.

Friday-Saturday, September 25-26

CHICAGO: Uketoberfest will be held at St. Joseph Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. The public is invited to come and enjoy Ukrainian culture, food, beer and fun. The Friday pub night beginning at 8 p.m. will feature performances by Ephyra and Romi Lovel with a DJ after the show. The Saturday program features a festival beginning at 1 p.m. with performances by Ukrayina, St. Andrew Parish, Vyshyvanka Ukrainian Dance Ensembles, School of Boyovyi Hopak. That evening at 9 p.m. there will be a dance to the music of Klopit and Karpatski Zori. Entrance for Uketoberfest: \$5. All proceeds benefit the Parish Renovation Fund. The church is located at 5000 N. Cumberland Ave, Chicago. Call 773-625-4805 for more information.

Saturday, September 26

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Prof. George Gajecky on "The 350th Anniversary of the Battle of Konotop," an unheralded victory of the Ukrainian Kozaks led by Hetman Ivan Vyhovsky over the Muscovite army. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

NEW YORK: The Center for Traditional Music and Dance and Ukrainian Wave present a Harvest Season Vechornytsi (Village Dance Party) at 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Ukrainian East Village Restaurant, 140 Second Ave. (between Eighth and Ninth streets). Enjoy Carpathian mountain music

by the Cheres band, led by Andriy Milavsky, and learn traditional Ukrainian dances with dancemaster Tamara Chernyakhovska. Dance instruction: 7:30-8:15; dance party: 8:30-11. Admission: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. All ages welcome. For further information call 212-571-1555 ext. 35.

Sunday, October 4

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 64 presents "Women in Ukrainian Education," a program featuring a lecture by Prof. George Gajecky who will talk about women who funded education in 17th century Kozak Ukraine. The lecture will include a slide presentation. Lavrentia Turkewicz will perform the traditional koliadka "Murmurs of the Greenwood" to the accompaniment of the bandura. The program will take place at 2 p.m. at the UNWLA Art Gallery, 203 Second Ave., fourth floor, New York, NY 10003. Donation: \$5. The "Life in 17th Century Ukraine" exhibit will also be on view (reproductions). For more information, call 212-260-4490; log on to <http://www.unwla.org>; <http://www.vtkachenko.com/ukrartlitclub>; or e-mail ukrartlitclub@yahoo.com.

Saturday, October 17

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The 2009 Chess Open sponsored by the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada is open to all chess players with any Ukrainian connection. The will be held at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981. Prize fund: \$250, \$100 and \$50; also \$50 for best U2000 and \$50 for best junior under 18. The entry fee is \$25; \$15 for juniors. Registration is at 10:45-11:45 a.m.; rounds will be played at noon, 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Please note: only one 1/2-pt bye available and must be requested at entry. Late arrivals will have to take 1/2-pt bye in first round. For additional info log on to <http://uscak.blogspot.com>.

Sunday, October 18

WINNIPEG, Manitoba: The Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Winnipeg presents the Winnipeg premiere of the recently released Ukrainian-language documentary film "Okradena Zemlya," about the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide in Soviet Ukraine. Produced and directed by award-winning filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy, the film is based on newest archival materials, eyewitness accounts and commentaries by prominent historians, writers and researchers. The screening will be held at the Manitoba Museum Auditorium, 190 Rupert Ave., at 2:30 p.m. The filmmaker will be present. Admission: adults, \$15; students, \$10. Proceeds will go towards an English-language version of the film. The documentary is under the patronage of the Ukrainian World Congress. For information contact Sylvia, 204 586 3445.

Saturday, October 24

PHILADELPHIA: The Ukrainian American Youth Association invites everyone to attend its banquet and ball commemorating the 60th anniversary of its founding. Cocktails are at 5 p.m.; dinner is at 6 p.m. Immediately following the banquet, at 9 p.m., there will be a ball featuring the popular zabava-dance band Hrim from New England. The event takes place at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center at 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa. Admission to the banquet and ball is \$60; \$20 for the ball alone. Deadline for banquet reservations is October 5. For information and advance tickets call Ivan Midzak: 215-745-9838.

Sunday, October 25

VANCOUVER: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Vancouver Branch, Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada and the Ukrainian Studies Foundation of British Columbia will present the Vancouver premiere of "Okradena Zemlya" by award-winning filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy, who will be present at the screening. The newly

(Continued on page 22)