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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Five charged in human trafficking of young migrants from Ukraine

U.S. Department of Justice

WASHINGTON – An indictment unsealed on June 30 in Philadelphia charged Omelyan Botsvyniuk, Stepan Botsvyniuk, Mykhaylo Botsvyniuk, Dmytro Botsvyniuk, and Yaroslav Botsvyniuk, a.k.a. Yaroslav Churuk, with extortion and conspiracy to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) for their alleged involvement in a human trafficking operation, the Justice Department announced.

Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Thomas E. Perez, U.S. Attorney Zane David Memeger of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Janice K. Fedarcyk of the Philadelphia Field Office and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Special Agent-in-Charge John P. Kelleghan announced the indictment.

Four of the Botsvyniuk brothers were arrested on June 30. They are charged with conspiring to engage in a pattern of racketeering activity, from the fall of 2000 through the spring of 2007, by operating a human trafficking organization that smug-

gled young Ukrainian migrants into the United States and forced them to work for the brothers with little or no pay.

According to the indictment, the defendants promised the victims they would earn \$500 per month with free room and board by working for the Botsvyniuk organization. They smuggled the workers into the United States and put them to work as cleaning crews in retail stores, private homes and office buildings without paying them. They used physical force, threats of force, sexual assault and debt bondage to keep the victims in involuntary servitude.

The indictment further alleges that even after some of the victims escaped, the defendants continued with their extortionist activities in order to recoup the organization's investment in the workers. If direct threats failed and the workers did not return or make good on their debts, the Botsvyniuk brothers threatened violence to the workers' families still residing in Ukraine.

In one instance, according to the indictment, Omelyan Botsvyniuk threatened to place a worker's then 9-year-old

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Yanukovich administration moves to control local governments, judges

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The authoritarian inclinations of President Viktor Yanukovich surged forward in recent weeks, submitting more local governments to its direct control, gaining legislation to manipulate the country's judiciary and drafting rules that tilt the October 31 local elections in favor of the Party of Regions of Ukraine.

The new rules forbid the participation of any parties formed less than a year from the election date – a tactic aimed at eliminating the Front for Change, the party formed by former Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk. In addition, Blocs of several parties are forbidden, a move designed to hurt opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko.

"These are anti-democratic, unconstitutional norms with a single political goal of eliminating competitors," said Oleksander Chernenko, the board chairman of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU), which is financed by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

The election legislation, which passed a second parliamentary reading on July 10



Front Zmin
Arseniy Yatsenyuk at a July 8 rally in Odesa organized by the Front for Change to protest a proposed new law on local elections that the party says curtails voters' rights.

and awaits the president's expected signature, is aimed at ensuring that the pro-Russian Party of Regions, led by Mr. Yanukovich, dominates political life in Ukraine both nationally and locally, observers said.

Manipulating elections

Perhaps the most criticized provision of the local elections bill is the new requirement that candidates must belong to a political party in order to compete.

"This is another anti-democratic norm that violates the Constitution, which guarantees the right of any citizen to choose or be chosen," Mr. Chernenko commented.

Indeed, the mayors of Ukraine's biggest cities were elected as independent candidates in the 2006 local elections, including Lviv Mayor (City Council Chair) Andrii Sadovyi, Odesa Mayor Eduard Hurvits, Dnipropetrovsk Mayor Ivan Kulichenko and Zaporizhia Mayor Yevhen Kartashov.

The new requirement is already advancing the Party of Regions goals of domination – Mr. Kartashov joined the Party of Regions on July 10, receiving his party card from President Yanukovich personally, while Mr. Kulichenko is expected to join soon.

Both mayors live in cities where the Party of Regions dominates the oblast and city council governments, and re-election under the new conditions would require the party's support. Meanwhile Mr. Hurvits will face a tough challenge from Odesa's Party of Regions candidate.

"The government hopes to take control of those territories which it doesn't control cur-

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Plast Toronto receives donation of \$5 million building



The new Plast building in Toronto, purchased for \$5 million as a donation from Erast Huculak.

by Bohdan Kolos

TORONTO – Ukrainian Canadian pharmacist and entrepreneur Erast Huculak has donated a \$5 million building to Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's Toronto Branch.

As a proactive leader, Mr. Huculak had been keeping an eye out for something more suitable for Plast members. When he saw a church and property up for sale in West End Toronto, he immediately made inquiries and began the process of negotiations for the purchase. He donated the money for the

purchase of the building – a sum of \$4,987,000 – and now Plast Toronto Branch will start the fund-raising process for adapting and renovating the building to the specific needs of the organization. Plans for the old location on Bloor Street West have not been finalized.

Andrey Genyk-Berezowsky, president of the Toronto Plast branch, said "Mr. Huculak has been an active community leader and a Plast branch president himself, and recognized the specific needs of our organization. We are very grateful for this recognition and

his family's generosity."

Mr. Huculak, speaking for himself and his wife, Yarmila, said: "Our plan was to donate a building to Plast so as to assist in the growth of membership and to make activities more variable and accessible. We want Plast to grow in a facility that has more to offer."

Mr. Huculak stressed that the new Plast building could evolve to become a dynamic center for the whole Ukrainian community in the Toronto area.

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ANALYSIS

Clinton's visit to Ukraine elicits mixed reaction in Kyiv

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's first visit to Ukraine on July 2, left the government satisfied, the opposition puzzled and many questions unanswered.

On the one hand, no major statements were made or documents signed. On the other hand, thanks to Secretary Clinton's visit, Ukraine and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reached an agreement on a new large loan for the country after months of difficult talks. Ms. Clinton paid attention to the issue of the freedom of speech, which shows signs of deterioration under President Viktor Yanukovich, but to the opposition's dismay she abstained from any criticism. Ms. Clinton's pragmatism could not but impress Mr. Yanukovich's pragmatic team.

The secretary of state reiterated Washington's praise for Mr. Yanukovich's decision to abandon highly enriched uranium, which had helped him to establish working relations with the Obama administration (Eurasia Daily Monitor, April 21). She said Ukraine served as an example to other countries, which helped the non-proliferation cause (Ukraina TV, July 3).

Ms. Clinton reacted calmly to the adoption by Parliament of a new foreign policy doctrine which eliminates NATO membership from the list of Kyiv's priorities. By a strange coincidence, this happened just hours before her arrival. Ms. Clinton said NATO's doors would remain open, and it would be for Ukraine to decide what is best for its security (UNIAN, July 2).

Secretary Clinton signaled Washington's readiness to cooperate on energy, saying that

U.S. companies should be interested in cooperation in nuclear energy, oil and gas extraction in the Black Sea and in shale gas projects (www.for-ua.com, July 5). The Yanukovich team will be grateful to Ms. Clinton for this signal to foreign investors. This was very important after a scandal with the U.S. energy company Vanco, which the previous Ukrainian government in 2008 banned from developing hydrocarbon fields in the Black Sea.

Ms. Clinton also apparently sent an important signal to the IMF, pledging support for the Ukrainian government's economic reform plans and urging the IMF and Ukraine to reach an agreement to help an economy emerging from crisis (Ukraina TV, July 3). The agreement was indeed reached immediately after the secretary of state's departure on July 3, consequently Ukraine will receive a much-needed new \$15 billion loan from the IMF, which should help it stabilize national finances and attract investors. The loan will also prompt Mr. Yanukovich to speed up economic reform as this is the IMF's main condition. Vice Prime Minister Sergey Tigipko, who is responsible for reform and is the main negotiator with the IMF, said that Ms. Clinton's visit had played a significant role in talks with the IMF (www.liga.net, July 6).

The opposition wanted Ms. Clinton to focus on the importance of freedom of speech and democracy in general as many fear Ukraine's "Putinization" under President Yanukovich. Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told Secretary Clinton about "the establishment of an authoritarian regime," "censorship," and

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Ukraine's gaffe-prone president

by Irena Chalupa
RFE/RL

Sometimes you can't help but feel sorry for Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich. After all, it just doesn't seem right that someone can be plagued by so much misadventure. Or perhaps it is simply bad luck. Or, perish the thought, a manifestation of a truly limited intellectual capacity.

From the moment he spelled professor with two "f's" on his first presidential candidate declaration, errors of a spelling, grammatical, literary and geographical nature have plagued the poor man.

He has in the past confused the renowned Russian poet Anna Akhmatova with Ukraine's richest man, Rinat Akhmetov; suggested that a future Winter Olympic Games be held in the Ukrainian region of Bukovyna, rather than the Carpathian skiing resort of Bukovel; inadvertently insulted the residents of Lviv by telling them they were the "genocide of the nation" when he meant "gene pool"; and insisted that Anton Chekhov was a Ukrainian poet.

These gaffes continue into his presidency.

Recently, Mr. Yanukovich hosted the president of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa, and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. He and his handlers managed to make mistakes during both meetings.

Rather than stand with respect during the playing of the Sri Lankan anthem, Mr. Yanukovich led Mr. Rajapaksa to inspect the military honor guard while the

anthem was being played.

At the business forum co-chaired by both presidents, the backdrop of the forum contained not one, not two, but three spelling mistakes. One in Ukrainian, one in English and one in the Ukrainian president's name, which for some mysterious reason was spelled with an "i" – Yanukovich – rather than the customary "y." The Ukrainian word equivalent of the backdrop sign for "His Excellency" contained a Russian letter, while the word "co-chaired" in English was missing a crucial "e."

The latest victim of Mr. Yanukovich's confusion was Hillary Clinton. Her much-awaited Central European and Caucasus tour began on July 2 in Kyiv, where the Ukrainian president referred to her as "general-secretary." This he did twice.

"I am grateful, esteemed madam general-secretary, to you and to President [Barack] Obama for your warm words," and, "Today's meeting with the general-secretary confirmed the readiness of both sides to deepen our relations..."

Only when he returned to prepared notes did he call her by her correct title, never once realizing his previous mistake.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Kyiv: no alternative to IMF

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov, while opening a government meeting on July 14, said that the conditions of lending from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were rather difficult, but financial support would help Ukraine withstand the negative impact of global phenomena in the economy. Mr. Azarov said that, in negotiations with the IMF, the Ukrainian government had defended its vision of a way out of crisis, as well as measures on the social protection of the population, "but the creditor's position is always stronger than that of a weak country that needs support." The prime minister also noted that it was in Ukraine's interests to reduce the budget deficit to 5 percent in 2010 and to 3.5 percent in 2011 so as not to live in debt. He said that the Cabinet of Ministers would increase the amount of subsidies for citizens required for the payment of public utility services due to a rise in natural gas prices for the population. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich fails to strengthen powers

KYIV – Allies of President Viktor Yanukovich failed on July 10 to push through changes to the Constitution of Ukraine that could significantly boost his political power. The Verkhovna Rada began debate on July 9 on a proposal by the Party of Regions that would provide for a nationwide referendum on whether curbs on presidential powers agreed upon in 2004 should be lifted. If the curbs were lifted, Mr. Yanukovich could head a presidential system similar to that of many other former Soviet states, including Russia, with the right to name government ministers. Among those opposed to the proposal were deputies of the Communist Party and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc. Further debate was postponed to September. (Kyiv Post, Reuters)

Medvedev: Russia-Ukraine ties improved

KYIV – Russian President Dmitry Medvedev congratulated his Ukrainian counterpart, Viktor Yanukovich, on his 60th birthday during a telephone conversation that took place at Moscow's initiative

on July 8, the Russian presidential press service said. "You will need all of your political and life experience, your knowledge and energy at the high post of the president of Ukraine and in the cause of strengthening Ukraine's statehood today. I wish you all the best," Mr. Medvedev told Mr. Yanukovich. "Cooperation between our countries has recently received powerful impetus largely thanks to your fundamental position as a staunch supporter of equal and mutually beneficial cooperation between Russia and Ukraine." Joint efforts have also managed to give a new quality to the two countries' dialogue at the highest level, he added. "The mechanism of the interstate commission has been set in motion. An environment has been created that is conducive to promoting trade and business relations and to implementing major investment projects. Contacts between Russia and Ukraine within the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as on key issues on the regional and international agenda have been intensified. I am confident that all this will allow us to fulfill the potential of the Russian-Ukrainian strategic partnership more effectively for the benefit of the fraternal people of our countries, as well as for the benefit of security in Europe and around the world," Mr. Medvedev said. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Putin's birthday wishes to Yanukovich

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich, who turned 60 on July 9, received best wishes from Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, who noted in his greetings the Ukrainian leader enjoys "great respect as a responsible, consistent and purposeful politician, a wise and experienced leader who can solve difficult tasks the Ukrainian state is currently facing." Mr. Putin assured Mr. Yanukovich that Russia highly appreciates his "efforts to strengthen the friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries," noting that "their further all-around development undoubtedly meets the fundamental interests of the fraternal peoples." Mr. Putin wished the Ukrainian president good

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Clinton concludes 'reassurance' tour of Russia's neighbors

by RFE/RL

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has concluded a five-day, five-country tour of Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus meant to impart a critical message: we haven't forgotten you.

On July 2 in Ukraine, Secretary Clinton told Ukrainians they could "count on the support and friendship of the United States" as they "chart your own course toward your own future."

Two days later in Azerbaijan, she said Washington was "committed to helping you and your fellow citizens build a prosperous, independent, democratic, sovereign Azerbaijan."

Closing out her trip on July 5 in Georgia, Secretary Clinton pledged to "do everything we can to assist our partners, inside and outside the Georgian government, as they strive to strengthen democratic institutions and processes."

With her repeated vows of support, she appeared to be attempting what could be called a "readjustment to the 'reset'" – a pledge that the United States could be friends with Russia without abandoning its smaller allies in the region.

Chiding Moscow

It's a delicate balancing act. Secretary Clinton – who lashed out at Russia's "occupation" of Georgia's breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and signed a deal with Polish officials on a missile-defense shield that has raised Kremlin hackles – has already provoked an angry response from Moscow.

The Russian Foreign Ministry on July 6 dismissed the U.S. defense shield – a plan Washington says will protect its European allies from Iranian missiles – as unfounded.

On July 5 Prime Minister Vladimir Putin had defended his country's role in "liberating" South Ossetia in the August 2008 war. He also chided Georgian officials about turning to outsiders for help in what he said was essentially a bilateral issue.

"Some believe that it has been occupied, but others think that it has been liberated," Mr. Putin said. "It is the subject of dialogue between the Georgian people and the South Ossetian people, and they should conduct this dialogue without referring to third parties."

Warmer abroad

Despite the heated rhetoric, however, ties between Washington and Moscow have grown unmistakably warmer during the past year, marked by renewed cooperation on both the bilateral and foreign policy fronts.

Matthew Rojansky, deputy director of the Russia and Eurasia Program at the Carnegie Endowment, a Washington-based think tank, says the Kremlin's response to Secretary Clinton's statements doesn't indicate a setback in relations.

"I don't read a tremendous amount into it. Just like with the spy scandal, for example, the Russians are going to be obligated to maintain face – to express a certain level of dissatisfaction with anything that doesn't jive with what they have long pursued as their policies," Mr. Rojansky said. "But by the same token, what are they doing?"

Working with the United States on issues ranging from Iran sanctions to support for Kyrgyzstan, he says.

Moreover, ties between Moscow and many of its former satellites have warmed as well.

Ukraine, which this year elected Viktor Yanukovich to the presidency, is no longer the bastion of anti-Moscow opposition it was under Viktor Yushchenko. Poland, after years of rabble-raising against

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's mission was to re-establish a channel for dialogue with the United States that runs more parallel than counter to Moscow's own.

Russia's resurgent authority, has likewise cooled its resentment in favor of friendly dialogue.

And oil-rich Azerbaijan, whose ties to Washington have soured over U.S. attempts to forge a Turkish-Armenian reconciliation, has turned to Moscow as its preferred mediator in its prolonged impasse with Yerevan over Nagorno-Karabakh.

In each of these countries, Secretary Clinton's mission was to re-establish a channel for dialogue with the United States that runs more parallel than counter to Moscow's own.

Looking for progress

Officials and observers in the region are reacting to the U.S. Secretary of State's visit with a mixture of admiration and frustration.

In Azerbaijan, Mehman Aliyev, who directs the Turan news agency and serves as the chairman of the Azerbaijani branch of the Open Society Institute, says that Secretary Clinton's trip signaled that Baku was willing to accept some responsibility for improving the country's human rights record.

Mr. Aliyev says that before the Clinton visit, U.S.-Azerbaijani relations "were in crisis." He says that, "in its previous messages," Washington referred to problems that it said were political, related to the lack of democratic reforms, the lack of freedom of speech and human rights. I think the Azerbaijani government accepted part of that criticism, and that's why the visit was made. Secretary Clinton came to Baku to hear from Azerbaijani officials that they are going to undertake those reforms. I think [the U.S.] political message is still valid; we'll see in future elections."

But Secretary Clinton was notably muted in her criticism of Azerbaijan's human rights record, which includes near-daily attacks on the few remaining members of the country's free press – including Eynulla Fatullayev, the imprisoned editor of the independent Realny Azerbaijan, who one day after her visit was given an additional 30-month sentence on drug charges.

Noting a separate case – that of Emin Milli and Adnan Hajizada, two bloggers who have been jailed after their political commentaries angered officials in Baku – the U.S. secretary of state said she and President Barack Obama had received "many letters" about the case.

But she went on to speak generally about "the kinds of issues which every society has to deal with," and praised Azerbaijan for the "considerable progress" it had made.

Thawing out Karabakh

In both Azerbaijan and Armenia, Secretary Clinton appeared intent on focusing on the two countries' protracted

dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh, a largely ethnic-Armenian enclave located within Azerbaijan's territory.

Talks on Nagorno-Karabakh have remained at an impasse despite more than 15 years of international mediation. The frozen conflict has shown signs of heating up in recent weeks, with four ethnic Armenian troops and an Azeri soldier killed in an exchange of fire close to the territory.

Speaking in Yerevan, the secretary of state condemned the violence as "unacceptable violations" of the 1994 cease-fire agreement that ended open hostilities there, and said the United States "would hope to see real progress" toward a final peace settlement.

Secretary Clinton also used the Yerevan leg of her journey to push the stumbling issue of Turkish-Armenian rapprochement back onto the agenda, saying "the ball was in [Turkey's] court" to revitalize the talks and reconsider opening the border between the two countries.

Her comments were warmly welcomed by officials like Eduard Sharmazanov, a senior lawmaker and spokesman for Armenia's ruling Republican Party, who said the remarks were "a message to Turkey that in these relations the United States backs Armenia and agrees with Armenia's estimations that Turkey is unconstructive and speaks the language of preconditions."

Resolution of Nagorno-Karabakh and normalization of ties between Yerevan and Ankara would both be big-ticket achievements for U.S. foreign policy.

But Levon Zurabian, a member of the opposition Armenian National Congress, said he was disappointed that those high-profile issues had squeezed domestic concerns like civil liberties and democratic reforms off Secretary Clinton's to-do list.

"I think that the visit mainly focused on the Karabakh issue. Indirect evidence of this was the fact that while U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton did meet with the oppositions in Ukraine and Georgia, she did not have similar meetings in either Azerbaijan or Armenia," Mr. Zurabian said.

"In my opinion, the explanation for this is that, as a mediator in the Armenian-Azerbaijani negotiations on the Karabakh settlement, the United States is trying to



U.S. State Department

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko visit the Holodomor memorial in Kyiv.

do everything not to cause the displeasure of either Ilham Aliyev or Serzh Sarkisian in their dealings with the oppositions. Therefore, this shows that political issues in both Armenia and Azerbaijan have been pushed to the background for the United States. For them [the United States], it is more important to achieve serious results in the Karabakh settlement," he said.

Welcome in Tbilisi, mostly

It was Secretary Clinton's final stop, Georgia, where she was likely most warmly welcomed. Tbilisi under President Mikheil Saakashvili has been a staunch friend of the United States, contributing troops to Iraq and Afghanistan even as U.S. support for the country appeared to wane.

Secretary Clinton's sharply worded critique of Russia's "occupation" and her pledge of "steadfast" U.S. commitment to Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity no doubt came as music to the ears of

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Quotable notes

"[In the former Soviet empire], Freedom House's Christopher Walker reported, the news is 'very grim.' Freedom eroded over the past year in 14 of 29 countries that were once part of the Soviet Union or the Warsaw Pact. Eleven of the 12 non-Baltic former Soviet republics are worse off than a decade ago. 'No country in the region has undergone a sharper decline than Russia,' he said – and in the 12th, Ukraine, a newly elected government has been relentlessly pushing in the wrong direction the past few months.

"It is 'remarkable,' Walker observed, that 20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall such 'structural authoritarianism' has embedded itself so deeply. And it matters to the United States and other democracies, he suggested, because it is hard to imagine fruitful, sustained cooperation with nations that 'operate on coercion and caprice.' ..."

– Fred Hiatt, editorial page editor of *The Washington Post*, writing in his July 5 column titled "Around the world, freedom is in peril."

Ukrainian National Credit Union Association holds annual meeting

by Orysia Burdiak

YONKERS, N.Y. – The Ukrainian National Credit Union Association (UNCUA) held its 29th annual meeting June 11-12 at the Ukrainian Youth Center in Yonkers, N.Y. Some 40 representatives of 15 Ukrainian American credit unions gathered to discuss current issues facing credit unions and to elect a new board of directors.

The association conducted its annual general meeting on Saturday, June 12, with reports by management and committees, as well as the election of board members for the 2010-2011 term. UNCUA Chairman Bohdan Watral and President Orysia Burdiak reported on the current status of the association.

As of December 31, 2009, assets of the 16 UNCUA member credit unions totaled \$2.507 billion, with reserves and undivided earnings totaling \$358 million. Member deposits totaled \$1.963 billion, with \$1.458 billion total loans issued in 2009. A total of 105,211 individuals are members of Ukrainian American credit unions in the U.S. (down by 1,277 individuals from 2008).

Despite the recession in 2009, Ukrainian American credit unions contributed nearly \$4 million in support of community organizations, once again emphasizing the tremendous impact of credit union membership on the development of Ukrainian American communities.

SUMA Yonkers Federal Credit Union hosted the conference and annual meeting, commencing with a welcoming reception on Thursday evening, June 10, at its corporate headquarters built in 2003.

On Friday the delegates were welcomed by Mr. Watral, UNCUA chair and CEO of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (Chicago).

Greetings were then delivered by Ihor Laszok, president of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives and board member of Selfreliance Ukrainian American FCU, Walter Kozicky, CEO of SUMA Yonkers Federal



Delegates representing 15 Ukrainian American credit unions at the conference and annual meeting of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association in Yonkers, N.Y.

Credit Union; Anatoli Murha, president of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and board member of Ukrainian Future Credit Union (Warren, Mich.), Oleh Karawan, board member of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation and Selfreliance Ukrainian American FCU, as well as representatives of the press.

Presentations on topics of interest to the credit union

leaders followed. Tun Wai, Ph.D., chief economist of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions, spoke on the current state of the economy, and Michael Fryzel, board member of the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), provided the delegates with an update.

The special guest speaker was Eugene Czolij, president of the Ukrainian World Congress, whose topic was "The Work of the Ukrainian World Congress: Defending the National Interests of the Ukrainian People and Linking Ukrainians Around the World."

A banquet held that evening was attended by such distinguished guests as Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, eparch of Stamford, Conn.; Consul Bohdan Movchan of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York; Ambassador Yuriy Sergeev, permanent representative of Ukraine to the United Nations; and Tamara Gallo Olexiy, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Czolij, who received a standing ovation. The UWC leader also awarded several credit unions with certificates for their contributions to the world body: Self Reliance New York FCU, Selfreliance Ukrainian American FCU, SUMA Yonkers FCU, Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU (Philadelphia), and Self Reliance (NJ) FCU (Clifton).

The 2010 credit union calendar illustrating stamps of Ukraine was well received by the membership. Over 31,000 calendars were distributed to credit union members. Lew Mykola Hryhorczuk, Ph.D., vice-chair of Ukrainian Selfreliance Michigan FCU, authored the

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\$10.00	Nicholas Butovich	Lake Ariel, PA
	Don Stefan Fontana	Pittsburgh, PA
	Cathy Kizyma	Oxford, MI
	Makar Kopanycia	Trenton, NJ
	Natalie Kornowa	Toledo, OH
	Ted Kowalchyn	Scotch Plains, NJ
	Bohdan Kuropas	Hickory, NC
	Roman and Stacy Leskiw	Farmington, CT
	Olga Luck	Takoma Park, MD
	Boris Onufreiczuk	Wathchung, NJ
	Bohdan Pestrak	Whitestone, NY
	Larissa Sawka	Des Plaines, IL
	Irene Szymanskyj	Schiller Park, IL
	Mary Tershakovec	Millburn, NJ
	Jaryna Turko-Bodrock	Cambridge, MA
\$5.00	Z. Golia	Suches, GA
	Merle and Bonnie Jurkiewicz	Toledo, OH
	O. Kowerko	Chicago, IL
	Daniel Krysa	Pompano Beach, FL
	George Krywolap	Catonville, MD
	Sam Liteplo	Brooklyn, NY
	Eugenia Podolak	Lehigh, PA
	Vera Pohoreckyj	Lynbrook, NY
	Kornel Senyk	Warren, MI
	Natalie Skorupa	Cardington, OH
	Chrystia Sonevytsky	Arlington, VA
	Alexander Switowy	Aurora, CO
	O. Terleckyj	Warren, MI

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At the conference (from left) are: Walter Kozicky, UNCUA board member and host of the 2010 annual meeting; Michael Fryzel, National Credit Union Administration board member; and Bohdan Watral, UNCUA chair.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

“Ukraine lives,” says Volodymyr Serhijchuk at Chicago district event

CHICAGO – Speaking to some 50 attendees at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago on June 19, University of Kyiv history Prof. Volodymyr Serhijchuk was reassuring in his comments. “The recent election of President Viktor Yanukovich does not mean all is lost,” he declared.

The professor’s optimism was based on his appreciation for the traditional role of Ukraine’s university students. “Students have always been in the forefront of Ukraine’s revolutionary struggle,” Prof. Serhijchuk explained, “whether at the Battle of Kruty in 1918, or in the Orange Revolution of 2005. Students today are no different. I know them. I work with them everyday. They may not be protesting openly right now, but they do care. Young people will mourn and lick their wounds for a brief period, but they will not go away. They will not be denied. Revolutionary energy in Ukraine has always been quiescent until the proper moment.”

“Like most Ukrainians, students

became disillusioned with President [Viktor] Yushchenko when he didn’t fulfill his promises,” explained Prof. Serhijchuk. “Among other things, the president promised to end corruption and put the crooks in jail. He didn’t. Compare his actions with those of Georgian President [Mikhail] Saakashvilli suggested Prof. Serhijchuk. “Corrupt police officers were jailed in Georgia. Corruption was addressed.”

President Yushchenko waited until too late in his term of office to honor Stepan Bandera, Prof. Serhijchuk believes. Had he done so early on, the Ukrainian people would have accepted the idea by now; it wouldn’t be a lingering problem. In addition, President Yushchenko ignored his base. For example he didn’t meet, for example, with the students or professors who supported him so vigorously on the “maidan” – Kyiv’s Independence Square – in 2005.

President Yanukovich is not as powerful as many people believe, Prof. Serhijchuk stated. He said he would



Lesia W. Kuropas

Prof. Volodymyr Serhijchuk, seen above during his appearance in Chicago, is flanked by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas (right) and Stefko Kuropas.

revoke the Bandera and Roman Shukhevych recognitions. He hasn’t. “I believe he is slowly beginning to realize that he is president of Ukraine, not of Russia. The pro-Russian bloc in Ukraine is trying to take advantage of the present uncertainty, but their influence is waning.”

Ukraine’s current opposition is still in a state of flux. The only viable opposition leader at the present time is Yulia Tymoshenko, according to Prof. Serhijchuk.

Responding to criticisms from some attendees that Ukrainians in Ukraine can’t unite, Prof. Serhijchuk suggested that the diaspora didn’t do much better. Congratulating the diaspora for developing a Ukrainian elite during Soviet times, Prof. Serhijchuk bemoaned the fact that the ideological squabbles in North America were later transported to Ukraine. “The diaspora didn’t set a good example of unity,” noted Prof. Serhijchuk, “despite more favorable circumstances. Now, unfortunately, the people of Ukraine have a rather low opinion of the diaspora.”

The Serhijchuk presentation, second in

a 2010 series sponsored by the Chicago District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association – with significant assistance from Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union – was organized to provide the 116-year-old fraternal organization with greater exposure in the Chicagoland area.

“The UNA has more advantages on the east coast,” stated Stefko Kuropas, former UNA vice-president and Chicago District Committee chairman. “The UNA headquarters in New Jersey, combined with Soyuzivka in New York state, provide the kind of fraternal visibility which we in the Midwest can only dream about. We hope occasions such as these will help restore our presence in Chicago. We plan still another event in the fall.”

He added, “We are grateful to Walter Tun and Selfreliance Federal Credit Union for their assistance in this important endeavor.”

The UNA event ended with Prof. Serhijchuk selling and autographing a number of copies of the English translation of his best-selling book “Ukrainian Contributions to the World.”

Soyuzivka’s Misio visits with youngest campers



Anya Tershakovec Tomko

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Soyuzivka’s popular Misio the bear paid a visit to the “Tabir Ptashat,” the Plast day camp for children age 4-6, on Thursday, July 1. He is seen here with some of the little campers, with whom he shared activities such as games and all-around fun at Soyuzivka. The campers thanked Misio by singing him camp songs. Misio visited the second tour of “Tabir Ptashat” on Thursday, July 7. The lovable bruin will also be visiting other camps at Soyuzivka during the summer season.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Twenty years of sovereignty

On July 16, 1990, at 10:08 a.m. Kyiv time, the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR voted overwhelmingly (355 for, four against) to approve the Declaration on State Sovereignty of Ukraine, proclaiming the “supremacy, independence, fullness and indivisibility of the republic’s authority within the boundaries of its territory and its independence and equality in external relations.”

Our editorial of July 22, 1990, underscored that, in so doing, the country’s Parliament had “stressed the republic’s intention of controlling its own affairs in all spheres of activity, ranging from the economy, the environment and the military to cultural development and international relations.” The declaration also was notable for its references to guarantees of individual rights and freedoms to all the people of Ukraine, as well as to Ukraine as an “equal participant in international affairs.”

The declaration referred to the “Ukrainian nation’s inalienable right to self-determination” and clearly stated that the people of Ukraine “are to determine their own destiny, they alone are to be the masters of their land.” Thus, it unequivocally asserted Ukraine’s sovereignty vis-à-vis Moscow, even at a time when a referendum on a new union treaty was forthcoming. It was, to put it succinctly, a crucial step toward the complete independence of Ukraine, which followed just over a year later, on August 24, 1991, and it laid the groundwork for the adoption of a new Constitution in 1996.

On that historic day back in 1990, Vyacheslav Chornovil, then the leader of the National Council of deputies from the Democratic Bloc (whose members controlled a third of the seats in the Supreme Soviet), sagely commented: “On July 16 the people rejoiced as children would; some of them may not understand that this declaration is just a sheet of paper, our work is just beginning.” He was right, of course, as the ensuing years demonstrated. All along, however, Ukraine was moving – under Presidents Leonid Kravchuk, Leonid Kuchma and Viktor Yushchenko – in one primary direction, aiming to take its rightful place among the nations of Europe, as a lawful, democratic, peace-loving and respected state.

Fast forward 20 years. The administration of President Viktor Yanukovich is now undoing much of what has been accomplished by Ukraine during the last two decades. Readers of this paper, we are sure, have followed with great interest the reports filed from Ukraine by our own full-time correspondent in Kyiv, Editor Zenon Zawada. And the news is not good.

One of the most dangerous steps taken by the new administration in Ukraine was the signing of the Kharkiv agreements that extended the leasing of a naval base to Russia’s Black Sea Fleet for 25 years beyond the expiration of the temporary leasing arrangement due to end in 2017. In fact, the deal violated the Constitution of Ukraine (Article 17), which bans foreign military bases on Ukrainian territory. President Yanukovich hailed the agreement, in exchange for which Ukraine receives a discount on gas prices, as “unprecedented.” What most other observers, including this newspaper, saw was an unprecedented betrayal and a surrender of Ukraine’s sovereignty.

And then there is the economic angle. Here, too, Russia is exerting its, ahem, influence. One of the most egregious examples is Russian gas giant Gazprom’s insistence on a merger with Naftohaz Ukrainy – an idea apparently originally proposed by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. More recently, Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller told company stockholders that a merger of Gazprom and Naftogaz is “a historically predetermined step. The gas transportation systems of Gazprom and Naftohaz constitute a single complex functioning closely with each other.” And then there is Russia’s expressed interest in Ukraine’s nuclear energy industry, aviation production and other sectors of the economy.

Add to this the return of Russian intelligence services to Ukraine and Ukraine’s re-engagement in the Commonwealth of Independent States, plus such statements as Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail Zurabov’s assertion that Russians and Ukrainians “are not simply fraternal peoples, but a single people.”

Clearly, Ukraine’s sovereignty is threatened.

Indeed, James Sherr, the highly respected analyst at Chatham House in London, said in a May 30 interview with the Kyiv Post: “With his opening moves – with the Kharkiv accords alone – Yanukovich has reversed the entire direction of Ukraine’s development since 1991.” He also warned: “...for Russia, Ukraine’s independence is an historical aberration. As long as Russia feels it holds the cards – and that is exactly the way it feels right now – it will not let up the pressure until it feels it has succeeded in reducing Ukraine’s independence to a purely decorative state.”

And that, Dear Readers, is something to ponder as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Ukraine’s Declaration on State Sovereignty.

WINDOW ON EURASIA

Gorbachev ordered Shcherbytsky to hold parade after Chernobyl

by Paul Goble

Revelations about the Soviet past are not coming as thick and fast now as they did during glasnost and the Yeltsin years, but two recent reports about events in the USSR after the death of Stalin appeared that deserve to be noted because of the light they shed not only on the past but on the possible impact now and in the future.

The first of these concerns what happened in Ukraine following the Chernobyl accident. Olga Shcherbytska, the daughter of the first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine, gave an interview in which she described the pressure Mikhail Gorbachev and Moscow generally put on her father after the Chernobyl accident (www.nr2.ru/kyiv/289242.html/print/).

She told the Ukrainian newspaper Novaya that “after the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, Moscow experts came to Kyiv and told [her] father that there was no danger. An explosion had happened but it wasn’t anything terrible. One of the experts said that he was ready to lie down alongside the reactor and even put his grandson there.”

Volodymyr Shcherbytsky, his daughter continued, “was guided by the opinion of Moscow because such important specialists spoke that way about the security” of the plant. But then, she continues, there arose the question of whether to hold the May Day demonstration as scheduled given reports of widespread radiation.

“Father explained the situation to Gorbachev and said that there was a great danger of radiation and that it would be

Paul Goble is a long-time specialist on ethnic and religious questions in Eurasia who has served in various capacities in the U.S. State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the International Broadcasting Bureau, as well as at the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He has also been director of research and publications at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, vice-dean for the social sciences and humanities at Audentes University in Tallinn and a senior research associate at the EuroCollege of the University of Tartu in Estonia. Mr. Goble writes a blog called “Window on Eurasia” (<http://window-neurasia.blogspot.com/>). This article above is reprinted with permission.

better not to conduct the May Day demonstration in the [Ukrainian] capital. To this Mr. Gorbachev responded,” she said, “panic is beginning in the republic, and this must not be allowed in any case.”

“If you allow it,” the Soviet leader told Mr. Shcherbytsky, “put your party ticket on the table...” You can imagine what this would have meant for [her] father,” Ms. Shcherbytska said. It would have been “like death.” As a result, the demonstration went forward, but it was kept short and Mr. Shcherbytsky left his grandsons at home.

In the current context, the Shcherbytska interview will serve as a reminder to many Ukrainians of the cavalier way that Moscow treated them even during the period of glasnost and perestroika, and it should serve as an indication to those in the West who hold Mr. Gorbachev up as a great humanist that at least at the time of Chernobyl, he was anything but.

The second recent report concerns an earlier event, one that has been surrounded by murkiness for more than 50 years. Lt. Gen. Vadim Volkovitsky, the chief of staff of the Russian air force, said that the late Marshal Pavel Batitsky had “personally executed” secret police chief Lavrenty Beria in 1953 (vz.ru/news/2010/6/23/412857.html).

Mr. Volkovitsky’s comment came at a commemoration of the centennial of Batitsky’s birth. The current air force commander said that “not without basis, Batitsky is called the best commander of the anti-aircraft forces of all times,” but he continued, “it is not less well known for one affair – in 1953, Batitsky personally carried out the sentence of Beria.”

In 1953 Batitsky was the deputy commander of the Moscow military district, and his possible role in the execution of the widely hated secret police chief, whom the Soviet military may have hated as much as any other group, had been suggested before. But Lt. Gen. Volkovitsky’s statement is perhaps the most authoritative declaration of this.

And given the tensions at the present time between the Russian officer corps, on the one hand, and the FSB-dominated Russian government, on the other, his reference to that long ago event may exacerbate the anger of the former against the latter and intensify the concerns of the latter about the attitudes of the former as well.

July
21
2004

Turning the pages back...

Six years ago, on July 21, 2004, the bipartisan leadership of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) issued a response to a declaration signed by nine members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, criticizing

the organization for being unable to adapt to the changing political and security environment.

The text, signed by the presidents of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, was presented to the OSCE Permanent Council earlier in July 2004 by Alexy Borodavkin, ambassador of Russia to the OSCE. Azerbaijan and Georgia declined to sign and Turkmenistan did not participate.

The U.S. Helsinki Commission – then led by Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.), chairman; Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), co-chairman; Rep. Benjamin Cardin (D-Md.), House ranking member; and Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.), Senate ranking member – responded to each of the nine presidents who signed the declaration.

The commission noted that three of the signatories, the presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, actually signed the original Helsinki Final Act document when

(Continued on page 21)

Yanukovich pens letter to Obama to call for strategic partnership

RFE/RL

WASHINGTON – A foreign policy adviser to Viktor Yanukovich says he will deliver a letter to U.S. President Barack Obama written by the Ukrainian president that calls for a strategic partnership regardless of the broader geopolitical climate.

Andriy Fialko was speaking at a panel discussion on July 13 on Ukraine’s future at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think-tank. He said he planned to deliver the letter the following day.

“I set myself an ambitious task – that the Ukrainian-American strategic partnership becomes a kind of a national consen-

sus in both countries. That irrespective of who is in power, irrespective of what the geopolitical situation is, or the internal situation, this is a priority to be pursued in both countries by all political parties,” Andriy Fialko quoted from the letter.

Many observers in the United States have expressed concern at Ukraine’s seemingly rapid realignment with Russia since President Yanukovich came to power in February, highlighted by the scrapping of the country’s efforts to join NATO.

Nonetheless, on a visit to Ukraine earlier this month, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said that “NATO’s door remains open to Ukraine.”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Special treats in July 4 issue

Dear Editor:

In the July 4 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly I found two special treats. One was Andrew Fedynsky's "Glorious summertime," which evoked some nice memories of my own first trip to Europe.

Like Mr. Fedynsky, I started in "anything goes Amsterdam," and ended up in a police state (Ceaurescu's Romania) where paranoia was mitigated mostly by the American passport I carried and partly by the bravado of youth (we all thought it was screamingly funny to invite our "police escort" to pose for photos with us).

Instead of a VW, my travel companions and I had a Peugeot; instead of slabs of cheese, we drove around with plastic bags of "bryndzia," gifts from Ukrainian villagers whose villages happened to sit on the Romanian side of the border shared with Soviet Ukraine. Our "hotel" was a tent bought in Poland; sometimes the villagers let us sleep in their barn lofts, which we shared with chickens.

And while I don't think I could ever travel like that again, it's nice to have such good adventures to think back on and interesting to reflect on the changes in Eastern Europe since those days.

The other article that caught my fancy was Roma Lisovich's wonderful piece about the pre-Soyuzivka history of Soyuzivka. This diaspora kid spent most summers at the beach and only a few stray weekends at Soyuzivka, but I found Ms. Lisovich's story fascinating – all that delicious gossip about all those interesting folks made for a fantastic read. I am hoping for a Part II.

Thanks to both authors.

Tamara Stadnychenko-Cornelison
Abington, Pa.

Why did we protest in D.C.?

Dear Editor:

What did the demonstration on June 24 in Washington accomplish? Why did the Ukrainian American diaspora demonstrate in front of Russian Federation Embassy? To unload their frustration? For photo ops? Speeches and honking horns? Was there any indication of Ukrainian citizens demonstrating in front of the Russian Embassy in Kyiv?

IN THE PRESS: Stalin and D-Day

"Stalin, hero of D-Day?" The Washington Post, editorial, June 26:

"American generally avoid publicly memorializing foreign tyrants who commit murder on an epic scale. That fine custom is all the more sensible when it applies to struggling private foundations whose solvency depends on the goodwill of the public and, specifically, patriotic veterans for whom murderous dictators are not a big selling point.

"Somehow, all this failed to register with the people who run the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Va., about 200 miles southwest of Washington. Not long ago, they installed a bronzed bust of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin to accompany those of Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman. They did so despite public protests, the memorial's serious financial

problems and the possibly pertinent fact that Stalin played no direct role in the D-Day landings. ...

"Officials of the foundation that runs the memorial note that a plaque accompanying Stalin's bust pays tribute to 'the tens of millions who died under Stalin's rule.' But casual visitors may assume its inclusion implies lionization, and they will be forgiven for not reading the fine print.

"In the Soviet Union itself, most statues and other images of Stalin were removed from public view a half century ago in recognition of the fact that he ranks among history's most homicidally prolific autocrats. Veterans groups and others are organizing petition drives demanding the bust's removal from the memorial. The D-Day Memorial Foundation's newly named president, Robin Reed, would be wise if, in his first major decision, he acceded to their demand."

It is time for diaspora to accept the fact that the current Ukrainian government caters to the Russian government by choice and goes out of its way to appease and conform to the Russian foreign policy and economics.

Does the diaspora blame the Russian government for taking advantage of the current situation in Ukraine? I do not – I blame the Ukrainian government.

If Ukrainian government leaders want to continue their submissive policy toward Russia, who will stop them? The diaspora? By demonstrating in Washington or New York City?

Let's be realistic, the citizens of Ukraine knew whom they were electing. They knew the candidate's background, his potential foreign policy towards Russia, and the language issue, and now they have to deal with the results and possibly learn for the future.

Should we blame the Russian government or the citizens of Ukraine who elected a Russian protégé as their president?

The diaspora needs to stop blaming others for Ukraine's government failures. A strong nation does not allow other nations to interfere in its domestic or foreign policies.

As I see the situation, the only viable course for the diaspora is to use the Internet and any multimedia avenues available to educate, inform and encourage the young people (since I have lost confidence in the older generation) in Ukraine. The young generation will need to confront the facts and realize that it is their responsibility to take charge of their and Ukraine's future.

Jerry Zinycz
Venice, Fla.

We welcome your opinion

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

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

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

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Is Yanukovych hip?

(The setting: A passenger lounge at Frankfurt International Airport. Hryts Dobrotvir, around 70, has struck up a conversation with Vadim Oktiabrovych Mordolupenko, a student in his early 20s. Dobrotvir has just donated most of his retirement savings for a Museum of Ukrainian Culture in his native village of Bayury Shliakhetski (the chairman of the village council thanked him profusely, and promised to "study the question"). Hryts is now on his way home to Cleveland. He is wearing dark glasses, a white leisure suit with a Ukrainian flag pin in the lapel, and white shoes. Viktor Oktiabrovych, who is returning to Yale from a vacation at his father's vacation home on Cyprus, is dressed in a Che Guevara T-shirt, jeans and flip-flops. He has close-cropped hair and a gold ring in his left ear. An i-pod dangles from his other ear.)

HD: I don't know your political sympathies, young man, and I don't mean to be rude, but you know, those people who voted for Yanukovych, well, I just don't understand them. I know Red Army veterans supported him, and Russians and Communists, and people from Donetsk, but what about the rest?

VOM (taking the i-Pod out of his ear): Excuse me, but I voted for him myself. So did most of my friends. A lot of businessmen, professionals, educated people support him. People want stability, prosperity. It's not just the people from Donetsk. It's the people from all the big industrial and business centers. They want better relations with Russia because Russia is our neighbor, our biggest economic partner, and our natural ally.

HD: That's not what I heard from the students I talked with in Lviv.

VOM: Lviv is just a quaint provincial town. And those Halychany will tell you anything you want to hear. As long as they're getting money from relatives and grants from Western foundations they're pro-Western. But if Moscow pays them more they'll suddenly discover Russia. Do you know who the biggest Russophiles were in the 19th century? The Halychany. It could happen again.

HD: But Yanukovych is already making Ukraine a colony of Russia.

VOM: Better Russia than the United States. We don't want to fight for the Americans in Afghanistan. At least we have something in common with the Russians – our culture, our traditions. American political values are alien to us. Of course you don't understand that, because you've grown up there. But today it's not about colonies or empires. Those flag-waving Halychany with their embroidered shirts are hung up on nationalism – I'm sorry, I see by your pin that you're probably a nationalist – but really, today it's all about local and regional identity. My political science professor says the same thing. Look, my European friends care more about their cities and their regions than their countries. Why do you think we have a Party of Regions? Patriotism is so yesterday. The two biggest causes of war are nationalism and religion. This Tymoshenko, with her stupid braid and nationalist rhetoric, is so lame. Compared to her, Yanukovych is almost hip.

HD: But Yanukovych represents a clan of oligarchs. That's not democracy.

VOM: What country isn't run by an oligarchy? We have our clans, you have your East Coast elite and your corporations. All that propaganda about freedom and democracy is just a façade for the masses.

HD: You can't compare America with Ukraine. We're not perfect, but freedom and democracy are real. And look what the Security Service is doing in your country. You know what happened at the Ukrainian Catholic University. That's just one example. There's a systematic assault on democracy.

VOM: Well, that was clumsy on the part of the Security Service. They over-reacted. But don't worry, in 10 years, universities won't be a problem.

HD: What do you mean?

VOM: We'll be more like America.

HD: More like America?

VOM: Well, first of all, how seriously does anyone take Catholic universities in America? The elite send their kids to Ivy League schools. So do we. Second, most American students aren't interested in demonstrating against the government. Look, Afghanistan is Obama's Vietnam. But where are the anti-war demonstrations? It's not the '60s anymore. All American students think about is partying and drinking. In 10 years Ukrainians will catch up. They'll be too high to think about politics. American students buy the myth about the Global War on Terror. Our students will buy the myth about the Great Patriotic War and how the Banderites collaborated with the Nazis.

HD: Well, it's not the same... and what about the Holodomor? That's not a myth, that's historical truth, and your Yanukovych denies it...

VOM: He doesn't deny it happened. He just denies it was genocide. So do most of your Western historians. Tabachnyk doesn't want to teach our students that we're just a colony, that the Russians did this or that to us. He doesn't want to give us an inferiority complex. He wants to build our self-esteem. Isn't that just like your American teachers? We were equal partners with the Russians, and if there was a famine, well, we take equal responsibility.

HD: History isn't about self-esteem, it's about truth, and sooner or later it will come out...

VOM: And what is truth? Isn't it relative? My English professor says it all depends on who's got power – who can dominate the discourse, as he puts it.

HD: But if you don't believe in truth, what do you believe in?

VOM: I believe in myself. Isn't that what you Americans say? "You've got to believe in yourself!"

HD: But you can't build a nation on egoism. Every nation has to have an Idea, something people can believe in that is bigger than them, something they'll make sacrifices for. But Ukraine has no ideas...

(Hryts stops. Vadim Oktiabrovych has put the i-pod back in his ear. Now he leans back and closes his eyes, head bobbing to the beat of a different drummer.)

Andrew Sorokowski can be reached at samboritanus@hotmail.com.

Boston photographer Tania Mychajlyshyn D'Avignon journeys far and wide

by Peter T. Woloschuk

BOSTON – Noted Boston photographer Tania Mychajlyshyn D'Avignon has just received invitations from the Chinese, Russian and Uzbek governments to participate in various photographic events and venues in their respective countries, including judging a photo exhibition in Xinning, Qinghai Province, China (three hours from Beijing), travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway from Moscow to Vladivostok to photograph in the Russian Far East and Zelenyi Klyn, and participating in the Bialle Photo Festival in Tashkent.

Ms. D'Avignon, who won the American Photographers' Association gold medal for her photo of Kremenets, has exhibited her photographs at major venues around the world, including two successful exhibitions in Uzbekistan. A Fulbright scholar, she produced a major photo essay on women in all regions of Ukraine following the demise of communism.

She has also worked for National Geographic, has photographed extensively in the forbidden zone around Chernobyl, and has been invited by a number of governments to photograph in areas that are normally off limits to Western professionals. For example, she has worked three times in remote areas of the Chinese Peoples' Republic as a guest of the Chinese Ministry of Culture and the Chinese Photographers' Association.

During her most recent trip to China, which occurred late last fall, Ms. D'Avignon spent three weeks in the remote provinces of

the south bordering Tibet (the Kham Region), in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and in Sichuan. The visit marked the third time she has photographed in the country as an invited guest of the government. Previous visits took her to the Yunan Province, home of the Yi People, and to Inner Mongolia.

The Kham region of Tibet is divided between the Chinese provinces of the Tibet Autonomous Region and Sichuan. Kham is composed of 50 counties, inhabited by more than 14 different ethnic groups. A few years ago the Chinese government combined these various groups together with the Tibetans and formed the "Tibetan Nationality"; 78 percent of the population is Tibetan and only 22 percent Han Chinese.

The region is a vast, sparsely populated area, with a very rugged terrain formed by mountain ranges, gorges and ridges. The highest peak, Minya Konka is 24,790 feet (7,556 meters). Much of the area was closed to foreigners until 2000. Some roads have only recently been opened to tourists and many places are still off limits.

Three other American photographers were also invited, and the group was accompanied by a government interpreter from Beijing, a local photographer/guide and a driver. The photo safari began in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, a city of about 10 million which is a modern city with a thriving local economy.

The group headed southwest toward Tibet on a superhighway complete with tolls and went through Leshan, which claims the world's tallest Buddha at 233 feet, constructed between 733 AD and 803 AD.

The following day they stopped at Mount Emeishan (10,167 feet, 3,099 meters), the tallest of China's four sacred mountains. Ms. D'Avignon and the group were informed that they could opt for a five-kilometer hike up the mountain or be carried for the first three kilometers in a sedan chair followed by two kilometers in a cable car. Ms. D'Avignon opted for the chair. At the summit, they photographed the historic Jinling, the Golden Summit Temple at 10,000 feet (3,077 meters) while fending off monkeys looking for handouts.

Within a short period of time the road began to deteriorate and Ms. D'Avignon recalled that her guidebook advised that "the Sichuan-Tibet Highway, built between 1950 and 1954, is one of the world's highest, most dangerous and roughest roads. Most of the routes are comprised of twisting one-lane dirt or gravel



Tania Mychajlyshyn D'Avignon's award-winning photo of Kremenets in the fog.

roads. Covering the distance between Chengdu and Lhasa can take two weeks to traverse by truck."

"Our group only travelled a part of the road from Chengdu, Luding and Kangding (Route 317) and went over the Tro La pass (16,128 feet) which was littered with remains of cars that did not make it," Ms. D'Avignon said. "After a long, hard 12-hour drive we arrived at a 'photographers dream village' (a quote from a guide book!) and we were put up in the best accommodations in the town."

"The following morning we were wakened at 5 a.m. to go to the place so that we could photograph a fantastic sunrise at 7 a.m.," Ms. D'Avignon continued. "We missed it because we were stuck in a traffic jam caused by a road that had been washed away. The rest of the day was spent photographing beautiful mountain scenery, landscapes, Tibetan villages, festivals, local peo-

ple and Buddhist temples."

"The Kham (or Khampas) Tibetans are proud, beautiful, colorful and friendly people. Both men and women dress in bright, color-coordinated clothes. Even their face-masks match whatever they are wearing," Ms. D'Avignon noted. "They wear beads of made of wood, stone, coral, amber turquoise and silver. The men wear scarves, boots, woven, leather and even fur belts. Young people seem to wear 'fedoras.' On festive days they bring out their best clothes. Even in small villages, they are elegant."

The Kham liked being photographed and especially loved seeing their images on the photographers' camera screens. Hospitality was extended and Ms. D'Avignon was invited to a Tibetan house for tea in the village of Tagong, where she was dressed in a traditional Tibetan costume for a joint photo.

(Continued on page 10)



A boy in a doorway in Tagong.



Tibetan nuns at Mount Emei temple.



Tania Mychajlyshyn D'Avignon (second from right) with fellow photographers and guides in Tibet.



Tibetans at the Danba festival.

New leadership elected for UCC Ontario Provincial Council

HAMILTON, Ontario – Ukrainian Canadians in Ontario elected the new leadership for the provincial Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) at a meeting held here on May 15.

Representing the interests of over 335,000 Ukrainian Canadians in the province, the UCC Ontario Provincial Council is mandated to connect people across the province, to lead a dynamic and rich community, and to engage the government of Ontario on key issues.

“Ukrainian Canadians in Ontario along with so many other communities are a foundation of Canada’s multicultural fabric,” stated Yvan Baker, newly elected president of the Ontario body. “They expect strong leadership to represent them on issues of concern not only to the Ukrainian Canadian community, but to all Canadians.”

Mr. Baker, former vice-president of the UCC Toronto Branch, is currently a management consultant and former staff member to a federal member of Parliament.

He is joined on the executive by Vice-President Chrystia Chudczak (Ottawa), Treasurer the Rev. Bohdan Hladko (Durham), Secretary Marika Kobzan-

Diakiw (St. Catharines), and Past President Olya Sheweli (Hamilton).

“Our goal is twofold,” Mr. Baker noted. “First, it is to build connections to strengthen the community. Second, it is to speak in a united voice to governments so that they understand the issues of concern to the community and our vision for Ontario and Canada.”

“Ontario has a large and very active Ukrainian Canadian community,” commented Paul Grod, National President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. “The Ontario Council will be a strong and important platform for raising issues to the province on matters of importance to Ukrainian Canadians living in Ontario”

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is the voice of Canada’s Ukrainian community. It brings together under one umbrella all the national, provincial and local Ukrainian Canadian organizations.

Together with its member-organizations, the UCC has been leading, coordinating and representing the interests of one of Canada’s largest ethnic communities (1.2 million) for 70 years and has been instrumental in shaping Canada’s social, economic and political landscape.



Delegates in attendance at the UCC Ontario Provincial Council annual meeting: (front row, from left) Lydia Shulakewych, Yvan Baker, Olya Sheweli, Marika Kobzan-Diakow, Orysia Sushko, (back row) Myron Groch, Adriana Buyniak Willson, Steve Andrusiak, Marc Shwec, Paul Grod, Marika Szkambara, Oksana Rewa, Petro Mycak and Luba Petlura.

Leo Mol sculpture stolen, then recovered, in Winnipeg

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – A stolen statue by famed Ukrainian sculptor Leo Mol was recovered on July 1, according to the Winnipeg Free Press. Winnipeg police recovered the statue after a woman walking her dog saw the statue being dragged by a man in an alley, according to the Canadian Broadcast Corp. (CBC).

Police report the man did not know the statue was stolen.

The bronze statue, “Bather,” which stands at 44 inches tall and weighs approximately 150 pounds, was stolen from the Mol Sculpture Garden, located

at Assiniboine Park Conservancy in Winnipeg, sometime between 10 p.m. on July 28 and 6 a.m. on July 29.

It was recovered with only minor damages, including scratches from being dragged. A nearby statue, “Marijka,” was toppled and damaged during “Bather’s” removal. “Bather” was last appraised at \$18,000, although, according to the CBC, the price is expected to have increased since the artist’s death in 2009.

(Continued on page 22)

Ukrainian Diabetes Project seeks donors for its ongoing programs

by Tyrssa Korduba

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian Diabetes Project (UDP) recently held its Spring Campaign to raise funds to reprint over 2,000 copies of a diabetes manual for children with Type I diabetes in Ukraine. The fund-raiser, which ran from March 21 through June 21, surpassed the UDP goal of attracting 50 new donors and raising \$5,000. The organization plans to use this money to defray the \$1,400 cost of printing the manuals.

The campaign included presentations at various clubs in the Santa Rosa, Calif., area, including the Ukrainian National Woman’s League of America, the Rotary Club and the international woman’s organization Soroptimist. UDP also sent letters of appeal to Ukrainian businesses, e-mails to individuals and articles to Ukrainian magazines.

The manual, authored by Dr. Luther Travis, was originally translated by UDP in 1996. That same year, UDP began distributing the manual to diabetic children all over Ukraine.

The non-for-profit foundation was founded after Andrea Carroll Skrypka, whose grandmother is from the Ternopil region of Ukraine, visited a children’s hospital in Kyiv in 1990 and saw the dire condition in which children with diabetes

lived.

Ms. Skrypka elaborates on the UDP website: “They were in ketoacidosis, the last stage of diabetes. Their eyes were sunken and they were emaciated – you could see their bones beneath their skin, smell the telltale fruity scent on their breath.”

The Ukrainian Diabetes Project – currently in its 20th year of operation – is looking for donors of Ukrainian heritage. Since 1990, UDP has helped nearly 3,000 diabetic children in Ukraine in nine different regions of Ukraine and has supplied nearly \$2.2 million in diabetes supplies. In addition, UDP has produced a documentary, “Diabetes in Ukraine,” as well as translated and distributed blood glucose log books in Ukrainian. The organization also offers camp programs to help children learn to live with diabetes.

Ms. Skrypka resides with her husband, Volodya, an engineer from Cherkasy, Ukraine, in Santa Rosa, Calif. In 2005 she incorporated UDP to serve as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

For more information or to donate to the Ukrainian Diabetes Project, readers may contact Ms. Skrypka by e-mailing udpandy@sonic.net, or by visiting UDP’s website at <http://www.sonic.net/~udpandy/>.

AHRU letter-writing campaign protests Stalin statue in Virginia

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – On June 23 Bozhena Olshaniwsky, president of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine, sent a letter to protest the installation of a bust of former Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Va., to over 40 officials, including all the members of congress representing New Jersey and Virginia, Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, the executive branch of the United States, and all the members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

The letter states, in part, that “elevation of the premier criminal against humanity to a position of a hero is wrong, distasteful and unconscionable and the edifice of his [Stalin’s] likeness should be promptly dismantled.”

Ms. Olshaniwsky included in her mailing a copy of The Ukrainian Weekly article from June 20, “Bust of Stalin at D-Day memorial elicits community outrage” and the June 20 editorial “Stalin in Virginia.”

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Clinton concludes...

(Continued from page 3)

officials who had begun to worry the reset had cost them a valuable ally.

President Saakashvili went so far as to say his initial concerns about the U.S.-Russian rapprochement had faded, and that Georgia was convinced the reset was being done "the right way... not just changing relations with Russia at the expense of others."

At the same time, Secretary Clinton used her Georgia trip to urge restraint on the part of President Saakashvili, who she said should not pursue a military buildup that could trigger a fresh war.

She also called on Georgia to continue the work of the Rose Revolution – the 2003 peaceful government overthrow that brought Mr. Saakashvili to power – and met with prominent members of the political opposition, including former U.N. Ambassador Irakli Alasania and Giorgi Targamadze of the Christian Democratic Movement.

In a country with a unusually fractious and active opposition, Secretary Clinton's gesture caused more resentment than cheers. The party led by former Parliament Speaker Nino Burjanadze issued a statement complaining, "It seems the American side is not very interested in opposition viewpoints."

That sentiment was echoed by Levan Berdenishvili of the Republican Party, who said: "They didn't let her meet with the opposition. Whoever was arranging those meetings, they made sure that the

only people who would be allowed would be the kind who wouldn't cause any problems for Ms. Clinton. They basically made sure she'd have it easy during this long trip."

In Washington, observers like Mr. Rojansky see Secretary Clinton's trip as a success.

"The visit served the purpose that it was intended to serve. It was much needed in terms of atmospherics – the general impression of attention being paid to the region – and you send a high-level official and that's the impression that you get," he said.

"From what I've seen, she really was refining this message – that the U.S. has not given up on the former Soviet space, has not given up on leading with our values in our foreign policy, but that we're resolved to have a productive relationship with Russia at the same time," Mr. Rokansky added.

Or, as Secretary of State Clinton put it during her visit to Tbilisi, "The United States can walk and chew gum at the same time."

RFE/RL's Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Georgian services contributed to this report.

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Boston photographer...

(Continued from page 8)

Ms. D'Avignon said that village homes had simple window and door decorations and were sparsely furnished with only the basic necessities. However, she noted that in the mountainous areas most houses had solar panels on their roofs and solar tea kettles in their yards. She also indicated surprise at the amount of new construction of two-story Tibetan houses. Apparently money for the building came from the sale of herbs for medicine. The region is a source of Asian medicines and herbs, morel and matsutake mushrooms which are sold in Japan for \$2,000 a kilogram.

"At first it somewhat surprised me, given the official Chinese Communist attitude toward religion, that we were taken to many monasteries, but it became clear that our hosts were attempting to show us that religion was free and unencumbered," Ms. D'Avignon recounted. "Although these side trips were for propaganda purposes, we became acutely aware of how religious the people really were," she emphasized. "Everyone seems to carry prayer beads. Men, women and children, young and old, rich and poor, the healthy and the invalids all took time from their daily chores to pray."

"At the Juli Monastery located high in the mountains we were taken to a traditional Tibetan sky burial place. The burial custom of Jhator is the giving of alms to the birds. Basically, it is a ritual dissection of a human corpse, which is left for vultures," Ms. D'Avignon explained. "Afterwards, we went back to the monastery with its complement of 120 monks. We were allowed to roam about the premises, mingle with the monks and photograph everything. The young monks seemed to enjoy our presence. However, we were unable to communicate with them and our conversations were limited to sign language, headshakes and smiles."

"At noon, the temple was unlocked," Ms. D'Avignon continued, "and we were allowed to attend the mid-day service and listen to the chanting of the monks. Following prayers we joined the monks for lunch which consisted of 'tsampa,' roasted

barley flour mixed with Tibetan tea or yak milk, kneaded into dough, broken into small pieces, and eaten."

During the course of her travels Ms. D'Avignon also visited the Panda Breeding Center in Chengdu and the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake zone, viewing complete devastation where more than 100,000 people lost their lives.

Ms. D'Avignon, who has photographed extensively in Soviet Ukraine with the permission of the government and the assistance of Intourist, believes that these Chinese trips are similar in design and purpose.

"It was clear to me that the old Soviet trips were designed to convince Westerners, particularly media representatives, that life was good and that the various nationalities and republics of the USSR were thriving under the system," Ms. D'Avignon recalled. "The Chinese are the same. They were totally in control of the places that we went to, knowing that none of us spoke the local language or Chinese. We were at their mercy. They went out of their way to show how happy the Mongolians and Tibetans were under Chinese rule, and how quickly their homelands were developing. There was no talk of either Mongolian or Tibetan opposition to Chinese rule nor were we allowed to officially speak with anyone who might say anything negative."

Ms. D'Avignon first visited China as part of an invited group of international photographers three years ago. The group was taken to the Yunan Province to photograph the customs, traditions, festivals and scenes of the minority group, the Yi people. The following year, she was part of a similar group of eight American photographers, who were invited to visit Inner Mongolia, again to record the traditions and customs of the local Mongolian people living in China.

Ms. D'Avignon is a Lviv native who grew up in Baltimore. She attended the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), earning a bachelor's degree in fine arts, and did graduate work in sociology at John Hopkins University. She has lived in Newton, Mass., for more than 30 years, is married, has two children and two grandchildren.

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Clinton's visit...

(Continued from page 2)

"repression against political opponents and total control of the judiciary" (Interfax-Ukraine, July 2). The police detained pro-democracy protesters ahead of Ms. Clinton's meeting with local students. The demonstrators said they wanted to draw her attention to the reports of media censorship and "security chief, Valeriy Khoroshkovsky's, attempts to shut down the TV channels TVi and 5 Kanal" (www.liga.net, July 3; EDM, June 24).

Secretary Clinton told the students that she discussed "the foundations of civil society" with President Yanukovich and Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, and told them that democratic freedoms should be respected (UNIAN, June 3). However, she pointedly abstained from criticism, which left the opposition dissatisfied and the authorities triumphant.

Mr. Gryshchenko said that Washington had learned to "see the difference between reality and the emotions" of "those who during five years [in power] failed to secure either freedom of speech or democratic development" (Inter TV, July 2). Gryshchenko was clearly referring to Mr. Yanukovich's predecessor, Viktor Yushchenko, as well as Yulia Tymoshenko.

The popular pro-government daily Segodnya echoed Mr. Gryshchenko's views: "Nowadays the U.S. wants to deal with predictable and stable regimes which do not bring democratization to such

extremes as permanent political crisis and civil war." The newspaper opined that the current government is a "normal post-Soviet regime in Washington's eyes."

The Kyiv-based Horshenin think-tank's director, Volodymyr Fesenko, suggested that "American foreign policy is pragmatic to the point of cynicism." He added that the U.S. does not want to upset Mr. Yanukovich by lecturing him on democracy, but it wants him to keep his promise on uranium and maintain strategic partnership with Kyiv (Segodnya, July 4).

Mr. Yushchenko's former advisor, Vadym Karasyov, suggested that Washington is abstaining from criticizing Mr. Yanukovich, fearing that otherwise Kyiv would embrace Moscow. He said Moscow has similar fears in relation to Washington, and as a result Mr. Yanukovich can use the situation to his advantage. However, Mr. Karasyov warned that Kyiv should exercise caution in this game to avoid both Moscow and Washington tiring of it (Segodnya, July 4).

This is the type of multi-vector foreign policy that was pursued by former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in 1994-2004. Nonetheless, President Yanukovich, who was prime minister at the end of Mr. Kuchma's term, must remember that President Kuchma ended up as an international pariah.

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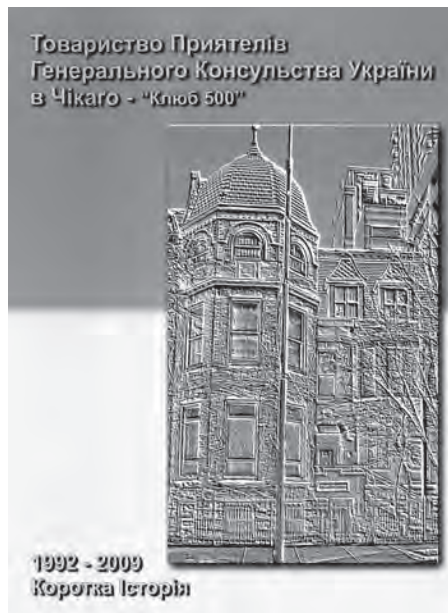
BOOK NOTE: Brief history of Chicago's Club 500

"A Short History of the Friends of the Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago - Club 500: 1992-2009, by Daria Jarosewich and Ivanna Richardson. Chicago: aka S&C, 2009. 52 pp., \$20 (suggested donation).

Eighteen years ago, the first Consulate General of Ukraine in North America was established in Chicago. To commemorate this historic event, the former presidents of the now dissolved Friends of the Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago compiled a 52-page booklet.

The co-authors, Ivanna Richardson and Daria Jarosewich, include in this Ukrainian-language publication essays about the history of the Consulate, photographs of consular activities and events, letters, event invitations and a general representation of the Ukrainian community in Chicago. They also include two English-language components: the introduction and an article published in The Ukrainian Weekly in December 2009 about a reception of the Friends of the Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago at the Consulate.

The authors write that they hope readers "will find this manuscript [publication] to be a useful addition to the recent history of



Ukraine and Ukrainians in diaspora."

For more information, readers may contact Ms. Richardson by e-mailing her at ivannarich@yahoo.com. To purchase a copy of the booklet, readers may send their shipping information, the number of copies desired and payment to: Ivanna Richardson, 346 Ashby Lane, Front Royal, VA 22630.

Five charged...

(Continued from page 1)

daughter into prostitution to pay off the family debt.

"Human trafficking is a scourge that denies human beings their fundamental right to freedom. Those who prey on the most vulnerable through force, fraud or coercion will be investigated and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," said Assistant Attorney General Perez.

"The Civil Rights Division will continue to work with U.S. Attorney's Offices nationwide, law enforcement agencies across the globe, and victim assistance organizations to vindicate the rights of victims, bring traffickers to justice and dismantle human trafficking networks," he added.

"The victims in this case entered this country with dreams of great opportunity only to find themselves living a nightmare," said U.S. Attorney Memeger. "They trusted this band of brothers, they performed the work they were told only to be rewarded with false promises, threats of brutality and deprivation of their basic human needs. No one trying to immigrate to this country should have to endure such mistreatment."

Entry through Mexico

Rather than bringing the workers to the United States legally, the indictment alleges that the Botsvynuk organization obtained tourist visas to Mexico and had operatives who coached the workers on how to enter the United States illegally. While some of the workers successfully entered the country, others were taken into custody by U.S. immigration officials and remained in detention for almost two months.

Once the victims were released, with immigration documents and summonses to appear for immigration hearings, the Botsvynuk organization transported them to Philadelphia either by bus or by plane. The brothers then confiscated the immigration documents and summonses from the workers and put them to work at night cleaning large chain stores, such as Target and Walmart, as well as smaller stores.

Throughout their employment with the brothers, the workers lived with up to

five people in one room, slept on dirty mattresses on the floor and were rarely, if ever, paid. None of the victims was paid what was promised and they were told that they had to continue working until their debts, ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000, were paid.

Workers were allegedly struck and beaten, sometimes in the presence of others, if they attempted to quit or leave the employ of the Botsvynuk brothers. According to the indictment, one female worker was brutally raped on several occasions. After some workers escaped,

Arrests in three countries

Omelyan Botsvynuk resorted to extorting the workers' families in Ukraine, threatening them with harm if the workers did not return to work or pay their debts.

Omelyan Botsvynuk, 51, was arrested in Germany; Stepan Botsvynuk, 35, was arrested in Philadelphia; Mykhaylo and Yaroslav Botsvynuk, 41, were arrested in Canada. Dmytro Botsvynuk remains in Ukraine, a country that has not entered into an extradition treaty with the United States. The defendants in Canada and Germany were arrested pursuant to Interpol arrest warrants and are in the process of being extradited to the United States to face the charges.

If convicted of all charges, the defendants face the following maximum penalties: Omelyan Botsvynuk - life in prison and a \$750,000 fine; Stepan Botsvynuk - 40 years in prison and a \$500,000 fine; and defendants Mykhaylo, Dmytro and Yaroslav Botsvynuk - 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the Joint FBI Organized Crime/ICE Human Trafficking Alien Smuggling Task Force. Assistance was provided by Pennsylvania State Police, the Philadelphia Police Department, the Department of Labor and Racketeering - Office of Inspector General, Toronto Police Department, German National Police, Berlin State Police, Security Service of Ukraine, U.S. National Central Bureau, the Department of Justice Office of International Affairs, and INTERPOL. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel A. Velez, and Trial Attorney Eric Gibson of the Civil Rights Division.

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Ukrainians in "Cultural Focus" at major festival in Seattle

by Lida Mykytyn-Voronka

SEATTLE – Ukrainians were in the spotlight at the 2010 Northwest Folklife Festival, the pre-eminent art and cultural event in Seattle for almost three decades.

The concept behind the festival is to provide a high-quality public forum where the traditional and ethnic communities, as well as artists of the Northwest Region of the National Park Service (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and western Montana) could present their music, dance performances and crafts.

This year, during the Memorial Day Weekend, the Ukrainian community was fortunate to become one of the festival's "Cultural Focus" groups. The community was honored by such a designation and was selected to present a Ukrainian Showcase at the main venue, the Charlotte Martin Theater.

The Ukrainian Showcase was rich with performances by: Olya Herasymenko and Bandura Ensemble from California, complemented with local bandura talent from Seattle; the Barvinok Ukrainian Dancers, under the direction of Brad Jacula and Katya Sedova; the duo of Brandon Vance and Nadia Tamawsky (Ukrainian folk singing); Dva Kolyory (Ukrainian romance songs); Bandura virtuoso Dmytro Hubiak from Ukraine, and the Coin of the Realm Orchestra (Ukrainian folk music).

Ukrainian talent was not limited to this

evening. Many of the performers, along with North of the Black Sea from Portland (Ukrainian bandura/folk voice) and Ukrainian Prairie Band (Ukrainian folk singing), performed and led workshops at various venues of the festival throughout Memorial Day Weekend.

The Northwest Folklife Festival was created informally in 1971 as a part of a program of the National Park Service for urban outreach, coordinated by the National Council for the Traditional Arts.

The first festival presented over 300 performers to a large, enthusiastic audience over a three-day weekend, and was hailed as a successful and needed addition to Northwest arts programs. The promoters of the festival and the Seattle Center decided to make it an annual event.

In 1999, Northwest Folklife was selected as a "Local Legacy" by the Library of Congress in celebration of the Library of Congress' 200th anniversary. Today, the four-day festival attracts an audience of about 250,000 visitors and has over 7,000 volunteer performers and 1,300 volunteers.

Ukrainian community's roots

The Ukrainian American community in the Seattle area traces its beginnings to a handful of mostly World War II immigrants who sought an opportunity to gather to continue their religion and culture while forging a new life in a wonderful new country.

The first Ukrainian organizations were religious, the Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic mission parishes, which were organized in 1958-1959. They laid the foundation for the formation of the first Ukrainian cultural organization in the area in 1971 – the Ukrainian American Club of Washington.

Since its establishment, the Ukrainian American Club has sponsored numerous cultural and social events, established a collection of Ukrainian artifacts and supported a local Ukrainian folk dance ensemble. The club initiated art grant applications through the King County Arts Commission, Seattle Arts Commission and the Washington State Arts Commission for fostering development of local performing and folk activities, such as dance, music, pysanky and embroidery.

By 1971, when the Northwest Folklife Festival was introduced to Seattle, the Ukrainian community was ready to participate with a vocal ensemble as well as a dance group.



Dmytro Hubjak, bandura virtuoso from Ukraine.



The older group of the Barvinok Dance Ensemble.



Dva Kolyory (Ukrainian romance songs).



Olya Herasymenko and Bandura Ensemble.

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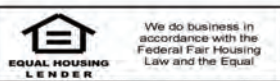
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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

health, energy, happiness, prosperity and new successes in the work for the benefit of Ukraine, and expressed hope to see him soon, "as agreed." (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko: Russia still a threat

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko, the leader of the Our Ukraine party and a former president, has warned that Ukraine may become a bargaining chip in Russian-U.S. relations and lose its sovereignty. "I have the impression that the prediction that we feared most of all, notably that Ukraine might become a bargaining chip in Russian-U.S. relations, is beginning to come true," the Our Ukraine website quoted Yushchenko as saying at a meeting with members of the American Jewish Congress on July 8. Mr. Yushchenko said he got such an impression following U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's visit to Kyiv and her statements on NATO and Ukrainian-Russian relations. "This is either the U.S. misunderstanding of what is going on in Ukraine or a correct diplomatic move, which only reflects the reality," he said. The ex-president described as wrong Ukraine's decision to drop its Euro-Atlantic integration plans. "Freezing relations with the U.S. or Europe is not just a waste of time today. This is revision," he said. "Becoming a NATO member means getting consent to Ukraine's true independence. The worst threat to our sovereignty is Russian aggression, including military aggression," he said. Mr. Yushchenko also criticized Ukraine's decision not to cooperate with U.S. companies in producing alternative nuclear fuel. Ukraine "has actually become hundred percent dependent on nuclear fuel supplies from Russia," he said. In these conditions, nobody will bring up the issue of signing an agreement on associated relations between Ukraine and the European Union, on combining Ukrainian and EU power grids, or on liberalizing visa regulations, the former president said. "I am sure that the infatuation with Moscow, which each U.S. government has in the first two or three years, will pass away this time as well. We would not like Ukraine to fall victim to such opportunistic reasons," he said. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Case against Yanukovich postponed

KYIV – The Pechersky District Court of Kyiv on July 13 decided to postpone for two weeks the hearing of an appeal filed by Ukrainian citizen Volodymyr Volosiuk against President Viktor Yanukovich on the protection of honor and dignity in connection with the president's statement on the Holodomor. A court meeting was postponed for two weeks in response to a request by Mr. Volosiuk, a member of the People's Rukh of Ukraine who lives in Khmelnytsky. As previously reported, President Yanukovich said at the April 27 session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe that it would be incorrect to recognize the Famine of the 1930s as genocide against the Ukrainian people. In his appeal, Mr. Volosiuk said that the head of state had insulted his honor and dignity and "committed an act of outrage against the millions of people destroyed in such a criminal manner." He asked the court to issue a ruling obliging the president to publicly apologize to the plaintiff and the Ukrainian people. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Major flooding in Ivano-Frankivsk

KYIV – As of the morning of July 13, 1,834 houses out of 2,400 in the Ivano-Frankivsk region were partially flooded (water is mainly at basements) and 1,880 out of 2,774 wells in the region were. Three out of five road bridges were destroyed; 30 out of 36 road bridges and

199 pedestrian bridges were damaged, as were as 430 kilometers of motor roads. According to the Emergencies Ministry, 9,800 farmsteads and 5,539 hectares of farmlands were also flooded; 13.5 kilometers of water-protective dams and 20.2 kilometers of coastal fortifications were damaged and 136 kilometers of banks were degraded. The gas supply has been cut to six inhabited localities. At the same time, electricity was restored in 17 inhabited localities (one settlement remains without electricity), motor road communication was restored with 28 localities (11 localities are left without communications), eight bridges were repaired, two water supply points were repaired (six have not yet been repaired). In addition to conducting recovery efforts, the Emergencies Ministry is supplying drinking water and foodstuffs to flood-ravaged areas. (Ukrinform)

Gazprom insists on merger with Naftohaz

KYIV – A merger of Gazprom and Naftogaz is "a historically predetermined step," Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller said at an annual general meeting of the company's stockholders, an Ukrinform correspondent reported from Russia on June 25. "We've currently made significant progress in cooperation with Ukraine, and the possibility of merging Gazprom and Naftogaz Ukrainy is currently being discussed. This is a historically predetermined step. The gas transportation systems of Gazprom and Naftogaz constitute a single complex functioning closely with each other," Mr. Miller stated. He noted that Gazprom and Naftogaz were discussing a possible set of assets that could be included in a joint venture. As reported earlier, on June 20 Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said that there would be no merger, but that there would be a search for an organizational form that could help synthesize the work of the two gas companies. Mr. Miller said earlier that the companies had decided to hold talks on a gradual merger that would start with the creation of a joint venture on a parity basis. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians in sexual slavery

KYIV – Law enforcement agencies in the Kyiv region released 17 Ukrainian women from sexual slavery in Indonesia over the last two weeks, the Public Relations Department of Ukraine's Internal Affairs Ministry in the Kyiv region reported on July 7. The women were released with assistance from officials from the Embassy of Ukraine in Indonesia. They were recruited by a criminal group that lured women to the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, with modeling jobs. Upon arrival in Indonesia, the women's passports were confiscated and the women were kept in a local hotel. They were forced to work as prostitutes and to take drugs. Among those released from sexual slavery were women from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Belarus, all under the age of 22. The criminals have now been detained, said Kostiantyn Sapko, head of the Kyiv region's police, said. The suspects have been charged with human trafficking for purposes of sexual slavery. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Sea Breeze 2010 drills start

KYIV – The Ukraine-U.S. Sea Breeze 2010 multinational peacekeeping naval exercises have started in Ukraine, it was reported on July 12. The goal of the exercises, which will last until July 23, is planning and conducting an international anti-piracy operation. The press center of Ukraine's naval forces said in a statement that, apart from Ukrainian and U.S. servicemen, the exercises would involve representatives from 11 other countries

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

(Azerbaijan, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Denmark, Georgia, Moldova, Poland, Sweden and Turkey and a military observer from Austria), nearly three dozen warships and motorboats, and 12 aircraft. The coastal phase of the exercises will be held at the Shyroky Lan training range in Mykolaiv region. The naval phase will take place in the northwestern sector of the Black Sea. The multinational headquarters of the Sea Breeze 2010 exercises will be deployed in the western naval base of the Ukrainian Navy in Odesa. Exercise participants will practice interaction among law enforcement agencies of different countries in countering terrorism, piracy and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, as well as conducting search and rescue operations and monitoring navigation. The Ukraine-U.S. Sea Breeze military exercises have been held since 1997 under a memorandum of mutual understanding and cooperation in defense and military relations between the U.S. Department of Defense and the Ukraine's Ministry of Defense. In 2006 and 2008, the exercises were disrupted by pro-Russian forces in Crimea and by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

Azarov meets American Jewish leader

KYIV – Prime Minister Mykola Azarov met with the executive director of the American Jewish Committee (AJC), David Alan Harris, it was reported on July 7. During their meeting, both sides expressed satisfaction with the development of bilateral relations between Ukraine and the United States and between Ukraine and Israel. “We support Ukraine and Israel’s decision on the introduction of a visa-free regime. Such an agreement will certainly improve cooperation between the countries,” Mr. Harris said. He also said he was satisfied with the agreements reached during meetings between the Ukrainian and U.S. presidents, which are aimed at developing bilateral relations between the two countries on the basis of a strategic partnership. The Ukrainian prime minister, in turn, promised assistance to the AJC executive director in preparing for the 70th anniversary of the Babyn Yar tragedy. “We will support on the state level all events linked to the 70th anniversary of the Babyn Yar tragedy. We support the idea of creating the Babyn Yar National Historical Memorial Reserve, and we will resolve everything that depends on the government in order to implement this project,” Mr. Azarov said. (Ukrinform)

CIS heads of state discuss cooperation

KYIV – The heads of member-states of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) positively appraised results of an informal meeting in Yalta, Ukraine, during which issues of economic and investment cooperation were discussed, along with perspectives for realization of joint projects on the development of transport and tourist infrastructure. According to news reports of July 10, the joint statement of the CIS heads of state noted: “We state that ensuring growth of citizens’ living standards and improving their well-being are the most important tasks of the CIS under the present conditions, as well as intensification of economic cooperation as priority of the commonwealth activity.” During the meeting special attention was paid to liberalization of trade among the states. An agreement was reached to continue active work on the new Free Trade Zone Agreement. In view of preparations for the European Football Championship in 2012 in Ukraine and the Winter Olympic Games in 2014 in Sochi, Russia, the heads of state noted the advisability of joint participation of interested parties in

the construction and modernization of stadiums, sports facilities and infrastructure. The heads of state also welcomed the holding of the 2014 Hockey Championship 2014 in Minsk. In addition, the presidents expressed support for an initiative to hold an international conference, “Twenty Five Years of the Chornobyl Catastrophe: Security of the Future” in Kyiv, in April 2011. (Ukrinform)

Klitschko heads UDAR party

KYIV – The Justice Ministry received official information from the Nova Krayina (New Country) Party on amendments to its statutes, leadership and name, which will now be UDAR (an abbreviation from the full name of the party, translated as the Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reforms). As the ministry’s press service reported on July 13, Mr. Klitschko was elected to head UDAR. According to a statement issued by the party, the requisite amendments were adopted at a special party meeting on April 24. The Nova Krayina Party was registered by the Justice Ministry on March 14, 2005. (Ukrinform)

Emergencies ministry has new head

KYIV – First Vice Minister for Emergency Situations Volodymyr Antonets will fulfill the duties of emergencies minister until a new minister is appointed, the ministry’s press service reported on July 13. On July 10 the Verkhovna Rada had dismissed Nestor Shufrych as Ukraine’s emergency situations minister a day after he was tapped as deputy secretary of the National Security and Defense Council. (Ukrinform)

Constitutional court elects new chair

KYIV – According to news reports of July 12, the Constitutional Court elected a new chairman: 58-year old Anatolii Holovin, who has been on the court since 2006. Mr. Holovin hails from the Donetsk region. In 1979-2005 he served at the Security Service of Ukraine. In 2003-2004 he was deputy procurator general and head of the Military Prosecutions’ Main Department. Andriy Stryzhak had chaired the Constitutional Court for the three years as provided by law. According to the Constitution, the chairman of the Constitutional Court can be elected for only one three-year term. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine cruiser is renamed

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on July 6 decided to cancel its resolution of December 17, 1993, giving the name “Ukraine” to the missile cruiser built at the state-owned 61 Communards Shipyard in Mykolaiv. The cruiser was renamed because it is no longer needed by Ukraine’s naval forces and is to be sold to a foreign buyer. The cruiser, the construction of which started in 1984, is currently 95 percent finished. The chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on National Security and Defense, Anatolii Grytsenko, said, “It was clear from the very beginning that the cruiser will not belong to the Ukrainian navy.” Over 100 million hrv has thus far been spent on the maintenance of the cruiser, which might be sold to Russia. A delegation from the Russian navy arrived in Mykolaiv on July 5 to assess the technical condition of the missile cruiser. (Ukrinform)

Google’s official office opens

KYIV – Google has officially opened its office in Ukraine, Ukrinform reported on June 22, citing LigaBusinessInform. Google’s Vice president for Southern and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Nelson Mattos, noted that this will mean an increase in company investments into the Ukrainian region, expansion of its representation, and an increase in the vol-

ume of its services in the Ukrainian language. According to Google representatives, development of new trends in Ukraine will depend basically on the success of the Ukrainian subdivision. Google CEO Eric Schmidt said in a video speech that the fact the company is opening an official office in Ukraine shows how important the Ukrainian market is for the development of the global Internet. (Ukrinform)

Olympic champion gives birth to son

KYIV – Olympic swimming champion Yana Klochkova has become a mother. Her son, weighing in a 4.4 kilograms (9.7 pounds), was born in one of Kyiv’s maternity hospitals, the Segodnia newspaper reported on June 22. The father of the child, Georgian businessman Levan Rostoshvili, was not present during the childbirth, though he managed to arrive in Kyiv before his son was born. Ms. Klochkova’s friends say the son’s name will most likely be Sandro. During a career that ended in 2008, Ms. Klochkova became a four-time Olympic champion in medley (at the 2000 and 2004 Games) and a repeat world and European champion. (Ukrinform)

Akhmetov helps families, children

KYIV – Rinat Akhmetov’s Foundation for the Development of Ukraine has completed realization of the project named “Comfort A Child with Love.” The project, which cost 19.5 million hrv, helped 44 families with many children from the Donetsk, Luhansk and Zakarpattia regions and Crimea by providing them with housing. Each of these families has 10 or more children. The foundation purchased new houses for 26 families; houses for two families were built by the foundation according to a specially designed project that took into consideration all the needs of families with many children. Also within the framework of the project, the foundation allocated funds for the completion of construction and for major repairs of existing housing for 16 families. News of the project’s completion was reported on June 9. The Foundation for the Development of Ukraine is a non-profit organization founded in 2005 by Mr. Akhmetov, Ukraine’s richest businessman and a national deputy. His foundation aims to support the successful and stable development of Ukrainian society by investing in the education of future generations, the health of the nation, and preservation and development of Ukrainian culture. (Ukrinform)

Investment potential in Zakarpattia

KYIV – A visiting delegation of the International Trade Club, which includes representatives from the embassies of 15 countries, was in Ivano-Frankivsk in mid-June for the purpose of getting acquainted with the economic and tourism potential of the region and certain industrial enterprises in the Zakarpattia region in order to draw up investment proposals. The members of the International Trade Club had already visited Chernivtsi, Poltava and Lutsk. “It’s possible to raise the level of the industrial development of the Ivano-Frankivsk region only through the attraction of investment. Therefore, regional authorities are paying special attention to all investment projects in the region,” said Vice-Chair of the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast State Administration Vasyl Plaviuk. (Ukrinform)

Austrian Airlines sells its share in UIA

KYIV – Austrian Airlines has sold its stake of 22.5 percent in Ukraine International Airlines (UIA), the liaison service of the Austrian company reported on June 9. “We are restructuring our company. We have sold our minority stake in the UIA, getting concentrated on our core business,” the report noted. At the same time, the company said Ukraine remains a very interesting market for Austrian Airlines. The Austrian company noted that it could not name the buyer of its stake in UIA, having agreed to confidentiality. (Ukrinform)

Melange clean-up nearly complete

KYIV – The last shipment of a highly toxic rocket fuel component left a military base in western Ukraine on June 24, completing the removal of the dangerous liquid from two depots. The site, located just one kilometer from the village of Tsenzliv and a few kilometers from Ivano-Frankivsk, held 2,200 tons of the rocket fuel component, known as melange. The clean-up of the two sites is part of a joint project of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and Ukraine that aims to rid Ukraine of the 16,000 tons of melange that remained in the country following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Work on a third site will start in coming months. Representatives from countries that have financed the project, from the OSCE and the Ukrainian Defense Ministry were in Tsenzliv to observe the departure of the train is transporting the final shipment of melange to Russia, where it will be safely disposed of in specialized chemical facilities. (OSCE)



With deep sorrow, we inform that on June 28, 2010

Roman Sushko V.

died in Lviv, Ukraine.

Roman Sushko, son of Vasyl Sushko, was born April 22, 1937.

- He was exiled to Siberia. • He worked in the automobile transport industry.
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- He was the nephew of Colonel Roman Sushko (1894-1944), Colonel of the Sich Riflemen, co-founder of Y.B.O. Ukrainian Army Organization and OUN (OYH) Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. Internationally and nationally known: “Son of Ukraine.”
- Roman Sushko V. was a member of Organization of Political Prisoners.
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Вічна пам'ять!

Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

1st rounder Pysyk is top Ukrainian in 2010 NHL draft

Four young Ukrainian hockey hopefuls heard their names called at the 2010 NHL Entry Draft in Los Angeles, on June 25-26. This year's draft class was led by Edmonton Oil Kings defenseman Mark Pysyk, selected in the first round, 23rd overall, by the Buffalo Sabres. High school right wing Joe Basaraba was the second Ukrainian picked, 69th overall, the third-round choice of the Florida Panthers.

The seventh and final round of the draft heard a pair of Ukrainian names announced from the team's tables, one by the Atlanta Thrashers, the second by the Buffalo Sabres. Defenseman Peter Stoykewych went 199th overall to Atlanta, while left wing Riley Boychuk was nabbed by Buffalo, 208th overall. Riley's eventual signing with the Sabres will make three Boychuks on NHL rosters, none of whom are related. Blueliner Johnny recently re-signed with Boston and forward Zach is an up-and-comer in Carolina.

Mark Pysyk

Pysyk recorded 24 points (7-17-24) playing 48 games in his second WHL season before it was cut short by a broken foot. Despite the injury, he was named the Edmonton Oil Kings most valuable player, their top defenseman and scholastic player of the year for the 2009-2010 year. Pysyk models his game after Nashville defenseman Shea Weber because of his solid two-way game. He credits Dave Morrow, his best friend's dad, for having the most

influence on his career for all of his coaching back in his pond hockey days.

Joe Basaraba

Florida selected Basaraba with their third-round pick. "I had no idea where I would end up," said Basaraba in a draft day interview with floridapanthers.com. "I just came in here with hopes of being drafted by an NHL team to hopefully someday put on a jersey and step on the ice." Basaraba, who is off to play for Minnesota Duluth, saw action in 52 games for one of the best prep high schools in the country, Shattuck-St. Mary's in Minnesota. There, the 6-foot-2, 200-pound player picked up 22 goals and 24 assists.

Peter Stoykewych

Stoykewych, 17, appeared in 56 games for Winnipeg South of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League, posting 31 points (5 goals, 26 assists). Overall, the 6-foot-2, 190-pound defender has recorded 47 points (10 goals, 37 assists) in 109 games over two seasons with Winnipeg South. The Winnipeg, Manitoba native will attend Colorado College.

Riley Boychuk

The Buffalo Sabres chose him 208th overall, the third to last pick in the entire draft. It caught him a little by surprise since the Sabres were not one of the few teams that had talked to him prior to the draft. It did make sense in the end

because Buffalo is in dire need of size at the forward position. At 6-foot-5, 205 pounds, Boychuk certainly fits the bill. He scored 14 goals and 30 points in 66 games with the WHL's Portland Winterhawks, totaling 157 minutes in penalties.

Coming up in a future Ukrainian Pro Sports Update on hockey is a feature on first-round pick Mark Pysyk, including a draft day interview with this future Buffalo Sabre.

State Department issues info about fees for consular services

Embassy of the United States

KYIV – On June 28 the U.S. Department of State published its Schedule of Fees for Consular Services in the Federal Register. The changes to the schedule include fees for passports, immigrant visas and other consular services.

The changes will take effect on July 13. The revised fees will cover actual operating expenses for the 301 overseas consular posts, 23 domestic passport agencies and other centers that provide these consular services to U.S. and foreign citizens.

The 27 adjusted fees are based on a Cost of Service Study completed by the Bureau of Consular Affairs in June 2009. The study, which was the most detailed and exhaustive ever conducted by the U.S. Department of State, established the actual cost of providing these consular services, which the department recovers through the collection of fees.

A full list of the changes in fees can be accessed at: http://www.travel.state.gov/news/news_5078.html.

- The new fees for immigrant visas are: immediate relative and family preference immigrant visas – \$404; employment-based immigrant visas – \$794; Diversity Lottery visas – \$819*; all other immigrant visa categories – \$379* (*Fee includes \$74 immigrant visa security surcharge).

Included on the schedule of new fees

for American Citizen Services are the following.

- Documenting U.S. citizenship: consular report of birth abroad – \$100; renunciation of U.S. citizenship – \$450.

- U.S. passport book: adults: first-time (age 16 and older) – \$135; adults: renewal (applying with DS-82) – \$110; minors (under age 16) – \$105.

- U.S. passport card: adults: first-time (age 16 and older) – \$55; adults: renewal (applying with DS-82) – \$30; minors (under age 16) – \$40.

- Other passport service fees: additional visa pages – \$82; file search fee – \$150.

- Notary service: power of attorney/affidavit/letter of non-impediment to marriage – \$50; certification of a true copy – \$50.

The above-mentioned fees are paid in the Consular Section at the time of application for the service. All consular fees can now be paid in both U.S. dollars and Ukrainian hryvni.

The Embassy would like to use this opportunity to remind American citizens that routine passport and notarial services are provided by appointments only. Appointments are made online at <https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=KEV&appcode=1>. Please visit our website at <http://ukraine.usembassy.gov/service.html> for more information on the range of services the U.S. Embassy provides to its citizens.

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Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 1)

rently at an adequate level, as well as reduce the influence of the opposition and regional elites in cities," said Volodymyr Fesenko, director of the Gorshenin Institute in Kyiv, which has close ties to Sergiy Tigipko, leader of the Strong Ukraine party, who is vice prime minister for economic issues.

The October 31 elections are for city councils, its chairs (mayors), oblast councils, district councils, village councils and village council chairs throughout Ukraine.

They were supposed to be held May 30, but the Parliament canceled the vote, alleging a lack of funds, in a decision that violated the Ukrainian Constitution, observers said. The real motive, they said, was to change the election rules to promote the authoritarian goals of Mr. Yanukovych and the Party of Regions.

The October 31 vote will cost the government an estimated 1 billion hrv, or about \$125 million (U.S.), said Andrii Mahera, the deputy chair of the Central Election Commission. Mr. Chernenko said that sum might not be enough to hold fair, and transparent elections.

The biggest change to the local elections involves eliminating the system of closed party lists, in which voters were restricted to selecting parties or blocs of parties, instead of individual candidates.

The October 31 vote will consist of mixed voting. Half the politicians will be chosen on a proportional representation system, known among Ukrainians as the "proportsiyna systema," in which a party gains a number of seats proportionate to its electoral results.

The other half will be chosen by the single-winner voting system, known among Ukrainians as the "mazhorytarna systema," in which individual deputies winning the most votes will represent geographically determined districts.

Observers had criticized the closed list system ever since it was implemented in 2006 for denying voters the right to elect individual politicians.

Yet, returning to mixed voting is intended to give President Yanukovych the ability to influence and pressure individually elected deputies chosen by the single-winner "mazhorytarna" system to vote with the Party of Regions, which is expected to dominate the majority of local councils as a result of the elections.

"This is a wide field for applying 'administrators' [government resources] and bringing to local councils local fat cats that are loyal to the government," the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc stated in a July 13 press release. "Those candidates who had more money and better relations with the government always won in the single-winner system. The government has already received orders to do everything possible for the victory of Regions candidates. Governors [state oblast administration chairs] are being ordered to personally lead Party of Regions campaign headquarters."

[Editor's Note: State oblast administrations are the Presidential Administration's organs in Ukraine's oblast capitals and districts seats. Oblast administration chairs answer to the president and are often referred to as governors.]

Parties will be forbidden from uniting and competing as political blocs, dealing a blow to the Tymoshenko Bloc – which consists of Batkivschyna, the Reforms and Order Party and the Social-Democratic Party of Ukraine – and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc – which comprises of the People's Party of Ukraine and the Labor Party of Ukraine.

The local elections law disqualifies from participation those local organizations of political parties formed less than a year before the official start of election campaigning, which in this case is September 1.

That left only 19 out of 686 eligible local

organizations in the case of the Front for Change, which grew its national network rapidly in less than a year to prepare for the presidential vote.

"The people who approved this law decided to practically destroy the opposition," Mr. Yatsenyuk said on Channel 5 on July 15. "A norm was passed against Tymoshenko forbidding blocs, which now forces her to re-brand [her force] or promote the name of her party. That's how they solved part of the problem."

"Then they went after Yatsenyuk. Visiting the website of the Justice Ministry, they saw that the Front for Change is a young party and only 19 organizations were registered a year ahead of election campaigning. Seeing this, they decided to introduce this norm," he added.

Ukraine's political field consists of six parties with national support, according to a poll released on June 18 by the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political and Research and the Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Fund.

About 41 percent of Ukrainians will vote for the Party of Regions, 16 percent support the Tymoshenko Bloc, 11 percent will vote for Strong Ukraine led by Mr. Tigipko, 5 percent support the Front for Change, 3 percent will vote for the nationalist Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union and 3 percent support the Communist Party of Ukraine. The poll involved 1,611 respondents questioned between June 5 and 10 in 113 population centers.

Ms. Tymoshenko announced on July 14 that her political force will compete in the elections as the Batkivschyna party. Meanwhile the People's Party of Ukraine, which Mr. Lytvyn chairs, is likely to be his political vehicle.

Both the Tymoshenko Bloc and Front for Change announced they will appeal the local elections bill in Ukraine's Constitutional Court. The move is widely viewed as a symbolic act, since the Court is chaired by Donbas native Anatolii Holovin, a Yanukovych loyalist.

Peer pressure

The administration of President Yanukovych has demonstrated it doesn't want to wait until the end of October before it establishes control of local governments.

Beyond the Verkhovna Rada, the Party of Regions has succeeded in luring rogue deputies to join its coalitions in the oblast councils of Chernihiv, Sumy, Cherkasy and Kyiv. The Ukrainian Constitution forbids deputies to abandon factions, via which they were elected, in order to join others.

These renewed majorities are being formed at the expense of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc, whose implosion has coincided with the disastrous end of the political career of former President Viktor Yushchenko.

"The Party of Regions blitzkrieg in the Orange oblasts became possible with the silent agreement of 'oppositionist' Yushchenko, who hasn't even tried to stop his allies," wrote Vitalii Pirovych, a political observer with the Komentari newspaper in Kyiv.

In early July, the Vysokyi Zamok newspaper reported that the Lviv State Oblast Administration led by oligarch Vasyl Horbal has begun gathering information about the political allegiances of leading Lviv businessmen.

Mr. Horbal allegedly ordered district state administrations to gather the information, which included enterprise owners' party allegiance, political beliefs and "degree of influence on the electorate," the newspaper reported. Mr. Horbal denied that he ordered the surveys.

Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy Mykola Tomenko said on July 8 that the Party of Regions is forming lists throughout Ukraine of businessmen, teachers, and civic and cultural activists who are loyal and in opposition.

"The certification of loyalty to the new



Website of Yulia Tymoshenko
Yulia Tymoshenko delivers a statement on July 14 on the upcoming local elections in Ukraine and a new law that does not permit political blocs to field candidates.

government and readiness to join the Party of Regions is being conducted systematically," he said.

The Party of Regions has even pressured Ukraine's biggest oligarchs to abandon the Tymoshenko Bloc and join its ranks. Most notably, the Tymoshenko Bloc lost a top financier, mega-millionaire Andrii Vereveskyi, who sought to protect his giant agro-business, which includes vast cooking oil exports, by joining the Party of Regions on June 1.

"These deputies are businessmen who can't be in opposition to the government, especially in a country without steadfast democratic traditions," said Borys Kushniruk, a veteran banker and political observer.

Meanwhile, the Tymoshenko Bloc is holding onto billionaire Kostyantyn Zhevago by a thread. He re-ignited speculation that he'd abandon the opposition leader after attending the 60th birthday celebration held for President Yanukovych on July 9 at his Zalissia residence in Kyiv.

The biggest prize of all is the Kyiv City Council, to which the Yanukovych administration has paid special attention in the last two weeks.

About 15 Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) agents in masks raided the office of Kyiv City Council Secretary Oles Dovhii on July 7. They claimed they were searching for documents related to real estate corruption, for which Mr. Dovhii and his close associate, Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi, are notorious.

As part of the same investigation, SBU agents on July 9 searched the offices of Oleksii Yevlakh, chair of the Land, Planning and Architecture Commission, as well as Svitlana Makeyeva, chair of the City Council Land Use and City Planning Administration.

"Today's central government has practically taken the Kyiv mayorship under control by appointing Oleksander Popov the de facto mayor, though officially his position is first deputy chair of the City Council," said Vadym Karasiov, director of the Institute of Global Strategies in Kyiv.

"But the Party of Regions still hasn't taken the Kyiv City Council under control. There won't be elections to the Kyiv City Council, therefore, it's not necessary to wait for elections but to take control of the organization of the Kyiv City Council's work in order to control the entire legislative process in Kyiv, form a stable majority and take the Kyiv City Council entirely under control," he added.

Judicial control

President Yanukovych gained control of Ukraine's judiciary after the Verkhovna Rada on July 7 approved the second reading of the bill "On the Judicial System and Status of Judges" without waiting for the Venice Commission of the Council of

Europe to review it and offer recommendations.

That review would have likely rejected the changes to Ukraine's judiciary, critics said, which is why the parliamentary coalition rushed to have it approved.

The legislation calls for creating a High Specialized Court of Ukraine to review civil and criminal cases, reducing the membership and authority of the Supreme Court of Ukraine – led by Tymoshenko Bloc supporter, Chief Justice Vasyl Onopenko – and empowering the Higher Justice Council to appoint judges.

About three-quarters of the judges on the Higher Justice Council are controlled by President Yanukovych, alleged Ms. Tymoshenko, who declared she would appeal the legislation to the Constitutional Court. The appeal is unlikely to succeed given that the Court is led by a Yanukovych ally.

At least 20 provisions of the law contradict the Ukrainian Constitution, Ms. Tymoshenko noted. "Yanukovych has made the judiciary his slave, who bitter fate henceforth is to serve his policies and caprices exclusively," she said at a July 8 press conference.

The Higher Justice Council, which will be under the president's direct control, gains the right "to interfere in the review of any cases as they're being reviewed and dismiss any judge for contrived reasons, without any clearly defined criteria," she said.

The legislation takes effect on July 15.

Quest for full authority

The Yanukovych administration didn't get everything it wanted in its quest to establish full authority over Ukrainian governance. On July 10 the Verkhovna Rada postponed its review of the second reading of the bill "On the All-Ukrainian Referendum" until after the summer recess.

The purpose of the legislation is to cancel the constitutional changes drafted during the Orange Revolution, which took effect in January 2006 and shifted much authority from the president of Ukraine to the prime minister.

The changes left the Ukrainian presidency with the authority to appoint the foreign affairs and defense ministers, state oblast administration chairs, the SBU chair and the National Security and Defense Council chair (with parliamentary approval.).

Former President Leonid Kuchma enjoyed far more authority than President Yushchenko worked under, being able to appoint his prime minister and the entire Cabinet. Nor did he need the support of a consistent parliamentary coalition for legislation.

Without the imperative mandate stipulated by the 2006 changes, former President Kuchma was often able to pass legislation by forming situational majorities.

"What Viktor Yanukovych is proposing at present is presidential authoritarianism without balances and counterweights," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "He wants precisely that Constitution that gave birth to Kuchma, Kuchmism and the Orange Revolution, that the country freed itself from afterwards, by the way."

Current coalition partners the Lytvyn Bloc and the Communist Party did not express support for expanding the president's authority. Both factions voted for the delay. The Communists said they favor a parliamentary government in which the prime minister exercises the most authority.

Currently, authority is relatively evenly split between the president and prime minister.

"The issue of a constitutional majority and, accordingly, passing a new Constitution for the president will be the main intrigue of the next political season," Mr. Tomenko said, after The Verkhovna Rada held its final session on July 10 before the summer break. [Editor's note: A constitutional majority is 300 national deputies. It can also override presidential vetoes.]

Project Prosvita: Building Ukrainian libraries around the world

EDMONTON, Alberta – When the early Ukrainian pioneers came to Canada at the end of the 19th century, one of the first things they did was establish Prosvita (Enlightenment) societies and reading rooms (“chytalni”) to promote education and literacy among the mostly peasant immigrants. In the spirit of those settlers, the Alberta Ukrainian Pioneers’ Association (AUPA) recently joined forces with the Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Center (KUCSC) at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) and the Peter and Doris Kule Folklore Centre at the University of Alberta to spearhead the development of Ukrainian studies libraries around the world with donated used books from Canada.

Other key partners in this cooperative venture were the Alberta Ukrainian Heritage Foundation, whose facilities were utilized to sort and package thousands of books, as well as the Ukrainian Studies Fund at Harvard, the Ukrainian Benevolent Association of Alberta and the International Relations Department of the University of Alberta. The latter three bodies made financial contributions to defray processing and shipping expenses incurred in this inaugural phase of Project Prosvita.

Of course, over the years CIUS has made regular efforts to supply books to libraries, as well as to scholars and students at a variety of post-secondary institutions, as have other Ukrainian Canadian institutions and organizations. What makes Project Prosvita unique, however, is the scale and range of this international educational undertaking and the number of partners involved.

The stimulus behind this endeavor is the growing problem of what to do with institutional and personal libraries in Canada consisting mainly of Ukrainian-language books that are no longer being used. Not only are various community organizations closing their doors or refocusing their activities, but books from many individual and estate libraries are steadily being disposed of. At the same time, the number of Ukrainian-language

readers in Canada is continuing to decline, notwithstanding recent immigration.

It is difficult to find new homes for thousands of titles that have long been out of print, as they are now primarily of scholarly interest. In order to prevent these works – some of which are bibliographic rarities in fragile condition – from ending up at paper recycling depots, the AUPA resolved to take on the task of saving publications that could still be of value to students and academics.

After more than two years of preparatory work, the first shipments of books were dispatched to the following institutions in the late fall of 2009 (the number of boxes sent to each is in parentheses): Slavic collections at the University of Toronto (three) and Columbia University in New York (10); the Slavic program at the University of Milan, Italy (11); a new Department of Ukrainian Studies at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, Korea (49); Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Programs at the Ostroh Academy National University (39), the Mykola Hohol State University in Nizhyn (10) and the Ramon Hnatyshyn Canadian Studies Center at the Yurii Fedkovych National University in Chernivtsi (7).

Additional texts (six boxes) were sent to the Pedagogical College of the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv and to the Center for the Advancement of Deaf Education at the Lviv St. Mary the Protectress School for Deaf Children.

In all, the weight of books shipped totalled more than 3,000 kilograms, and the cost of the project to date amounts to nearly \$20,000.

The undertaking was overseen by Jars Balan for the AUPA and KUCSC, and by Mariya Lesiv and Lynnien Pawluk for the Kule Folklore Center. Dr. Serhii Cipko, head of the Diaspora Studies Initiative at CIUS, along with students in the University of Alberta folklore program, were responsible for cataloguing most of the books that were sent to universities in North America and Korea. Invaluable volunteer help was provided by Ivan Stadnyk, Myron Lahola, Valerii

Mich.); Mr. Karawan (Selfreliance, Chicago) and Bohdan Sawycky (Self Reliance New York).

- Nominating Committee: Mr. Fedun (Self Reliance New Jersey); Orest Liscynsky (Cleveland Selfreliance); Mr. Stachiw (Selfreliance, New England); and Catherine Popovech (alternate, Self Reliance New York).

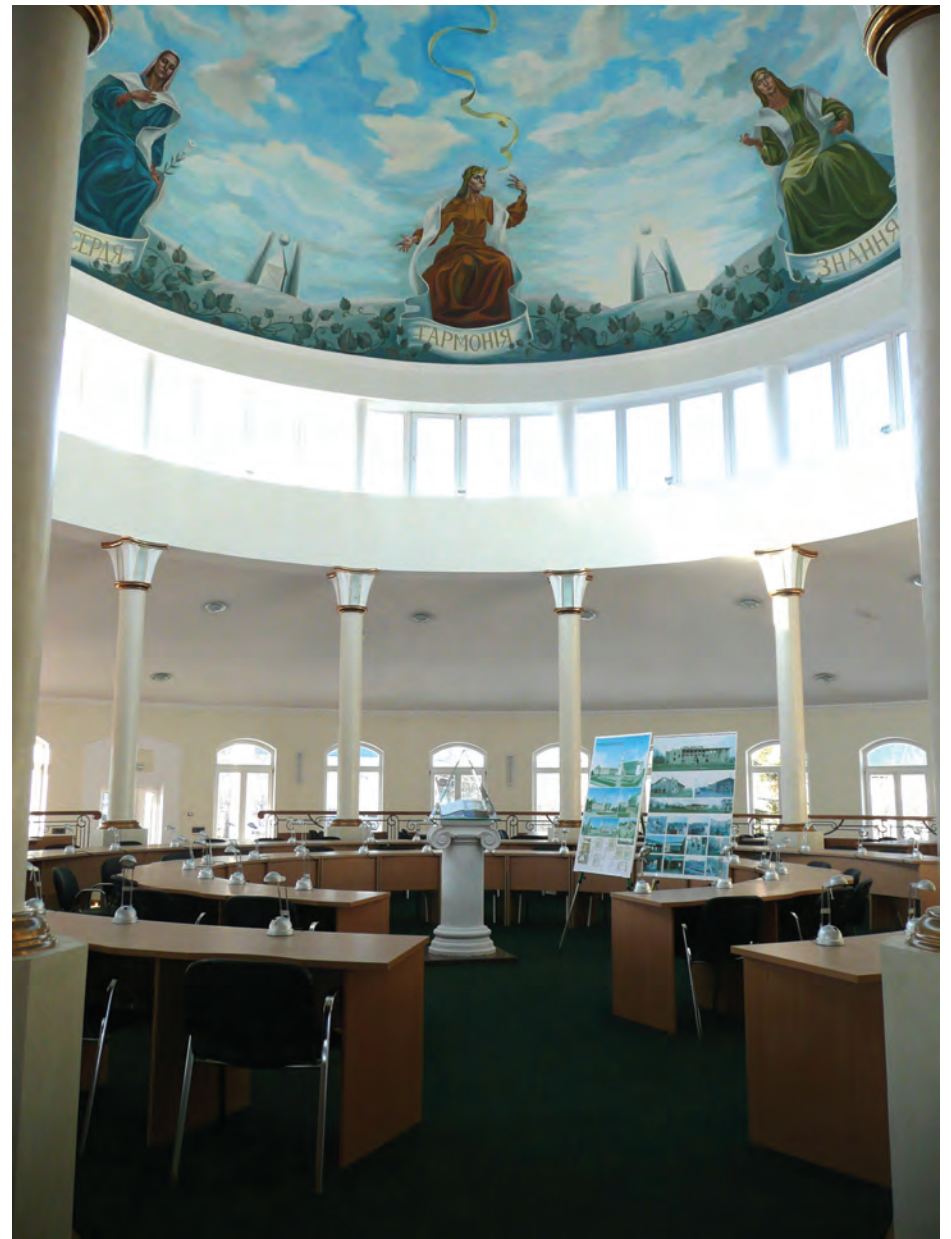
- By-Laws Committee: Mr. Kurczak (Self Reliance New York); Mr. Liscynsky (Cleveland Selfreliance) and Lubomyr Lypeckyj (Selfreliance, Warren MI).

- Loan Protection and Life Savings Insurance Trustees: Orysia Burdiak, Mr. Kerda, Mary Kolodij, Mr. Kurczak, Mr. Laszok, John Olijarczyk and Mr. Stachiw.

Ms. Burdiak was elected president of the association and the Ukrainian Cooperative Insurance Agency in Chicago. UNCUA staff members are Christine Pylypowycz and Nina Bebeko.

Mr. Jakymowych, treasurer of Ukrainian Future Credit Union, invited the delegates to schedule their 2011 UNCUA annual meeting in Warren on the occasion of credit union’s 50th anniversary.

Conference delegates expressed thanks to Mr. Kozicky, CEO of SUMA Yonkers FCU, for all his efforts and dedication in organizing this year’s conference.



The library of the National University of Ostroh Academy.

Polkovsky, Andriy Chernevych, Peter Melnycky, George Scott, and Bill and Michelle Tracy.

It took several months to assemble, cull, organize and box the books, which came from private and institutional collections, including the former library at St. John’s Institute in Edmonton, the Basilian Fathers’ Museum in Mundare, Alberta, and the Ukrainian Canadian Archives and Museum of Alberta. Other books were donated from the personal collections of Ivan Stadnyk and Jars Balan. The bulk of the shipping costs were covered by casino proceeds earned by the AUPA, as approved by the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission.

Project Prosvita is expected to resume operations in several months’ time, after a

break from the effort involved in tackling the first shipment of books. The next phase will focus on building libraries devoted to Canadiana at universities in Ukraine that have started Canadian studies programs, while further supplementing diaspora studies collections and filling gaps in existing holdings in Canada.

Although logistical and financial restrictions prevent the expansion of this Alberta-based initiative beyond the province, and there are limits to the number of libraries that Project Prosvita can distribute, it is hoped that current efforts will make possible the dissemination and long-term preservation of resources critical to the future development of Ukrainian studies, especially diaspora and Canadian studies in Ukraine.



Project coordinator Jars Balan with packed books for Ukraine.

Ukrainian National...

(Continued from page 4)

2008, 2009 and 2010 calendars.

The following were elected to the 2010-11 UNCUA Board of Directors and committees.

- UNCUA Officers: Mr. Watral, chair (Selfreliance, Chicago); Stephen Kerda, vice-chair (Selfreliance, Baltimore); L. Mykola Hryhorczuk, vice-chair (Selfreliance, Michigan) and Mary Kolodij, secretary (Selfreliance, Philadelphia).

- Executive Committee members: Mr. Kozicky (SUMA Yonkers); Bohdan Kurczak (Self Reliance New York) and Walentyn Polywko (Ukrainian National, New York).

- Members of the Board of Directors: Jack Burscu (Osnova, Parma, Ohio), Bohdan Czepak (Cleveland Selfreliance), Andrew Diakun (UHD, Buffalo, New York), Jaroslav Fedun (Self Reliance New Jersey), Andrew Jakymowych (Future CU, Warren, Mich.), Raymond Komichak (Selfreliance, Pittsburgh), Wasyl Kornylo (Ukrainian, Rochester), Yuri Pedenko (Ukrainian, Minneapolis) and George Stachiw (Selfreliance, New England).

- Supervisory Committee: Mr. Jakymowych (Future CU, Warren,

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Chicago business group recognized by county treasurer



CHICAGO – Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas presents an award of excellence to Anna Mostovych (left), president of the Ukrainian Business and Professional Group of Chicago, in Ms. Pappas' downtown Chicago office. Chambers of Commerce and business organizations representing many of Chicagoland's ethnic communities were honored at the gathering. "These organizations help keep ethnic heritage alive by supporting companies owned by members of their communities and encouraging their people to do business with them. Strengthening individual ethnic groups makes for a stronger Chicagoland, which we recognize and honor," Ms. Pappas said.

Roselle Park resolution on Holodomor as genocide

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – On May 20 the mayor and council of the borough of Roselle Park, N.J., adopted Resolution No. 134010, declaring the Holodomor of 1932-1933 to be an act of genocide of the Ukrainian people committed by former Soviet leader Joseph Stalin.

The resolution was proposed by Councilman Moe Miranda, and seconded by Councilman Michael Yakubov. It was passed unanimously by the council.

The resolution states, in part, that "2010 marks the 77th anniversary of the

Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, which resulted in the deaths of at least 6 million Ukrainians and was covered up and officially denied by the Russian Communist authorities," and that the Holodomor should "be solemnly remembered by Roselle Park residents on its 77th anniversary."

A copy of the resolution was sent to Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and the Local Source newspaper, among others.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

their countries were accepted as OSCE participating states in 1992. Also troubling for the commission was that Kazakhstan also indicated that it was interested in undertaking the chairmanship of the OSCE in 2009.

The CIS signatories complained the OSCE was "failing to implement in an appropriate manner" the fundamental documents of the organization, stating that the OSCE was not observing an allegedly agreed-upon Helsinki principle of non-interference in internal affairs.

The Helsinki Commission responded that the participating states, not the organization, were responsible for implementing internal programs. "We should look to capitals when failures in implementation arise, not Vienna." As for the complaint about interference in "internal affairs," the commission recalled, was definitively decided in the politically binding concluding document to the OSCE's 1991 Moscow Human Dimension meeting, which states: "They [the participating states] categorically and irrevocably declare that the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension... are matters of direct and legitimate

concern to all participating states and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the state concerned."

The CIS signatories also complained about what they called the unfair standards set by the OSCE regarding elections, accusing the organization of focusing on human rights and democratic development in the former Soviet Union and in the Balkans at the expense of "the full range of work covered by the organization."

In response, the commission leaders noted that on 85 occasions since January 2003 the organization had addressed, often publicly, human rights concerns in NATO countries, but noted that there were persistent human rights violations and backward trends of democratic development in the former Soviet Union and Yugoslav countries. A report titled "Democracy and Human Rights Trends in Eurasia and East Europe" documented the abuses in the region.

Source: "Helsinki Commission leadership responds to CIS criticism of OSCE," by Elizabeth B. Pryor (CSCE Senior Advisor), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 2004.

UAV Post 17 remembers veterans, service members

by James Fedorko

PASSAIC, N.J. – Ukrainian American Veterans Post 17 of Passaic, N.J., focuses its service on recalling Ukrainians Americans who paid the supreme sacrifice in duty to their country, as well as supporting servicemen and servicewomen currently in the U.S. armed forces.

On May 23 post members gathered at Cedar Lawn Cemetery to honor and pay homage to their fellow community members who fell in battle.

Present at the ceremony was Nadia Cadavero, who lost her son in Iraq on February 27, 2007. Sgt. Jon Cadavero, age 25, was a combat medic with the 10th Mountain Division and was killed in action when a roadside bomb struck his vehicle during a convoy operation.

Also present at the memorial service were special guests Bernie Krawczuk (Post 30 commander), Anna Krawczuk (past national commander of the UAV), Mike Fedirko (Post 6 commander), representatives of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Ukrainian National Home.

The Rev. Oleh Zhownirovych of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton offered the panakhyda (memorial service).

UAV Post 17 also sends packages to military service members of Ukrainian descent. Readers who know of any soldiers are asked to contact the post commander, James Fedorko, at 512-887-5613 so that more names can be added to the list of package recipients.



Participants of Memorial Day services organized by Ukrainian American Veterans Post 17 of Passaic, N.J.

Boston-area parishes hold joint Easter dinner



Vsevolod Petriv

FOREST HILLS, Mass. – Two Boston-area parishes, Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church and St. Andrew the First-Called Ukrainian Orthodox Church, held their traditional joint Easter dinner on Sunday, April 18. The parishes have been holding a common paschal dinner for more than 10 years and have been donating all proceeds from them to various charities, including the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund and to patients from Ukraine who were receiving medical treatment at local hospitals. Seen above (from left) are clergymen and their spouses seated at the head table: Lidia and the Rev. Roman Tarnavsky of St. Andrew's Parish, and the Very Rev. Yaroslav and Lubomyra Nalysnyk of Christ the King Parish.

– Peter Woloschuk

Mad Heads XL to headline Toronto Ukrainian Festival



Mad Heads XI from Ukraine.

TORONTO – Now its 14th year, the Toronto Ukrainian Festival continues to be one of the most anticipated events of the season, and especially so this year as it presents Ukraine's music sensation Mad Heads XL in the Bloor West Village on Saturday night, September 18 (see www.madheads.com).

"Thanks to the support of the Ukrainian Credit Union, Aerosvit Airlines and Four Points Sheraton Hotel by the Lakeshore, we are delighted to present one of Europe's most popular bands," said Jurij Klufas, festival president.

According to Oleksandr Yarmola, Haydamaky band leader, "Our mission is to make contemporary Ukrainian culture "cool," trendy, fashionable, adopted into other world cultures and to gain for young Ukraine the widest possible recognition throughout the world." Haydamaky

are currently working on their fifth CD.

Visitors can discover Ukrainian culture in Canada and share the Ukrainian spirit at North America's largest Ukrainian street festival on September 17-19. As always, there will be non-stop entertainment with Ukrainian performers from the Greater Toronto Area, Canada, the United States and Ukraine, including dancers, vocalists and musicians. A youth segment will take place on the grand stage at Jane Street, and there will be at the evening street dance on both Friday and Saturday.

Vendor kiosks will offer authentic Ukrainian food and beverages, beautiful souvenirs, interactive pavilions and more. Sidewalk sale shopping will be available at local Bloor West Village businesses. A colorful parade is scheduled for Saturday at 11 a.m.

For more information readers can log on to www.ukrainianfestival.com.

Leo Mol...

(Continued from page 9)

The Mol Sculpture garden houses 40 of Mr. Mol's statues, which he donated to the city of Winnipeg in 1992. At the time, the collection was valued at approximately \$4 million. Currently, the park is maintained by the non-profit organization,

Parterres in the Park.

The Assiniboine Park Conservatory houses 300 bronzes, ceramics, paintings and drawings by Mr. Mol, many of which are housed in the Pavilion Gallery Museum on the premises.

Mr. Mol immigrated in 1948 to Canada, where enjoyed success as a sculptor, painter and stained glass artist. He died last year at the age of 94.

Plast Toronto...

(Continued from page 1)

The new building, located on the southeast corner of Kipling Avenue and the Kingsway, was purchased from the United Church of Canada, and not only houses a church that accommodates 500 people, but also has attached a private elementary school, a day-care center, a regular-sized gymnasium and a full commercial kitchen.

Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's Toronto branch has been operating out of cramped space at its current location on Bloor Street West for a number of years. The young people needed a gym and activities rooms, while parents needed parking space, which is at a premium in Bloor West Village.

The closing on Toronto Plast's new building was on June 23; the Plast branch plans an official opening in late September.

Plast was founded almost 100 years ago in Ukraine, and Plast's centennial celebrations will begin next year. The Toronto Plast branch was founded in the late 1940s and it has been a community fixture in West End Toronto since the early 1960s.

Mr. Huculak has a long and noted history of philanthropy. He was awarded the Order

of Canada in 2007 for "the spirit of sharing his good fortune as he develops the best qualities in others through encouragement and example."

Mr. Huculak received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta for his international humanitarian activities and his advancement of Ukrainian studies. In 1989 he funded the chair of Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Alberta.

Appointed honorary consul of Ukraine in Canada, Mr. Huculak has funded educational institutions in Ostroh, Ukraine, and has been involved with charitable activities for underprivileged children. With the independence of Ukraine, Mr. Huculak purchased and donated the building for the first Ukrainian Embassy in Ottawa.

Mr. Huculak graduated from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver with a pharmacy degree. He began his business and practice in 1957 with a single pharmacy east of Toronto, which then grew to be the largest provider of pharmacy services to long-term care facilities in Canada.

Mr. Huculak and his wife, Yarmila, continue to be active in Plast and the Ukrainian community in Canada and Ukraine.



At the June 16 presentation of a check for \$4,987,000 for the purchase of the new Plast building (from left) are: Pavlo Czerwoniak, vice-president, Plast Toronto Branch; Andrey Genyk-Berezowsky, president, Plast Toronto Branch; Wasyl Zyla, legal counsel; philanthropists Yarmila and Erast Huculak; and Bohdan Kolos, chair, Plast Toronto Council.



St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church
719 Sanford Avenue, Newark, NJ

invites you to its

TENTH UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 25, 2010

12:00 noon – 9:00 pm

Outdoor Program - 2:00 pm

The program will feature: Ukrainian entertainment, Ukrainian music, Ukrainian dancing, Ukrainian crafts, Ukrainian foods & attractions for children.

Admission: only \$5.00

We invite you to advertise in our festival brochure.
For more information please call 973-371-1356.

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|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
| July 22
Cambridge, MA | Book presentation with Volodymyr Dibrova, "True Stories: A New Book Presentation," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 | July 31
Morristown, NJ | Ukrainian Orthodox League convention banquet and ball, featuring music by Hrim, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 973-635-812 or tickets@uolnj.org |
| July 23-24
Ellenville, NY | Seafood pub night, featuring music by Zuki and Mike, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 | July 31-August 2
Edmonton, AB | Ukrainian Pavilion - annual Edmonton Heritage Festival, William Hawrelak Park, 780-474-5386 or stankobylko@telus.net |
| July 23-25
Dickinson, ND | Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Cultural Institute and Dickinson State University, 701-483-1486 or www.ukrainianculturalinstitute.org | August 2-4
Jewett, NY | Traditional ritual baking course, taught by Lubow Wolynetz, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 212-533-6519 or 518-989-6479 |
| July 26-30
Jewett, NY | Ukrainian Folk Art Courses, pysanka writing with Sofika Zielyk and embroidery with Lubow Wolynetz, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 212-533-6419 or 518-989-6218 | August 2-6
Jewett, NY | Gerdany (beading) class, taught by Anastasia Berezovsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 212-533-6519 or 518-989-6479 |
| July 26-August 6
Jewett, NY | Ukrainian folk-singing course, with Anna Bachynsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 718-271-9387 or 518-989-6218 | August 3
Cambridge, MA | Lecture by Yevhen Yefremov, "The Chornobyl Zone: Traditional Culture Then and Now," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 |
| July 27
Cambridge, MA | Film presentation with Yuri Shevchuk, "Ukraine: A View from the World," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 | August 6
Ellenville, NY | Pub night with Zuki and Mike, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 |
| July 28
Winnipeg | Concert, featuring Haydamaky and Zrada, West End Cultural Center, 204-783-6918 or www.wecc.ca | August 7
Ellenville, NY | Christmas in August Pub Night, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 |
| July 29
Cambridge, MA | Lecture with Michael Flier, "Ukrainian Spellcheck," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 | August 7
Jewett, NY | Ukrainian folk-singing recital, Grazhda Concert Hall, 518-989-6479 |
| July 30-August 1
Ellenville, NY | Workers' Reunion Weekend, featuring a golf tournament, pub night and dance, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 | August 7-21
Emlenton, PA | Bandura course, including junior level, sacred music workshop and choral workshop, Kobzarska Sich, All Saints Camp, 734-953-0305 or ks@bandura.org |
| July 30-August 1
Dauphin, MB | Canada's National Ukrainian Festival, Selo Ukraina, 877-474-2683 | August 8
Stratford, ON | Concert, featuring the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, Stratford Summer Music Festival, www.stratfordsummermusic.ca |
| July 31
Jewett, NY | Benefit concert, celebrating the 200th anniversary of Frederick Chopin's birth, featuring Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Grazhda concert hall, 518-989-6479 | | |

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

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July 16-18 Ukrainian Cultural Festival

July 18-23 Heritage Camp 1

July 18-24 Discovery Camp

July 23-25 Adoptive Family Weekend

July 25-30 Heritage Camp 2

July 25-31 Sitch Camp 1

July 25 - August 7 Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Camp 1

Aug 1-7 Sitch Camp 2

Aug 7 Sitch Camp Closing Banquet; Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Recital 1

Aug 8-21 Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Camp 2

Aug 14-21 Club Suzy-Q

Aug 21 Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

Dance Academy 2 Recital

Aug 22-28 Joseph s School of Dance

Aug 30 - Sep 6 Labor Day week / weekend

Sept 10-12 Salzburg Reunion

Sept 13-16 Bayreuth, Berchtesgaden, Regensburg, Karlsfeld, Landshut Reunions

Sept 17-19 KKK Get-Together

Sept 20-22 Mittenwald Reunion

Sept 25 To be announced

Sept 30 - Oct 3 NEMF Convention

Oct 8-10 Wedding

Oct 15-17 Wedding

Oct 22-24 To be announced

Oct 29-31 Halloween

Nov 6-7 USCAK Convention

Nov 12-14 Plast Orlykiada

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 31

JEWETT, NY: To celebrate the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth, the artistic director of the Music and Art Center of Greene County, the brilliant pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, will give an all-Chopin recital at the Grazhda Concert Hall at 8 p.m. There will be a reception after the concert. All tickets for this benefit concert are \$20. For additional information call 518-989-6479 or visit the website at www.GrazhdaMusicandArt.org.

Sunday, August 1

UNIONDALE, N.Y.: The annual picnic of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church will take place at 1-6 p.m. at the parish center, 226 Uniondale Ave. The admission price of \$15 for adults includes a meal of ethnic specialties, soft drinks plus all activities. A cash bar will be available. Student (age 13-18) admission is \$10; \$5 for children age 7-12; free for children under age 7. For information call 516-485-0775.

Sunday, August 22

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian

American Sport Center – Tryzub will host the 19th annual Ukrainian Independence Day Folk Festival at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads, Horsham, PA19044. Doors will open at noon. The festival stage show will begin at 1:30 p.m. with headliners: Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (New York); violinist Innesa Tymochko Dekajlo (Lviv); Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia); the Svitanok Band (New York); and the Svitanya Eastern European Women's Vocal Ensemble (Philadelphia). A "zabava" (dance) to the music of Svitanok will follow the stage show, at 4:30 p.m. Delicious Ukrainian foods and baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments will be plentiful. Vendors are welcome: An arts and crafts bazaar and a children's fun area will be open all day. Admission: \$15; students, \$10; children under 15, free. There is plenty of free parking. For further information call 267-664-3857 or log on to www.tryzub.org. The sponsor is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt non-profit charitable organization; proceeds benefit youth soccer and cultural and community programs.

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.

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. 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. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**

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