

INSIDE:

- Chernobyl story is far from over — page 2.
- National deputy files suit for slander — page 3.
- Colleagues bid farewell to Svoboda editor-in-chief — page 5.

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Verkhovna Rada paralyzed over election of chairman

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada continues to be paralyzed over the election of a chairman to lead it.

After seven weeks and 13 attempts, the newly elected national deputies still have not reached consensus.

Four more rounds of nominations took place in the last week, after Petro Symonenko, leader of the Communist faction, came within five votes of claiming the chairmanship on June 18. No one has come close since.

Among the tried and failed pretenders of the last week were Oleksander Tkachenko, the first vice-chair of the previous Parliament, who could muster only 148 votes in the 10th round; and Ivan Pliushch, the Verkhovna Rada's first chairman, who received 205 votes in the 11th round, 19 short of the 226 needed for a majority in the 450-member Parliament.

A 12th round of nominations was never followed by voting because before the national deputies could get to that

stage all seven nominees had withdrawn their candidacies.

In round 13 Mr. Pliushch again was nominated; he was pitted against his successor, Oleksander Moroz, chairman of the last Parliament. However, they both withdrew their nominations as the political gamesmanship continued. Volodymyr Semynozhenko of the National Democratic faction was left as the sole candidate, but he received only 201 votes.

The paralysis in the Parliament is the result of a split among the political parties along ideological lines. Neither side has yet shown a desire to work out a compromise that would allow for the election of a chairman. A center bloc of four factions — Rukh, the National Democrats, the Social Democrats (United) and the Greens — has stood firm for electing the chairman as a package with his two vice-chairs.

The leftist bloc of Communists, Socialists and Agrarians has insisted that the chairmanship must go to one of their own, and has refused to consider electing the presidium as a package.

Kuchma takes the initiative, opting to govern via decree

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — With economic reforms in Ukraine at a standstill, and the Parliament in stalemate over the election of a leader, President Leonid Kuchma told the Ukrainian people on June 18 that he would take the initiative and attempt to re-invigorate the movement toward reform via presidential edicts.

After consultation with Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council and recommendations from his Cabinet of Ministers, the president said he had decided that while the country waited for the Verkhovna Rada to organize its leadership Ukraine could sink still deeper into crisis.

"The people and the state shall no longer remain hostage to the uncertainty emerging from the Verkhovna Rada," said President Kuchma in a brief nationally televised address. "Therefore, I assume the responsibility and, proceeding from the recommendations of the National Security and Defense Council, have made the decision to issue necessary decrees."

President Kuchma said all his decrees

would be submitted to the Verkhovna Rada as draft laws for adoption once a leadership is in place, although he also stated that he sees dim prospects for the ability of the new Verkhovna Rada to pass the legislation he believes is necessary to get Ukraine's economy moving in 1998.

He said that 42 economic reform bills not addressed by the previous convocation are still languishing within the Parliament. "The newly elected Parliament also is too busy to attend to them since it has been paralyzed by a crisis linked with the formation of its leadership bodies for a second month now," explained Mr. Kuchma.

The next day President Kuchma signed the first of several decrees, establishing a single, simplified agricultural commodities tax for farmers. He also ordered the halving of government contributions to the Chernobyl Fund from 10 percent to 5 percent.

Vice Prime Minister for Economic Reform Serhii Tyhytko announced that the president would soon sign 10 additional presidential decrees, including an order to establish a single, one-time tax for small and medium-size business, and to raise the gasoline and diesel fuel tax.

The additional tax on transportation fuel will add approximately 700 million hrv to government coffers. Mr. Tyhytko also indicated that securities taxes would be reduced.

That same day the Cabinet of Ministers announced it had prepared a presidential decree to hike the minimum wage from 15 hrv to 55 hrv a month beginning on July 1.

Another document being prepared would direct that government-owed wages, pensions and student stipends be paid from a \$1.25 billion fund based on proceeds of government privatization.

The sudden, quick movement on tax and budget reform by the president was greeted with guarded optimism by U.S. officials. According to Interfax-Ukraine, Ambassador Richard Morningstar, a special adviser to the president and secretary of state on assistance for the NIS, who was in Kharkiv at the time of the presidential announcement, said he hopes the series of economic decrees issued by President Kuchma will help improve the financial situation in the country.

However, he added that Ukraine still needs to "take steps to bolster her economic growth" before it begins to emerge from its economic crisis.

The presidential announcement, for the most part, was not welcomed by Ukraine's national deputies — as could have been expected. The extent to which the members of Parliament viewed the president's move as unlawful or unconstitutional depended on their political association.

Yurii Karmazin of the Hromada faction, which is strongly anti-Kuchma, called the

Ukrainian Canadians recall Stalin's death-by-starvation campaign

by Christopher Guly

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

OTTAWA — Some 100 people braved pouring rain to attend a June 14 memorial in honor of the estimated 7 million Ukrainians who died during Stalin's artificially created famine 65 years ago — the event that became "the model for the grand genocide of the century," according to Oksana Bashuk Hepburn, the newly elected president of the Ottawa branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

She said that while the Soviets confiscated farmers' grain, Stalin issued a decree in August 1932 that ordered the execution of anyone "violating the sanctity of socialist property."

For Ukrainians, it became a "Catch-22," said Ms. Bashuk Hepburn. "First of all, they took away people's private possessions — their land, their grain — and declared them to belong to the state, forcing them to starve, and shot anybody who wanted to get some of it back as if they were thieves, when in fact the thief was the state."

At the June 14 memorial, held at the human-rights memorial in downtown Ottawa, several wreaths were laid to remember the many Ukrainian lives lost. The week before, about 200 people gathered at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa to remember the

famine victims through prayers, poetry and speeches.

Last month, over 500 people attended a Montreal march in memory of those who died.

The Ottawa event, meanwhile, also saw the launch of a scholarship fund organized by both the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) and Buduchnist Ukrainian Credit Union Ltd., located on Carling Avenue. Monies raised will be used to support scholarly research into the politics of famine and food, as well as anyone who wants to pursue this subject area in their university studies.

The UCC also wants a section on the Ukrainian famine included in the federal government's plans to build a Holocaust or genocide museum in the National Capital Region.

As well, the Ukrainian Canadian community is raising money for a "soup-kitchen" fund for those going hungry in Ukraine today. About four kitchens have already been established in Ukraine today. Hundreds more are needed.

Based on a poverty line of \$50 (U.S.), almost three-quarters of Ukraine's population are estimated to be in need. Ms. Bashuk Hepburn said the idea behind the famine memorial events and initiatives is to ensure that history stops repeating itself and that subsequent genocidal campaigns, led by such brutal dictators as Hitler and Pol Pot in Cambodia, find

themselves relegated to the dustbins of history. "Anybody has the power and ability to create evil," she said. "We would like to eliminate that in people's hearts and souls. But the point is that absolute power allows dictators with hidden agendas to do whatever they wish."

Part of the reason the Ukrainian famine has not penetrated the consciousness of most people is the "conspiracy of silence in the West" that covered up "absolute power in the East," explained Ms. Bashuk Hepburn.

"The Soviets had a lot of friends who thought that socialism was great social engineering and that the Soviet Union was this mecca of social policy, and didn't want to worry about these 'little hiccups.' They were seduced by this idea of utopia, which was really an instrument used by a dictator to gain absolute power."

While Moscow suppressed coverage of the famine as it was ravaging Ukraine by closing the country to foreign journalists, some did find their way in, producing results members of the Ukrainian communities in Canada and the U.S. still find distasteful.

Perhaps the most famous case involved New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty, who earned the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 for his coverage of the USSR in which he downplayed the

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued on page 10)

ANALYSIS: Chornobyl story is far from over

by Dr. David R. Marples

The world has forgotten about the disaster at the Chornobyl station in northern Ukraine just over 12 years ago, at least according to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. Yet the disaster is far from over, and recent reports from Ukraine suggest that there is a very real threat of new radioactive contamination of the region around the station.

Reactor No. 4 at the Chornobyl nuclear plant was one of four operating reactors out of a planned six. After the explosion of April 26, 1986, a makeshift covering was constructed in perilous conditions (radiation levels went off the scale of geiger counters) over the summer of 1986. The result was dubbed the "sarcophagus," while the roof directly over the destroyed reactor is referred to as the "covering" or the "ukryttia" (in Ukrainian). Soviet engineers at the site, witnessing the reactor's burial, declared that the ukryttia would last "for eternity." In this case eternity has a lifespan of about 15 years. Experts agree that the ukryttia is collapsing.

The weakest part of the ukryttia is its roof. If and when it collapses, radioactive dust will be flung into the atmosphere and carried some 10 kilometers by winds. It is essential, therefore, that scientists monitor the situation closely. However, because of high radiation levels within the covering, many areas cannot be penetrated.

The person responsible for the ukryttia, the Chornobyl station's Deputy Director Valentyn Kupnyi, noted in late April that about 3,000 tons of buried materials, including wood, plastic, and graphite continue to burn within the shelter. Fires are common and constitute a critical threat to the area. In 1992, a fire blazed for three days. Within the reactor itself there are an estimated 50 to 100 tons of fuel. Mr. Kupnyi did not rule out the possibility of a chain reaction – a mini-Chornobyl – under certain circumstances. As the ukryttia was built with ventilation holes, either strong winds or a tornado could cause the release of dust.

In April 1997, Ukraine and the countries of the G-7 agreed on a plan to recover the ukryttia, known as the Shelter Implementation Plan (SIP), which is to cost \$758 million (U.S.) and will take eight to nine years to complete. Ukraine's portion is \$50 million. Once the covering has been stabilized, then the key problem will be to remove the fuel

Dr. David R. Marples is director of the Stasiuk Program on Contemporary Ukraine, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta. This commentary was published also in the June 15 issue of the Edmonton Journal.

New nuclear waste site being built near Chornobyl

Eastern Economist

KYIV – The construction of a new nuclear waste storage site began on April 20 in the 30-kilometer exclusion zone around the Chornobyl nuclear power plant. The reservoir will hold up to 533,000 cubic meters of waste for 300 years.

The project will take five years to complete and will cost 65 million hrv. The new site aims to resolve the problem of below ground storage, as space in existing sites is becoming limited.

inside the sarcophagus – an operation that will cost billions of dollars.

The enormity of this problem is compounded by the continuing operation of the Chornobyl nuclear power station. In April 1996, Ukraine signed a memorandum with the G-7 to close down the plant by the year 2000. Unit 1, an obsolete first-generation reactor, is out-of-service, but has not been decommissioned. Unit 2 was closed down in 1991 as a result of a fire, but it could be back in service within a year, according to Ukrainian officials.

Thus, Unit 3 has remained the only operating reactor. Last June it was shut down for routine maintenance, and safety experts discovered more than 300 cracks in the welding around the tubes leading to the reactor core. To eliminate them involved more than 700 personnel working for seven months, all of whom received a dose of radiation equivalent to an annual "load" for atomic station workers (or 10 times as much as that permitted for the general public). Last week Unit 3, which shares a building with the sarcophagus, was restarted.

Ukrainian officials have complained bitterly that neither the G-7 nor the European Union have yet provided the required financing for the closure of Chornobyl. Long-time Chornobyl boss Serhii Parashyn maintained that funds are required not only for the closure of the station, but for completion of work on two new reactors in western Ukraine at the Rivne and Khmelnytskyi plants. The cost of this is \$1.2 billion. High hopes were placed on the annual meeting of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which took place in Kyiv in May, but the bank made few commitments other than \$130 million toward the costs of repairing the ukryttia.

Ukraine's nuclear industry has also suffered another blow. Mr. Parashyn, its most eloquent spokesperson, and a man who has worked at Chornobyl since 1987, was abruptly fired in early May, evidently for insubordination toward the new nuclear energy authority in the country, Enerhoatom. Mr. Parashyn has maintained that Enerhoatom was established in haphazard fashion and has no license to operate nuclear power stations.

The real story behind the removal of Mr. Parashyn appears to be that the Ukrainian government wished to remove an official who did not display the customary obedience toward the government. President Kuchma dismissed the affair contemptuously as a long overdue action. Others, however, particularly in the Verkhovna Rada, believe that Ukraine has for too long been held hostage over Chornobyl by foreign powers, who have demanded its closure despite Ukraine's energy problems and despite the fact that equally obsolete Chornobyl-type reactors continue to operate in Russia and Lithuania.

The Chornobyl story, therefore, is far from over, and the dangers today are far more apparent than 12 years ago. The nuclear industry is divided and in turmoil; plant personnel are being subjected to high doses of radiation; the Chornobyl plant is not being readied for closure by the promised 2000 deadline; and, most significant, the covering over the destroyed fourth reactor has a lifespan of one to two years before it begins to collapse, according to officials at the site.

Ukraine's view is that the world is not paying sufficient attention to its problems. It cannot pay for the necessary constructions and it cannot do without nuclear energy, which now accounts for 44 percent of its electricity production.

NEWSBRIEFS

Lawmakers protest suppression of press

KYIV – Ten Verkhovna Rada deputies published an open letter to Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko in the June 17 issue of *Holos Ukrainy*, requesting him "to put an end to the negative development of events in the [country's] information sphere." The deputies accused Information Minister Zinovii Kulyk of clamping down on opposition newspapers and media critical of the current government. They pointed to *Pravda Ukrainy*, *Vseukrainskiye Viedomosti* and *Polityka*, as examples of newspapers whose publication was "temporarily suspended" following legal actions taken against them by the Information Ministry or administrative measures applied by tax and other services subordinate to the executive. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Army unprepared for reduction

KYIV – A Ukrainian Defense Ministry official has told ITAR-TASS that the armed forces are unprepared for the troop cuts announced last week by President Leonid Kuchma. In accordance with the president's decree, the number of conscripts is to be slashed from 80,000 in 1997 to 50,000 this year in order to reduce the military's expenditures and put its strength at the level of "necessary sufficiency." In addition, the 350,000-strong army is to be cut by 17,000 servicemen by year's end. (RFE/RL Newsline)

IMF "nearly agrees" on \$2 B loan

KYIV – International Monetary Fund Deputy Managing Director Stanley Fischer said after a meeting with President Leonid Kuchma in Kyiv on June 22 that Ukraine and the IMF "have nearly agreed on launching a new credit program," Ukrainian Television reported. Ukraine is currently negotiating a \$2 billion loan from the IMF to be issued over three years. Mr. Fischer said there are still "some technical problems" and that the final decision on the loan will be made in late July. But he praised Ukraine's recent reform efforts and said he is "surprised at the production growth in Ukraine achieved over a very short period." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Regular payments offered to coal industry

KYIV – Valerii Pustovoitenko on June 22 said the government can now make regular payments to the coal industry, Ukrainian Radio reported. The prime minister announced that the government allotted 9 million hrv (\$4.5 million) early this week to pay wages for coal miners. The government has also ordered that enterprises pay for no less than 60 percent of coal supplies in cash. Meanwhile, Mykhailo

Volynets, leader of the Independent Trade Union of Coal Miners, has accused the government of failing to meet its former pledges to pay current wages, Ukrainian Television reported. According to Mr. Volynets, miners at 20 coal mines are still on strike over unpaid wages. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Donetsk miners demand back wages

KYIV – Following the Ukrainian government's deal with the Dnipropetrovsk miners to pay back wages, a group of miners in Donetsk has begun picketing the oblast administration building to demand payment of their outstanding wages. Coal Industry Minister Serhii Tulub has appealed to the miners to end their protest, ITAR-TASS reported on June 19. Meanwhile, a Donetsk miners' trade union has demanded that Minister Tulub be held responsible for issuing a directive to coal mining managers to freeze funds allocated to pay overdue wages and benefits. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S.-Ukraine defense agreements OK'd

KYIV – Ukraine and the U.S. signed a set of agreements on June 12, including an agreement between defense departments on providing Ukraine with material-technical support, services and training for the liquidation of strategic arms, and an agreement on cooperating in liquidating the infrastructure of weapons for mass destruction. The latter is effective until June 2001. An amendment to the first document raises U.S. technical assistance to Ukraine by \$76.7 million to \$368.4 million (U.S.). (Eastern Economist)

New crime-fighting pistol assembled

KYIV – At the KB-3 Design Bureau, two samples of a new Shevchenko PSH pistol are completely assembled. The chief designer says the pistol, built to take 9 mm rounds, is intended for law enforcers fighting organized crime. The bureau is now working on some modifications, to take 25 mm, 29 mm and also American 45-caliber rounds that are 11.43 mm. (Eastern Economist)

Over 4,000 enterprises go bankrupt

KYIV – Since the beginning of the year, 4,107 enterprises have gone bankrupt, announced the Ukraine's arbitration courts. Of these, 83 percent are privately owned companies. Liquidation balances have been approved for 2,303 companies, according to Stepan Varych, vice-chairman of the Anti-Bankruptcy Agency. These bankrupt companies have run up a debt of 937 mil-

(Continued on page 12)

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Deputy files suit for slander

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A U.S.-born Ukrainian national deputy has filed a 150 million hrv (\$75 million U.S.) defamation lawsuit against a fellow parliamentarian for accusing him of belonging to the Central Intelligence Agency.

The lawsuit brought by National Deputy Roman Zvarych, who is a member of the center-right Rukh faction, was filed in response to a remark that Oleksander Tkachenko, a member of the left-wing Center faction (formerly Socialist Center) made before Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada during the ongoing process of nominating a chairman to lead the rudderless Parliament.

"His exact words were that I am a representative of the CIA. Not even an agent, but a representative. I feel that it is a threat and an insult to my status," explained Mr. Zvarych, who took Ukrainian citizenship in 1995, 17 months after renouncing his U.S. citizenship. He was elected to the Verkhovna Rada this past March.

On June 18 Mr. Tkachenko, who had just been nominated for the post of chairman in the 10th round of voting, stepped up to the main microphone to take questions from the Parliament floor and was confronted by Mr. Zvarych with questions about alleged questionable and illegal business activities of Mr. Tkachenko's business entity, Land and People.

Mr. Tkachenko, who was first vice-chairman in the last Verkhovna Rada, replied that he would not answer questions put forward by "a representative of the CIA."

Mr. Zvarych explained that at the least his reputation and effectiveness in the Verkhovna Rada are at stake. "Such a proclamation by him before a national radio audience, interested diplomats and the entire legislative body is a violation of the Civil Code that guarantees a person his honor and dignity," explained Mr. Zvarych.

Mr. Zvarych filed his suit a day later, on the basis of Article 80 of Ukraine's Civil Code, which removes the legislative immunity that national deputies hold when they make slanderous and insulting statements before the legislative body.

"Mr. Tkachenko must now show a basis for such an accusation," said Mr. Zvarych. "He has to produce evidence; he has to show a smoking gun."

On June 20, in the newspaper *Sevodnia*, Mr. Tkachenko stated that he has evidence and will produce it when necessary. The Weekly could not reach Mr. Tkachenko for comment. An employee who answered the phone in Mr. Tkachenko's office said, "I don't know anything about it."

Mr. Zvarych told The Weekly that Mr. Tkachenko's remarks are not only a threat to his career, but to his life as well. "Statute 56 of the Criminal Code concerns state treason, within which is found espionage. When a national deputy who has access to secret state information, is accused of such, the consequences are greater still. Statute 7 (1) of the Criminal Code states that I could get the death penalty if I were what he has accused me of being."

The Procurator General's Office launched an investigation into the financial dealings of Mr. Tkachenko's Land and People enterprise in 1993, after Ukraine's Export-Import Bank had to repay a \$75 million loan to CitiCorp Bank on which Land and People had reneged. The Export-Import Bank had underwritten the loan.

The money was to be used by the company for the purchase of U.S. corn seed, but the investigation revealed that in addition to seed – much of which was of poor quality and unusable – 32 luxury automobiles and industrial boilers also were purchased.

Land and People also spent \$2,740,000 to host 114 American farmers, who voluntarily came to Ukraine to review the state of Ukraine's agrobusiness sector in 1993. That comes out to \$24,000 per farmer for the two-week period of their junket.

Many of the documents used by the Procurator General's Office in its investigation into the wheelings and dealings of Land and People were submitted by the Center for Democratic Reform, which Mr. Zvarych directed at the time.

As a result of the investigation, Land and People was ordered to repay Ukraine the money it borrowed, but that has not happened to this day, according to Mr. Zvarych.

"And now Tkachenko wants to be speaker – to hold one of the highest offices in the land," said Mr. Zvarych. "That is money that could be used to help pay back wages and pensions that his party insists needs to be a priority for Ukraine."

Morningstar heads delegation on fact-finding mission to Kharkiv

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – Ambassador Richard Morningstar, a special adviser to the president and secretary of state on assistance for the NIS, headed an official American delegation on a fact-finding mission to Ukraine as a follow-up to Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright's visit to Kyiv on March 6. He held a press conference in Kyiv on June 19 to release his mission's early findings.

In his introductory remarks at the press conference, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Stephen Pifer recalled Secretary Albright's visit in terms of improving global security through Ukraine's decision to discontinue cooperation with Russia in implementing a nuclear project in Iran. When a Ukrainian-U.S. agreement to this effect was reached in Kyiv, the ambassador admitted that the U.S. was well aware of the sizeable financial and economic losses that would inevitably affect the Kharkiv-based production association TurboAtom.

Therefore, the American delegation's most recent visit to Kharkiv was aimed at gathering information about the second largest Ukrainian city's investment opportunities and exploring prospects for U.S. capital investments into local small and midsize businesses. The U.S. delegation held a series of meetings with Kharkiv municipal officials and business executives.

According to Mr. Morningstar, his mission to Ukraine and talks with key officials are only part of the U.S. administration's response to Ukraine's decision on halting the provision of turbines for the nuclear plant in Bushehr, Iran. This decision, as well as Ukraine's adamant and unswerving stance on nuclear non-proliferation, have been instrumental in a bilateral agreement on nuclear cooperation, under which the U.S. has undertaken a \$40 million project for Ukraine. The project is intended to facilitate Ukraine's search for alternate sources of energy and fissionable fuel supplies necessary for its nuclear power plants. In the long run, it will enable the Ukrainian government to save millions of dollars, Mr. Morningstar said.

In addition to TurboAtom, the U.S. delegation visited the Komunar, Monolit and other major Kharkiv enterprises, where they discussed potential markets for Kharkiv goods and potential American aid. Ambassadors Morningstar and Pifer will report their findings in detail to Vice-President Al Gore, who is due to arrive in Kyiv on July 22 for a meeting with President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine.

The two U.S. officials expressed confidence that the mission's findings and recommendations will facilitate the expansion of relations between the United States and Ukraine.

Former press secretary now Ukraine's ambassador to Israel

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – Dmytro Markov presented his diplomatic credentials to Israeli President Ezer Weizmann on May 28 in Jerusalem in his first official act as Ukraine's ambassador to that Middle Eastern country.

Mr. Markov, 50, became Ukraine's third ambassador to Israel since his country declared independence in 1991, succeeding Oleksander Maidanek, who was appointed press secretary and director of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's Press Service.

Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, currently ambassador to the U.S., was Ukraine's first ambassador to Israel. Mr. Markov served as press attaché at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington in 1992-1995, and until his appointment as Ukraine's top representative in Israel, occupied the post to which Mr. Maidanek has now been assigned.

According to the Ukrainian Embassy's official press release concerning Mr. Markov's appointment, during their May 28 meeting President Weizmann underscored his personal family ties to Ukraine, pointed out that many of his country's leaders originated from the land north of the Black Sea, and highlighted the long history of Ukrainian-Jewish friendship that will serve as an important factor for the development of relations in the future.

Mr. Weizmann expressed gratitude that Ukraine had declined to participate in the construction of an Iranian atomic energy station in Bushehr, and affirmed his country's commitment to the Middle East peace process, including the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian problem and normalization of relations with Syria and Lebanon.

Ambassador Markov conveyed greetings from President Kuchma, his wishes

for peace in the region and the flowering of the Israeli people, as well as his expectations that bilateral relations between the two countries would continue to deepen.

Mr. Markov briefed Mr. Weizmann on Ukraine's internal socio-economic conditions and surveyed the principal aspects of his country's foreign policy, particularly its interest in the stabilization of the situation in the Middle East and the establishment of a lasting peace on the subcontinent.

Ukraine's envoy affirmed his government's aim to develop multifaceted mutually beneficial contacts with Israel and its readiness to assist in the peace process.

Earlier in May, immediately upon his arrival in Israel, Mr. Markov had participated in a ceremony held by the Holocaust remembrance society at Yad Vashem. Three Ukrainian citizens, Volodymyr Chornovil, Fedir Kondratiuk and Ivan Honchar were among 50 "Righteous Among Nations" from 24 countries who were officially recognized for risking their lives and the lives of their families to save Jews from Nazi persecution during the years of World War II.

On May 6 the three honorees attended the torch lighting on Mount Herzl, the "Jubilee Bells" ceremony in Jerusalem and a special concert by the Israeli Philharmonic at Yad Vashem.

President Weizmann and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greeted the Righteous during the event. In his address, Mr. Netanyahu highlighted the crucial role of the Righteous in the history of the Jewish people, calling them heroes who, in rescuing people from death, struggled against the evil of Nazism.

Mr. Markov told The Weekly that there was special significance in the fact that more honorees from Ukraine were invited than from any other country.

Shcherbak book is launched



Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak was honored recently at the Embassy of Ukraine with the presentation of his new book, "The Strategic Role of Ukraine: Diplomatic Addresses and Lectures (1994-1997)." The book was published as part of the Ukrainian Studies series by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. Presenting the author, HURI Director Prof. Roman Szporluk (left), shows a copy of Ambassador Shcherbak's very early attempt at literary criticism, a "maliovana retsenzia," a cartoon review, which appeared in *Literaturna Ukraina* some 30 years ago.

UABA meeting in Chicago underscores involvement in community issues

by Marta Farion

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian American Bar Association (UABA) convened on May 29-30 at Chicago's Marriott O'Hare Hotel for its semiannual meeting, which included an agenda of reports on current activities and future programs. The meeting was attended by officers, governors and members of the organization from various parts of the United States. Regardless of the fact that few Chicago area attorneys attended, the association was geographically well represented by its attorney members from other cities, and even Ukraine.

The meeting commenced with a reception on Friday evening, which was attended by the acting consul general of Ukraine in Chicago, Yurii Lazarev, and his wife.

At the all-day meeting on Saturday, UABA President Donna T. Pochoday commenced the morning with a moment of silence in memory of attorneys Joseph Torak Sr. of Gilbertsville, Pa., and Daniel Maxymiuk of Philadelphia, UABA members who died during the last year.

She then informed the participants of the association's many involvements and news about its members. For example, California attorney Yaroslav Sochynsky was appointed member of the American Arbitration Association President's Panel of Mediators. Mr. Sochynsky was chosen for his skills and experience in resolving business, multi-party and complex disputes. New Jersey attorney Roksolana Hladylowycz was recently appointed to the position of immigration judge in New York City. Ms. Pochoday requested that members inform the UABA of any activities and professional moves that are of interest.

She noted the need for a system of mentoring, as well as a networking referral system within the organization that would generate interest in the organization's membership, as well as inspire and moti-

vate young attorneys and law students.

Andre Michniak, who with Bohdan Shandor co-chairs the UABA Scholarship Fund Inc., reported on the status of funds to be used to sponsor qualified law students from Ukraine. Mr. Michniak reported that the tax-exempt corporation received substantial financial contributions in memory of Ivan Shandor, who previously chaired the UABA's Scholarship Fund, but died tragically in a car accident last year. Family members of Mr. Shandor also contributed significantly in his memory. In addition to funds collected from contributors, Mr. Shandor's employer, Baxter Corp., where he served as corporate vice-president of taxation, committed to match any funds donated in Mr. Shandor's name.

The tragic loss of one of the association's active members inspired the participants to continue contributing to the UABA Scholarship Fund and assist qualified young attorneys from Ukraine to continue their legal education in the United States. The donations in memory of Mr. Shandor are also a living testament to the life of an individual who cared about his family and his community.

Ms. Pochoday updated the participants on the usage of the association's 888 toll-free telephone number by UABA prospective and regular members, as well as the general public seeking legal assistance. The toll-free number provides useful information to needy individuals and access by UABA members. However, it also places a financial burden on the UABA and its members who respond to the calls. Most calls received by the UABA on this line from the public are related to immigration matters, particularly from individuals who are taken into custody and detained at one of the Immigration and Naturalization Service detention centers throughout the country,

particularly Seattle, and Portland, Ore.

The UABA president also provided information on the UABA's very successful webpage (<http://www.brama.com/uaba>), newsletter, employment opportunities, membership dues, requests for financial aid and legal advice to legal defense funds in Ukraine, and the USAID Education Program grant.

Ms. Pochoday also noted that the World Congress of Ukrainian Jurists, of which the UABA is a founding member, plans to hold its fourth world congress in Lviv on September 17-20. The president encouraged all UABA members to participate in this congress to the extent possible. The prior three world congresses took place in Kyiv and Yalta.

Updates on legal proceedings

The most challenging and interesting sessions of the meeting were the presentations that included updates on the proceedings in the matter of the CBS "60 Minutes" broadcast "The Ugly Face of Freedom" by attorneys Arthur Belendiuk and Ms. Pochoday, the proceedings regarding John Demjanjuk's U.S. citizenship status and Canadian OSI-type deportation activities, reported by Canadian attorney Orest Rudzik. A status report on the USAID Commercial Law Project for Ukraine was provided by attorneys Patience Huntwork, Peter Piddoubny and Ms. Pochoday.

In October 1994, the CBS news program "60 Minutes" broadcast a news segment titled "The Ugly Face of Freedom," a report on the alleged rise of anti-Semitism in western Ukraine. The program smeared Ukrainians as anti-Semites through a series of news distortions and misrepresentations that left Ukrainian American community members in shock and open to attacks on them and their descendants based on gross historical inaccuracies.

Three separate legal proceedings were commenced with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in an attempt to block CBS from continuing its re-broadcasts of the inaccurate program and to have CBS issue an apology for the distorted facts. Alexander Serafyn of Detroit, represented by Mr. Belendiuk, and Oleg Nikolyszyn of Providence, R.I., represented by Ms. Pochoday, separately petitioned the FCC to deny the assignments of broadcast licenses of local television stations to CBS on the basis that CBS engaged in intentional news distortions, contrary to the public interest.

In addition, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America filed a separate "personal attack" complaint with the FCC, arguing that the "60 Minutes" news segment amounted to a personal attack on Ukrainian Americans by CBS. All three petitions were subsequently denied.

Ultimately, Messrs. Serafyn and Nikolyszyn and the UCCA appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, and their legal arguments were presented to the court on January 23. To date, no decision has been rendered by the panel of three judges. If the Court of Appeals reverses the previous decisions of the FCC, which denied the right to a hearing on the issues, and sends the case back to the FCC, there will be an opportunity for discovery to investigate the documentation, the sources and the motivation of the program, and ultimately reach a decision on the merits.

It will also mean that the Ukrainian community in North America will need to make a strong commitment of financial and moral support to pursue this and other legal battles that lie ahead whenever the media engages in news distortions and misrepresentations to the detriment of the Ukrainian American community. Without financial assistance, it will be difficult to represent the interests of the community against a team of attorneys from one of the world's largest broadcasting corporations. The community needs to be made aware of the legal needs and implications of this case, the presenters noted.

In addition to the CBS proceedings, Ms. Pochoday briefly reviewed the background of the Demjanjuk case and informed the participants that the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio had restored Mr. Demjanjuk's U.S. citizenship, but without prejudice. This means that the U.S. Department of Justice may be able to bring in other evidence against Mr. Demjanjuk in the future.

Mr. Rudzik, a Canadian attorney, presented the background and status of the deportation cases that are being brought in Canada by the Crown against Ukrainian Canadians who allegedly provided false information on their Canadian immigration entry documentation. These actions are part of a search of individuals of Ukrainian descent in Canada, and involve fact-gathering and testimony in Ukraine, Russia, Poland and other countries.

The fact that the individuals being deposed are unable to travel to Canada due to age and illness brought about the unique situation that entire proceedings are being held in other countries, Mr. Rudzik noted. This requires travel by Canadian judges, clerks of court, attorneys and stenographers, and the participation of host country judges, attorneys and all the other court personnel at enormous expense. Originally the courts ruled that the defendants be held responsible for all these expenses; howev-

(Continued on page 13)

Pope's ecumenist urges revival of Catholic-Orthodox talks

by Jerry Filteau

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON – According to Catholic News Service, Cardinal Edward I. Cassidy, head of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity has called for the return of the international Catholic-Orthodox theological dialogue to the program that was suspended in 1990.

About 120 Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic and Orthodox bishops, priests, theologians and others attended the June 9-12 conference at The Catholic University of America to explore Catholic-Orthodox relations, especially in light of Pope John Paul II's 1995 encyclical on Christian unity, "Ut Unum Sint."

The four-day conference was co-sponsored by the Society of St. John Chrysostom, Eastern Churches Journal and Catholic University's School of Religious Studies. Titled "Orientale Lumen II," it was a follow-up to a similar conference at the university last year, which focused on "Orientale Lumen" (The Light of the East), Pope John Paul's 1995 apostolic letter praising the riches of the Churches of the East and urging a restoration of East-West Church unity.

One of the elements of the encyclical that Cardinal Cassidy highlighted was the pope's statement that on the journey toward the "necessary and sufficient visible unity" of the one Church willed by Christ, "one must not impose any burden beyond that which is necessary."

He linked the question of necessary and sufficient unity with the reminder in the encyclical of the distinction, made at the opening of the Second Vatican Council by Pope John XXIII, "between the deposit of the faith and the formulation in which it is expressed."

"I regret to state that such a reminder is even today necessary for some Catholic theologians," said the cardinal.

He said the pope drew wide attention in other Churches with his request to theologians and leaders of other Churches to explore with him how he might exercise his primacy as bishop of Rome in ways that might better serve the unity of all the Churches.

The most negative comments in this connection have come from the Reformed communions. It is indeed difficult to find a place for the primacy of the bishop of Rome in an ecclesiology that does not have a significant role for the ministry of the

ordained bishop," he said.

However, from among those in the Reformed tradition "there have been several thoughtful and hopeful statements," he added, citing the Church of England and the Lutheran World Federation. He said that the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches gave a reflective, detailed response.

Cardinal Cassidy expressed particular disappointment at the response of the Orthodox Churches, noting that Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople took the occasion to criticize the Roman Catholic Church for "theologically mistaken demands for a world primacy (of the pope) in the jurisdictional sense – or even worse, for personal infallibility over the whole Church and independently of it."

He said other Orthodox leaders, however, took a much more positive view of the encyclical.

In response to several questions from the audience about the recent Vatican order against married Ukrainian Catholic (Byzantine Rite) priests exercising ministry in Poland, the cardinal expressed disappointment at the decision and called it ecumenically harmful.

But he suggested that Latin Rite bishops in the U.S. might be the ones to take the lead in changing the situation.

He also said that the ban in some places on married clergy for Eastern Churches in union with Rome was also brought up as a concern at the recent Synod of Bishops for Asia.

"This is something, first of all, that is against their legitimate tradition," he said, "and, secondly, which has a very negative effect upon the ecumenical movement."

He said his office was not involved in the Vatican decision, which came at the request of the Latin Rite bishops in Poland.

Cardinal Cassidy added, "I think the whole question really concerns the United States, because it was here, first of all, that this procedure was requested of the Holy See."

In 1929 the Vatican reluctantly acceded to repeated requests by bishops in the U.S. to forbid the ordination of married men to the priesthood in the Eastern Rite in the United States, or the sending of married priests from the native regions of this rite to serve immigrants in the United States.

"So maybe the first thing is to ask the (Latin Rite) bishops in the United States to change their attitude and then put the Polish bishops in a difficult position," he continued.

Colleagues and co-workers bid farewell to Svoboda editor-in-chief

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Colleagues bid farewell to Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Zenon Snylyk on Thursday, June 18, who retired effective June 19 after more than 36 years of service to publications of the Ukrainian National Association.

Present at the informal gathering were Mr. Snylyk's fellow editors at the Ukrainian-language daily newspaper, members of The Ukrainian Weekly editorial and production staffs, the Svoboda print shop and administration.

Brief remarks were delivered by Olha Kuzmowycz, speaking on behalf of the Svoboda staff, and Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz.

Mrs. Kuzmowycz, the member of the Svoboda's current editorial staff who worked the longest with Mr. Snylyk, spoke of the many interesting news events that had occurred during the last 18 years when Mr. Snylyk was at the helm. She also noted how the group of editors who worked at Svoboda had changed through the years, and expressed hope that Mr. Snylyk would stay in touch with his colleagues at the paper, which as of July 1 will be published as a weekly.

Ms. Hadzewycz underlined that Mr. Snylyk had begun his career at the two UNA publications at The Weekly. She thanked him for many years of cooperation and support and assured him that, despite the fact that these are difficult times of change and that no one knows what tomorrow may bring, all will remember him fondly. She expressed hope that he, too, would have pleasant memories of his years at Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

The Weekly presented Mr. Snylyk with a "Collector's Issue" front page of the paper, featuring photos of the editor from his days at The Weekly and Svoboda, as well as his days on the soccer field and tennis court.

A farewell gift from all the employees of the UNA's publications was presented to Mr. Snylyk by Halyna Kolessa of the Svoboda editorial staff.

Mr. Snylyk thanked all for attending the farewell gathering and commented that it had taken place in a manner that was most appropriate: within the circle of people who work on both UNA newspapers. He recalled various memories from the past, of events and people connected to Svoboda and The Weekly, adding that his years at the Svoboda Publishing House were evenly split between both newspapers (he served on the editorial staffs of each for 18 years and two months) and also included work on the two-volume Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia.

In conclusion, all raised their glasses of champagne in a toast to the outgoing editor-in-chief.

Mr. Snylyk also bid farewell to Svoboda readers and his co-workers in the Saturday, June 20, issue of Svoboda.

"This is the last time that my name appears as editor-in-chief of Svoboda in the masthead atop this page," he wrote. "My retirement is the result of the decision of the 34th Convention of the UNA to change Svoboda to a weekly. Therefore, I do not have the unpleasant duty of writing an epitaph on the gravestone of the Svoboda daily. However, I am obligated to express my thanks to all of you for your support and loyalty during my 36 years and four months at the Svoboda Publishing House."

"I extend my sincere thanks for your loyalty, dedication and cooperation, for your suggestions, advice, support and readiness to work together in the defense and popularization of Ukrainianism," he concluded.

Mrs. Kuzmowycz, writing in her regular Saturday column in that same issue of Svoboda, noted the passing of an era and bid farewell to both the editor-in-chief and the Svoboda daily.

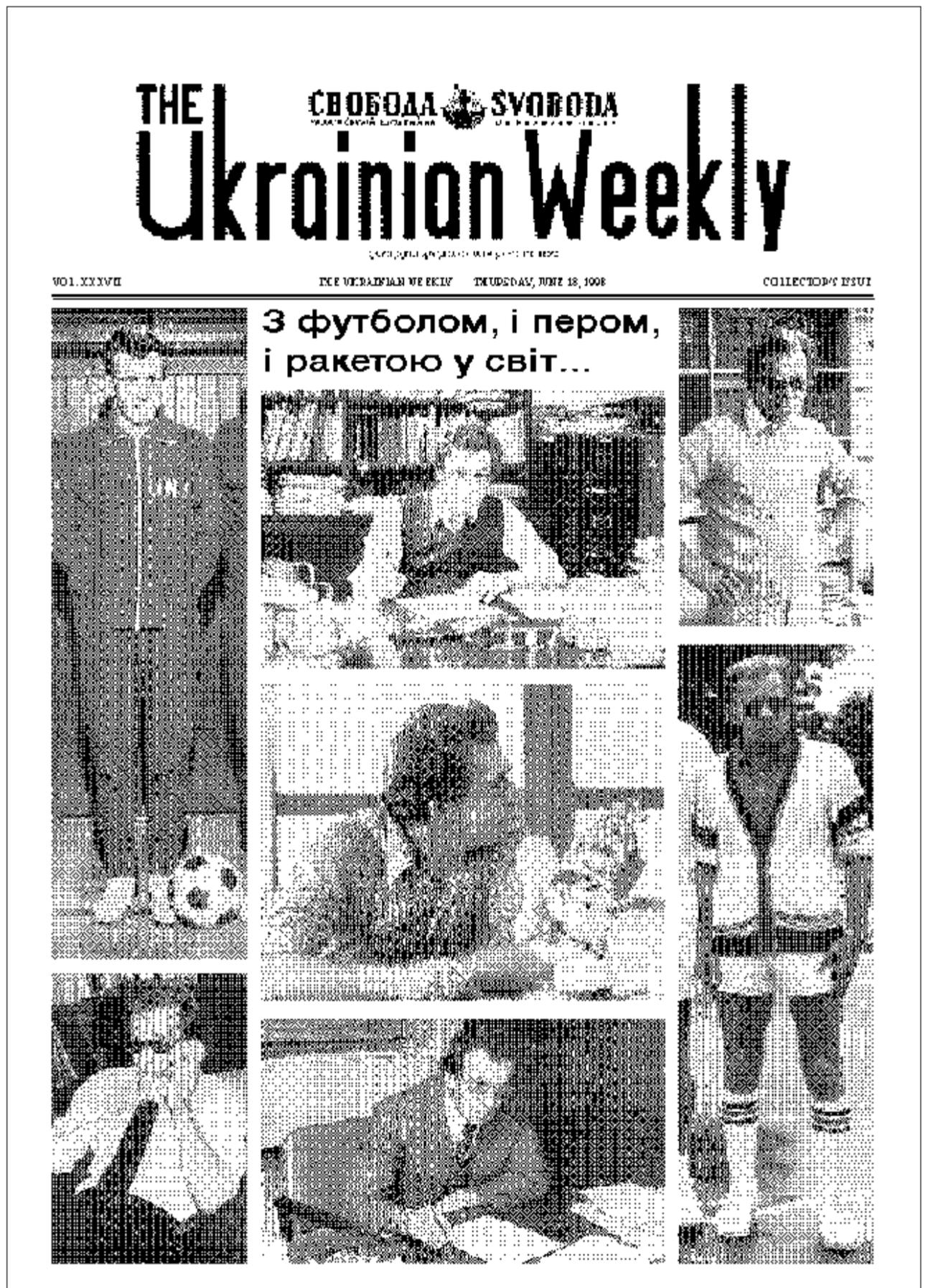
Referring to the editorial staff – comprising journalists who differed in both their ages and assignments – Mrs. Kuzmowycz noted that all the Svoboda editors cared deeply about their newspaper, which celebrated its centennial in 1993. "They did not foresee ... that merely five years later would come so many unexpected and unwanted changes. But life, as they say, is always 'full of misunderstandings and quiet sadness.'"

"Changes are taking place, colleagues are leaving, and that well-known daily guest at countless Ukrainian homes will no longer be arriving....," she wrote.



Irene Jarosewich

Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Zenon Snylyk (seated, second from left), who retired on June 19, with his co-workers.



The "special edition" of The Ukrainian Weekly presented as a farewell gift to Zenon Snylyk, who was editor of this newspaper for 18 years beginning in 1962. The special edition features The Weekly's old nameplate.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Svoboda's unparalleled record

Just five years ago, Svoboda marked the centennial of its birth. Now readers of that official publication of the Ukrainian National Association will no longer be receiving what was prestigiously known as "the oldest and largest continuously published Ukrainian-language daily in the world."

As of July 1, the Svoboda daily is no more. The reasons for its demise are complex. The easiest way to explain the decrease in its frequency from a daily (published five times per week) to a weekly is to simply cite the decision made by the recently concluded 34th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association. It was claimed that the main financial drain on the UNA were its publications; that due to financial considerations the UNA could no longer sustain a daily. Clearly, however, that is not the full story...

Could it be that the UNA has relinquished its role as the leading organization in the Ukrainian community on this continent? Or is it that our community no longer sees the need for a daily newspaper, despite the fact that there is a new wave of immigrants to this country, not to mention an independent Ukraine? Have we disguised a shift in our priorities as basic fiscal responsibility and debased what was once a far-reaching contribution to the commonweal? We will leave that for readers to ponder, for scholars to analyze.

As Svoboda stands on the threshold of a new beginning, it is appropriate for us to take a look back at that newspaper's unparalleled record of service.

From its very inception on September 15, 1893, Svoboda was a builder and initiator. As one former editor-in-chief, Anthony Dragan, wrote: "In the beginning was the word." Indeed, already in its fourth issue, Svoboda, which billed itself as the people's newspaper, called for the establishment of a national organization to serve as the protector and benefactor of our community. Less than four months later the Ruskyi Narodnyi Soyuz (which later became the Ukrainyskyi Narodnyi Soyuz) was born.

Svoboda also was an enlightener. It promoted education among the people, encouraged their political involvement in American life and raised their national consciousness. It was Svoboda, according to immigration historian Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, that forged the Ukrainian national identity in America.

The paper was a crusader as well. It promoted Ukrainian national aspirations and fought for Ukraine's independence, revealed the truth about the Great Famine, spoke out for displaced persons following World War II and defended the independence newly regained during this decade. It spearheaded the campaigns for a Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington and the establishment of Ukrainian studies at Harvard University, and it was an advocate for repressed and persecuted Ukrainian activists for human, national and religious rights.

And, as our communities lost their geographic cohesiveness, Svoboda became our network. It kept us in touch with one another. It kept us informed about developments both in Ukraine and in our diaspora, as well as closer to home. It gave us a forum to share our achievements and losses, our good news and bad.

Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Zenon Snylyk, who retired last week after 18 years in that position and 18 years prior to that as editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, understood full well the great import of the Svoboda daily. He knew that Svoboda's role was to serve the community and the Ukrainian nation, and that these were his "imperatives" as its editor-in-chief. He knew that the Ukrainian-language daily was a fraternal benefit crucial to the UNA's very identity as a fraternal organization, that Svoboda was the its public countenance, that in the eyes of the public Svoboda and the UNA were one and the same. He also knew what his illustrious predecessors knew: that through Svoboda the UNA supported our community and our nation.

As the Svoboda daily completes its last press run on June 30, we express our heartfelt thanks for all that it has done and bid it adieu. As the Svoboda weekly appears, marking a new phase in the life of this proud newspaper, we wish our sister publication well. May it flourish into the next century as it continues to serve its readers and the Ukrainian nation worldwide.

June
28
1996

Turning the pages back...

After a 16-hour, all-night, marathon session that began at 5:30 p.m. on June 27 and ended at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 28, 1996, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted a new

Constitution at 9:18 a.m. by a vote of 315-36, with 12 abstentions. Jubilant lawmakers greeted the final vote with cheers and applause.

Battle over the provisions in the proposed drafts of the new Constitution had been going on for years, but had become particularly heated in the year prior to its adoption, after President Leonid Kuchma threaten to disband the legislature and go directly to a public referendum on the Constitution unless a final draft was accepted.

Credited with marshaling the forces for the marathon session were Chairman Oleksander Moroz, who allowed no breaks in the session and kept pushing for compromises, Mykhailo Syrota, the chairman of the ad-hoc committee on the Constitution, who stood on his feet at the podium for the full 16 hours, reading corrections and proposed revisions, and who, after the final vote, was given a congratulatory toss into the air by boisterous colleagues, as well as former prime minister Yevhen Marchuk and presidential representative Volodymyr Musiaka, both of whom negotiated many of the compromises between the left, center and right factions.

Champagne toasts awaited the legislators, many of whom spent hours celebrating. President Kuchma thanked the legislators and proclaimed June 28 Constitution Day.

Source: "Parliament adopts Constitution in marathon session," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 30, 1996, Vol. LXIV, No. 26.

NEWS AND VIEWS

U.S.-Ukraine community partnerships seminar in D.C. initiates new program

by Olenka Dobczanska

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation recently sponsored a seminar in Washington for the U.S. partners selected for its new U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships for Local Government Training and Education Project. Seventeen representatives from eight U.S. cities came to Washington on April 23-25 to formally start up the project and to become better acquainted with the situation in Ukraine, the procedural requirements of the project, the various organizations that will implement the project and fellow partners from the United States.

The first six partnerships have been announced: Lviv-Colorado Springs, Colo.; Donetsk-Tulsa, Okla.; Kalush-Little Rock, Ark.; Mukachevo-Burlington, Vt.; Krasnodon-Birmingham, Ala.; and Artemivsk-Omaha, Neb.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation was awarded the cooperative agreement for this project by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which administers the U.S. foreign assistance program, providing economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 80 countries worldwide. The goal of the Community Partnerships Program (CPP) is to provide targeted cost-effective technical assistance to local governments in Ukraine.

After opening remarks by Nadia K. McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, a number of officials from the United States and Ukraine who have been active in influencing and implementing U.S. policy toward Ukraine, greeted the participants.

Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and Reps. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), both members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, represented the legislative

branch of the U.S. government. Congresswoman Kaptur, who traces her roots to western Ukraine, spoke about how power is shared in this country and the importance of "unleashing power at the local level both here and in Ukraine." Congressman Gilman also took time from a busy schedule to offer words of encouragement. "I want to commend the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and our U.S. Agency for International Development for the willingness to come together and undertake this worthwhile program," he said.

From the Ukrainian side, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, stressed the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Ukraine. According to the ambassador, programs such as CPP promote this partnership in a more personal way, using "the language from the open heart to the open heart ..."

Yevhen Kushnariov, chief of President Leonid Kuchma's Administration, also spoke. Having been involved in a similar partnership with Cincinnati, when he was mayor of Kharkiv, Mr. Kushnariov said he believes that projects like the CPP are very much needed in Ukraine.

Gregory Huger, the USAID/Kyiv regional mission director, said that he sees the CPP as a real credit to the relationship between the U.S. and Ukraine." He mentioned the broad range of projects sponsored by USAID in Ukraine and other East European countries that "empower people to take their future into their own hands," and offered the full support of USAID in helping CPP partners benefit from the valuable experience of these previous programs.

George Ingram, deputy assistant administrator of USAID, told partici-

(Continued on page 14)

ACTION ITEM

In commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933, and to honor its victims, Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, is sponsoring a concurrent resolution that recognizes the draconian treatment of the Ukrainian population during the 1932-1933 Famine and expresses a sense of Congress that condemns this act perpetrated by the government of the former Soviet Union.

Following the Independence Day Congressional recess, the resolution will be introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, where Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) is the main sponsor.

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) urges the Ukrainian American community to contact U.S. senators and representatives and encourage them to become co-sponsors of the concurrent resolution. A sample letter to members of Congress is provided below.

SAMPLE LETTER

Date
The Honorable (name)
U.S. Senate
or U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20510 or 20515

Dear Senator or Representative (name):

As a Ukrainian American residing in (your state or district), it has come to my attention that Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.) and Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) will be introducing a Concurrent Resolution in commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine and to honor the victims of the famine. Designed and instigated by the former Soviet government to destroy Ukraine's economic independence by eliminating private farming, the Ukrainian famine claimed the lives of 7 million innocent Ukrainian victims. Entire families starved to death as all food was confiscated and farmers were forbidden to travel outside their villages.

I urge you to support the Concurrent Resolution dedicated to the memory of the victims of this heinous crime. Please add your name as a co-sponsor of this resolution commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine.

Sincerely,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: Bound Brook and autocephaly

Dear Editor:

If you think the situation with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. is bad now, wait until Patriarch Bartholomew recognizes the "autocephaly" of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate. With the Ukrainian Orthodox diaspora now under control, Moscow and Constantinople will strike a deal under the table, as the two did 300 years ago. Obviously, the two of them will make sure that "autocephaly" will be in name only, just as it is today "Ukrainian" in name only. And Bound Brook won't have to apologize anymore, as it did after the Odesa fiasco, that "the Patriarch of Constantinople cannot be blamed for his inability to recognize all jurisdictions in Ukraine."

The next thing to ponder is this: In addition to the numerous examples of Patriarch Bartholomew's drive to "unite" our Church in Ukraine with Moscow, he also spoke of "unity" of Bound Brook with our Church in Ukraine (let's forget, for the moment, the irony that Bound Brook always was united with, and an integral part of, that Church). Bound Brook wrote in its own documents: "[Patriarch Bartholomew] spoke of his anguish over the situation of the Church in Ukraine and expressed his and the Holy See's desire that the unity of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in diaspora and in Ukraine be achieved at the earliest possible date."

So, just as the patriarch of Constantinople sold the Ukrainian Orthodox Church to Moscow 300 years ago, it will do so again. Bound Brook will get its wish of "recognized autocephaly" in Ukraine and of being "united" with it, just as it now is already "in communion" with Moscow. The Russification of Bound Brook that we have seen after the death of Patriarch Mstyslav is the perfect prelude.

However, we can take solace in the fact that our memorial to the 7 million victims of Moscow's man-made famine in Ukraine is now canonical. Should those victims offer a thank you? Maybe their surviving relatives should be billed for that privilege, with the money going to Bound Brook's Patriarch Mstyslav [you read it right] Endowment Fund?

George Pasichnyk
Brooklyn Center, Minn.

About fund-raising for Kyiv cathedral

Dear Editor:

I am the treasurer for the recent fundraiser by the Society of St. Andrew for the purchase of the bells in connection with the restoration of Kyiv's St. Michael's Cathedral. Every day I deal directly with the faithful, and I can no longer remain silent.

This issue isn't a theoretical one. It involves real world issues of honesty, integrity and basic human decency. It's also a good example of whom to believe in the discussion about the "Ukrainian" Orthodox Church.

Contributors regularly and repeatedly insisted that I not divert their money through the Consistory in Bound Brook, but instead that the money be sent directly to Kyiv. Why? Because Victor Rud was absolutely correct in his assessment that Bound Brook was trying to get a "free ride" at the literal expense of the same faithful who have been so heart-

lessly betrayed.

The Consistory was angry when it found out that the money would not pass through its books. Why such a reaction if it's truly sincere about helping our Church, as the Rev. Nakonachny writes? I kept my promise to the contributors. Their money went directly to Kyiv without being first diverted through the Consistory. Yet the Rev. Nakonachny had the temerity to write in the March 22 issue: "How shameful (and uninformed) that Mr. Rud writes that the Society of St. Andrew – not the Consistory in South Bound Brook – is collecting money for the bells for St. Michael's Cathedral in Kyiv." (In the very next sentence, however, the Rev. Nakonachny agrees: "[the society] is now raising funds for the bells.")

Mr. Rud wrote it the way it is. Is what he wrote shameful? Is what I did shameful, for honoring the wishes of the faithful? Or is what the Consistory is doing shameful?

The Rev. Nakonachny's and Mr. Bazylevsky's further response (March 29) on this issue is something not to be believed. "Bratstvos," such as the Society of St. Andrew, have stood throughout our history as independent overseers of the hierarchs to curb the abuse of power. They were and had to be independent if they were to fulfill their purpose. For Mr. Bazylevsky to insist that the society "is one of the integral parts of the UOC-U.S.A. and is certainly not an independent unit" only adds insult to injury. Are he and the Rev. Nakonachny reducing the society and its president, Mr. Heretz, to the level of the All Saints Camp in Pennsylvania, the Cultural Center, the museum, the seminary and the bookstore? They also are "integral parts" of the UOC-U.S.A. and are, together with the society, listed on page 188 of the UOC-U.S.A.'s 1998 Calendar/Almanac that Mr. Bazylevsky waves so confidently.

Are "Church-affiliated organizations" being used by the Consistory to "pack" the Metropolitan Council through the placement of these organizations' representatives on the council? Do Mr. Bazylevsky and the Rev. Nakonachny see Mr. Heretz, president of the Society of St. Andrew, as simply another captive vote for the Consistory? I certainly hope not.

Bound Brook isn't fazed, however. It's now raising \$1 million for an endowment fund named after, guess who? The late Patriarch Mstyslav. And guess where the money will go to? Asia Minor. At the same time, they're seeking donations to repair a water line for the gravesites at the cemetery, because "the Consistory budget for the current year does not provide enough funds to accomplish this." (They sure know how to tug at the heart strings.) Evidently, gifts for Patriarch Bartholomew emptied the coffers.

The reason Bound Brook is able to do all this with impunity is because people are not only not informed, but actively disinformed. Imagine, if you can: bequests continue to flow to Bound Brook from, obviously, the elderly who are the very ones who built Bound Brook and were at one with what Bound Brook and the late Patriarch Mstyslav stood for. If they only knew. The Weekly is the only newspaper with the spine to provide that knowledge and a forum for public discussion of this issue, which affects Ukrainians worldwide.

Regardless of the views that one may have, all your readers should applaud your decision to give this matter the serious attention that it deserves. I strongly encourage you to continue to do so in order that a full airing is finally attained. Thank you.

I commend you, as well, for such an excellent publication overall.

Anna Wojtiuk
Paterson, N.J.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



It's back to the future in Ukraine

While Ukraine's Parliament remains in a circus mode and President Leonid Kuchma describes the country's financial situation as critical, Ukraine is slowly drifting back to the future.

Visiting Ukraine for the fifth time in four years, I am convinced Soviet thinking and behavior is slowly creeping back.

The Lviv airport is still as grimy, musty and uninviting as it was last year. The windows are filthy and the Soviet-era murals are still proclaiming the glorious Communist future. And the old bureaucracy is back in place. Different uniforms, same people. Blue and yellow on the outside, red on the inside.

As in Soviet times, one now has to openly declare the exact amount of money that one is bringing into the country. One also has to produce it and count it in front of a customs official – and anyone else who may be watching.

Lesia and I were also asked if we had any letters for family and if they contained money. The customs officer wanted to see the letter and the money. He stopped short of reading the letter. A bow to civilized behavior.

We exited Ukraine two weeks later and were subjected to the same procedure. We had to declare all our money and to show it. I hadn't had time to count our cash and declared less than I actually had. Big mistake. The very officious customs official found more money than I had disclosed and threatened to confiscate the difference. She informed us that we had broken the law of the land and proceeded to lecture us on the importance of being law-abiding while in Ukraine. I wanted to ask if she meant as law-abiding as Ukrainian government officials, but Lesia kicked me before I could open my mouth.

Another Soviet-era procedure has been recently re-instituted: all foreigners need to register with the department of immigration within three days of arriving in Ukraine. At no time were we informed of this, either when we received our visas or during the arrival process. We learned of this from our hosts at Ostroh Academy, who were very apologetic. They had learned about the new law two weeks earlier when two security officers had driven from Rivne to inquire about another professor from Northern Illinois University who had preceded our arrival. The Ostroh officials simply took care of the matter without the NIU professor's knowledge.

Ostroh wanted to take care of the matter for us as well, but I insisted on going to Rivne to register personally. Lesia and I took the 40-mile trip and presented ourselves to the immigration officials as ordered. Our passports were duly stamped with the proper "pechatka" and we were informed that the fine for being a day late would be waived. Had it not been waived, the personal cost to us would have been 1,700 hrv or \$850 (U.S.).

The drift back to the future is also evident in Ukraine's schools. A law was passed in 1996 re-establishing some of the Soviet-style degrees of the past. Today, Ukraine has the following academic degrees: bachelor, specialist/master, kandydat nauk ("aspirant") and doctor. Only aspirants' and doctors' degrees are considered worthy of scientific/research status. Some Ukrainian academicians consider the kandydat nauk degree equivalent to an American Ph.D. If you've wondered why so many educators from Ukraine are suddenly claiming the title "doctor," that's why. Some are kandy-

dat nauk who have simply written Ph.D. after their names.

In return, it is my understanding that at present, Ukraine recognizes neither an American master's degree nor a Ph.D. A professor with an American Ph.D. is simply considered to be a kandydat nauk. Under no circumstances is a Western Ph.D. to be addressed as "doctor."

It is interesting to note that in his 1980 book "Soviet Education," Australian professor Joseph I. Zajda rates the kandydat nauk degree as "equivalent to a good M.A. (by research only) from a British university."

I've investigated the manner in which degrees were and are awarded in Ukraine and have discovered some remarkable things. During Soviet times, most degrees, especially in the physical sciences, were legitimate. Others, however, were not. Degrees were often awarded on the basis of who "needed" one to advance in the Soviet hierarchy. A degree could literally be obtained for a price. If a thesis was required, someone could be found to write it. More than one reliable authority has assured me that similar practices are in vogue in certain institutions of higher learning today. It's who you know, rather than what you know, that matters.

Another interesting aspect of the picture in higher education is the fact that every time the educational bureaucracy changes in Ukraine, the requirements for higher degrees also seem to change. In the United States, the situation is fairly stable. Most degree-granting institutions of higher education in America demand a thesis and 30 hours of graduate credit for the master's degree and for a Ph.D., a dissertation and 60 additional hours, as well as certain language proficiency requirements. When a change occurs in the United States – and this is rare – those who began their degree program under earlier requirements are "grandfathered" in and allowed to complete their program as originally planned. This apparently is not the case in Ukraine.

Given the fact that more and more students from Ukraine are completing degree programs in the United States, what future do they have in Ukraine? Why would they ever want to return if their academic achievements are not recognized? I posed this question to Prof. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, president of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. He admitted that the problem of reciprocal recognition of degrees was one that wouldn't be solved soon. I reminded Mr. Briukhovetsky that his institution is now producing M.B.A.'s. – where do they find employment I asked? He informed me that most find jobs with American firms in Ukraine.

The old Soviet nomenklatura is still in charge of Ukraine's schools. They want to believe that their system of authoritarian education is superior. There's no use bringing them to the West to observe Western institutions because they do not feel at home with Western educators and government leaders who speak and behave differently. The drift back to the future in Ukraine has to do with comfort and familiarity. Leaders in Russia and other nations of the former Soviet Union think and behave like Ukraine's nomenklaturchyks and that is why so many are anxious to return to what they consider the "good old days" when sausage was plentiful and the vodka flowed.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

Ukrainian community hosts 36th annual Slavic Heritage Days in Houston

HOUSTON – The 36th Annual Ss. Cyril and Methodius Slavic Heritage Days Festival took place here on April 25-26.

The festival commenced on Saturday evening with a procession into the Protection of the Mother of God (Pokrova) Ukrainian Catholic Church led by cross bearer Michael J. Puzyk and an honor guard composed of fourth degree members of Knights of Columbus Council 2917. Also participating were the 1998 festival chairman, Eugene A. Kuchta, chairpersons representing five Slavic communities, altar boys, flag and banner bearers, and parishioners.

As the procession entered into the church, Pokrova's choir, led by Michael Danylyk (Ukrainian festival chairman emeritus) and Halia Kichtan, commenced the singing that filled the church during the divine liturgy. Bishop Michael Wiwchar of Chicago, celebrated the divine liturgy; the Rev. Andrij Dwulit, pastor of Pokrova, the Rev. Paul Chovanec, pastor of St. Christopher Roman Catholic Church, and the Rev. John Mihalko pastor of St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church also celebrated.

In addition to Pokrova parishioners, members of the Croatian, Czech, Polish, and Slovene communities, as well as others, attended the liturgy.

In keeping with the festival's tradition, the divine liturgy collection was presented to the celebrant for his designation and this year Bishop Wiwchar designated the collection for a donation to the Ukrainian convent in Bosnia that had been destroyed by the Communists. In his homily, Bishop Wiwchar spoke about dedication to Christ and the richness of Slavic religion and culture, and concluded with a remembrance for the victims of the Chernobyl disaster.

After the liturgy all gathered at Pokrova's church hall for a reception and dinner in honor of Bishop Wiwchar, the traditional "Bishop's Banquet," a Texas-style-BBQ dinner.

The evening program began with a general welcoming by the master of ceremonies, Mr. Kuchta. The Ukrainian chairman, Gregory Buchai, extended a Texas-size greeting to all members of Houston's Slavic communities and acknowledged the contributions of the Ukrainian American Cultural Club of Houston and Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 118. He also recognized the reception/banquet chairperson, Martha Uschak Noukas.

Mr. Kuchta read greetings from Texas Gov. George Bush, a proclamation from Houston Mayor Lee Brown, and letters



The Rev. Paul Chovanec (left) presents recognition award from the Slavic Heritage Alliance of Greater Houston to Bishop Michael Wiwchar.



Ss. Cyril and Methodius 1998 Festival Chairman Eugene A. Kuchta (left) presents award to Helene Patricia Volinsky Hafernik.

from Bishop Joseph Fiorenza of the Houston-Galveston Diocese, and the Bishop John Yanta of the Amarillo Diocese, who was last year's celebrant. Bishop Wiwchar was presented with a special recognition award for his participation in this year's festival.

Maurice Hafernik, festival chairman emeritus, briefly recounted the history of this festival and spoke to the true spirit of this festival: Czechs, Croatians, Poles, Slovenes and Ukrainians gathering to celebrate the heritage of Ss. Cyril and Methodius with shared religion, culture, music, dance and food. He recounted the early years of the festival with co-founders Bishop John Morkovsky of the Houston-Galveston Diocese and the Rev. Dr. Dmytro Blazejowsky, then pastor of St. Pius X Ukrainian Catholic Church (today the Pokrova parish).

Dr. Frances Panchok, professor of church history at University of St. Thomas, Houston, was the guest speaker and spoke about the heritage of Ss. Cyril and Methodius and its relevance today. In a poignant moment during her speech, Dr. Panchok noticed Marika Macko and her daughter Andrijka, who was sitting in her mother's lap dressed in native Ukrainian folk costume. She stated that many third- and fourth-generation Americans do not know their heritage, so we must cherish ours, teach our children and grandchildren, and allow them the

opportunity to be proud of their heritage so they will pass it on through future generations.

Members of Houston's Slavic community who have contributed to the success of this festival over the years were recognized. This recognition by the Slavic Heritage Alliance of Greater Houston, organizer of the festival, was begun at last year's "Bishop's Banquet," which was held at the Polish Home. Among the honorees selected by the five participating Slavic communities were: the Rev. Blazejowsky; Helene Patricia Volinsky Hafernik, festival treasurer for the first 27 years; and Justyna Uschak a longtime activist in the community. Also recognized were Bishop Wiwchar and the Knights of Columbus Council 2917.

The Rev. Blazejowsky, who today is based in Rome, was unable to attend the ceremonies due to a scheduling conflict; Bishop Wiwchar accepted the award on his behalf.

The next day, at the University of St. Thomas, Jerebeck Center, the festival continued with an afternoon of food, drink, music and dance. The festivities began with Mr. Hafernik leading the opening ceremonies with a procession of flags led by the U.S. flag and followed by those of the Slavic countries, including the Ukrainian flag, which was carried by Dr. Alexander Litvinchuk, professor at the University of Houston. The singing of

the American national anthem was followed by the Ukrainian, Czech, Croatian, Slovenian and Polish anthems.

The festival princesses were presented – and this year for the first time in 36 years, a prince. The Ukrainian princess was Adrianna Hirka, daughter of Wsewolod and Olha Hirka, and granddaughter of Tatian Hirka Lewytsky and the late Bohdan Hirka, and the late Rev. Osep and Irene Chupil. A sixth grade student at MacDonald Junior High School in Katy, Tex., Miss Hirka plays the clarinet, participates in the school band, enjoys playing tennis with her father, is a student at the School of Ukrainian Studies and is a parishioner along with her family at Pokrova.

Randy Lemon, co-host of KTRH 740 AM NewsRadio's "Gardenline" program, was master of ceremonies for the rest of the day's events, which included the Uzori Ukrainian Folkdancers and Karavan Ukrainian musicians, and additional entertainment by the Czech, Croatian, Polish and Slovenian groups.

In addition to entertainment, the festival featured the food and drink of the Slavic communities represented. The Pokrova parish and UNWLA Branch 118 provided a plethora of cultural items for display and purchase.

The Ukrainian community considered this year's festival to be a resounding

(Continued on page 15)



Nadia Dub and Michael J. Puzyk greet Bishop Michael Wiwchar and the Rev. Andrij Dwulit as they enter the church hall.



Keynote speaker Dr. Frances Panchok addresses the banquet.

"Godfather of Bandura" honored by Ukrainian colleagues

by Yarema A. Bachynsky
and Roman Woronowycz

KYIV – The All-Ukrainian Union of Kobzars held a concert on May 28 at the Taras Shevchenko Museum honoring Nick Czorny, known to many as the "godfather of the bandura," on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

For many years Mr. Czorny has been one of the major forces behind the propagation of the bandura, Ukraine's national instrument, in the various places that fate scattered Ukrainians. Most diaspora communities have been touched by the hand of this individual – long-time administrative director and founder of the New York School of Bandura, which recently marked its 25th anniversary.

Whether it is transferring banduras by the dozens collected in North America to South American Ukrainian communities in a semi-covert fashion (Mr. Czorny enlisted participants of several tour groups as members of "bandura ensembles" in order to avoid undue interference from overinquisitive customs officials), or fund-raising through frequent and persistent visits with Ukrainian credit unions and community organizations, Mr. Czorny has been quietly effective in promoting the bandura both within and outside Ukrainian circles.

To achieve the goal of establishing bandura schools and ensembles in places like Prudentopolis, Brazil, where the population is approximately 80 percent of Ukrainian origin, and throughout Argentina, which has a large Ukrainian community, Mr. Czorny employed the services of Julian Kytasty, well-known bandura aficionado (and one of those who honored Mr. Czorny at the Shevchenko Museum concert), and other bandura experts. Mr. Kytasty and his associates spent months on end in the early 1980s teaching bandura lovers techniques and training skills. As a result, in such places as Buenos Aires and Misiones Province in Argentina, and Curitiba in Brazil, bandura music is alive, well and flourishing.

Mr. Czorny also is publisher of Bandura magazine – the only periodical dedicated exclusively to this instrument and the art of bandura playing around the world. Established in 1981, this quarterly journal has a print run of 1,200 – 700 of which are delivered to Ukraine, 150 to South America, and the remainder among other countries where the bandura is played and studied. Prior to the



During a special ceremony in Kyiv (from left) are: Nick Czorny, Volodymyr Muliava, head of Ukrainian Kozatstvo, who presented a medal to Mr. Czorny for his contributions to the preservation of kobzarstvo, Tetiana Sitenko and Leonid Cherkasky, both of the Museum of Music, Theater and Film at the Pecherska Lavra. (Man at far right not identified)

appearance of this magazine, the New York School of Bandura had published Kobzarskyi Lystok, a newsletter for the Ukrainian community.

Mr. Czorny was born in the northwestern Ukrainian region of Volyn. He is a veteran of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA); he fought the Germans in 1943 and eventually was forced to escape to the West. Following World War II, Mr. Czorny moved to New York City, where he has lived ever since.

Since Ukraine's declaration of independence in 1991, Mr. Czorny had made annual, six-week trips to the "Land of the Kobzars," actively supporting the numerous bandura organizations involved in restoring this instrument to its former glory. As in the United States, Mr. Czorny's activities in Ukraine are multifaceted, and include shipping Bandura magazine to local bandura circles and assisting in every way possible.

An audience of approximately 100 gathered to recognize Mr. Czorny and his work. Some of Ukraine's leading bandurists representing both academic conservatory and traditional kobzar revival styles caught and kept the listeners' attention. Following an opening by Volodymyr Horbatiuk, head of the All-

Ukrainian Union of Kobzars, those attending had a chance to listen to such leading soloists as Mykola Lytvyn, Yaroslav Chornohuz, Volodymyr Kushpet and duet performances by students from the Kyiv Conservatory, as well as the pair of Kyiv bandurist Kost Novytskyi and Ukrainian Canadian Oksana Rodol-Zatsenko.

Other performers included Julian Kytasty and Nick Deychakiwsky, former student of the renowned Hryhoriy Kytasty and presently director of the Eurasia Foundation office in Kyiv. Julian Kytasty, who flew in from the United States for the concert, has recently resumed directorship of The New York School of Bandura.

The musical component of the program was interspersed with narrative about Mr. Czorny's life and work. Such a melding of music and biography, together with the high energy level and feeling evident in every performer's presentation made for an interesting and fitting tribute to an individual who has devoted the better part of his life to ensuring in his words, "that the bandura, which is the most effective expression of the Ukrainian soul, be heard and understood by ever more people."

Kyiv bishop blesses restored church

Agency of Religious Information

KYIV – The restored Church of St. Nicholas at the grave of Prince Askold was blessed by Bishop Vasyl Medvit, Ukrainian Greek-Catholic exarch of Kyiv and Vyshhorod, in Kyiv on the Day of St. Nicholas the Miraclemaker (May 22).

Bishop Lubomyr Husar, assistant bishop to Major Archbishop Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky and administrator of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, and Archbishop Antonio Franco, apostolic nuncio to Ukraine, participated in a solemn divine liturgy in honor of St. Nicholas.

Oleksander Omelchenko, head of the Kyiv Municipal Administration, also attended the solemn opening ceremony. Princess Olha built one of the first churches in Kyiv in honor of murdered Prince Askold (Nicholas) in the ninth century. The church was destroyed by Princess Olha's son Prince Sviatoslav the Brave and later was restored by her grandson Volodymyr the Great.

The Monastery of St. Nicholas was founded there in the 11th century. Archival photographs show a wooden church with three domes that was reconstructed into a stone church by merchant Mescheriakov in 1809. In 1934, the church was transformed by Communist authorities into a park rotunda.

It was handed over to Ukrainian Greek-Catholics on April 26, 1992. The Church of St. Nicholas is one of the four churches whose restoration is being financed by the municipal budget. "We owe this to our descendants to take responsibility for the sins of the generations that destroyed churches and the spirituality of the Ukrainian nation," Mr. Omelchenko said.

"The restoration of the Cathedral of the Dormition of the Holy Mother of God on the territory of the Kyiv-Pecherska Lavra (the Kyiv Monastery of the Caves) is to start in June, which will be a present to the city for Christmas 2000," he added.

The Church of St. Nicholas was restored by the organization Ukrrestavratsiya.

Author seeks information about pioneer cleric

EDMONTON – A selection of writings by the Rev. Nestor Dmytriw, who was the editor of Svoboda in 1896-1897, is being prepared for publication in English by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. A Catholic priest and community activist, the Rev. Dmytriw was responsible for initiating Ukrainian Catholic congregational life in Canada during visits that he made to newly established Ukrainian colonies on the prairies in 1897-1898.

Employed as an immigration agent by the Canadian Department of the Interior, the Rev. Dmytriw wrote up his adventures in a series of articles published in Svoboda under the rubric "Canadian Ruthenia" (Kanadiiska Rus'), which were subsequently issued in pamphlet form and widely distributed in Western Ukraine. The Rev. Dmytriw also produced a series of vignettes, and works of prose fiction that appeared in the newspaper as installments of a series called "Scenes from Canada."

Among his many remarkable accomplishments, he is credited with authoring the first Ukrainian-language short story written in Canada, and thus is the "founding father" of Ukrainian Canadian literature. Entitled "Ruthenian Easter – and a French Catholic Priest," the story was set in Calgary, Alberta, and dated May 8, 1897, appearing 12 days later on the pages of Svoboda.

In addition to the pieces cited above, the planned book will

include a number of works in a similar vein that deal with the American Ukrainian experience. A grant has been obtained under the Multiculturalism Program of Canadian Heritage to cover the cost of translating the Rev. Dmytriw into English along with detailed annotations and a biographical introduction. Edmonton-based freelance writer Jars Balan is now working on a preliminary draft of the manuscript, and is currently seeking a Western Canadian co-publisher for the project.

Although the Rev. Dmytriw originally planned to remain in Canada, he returned to the United States and for many years served as a parish priest in Elizabeth, N.J. He died there in 1925 at the age of 62, and was buried at Evergreen Cemetery. The Rev. Dmytriw was married and had three children: Stephania, Henrietta and Nestor.

Anyone with first-hand knowledge about the Rev. Dmytriw or his descendants, is urged to contact Jars Balan, c/o the Canadian Institute Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6G 2E8; or by calling him directly at (403) 439-4754.

The CIUS would be grateful for assistance in filling in the details of the Rev. Dmytriw's life, both in Ukraine and in the United States. Of particular interest are documents relating to his life, family photos, or other memorabilia that might be used in illustrating the volume.

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Attention, Students!

Throughout the year Ukrainian student clubs plan and hold activities. The Ukrainian Weekly urges students to let us and the Ukrainian community know about upcoming events.

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Conference in New Jersey to focus on trafficking of Ukrainian women

MANALAPAN, N.J. — The trafficking in women from Ukraine and Russia is increasing rapidly. Most women are recruited through friends and acquaintances, but on arrival in the destination country, find themselves indebted to a trafficker or club owner. While many of the women are offered legitimate jobs and then are either tricked or forced into prostitution, others know from the beginning that they will work as prostitutes. Most of the traffickers are members of the Russian mafia, which operates in many countries.

The full scale of the problem remains unknown, however, because few women are prepared, or able, to report what has happened to them to the police. Trafficking in women continues to be a considerably under-reported offense throughout Europe, and in particular in Ukraine. One reason for that may be the states' lack of experience in dealing with this issue. Greater international cooperation to combat illegal trafficking and organized crime is necessary in order to reduce trafficking in women.

Sponsored by Project Harmony, an intensive 12-day series of training programs and activities on "Trafficking of Ukrainian Women" will be held in New Jersey on July 20-31. A group of 20 Ukrainians comprising police, attorneys and government officials from Kyiv will take part in the program to be held at the Ramada Hotel in East Hanover, N.J. This program will provide participants with practical skills, networking opportunities and access to U.S. and international resources.

Among the Ukrainian representatives attending the conference will be: Mykhailo Lebid, head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs; Oksana Vynohradova, head of the Ministry of Justice Legislative Department; Vasyl Nevolia, first deputy head of the National Bureau of INTERPOL in Ukraine; and Kateryna Levchenko, president of La Strada Ukraine. Representing the United States

will be members of the Clinton administration, Congress, Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, FBI, local law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors.

The training program will focus on three areas: law enforcement and international legal efforts to combat trafficking; public education, prevention and support networks; and the creation of a public-private initiative in Ukraine to combat trafficking.

Organizers are looking for individuals fluent in Ukrainian and English to act as interpreters. Compensation is \$100 per day, along with travel expenses; travel to Washington for two days is required. Those interested in acting as an interpreter, or interested in obtaining more information about this program, may contact Walter Zalisko, (732) 446-0884, or e-mail wpl@monmouth.com, as soon as possible.

Kuchma takes...

(Continued from page 1)

president's action "another gross blunder." He added, "It is a complete violation of the legislative system."

But Oleksander Bandurko of the National Democratic faction, which is most closely aligned with the president, explained that the move was absolutely reasonable. "If the Parliament is paralyzed and unable to move laws through, then the president should do something — as long as he is not changing laws that we have passed," said Mr. Bandurko. He expressed concern, however, that some of the decrees contravene enacted legislation.

Vyacheslav Chornovil, head of the Rukh faction, said that, given Ukraine's current situation, the president's hand had been forced. "I am categorically against the interference of the executive authorities in the legislative field," he said, "but what else can be done when it is impossible to attend to the budget, what with the situation we find ourselves in today?"

Ukrainian Canadians recall...

(Continued from page 1)

extent of the famine. But despite the lack of attention the Ukrainian famine has received over time, Ms. Bashuk Hepburn said it has undoubtedly marked subsequent generations of Ukrainians.

"We come from a stock of people who have had tremendous historical upheavals and have come out of them stronger every time. "We have a phenomenal heritage of survival and endurance, and we will not and don't intend to be put down," she underlined.

She said that while many doubted Ukraine would ever become independent, it has been since 1991. "I think that indomitable spirit of the Ukrainian people is what we get out of these horrible tragedies," said Ms. Bashuk Hepburn. "No death is in vain. You build on those tragedies and go forward."

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the scholarship fund may send contributions to: Buduchnist Ukrainian Credit Union, 913 Carling Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4E3. Checks should be made payable to the Ukrainian Famine Memorial Fund.

Donations for the "soup kitchens" fund may be sent to: Ukrainian Canadian Social Services Inc. of Canada, National Headquarters, 2445 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ontario M6S 1P7. Checks should be made payable to "Soup Kitchens."

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Receives M.D. from UMDNJ

CLIFTON, N.J. – Andrew Walter Gnoy, son of Oksana Bohachevsky Gnoy and the late Walter Gnoy, successfully completed four years of medical school at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) and on May 20 received the degree of Doctor

of Medicine.

A graduate of Rutgers University, Dr. Gnoy selected obstetrics and gynecology as his specialty. His four-year residency is at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, N.J.

Dr. Gnoy belongs to St. Nicholas parish in Passaic, N.J. He is a member of Plast and the Chornomorska Sich Sports Club. He is also a member of UNA Branch 216 and a recipient of a UNA scholarship.

Society for Quality designates fellow

MILWAUKEE, Wis. – Eugene Danylyshyn, a resident of Laguna Niguel, Calif., has been named a Fellow of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) – one of the highest honors ASQ can bestow on its members. To attain the rank of fellow, a candidate must achieve distinction in his or her accomplishments professionally and within the society.

Mr. Danylyshyn, a member of UNA Branch 53, is director of quality assurance for Flour Daniel, Inc. in Irvine, Calif. His background includes managing financial and technical control of quality engineering projects such as equipment,

process, and product validations. In addition, he has implemented technical operations for consulting services and assessment of quality systems for major firms.

Mr. Danylyshyn is a 1965 graduate of the Stevens Institute of Technology, he received a master's degree in business administration in 1971 from Western New England College.

Mr. Danylyshyn is one of 39 to be named as an ASQ Fellow this year. All new fellows were recognized at an awards luncheon May 4 at ASQ's 52nd annual congress.

ASQ is a professional society dedicated to the ongoing development, advancement, and promotion of quality concepts, principles, and techniques. ASQ serves more than 133,000 individual and 1,100 corporate members.

Elected to chair appraisers' board

NEWTON, Mass. – William J. Pastuszek Jr. of Newton, Mass., has been elected chairman of the Board of Registration of Real Estate Appraisers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This board regulates all licensed and certified real estate appraisers in the state.

Mr. Pastuszek is the president of Shepherd Associates, a real estate appraisal and consulting firm in Newton. The firm conducts high-quality valuation analyses and consulting assignments for a wide variety of clients. He is the first designated member of Appraisal Institute to be chairman of the real estate appraisers.

He was appointed to the board by Gov. William Weld in 1996 to serve as its certified general member for consecutive terms. Besides holding the MAI and SRA designations from the nation's largest appraisal organization, he also holds designations from the Massachusetts Board of Real Estate Appraisers and the American Society of



William J. Pastuszek Jr.

Appraisers. He is an active seminar developer and appraisal instructor.

Mr. Pastuszek is a member of UNA Branch 231.

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SUMMER PROGRAMS 1998

Friday, July 3 10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by LUNA
Saturday, July 4 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – Ukrainian Dance Ensemble DUNAI Banduryst JULIAN KYTASTY
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by TEMPO, BURLAKY
Saturday, July 11 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – DUMKA CHOIR , New York VASYL HRECHYNSKY , conductor
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by KRYSH TAL
Saturday, July 18 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – Ensemble UKRAINIAN FAMILY
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by VODOHRAI
Saturday, July 25 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – Songs of Ukraine
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by ZOREPAD
Saturday, August 1 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – UKRAINIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by FATA MORGANA
Saturday, August 8 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – Ensemble KAZKA
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by LUNA
Saturday, August 15 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – Soprano LUBA SCHYBCHYK
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by ZOLOTA BULAVA
11:45 p.m.	Crowning of "MISS SOYUZIVKA 1999"
Sunday, August 16	UNWLA DAY
Saturday, August 22 8:30 p.m.	UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS CONCERT – SOYUZIVKA DANCE WORKSHOP RECITAL Director: ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by BURYA
Saturday, August 29 8:30 p.m.	CONCERT – Violist HALYNA KOLESSA
10:00 p.m.	DANCE – music provided by VIDLUNNIA
LABOR DAY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS CONCERTS, DANCES, EXHIBITS, TENNIS TOURNAMENT, SWIMMING COMPETITION (Details TBA)	

Senior Advisor

The International Renaissance Foundation (IRF) is seeking a Senior Advisor to assist in the restructuring of the Foundation's operations. The Senior Advisor will provide full-time consulting to the Executive Director and Board in the following areas:

- the establishment of effective and equitable personnel policies, including the formulation of job descriptions, evaluation mechanisms, and professional development policies;
- the implementation of streamlined reporting and information – sharing procedures between branch office and the head office;
- the development of effective and transparent grant application procedures;
- the establishment of an effective external and internal communications policy.

The successful candidate will be an experienced manager, either with substantial experience and demonstrated skills in the areas outlined above. Minimum qualifications include an advanced degree in management or a related field and at least 3 years experience in a senior managerial position. Experience in Ukraine or neighboring countries and in the NGO sector is highly desirable, as is fluency in Ukrainian or Russian, and in English.

The Senior Advisor will report to the Executive Director, with a rank comparable to a Deputy Director for Administration or a Chief Operating Officer. The term of the contract is one year, with the possibility of renewal. IRF offers a competitive compensation package.

The IRF promotes the development of open society in Ukraine through a variety of grant making and operating programs that focus on educational reform, human rights, the independent media, and economic reform. Established in 1990 by financier George Soros, the IRF is today the largest philanthropic organization in Ukraine, with an annual budget of U.S. \$16 million. The IRF is headquartered in Kyiv and operates branch offices in six provincial cities.

Canadians should send a cover letter and resume by July 15, 1998 to:

Hryhoryi Nemyria, Chair,
International Renaissance Foundation 46, Artema St., Kyiv 254053, Ukraine
Tel: (380-44) 216-2596 Fax: (380-44) 216-7629

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

lion hr. Bankruptcies are expected to rise 112 percent this year, according to Mr. Varych. (Eastern Economist)

Kharkiv says yes to economic zone

KHARKIV – A local referendum on the expedience of creating a free economic zone in Kharkiv was held at the same time as parliamentary elections and was approved by a majority of voters. Referendum results will enable the Kharkiv City Council to initiate discussion of this issue in the Verkhovna Rada. (Eastern Economist)

Deputy suspects Yeltsin has a double

MOSCOW – Russian Duma Deputy Aleksandr Salii of the Communist faction has asked the Procurator General's Office to investigate the possibility that a double has been standing in for Boris Yeltsin since the president's heart surgery in November 1996, Moskovskii Komsomolets reported on June 18. Rumors that a surgically altered double has taken Mr. Yeltsin's place have surfaced occasionally in the opposition press during the last two years. Mr. Salii told Moskovskii Komsomolets that analysis of some 1,500 photographs shows that the president's appearance changed after the 1996 presidential election. He also charged that the "new Yeltsin" frequently shows his hand with two missing fingers, whereas the president used to try to conceal that hand from public view. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine to destroy 40 strategic bombers

KYIV – Ukraine will destroy 40 TU-160 and TU-95 strategic bombers following U.S. pledge to pay for their destruction, Reuters reported, quoting Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council. Ukraine currently has 44 such aircraft, which are able to carry long-range nuclear missiles and stay in the air for 18 hours without refueling. "Two [planes] will be used as models to be put on display and two will be retrofitted for other uses," Mr. Horbulin told journalists. (RFE/RL Newsline)

New bill to create free economic zones

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers has approved a bill to create the Donetsk and Azov free economic zones in the Donetsk Oblast for 60 years and introduce a special investment regime in priority industrial sectors in the oblast for 30 years. The areas covered by the special investment regime include Donetsk and Mariupol. Privileges include a reduction in corporate income tax rates. Priority sectors include the steel industry, power engineering and the chemical and engineering sectors. High-tech firms in the Donetsk free economic zone will produce goods for export and goods currently being imported. The Azov zone will be set up in Mariupol and will concentrate on foreign trade. According to the Donetsk Oblast State Administration, there are currently over 200 investment projects ready for implementation in the oblast. Investment funds exceeding \$7 billion (U.S.) are required. (Eastern Economist)

15,000 new AIDS cases in 1997

KYIV – Ukraine is now the worst-affected country in Eastern Europe in terms of the spread of HIV and AIDS, according to a report by the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS. Anatolii Padchenko of the Health Ministry reported on April 27 that in 1987-1997 16,253 HIV cases were registered in Ukraine, 421 people became ill with AIDS and 187 died. Since 1995, Belarus, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine have all experienced an astronomical growth in HIV infection rates, most of it related to intravenous drug use. In 1995 there was a 30-fold increase in the number of HIV cases diagnosed in Ukraine, and in

1996 the number was over 12,000. The U.N. AIDS report states that 15,000 new cases were diagnosed in 1997. The head of U.N. office in Ukraine, Pedro Villanueva, said, "This problem is not only epidemiological, but should also be viewed in the social, economic and human rights dimensions." Mr. Villanueva stressed that the joint efforts of all ministries and departments are needed to help improve the situation. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine stresses environment to UNESCO

PARIS – During a meeting of UNESCO's executive council in Paris, the Ukrainian delegation drew the council's attention to ecological and environmental issues. The Ukrainian delegation also noted the importance of preventive strategies and UNESCO programs in the ecology sector, directed first and foremost at implementing policies as to socio-economic reforms. Ukraine also expressed a wish to broaden its ties with UNESCO. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine establishes new diplomatic link

NEW YORK – Ukraine has established diplomatic relations with the democratic republic of Sao Tome and Principe. Sao Tome and Principe is a small island republic near the western coast of Central Africa. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine opens consular office in Chile

SANTIAGO – A Ukrainian Consulate was opened in Santiago, Chile, on April 7 in the hope that the move will promote mutual trade. President Leonid Kuchma signed several bilateral trade agreements during his visit to Chile in 1995. These created the judicial basis for the establishment of mutually profitable cooperation. Mutual trade turnover has risen during the last two years. (Eastern Economist)

Lybid satellite set for 1999 launch

KYIV – The National Space Agency announced that Ukraine's first communications satellite will be launched into orbit in 1999. The launch of the Lybid satellite is expected to be partly funded with assistance from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and is connected with fulfillment of the Sea Launch project. (Eastern Economist)

PivdenMash assists sea launch orders

KYIV – The Sea Launch company has received 18 orders from the Hughes Space company to implement commercial space launches, said Sea Launch Vice-President Don Skumal. PivdenMash General Director Yurii Alekseiev said the second rocket destined for Sea Launch is 95 percent ready. He said that in the last two years PivdenMash has received about \$25 million (U.S.) in orders. (Eastern Economist)

Vinnitsia plans to build helicopters

VINNYTSIA – Though Ukraine has space and aviation sectors, it does not yet design and manufacture helicopters. The Vinnitsia aviation repair plant has plans to change that and build a Ukrainian helicopter in the near future. Until recently, the plant repaired Russian-built MY-2 and KA-26 helicopters and the AN-2 airplane. Demand for its services has fallen away and that is how the plant arrived at the idea of producing a Ukrainian helicopter based on the Russian KA-228. Its freight capacity is expected to be 1,300 tons and its main features are fully comparable with those produced in France, Italy, the U.S. and Germany. Almost all its components are expected to be produced in Ukraine. It will be fitted with an engine from Zaporizhia with a lifespan of 6,000 hours – almost double the lifespan of the current Russian equivalent. Yet, the plant needs state funding. This project requires \$15 million (U.S.) and banks will lend money only if state guarantees are given. (Eastern Economist)



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Eparchial school to focus on diaconate

PARMA, Ohio – The Eparchy of St. Josaphat is opening an eparchial school to prepare candidates for the permanent diaconate. Under the direction of Bishop Robert Moskal, a four-year program has been formulated, with hopes of opening the school in September.

The program will be held one weekend a month for 10 months per year. Candidates will have to complete 100 hours of classroom work per year, leading to 400 hours of class necessary for consideration for ordination to the diaconate. This is in conjunction

with practical work in local parishes. In this way the candidate can also get accustomed to the service role to which a deacon is called – not only swinging the “kadylo,” but also the personal care of the faithful.

Classes are scheduled to be held at St. Vladimir’s Institute in New Kensington, Pa. Interested persons should ask their pastors about the program so that they can request all the information for candidates. The permanent diaconate is one of parochial care and a sponsoring local parish is needed to enter the program.

UABA meeting...

(Continued from page 4)

er, in each separate case motions to waive this rule are filed. The results of the rulings may vary from district to district, which further complicates the defense of each accused individual.

Mr. Rudzik also briefly touched on the Canadian government’s decision to hire Neal Sher as a consultant in these Canadian deportation proceedings. Mr. Sher headed the U.S. Justice Department’s Office of Special Investigations at the time of the Demjanjuk case. The U.S. Court of Appeals overturned Mr. Demjanjuk’s denaturalization because the OSI was held to have engaged in “fraud on the court” when it failed to disclose exculpatory evidence to the defense. Mr. Sher’s new position in Canada has aroused much controversy, Mr. Rudzik said.

Ms. Huntwork, an Arizona attorney known for her involvement with various Ukrainian American community matters and as a result of her efforts on behalf of commercial law reform in Ukraine, related the current status of the application for the USAID Commercial Law Project. A proposal was submitted to the USAID for a grant to form a steering committee to be composed of attorneys from the United States and Ukraine, and to develop a clearinghouse for commercial law reform in Ukraine. The American Bar Association, Central and East European Law Initiative, UCCA and UABA have stated that this project would be a critical first step in addressing the issue of com-

mercial law reform in Ukraine in a comprehensive manner. Ms. Huntwork, Mr. Piddoubny and Ms. Pochoday will coordinate progress on this project and submit information on its status to the UABA.

Future activities

Decisions on future activities and meetings were reached by a vote of the participants. Attorney Jurij Fedorak, who heads the UABA in Michigan, reported on the numerous activities of this local bar association and extended a generous offer to host the next UABA meeting in Detroit in mid-October. All participants enthusiastically supported this proposal.

In addition, UABA President Pochoday informed members that efforts have commenced for a joint conference of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, The Washington Group, Ukrainian federal credit unions, the Ukrainian American Bar Association and other Ukrainian American organizations to be held in Washington in June 1999. Further information on all these events will be provided in the future as more details become available.

A discussion followed on the need to interest members in participating in the organization’s activities and in networking with their fellow Ukrainian American attorneys. An open invitation is being extended to all American attorneys and law students of Ukrainian descent to take part in the UABA. For further information contact the UABA: telephone, (888) UABA-LAW; e-mail, BohdannaP@aa.com; webpage, <http://www.brama.com/uaba>.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 103
Please be advised that Branch 103 will merge with Branch 139 as of July 1, 1998. All inquiries, monthly payments and requests for changes should be sent to Mr. Petro Pytel.
Mr. Petro Pytel
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U.S.-Ukraine community...

(Continued from page 6)

pants they become citizen-diplomats when they go overseas and praised the CPP in particular, saying that "in several areas you are really leading in the direction that AID is going."

Concluding the opening session, Ambassador Richard Morningstar, special advisor to the president and secretary of state on assistance to the NIS, summarized the current economic situation in Ukraine, pointing out major accomplishments and challenges. "There are no other programs that we have in Ukraine that are more important than yours," he added.

The opening session was followed by a reception on the Senate side of the U.S. Congress. Sens. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) and Wayne Allard (R-Colo.) stopped in to say a few words in support of the project. Mr. Kushnariov reiterated his support and ceremoniously cut a celebratory cake.

The second morning of the seminar, which took place at the Woodrow Wilson International Center Library in the Smithsonian "Castle" Building, gave a broad overview of local government programs in Ukraine so that participants of the Community Partnerships Program could see how this project fits in. Dr. George F. Hamm, president of the University of Texas at Tyler (UTT), described how the university is working to develop the training curriculum and evaluation procedures for the project.

Judy Hansen, municipal development advisor at USAID/Kyiv, described in greater detail the activities of USAID in Ukraine, especially community-based projects. USAID is active in all 24 oblasts and has instituted multiple projects in every major city in Ukraine.

Thomas Blinkhorn of the World Bank talked about World Bank-sponsored community-based projects in Ukraine.

Kathy Chumachenko, the country director of the Barents Group/KPMG, a banking/consulting firm working in Ukraine, who is also the vice-president of U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, gave some very practical pointers for people who work with Ukrainians or in Ukraine, based on seven years of in-country experience.

Carlos Pascual, director for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian affairs at the National Security Council, tried to place Ukraine into a broader policy context. Mr. Pascual stated that although Ukraine has a long history as a people, as a state it is in its infancy. "In light of this, the progress that Ukraine has made is rather remarkable," he said. "In its transition

from the communism to capitalism, Ukraine is currently experiencing the worst of the two worlds, that is, pain without hope," he added. Through projects like this one, he told the partners, they could tap into the suppressed initiative within the Ukrainian people and help them overcome their historic legacy from a grass-roots level.

At noon, Blair Ruble, the director of the Kennan Institute, introduced Mr. Kushnariov, who provided an analysis of the recent parliamentary elections in Ukraine as part of the Kennan Institute's Noon Discussion series. In general, Mr. Kushnariov said he believes the elections confirmed the Ukrainian people's commitment to the democratic process. He saw it as a positive sign that even old-line Communists, who had previously considered elections "bourgeois nationalism," took part in them.

The afternoon session was a "nuts-and-bolts" training session designed to familiarize participants with the structure of the CPP project itself. Participants heard from Olivia Kew, deputy project director for CPP; Markiy Bilynskij, USUF's coordinator of field operations and director of the Pylyp Orlyk Institute; and Tony Lucenko, USUF local government advisor, of whom all described various aspects of the project in greater detail.

Ms. Hansen spoke about how CPP fits into USAID strategy in Ukraine. USUF Financial Administrator John Kun and Financial Assistant Balaram Joshi answered questions about financial procedures. The day ended with a reception at the Embassy of Ukraine, where participants had an opportunity to get to know one another better and talk more informally.

On Saturday, April 25, the third day of the seminar, Volodymyr Parkhomenko, field coordinator in Ukraine, described the situation in Ukraine with respect to the five focus areas of the project: budgeting, economic development, transportation, housing and communal services, and citizen participation. Among other topics discussed were the nature of the relationships between the U.S. and Ukrainian communities, the relationships between the Regional Training Centers, the role and responsibilities of the University of Texas at Tyler and guidelines for project workplans and for writing case studies that will be available at the regional centers.

For more information contact the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1511 K St., NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005; telephone, (202) 347-4264; fax; (202) 347-4267; e-mail; usuf@usukraine.org; website; <http://www.usukraine.org>.

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U.S. military attend medical conference in Kyiv



The U.S. team attending a Kyiv conference on infectious diseases: (from left) Lt. Col. Robert Kuschner, Lt. Col. Inia Yevich, Lt. Col. Yuriy Turiansky, Maj. Roman Golash and Col. Askold D. Mosijczuk, leader of the delegation.

by Roman G. Golash

KYIV – Members of Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington attended a conference on infectious diseases organized by Ukraine's Ministry of Defense on May 28-29.

The leader of the U.S. delegation was Col. Askold D. Mosijczuk, chief of the oncology unit at Walter Reed. The other members of the team included: Lt. Col. Robert Kuschner, Lt. Col. Inia Yevich and Lt. Col. Yuriy Turiansky of Washington, and Maj. Roman Golash from Chicago.

Although many of the presentations were given in Russian instead of Ukrainian, each member of the U.S. team gave a scientific presentation in Ukrainian. (Lt. Col. Yevich interpreted for Lt. Col. Kuschner.) The American contingent was congratulated by many participants for using Ukrainian and having the slide presentations prepared in Ukrainian as well.

The topics varied, but emphasized diagnosis of AIDS and hepatitis. There were over 150 medical personnel present at the two-day conference, which featured more than 40 presentations.

St. George Academy graduates 33

NEW YORK – Bishop Basil Losten awarded 33 diplomas to the 1998 graduating class of St. George Academy on Saturday, June 13.

After the graduates attended divine liturgy in St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, they marched into the school auditorium to the piano accompaniment of Sonia Szereg. The salutatorian's speech was delivered by Sylvia Sobina. Bishop Losten then addressed the graduates and presented diplomas.

The following awards were presented:

- to Natalie Rojowsky: valedictorian's award, \$750 from the Self-Reliance Federal Credit Union, \$250 from Turansky Scholarship Fund, and \$50 savings bond honoring Dr. Luke Luciw from the Schumylowych family.
- to Sylvia Sobina: salutatorian's award, \$750 from Turansky Fund;
- to Eva Kombel and Monika Kombel: \$250 each from Ann Frishman Fund;
- to Oksana Wolowacz: \$100 from Ukrainian National Women's League of

- America Branch 83;
- to Yulia Voynarovska: \$100 from Arka;
- to Myroslava Pekhnik: \$100 savings bond from UNWLA Branch 1;
- to Anna Wyskowsky, Alexandra Kowal, Alex Jelezniak and Anna Musial: \$100 savings bonds from Dr. and Mrs. Walter Baron;
- to Miss Rojowsky, Nicholas Sczesnik, Marta Tatarevich and Theresa Hryciuk and Maria Siwik: \$100 each as members from the Ukrainian National Association;
- to Dmytro Radko: \$100 from the Ukrainian Sports Club.

The valedictory address was given by Miss Rojowsky, who had a four-year average of 99.46. The ceremony ended with the singing of the alma mater followed by the recessional.

Ukrainian community...

(Continued from page 8)

success and the chairman, Mr. Kuchta, gave recognition to the following for their efforts: Bishop Wivchar (whose Chicago-based eparchy includes Texas), the Rev. Dwulit, Ms. Noukas (banquet and food booth chair), Tom Sroka (festival facilities chair), Olha Holowka-Palmer (festival booklet editor), Olha Hirka (festival advertising and booklet), Mary Iwanicki (festival personnel director), Larisa Streeter (festival program chair); Jane Bemko (raffle/door prize chair), Mr. Danylyk, Ms. Kichtan, Marika Macko, Eugenia Balaban, Helena and Bohdan Seniw, Dr. George and Carol Wowyko, Denise Sroka, Walter and Sylvie Romaniuk, Nadia Buchai and Irene Majnich Kuchta.

Congratulations to Nicholas and Rachael Diakiwsky, the proud parents of
CHLOE NICOLE DIAKIWSKY
who was born June 10, 1998.

We warmly welcome the newest member of UNA. May she follow in her father's footsteps and become the future UNA Advisor at the UNA Convention in year 2022.

Ulana Diachuk and Martha Lysko

To The Weekly Contributors:

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

- News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. 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.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.

Important information for Svoboda advertisers

Beginning on July 1, 1998, the Ukrainian-language newspaper Svoboda, formerly a daily, will be published as a weekly.

The deadline for advertising in the new weekly is Wednesday noon. Advertisements received by the deadline will be published in the following week's issue (the newspaper will be printed on Wednesday with a Friday cover date).

Exceptions to the above are notices of death, which will be accepted until 9 a.m. of the Wednesday the paper is printed.

All advertisements and requests for information about advertising should be addressed to the Advertising Department.

• Mailing address: Advertising Department – Svoboda
P.O. Box 280
2200 Route 10
Parsippany, NJ 07054

• Telephone: (973) 292-9800
• Fax: (973) 644-9510

STP
SCOPE
TRAVEL INC.
1500 Springdale Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040

HUTSULKA
10 days from \$2450

CHAIKA
10 days from \$3600

ROXOLANA
10 days from \$3900

ZOZULIA
10 days from \$1910

373 378-7005 FAX
373 378-7005
Vasyl FLY FREE to Newark 08 all SCOPE Tours

SOUTHERN TYROL & ITALY
Sep 21 - Oct 3 10 days \$2200

ONIPRO CRUISES
NEW YORK/KYIV Air \$790
NEW YORK/LYIV Air \$795
KYIV - City center hotel \$65
LYIV - City center hotel \$65

WFCMA Congress Aug 1998 \$2300
Ukrainian visa processing & documentation

Historical Center of Maria Theresia (founder of Ukraine in 1783)
Brodsky (11 days), Buzovitsa (10 days), Lake Mary (12 days),
Palau, Vokos (21 days), Bismarck (11 days), Rome (21 days)
Project: best trip for family/friends from Ukraine for only \$854

All inclusive groups - via Czech Airlines - Newark departures

THE GRAND TOUR

AIR ONLY
 From Toronto to Chicago
 From Chicago to New York
 From New York to Philadelphia
 From Philadelphia to Toronto

1 800 HAMALIA
 SPRING - SUMMER SPECIAL

New York - L.I.V.	\$675 + \$40 tax	\$715 total
New York - Kyiv	\$875 + \$83 tax	\$958 total
New York - Lv. Frankivsk	\$675 + \$40 tax	\$715 total

Includes: Round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, meals, and entrance fees.

KONTAKT

Modern Technology Linking Our Communities Together!

North America's Ukrainian TV

- Philadelphia: WYBE Ch.35, Sun. 2:00 PM
- New York: Back in the spring, New Jersey
- Ottawa: CFMT, Sat. 1:00 PM
- Toronto
- Thunder Bay: CHFD, Sun. 12:00 PM
- Chicago: WFMT, Sat. 4:00 PM
- Sacramento: RCC Ch 20, Sat. 10:00 PM
- Manitoba: CKY, Sat. 11:00 AM
- Alberta: Access TV, Sat. 2:00 PM
- Val d'Or Quebec: TVC-9, Sun. 8:00 AM
- Vancouver: BMC Ch 4, Friday 9:30 PM

◆ News from Ukraine
 ◆ Youth Segment
 ◆ Community News
 ◆ Arts
 ◆ Travel
 ◆ Entertainment
 ◆ Business
 ◆ Sports
 ◆ Kid's Corner

Coming Soon...
 Montreal, Washington - Florida, Pittsburgh - Detroit

Connect your community to the Network!
 CALL Jurij Klufas at: 1-(416) 410-1155

Selfreliance UA Federal Credit Union

Самостійна Федеральна Українська Кредитна Кооперативна Організація

104 SANDFORD AVENUE, NEWARK, NJ 07102
 Tel: (973) 373-7839 • Fax: (973) 373-8812

BUSINESS HOURS: Tue & Fri: 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM • Wed & Thurs: 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM
 Sat: 9:00 to 12:00 Noon • Mon: Closed

DIRECT DEPOSIT

THE SAFE WAY TO DEPOSIT YOUR MONEY!

Payroll, pension, social security, or other regular payments automatically deposited directly into your checking, IRA, or other savings accounts!

Your money will:

- be there when you need it
- earn dividends from day of deposit
- be safe from thieves and vandals

Contact us for details!

Наші Кредитники - Ваші згодовані гроші!

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, July 1

TORONTO: St. Vladimir Library at 620 Spadina Ave. is holding the opening of an exhibit on "Chumaky and Chabany" (wagon traders in salt and fish, and shepherds who were numerous in Ukraine during the 17th to mid-19th centuries). The exhibit is accompanied by prepared fact sheets. The exhibit runs through July 31. Library hours: Monday-Friday, 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon-5 p.m. For additional information call Tony Rocchi, librarian, during evening library hours, (416) 923-3318.

Saturday, July 4

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: A Fourth of July dance will be held at the Ukrainian Homestead, 1230 Beaver Run Road., at 9 p.m. with music by Lewko Strockyj. Overnight accommodations are available. For reservations and information call (610) 377-4621.

Friday, July 10

WASHINGTON: The Washington Group (TWG) invites everyone to a Ukrainian Happy Hour starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Hotel Washington Sky Terrace (lounge/restaurant) outdoor veranda atop the hotel. Hotel Washington is located at 515 15th Street NW (corner of 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue and corner of 15th and F streets) near the Metro Center metro

stop. There is no cover charge. All are welcome. For more information call Tanya Stasiuk, (703) 875-8036 (evenings) or (703) 325-5029 (daytime).

Sunday, July 12 - Sunday, July 19

NEW YORK: The 40th annual Captive Nations Week commemoration will begin on July 12 with an assembly at 59th Street and Fifth Avenue (Plaza Hotel) at 9 a.m., followed at 9:15 a.m. by a parade down Fifth Avenue to 50th Street. There will be a memorial service at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 11 a.m. As part of the noon ceremonies, addresses will be delivered by various dignitaries. On Thursday, July 16, a Freedom Rally will be held at the United Nations, 42nd Street and Ralph Bunch Plaza, at 11 a.m. Closing ceremonies on Sunday, July 19, will include a prayer service at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 122 E. 88th St. (corner of Lexington Avenue) at 2 p.m. to be followed by a reception and the reading of official greetings and proclamations.

Wednesday, July 15

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, as part of its special events, is holding a talk titled "Moving Europe Eastward," by Thomas A. Dine, president, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Washington. The presentation will be held on campus in Emerson Hall, Room 101, at 7:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

- Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided free of charge by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.
- To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information written in Preview format (date, place, type of event, admission, sponsor, etc., in the English language, providing full names of persons and/or organizations mentioned, and listing a contact person for additional information). Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published. Please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours.
- Text should be double-spaced.
- Preview items must be received one week before desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Listings are published only once (please indicate desired date of publication) and appear at the discretion of the editorial staff and in accordance with available space. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Public service announcements win advertising award in Kyiv

NEW YORK - Public service announcements (PSAs) produced by the UCCA and Practic-TV were awarded the gold medal at the third annual Golden Profile International Commercial Festival held in Kyiv on May 28-31.

The UCCA's partner in Ukraine, the Independent Television Center Practic-TV, received first place in the television category for the PSA "Vote for What's Yours!" created to motivate Ukraine's 18- to 30-year-olds to vote in the March

29 elections. The festival is sponsored by the Union of Ukrainian Advertisers, Ukradvertise Association, the Kyiv City Administration, and Ukraine's Ministry of Culture.

The PSAs were part of a UCCA civic education program, Focus: Ukraine, that included four radio PSAs, a voter's rights brochure, a 12-part television series and seven regional town hall meetings with candidates and representatives of political parties.

UCCA branch reorganized in Wilmington

WILMINGTON, Del. - Approximately 50 people met at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church hall on Sunday, June 14, to reorganize the local branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, following a presentation by UCCA National Executive President Askold S. Lozynskyj, who outlined the activities of the national organization and highlighted the importance of branch networking.

An executive board was elected consisting of Dr. Irena O. Stolar, president; Peter Serba, vice-president; Roman Klachkiwsky, secretary; Petro Zaryckyj, treasurer; Alex Kozhushchenko, Natalia Duffy, Olga Vandenberg, Joanna Dycio, Wasył Szczerban, members.

Ewstachiy Husak was elected chairman of the auditing committee; Doris J. Korzeniwsky and Daniel Sokolski are members.