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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

UNIS celebrates 35th anniversary with congressional reception

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – A special congressional reception held on April 25 in Washington marked the 35th anniversary of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America's Washington public affairs bureau – the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS).

The event was held in conjunction with the Ukrainian Days advocacy event on April 25-26. Several members of Congress, numerous guests, congressional staffers and representatives from Ukrainian American organizations participated in the joyous occasion.

Serving as master of ceremonies, UNIS Director Michael Sawkiw Jr. greeted everyone and briefly described the historic significance of the only community-based public affairs bureau in Washington in existence for over three decades. "Imagine if you would," stated Mr. Sawkiw, "the year was 1977 – President [Jimmy] Carter was

in the White House, an era of détente existed with the Soviet Union, and Ukraine was a subjugated nation without a voice in the international world. Fast-forward 35 years. Ukraine restored its freedom and has been a free and independent country for the past 20 years. And, the crucial component remaining in both instances – the Ukrainian National Information Service advocating the concerns of the Ukrainian American community."

Following his opening remarks, Mr. Sawkiw introduced the co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), one of the Ukrainian American community's greatest supporters on Capitol Hill. The congresswoman warmly welcomed everyone to Washington, for the fete and noted her office's and the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus' close working relationship with the Ukrainian National Information

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Yaro Bihun

Ukrainian National Information Service Director Michael Sawkiw Jr. presents the Hrushevsky Award to Rep. Danny Davis (D-Ill.).

United opposition emerges to challenge Party of Regions



Zenon Zawada

Arseniy Yatsenyuk (left) and Oleksander Turchynov will lead the Batkivshchyna party in the October 28 parliamentary elections. Batkivshchyna is the most popular party in Ukraine, according to an April poll by the Razumkov Center.

by Zenon Zawada

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Opposition politicians spent months wrangling on how to approach the October 28 parliamentary elections – as a single party or on separate fronts. The result confirmed at the May 12 opposition forum was that three main parties have emerged to challenge the authoritarian Party of Regions of Ukraine.

The forces that will fight to pull Ukraine out of its plunge into authoritarianism are the pro-European integration Batkivshchyna party led by former Parliament Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk, 37; the pro-NATO Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reform (UDAR) party led by boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, 40; and the nationalist Svoboda party led by Lviv native Oleh Tiahnybok, 43.

The recently bolstered Batkivshchyna party held a United Opposition Forum – attended by party members – on St. Michael's Square on May 12 to declare its campaign platform. Mr. Tiahnybok was in attendance to express his support, but Mr. Klitschko didn't attend, instead releasing a statement calling for unity.

"The main thing for this unification is that the two largest opposition forces [Batkivshchyna and Front for Change] at long last are creating a single party list," said Volodymyr Fesenko, the board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research in Kyiv. "Smaller parties can join the list, but that's not critical, since they won't affect any poll ratings."

Eventually, UDAR and Svoboda could end up joining Batkivshchyna in nominating a

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Lithuanian president sees Tymoshenko, blasts Kyiv

RFE/RL Ukrainian Service

KHARKIV, Ukraine – Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė has visited Ukraine's former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko at a hospital in Kharkiv.

After the May 11 meeting, Ms. Grybauskaitė issued a statement acknowledging the situation was "complicated" but saying that the European Union's trust in Kyiv is evaporating.

She expressed optimism about the health of Ms. Tymoshenko, who is serving a seven-year prison term on abuse-of-office charges that critics say are politically motivated.

"[Yulia Ms. Tymoshenko] is in good condition, considering that she's now recovering from a 20-day hunger strike," Ms. Grybauskaitė told journalists. "Her mood is positive and optimistic. She did not complain about anything. On the con-

trary, she is glad that doctors are finally taking proper care of her."

Ms. Grybauskaitė said the former prime minister has expressed concern over Ukraine's European Union prospects.

"Ukraine's European prospects and European integration are very important to her and she is calling on everybody, the government and the people, to remember that reforms are necessary and that Ukraine must take the path of European

integration and should not be isolating itself," said the Lithuanian president.

Growing dispute

Ms. Tymoshenko was moved to the hospital on May 9 for treatment of back pain under the supervision of a German neurologist. Ms. Grybauskaitė is the first foreign leader to have been granted access to Ms. Tymoshenko since her

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ANALYSIS

Putin to skip Camp David meeting

by Pavel K. Baev
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Instead of marking a closure for the turbulent period of ugly elections, Vladimir Putin's presidential inauguration opened a new phase in the political crisis in Russia. The activities have centered again on Moscow, where the heterogeneous opposition finds it remarkably easy to mobilize thousands of supporters and where the resonance from every rally is instant and powerful.

Mr. Putin's staff decided not to take any chances and closed downtown Moscow not just to traffic but also to all pedestrians, creating the impression of an entirely isolated self-appointed "elite" gathered behind the Kremlin walls (Novaya Gazeta, May 8). This isolation brought on a fear of eroding control, which translated into the order to get tough with the pesky protesters. Mr. Putin's spokesman, Dmitri Peskov, interpreted this order as "smearing their liver over asphalt" (Moscow Echo, May 11). These words most probably came directly from the mouth of his coarse-talking boss.

The police deployed at maximum strength indeed behaved with deliberate brutality against the May 6 rally, beating and detaining hundreds of "white ribbons" and greatly increasing the risk of a violent escalation because further protests could turn much angrier (Kommersant, May 10). What has happened instead is a spectacular growth of demonstratively peaceful flash-mobs, street choirs or open-air debates, culminating in an improvised "occupy" movement in the Chistye Prudy Boulevard (Gazeta.ru, May 11).

The riot police looked ridiculous as they detained teenage girls dressed as pigs on the suspicion that their street party was a form of protest. By the middle of the week, the police had essentially given up with chasing the malcontents (Vedomosti, May 12). That granted an opportunity to a group of writers to initiate a "test walk" along the boulevards on May 13, intended to demonstrate that people have the undeniable right to walk the streets of their city and express any opinions about the authorities. Many thousands of readers showed up to join in (Newsru.com, May 13).

Against the background of these dramatic developments in Moscow, President Putin made the surprise decision not to go to the G-8 summit at Camp David on May 18-19 and to send the newly confirmed Prime Minister Dmitri Medvedev, in his stead. Putin's reasons are not clear, but the official explanation that he needs to concentrate on forming a new Cabinet does not hold water since it is Mr. Medvedev's job to select ministers and their deputies (Moskovskie Novosti, May 11).

Speculations about hidden agendas are proliferating in Moscow; yet, it is rather improbable that Mr. Putin would have skipped the event just to snub U.S. President Barack Obama or to show disdain for the ever-deepening financial mess in the European Union (Kommersant-FM, May 11).

He used to be rather fond of this privileged club of Western leaders and quite probably had been looking forward to re-joining it from a position of strength – or maybe even superiority as compared to his weakened counter-parts from France or Italy (Gazeta.ru, May 11). Coming to the high-profile event as a "weakling" who had

lost control over the streets of Moscow, however, was out of the question.

Mr. Putin was ready to bring Minsk to Moscow and to assume temporarily the dictatorial role of Alyaksandr Lukashenka – but it has not quite turned out this way because the protesters in Moscow were neither scared of the thousands of battle-ready riot policemen nor eager to respond to provocations with violence. The situation is fluid. The Moscow authorities are keeping a low profile and Mr. Putin again finds himself in a most uncomfortable situation with no clue about what will happen next.

His best chance is perhaps to exploit the differences in the motley crowd of the "white opposition" where the Left Front, led by charismatic Sergei Udaltsov, advocates views that are quite foreign to the liberal urban middle classes. Mr. Udaltsov was detained in the course of the May 6 clashes together with Aleksei Navalny, a well-known anti-corruption blogger, and both are still behind bars. This effectively makes them into heroes of the budding "uprising" (Moscow Echo, May 12).

At the same time, Mikhail Prokhorov, who came third in the presidential elections by personifying a liberal alternative to Mr.

Putin, has opted for abstaining from the "madness" of protests and escaped from the political arena (Snob.ru, May 11).

The lack of leadership in the liberal camp is nothing new, but there are many voices there that command attention. Several of them have

joined with former Finance Minister Aleksei Kudrin, who issued a statement through his Committee for Civil Initiatives, urging the authorities to ensure the safety of the opposition rallies (Kommersant-FM, May 12). Mr. Kudrin insists that mass street protests are helpful in proving the need for further political changes and economic reforms to the power holders and Russian society. Many in Mr. Putin's elite feel the urgency of this need, but every reform they think up runs into conflict with some fiercely guarded parochial bureaucratic interests and ends up as a hollow simulation (Novaya Gazeta, May 12).

The official discourse emphasizes the benefits of and the choice for "evolution." Most participants in the "walk with the writers" demonstration would probably agree with that. In real terms, however, the fake reforms that the government is drafting mean stagnation, and the majority of the "creative class" finds this prospect both revolting and alarming (New Times, May 12).

President Putin was prepared to showcase his brutal resolve and to reject international criticism off-hand. Yet, by refusing to pick up the fight, the opposition has made him look preposterous – he might find the international reaction to that rather hard to swallow. Because Mr. Putin avoided Camp David, his first foreign visit will be to China. This rising giant is very sensitive to "losing face," which is exactly what is happening with Mr. Putin's over-blown profile. The situation may be becoming intolerable to Mr. Putin. Meanwhile, the Moscow riot police is probably becoming fed up with being on the high alert and with trying to strike fear into the crowds, which are celebrating their liberation from Putinism.

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

What's behind Vladimir Putin's decision to opt out of attending the Camp David summit?

NEWSBRIEFS

Yanukovich expected in Chicago

KYIV – NATO's Chicago summit is awaiting Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich as head of a state that contributes to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), Ambassador Ivo Daalder, the U.S. permanent representative to NATO, said during a virtual press conference on May 8. Mr. Daalder noted that Ukraine is a valuable member of the ISAF in Afghanistan and all ISAF contributors are invited to the Chicago summit. He also said that the participation of the Ukrainian leader in the summit can in no way be associated with the current situation in Ukraine. The Chicago summit of NATO will be held May 20-21. Mr. Yanukovich will be among the 60 world leaders expected to attend. On May 16 he received an official letter of invitation to the summit from NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen. (Ukrinform, Ukrainian Business Online)

Court declares Lutsenko's sentence legal

KYIV – Kyiv's Court of Appeal on May 16 upheld the four-year sentence for former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko handed down by the Pechersky District Court. The ruling was read out by Judge Ivan Rybak who presided over the appeal proceedings. "The verdict against Messrs. Lutsenko and Prystupliuk, produced by the Pechersky District Court in Kyiv, is declared legal and complaints of the lawyers are disallowed," read the court judgment. Mr. Lutsenko was found guilty of embezzlement and abuse of power, in particular, illegal employment of his driver (Leonid Prystupliuk) at the Internal Affairs Ministry and violations involved in granting him an apartment and pension. On February 27, Kyiv's Pechersky District Court sentenced Mr. Lutsenko to four years in prison with confiscation of property, and banned him from holding public office for three years after his release from prison. (Ukrinform)

U.S. calls for release of Tymoshenko

KYIV – The United States government has called on the Ukrainian authorities to release former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko

and other former officials of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, as well as to restore their civil and political rights. "The U.S. government continues to call for Ms. Tymoshenko's release, the release of other members of her former government and the restoration of their full civil and political rights," reads a statement of the U.S. government on the website of the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine posted on May 14 that summarized the results of a visit of its representatives to the Kharkiv hospital where Ms. Tymoshenko is undergoing treatment. "The United States government continues to be deeply concerned by the treatment of Ms. Tymoshenko and the conditions of her confinement" and "we continue to urge the Ukrainian authorities to ensure that Ms. Tymoshenko receives appropriate medical assistance. Moving her to the hospital for treatment by a specialist is a welcome first step in this direction," the statement noted. (Interfax-Ukraine)

U.S. representatives visit Tymoshenko

KYIV – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John F. Tefft and Thomas O. Melia, deputy assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor on May 14 visited former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko at the hospital in Kharkiv where she is being treated. They conveyed messages of concern for her treatment from Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Ms. Tymoshenko told them about her current situation. The U.S. Embassy released a statement noting that the U.S. government continues to be deeply concerned by the treatment of Ms. Tymoshenko and the conditions of her confinement. The statement underscored that the U.S. government continues to call for Ms. Tymoshenko's release, the release of other members of her former government and the restoration of their full civil and political rights. (U.S. Embassy Kyiv)

Yulia's appeal postponed to June 26

KYIV – The High Specialized Court for Civil and Criminal Cases on May 15 postponed to June 26 the consideration of the appeal of Yulia Tymoshenko and her

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NEWS ANALYSIS

EU ministers take wait-and-see approach on soccer boycott

RFE/RL

PRAGUE – The European Union has decided against calling for a bloc-wide boycott of European soccer championship games scheduled to be held next month in Ukraine.

However, the bloc's 27 foreign ministers meeting in Brussels agreed to put on ice talks over Ukraine's deepening political association and economic integration with the EU.

The EU has been critical of Ukraine over the alleged ill-treatment of jailed opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko, who is serving a seven-year sentence for abuse of office in connection with a gas deal reached with Russia when she was prime minister.

Earlier, while on a visit to the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk, President Viktor Yanukovich had responded angrily to the possibility of an EU boycott, saying "it's very important that we not be humiliated."

EU foreign-affairs chief Catherine Ashton said in Brussels that the EU had been "very consistent in sending messages to Ukraine about the importance of justice being done."

Several European leaders have already vowed to boycott Ukraine during the Euro 2012, which Ukraine is hosting jointly with Poland, after Ms. Tymoshenko said she was beaten by prison officials last month and launched a hunger strike.

No formal decision on a bloc-wide boycott was expected at the May 14 gathering.

Reports say ministers were instead likely to agree to monitor the situation, with an eye toward sending a uni-

fied message to Ukraine closer to the tournament, which starts on June 8.

Open question

Ministers remained evasive about the possibility of a boycott ahead of the meeting.

"I am not talking about a boycott," said Dutch Foreign Minister Uri Rosenthal, whose government has threatened to snub the matches played in Ukraine. "I am just talking about the Ukraine government, which still has time to do what is needed and that is to show a visible improvement of the situation for Madame Tymoshenko," he added.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague said ministerial attendance at the tournament was being "kept under review."

Danish Foreign Minister Villy Soevndal said the decision would be made "in the end, and not now."

While some EU members favor a boycott, others want to use their potential attendance as a bargaining chip with Ukraine.

Policy tool?

Some EU foreign ministers, like Sweden's Carl Bildt, have also played down the political acceptability of a boycott. "I must frankly say that I fail to see that attendance or non-attendance at football games is the main instrument of European policy," Mr. Bildt said. "I think we have far stronger instruments of policy, and I think we should deploy those."

He added: "At the end of the day, it is up to the leaders of Ukraine to decide if they want to take their country in the

direction of Poland or in the direction of Belarus. And that has consequences, that particular choice. If they want to go the European road, there are enormous benefits to the society of Ukraine. If they want to take the country to Belarus, well, they will go to Belarus."

Piling on

Ms. Tymoshenko, 51, was jailed in October for abuse of office in connection with a gas deal with Russia reached when she was prime minister – a charge she denies.

Her trial was denounced by the European Union and the United States, as well as by numerous rights groups in Ukraine and abroad, as politically motivated.

Ukrainian authorities deny she has been ill-treated in prison.

A new criminal trial on unrelated tax charges began against Ms. Tymoshenko in early April.

Ms. Tymoshenko and her supporters accuse Mr. Yanukovich – whose 2004 bid for the presidency was scuppered by the Orange Revolution that Ms. Tymoshenko helped lead but who completed a political comeback by defeating Ms. Tymoshenko in a 2010 presidential runoff – of political persecution.

With reporting by Reuters and AP.

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Former Canadian MP Wrzesnewskyj fights election result in court

by Christopher Guly

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

OTTAWA – Nearly eight years ago, Borys Wrzesnewskyj convinced then-Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin to send a mission of about 500 Canadians to monitor the re-running of Ukraine's 2004 presidential election, which sparked the Orange Revolution. While there as the leader of the mission, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj witnessed rampant corruption and numerous voting irregularities. But he never expected to utter the words "irregularities" and "illegalities" about voting under Canada's electoral system, let alone be directly involved in a court case making those allegations.

Last May, the three-term Liberal member of Parliament for the Toronto riding of Etobicoke Center lost his House of Commons seat to the Conservative challenger by 26 votes in the Canadian general election. A month later, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj applied to Ontario Superior Court in Toronto to challenge the result.

Last month, the trial began.

Through his lawyer, Gavin Tighe, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj argued that at least 181 people voted twice; or were "ghost voters" who cast ballots without having either proper identification or having signed a declaration attesting to their Canadian citizenship; or were allowed to vote in polling divisions in which they didn't reside – all of which violate the Canada Elections Act.

Mr. Wrzesnewskyj told The Ukrainian Weekly that a polling station at St. Demetrius Ukrainian Catholic seniors' residence was illegally shut down on election day and, when it reopened later, residents were "so intimidated that they never came back to vote." Another polling station was also temporarily closed that day. These two stations happen to be in areas where past election results showed he had some of his biggest support.

"This had to be pre-planned," said Mr. Wrzesnewskyj, whose grandparents were Ukrainian immigrants to Canada. "A year ago, if someone had asked me whether you could have voter suppression or a situation where ballots end up in a box that should not have been there, I would have said, not in Canada. But I can't say that today."

"Someone has figured out the weak links of the system, and have used them to their advantage," he added.

Following the May 2, 2011, election, there was an automatic judicial recount of the ballots in Etobicoke Center since the gap between his results and those of Ted Opatz, who won the riding, was less than 0.1 percent, or under



Former Canadian MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj

0.05 percent.

However, that recount didn't look at the "legitimacy" of ballots cast and "whether they should have been allowed in the first place," said Mr. Wrzesnewskyj.

After voters in his former riding approached him with allegations of irregularities, he decided to litigate, making this the first time a court is being asked to apply a section of the Canada Elections Act added 12 years ago. Under s. 524 (1) (b), an elector or candidate can contest an election if "there were irregularities, fraud or corrupt or illegal practices that affected the result."

Before that provision was introduced, another Toronto Liberal MP, Mauricio Bevilacqua, was taken to court by his closest challenger after narrowly winning a House seat by only 77 votes in 1988. A by-election was called two years later, and Mr. Bevilacqua again defeated Progressive Conservative candidate Michael O'Brien, who had fallen to third place, by a whopping 16,714 votes.

Should Ontario Superior Court rule in Mr. Wrzesnewskyj's favor and find that more than 26 ballots should not have been counted in Etobicoke Center last year, a by-election would be called and he would again vie for the seat.

During the recent eight-day trial, the court allowed Mr. Tighe and Mr. Wrzesnewskyj's other lawyer, Stephen Thiele, to examine ballots cast at 10 polling divisions along with electors' lists. But, under Canadian law, they could not talk to residents of the riding because of electoral secrecy.

"We found that ballots ended up in the box that never should have been there," said Mr. Wrzesnewskyj. "It wasn't just minus-ing of votes, but plus-ing of votes too."

In a factum filed with the court by Canada's chief electoral officer, Marc Mayrand, on behalf of Elections Canada – which along with Mr. Opatz are the defendants in the lawsuit, he said that "administrative and clerical errors in elections will be common and, indeed, inevitable, and it is essential that only those consequential to the result be used to overturn an election."

Mr. Opatz's factum stated that, "it strains credibility" to equate "irregularity" with "mistakes, errors and other actions that are unintentional."

However, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj said the court case isn't just about whether or not he lost his parliamentary seat. "It's about restoring integrity and confidence in our electoral system," he explained.

"Election campaigns are highly emotional competitions and people don't necessarily play by the rules. However, there's a working assumption that things are done the way they should be, but I don't think that can be a working assumption anymore after I heard allegations from people who came forward to speak with me," he noted. "I have even had Elections Canada officials tell me they didn't have confidence in their own organization's investigative processes."

While he awaits the court decision, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj continues to run his popular Future Bakery, which his paternal grandparents established in Toronto in 1952, along with a dairy operation, M-C Dairy.

He also remains active in the Ukrainian Canadian community and last summer agreed to help raise \$1.4 million for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv – a goal he has reached.

In November, Ukrainian-born Canadian businessman James Temerty, who is Orthodox, donated \$1.2 million and the Wrzesnewskyj family contributed \$100,000.

The money will be used to establish three chairs of studies in Ukrainian-Jewish relations: one will look at the Ukrainian-Jewish encounter and interfaith relations; another will focus on Jewish studies in the context of Central and East European history, and the third will concentrate on biblical studies.

INTERVIEW: Preserving centuries of Jewish heritage in Ukraine

Meylakh Sheykhet, the director of the Union of Councils for Jews for the Former Soviet Union, visited the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center in Toronto in February. Mr. Sheykhet has been working for over 25 years on the preservation of sites of Jewish heritage in Ukraine. He lives in Lviv.

The interview below was conducted by Orest Zakydalsky, researcher at the UCRDC. It is translated from the original Ukrainian.

How and why did you start your work?

When perestroika began, people came out of hiding – their internal hiding. There was no longer any need to live in constant fear. People began to organize, to think and to work together. This was an undreamed of joy. I got to know Iryna Kalynets and many others, and we did a lot together.

Back then, anyone traveling to Ukraine had to go through Moscow. I had very good contacts in Moscow, and prominent rabbis who had their roots in Ukraine began to visit and wanted to see what was left of the Jewish heritage after Communist rule. For the Jewish people, Ukraine is a cradle – where religious movements were founded, where a high Jewish culture existed. They were born in Halychyna, in Bukovyna and in Volyn, and continue to nourish the Jewish world with their dignity and their spirituality.

Because I was well-known in dissident circles, these people came to me. I knew several languages – Yiddish, Ukrainian, English, Russian. I grew up in a multilingual world, and it was easy for me to talk with them.

I had submitted my documents for emigration and was waiting. We began to talk and to travel in the towns of Halychyna. We couldn't do this before – to show an interest in your roots was the same as demonstrating that you were a Zionist or anti-Soviet. When I saw the destruction, I was very moved: neglected cemeteries, toppled gravestones. Many cemeteries had already been built over during Soviet times.

Under Soviet rule, new administrative documents were created that left out sacred Jewish places, including cemeteries. Jewish cemeteries and synagogues simply ceased to exist on topographical maps. According to Soviet city plans, it was as if the Jewish people had never existed there, although some cities had 50 percent or 60 percent Jewish populations before the war and the Jews lived side by side with Ukrainians and Poles as neighbors. The Soviets destroyed maps in books that showed this life. They wanted to destroy fully the understanding of the past, as if it had never existed. Jewish schools and synagogues were closed.

Cemeteries – although they were there de facto – from the Soviet position de jure no longer existed, because they weren't on any maps or plans. So many of them were simply built over with new buildings. The destruction was massive. The Germans, during the war, used the tombstones to build roads, and the Soviet government continued to do this.

The rabbis who came to Ukraine tried to do something. They went to the authorities, but the authorities simply lied to them, coming up with various excuses. The rabbis went to the locals, who told them, "here was the Jewish cemetery," but the authorities told them, "no there's no cemetery there." I saw all of this and understood that I had to do something. Even though I had the right to emigrate, I decided to stay.

The first problems we faced – since many of the Jewish archives had been

destroyed or taken away – was how to come up with evidence about sacred sites, and how to deal with the stonewalling of the Communist authorities. But Ukrainians – ordinary villagers, townspeople – were interested in protecting these sites and they helped us.

But it's been very difficult. The authorities, to this day, are not very cooperative. The problem today is "pryvatysatsiya" – business interests trying to privatize things to which they have never had any right. All who come to power try to use their time to get something for themselves, because they don't know if they will be elected again. I am very happy that I have the opportunity to try to preserve the Ukrainian Jewish heritage, but this is becoming a very long and arduous process.

Could you describe the practical side of your work? What is the process that you have to go through to get a place designated as a heritage site that can't be privatized?

Ukrainian legislation is adequate for protecting heritage sites. There is a process that must be followed to prove that a site is a heritage site. First, we have to find documentation and evidence from pre-Soviet times, because Soviet documentation cannot help us. We look for old documents in archives throughout the world.

Ukrainian archives have, for the most part, been destroyed – by the German, then by the Soviet authorities – there is very little left. The archives that remain are disorganized. The Jewish community in Lviv has spent great effort trying to organize them, especially in the Central Historical Archive in Lviv. We've created a database about Jews who lived in Halychyna. Now, if someone from the West wants to find their roots in Ukraine, it is easier. You can search this database by name. This is part of our work.

Once we find archival materials, we compare them to contemporary city plans – we check, we search for physical evidence, and then write a report about that particular Jewish community and site. We submit this to the local authorities. The local authorities, according to the law, must submit these documents to the oblast authorities, and from them they go to the central state apparatus.

Unfortunately, in many cases the local authorities stop these documents – they don't want to pass them on because of business interests, despite the fact that ordinary citizens want to see these places protected. They often come up to us and thank us for the work we're doing. It is thanks to our cooperation with Ukrainians, real Ukrainian patriots, that we have been able to protect many sites.

In Lviv, Yuri Shukhevych and I have been to see the city prosecutor more than once, where Yuri has pounded on the table and demanded, "At long last, will you behave like Ukrainians!?" Together with Vera Lyaskovska, we were able to protect the Citadel [a fortress built during Austrian times, it was used as a camp for Jews and POWs] where, in one tower, tens of thousands of Jews were murdered. The Citadel had been turned into a high-end restaurant; the rich ate there. But we won; this site is now designated a heritage site. But this happened thanks to the central authorities, not the local authorities in Lviv. This is the situation we have in the city of Lviv, which was the center of the struggle against Soviet power. The problem is not with the people; it is with the authorities.



Meylakh Sheykhet

The protection of historical and cultural heritage is an instance that unites people, that unites the past with the present and future. It gives people energy to work together, to cooperate, to organize. Because Ukrainians in the West have a different experience of tolerance and freedom, we need your help in bringing these values to Ukraine.

The mentality of the authorities is, unfortunately, the same as it was during Soviet times. They are more afraid of perceptions in the West than how they look to their own people. In the West, it's the opposite. The government, first and foremost, listens to its own citizens. In Ukraine we don't have this yet. That's why the position of the West is very important.

Recently the cemetery in Sambir has been the subject of much attention in the West. [After the collapse of communism, work began to rehabilitate the ancient Jewish cemetery in Sambir. During this work, extremist elements in the town put up three crosses on the site, which were then blessed by a priest.] Can you give us an update on the current situation there?

The situation in Sambir has become a symbol of intolerance in Ukraine; but in fact, the actual situation is quite different. The problem is not with Ukrainians, but with certain radical elements in Sambir. I have been active in Sambir since 1989. The town played a huge part in Jewish history in Ukraine. Sambir had a lot of communists who, when communism collapsed, overnight changed their coats and became Ukrainian nationalists.

These radical elements put up three crosses on the site of the ancient Jewish cemetery, saying the Sichovi Striltsi cemetery has not been rehabilitated. But nobody forbade them from rehabilitating the Striltsi cemetery; they could have done it. So they invited a priest, put up three crosses, and blessed them on the Jewish burial site. The Church didn't sanction this. This wouldn't have happened if not for those former Communists who became ultranationalists.

The crosses are still there; I met with Cardinal [Lubomyr] Husar, who gave me an official letter saying that this situation is the result of a misunderstanding, and that the crosses, because they were blessed by a priest, need to be moved to another site, where the graves of the Sichovi Striltsi are located.

So we decided that I would do an analysis, to determine where exactly the Striltsi graves are located, so that the crosses can be put there. But there has been no initia-

tive from the Ukrainian side. The Church is also not doing anything. Why should there be crosses on a Jewish cemetery? This is first of all a question for the Church, because the authorities, who should get involved, won't.

And this question of Sambir, in fact, is not a question of Ukrainian-Jewish relations, but it has entered into that arena. And if there were an appeal from the Ukrainian community in Canada, as part of the global Ukrainian community, it would be very important. I am delighted with the work of Borys Wrzesnewskyj [former Member of Canadian Parliament], and Paul Grod [President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress] who came to Lviv, and Jim Temerty [chair of the board of directors, Ukrainian Jewish Encounter Initiative], in this area.

Can you describe the situation with the Jewish cemetery at Berdychev?

There is a terrible situation in Berdychev. During Soviet rule, half the Jewish cemetery was built over with garages and a flea market. Since independence, a petroleum station has been built there. The land was rented out, and there are attempts to privatize it.

We have had a seven-year-long court case, where we proved that this territory was a cemetery. But because of corruption in the court system, and corruption among the local authorities, we haven't been able to have this land designated a heritage site. Although we won several court cases and appeals, one judge, in one sitting, in our absence, decided a seven-year-long case to the benefit of the business interests. We went to the Kyiv Court of Appeals, which returned the case to the lower court, which again ruled against us.

All of this reflects negatively on the Ukrainian state. This is not a problem of the Ukrainian people; this is why the voice of the Ukrainian community – an open, clear protest – is very important, because this would be the voice of the Ukrainian people, and not the voice of that segment of society that is not Ukrainian in the sense of possessing Ukrainian dignity and Ukrainian morality, but people who are taking advantage of the legacy of Soviet rule to enrich themselves.

It is very important to talk about this; the Berdychev question is fully corrupt. According to Ukrainian law, land can only be privatized or rented if there are no legal disputes concerning the land. But in Ukraine, nobody pays attention to the law.

The same tragic situation with Jewish cemeteries exists in Lviv, where the Yaniv cemetery was destroyed and used as a communal cemetery, neglecting its original status, and the Old Jewish cemetery, where the Krakivsky market is now located.

Another instance that garnered much attention in the West has been the issue of the Golden Rose Synagogue in Lviv. [Built in the 16th century, the Golden Rose Synagogue is one of the oldest in Ukraine. Destroyed by the Germans in 1943, the Golden Rose was designated a World Heritage Site in 1998.] What is the current situation?

With regard to the Golden Rose, the problem is essentially the same as in Berdychev. The Ukrainian community in Lviv was fully supportive of the fact that nothing could be built there, that the site needs to be preserved. But what happened? How does destruction of heritage sites take place? The state provides very

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United opposition...

(Continued from page 1)

single opposition candidate to compete in each single-winner, single-mandate district to challenge the Party of Regions candidate, Mr. Fesenko said.

Newly enhanced Batkivshchyna

It was the Batkivshchyna party – Ukraine’s most popular opposition party – that took the initiative of calling for unification after its founder, imprisoned former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, issued a statement on Unity Day (January 22) urging a merger as the best means of challenging the current authoritarian government.

“History gives us a chance again to build a worthy country, and we should understand finally that we’re competing for a country at these elections, not for our own parties,” the statement said. “The issue isn’t about the make-up of the next parliamentary session, but the country’s future for the next several decades. The main thing is not to bring several dozens of our allies to the Verkhovna Rada, but to bring the country out of darkness.”

The May 12 rally confirmed that five pro-Western parties took Ms. Tymoshenko up on her merger proposal – the Front for Change led by Mr. Yatsenyuk, the People’s Movement (Rukh) of Ukraine led by former Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, the Reforms and Order Party led by National Deputy Serhii Sobolyev, the For Ukraine party led by National Deputy Viacheslav Kyrylenko and the People’s Self-Defense party led by Yurii Lutsenko, the imprisoned former internal affairs minister.

The merger creates a single leading opposition party – Batkivshchyna – for closed list (proportional) voting, which will determine 50 percent of the seats, as well as a single list of candidates for single-winner, single-mandate (majoritarian) districts to determine the other half of seats.

Batkivshchyna and Front for Change brought the most votes to the table, having been able to qualify for Parliament on their own. The remaining parties had no chance of breaking the 5 percent threshold in closed list voting, polls reported.

The merger is temporary, as the parties plan to renew themselves following the election, party members told The Weekly. They chose to merge into Batkivshchyna because Parliament voted in 2010 to forbid blocs of parties, which experts said was intended to undermine the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (three parties) and Our Ukraine-People’s Self Defense (10 parties).

Ms. Tymoshenko will be the first politician on the Batkivshchyna closed list ballot, which Mr. Yatsenyuk acknowledged in late April is a political statement since Ukrainian law forbids convicted criminals to run for Parliament. It will be Mr. Yatsenyuk who will lead the Batkivshchyna campaign as its No. 2 ranked politician.

Allowing Mr. Yatsenyuk, the leader of a competing party, to lead the campaign was a significant compromise offered by Batkivshchyna, which is currently being led by Ms. Tymoshenko’s longtime confidante and right-hand man, Oleksander Turchynov.

It remains to be seen whether these two influential politicians will be able to put aside their ambitions for the sake of the united opposition, something that Ms. Tymoshenko and former President Viktor Yushchenko weren’t able to do.

“The interests of Tymoshenko, Turchynov and Yatsenyuk temporarily coincided, though the key figure is Yatsenyuk, who was clearly urged by someone towards this decision,” Mr. Fesenko said. “Yatsenyuk hadn’t even thought about such a step before February, but something changed afterwards.”

Mr. Yatsenyuk’s interest is becoming the leading opposition candidate for the presidency in 2015, he said. Ms. Tymoshenko’s interest is to chip votes away from the Party of Regions. “And it’s simply more comfortable for Turchynov to be in the shadow of a front man, playing the

role of a ‘gray cardinal,’ ” Mr. Fesenko said, referring to someone who plays politics behind the scenes.

Recent polls indicated that the merger is already bearing fruit.

The enhanced Batkivshchyna party led by Mr. Yatsenyuk stands to earn 27 percent of the votes in the October election, according to a poll conducted April 14-19 by the Razumkov Center in Kyiv, which is regarded as Ukraine’s most objective political polling firm. Batkivshchyna has surpassed the incumbent Party of Regions, which stands to earn 23 percent, the poll reported.

Yet it’s those parties that are not likely to surpass the 5 percent vote threshold – UDAR and Svoboda – that have resisted unification efforts.

UDAR going separate

UDAR Chair Vitali Klitschko declared in late March that his party will compete in the October election with its own closed party list (in proportional voting). Mr. Klitschko insisted his party will gain more votes independently by attracting those voters who aren’t attracted to the Batkivshchyna or Svoboda parties.

He pledged that UDAR will join forces with Batkivshchyna after the election – with more deputies between their two forces than there would have been had UDAR merged with Batkivshchyna for closed-list voting.

“UDAR’s ratings are about 7 percent,” Mr. Klitschko told Channel 5 on March 30. Moreover, unification between UDAR and the Front for Change, which has a 10 percent rating, doesn’t give us 17 percent, but only 13 percent. It’s a similar picture with the Batkivshchyna party. So we lose mathematically and that’s related to many factors, such as party ideology and platforms. So we should clearly understand what’s our goal – unity for the sake of unity, or for the sake of victory? I believe that our main goal is forming a majority in the future Parliament.”

As for the single-winner, single-mandate districts (majoritarian voting), Mr. Klitschko said UDAR is willing to join Batkivshchyna in nominating a single candidate for

The electorate speaks

Preferences of Ukrainians, polled on April 14-19 by the Razumkov Center, who said they would vote in the October parliamentary elections.

Fatherland	27%
Party of the Regions	23%
UDAR	10%
Communist Party	7%
Svoboda Party	6%
Ukraine Forward	5%

Source: Razumkov Center, April 14-19

each district, but only on the condition that the single opposition candidate is determined by independent polling firms, and not by party leadership.

Mr. Klitschko said he will compete for the Kyiv mayoralty should an election be announced. The Verkhovna Rada has yet to decide whether it wants to hold the Kyiv City Council chair election this year as required by the country’s Constitution, which has been repeatedly ignored by the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich.

For example, the parliamentary election was required by the current Constitution of Ukraine, drafted in 1996, to be held in March 2011, yet parliament voted to ignore the law and hold the vote in October 2012 – a decision that was absurdly affirmed by the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

UDAR’s poll standings have risen to 10 percent in recent months, according to the April poll by the Razumkov Center.

The party supports Ukraine’s integration into the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and a single Ukrainian state language, said Rostyslav Pavlenko, the chair of the department of strategic planning and ideology for UDAR.

UDAR also advocates economic policies that support the development of small- and medium-sized businesses, he told The Weekly.

The party is aiming to lure voters from eastern and southern Ukraine, where many have become disillusioned with the Party of Regions yet don’t wish to support the Batkivshchyna party, Mr. Pavlenko said. The latest party congress was held on April 28 in the Russian-oriented city of Zaporizhia.



Vitali Klitschko will lead the Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reform (UDAR) party in the October 28 parliamentary elections. UDAR is the third most popular party in Ukraine, according to polling by the Razumkov Center.

Polarizing Svoboda party

Kyiv City Organization Chair Andrii Ilyenko of the nationalist Svoboda party confirmed on April 12 that it too will run in the October 28 elections independently.

Yet, an informal understanding among opposition leaders had always existed that the Svoboda party would pursue the parliamentary election separately, party spokesman Yurii Syrotyuk told The Weekly.

Ukraine’s pro-Western opposition parties have always kept a certain distance from the Svoboda party and its leader, Mr. Tiahnybok, who is remembered for an anti-Jewish remark during the 2004 presidential campaign.

Indeed as recently as late February, Mr. Syrotyuk is alleged to have made an insensitive statement when saying that Gaitana, a Ukrainian citizen of Congolese descent, shouldn’t represent Ukraine at the annual Eurovision song competition because of her dark skin. “Ukraine will be associated with another continent, somewhere in Africa,” Mr. Syrotyuk allegedly said, according to media controlled by the Party of Regions such as the obozrevatel.com news site. Afterwards, he said his words were twisted as a political provocation that was seized upon by Party of Regions politicians.

On April 6, several dozen scholars and intellectuals signed an open letter to the opposition leadership to discontinue its cooperation with the Svoboda party because of its racist and anti-Semitic rhetoric.

Besides respected Ukrainian intellectuals, however, the statement was also signed by critics of the Ukrainian liberation movement, such as Prof. John Paul Himka of the University of Alberta, and those who denigrate and smear the Halychyna region in their academic work, such as Anton Shekhovtsov of Sevastopol, a visiting research fellow at the University of Northampton in Great Britain.

The April 6 statement was criticized by more than a dozen leaders of Fourth Wave Ukrainian diaspora organizations, which issued a response that was read at the April 10 session of the Lviv Oblast Council, which is controlled by the Svoboda party.

The statement accused the intellectuals behind the April 6 letter of attempting to split the opposition amidst an ongoing ethnocide currently being carried out by the Ukrainian government. “Pluses and minuses can be found in all parties today on the Ukrainian political horizon,” said the statement. “Smearing labels such as ‘racists,’ ‘fascists’ and ‘bourgeois nationalists’ is a long known Kremlin tactic used against those who stood and stand for the right of the Ukrainian nation for its own state and the right of Ukrainians to be masters on their own land.”

Batkivshchyna has continued to cooperate with Svoboda, allowing Mr. Tiahnybok to speak at the May 12 political forum at St. Michael’s Square.

The Svoboda party is the most popular political force in Ukraine’s Halychyna region, controlling most of the local councils. Nationally, it stands to gain 6 percent of the vote and qualify for Parliament under closed list voting, according to the Razumkov Center survey.

Quotable notes

“Today we are living in peace and freedom in Germany, and in the European Union, but sadly not in the whole of Europe: for in Ukraine, and in Belarus, people are still suffering under dictatorship and repression.”

– German Chancellor Angela Merkel in a speech to Germany’s lower house of Parliament, as reported by the Financial Times on May 10.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The united opposition

It all looks very nice on paper. At the May 12 United Opposition Forum on St. Michael's Square, Ukraine's most popular political force, the Batkivshchyna party led by Arseniy Yatsenyuk, proposed ideas that would certainly set Ukraine on the path to economic renewal, instead of the current self-destruction.

Mr. Yatsenyuk called for Europe's simplest tax code, consisting of only seven taxes for doing business. Bravo. Ukraine's tax code is ranked among the world's worst. He called for an overhaul of the justice system, replacing virtually all its judges. Bravo. The nation's courts have long been regarded by Ukrainians as farcical.

The oblast state administration system will be dismantled. Yes, absolutely. The Constitutional Court of Ukraine will be liquidated. Amen. During 20 years of Ukrainian independence, these organs have been little more than a stage of puppets manipulated by the Ukrainian president.

But besides feelings of hope, the proposals being delivered boisterously from the stage also evoked the feelings associated with "been there, done that," (in Ukraine's case, perhaps this phenomenon should be called, "been there, did nothing") considering how some proposals are entirely unrealistic.

For instance, Mr. Yatsenyuk called for creating an "independent anti-corruption bureau" to review all assets stolen from the state, with the promise of even re-confiscating them. This is believable considering the most egregious examples of alleged theft – such as President Viktor Yanukovich's beloved Mezhyhiria estate and the Zalissia state park, where he likes to take his buddies hunting. "We will return everything to the Ukrainian people!" Mr. Yatsenyuk boomed into his microphone. Yet the corruption has gotten so rampant that collecting even half of what's been stolen would require an army of accountants and the Berkut special forces to serve as the repo team.

"Such officials will sit in prison, not in Cabinet of Ministers positions!" Mr. Yatsenyuk thundered from the stage. Yeah right. We heard that in 2004, and we don't believe it this time around. All the more so because Mr. Yatsenyuk backed off that promise by the time newspapers hit the stands on Monday (within 48 hours), telling the Kommersant newspaper that "vendettas are the worst thing in politics." He warned Mr. Yanukovich to stop now so that he won't be held criminally responsible.

The promises got to be so outrageous that it seemed as though the opposition forces are expecting to lose this election, and hoping to remain in the opposition, knowing full well there's no way they can fulfill some of their agenda. Mr. Yanukovich will be impeached. The luxurious Feofaniya hospital in suburban Kyiv will be open to all Ukrainians, not just the political elite. New taxes will cover any needed medical procedure. Give us a break! As the Ukrainians say, "Don't hang noodles on our ears!"

Unfortunately, such political rhetoric is a sign that it's politics as usual for the opposition. They're clearly not ready for any radical steps in October, which could be costly because Ukraine's future for the remainder of the decade and beyond that hangs in the balance.

As a sign the opposition has matured, the Batkivshchyna party, which is being directed behind the scenes by Oleksander Turchynov while Yulia Tymoshenko is imprisoned, deserves kudos for allowing Mr. Yatsenyuk to lead its closed list ballot and therefore serve as the lead campaigner. It was an unusually brave step for the Ukrainian opposition, whose destructive infighting seemed to be seeping into this year's campaign, despite being on the brink of extinction.

Nevertheless, the opposition lacks that galvanizing leader who could lead a revolt should the elections be falsified. Mr. Yatsenyuk is a solid speaker, flawlessly delivering his May 12 speech even after his notes flew off his podium. But he simply doesn't inspire Ukrainians. Neither does Mr. Turchynov, whose loud declarations seem affected and exaggerated, as if to reveal his own exhaustion and disinterest from politics. And Vitali Klitschko has yet to demonstrate that he's willing to take his opposition against to the authoritarian government to the next level.

Perhaps these leaders sense that the opportunity to take power will arrive with the 2015 presidential election, but the trouble is that there might not be any opposition by then. If the May 12 forum proved anything, it's that the consequences of the Yushchenko-Tymoshenko conflict will be felt for many years to come.

May
20
2009

Turning the pages back...

Three years ago, on May 20, 2009, Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk defeated Germany's Werder Bremen 2-1 at Sukru Saracoglu Stadium in Istanbul and won the UEFA Cup soccer tournament.

This was the biggest victory for a Ukrainian soccer club on the international stage, with the UEFA Cup as the second largest

European annual soccer tournament behind the UEFA Champions League. This was also the last UEFA Cup tournament as its name changed the following year to the UEFA Europa League.

Luiz Adriano scored the first goal for Shakhtar in the 25th minute of play, and 10 minutes later Bremen tied the score with a penalty kick by Naldo. The second half was filled with tension as the scoreless second half drew to a close, forcing overtime. Jadson clinched the game seven minutes into overtime with an assist by Darjo Srna.

The final match attracted 53,000 fans at the stadium, while an estimated 18 million viewers watched the game on television in Ukraine. Also in attendance were President Viktor Yushchenko, Party of Regions Chair Viktor Yanukovich, Football Federation of Ukraine President Hryhoriy Surkis and UEFA President Michel Platini.

Loud chants of "Shakhtar" filled the stadium, as the team's coach, Mircea Lucescu, had served as head coach for two Turkish clubs, Galatasaray SK and Besiktas JK.

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COMMENTARY

Raiders' state

by Mykola Riabchuk

This time, I have to start with a frank disclosure. For 40 years, I have been a faithful reader of the Kyiv-based journal *Vsesvit* (All the World). For more than 30 years, I have been one of its contributors. For two decades, I have been a staff editor there, ending my career in 1994 as a deputy editor-in-chief. And today, after moving to academia, I still remain a committed reader, author and member of the editorial board.

Vsesvit is an independent journal of world literature, with very limited resources acquired painstakingly from various grants, but with high and well-grounded ambitions: to promote world culture and literature in Ukrainian translations. I greatly respect all the people who work for *Vsesvit* – for a meager salary and symbolic royalties but also for an encouraging feeling of doing something good and important.

A few days ago, I learned that on April 26 a group of unidentified individuals broke into the *Vsesvit* office on Hrushevsky Street, ironically located next to the Ukrainian Parliament and the Cabinet of Ministers and not very far from the Presidential Administration. The intruders demanded that Chief Editor Oleh Mykytenko vacate the premises and renounce his claim to the office legally owned by the *Vsesvit* Publishing Co.

They behaved in an extremely rough fashion, tried to damage *Vsesvit* property and threatened personnel with further repercussions if they did not step down. Some suggested they were acting on behalf of a certain Valeri Kharlim, a national deputy from the Party of Regions (little surprise), protected reportedly by First Vice Prime Minister Valeryi Khoroshkovsky. They argued they had their own documented claims to the *Vsesvit* property, which were apparently faked, but convincing enough from the point of view of Ukraine's thoroughly corrupted and subservient courts (<http://khp.org/index.php?id=1335554817>).

The story is hardly unique and certainly not the most eye-catching against the backdrop of some other events in Ukraine that have recently drawn public attention. Whereas mass media discuss the alleged beating of Yulia Tymoshenko by prison guards and four mysterious blasts in Dnipropetrovsk, attributed to unspecified "terrorists," raiders' attacks on property in Yanukovich's Ukraine are a daily practice that evokes little international attention, except for the cases where foreign companies are involved and Western embassies interfere.

"Raiding," as Andrew Rettman defines it, "is a form of hostile take-over in which someone bribes or blackmails courts to enforce a bogus claim against a profitable business. It can involve a van full of balaclava-wearing men breaking into your office

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The article above is reprinted from the blog "Current Politics in Ukraine" (<http://ukrainiananalysis.wordpress.com/>) created by the Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine, a program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta.

to tell you that you are no longer the owner. In extreme cases it can involve people shooting at your staff. Most victims are small- and medium-sized Ukrainian firms in the agricultural sector. But foreign companies are not immune." Indeed, even the steel giant Arcelor Mittal, which unwisely purchased the Kryvorizhstal mill for \$5 billion from the previous government, four years later became a target of coordinated raiders' attacks and pressure from the authorities (<http://euobserver.com/24/114646>).

"This problem is on the increase, one expert contends," and it "is common knowledge that it cannot happen without collusion from the authorities." To prove this claim, Mr. Rettman refers to Transparency International's latest corruption ranking in which Ukraine dropped 18 places and now ranks below Nigeria.

The European Business Association (EBA) has also lowered Ukraine significantly on its index of investment attractiveness. "You cannot protect your legitimate interests in the courts," EBA Director Anna Derevyanko says. "This comes up in many conversations with potential investors. It makes them reluctant to go ahead."

Not surprisingly, not only foreigners but also Ukrainian businessmen prefer to invest their money abroad rather than in Ukraine. Small- and medium-sized companies have little choice, however, in this regard. And even less options are at stake for cultural journals. All of them seem helpless vis-à-vis powerful gangsters and unscrupulous government: intertwined and interconnected, nearly fused in Ukraine into one body. One by one, they are raided and racketeered, raped and pillaged, even though there are thousands of them, and all they need for successful resistance is unity and solidarity.

Two years ago, we Ukrainians allowed the raiders to unlawfully take over the Parliament and the government. Now, we allow them to destroy and subdue us gradually, one by one, one business after another.

Vsesvit has never been a political journal. Its editor has always believed, perhaps sincerely, that culture is universal, and any government is able to appreciate it as a much-needed public good. He was wrong. Ukraine has a government that appreciates only brute force, endless amounts of money and cynical lies.

Much of the international criticism of Ukrainian authorities was expressed within the past two years. Their typical reaction can be graphically exemplified by a recent decision of the ruling Party of Regions (PoR) to hire one of the world's largest corporate communications companies, Burson-Marsteller, to whitewash the regime. Or, as Robert Mack, a senior manager at Burson-Marsteller, explained it: "Our brief is to help the PoR [Party of Regions] communicate its activities as the governing party of Ukraine, as well as to help it explain better its position on the Yulia Tymoshenko case." Less euphemistically, this means the task is to intensify a smear campaign against former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and to tame the international criticism of the Ukrainian authorities, especially the President who has become, since last year, virtually an international pariah (<http://euobserver.com/24/116076>).

They seem to believe – naively or, rather, arrogantly – that money can fix any problem.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

On the eve of NATO's summit in Chicago

by Askold S. Lozynskij

Following the failed attempt on the part of both Washington and Kyiv to secure a NATO Membership Action Plan (MAP) for Ukraine at the April 2008 Bucharest summit of NATO. Ukrainian membership in NATO has become a dormant issue, if not a non-issue. The United States – once a strong advocate of Ukraine – has been silent.

Much of this can be explained by a change of administrations in both countries. Certainly, the Obama administration has been less forthcoming on Ukraine than the Bush administration. Undoubtedly, the Yanukovich regime has stifled what was once a grand design of European integration by President Viktor Yushchenko and has transformed Ukraine into a global pariah.

So, what is Ukraine's current outlook for NATO membership? The answer is unclear.

On March 16, 2009, a U.S. high-level bipartisan commission (Hagel-Hart Commission) recommended that the new U.S. administration reach out to Russia in a number of ways, including the withdrawal of support for NATO membership for Ukraine and Georgia. It recommended that the U.S. government accept that "neither Ukraine nor Georgia is ready for NATO membership," and that the United States does not now have "a compelling security interest" in NATO membership for either country. The U.S. commission further recommended its government "to develop options other than NATO membership" for Ukraine and Georgia and find other ways "to demonstrate a commitment to their sovereignty."

No doubt Russia's policy of rearmament, renewed aggressiveness and a demonstrated willingness to implement that part of its military doctrine which calls for military intervention in its "near abroad" to "safeguard" Russia's "national interests" had a major impact on the commission. Furthermore, political expediency, particularly in the Middle East, influenced this decision to sacrifice Ukraine and Georgia. Unfortunately, this commission manifested ignorance of or disregard for NATO's genesis, its history and purpose.

Undeterred, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has declared on more than one occasion that "we should continue to open NATO's door to European countries such as Georgia and Ukraine, and help them meet NATO standards." But the secretary's words, pronounced on more than one occasion, have fallen on deaf ears, since no one seems to know where the U. S. president stands.

Askold S. Lozynskij is an attorney based in New York City. He is a former president of both the Ukrainian World Congress and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Germany and France have been non-supportive of Ukraine's security interests, to say the least, and this may have been further aggravated by the recent election of a Socialist president in France.

The "re-election" of President Vladimir Putin and the introduction by the Russian Orthodox Church of a new term loosely translated as "the Russian world" should have stirred up renewed concerns over Russian aggression, but instead they have brought Chancellor Angela Merkel and President Putin closer together and persuaded a heretofore unprincipled President Barack Obama to become even more "flexible."

Today, Ukraine itself has become less than proactive as to NATO membership, partially because of its Soviet past and an increasing Ukrainian skepticism toward the West's intentions – all of this severely aggravated by the Yanukovich regime's non-Western orientation and thuggish behavior. This has enabled such non-friends of Ukraine as Chancellor Merkel to shroud her essentially longstanding Russophile policies in a "concern for human rights" cover. Ukraine's imprisoned former prime-minister deserves Western intervention. However, she should not be used as a weapon in Ms. Merkel's continued belligerence towards Ukraine in order to please her friend, Mr. Putin.

The subject of Ukraine's security – not only for the sake of principle, but more so on a geo-strategic level – needs to be addressed at NATO's Chicago summit. Irrespective of Germany, France and even President Obama, Ukraine remains a lynchpin and buffer between today's NATO and the country, in essence, against whom NATO was formed. A militarily strong and modern democratic Ukraine is NATO's best weapon, even better than the radar and anti-missile shield contemplated for Poland, the Czech Republic or Romania. Not to diminish the significance of any current NATO member-state but, after all, Ukraine in size and population is one of Europe's largest countries. Ultimately, full NATO membership for Ukraine not only serves Ukraine but furthers NATO's purpose as an alliance defending itself from the world's most dangerous possible aggressor. We need not name that aggressor.

Tangible action such as an imminent offer of a MAP sends the right message to both the cynical Ukrainian population and the aggressive Russian rulers. It also puts Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovich in a quandary.

Let's be both honest and practical for a change. Given its size and location, Ukraine is a most appropriate candidate for NATO membership. The process should be facilitated and expedited. Frankly, Ukraine without NATO is not secure, and NATO without Ukraine is a geo-strategic illusion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Depressing to read about Ukraine events

Dear Editor:

It is very sad and depressing to read about events taking place in Ukraine today either in The Ukrainian Weekly or in the mainstream press. And there is a lot of bad news in both. Ukraine is fast becoming a mafia state.

Traditionally, we in the diaspora tend to blame the beastly Russians for all our misfortunes. But looking more deeply in the history of Ukraine one finds that it was greedy, corrupt and stupid "Ukrainian elites" that have inflicted so much suffering on the people of our homeland. Russians simply and cleverly took advantage of the greed and stupidity of the Ukrainian elites while inflicting great suffering on us through their hands.

Consider for a minute why small but enlightened countries such as Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Georgia are able to withstand successfully Russian aggression and domination, while large, powerful and rich Ukraine cannot do so. It is the greed and stupidity of Ukrainian elites that brought such misery and devastation on our poor land today, with the Donbas criminal clan following in the footsteps of many other traitors of our history that betrayed Hetmans Ivan Mazepa, Ivan Vyhovsky, Pylyp Orlyk and other patriots.

Well, it's not the end of history. Russia today is also mafia state, controlled and exploited for material benefits by a former KGB apparatus of thugs and murderers. And today the educated part of the Russian population does not like it. We all have seen the most unusual demonstration against Tsar Vladimir Putin in Moscow, not unlike the ones seen in footage from 1917 demonstrations in St. Petersburg against Tsar Nicholas. As they brought down Nicholas in 1917, they may do with Tsar Vladimir a few years from now.

People are simply fed-up with mafia states, be it Ukraine or Russia. And remember: Russian revolutions, and there were many of them, were always ignited by the intelligentsia or educated class of the country, with little, if any, participation by the common folks. And the same historical scenario is developing in Russia right now.

Otherwise, Russia today is still a technologically backward country with a rapidly declining population in a huge and incredibly rich in natural resources but otherwise empty land east of the Ural Mountains that could be taken over in the not too distant future by the Chinese who badly need those resources to satisfy the needs of their

huge population. While travelling in Siberia I have seen the economic aspect of that takeover already under way.

However, at this time we can only look with sadness at what is happening in Ukraine while remembering Mykola Hohol's comment in one of his Myrhorod stories: "How sad it is in this world, gentlemen."

Th Ukraine of the future will not necessarily be such as we have imagined for so many years in the diaspora, but it will be Ukraine nevertheless. The 10,000-year-old Trypilian civilization of our ancestors will prevail. It is the oldest surviving civilization in Europe.

Ihor Lysyj
Austin, Texas

We need to know candidates' stands

Dear Editor:

While the political rhetoric continues before the presidential elections and each presidential candidate wants to show more muscle to be elected to the highest office of these United States of America, there seems to be too much emphasis in their rhetoric on jobs, unemployment, statistics, gasoline prices and how to revive the economic stagnation in the country, not to mention, efforts to tarnish each other's image.

Aside from the Middle East and several other selective strategic spots, there seems to be little talk about the challenges in other parts of the world confronting the U.S. at this very critical time of our history.

The rising power of China's political influence and economic growth, and its rapidly growing military might, as well as Russia's appetite to re-establish its slave empire – naturally at the expense of its nearby neighbors – and once again become a world superpower capable of challenging the U.S. or anyone else, cannot be ignored by either presidential candidate. Empty talk and threats against human rights abusers, corrupt and criminal governments, world famines and genocide sponsors, without action will not do. These issues will have to be addressed soon by both presidential candidates. These issues will not go away by themselves and sweeping aside them is bound to backfire in the very near future.

There are a lot of eligible voters who are very much interested in these issues and would like to hear from the presidential candidates where they stand. The sooner they hear from them, the quicker they will decide for whom to cast their ballots.

Lubomyr Pawlowych
Union, N.J.

Opinions in The Ukrainian Weekly

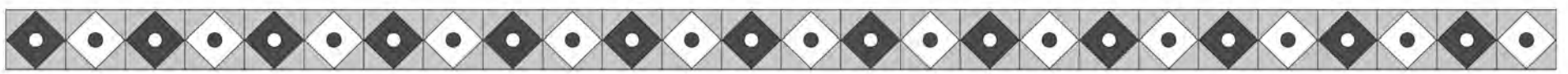
Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, etc. – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- Persons who submit any materials must provide a complete mailing address and daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.

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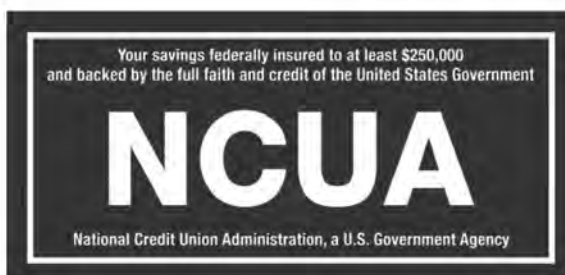
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Ukrainian pysanka in the limelight among ambassadors' wives

by Roksolana Misilo

NEW YORK – Dr. Natalia Sergeyeva, wife of the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations Yuriy Sergeev, partnered with the Ukrainian National Women's League of America to host the fourth annual luncheon for the U.N. Ambassadors' Wives Club on Tuesday, April 24, at The Ukrainian Museum.

The themes this year were the traditional "Festival of the Pysanka" and the exhibition "Ukrainian Kilims: Journey of a Heritage," followed by a buffet reception featuring Ukrainian cuisine.

After the guided tour of the extensive

kilim exhibit by curator Lubow Wolynetz, Dr. Sergeyeva welcomed the honored guests. UNWLA President Marianna Zajac spoke about the work of the UNWLA in the United States and Ukraine, and gave a brief history of The Ukrainian Museum and its origins. The president of the board of trustees of The Ukrainian Museum, Mykola Darmochwal, spoke about the museum's history and exhibits.

The Ukrainian Museum was founded in 1976 by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America with the mission of bringing Ukrainian art and culture to the public.

The UNWLA, whose purpose is to unite



Dr. Natalia Sergeyeva (wife of the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the U.N. Yuriy Sergeev), Marta Kokolskyj (advisor to the Ukrainian Mission at the U.N.), Tatiana Pohoreltsev (wife of Consul General of Ukraine to New York Serhii Pohoreltsev) and Marianna Zajac (president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America).



Artist Sofika Zielyk gives a demonstration on the art of pysanka-writing.

women of Ukrainian descent and those affiliated with the Ukrainian community, and Dr. Sergeyeva, who works tirelessly advancing Ukrainian culture within the U.N. Ambassadors' Wives Club, united to promote the Ukrainian heritage by introducing international guests to the customs and traditions of Ukraine.

The museum holds an unparalleled array of folk art, an exceptional collection of fine art and an extensive compendium of archival materials. The museum's state-of-the-art home on 222 E. Sixth St. includes spacious galleries and facilities for public programming, thus allowing it to host events such as this luncheon.

Guests were treated also to a presenta-

tion of the tradition, visual beauty and symbolism of the pysanka by accomplished artist Sofika Zielyk. Her demonstration of the art left the audience truly mesmerized.

Afterwards, 40 members of the Ambassadors' Wives Club mingled with members of the UNWLA while sampling traditional Ukrainian cuisine.

Each guest received a wooden reproduction of a pysanka as a souvenir of this lovely and entertaining afternoon. The event was underwritten by Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union.

Roksolana Misilo chairs the Arts/Museum Committee of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America.

Preserving...

(Continued from page 4)

little money for protecting heritage sites. The municipal authorities – especially in a place like Lviv, which has such a unique history and is really a "museum city" – could look for international and local funds in order to protect heritage sites. Instead, certain areas of the city fall into disrepair and the authorities are told: nobody's doing anything, let's give it to a businessman, he'll do something. But business doesn't want to protect heritage sites – it builds things that will bring maximum profit. Buildings that have been designated heritage sites are destroyed. Nobody wants to listen to the Ukrainian intelligentsia, nobody wants to hear that legislation exists. And so a group of people makes a lot of money off such a situation. At the Golden Rose, we stopped construction. We have had two court rulings in our favor and six other cases are in process.

What was being built on the location of the Golden Rose?

A hotel for Euro-2012. But we were able to get a court order to stop the construction, in large part because of Ukrainians. We based our case on Ukrainian legislation, international agreements that Ukraine had signed and on the fact that the site is protected as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The position of the Ukrainian community was unanimously against construction.

But, before we were able to stop the construction, a great many objects were destroyed and taken out by trucks. Returning and restoring these objects is impossible now. In the West, this site would be restored, and it could turn a profit. People enjoy coming to Lviv to feel the aura of an old-world city. But the people who tried to build on the site of the synagogue were not from Lviv.

The authorities argued that those who were building there had paid a huge amount of money for the territory. I told them, "is there any amount of money that can be compared to the worth of our cultural heritage?" This heritage was created in Ukraine; it is part of our common legacy.

However, thanks in large part to the minister of culture and tourism of Ukraine, the Agency for the Preservation of the National Cultural Heritage and Hanna Herman, the

illegal construction was banned. Thanks to the voice of the Ukrainian community – nationalists like Vera Lyaskovska, Iryna Kalynets and Yuri Shukhevych, Heroes of Ukraine, in particular – and the judges, who finally understood the issue, construction has stopped. But the City Council is going back to court in support of construction. We are sure that with God's help, we will win, but it's very difficult.

The fight for the rule of law in Ukraine should be a concern of the Ukrainian community, in the same way that attention has been focused on [Yulia] Tymoshenko. The issue is not with Tymoshenko. What is important is that the opposition should have a right to exist. Only then can democratic rights be protected.

The problem of heritage sites is not a problem of the Ukrainian or Jewish people; it is a problem created by certain business interests. The Ukrainian community has always supported us. This is not a question of Ukrainian-Jewish relations, but rather a problem of administration, of the Ukrainian authorities not representing the people, of the authorities not carrying out their responsibilities as elected officials. They should also think about how their actions reflect on Ukraine.

What role do you see the diaspora having?

We need to unite our efforts; the voice of the West is very important. Ukrainians here have the right to have their voices heard in Ukraine. The assistance of lawyers, for example, would be very important. As long as there is no respect to follow the rule of law in Ukraine, the Ukrainian state will not be able to self-realize. Without the rule of law there is no independent Ukraine.

Our two peoples, who have a lot in common, should build our relations without the intrusion of forces that seek to divide us and together we should reach understanding and move forward. There is a lot of good in our common history. Ukraine is the cradle of Hasidism; our peoples lived in neighborly relations for centuries. Jewish culture, Jewish life, flourished in Ukraine. It is very good to hear Ukrainians say that there is no Lviv without the Jewish community; but the conditions to protect this history need to be created. Ukrainians should state their position. The local community is helping us – we also need the voice of the West to support us.

Scholar discusses fate of looted art



WASHINGTON – Dr. Patricia Kennedy Grimsted recently discussed her efforts in trying to uncover the fate of major collections of art and icons looted from Kyiv museums during the World War II Nazi occupation. As she indicated in her recent presentation at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, these collections were transported to East Prussia, where they were either destroyed or stolen away elsewhere. A senior research associate at the Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute, Dr. Grimsted is a widely respected scholar who has been researching displaced cultural property and restitution issues on the Eastern Front since the 1960s. Her April 14 presentation was co-sponsored by the Washington chapter of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

– Yaro Bihun



Have your children experience the splendor,
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Tennis Camp Session: 6/24-7/5

\$735 UNA member • \$785 non UNA member

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Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

Ukrainian Dance Academy Workshop

Session: July 1-14

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A vigorous 2 week dance training for more intermediate and advanced dancers ages 16 and up under the direction of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Foundation, culminating with performances on stage at our Cultural Festival Weekend. Additional info www.syzokryli.com.

Tabir Ptashat Session 1: 6/24-6/30 • Session 2: 7/1-7/7

Ukrainian Plast Tabir for children ages 4-6 accompanied by their parents.

For registration information please contact

Neonilia Sochan at (973) 984-7456 or Oresta Fedyniak at (773) 486-0394.

Discovery Camp Session: 7/15-7/21

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Calling all nature lovers for this sleepover program filled with outdoor crafts, hiking, swimming, organized sports & games, bonfires, songs, Ukrainian culture, and much more. Room, board, 24 hour supervision and a lifetime of memories are included! Ages 8-15

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp

Session 1: 7/15-7/20 • Session 2: 7/22-7/27

\$225 per child staying on premises • \$300 per child staying off premises

A returning favorite, in the form of a day camp, children ages 4-8 will be exposed to Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, crafts and games. Children will walk away with an expanded knowledge of Ukrainian folk culture and language as well as, new, lasting friendships with other children of Ukrainian heritage. Price includes kid's lunch and t-shirt, and unless noted, is based on in-house occupancy of parent/guardian.

Chornomorska Sitch Sports School

Session 1: 7/22-7/28 • Session 2: 7/29-8/4

Weekly rate overnight stay \$450 • Daily commuter for the week \$250

42nd Annual sports camp run by the Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association "Chornomorska Sitch", for children ages 6-17. This camp will focus on soccer, tennis, volleyball and swimming, and is perfect for any sports enthusiast.

Please contact Marika Bokalo at (908) 851-0617,

or email sitchsportsschool@gmail.com, for application and additional information.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

Ukrainian Dance Camp

Session 1: 7/22-8/4 • Session 2: 8/5-8/18

\$1,050 UNA member • \$1,100 non UNA member

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky), this camp is for ages 8-16, and offers expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Room, board, 24-hour supervision, expert lessons and loads of fun are included. Each camp ends with a grand recital. Attendance will be limited to 60 students



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BOOK REVIEW

The Demjanjuk odyssey as viewed in the rear-view mirror

"The Demjanjuk Debacle: The Trials of a 'Nazi' Who Wasn't," by Myron Kuropas. Kyiv: M.I. Serhijchuk Publisher, 2012 (ISBN 978-966-2911-43-5). 90 pp. \$17.

by Andrij J. Semotiuk

In his book "The Demjanjuk Debacle: The Trials of a 'Nazi' Who Wasn't," author Myron Kuropas, who was a special assistant for ethnic affairs to President Gerald R. Ford, holds a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, was a former adjunct professor at Northern Illinois University and has authored several books on Ukrainians in America, recounts the torturous route John Demjanjuk traveled in his life.

As the first historical account of the 30-year history of the Demjanjuk case, the author provides the reader with a thorough review of the salient events that evoked such bitter debate and friction between the various parties entangled by the legal struggle and what it symbolized.

As the book lays out, beginning in his native Ukraine under Soviet rule, Demjanjuk lived through the Holodomor, through recruitment into the Red Army and combat duty against Nazi Germany and the Axis powers on the Eastern Front of World War II. He was captured by the Nazis and became a prisoner of war.

The author indicates that, according to allegations made by the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) of the U.S. Department of Justice, Demjanjuk was a trainee in Trawniki and a guard in the Nazi Sobibor death camp. The author disputes these allegations, contending instead that Demjanjuk was an internee in Nazi Germany's genocidal concentration camps for Soviet POWs, later joining Vlasov's army to fight and overthrow the brutal Stalinist regime in the Soviet Union. The author then outlines how Demjanjuk immigrated to the United States in 1952.

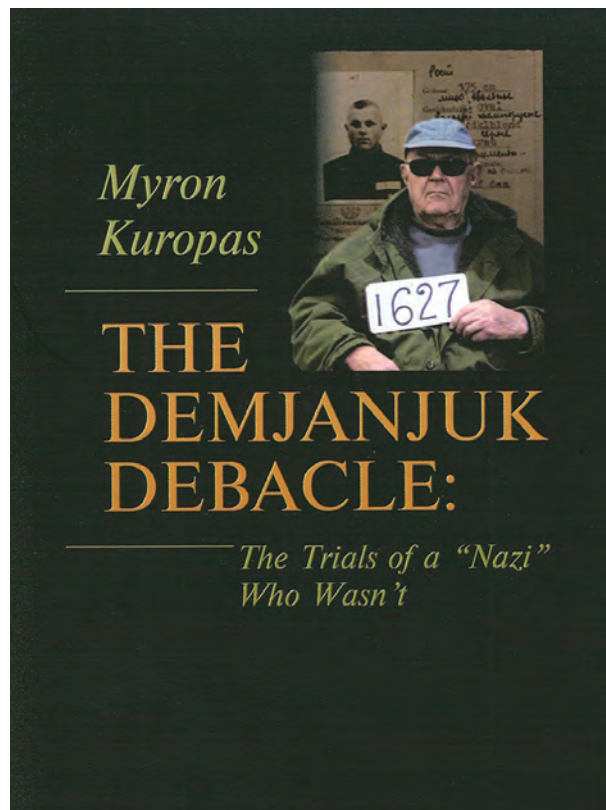
Demjanjuk lived peacefully in Cleveland until early 1981. It was then, according to this book, that Demjanjuk was imprisoned in the U.S., denaturalized and ultimately deported to Israel, where he faced a trial for being "Ivan the Terrible," a sadistic guard at the Treblinka concentration camp.

At his trial in Israel, according to the book, Jewish Holocaust survivors falsely accused Demjanjuk of being "Ivan the Terrible." He was convicted and then endured imprisonment while his appeals were heard. Ultimately Demjanjuk was victorious in the Israeli Supreme Court after substantial new evidence of his innocence was uncovered by his defense team and presented to the court.

Demjanjuk then returned to the United States where his U.S. citizenship was restored, only then to face a second deportation proceeding initiated by the OSI to remove him to Germany. The author outlines how in Munich a trial on charges of being an accessory to the murder of over 28,000 Jews at Sobibor found him guilty. Then Demjanjuk appealed to the German court of appeal. This is where the author's account concludes. However, we now know that shortly afterwards, John Demjanjuk died.

If nothing else, the Demjanjuk case as set out in this book is an incredible collection of contradictions. While Israel acquitted Demjanjuk, Germany convicted him. Real Nazis were amnestied by modern Germany, but non-Nazis like Demjanjuk were not. According to a finding of a U.S. Appeals Court, the OSI concealed evidence of Demjanjuk's innocence, yet the OSI twice prosecuted him for concealing his past. Soviet evidence was condemned by the defense as unreliable, but it was Soviet evidence that saved Demjanjuk's life in Israel. Demjanjuk "was a German prisoner being tried by the very people who captured, confined and made him do whatever they were now accusing him of having done." Since Germany could not prove that Demjanjuk murdered anyone, they convicted him of a newly invented criminal offence, that of being an accessory to the murder of over 28,000 victims, on the theory that his mere presence in the death camp was sufficient to hold him guilty despite the fact that other guards from this camp were not held guilty by German courts previously.

Andrij J. Semotiuk is an attorney practicing in the area of international law focusing on immigration. He is a member of the bars of New York and California in the United States and Ontario and British Columbia in Canada. A former United Nations correspondent who was stationed in New York, Mr. Semotiuk now practices law and resides in Toronto.



These contradictions alone made this case extraordinary.

As a lawyer, several factors troubled me about Demjanjuk's case. The author mentions some of my previously published legal comments in his book. Foremost among these was the politicization of the law that it entailed. To draw an analogy, what debasing the money supply of a society does to its financial health, politicization of the legal system does to its legal health. The Kuropas book concurs with my previous argument that normal legal rules could have adequately dealt with Demjanjuk, and agrees that the result would not have been his conviction. As the book so aptly demonstrates, this was not something those who sought Demjanjuk's guilt could tolerate.

Take the issue of screening immigrants to the United States at the end of World War II as an example of how the legal system faltered in the Demjanjuk case. The author points out that every immigrant had to go through 1) an FBI, 2) Counter-Intelligence Corps, 3) CIA, 4) Provost-Marshall General, 5) American fingerprinting record, 6) Berlin Document Center, 7) Immigration and Naturalization immigration inspector, 8) U.S. Consular and 9) special investigation of displaced Soviet citizen clearance before he or she could immigrate to the United States.

It is true that Demjanjuk admitted concealing his war record. However, the reason he did so was, according to him, that he was avoiding deportation back to the Soviet Union under Operation Keelhaul where by persons who came from within Soviet borders were forcibly repatriated. His accusers argued that he did so because he was an accessory to the murder of 28,000 Jews. The question is, even if it might have missed a detail such as whether an applicant came from eastern or western Ukraine and was therefore subject to Soviet repatriation, how could such a thorough system of review miss someone so significant who evidently helped murder 28,000 Jews? The book suggests that the answer is that Demjanjuk was not as significant and inhumane a person as the prosecutors made him out to be.

The strongest evidence against Demjanjuk was the already-mentioned Trawniki identity card that was produced by the Soviet Union. The author sets out the objections to that card raised by Fabian J. Tasson, a forensic document examiner for the State of Illinois, who testified in court in that regard. They were:

1. That the card was more like a paper held in a personnel file than a typical ID card carried by someone at the time.
2. That it had staple holes in it that suggested it came from somewhere else.
3. The seals on the picture and on the card were misaligned.
4. That the name patch on the uniform was whited out concealing the name.
5. That the presence of various colors of ink on the card cast doubts on its authenticity.
6. There were discrepancies as to Demjanjuk's height

and eye color.

The author also refers to the view of Lubomyr Prytulak, someone who is not a forensic authority, but whose exhaustive analysis of the card also concludes that the most plausible hypothesis was that the card was tampered with. That analysis can be found at www.xoxol.org and is worthy of review by anyone who claims the card is authentic.

There were, however, other pieces of evidence pointing to guilt.

The author mentions a statement taken by the Soviet KGB secret police from Ignat Danilchenko, a former Sobibor guard implicating Demjanjuk. Later, however, Danilchenko claimed that he was coerced by the Soviet secret police into making the statement and in 1985 indicated that all the guards in Sobibor were Germans. This fails to explain, however, how he himself was a guard there.

The book also says there were German transfer papers that indicated Demjanjuk was sent to Sobibor. These, according to the author, were provided by Soviet sources and could be accused of falsification for that reason. In addition it should be noted that Charles Sydnor, a prosecution expert in the U.S. deportation proceeding, indicated that if the Trawniki card was invalid, none of these papers would be valid – which simply brings the question back to the legitimacy of the ID card.

Similarly, the author mentions the appearance of another John Demjanjuk. Both Demjanjuks were evidently from the same village. The author indicates that the second Demjanjuk committed suicide shortly after he learned that the Soviet secret police had come to the village asking questions about him. Was he the real camp guard? Didn't his existence at least raise a reasonable doubt regarding the conviction? There were also witnesses called who claimed to have seen Demjanjuk in the camps, but who could not recognize him in court.

Through this book the author makes us realize that in many ways Demjanjuk's life experience was a metaphor for the experience of many Ukrainians over the last century. All the major hardships faced by Ukrainians in the last century, and especially during World War II, are found in the book's historical narrative.

The book admirably demonstrates the propaganda war that played out against the backdrop of the legal proceedings that engulfed Demjanjuk. This propaganda war was waged all the way from pro-Soviet Ukrainian Daily News editor Michael Hanusiak's 1975 list of 70 alleged Nazi collaborators living in the United States, which included Demjanjuk, to the final days of Demjanjuk's life in Germany almost 30 years later. In that context, traditional Jewish anti-Ukrainian grievances once again surfaced in the newspapers and media of the world.

The book singles out the following:

1. Bohdan Khmelnytsky's slaughter of Jews in Poland in the 17th century. As the author says, however, no explanation was provided that the Jews perished as part of Khmelnytsky's Orthodox Kozak revolt against Polish feudal rule in western Ukraine. No mention is made that the Jewish population had sided with the Polish nobility and Catholic leaders in suppressing Ukrainian serfs. According to Dr. Zenon Kohut, the Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, some 20,000 Jews perished in the conflict because of the role they played in Polish society.

2. Symon Petliura's role in the pogroms visited upon the Jews during the period of Ukraine's rebirth in 1917-1922 and the Paris trial of his Jewish assassin, Sholom Schwartzbad, who was found innocent. The author mentions the case but fails to indicate that the trial was unable to link Petliura directly to even one of the pogroms. More importantly, no reference is made to the close work between Petliura and Ze'ev (formerly Vladimir) Jabotinsky, one of the leading Jews of the 20th century and father of Revisionist Zionism. Jabotinsky categorically rejected any claim of Petliura's animosity towards the Jews including conducting any pogroms or holding any anti-Semitic views.

3. The Jewish pogrom in Lviv on the entry of Nazi forces into that city in June 1941. The author hints at the estimated 4,000 Jews that died in three days of violence. However, he indicates that little mention is made of the 9,800 prisoners (my figure not the author's), mostly Ukrainians but including Poles and Zionist Jews, who perished in the jails at the hands of the NKVD Soviet secret police before they abandoned western Ukraine in the face of the Nazi inva-

(Continued on page 15)



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SUNDAY, JUNE 17

PROGRAM


10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. – National Cup Games (continuous)

1:00 P.M. - Festival Begins

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm: Festival Stage Show Featuring:
THE VOLOSHKY SCHOOL OF DANCE
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And more.....

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm – “ZABAVA”
UKRAINIAN POLKA and BALLROOM DANCE featuring:
THE KARPATY DANCE BAND

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ADMISSION (all events & soccer included): \$5.00; Kids 14 & under: Free; Free Parking





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UKRAINIAN FOLK FESTIVAL

Zoriany Ukrainian Dance & Music Ensemble
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The Vox Ethnika Ensemble
(New York City)

“Zabava” Public Dance ~ The Vox Ethnika Dance Band

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

defense of the gas case verdict. This decision was made by Judge Oleksander Yelfimov at the request of Public Procurators, who asked that the Tymoshenko appeal hearings be postponed due to the absence of the former prime minister from the courtroom. “The petition should be granted,” the judge declared. According to Procurator Oksana Drohobytka, at whose request the rapporteur judge deferred consideration of the appeal, this postponement was approved due to the illness of the defendant. “Convict Tymoshenko is being treated, and she cannot exercise her right to protection. Based on the rules and laws, as well as practices of the European Court, the case was postponed,” the procurator said. The High Specialized Court for Civil and Criminal Cases was due to consider on May 15 the appeal of former Prime Minister Tymoshenko of the decision of the Pechersky District Court of Kyiv and Kyiv’s Court of Appeals in the gas case in which she was found guilty and sentenced to seven years in prison. The defense team announced on May 16 that it intends to file a complaint to the European Court of Human Rights without waiting for the Higher Specialized Court’s ruling on the appeal in gas case. (Ukrinform, Interfax-Ukraine)

EuroParliament to send doctors, lawyers

KYIV – The European Parliament is planning to send to Ukraine European physicians and lawyers for the purpose of providing medical and legal assistance to former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Agreement on this was reached by Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and European Parliament President Martin Schulz during their meeting in Brussels on May 16. Mr. Schulz said he had discussed with Mr. Azarov consideration by the European Parliament of the possibility of sending European medical experts to Ukraine, in addition to the German doctor who is already dealing with Ms. Tymoshenko’s health. He also expressed the belief that high-level European lawyers should participate in the Tymoshenko case during the appeal proceedings to fully sup-

port her rights. The president of the European Parliament said he would get in touch with leading European lawyers so that they could be invited to take part in the process. This would be a significant step toward improving the level of trust and cooperation between the EU and Ukraine, Mr. Schulz added. However, First Deputy Minister of Justice Inna Yemelianova told the press on May 17 that European experts in the field of law cannot defend Ms. Tymoshenko during the appeal. “The existing law stipulates that legal aid is provided by lawyers. However, the Criminal Procedure Code says that there are experts in the field of law. But the Constitutional Court once said that there should be a special law which shall determine the procedural status of legal professionals. There is no such law, and is it established at the moment that only people with a lawyer’s certificate are permitted to [participate in] criminal proceedings,” she explained. (Ukrinform)

Nina Karpachova leaves Ukraine

KYIV – Former Ombudsman Nina Karpachova has left Ukraine because of pressure from the Procurator General’s Office (PGO), National Deputy Serhiy Sobolev of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc-Batkivshchyna said at a briefing at the Verkhovna Rada on May 15. “Ms. Karpachova is not in Ukraine now because of the pressure upon her from the Procurator General’s Office. I do not know where she is,” Mr. Sobolev said. He said the PGO is putting pressure on Ms. Karpachova for releasing photos of Ms. Tymoshenko’s bruises. Mr. Sobolev said that, because of the misconduct of the PGO towards Ms. Karpachova, the Verkhovna Rada’s human rights ombudsman at the time of the photos’ release, the opposition filed a complaint with the European Court of Human Rights. (Ukrinform)

Opposition to stage actions during Euro

KYIV – The opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc-Batkivshchyna faction in the Ukrainian Parliament is working on staging public awareness-raising actions to inform guests the Euro 2012 soccer championship about recent developments in Ukraine, but these actions will take place outside stadi-

(Continued on page 13)

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Raiders' state...

(Continued from page 6)

And if it is insufficient, bigger money is needed to settle everything. Burson-Marsteller might be a good choice for a government in big trouble. In the past, “the PR company was employed by the Nigerian government to discredit reports of genocide during the Biafran war, the Argentinian junta after the disappearance of 35,000 civilians, and the Indonesian government after the massacres in East Timor. It also worked to improve the image of the late

Romanian president Nicolae Ceausescu and the Saudi royal family” (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2002/jan/08/gm.activists>).

One may call also Leonid Kuchma’s attempt to rescue his image after the “tape-gate” scandal with the assistance of similar whitewashers. What all these exclusive clients of PR companies fail to understand – either naively or perhaps arrogantly – is that they can win many battles: against Ms. Tymoshenko, Yuriy Lutsenko, Vsesvit, or even Arcelor Mittal. But they can never win the war for the truth and for the real place they occupy in history.

Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

“Tonight you made millions of your countrymen happy. The whole countryside celebrates with you. Your success proves that Ukrainian soccer teams belong to our continent’s soccer elite and they can achieve the highest goals,” said President Yushchenko.

Four Ukrainian teams competed in the 2009 UEFA Cup, with Shakhtar falling out of the Champions League tournament in

November 2008. Shakhtar defeated Dynamo Kyiv on May 7, 2009, to qualify for the final with Werder Bremen.

Shakhtar and Dynamo, arguably Ukraine’s the two biggest soccer rivals, had rallied support around a common hope – a win for the Ukrainian team. Although Dynamo fans chanted “Ukrayina” instead of “Shakhtar,” the country celebrated the victory together from Lviv to Kyiv to Donetsk.

Source: “Shakhtar wins UEFA Cup,” by Yuriy Borysov, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 24, 2009.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 12)

ums, National Deputy Andrii Shevchenko told reporters on May 11. "The Union of European Football Associations and other football structures are very demanding in ensuring that politics is left outside the stands, and we are not going to move politics into the stands that will host Euro 2012 matches. But, of course, we will use every opportunity outside the stadiums to tell the world – both politicians and ordinary fans – about everything that is going on in Ukraine," Mr. Shevchenko said. He commented, "it would be a sin not to do so, it would be wrong not to do so, and we will do it." (Ukrinform)

Kuzmin tired of Tymoshenko case travels

KYIV – Ukraine's First Deputy Procurator General Renat Kuzmin has complained that, due to the case of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, he has to constantly travel to Brussels and Strasbourg and make excuses to European politicians. "Now I cannot imagine my life without Ms. Tymoshenko... Everyone has suddenly begun to speak of dictatorship. But nobody cares about what Ms. Tymoshenko has really done," he told a Die Zeit reporter. In a May 10 article in the German newspaper – headlined "Tymoshenko – An Oligarch or a National Saint?" – he also said he considers the Tymoshenko trial to be the fairest in the world. "What do you actually want? What are the problems of our German friends? Ms. Tymoshenko received the fairest trial in the world, and she gets the best medical care in Europe," Mr. Kuzmin said. "She does not have to work in prison, she was allowed to spend days writing letters of protest, and she is not forced to wear

prison clothes. She breaks all of the prison rules, and she has not even been fined for that," Mr. Kuzmin said. He was surprised that "the Germans are demanding Tymoshenko's release from prison." According to Die Zeit, Mr. Kuzmin said that on numerous pages of the case "you can read how she committed murder, how she robbed the people of Ukraine." He asked: "Are our German friends interested that Ms. Tymoshenko is a killer?" Die Zeit noted that Mr. Kuzmin "called her a killer, although the trial on such charges has not yet started, there are no witnesses, and there is only dubious evidence." (Interfax-Ukraine)

Naftohaz signs agreement with Germany

KYIV – Naftohaz Ukrainy and RWE Supply & Trading GmbH of Germany have signed an agreement on the purchase and sale of natural gas, the Ukrainian company's press service reported on May 11. The company added that the agreement creates legal grounds for the possible supply of natural gas from RWE Supply & Trading to Naftohaz and at the same time does not contain provisions for the mandatory sale or purchase of natural gas. The prices, supply volumes and obligations of the parties for the supply of natural gas will be determined in individual contracts after they are agreed and signed by both companies. RWE Supply & Trading is one of the largest companies in Europe engaged in the electricity and gas sector. RWE Supply & Trading is part of RWE AG, an operator of the powerful gas transportation system in Europe, which owns 23,000 kilometers of gas pipelines and underground gas storage facilities with a capacity of up to 7.4 billion cubic meters. RWE Supply & Trading annually buys and supplies about 50 billion cubic meters of natural gas for the needs of European countries. (Ukrinform)



It is with deep sorrow
we announce that

WALTER "SLAVKO" SOSIAK

passed away on April 14, 2012.
He was 79.



Born in Ukraine, Slavko emigrated to the U.S. in 1949 and settled in New York. In 1960 he moved to Colonia, NJ. He was an Army Veteran of the Korean Conflict, stationed in Germany. Slavko was a parishioner at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Elizabeth. He was a member of the Elizabeth Credit Union and the Ukrainian National Association.

Besides family and friends, Slavko had a love for soccer. As a young man he played for "Sitch". He also loved to spend his summers upstate NY at Soyuzivka.

Surviving are:

- wife: Stasha of 53 years
- daughter: Donna Galonzka and husband Taras
- son: Stephen Sosiak and wife Halina
- grandsons: Michael Galonzka, Stephen Sosiak, Daniel Sosiak
- sisters: Anna Salaczynsky and family
Maria Bell and family
- brothers: Wasyl Sosiak and family
Mike Sosiak and family

Funeral services were held on April 20, 2012, at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Elizabeth, NJ, followed by interment at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Cemetery in S. Bound Brook, NJ.

Eternal memory!

In memory of Neonila Bedriy Kramarchuk

Who was my mother Neonila Bedriy Kramarchuk? More importantly, what was her legacy to me and my family?

My mother was born in Ternopil, Ukraine, in May 1935. Her parents, older brother Anatole Bedriy, and she left their homeland upon the arrival of the Communist Bolsheviks. They fled to Warsaw, Poland, and, with the Second World War's end, settled in Germany. In 1950 her family came to Ellis Island and chose Newark, N.J., as their new home. There my mother completed high school and later bookkeeping. She met my father at a summer ballroom dance in the Catskill mountains of New York State at the Verkhovyna resort near the Delaware River. They married in 1959. I was born the following year. My younger brother Borys was born in 1961. The Kramarchuks chose E. 5th St. in Manhattan, New York, to call home, where my mother would live out the rest of her years.

What memories do I have of my mother Neonila that are still with me today, that influence my everyday life? Firstly, she had a generous heart. Whenever one of my four children came to her for lunch money, my mother never said "no" but most times let her purse be empty. I am reminded of Mark 12:41-44 and Jesus sitting over against the treasury, beheld how the people cast money into the treasury. And many that were rich cast in much. There came a certain poor widow; and she cast in 2 mites (dollars). And calling together his disciples, he said, "Amen I say to you, this poor widow has cast in more than all they who have cast into the treasury. For all they did cast part of their abundance; but she cast in all she had, even her whole living."

When someone who was annoying met my mother and me on the street or in church, my mother's instruction to me was to smile and change the subject if I was able. I am reminded from the Imitation of

Christ, the second most read book in the history of the world after the Bible, book 3, ch.44 ("Do Not Take to Heart What Happens Around You"): "It is more profitable to leave everyone to his way of thinking than to give way to contentious discourses (arguments)."

When someone with known past faults or sins met my mother and me, my mother's instruction to me was to not be surprised but to look immediately for that person's virtues or good motives. Is this not charity, the theological virtue of love (the other being faith and hope)? I am reminded from John 13:34: "Thou shall love your neighbor as yourself – that you love one another, as I have loved you." In addition, I am reminded from Life in Plast – Handbook for Youth Scouting, from the chapter "Proper Conduct of a Plastun (Scout) for Life", p. 184. Virtue #6 – "A Scout is Polite": His politeness does not allow any impression of put-down, for it is inconsistent with the notion of chivalry (being a gentleman or proper lady)."

How did my mother maintain calm in the midst of storms of daily life? She prepared for it. My mother did not wait for the storm but prayed in anticipation of it with the rosary. In 1917 Our Lady in Fatima revealed to the three shepherd children, that by meditating on the mysteries of the Holy Rosary, they will be enriched with its fruits (gifts) and obtain peace for the world, the conversion of sinners and of Russia, and the favor they asked for will be granted. The Rosary is a treasure of grace, the grace only of God who gave us life, and loves us so much that He gave his only son in reparation of our sins, that we might have eternal life.

As a further symbol of her devotion to Mary and faith in her son Jesus, my mother



also wore the Scapular, a pair of cloth rectangular shapes attached by string and worn on the chest, over the shoulder, and on the upper back. I remember this as a child because in the warm weather months my mother's shirts would often stain green or brown. Her own body heat and sweat would release the natural pigments of the cloth. When I asked her about this, my mother replied to me, "What value are clothes when the love of Mary and Jesus is our priority and focus in life?"

As to the proper role of husband and wife, my mother was ever obedient and faithful. She was married for near 53 years. Her living example is one of the greatest gifts a parent can give to a child. She did not complain when her will was not fulfilled but made her husband's will her own. I am reminded of St. Paul's Ephesians 5:21-25:

"Being subject one to another, in the fear of Christ. Let women be subject to their husbands, according to the Lord Jesus: 'Because the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ is the head of the church. He is the saviour of his body. Therefore as the church is subject to Christ: so also let the wives be to their husbands in all things. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ also loved the church and delivered himself up for it.' " My mother's model guides me on how to live as a husband and more importantly as a disciple of Jesus Christ, our Alpha and Omega, our life and death.

In looking back, I discern the simple philosophy my mother lived by. I say simple yet not easy, especially in our current culture and community. I am led to 23rd chapter of Imitation of Christ, book 3, "Four Things Which Bring Great Peace". The Voice of Christ: "My child, I will teach you now the way of peace and true liberty. Seek, child, to do the will of others rather than your own. Always choose to have less rather than more. Look always for the last place and seek to be beneath all others. Always wish and pray that the will of God be fully carried out in you."

In remembrance of our recently departed wife, mother, grandmother and aunt, donations are being gathered for the completion of the construction of the Monastery of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Zhytomyr, Ukraine, the religious order of St. Volodymyr the Great. Checks or money orders can be made out to: "Monastery Construction Fund," account number 16504, and sent to: Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union, 215 2nd Ave., New York, NY 10009, telephone 212-533-2980.

– Zenon Kramarchuk, Jr.



Ukrainian sports update: Winter Olympics

by Ihor Stelmach

Ukraine pursues 2022 Winter Olympics bid

As they prepare for the Euro-2012, Ukrainian officials are seriously considering the idea of hosting the Olympic Games. Lviv is the likely host city for Ukraine's lofty goal of hosting the 2022 Winter Olympics.

To those familiar with everyday life in the western Ukrainian capital, this ambition may seem a bit unrealistic. Actually, it is not that much of a stretch. The huge infrastructure transformation nearing completion prior to the start of Euro-2012 will result in the city's transportation networks being totally up-to-date, allowing Lviv to competitively field a bid to host the Winter Olympic Games.

The majestic Carpathian Mountains are perfectly suited for winter outdoor sports, and there is plenty of lead time prior to 2022 to fix the outdated facilities at most Ukrainian ski resorts. Proof that such a project can be successfully completed is found in the vast improvements at the Ukrainian Carpathian ski resort Bukovel, which has been totally redeveloped into one of the most modern winter sports venues in all of Eastern Europe. Olympic upgrades in other resorts could easily follow suit.

Ten-year plan

The country's lone prior attempt at hosting an Olympic-sized sports event was in 1980, when Kyiv was home to several soccer matches during the Moscow Olympics, a memory still reflected in Kyiv's Olympic Stadium. Going from this minimal past experience to hosting an entire Winter Games is a monumental step forward. The president of Ukraine's National Olympic Committee, Serhiy Bubka, noted confidently that Lviv could easily be prepared for the 2022 Winter Games, making the point that 10 years is more than enough time to pull off a successful Olympics.

"It generally takes around seven years to prepare a city to host a Winter Olympics, and so there is more than enough time. Plenty of previous host coun-

tries have begun from scratch, and we will do the same," the Olympic legend said in late 2010.

Ukraine's vice prime minister for the Euro-2012, Boris Kolesnikov, repeated Bubka's optimistic words after visiting Carpathian ski resorts over the New Year holiday. "The region's infrastructure is already very well developed thanks to our Euro-2012 preparations. If we begin our Winter Olympic Games preparations now, I have every confidence that the Olympic Committee will accept our bid," Mr. Kolesnikov stated. While preparations for a Winter Olympics would be costly, the expenditures could be spread out over the course of the next 10 years.

"The recent Vancouver Winter Olympics required \$10 billion in investments despite having key infrastructure elements already in place, but this is not necessarily an obstacle. Preparing to host a Winter Olympics for the first time is expensive, but if we look to invest \$1 billion annually, then we stand a good chance of being ready in time for 2022. Our main task at this stage is to convince the International Olympic Committee that we are serious contenders," Mr. Kolesnikov said, according to Business Ukraine.

Strong political support

During this preliminary stage of bidding, Ukraine's officials are concentrating on getting the basics of the bid going. This entails drawing up plans for two Olympic villages in the Carpathians and building a foundation of modern facilities for Winter Olympics sports.

One of the first blueprints envisions the first Olympic village in the Lviv region resort of Tysovets - a former Red Army winter sports complex with a ski jump ramp, offering an exotic locale and good transportation connections to Lviv. Construction work to transform the Soviet-era facility into state-of-the-art, modern infrastructure has been booked for 2013-2015. A second Olympic village and sports resort would then be built in a

second location in the Carpathians in 2018-2021.

Lviv's dreams of a future Olympics were initially trumped in 2010 when President Viktor Yanukovich supported a Carpathian bid. Questions still remain over whether Lviv will gain the nod ahead of rival potential host cities in the region like Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk and Uzhhorod. The stately Bukovel facility may give Ivano-Frankivsk a slight edge.

While Mr. Kolesnikov has abstained from offering any hint about which western Ukrainian city might be the top choice for any Winter Olympics bid, he did say Lviv's Euro-2012 infrastructure improvements would make it a favorite. A particular plus is the city's about-to-be operational international airport.

The Cabinet of Ministers has officially established an organizing committee to present Ukraine's bid - a definitive indication there is plenty of political force at the top to promote the country's bid.

Developing nation status may help

There is little doubt a bid by Ukraine would garner serious consideration by international Olympic officials. Ukraine fits the current philosophy of utilizing major global sporting events to kick-start growth in the developing world because of its position as an emerging market of much untapped winter sports potential. An Olympics in Ukraine would enhance the scope of the world's largest sporting events.

This new trend was clearly seen with South Africa's hosting of the 2010 World Cup, while Ukraine and Poland acting as co-hosts of this year's Euro-2012 is still another vivid example of the trend to permit perimeter nations to magnify their

profiles and relish their share of the international stage by hosting the world's most prestigious sports extravaganzas.

In the upcoming years Brazil will be hosting the Olympics and the World Cup, while Russia and Qatar are among the peripheral countries to earn the nod to host FIFA's World Cup finals. After examining all of the factors, Ukraine's main competitors for the right to host the 2022 Winter Games figure to be a pair of Eastern European neighbors, Poland and Romania.

This is not to deny the interest of many American, Canadian, German and other Western European countries that have shown interest in playing host to the 2022 Games at their own first-class winter sports resorts. However, these more developed nations don't offer the expansionist possibilities exhibited by a jump into the somewhat unknown of a former Soviet bloc country.

The inevitable support for Lviv's bid will be followed by favorable reactions to competitive bids from other Eastern European nations.

The Zakopane winter sports resort in Poland is presently much more developed than anything offered by Ukraine's Carpathian Mountains. In 2006 Turino was awarded the Winter Games, besting a bid by Poland. Any future Polish bid might include a tempting plan to co-host with Slovakia or the Czech Republic, still another feasible combination for Olympic officials looking for fresh markets.

Romania's Prahova Valley has been tossed about as an interested host venue since 2007 and could earn favorable consideration due to the country's highly developed, European Union-funded infrastructure and political stability.

Sitch men's team battles on in Garden State Soccer League

PARSIPPANY, N.J. - The Chornomorska Sitch men's soccer team kicked off the second half of the 2011-2012 season in the Garden State Soccer League's Super Division on March 23 at Smith Field Park in Parsippany with a 2-1 win over FC United, a mixed international team made up mostly of Russians.

The lack of soccer fields in Morris County, N.J., has forced many matches to be held in the evenings under artificial lights.

The Sitch men's team, known in the league as the Union Ukrainians, showed it was well-prepared for the spring season. However, calls by the referee and line judges helped FC United. In one such call, the ref ruled for a penalty kick because the ball touched the chest of a Sitch defender. This resulted in a goal for FC United to take the lead 1-0.

The Sitch men's team played with great skill and calculated actions in the second half, not only evening the score with a goal by Nick Kucyna, but winning the game thanks to the second goal by Taras O'Connell, who had returned from a break from playing for Sitch.

In other matches during the 2012 spring season, Sitch lost on April 1 to Jersey Shore Boca 1-2; on April 13 Sitch defeated Icon FC 1-0, with a goal by Dmytro Tereshchuk; on April 20 Sitch tied against Santorini FC 0-0, and Sitch tied against German American Kickers 1-1, with Tereshchuk scoring again for Sitch;

on May 4 Sitch lost to SC Portugal 1-2, with Kucyna scoring for Sitch; and on May 13 Sitch defeated Den of Lions Legends 3-0, with Andrew Panas, Dan Lewycky and Tereshchuk scoring for Sitch.

Sitch is in fourth place after 15 games played, with 24 points, seven wins, three draws and five losses, with 26 goals for and 21 against. In home games, Sitch leads the standings with 16 points in eight games played, with five wins, one draw and two losses, with 17 goals for and 10 against. In away standings, Sitch is in fourth place with eight points in seven games, with two wins, two draws and three losses, with nine goals for and 11 against.

The Sitch men's team includes, in addition to those mentioned above: Oleksander MacDonald, Andrew Kudryk, Andrew Mandzy, Stephen Kolodiy, Roman Tabatchouk, Mark Hordynsky, Roman Palylyk, Andrew Tabatchouk, George Mykula, Salia Kudieri and Andrew Hall, along with trainer Bo Kucyna and coach Nick Hordynsky.

The team's next game was to be played on May 18, at Smith Field in Parsippany against Polonia Wallington. Results from that match were not available at press time.

For more information on the team's schedule, readers may visit the league's website <http://gssl.com/super-division/schedule-scores/>.

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Nina Arianda nominated for best actress Tony

by Helen Smindak

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

NEW YORK - Ukrainian American actress Nina Arianda has been nominated for the 2012 Tony Award for best actress in a leading role in a play for her performance in the Broadway sensation "Venus in Fur."

The American Wings' 66th annual Tony Award nominations were made public early this month. Winners will be announced at the June 10 Awards' dinner in New York, to be broadcast live by CBS at 8 p.m.

The New York Times has noted that "the toughest competition [in the Tony Awards] is for best actress." Ms. Arianda is pitted against four popular actresses currently starring in Broadway plays: Tracie Bennett in "End of the Rainbow," theater veteran Stockard Channing in "Other Desert Cities," Linda Lavin in "The Lyons" and Cynthia Nixon in "Wit."

"Venus in Fur," a transfer from Off Broadway ("a rare feat" according to The Times), was nominated for best play. Scheduled to continue its run at the Lyceum Theatre on West 45th Street until

June 17, the two-man play is about the sadomasochistic relationship between an actress and a director during an audition.

Ms. Arianda first drew critical acclaim in 2010 when she made her professional stage debut in "Venus in Fur" at the Classic Stage Company theater in the East Village. Unanimous in their praise of her performance, reviewers called her extraordinary, irresistible, absolutely brilliant and a comic goddess.

That Off Broadway performance drew the attention of producers like Woody Allen, who signed her for a role in his movie "Midnight in Paris." Ms. Arianda's filmography also includes the films "Tower Heist," "Win Win," "Higher Ground" and "Shadows and Lies."

Ms. Arianda has won numerous awards, including the 2010 Henry Derwent Award for the most promising female performer in the New York metropolitan area, the Clive Barnes Award, the Theatreworld Award and the Outer Critics Circle Award, as well as nominations for other awards.

Last year, she earned a 2011 Tony Awards nomination for best performance by a leading actress in a play for her por-



Nina Arianda

trayal of the dim-witted peroxide blonde Billie Dawn in a Broadway revival of the classic comedy "Born Yesterday."

The daughter of Lesia and Peter Matijcio of Mount Tabor, N.J., Ms. Arianda trained at

the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York and the New School for Liberal Arts, graduating with an MFA degree from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in 2009.

The Demjanjuk...

(Continued from page 11)

sion. Also, as the author adds, the grievances are silent about the role Jews played earlier, in September 1939 in welcoming the Soviet invasion of western Ukraine, and Jewish help in pointing out Ukrainian leaders to the NKVD Soviet secret police who then imprisoned those Ukrainians.

It is clear that John Demjanjuk's case will now become the latest in this series of Jewish-Ukrainian differences.

In some places the author's book shines a searchlight into some dark corners of history, adding useful information that many of us were not completely aware of. For example, he writes:

"There were some 13 million Nazis who could have been tried for war crimes but only 3.5 million were actually charged. Of this number, 2.5 million were granted amnesty, approximately 9,600 were eventually imprisoned, but only 300 were still in jail by 1949. Some 850,000 received heavy fines, suffered property confiscation, and were restricted in their employment opportunities."

A few pages later, talking about Operation Keelhaul, the author reminds us of the post-World War II fate of returnees to the Soviet Union (like Demjanjuk could have been). He writes:

"Nevertheless, by November 1945, Western commands had repatriated 2,272,000 refugees to the Soviet Union. The fate of those sent back, voluntarily or by compulsion, was sealed. The overwhelming majority (of those repatriated) were accused of treason. They were not tried individually. Special three-man boards (troikas) handed down group sentences. Twenty percent were given death sentences or 25 years in the labor camps; 10 percent were exiled to remote parts of Siberia for periods of no less than six years; 15 percent were assigned to forced labor detachments, rebuilding areas destroyed by the war; and only 15-20 percent were allowed to return to their homes. Of the 15-20 percent remaining, some were undoubtedly killed or died in passage; a few escaped."

Such passages, and his recounting of the reactions of Ukrainians, Jews, Israelis, the OSI and others to the major events as they

unfolded, provide valuable insights into the process as it developed.

The book left some key questions open. For example, why did Germany undertake this trial? Was it, as the author suggests, to spread some of the war guilt to other nations and to appease the Jews? Or were there other reasons? I believe more attention needs to be focused here. A Freedom of Information Act request needs to unlock all the details. Why was Ukraine so passive while its image was being raked through the coals? Where was Ukraine's leadership? Is this the end, or should more effort be exerted to get possession of the Trawniki card and transfer papers so they can be more thoroughly examined? These are just some of the questions still to be addressed.

Nonetheless, the author's book is the first detailed account of the history of the Demjanjuk case, albeit that it is incomplete. It is unfortunate that the book came out before Demjanjuk's death and before his appeal to the German court of appeal was heard. The news media and Demjanjuk's foes have trumpeted Demjanjuk's "guilt" based on the conviction of the Munich trial court. Shortly following Demjanjuk's death, however, in March Margaret Noetzel, a spokeswoman for that court stated that under German law, Demjanjuk is "still technically presumed innocent," because he died before his final appeal could be heard, and "a person is presumed innocent until proven guilty" according to German law. She gave no explanation for the long delay between the trial court's decision and the hearing of the appeal.

However, it is a fundamental axiom of the criminal law of all civilized nations that the presumption of innocence is never just a technicality.

As Presiding Judge Ralph Alt himself conceded, "I say he's guilty, but it's not a final verdict." Furthermore, there is good reason why he took this view since, under German law, as was mentioned, a conviction does not stand until all appeal remedies are exhausted. As pointed out by Lawrence Douglas in a Harper's Magazine article in 2009, "Compared with American court proceedings, a German criminal trial is extremely informal. There is no written transcript. Evidentiary rules are minimal. Hearsay is admissible, and so is a history of past convictions. Further, given the promi-

nence of the case, one has to wonder why there was the delay of the appeal. The answer is that John Demjanjuk's death helped Germany avoid the potential political embarrassment and controversy of another higher court acquittal, as in Israel, and prevented a clear and public defeat of the novel and dubious theory of law under which Demjanjuk had been prosecuted.

John Demjanjuk's life has ended, but his legacy continues. If we study history to

learn from it and to help improve our lives in the future, then there is a wealth of insights for everyone to be gained from reading this book and the history it presents. We owe a debt of gratitude to the author for his efforts in this regard.

* * *

The book is available for \$17 (including shipping) from: Ukrainian Educational Associates, 107 Ileshamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60105.

www.HromadaPhila.org

Calendar and Business Directory serving
the Ukrainian Community in Philadelphia

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UNIS celebrates...

(Continued from page 1)

Service. Rep. Kaptur spoke of the many issues that the community and the caucus commonly promote, all for the betterment of the Ukrainian nation.

Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.) began his remarks with the traditional Ukrainian greeting of "Dobryi vechir." The congressman boasted of his Ukrainian heritage and reiterated the sentiments expressed by Rep. Kaptur. Noting the upcoming parliamentary elections in Ukraine, Rep. Hinchey mentioned his first trip to Ukraine in 1994 as an international election observer with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. The congressman said that he would like to travel to Ukraine for the October 2012 parliamentary elections.

A special introduction was given to Rep.



UNIS director Michael Sawkiw Jr. is flanked by two executive officers of the Ukrainian National Association, President Stefan Kaczaraj (left) and First Vice-President Michael Koziupa.



George Nesterczuk, the first director of the Ukrainian National Information Service, addresses the audience during the congressional reception celebrating its 35th anniversary.

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Danny Davis (D-Ill.), a long-term friend and supporter of the Ukrainian American community. To celebrate Ukraine's 20th anniversary of independence, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America presented several members of Congress and friends of Ukraine with special awards to thank them for their contributions and cooperation with the Ukrainian community. Due to Rep. Davis's hectic congressional schedule, the congressman was not available to receive his award in September 2011, but was presented the Hrushevsky Award at the anniversary celebration of UNIS.

The congressman joyously thanked the community for the award and said he would "display it proudly in his office." He spoke highly of his congressional district, which encompasses many diverse ethnicities, but noted the unique commitment of the Ukrainian community in advocating its concerns.

Following the remarks by members of Congress, two former UNIS directors, George Nesterczuk and Irene Chalupa, addressed the reception guests. Each in their own remarks commented on the uniqueness of the UNIS office and their perspectives in the years they worked at the public affairs bureau.

Mr. Nesterczuk described the history of the formation of the Ukrainian National Information Service and noted that its initial mandate was "to talk amongst the Washington establishment about the yearning for freedom and independence of Ukraine from the Soviet Union. Not an easy task at that time."

Ms. Chalupa expressed her concerns about the current situation in Ukraine and wished better fortune for that country, as "this is a country that we have worked for many years to bring it to the respectable place it deserves in the world."

The evening also featured greetings from representatives of Ukrainian American organizations including Stefan Kaczaraj of the Ukrainian National Association, Oles Striltschuk of the UCCA Illinois Division and Andrew Bihun of The Washington Group.

A written greeting from Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Kostyantyn Gryshchenko was read by Mykola Kulynych, first secretary at the Embassy of Ukraine.

During his remarks, Mr. Striltschuk presented a donation of \$12,000 for the UNIS office from the Chicago-based Heritage Foundation, Selfreliance Ukrainian American Credit Union and the UCCA Illinois Division.

All the speakers emphasized the importance of the UNIS office and its stalwart efforts in representing the Ukrainian community in Washington.

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

A commemoration of three genocides in Watertown, Mass.

by Peter T. Woloschuk

WATERTOWN, Mass. – As part of its ongoing commemoration of the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the Armenian Library and Museum of America (ALMA), which is located in Watertown, Mass., sponsored a special program on the Armenian, Irish and Ukrainian genocides on Sunday, April 22, at its 30,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility.

The event, "We Share Our Pain – A Commemoration of Three Genocides," attracted some 200 participants and included brief remarks given by representatives of each of the three impacted nationalities, as well as a panakhyda (requiem service) celebrated by the Rev. Roman Tarnavsky and Hierodeacon Vasyl Janick of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston in conjunction with the parish's choir, directed by Eugene Moroz. The event concluded with prayers for the victims of all three genocides which were offered by representatives of the Armenian churches.

In his remarks, "The Great Hunger of the

Irish People (1840's) 'Irish Famine or Genocide, You Be the Judge'" Dr. Joseph Downes, State Historian for the Massachusetts Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) gave an overview of the Irish Potato Famine of the mid 1840s and its ongoing impact on the development of the Irish nation.

"Not only was Ireland confronted with a potato blight, which virtually destroyed the major food source of its people, but it also saw the forced export of all other major food stuffs by the British colonial overseers. In spite of the fact that food production was reduced by more than half, exports of these products during that time period more than doubled", Dr. Downes stated. "To this day Great Britain has officially denied any direct involvement or wrong doing. As a result of the famine, the population of the country was halved within a few years both by death and immigration. These tragic events etched themselves in the psyches of the Irish people and their effects are clearly visible even today."

He was followed by Dr. Dikran Kaligian,

visiting professor of Armenian Genocide Studies at Clark University, who has also taught at Westfield State and Wheaton colleges. He is currently managing editor of the Armenian Review. He received his doctorate in history from Boston College and is the author of "Armenian Organization and Ideology under Ottoman Rule: 1908-1914."

Dr. Kaligian spoke on the topic of "The Aftermath of the Armenian Genocide: Denial and the Quest for Justice." He explained that the seeds of denial were sown even as the Young Turks committed genocide against the Armenian people.

The final speaker, attorney Paul Rabchenuk, chair of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Boston chapter, the Holodomor Remembrance Committee, reminded those present that they were not Irish, that they were not Armenian, that they were not Ukrainian, but rather Irish Americans; Armenian Americans, Ukrainian Americans; that they had an obligation to bring that truth to the forefront as constituents of our great nation.

The Rev. Vasken Kouzouian, pastor of the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Greater Boston brought the ceremony to a close with a recitation of the "Lord's Prayer," which he offered in Armenian.

During the months of April and May, the American Library and Museum of America (ALMA) scheduled a series of talks on the Armenian tragedy by various scholars and government officials, as well as a photo exhibition on the Ukrainian Holodomor in its Terjelian-Thomas Gallery and a showing of the documentary film "Genocide Revealed: The Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933" on Sunday, May 6.

UCCA Boston's Holodomor Remembrance Committee was founded in 2007 to continue educating the American public about the



Dr. Joseph Downes, state historian for the Massachusetts Ancient Order of Hibernians, speaks about the Irish Famine.

great tragedy of the Holodomor, or Famine Genocide of 1932-1933, which happened in Ukraine. Connecticut's Holodomor Awareness Committee was founded in 2008 to assist educators and other public officials in offering Holodomor awareness as part of their various educational programs; to provide accurate current information and access to educational materials on the Holodomor; and, to help coordinate various Holodomor commemorations throughout New England.

ALMA was founded in 1971 to present and preserve the culture, history, art and contributions of the Armenian people in the United States. It currently houses over 27,000 books and 20,000 artifacts, making it the largest and most diverse holding of Armenian material outside of Armenia itself. It is the only independent Armenian museum in the diaspora.

Further information about the various commemorations is available at www.almainc.org or by calling 617-926-2562.



St. Andrew's Choir performs at a special program on the Armenian, Irish and Ukrainian genocides that was held in Watertown, Mass.

Ukrainian physicians visit Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

by Charles Simmons and Bohdan Malaniak

LOS ANGELES – Four physicians from Ukraine attended a two-week training and orientation session at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center between February 11 and 25.

Dr. Marta Kopan (National Medical Academy, Kyiv, Department of Pediatric Anesthesiology and Intensive Care), Dr. Olexiy Ponomarenko (National Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Kyiv, Department of Surgical Correction of Congenital Defects), Dr. Liubov Sliopova (National Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Kyiv, Department of Pediatric Anesthesiology and Intensive Care), and Dr. Vasyl Lazoryshynets (Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, Amosov National Institute of Cardiovascular Surgery, Kyiv, head of Department of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery) participated in an intensive exposure to pediatric health care advances in the Cedars-Sinai Health System.

This was the fifth cohort of Ukrainian physicians to participate in the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center International Healthcare Fellowship Training Program, which had its inaugural visit in November 2008. Over 20 physicians with interest in pediatric health care of the future in Ukraine have shared in this curriculum over the past four years.

The International Healthcare Fellowship Training program has been successful due to the visionary leadership of Kateryna Yushchenko, head of the Supervisory Council of the International Charitable Foundation Ukraine 3000, the organizational prowess of Bohdan Malaniak, emeritus vice-president of Academic Affairs, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and the spirited support of the California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU).

This fifth cohort celebrated not only their curriculum but also the return visit of former first lady of Ukraine, Ms. Yushchenko, to Los Angeles and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the CAAU. Anne Prokopovych and Luba Keske, leaders of the

CAAU, were wonderful hosts for the festivities surrounding the CAAU 20th anniversary celebration.

Under the direction of Dr. Charles Simmons, professor and chairman of pediatrics, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and Ruth and Harry Roman Chair in Neonatology, the curriculum took the physicians from the lecture halls to the laboratories, advanced catheterization suites and operating theaters of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

The customized International Healthcare Fellowship curriculum provided the participants with a useful and practical sampling of current, cutting-edge developments in the provision of pediatric healthcare in both the inpatient and ambulatory settings. Administrative aspects of new facility design and the efficient operation of modern health care facilities were reviewed, including a virtual

tour of the soon-to-be completed Advanced Health Sciences Pavilion, a clinical and research facility on the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center campus that will integrate modern ambulatory health care with translational research and basic science laboratories. The exchange of ideas afforded in this design will accelerate discoveries that lead to improved health care across the age spectrum and around the world.

The participants all looked forward to the continued progress in the development of the Children's Hospital of the Future in Kyiv, Ukraine. It is hoped that the CAAU and Ukraine 3000 will continue to support the training program and continue to bring Ukrainian physicians interested in new advances in pediatric health care to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center for exchange of innovative ideas for the future.



Welcome reception at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center for Kateryna Yushchenko and the Ukraine 3000 delegation, with international health care fellows from Ukraine, board members of the California Association to Aid Ukraine and Cedar-Sinai faculty.

UCC extends deadline for election monitors

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) and the Canada Ukraine Foundation (CUF), which are organizing an Election Observer Mission for the 2012 Parliamentary Elections scheduled for October 28, have extended the deadline for long-term election monitors to June 15.

The UCC and the CUF are looking for highly qualified individuals to serve as long-term election observers (LTOs) on the ground in Ukraine. These LTOs will be responsible for: monitoring the run-up to the elections in Ukraine to ensure that the election is being organized in a fair and transparent manner; monitoring voter's lists and the voters' register; monitoring access of parties and candidates to mass media; monitoring the formation of election commissions; and overseeing the formation of new electoral boundaries for the 225 districts, the registration of single-mandate district candidates and the electoral campaign.

Availability and a commitment from July 1 to November 3 are desirable, but shorter time commitments from highly qualified individuals will also be considered. Election experience in Canada and/or Ukraine is an asset. Applicants must be Canadian citizens and have a good working knowledge of Ukrainian and/or Russian.

Interested persons may fill out an online application, available at the CUF website, <http://www.cufoundation.ca/or> at <http://observers.cufoundation.ca/>

Questions may be directed to the UCC headquarters in Winnipeg at 204-942-4627 or 1-866-942-4627, or by e-mail to ukrelection2012@gmail.com.

Lithuanian...

(Continued from page 1)

October 2011 conviction.

Also on May 11, the Italian government asked Kyiv for permission for Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Marta Dassu to visit Ms. Tymoshenko.

Ms. Tymoshenko's jailing has soured relations between Ukraine and the West.

Ms. Tymoshenko was one of the leaders of Ukraine's 2004 pro-democracy Orange Revolution and is a longtime opponent of current President Viktor Mr. Yanukovich, to whom she lost in a runoff in early 2010.

European Union officials have criticized

the Yanukovich administration over concerns that Ms. Tymoshenko may have been unfairly convicted and later possibly mistreated in prison.

Several of them have threatened to boycott visits to Ukraine during next month's Euro 2012 soccer championship unless Ms. Tymoshenko's detention conditions improve.

Less than ideal

Later in the day, President Grybauskaitė met with President Yanukovich.

Mr. Yanukovich has repeatedly said he believes Ms. Tymoshenko to have been fairly convicted and her incarceration human.

In comments made to reporters in Kyiv earlier on May 11, Mr. Yanukovich said he understood that less-than-ideal relations

between Brussels and Kyiv would likely delay the former Soviet republic's goal of becoming an associate member of the trading bloc.

However, Mr. Yanukovich said the delay "will work to the advantage" of both Ukraine and the EU.

Ukrainian authorities began a second trial of Ms. Tymoshenko in early April for alleged tax fraud.

With additional reporting by Interfax and delfi.it.

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Lithuanian president says Ukraine must guarantee opposition rights

RFE/RL

KHARKIV, Ukraine – Lithuania's president has warned Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich that his government needs to guarantee the rights of all opposition prisoners or risk isolation from the rest of Europe over jailed opposition leader Yulia Ms. Tymoshenko.

"I said that if no solution with guarantees for treatment and legal guarantees for all opposition prisoners as well as any people were found, then the attitude to such a country would be certainly critical, and certainly one or another level of isolation would be guaranteed," Ms. Dalia Grybauskaitė said after talks with the Ukrainian leader in Kyiv.

President Grybauskaitė also said Ukraine has much "homework" to do.

"The homework that needs to be done, and reforms – they are not easy – it's also not that easy to explain them inside the country. Certainly we – Lithuania and other countries – have also been going the way of guarantees and human rights, and reforms of our judicial system, for it not to be a repressive structure but to protect people and their rights," Ms. Grybauskaitė said.

Hundreds of people gathered in Kyiv on May 12 to protest the Yanukovich government and to express support for Ms. Tymoshenko.

Demonstrators called for Ms. Tymoshenko's release as her daughter, Eugenia, read a letter from Ms. Tymoshenko calling for new mechanisms to empower ordinary citizens to start impeachment proceedings against

state officials.

Ms. Tymoshenko is serving a seven-year sentence for her October 2011 conviction for abuse of office – a charge she denies and which she says was politically motivated.

Ms. Tymoshenko's plight has triggered an outcry in the West and led to boycott threats by European Union politicians of next month's European soccer championship, which Ukraine is co-hosting.

With AP and Reuters reporting.

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Kobzarska Sich Programs

Bandura Course

August 4 – 18, 2012

This two-week course focuses on over seven hours of daily group instruction in: the technique of playing bandura, bandura history, solo and ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed). This course is designed for teenaged children (12 and older) and adults of all ages.

Junior Bandura Workshop

August 4 – 11, 2012

This one-week workshop covers the basics of playing bandura and bandura history. Participants are introduced to ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed).

This workshop is designed for children ages 9 – 11.

Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop

August 8 – 12, 2012

This four-day workshop provides an opportunity to sing sacred works by Ukrainian master composers and provides practical pointers for church singers, cantors, and conductors alike relative to common areas of church singing. Listening lectures will open up many hidden aspects of sacred music tradition. This workshop is designed for older teenagers (ages 15 and older) and adults of all ages.

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REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 30, 2012

OUT & ABOUT

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| Through May 31
Chicago | Art exhibit, "Group Show of Lviv Artists - Mykola Bagan, Jarema Khrushch and Volodymyr Pavlyk," Ukrainian National Museum, www.ukrainiannationalmuseum.org | May 27
Peckville, PA | Pentecost Sunday, divine liturgy with blessing of graves, Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church - Cemetery Chapel, www.stcyrils.maslar-online.com |
| Through October 7
New York | Art exhibit, "A Singular Vision: Ilona Sochynsky, Retrospective of Painting," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 or info@ukrainianmuseum.org | May 29-June 24
New York | Art exhibit, featuring paintings and graphics by Alexander Masyk, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 |
| May 23
Minneapolis | Film screening, "Genocide Revealed" by Yuriy Luhovy, Ukrainian Event Center, 612-379-1956 or info@ukrainianeventcenter.com | June 1
New Britain, CT | Art exhibit, featuring photography by Mike Platosz, Trinity-On-Main art gallery, www.trinityonmain.org |
| May 25
Chicago | Presentation by Myron Kuropas, "How the U.S. Department of Justice Cooperated With the Soviets to Demonize Ukrainian Americans and How Our Community Responded," Ukrainian National Museum, 312-421-8020 | June 1
New York | Concert by "Bandura Downtown," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 or www.ukrainianmuseum.org |
| May 25-27
Mississauga, ON | Carassauga: Mississauga's Festival of Cultures, Ukraine Pavilion, Hershey Center - SportZone, 905-615-3010 or info@carassauga.com | June 2
Mississauga, ON | Golf tournament, Ukrainian Youth Association in Canada - Mississauga branch, Royal Ontario Golf Club, 647-229-0398 or info@uyagolf.ca |
| May 25-27
Ellenville, NY | Memorial Day weekend "Zlet," Ukrainian American Youth Association, Oselia resort, 845-647-7230 or www.cym.org/us/ellenville | June 2
Sacramento, CA | Mykola Lysenko Ukrainian Music Festival, Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, Sherman Clay Recital Hall, 916-761-2540 or ukrainianheritageclubofnc@yahoo.com |
| May 26
Arlington, VA | Diplomatic Mini-Cup soccer tournament, Embassy of Ukraine, Wakefield High School, www.mfa.gov.ua/usa/en | June 2-3
Calgary | Ukrainian Festival, Acadia Recreational Complex, www.calgaryukrainianfestival.ca |
| May 26
Oakville, ON | Golf tournament, Ukrainian Golf Association of Canada, Glen Abbey Golf Club, 905-844-1800 or www.clublink.ca | June 3
Ottawa | Concert, "Take the Time to Dance!" Ottawa School of Ukrainian Dance and Svitlanok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Bronson Center Theater, 613-692-5243 or 613-234-0429 |
| May 26
Ottawa | Wine tour of Prince Edward County, Ukrainian Canadian Businesspersons Association (Ottawa), 613-569-5552, ext. 229 or borys.gengalo@sympatico.ca | | |
| May 26
Ottawa | Euro 2012 soccer tournament and festival, Ottawa White Eagles versus Ottawa Ukraina, Ben Franklin Park West, marclapointe@rogers.com | | |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in *The Ukrainian Weekly*. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, May 25

CHICAGO: "How the U.S. Department of Justice Cooperated With the Soviets to Demonize Ukrainian Americans and How Our Community Responded," a presentation by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, will take place at the Ukrainian National Museum, 2249 W. Superior St. at Oakley Boulevard, at 7 p.m. Dr. Kuropas will also be signing copies of his latest book, "The Demjanjuk Debacle: Trials of a 'Nazi' Who Wasn't." For information call the Ukrainian National Museum, 312-421-8020.

Saturday, May 26

PALATINE, Ill.: Ukrainian American Veterans 1st Lt. Ivan Shandor Post 35 invites all veterans and members of the community to a social meeting to discuss benefits for retired military personnel. The presentation includes the following: Tricare options, education, retirement plans, disability benefits, life insurance and survivor benefits. There is no charge for this event. The meeting takes place at the Palatine Library located at 700 N. North Court, Palatine, IL 60067, at 1-2 p.m. For additional information contact Col. Roman G. Golash (ret.) at romangolash@sbcglobal.net.

Sunday, June 3

NEW YORK: Learn how to properly care for your heirloom carpets and kilims.

"The Carpet Collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art: Preservation and Display" will be the topic of Dr. Florica Zaharia's lecture at 2 p.m., presented in conjunction with The Ukrainian Museum's exhibition "Ukrainian Kilims: Journey of a Heritage." Dr. Zaharia is the conservator in charge of the Metropolitan Museum's Department of Textile Conservation. Admission (includes reception) \$15; \$10 for members and seniors; \$5 for students. Tickets: www.ukrainianmuseum.org or at the door. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St.; telephone, 212-228-0110.

Sunday, June 10

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The award-winning film "Three Stories of Galicia" will be shown on at 4 p.m. The film will be screened at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center (UECC), 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046; telephone, 215-663-1166. The event is hosted by the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee and the UECC. The admission is \$10. A question and answer session with the filmmakers will follow the screening. In this inspiring film, the filmmakers Olha Onyshko and Sarah Farhat focus on the heroism, moral character and reconciliation among three groups, Ukrainians, Jews and Poles who use to live on the territory known as Galicia (Halychyna.)

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. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**.

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

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