

INSIDE:

- More on the Joint Conferences — pages 3 and 4.
- Vitalii Klychko wins super heavyweight boxing title — page 5.
- Kingston Ukrainians host Kosovar refugees — page 7.

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Kuchma, citing Parliament's paralysis, issues 39 decrees on the economy

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — In a Constitution Day address to the nation on June 28, President Leonid Kuchma derided the country's Parliament for its paralysis and political populism, and announced that recently he had issued more than three dozen presidential decrees to revitalize the economy.

"A country cannot be a prisoner of parliamentary passivity in the legislative process caused by the lack of desire to create a legal basis for the economy," said President Kuchma.

The June 28 date marked the third anniversary of the adoption of the country's Constitution, as well as the end of the special term that Ukraine's basic law had given the president to issue special executive decrees on economic reforms

in areas that the Verkhovna Rada had yet to address. In that time the president had issued 120 economic decrees, only 18 of which have been rejected by the Parliament. The 39 he issued in the last 10 days of his mandate were the most by far in such a short period of time.

Pavlo Haidutskyi, President Kuchma's chief economic aide, said that, for the most part, the executive orders are replicas of bills that already have been sent to the Verkhovna Rada for examination and approval, some of which have languished there for a year.

"It was simply no longer possible to wait for the Verkhovna Rada to act," said Mr. Haidutskyi at a June 30 press conference. "The possibility existed that the Verkhovna Rada could reject [the bills], by which time the presidential mandate

(Continued on page 6)

Over 900 attend Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations

by Roma Hadzewycz

ARLINGTON, Va. — More than 900 people — among them members of various Ukrainian professionals' societies and community organizations — participated in the diverse programs that constituted the inaugural Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations held in and around Washington from Wednesday, June 23, through Sunday, June 27.

From its beginning, a reception at the Embassy of Ukraine on Wednesday evening, to its conclusion, a Sunday afternoon session that focused on "Finding Direction for Our Organizations," the mammoth event was an uplifting experience for a Ukrainian American community that has been changed dramatically — in the process becoming somewhat unsettled — since

the re-establishment of an independent Ukrainian state.

From start to finish, participants of the Joint Conferences heard and saw what the Ukrainian American community and the Ukrainian nation have to offer, from professional knowledge in disparate fields to energetic volunteerism and beautiful music.

The conferences straddled the two worlds that comprise two realities of Ukrainian American life: Ukraine and the United States. It was appropriate, therefore, that greetings to this extraordinary gathering were sent by both President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine (see text on page 4) and U.S. Vice-President Al Gore.

If all goes according to plan, the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations will be more than a one-shot-deal. They will be the beginning of a new venture and will succeed in establishing a new framework for cooperation among the community's diverse yet complementary elements.

Participants agreed that such a gathering must be held again — indeed, that it must be held regularly. And, community leaders and members meeting at an open session at the conclusion of the five-day event, spoke nearly unanimously in favor of setting up a mechanism for regular consultation among Ukrainian American organizations with the aim of increasing the community's effectiveness both internally and in terms of its external relations.

A venue for synergy

In the words of one participant, the Joint Conferences were simply "a terrific idea." Eugene Z. Stakhiv, Ph.D., of Fairfax Station, Va., added: "There is great value in having such interaction — in getting all of the Ukrainian professional community talking and meeting at the same time."

Theodor Kostiuik, Ph.D., of Seabrook, Md., described the event as "extremely successful, highly attended and an opportunity to really learn what the Ukrainian community does as a whole."

"If you hold it, they will come," to turn a phrase, sums up the fervent belief of the conferences' coordinator, Dr. Roman Goy, a Baltimore physician who several years ago conceived the idea of this synergistic get-together, a "Ukrainian events week" in the nation's capital.

"They" came. From all corners of the U.S., representatives of younger generations of Ukrainian Americans — the 30-somethings to the 50-somethings — arrived in metropolitan Washington for this milestone undertaking.

(Continued on page 5)

Cultural center in Toronto vandalized; hate crimes investigation under way

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — Since the night of June 20, the white facade of the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Christie Street has been marred by a harsh spray-painted message: "Nazi SS here: corrupting children, sh..... on them." A swastika was sprayed at the beginning of the text.

According to William Mihowich, the center's vice-president, the graffiti

appeared on the building sometime between 4 p.m. on June 20 and 4 a.m. the following morning.

On June 21, center administrators called the Metropolitan Toronto Police, and two officers from the 14th Division arrived to conduct an investigation of the incident under statutes governing property damage and hate crime.

Mr. Mihowich said an official with the Toronto municipal government's by-law enforcement division for hate slogan

removal had agreed to send a detail to clean off the offensive screeed.

As of June 30, the graffiti had not yet been cleared.

Mr. Mihowich, also general manager of the Homin Ukrainy community weekly, whose editorial offices recently moved to the building, said the incident has gone largely unmentioned in the mainstream media, but a reporter from the largest circu-

(Continued on page 12)



The hate slogan sprayed on the facade of the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Christie Street in Toronto.

ANALYSIS

An inexplicable tragedy in Miensk and its reverberations in Belarus

by David R. Marples

A Sunday afternoon at the end of May in the city of Miensk (population 1.7 million) in warm sunshine and a temperature of 28 degrees C. On the Masherov Prospect young people were gathering. The authorities had organized a beer and rock concert. As I wandered by, stalls were being set up and some youngsters were already beginning to sample the free beer. I walked to the Nemiga metro station some 50 meters away and back to the city center. On three sides of the concert gathering were churches, the most prominent being the twin-steepled Orthodox cathedral up on the hill.

The concert feature was to be the Moscow rock group Mango Mango, scheduled to play in the evening. Just after 8:30 p.m. they started to tune up their instruments and a few minutes later began their first song before the swaying throng of about 2,500. About two kilometers away I was sitting down to dinner with friends when we noticed the sky had begun to darken. More than darken. It was black. And then the heavens opened. From a covered balcony we watched a howling wind accompanied by torrential rain, hail and dramatic bolts of lightning. It was spectacular, violent and short.

On the Masherov Prospect Mango Mango had just commenced its second song. There was no shelter and the youngsters ran for the Nemiga metro station in the hundreds. The station is also a narrow underground pedestrian passage across the busy six-lane road. Three militiamen were there to keep order.

Dr. David R. Marples is a professor of history at the University of Alberta.

Amnesty International challenges Ukraine

Following is the text of a public statement titled "Ukraine should abolish the death penalty by January 2000" released on June 24 by Amnesty International.

Amnesty International today urged the authorities in Ukraine to fulfill their commitment to abolish the death penalty. Although Ukraine introduced a de facto moratorium on executions in March 1997, the country has not yet removed this cruel and inhuman punishment from its statute books and no official moratorium has been secured in law.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe warned Ukraine that it would commence the procedure for the annulment of the credentials of the Ukrainian delegation at the Council of Europe if substantial progress was not made by June 21, 1999, towards fulfilling the commitments made on joining the Council of Europe in November 1995. Today the Parliamentary Assembly decided to extend this deadline until its next session in January 2000. By this date Ukraine should have made substantial progress towards reforms aimed at the protection of human rights.

Ukraine made the commitment to abolish the death penalty in November 1995 upon entry into the Council of Europe. The government of Ukraine also

(Continued on page 12)

According to eyewitnesses, girls wearing high heels slipped on the steps leading down to the metro station. Those behind piled over them. Some others, the worse for drink, thought it was a game and flung themselves on the backs of those who had fallen. Those who fell could not get up because of the pressure of people coming from behind.

The next 10 minutes were a scene from hell. The militiamen were simply trampled. At least two metros arrived and unloaded their passengers into the melee. Down the steps and into the dank grey passage bodies were piled three or four high. Those at the top were moving; those at the bottom were still. When the emergency teams arrived they simply loaded the bodies onto trucks from the top downward.

Fifty-four were already dead – 44 of them teenage girls and two militiamen. Over 150 were hospitalized, many of them in critical condition. Parents alerted to the disaster began to gather at the entrance to hospitals, frantic to know whether their children were alive.

Belarusian authorities declared two days of mourning. The state TV interspersed dirges by a choir with news bulletins. A three-car cavalcade hurtled down the main thoroughfare, Skaryna Avenue, on May 31 and President Alyaksander Lukashenka arrived at the metro station. Ashen-faced, he declared that no one should apportion blame for such a tragedy. Alcohol was not the problem. This was a time for grieving. He placed a flower on the steps of the entrance where all the bodies had been piled hours before.

But the reverberations soon began in this poor country torn by political strife and economic decline. Opposition politicians wanted to know why young teenagers were given free beer early on a hot day. And clearly, they said, the concert had been authorized by the presidential administration. The story spread that the tragedy was a sign of God's displeasure at such activities. Hadn't the concert taken place in an area bordered by three churches?

Others said that the death toll had been much higher than 54, that the concertgoers were all drunk and the authorities wished to conceal the higher figure. Mr. Lukashenka, forgetting his earlier remarks, responded by declaring that such accidents happen when there is a lack of order in society. In a city swarming with militia, where people are detained regularly for infringements as minor as making derogatory comments about the president, this was an astonishing comment.

The next morning, like many others, I felt drawn to visit the Nemiga station. I couldn't imagine being trapped in there, suffocated as one wave of bodies poured over another. There were flowers on the railings and on the steps. A small crowd had gathered near the entrance. Some people had lit candles to commemorate the young lives so suddenly and inexplicably extinguished. On a lower step a young girl sat oblivious to all, a flower in her hand.

One could only reflect on the fragility of life here. Ten kilometers to the north is Kuropaty, a mass grave of Stalin's victims. East of the city is Katyn, the memorial to the victims of the 1941-1945 war that resulted in the loss of a quarter of the republic's population. The Chernobyl disaster ravaged the lands to the south of Miensk. And now this inexplicable tragedy at the century's end amid the gloom of the Nemiga station.

NEWSBRIEFS

Rada enacts budget changes

KYIV – Reacting to the president's issuance of a series of economic decrees on the eve of the expiration of special powers granted him by the previous Parliament (the term of those powers expired on June 28), the Verkhovna Rada on June 29 amended and enacted a number of bills altering the 1999 budget, increased funds for social welfare programs and obliged the Cabinet of Ministers to find funds for the ailing coal-mining industry. The Parliament prohibited the Cabinet from reducing budget outlays without legislative approval and earmarked 500 million hrv (\$126 million U.S.) to finance education. It also suspended the Cabinet's right to offer guarantees for companies seeking foreign credits. The Verkhovna Rada increased the government's monthly contribution to the State Pension Fund from the current 16 million hrv to 88 million hrv. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Communists rally on Constitution Day

KYIV – Approximately 1,000 Communist supporters gathered in Kyiv on June 28, Constitution Day, to demand the payment of pension and wage arrears and the resignation of the president. It had been expected that as many as 15,000 would take part in the rally. One of the placards at the protest read "Kuchma, the guarantor of genocide," a taunting reference to the constitutional provision that describes the president as "the guarantor of the Constitution." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rusyns want recognition as distinct group

UZHHOROD – The fifth world congress of Rusyns (Ruthenians), convening in Uzhhorod on June 27, called on the Ukrainian government to recognize Rusyns as an ethnic group within multinational Ukraine, ITAR-TASS reported. The delegates want Rusyn to be listed among the country's nationalities in the 2001 census. They also want native-language schools to be opened and a Rusyn-language department established at university. According to congress delegates, more than 700,000 Rusyns live in Ukraine. Their total strength is 3 million: in addition to Ukraine, Rusyns live in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia and are well represented in the United States. In a referendum in December 1991, more than 78 percent of the population of the Zakarpattia Oblast supported autonomy for the region, but Kyiv ignored the results of that vote. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Cabinet removes food price controls

KYIV – The Ukrainian government on

June 24 canceled the previous week's order to impose rigid controls on the price of bread, wheat and rye flour, sugar, cereals, and vegetable oil. "Prices remain liberalized, depending only on demand and supply. We think there is no need to regulate food prices," First Vice Minister of the Economy Viktor Kalnyk commented. He added that Ukraine's food market is saturated with staples, and prices have now stabilized following a recent jump. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PACE delays decision on Ukraine

STRASBOURG – The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) voted on June 24 to put off until January a decision on whether to suspend Ukraine's membership because of the country's poor human rights record, specifically the fact that the death penalty remains on the books. The Council of Europe put off the decision in order to recognize the country's recent reforms aimed at improving its judicial and political systems. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Foreign minister visits Georgia

TBILISI – Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk held meetings in Tbilisi on June 28-29 with President Eduard Shevardnadze, Minister of State Vazha Lortkipanidze, senior energy sector officials and his Georgian counterpart, Irakli Menagharishvili, Caucasus Press reported. Speaking at a joint press conference on June 29, Mr. Menagharishvili said they had discussed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations and reached "complete understanding" on all issues. Mr. Tarasyuk repeated Kyiv's willingness to participate in resolving the Abkhaz conflict, offering to supply peacekeepers to serve under the aegis of the U.N. or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. He added that Ukraine may participate in the economic reconstruction of Abkhazia once a formal settlement of the conflict is reached. Mr. Tarasyuk also unveiled proposals for creating special coordinating bodies in each of the GUUAM member-states to enhance the effectiveness of that alignment, according to Nezavisimaya Gazeta. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rabinovich barred from entering Ukraine

KYIV – The State Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) on June 24 prohibited Vadym Rabinovich, a Ukrainian-Israeli business tycoon whose assets are estimated at \$1 billion, from entering the country for five years. The SBU said Mr.

(Continued on page 18)

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Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations

Sestanovich addresses community at State Department reception

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – One of the principal joint events of the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations here last week was a reception for its participants held on Friday, June 25, at the State Department.

The evening, held in the ornate, ceremonial Benjamin Franklin Room on the top floor of the State Department building, not only gave conference participants a chance to rub shoulders with U.S. government officials; it also gave U.S. and Ukrainian officials an opportunity to publicly, but diplomatically, touch on some irritant items on their bilateral agenda that need attention: reports about political shenanigans in this year's presidential elections, continued corruption, visa problems, and the extradition of former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko.

Welcoming the more than 400 conference participants and guests on behalf of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, her ambassador-at-large and special advisor on the new independent states (NIS), Stephen A. Sestanovich, focused on three of these areas.

First, he underlined the need to strengthen respect for political freedom in Ukraine, about which there have been some negative reports recently.

"Ukraine has been a leader in the political area, in advancing political freedoms," he said, "but election years like this one can put pressures on those freedoms, and we want to pay close attention to freedom of the press, to the conduct of a free and fair election, to the widest possible participation by Ukrainian citizens in making their national choices."

Making Ukraine an attractive place to invest, "so that our economic relations become another strong bond between our societies," was another aspect of bilateral relations cited by the ambassador. Among the obstacles to this end, Mr. Sestanovich cited corruption and "not fully reformed government regulatory structures."

He also noted that U.S. visa procedures in Kyiv need improvement, eliciting an audible murmur from the audience. "These are areas in which, working together, we can create a stronger partnership that reflects those deep common interests," he said.

Speaking about the U.S. government's involvement with the Ukrainian American



Ambassador Stephen A. Sestanovich addresses an audience of over 400 people in the ornate Benjamin Franklin Room.

community, Ambassador Sestanovich said it has benefited from its participation in such meetings as the Joint Conferences.

"For us, this reservoir of this community of Americans represents an immense source of information about Ukraine, of understanding what's happening in Ukraine and of access to Ukraine to help cement Ukrainian-American relations," he said.

Describing the importance of the U.S.-Ukraine relationship, Mr. Sestanovich recalled a recent *Time* magazine cover picture of Secretary Albright at a U.S. airbase in Germany. The headline on the picture of her in a flak jacket and holding a mobile phone said "Albright at War" and carried a description in smaller type that she was conferring by phone with Ukraine's foreign affairs minister. He said that Secretary Albright had sent a copy of the magazine to Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk with a signed note saying: "Now the whole world knows about our close relationship."

That close relationship is, of course, not based on magazine cover statements, but on common interests, common achievements

and cooperative efforts, as well as on the "robust aid program" supported in Congress, said Ambassador Sestanovich.

He then invited Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Anton Buteiko, whom he called "a superb partner" in working out bilateral problems, to the microphone.

Although not scheduled to speak that evening, the Ukrainian ambassador used the occasion to focus on "the remarkable development" of U.S.-Ukraine relations since its independence. Ukraine once was "terra incognita" to American diplomacy, said Ambassador Buteiko, who participated in the negotiations with the United States regarding removal of Ukraine's strategic nuclear arsenal. Now the two countries enjoy a strategic partnership, "which should be developed even further," he added.

Ukraine is grateful for U.S. aid, but, as Ambassador Buteiko said he has stressed from the outset, "we have to be in a position not to ask for any assistance."

On the other hand, as he had pointed out during a reception on the previous day in Congress, "Ukraine also contributed a lot to the security of the United States by removing more than 2,000 nuclear warheads that were targeted at the people and cities of the United States."

Ukraine is building a democratic country, he said, and it has already tested its democracy in a peaceful and democratic transfer of power in previous elections. The coming elections will pass that test as well, he said. "And those elections will be fair and just. I am sure of that," he emphasized.

"Certainly we have problems. Certainly we have corruption," he added. "Certainly we will solve those problems also with the assistance of the United States. And I'm sure that the legislation of the United States will permit to extradite those who would come to the United States after committing corruption in Ukraine," he said.

Ukraine has sought, thus far unsuccessfully, the return of its former prime minister, Mr. Lazarenko, who remains in U.S. custody following his detention at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport in February. Ukraine has accused Mr. Lazarenko, now being held in San Francisco, of misappropriating millions of dollars of government funds.

The U.S.-Ukraine strategic partnership will be tested successfully in the future, Ambassador Buteiko said, because of the "very good team" dealing with Ukraine at the State Department, headed by Secretary Albright, Deputy Secretary Strobe Talbott and Ambassador Sestanovich. "And together I am sure we will overcome the visa and other problems," he said.

Introducing Ambassador Sestanovich, Ihor Dlaboha, general manager of the Ukrainian Broadcasting Network, which sponsored the reception, spoke about the important work accomplished in the United States by Ukrainian Americans in the years preceding Ukraine's independence.

With Ukraine now independent, he added, the community has to consider how best to develop its own future and its relationships with Washington, Kyiv, the Ukrainian people and the new Ukrainian immigrants coming to the United States.

The evening's program was opened with a greeting by Dr. Roman Goy, coordinator of the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations.

Lazarenko hearing is delayed; associate is arrested in California

SAN FRANCISCO – At a June 21 hearing in San Francisco, further proceedings in the case of Pavlo Lazarenko were delayed as Switzerland's request for his extradition has superseded Mr. Lazarenko's petition for political asylum in the U.S. The former prime minister is being held in the Federal Detention Center in Dublin, Calif. The next hearing has been scheduled for July 8.

Meanwhile, news media in the San Francisco area, including the *San Francisco Chronicle*, have reported that Mr. Lazarenko used a foreign corporation to work out the purchase of an 18-acre Bay Area estate with five swimming pools that is worth nearly \$7 million.

In related news, the San Francisco

Examiner reported that an associate of Mr. Lazarenko, Petro Kirichenko, 47, was arrested on Friday, June 18, at his northern California home in Tiburon. Citing officials at the FBI, the newspaper noted that Switzerland is seeking Mr. Kirichenko's extradition to face charges of aiding Mr. Lazarenko in laundering public funds. He is accused of helping the former prime minister open Swiss bank accounts.

Mr. Kirichenko also faces U.S. charges for lying to immigration officials when entering this country in 1995. His attorney, George Niespolo, told the Examiner his client is being "persecuted" at the request of officials in Ukraine.

U.S. Magistrate Bernard Zimmerman on June 18 ordered Mr. Kirichenko held in custody pending hearings.



Stephen A. Sestanovich, the secretary of state's special advisor on the new independent states.

Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations

Four members of Congress honored during Capitol Hill reception

by Michael Sawkiw Jr.

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – A reception held on Capitol Hill on Thursday evening, June 24, to honor four members of Congress for their dedication and long-standing support of Ukrainian American issues was an integral part of the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations.

The honorees were Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.), ranking minority member of the Armed Services Committee; Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), member of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee; Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chairman of the International Relations Committee; and Rep. Christopher Smith (R-N.J.), chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission).

Sponsored by the 1st Security Federal Savings Bank of Chicago/Philadelphia, the reception gave participants of the Joint Conferences an opportunity to acquaint themselves with issues pertaining to U.S.-Ukraine relations. This writer, director of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), which hosted the event, acted as master of ceremonies.

Introduced as “a true friend of Ukraine” and the first to speak was Rep. David Bonior (D-Mich.), the minority whip in the House of Representatives, who spoke of his Ukrainian heritage and “pride to be together with you tonight.” The congressman referred to the formation of the U.S.-Ukraine strategic partnership and how much has been accomplished in Ukraine, adding, however, that more needs to be done. His address was enthusiastically received by the over 400 participants at the congressional reception.

Julian Kulas, president of 1st Security Federal Savings Bank, delivered greetings

Kuchma greets joint conferences

Below is the English translation of the text of a greeting from President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine, sent on June 23 from Kyiv to the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations. The Ukrainian-language message was read at the Joint Conferences banquet on Saturday evening, June 26.

With all my heart, I greet you on the occasion of this noteworthy event, which marks a significant step toward unifying the Ukrainians of the United States of America.

No matter what our everyday concerns, plans and hopes, we all have one common goal: to create a strong European state – Ukraine.

I especially would like to thank you for your active promotion of the development of the Ukrainian-American strategic partnership, which is an important guarantee of our successes on this path.

Please accept my most sincere wishes of success for these conferences, peace and harmony, creative energy and new achievements for the benefit of a democratic and blossoming Ukraine.

Glory to Ukraine!

Leonid Kuchma



Roma Hadzewycz

Reps. Benjamin Gilman and Maurice Hinchey (respectively, second and third from left) with Ukrainian American activists (from left) Askold Lozynskyj, Julian Kulas and Michael Sawkiw Jr.

from the sponsoring organization, accentuating the “importance of recognizing members of Congress for their support of the Ukrainian community’s concerns.”

Another Chicagoan, Rep. Danny Davis (D-Ill.), a member of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, congratulated the community on its many successes and invited all Ukrainians to visit his city, which is a sister city to Kyiv. He noted that he represents “the most ethnically diverse district in the U.S.” and spoke of his good relationship with the Ukrainian community.

The first recipient of the Congressional Friend of Ukraine Award was introduced by Mr. Kulas. Known throughout the Ukrainian American community for his commitment to Ukrainian independence and preserving its sovereignty, Rep. Gilman was introduced as a “long-time friend of Ukraine ... who was always steadfast in his resolve.” Rep. Gilman was welcomed with sustained applause from the audience.

In his remarks Rep. Gilman underlined that, “by its very existence as an independent state, Ukraine denies the opportunity for the rise of an entity – such as the former Soviet Union – that might once again threaten the peace and security of countries stretching across Eurasia.”

He stated that “the challenge of today is

to safeguard Ukraine’s independence,” pointing to the fact that “there are those who call for a return to the old days” [of the USSR].

Other members of Congress present included Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.), who also is of Ukrainian heritage. Rep. Hinchey spoke of the need to sustain U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine to enable Ukraine to reform its economy, as well the need to grant Ukraine permanent most-favored-nation (MFN) status.

Accepting the Congressional Friend of Ukraine Award on behalf of Sen. Levin was his brother, Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. In introducing the congressman, UNIS’s director noted that both Sen. Levin and Rep. Levin have been staunch supporters of Ukraine’s independence.

Rep. Levin thanked the Joint Conferences for the honor bestowed upon his brother and proceeded to list the accomplishments of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus in its support of continued U.S. aid to Ukraine and sponsorship of the Ukrainian Famine resolution passed last year.

Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), also a co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, thanked the Ukrainian American

community for the information it has always provided to members of Congress regarding Ukraine. “Such information,” she stated, “provides us with a better focus on Ukraine.”

Frederick Baron, legislative assistant for foreign policy in Sen. Lautenberg’s office, accepted the Joint Conferences Congressional Friend of Ukraine Award on the senator’s behalf.

Two other congressional offices were also represented at the reception: Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.), co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus; and Rep. Michael McNulty (D-N.Y.), member of that caucus.

Several other guests in the audience were acknowledged, including three Roman Catholic hierarchs from Ukraine: Bishops Stanislav Shyrokoradiuk, Stanislav Padevsky and Leonid Dobrovsky; a group of members of the Verkhovna Rada, led by National Deputy Valerii Alioshin; Anton Buteiko, ambassador of Ukraine to the United States; as well as Askold S. Lozynskyj, president of both the Ukrainian World Congress and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Ihor Gawdiak, president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council; and Dr. Roman Goy, Joint Conferences coordinator.



Roma Hadzewycz

Speakers at the reception (from left): Reps. Sander Levin, David Bonior, Danny Davis and Marcy Kaptur.

Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations

900 attend...

(Continued from page 1)

The make-up of the participants prompted Dr. Alexander Gudziak, a physician and credit union activist from Syracuse, N.Y., to exclaim: "We always ask: Where are our children? We see them here. They care about and love our community."

More than two years in the conception and the planning stages, the Joint Conferences may have seemed too tall an order to fill. And yet, it was delivered, thanks to the vision and single-mindedness of Dr. Goy and a dedicated group of fellow activists. Dr. Goy took on the task of organizing a mega-conference when he became president-elect of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America two years ago (he has now assumed the post of president).

Countless man-hours later, the question put to Dr. Goy was: Was it worth it?

"Oh, absolutely," he responded without hesitation. "The positive response was so strong. You know, no matter how hard you've worked, if you feel like you've accomplished your goal, then it's worth it. Our goal was to show ourselves and those outside the Ukrainian community that we can and do work together. And we did that."

Sessions marked by diversity

The agenda and the mission of the Joint Conferences attracted such major organizations as the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, whose program was split into two full-day sessions, "Advances in Medicine" and "The First International Conference on Health Care in Ukraine"; and the Ukrainian Engineers Society of America, which opted to focus on "U.S.-Ukraine Science and Technology Cooperation: Status and Opportunities." The Ukrainian American Bar Association and the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association also held major sessions.

A key part of the program – which formed the principal part of the Joint Conferences on Saturday, June 26 – was The Washington Group's conference "At the Threshold." That conference attempted, in the words of TWG President Orest Deychakiwsky, to provide "five slices of the Ukrainian reality": U.S.-Ukraine cooperation in both the military and the business spheres, Ukraine's role in international space programs, trafficking of women from Ukraine and the political situation in Ukraine as the presidential elections draw near.

Also meeting at the Joint Conferences site, the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, were the Ukrainian Library Association of America, which reviewed its work and looked to the future during a business meeting, and the fledgling Association of Ukrainian American Architects, which organized what it dubbed a "U.S.-Ukraine Design Forum."

The Ukrainian American Veterans held an executive board meeting and prepared a display promoting the work of their nationwide organization, and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America held meetings of both its leadership and its membership, as well as public sessions covering women's health, labor laws as they pertain to women from Ukraine and genetic engineering.

Vendors, ranging from artists to publishers and various community groups, set up displays in the hotel's exhibition hall, while several community organizations, such as the Philadelphia-based United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, offered informational ses-

sions. In addition, exhibitors showcased their work during the Saturday evening gala.

Also on the agenda: receptions, awards

Besides separate conferences of Ukrainian organizations, there were several joint events: a reception at the Embassy of Ukraine attended by approximately 275 people in two shifts; a congressional reception on Capitol Hill attended by at least 400 people (see story on page 3), and a reception at the U.S. State Department that was filled to capacity by 425 guests (see story on page 3).

The Embassy of Ukraine welcomed Ukrainian Americans to Washington at a reception sponsored on Wednesday evening, June 23, by the New York-based Ukrainian Institute of America.

Ambassador Anton Buteiko, Ukraine's envoy to the United States, greeted the participants by underlining that the Joint Conferences are "a symbolic signal that encourages unity of all political forces in Ukraine in striving toward their common goal: building a free, independent and democratic European state."

Brief remarks were delivered also by Walter Nazarewicz, president of the UIA, and Dr. Goy, speaking on behalf of the Joint Conferences.

The reception also featured an exhibit of works by 21 artists organized by the Alla Rogers Gallery of Washington with works on loan from the gallery as well as the Chopivsky, Woskobijnyk and Ferencevych collections.

During the joint luncheon on Friday, June 25, recognition awards were given to supporters of Ukrainian issues who are active in the realms of politics, law and journalism.

Emceed by Larissa Fontana, coordinator of the Ukrainian American Community Network, the program honored four prominent individuals:

- former U.S. Congressman Charles F. Dougherty, a founder and chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Baltic States and Ukraine, and a staunch advocate of Ukrainian causes who served a congressional district in Philadelphia;
- attorneys Gary Smithwick and William H. Crispin, both of Washington, who devoted their time, efforts and resources to work in defense of the good



Albert

Seen at the reception at the Embassy of Ukraine are: (from left) Ambassador Stephen A. Sestanovich, Ambassador Anton Buteiko and Dr. Roman Goy.

name of Ukraine and Ukrainians in the Ukrainian American community's litigation against the CBS network over the 1994 "60 Minutes" broadcast of "The Ugly Face of Freedom"; and

- nationally syndicated columnist Joseph Sobran, former senior editor of National Review, and current editor of Sobran's magazine, who has consistently supported Ukrainian concerns, perhaps most notably recognition of the Great Famine of 1932-1933.

In addition to the recognition awards presented by the Joint Conferences, the honorees received certificates from the Embassy of Ukraine.

Gala banquet draws 800

The Joint Conferences' Saturday evening gala comprised cocktails, a banquet and a ball, with music provided by Tempo and Fata Morgana. Nearly 800 persons attended the banquet, at which the keynote address was delivered by Leon Fuerth, national security adviser to Vice-President Al Gore.

Mr. Fuerth was introduced by Andrew Fedynsky, president of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives in Cleveland, as "probably the most knowledgeable person – certainly the most knowledgeable

American – about the details and nuances of how policy [toward Ukraine] is formulated and implemented."

Mr. Fedynsky underlined that Mr. Fuerth "is directly responsible to the vice-president for the work of the Binational Commission – the Kuchma-Gore Commission – and has dealt with all the key players from both the American and Ukrainian sides of the table," adding that, "there is no one more fitting person, therefore, other than the vice-president himself, to speak about the Kuchma-Gore Commission and the future of U.S.-Ukrainian relations."

Mr. Fuerth focused his remarks on that developing relationship, noting "I have learned how much has been lost during decades of oppression [under the Soviet system], ... my colleagues and I have respected the struggle that has been going on."

He went on to note that "President Kuchma has been a partner" of the U.S. despite various pressures, and stressed that "Ukraine already has been a full partner of the United States in areas where it counts very much," for example, in its decision to de-nuclearize, which he

(Continued on page 17)



Roma Hadzewycz

At the podium during the Joint Conferences' banquet is Leon Fuerth, national security adviser to Vice-President Al Gore; on the right is conferences coordinator Dr. Roman Goy.

Vitalii Klychko wins super heavyweight boxing championship

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

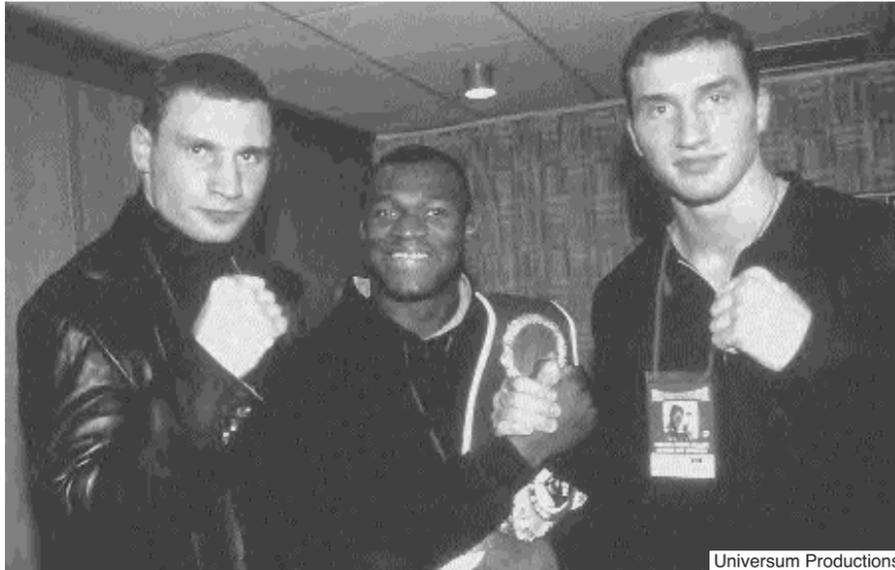
KYIV – Vitalii Klychko became the first Ukrainian, as well as the first boxer from the former Soviet Union, to win a world super heavyweight boxing championship when he knocked out Herbie Hide of England in the second round on June 26 in London.

The 27-year-old Mr. Klychko ended the fight in what has for him become routine fashion: suddenly and quickly.

Building on his growing reputation as the boxing world's most lethal puncher, Mr. Klychko finished World Boxing Organization champion Mr. Hide with a chopping right hand that seemed only to graze the smaller man's jaw but dropped him to the canvas for a count of five. Mr. Hide got up and staggered around the canvas before the referee called the fight after 1 minute 27 seconds of the second round.

Following a shaky first round that saw Mr. Hide land several effective punches, Mr. Klychko came out more aggressively after the break. At the 34-second mark of the second round, the 6-foot, 8-inch challenger floored the champion with a powerful swing of his right hand. The referee was slow to begin the count and Mr. Hide had a chance to regain his composure, for another minute at least.

With the knockout victory, Mr. Klychko's agent, Klaus Kohl, asserted that his boxer has the most dangerous hands in the business. "I told everybody to wait for



Herbie Hide (center) with the Klychko brothers, Vitalii (left) and Volodymyr, during a promotional tour in Germany last year.

the first hit by Klychko, then you will see what he is about," said Mr. Kohl, according to the newspaper Den. "He has the best punch of all the heavyweights, and that includes Mike Tyson."

The bout was Klychko's 25th consecutive professional victory – all by knockouts – an accomplishment that surpasses the knockout record set by Mr. Tyson before his career sank amid a series of scandals.

Mr. Klychko received approximately \$500,000 for his 4-minute-27-second handling of Mr. Hide at the London Center before 5,000 fans.

With his World Boxing Organization crown, Mr. Klychko becomes one of three super heavyweight champions in the splintered boxing world. He now shares the distinction with Lennox Lewis, champion of the World Boxing Council, and Evander Holyfield, who rules in the World Boxing Association. The latter two fighters face a rematch to unite their two crowns after battling to a draw earlier this year in a controversial match that has been fraught with accusations of impropriety.

(Continued on page 16)

Kuchma, citing...

(Continued from page 1)

[to issue decrees] would have run out."

In his Constitution Day address President Kuchma blamed the Verkhovna Rada for the slow and stumbling manner in which Ukraine has proceeded on economic reform and accused its members of working on agendas that are not always in the national interest.

"You have had more than one opportunity to witness that the national deputies are not set on constructive work, that many simply do not attend the Verkhovna Rada sessions or committee meetings," the president told a national audience on UT-1, the government-controlled network. "More often than not, the parliamentary rostrum is turned into a tool of political conflict, in which open demagoguery and populism have become customary methods."

Mr. Kuchma said that some 700 bills on economic and social matters have yet to be addressed by the Verkhovna Rada. He noted that at least 50 deal with the practical implementation of Constitutional statutes, such as land and administrative reform.

"This is not the first year that the civil, civil procedure, criminal, criminal procedure and administrative codes, as well as other codes, are awaiting examination. The legal basis for reform of the judicial system is being created at an inadmissibly slow pace," said President Kuchma, who blamed both this Parliament and the preceding one for failing to act.

Many of the 39 economic decrees that the president issued in the last days of his constitutionally mandated right to do so are seen as political in nature – although their outward aim ostensibly is to improve the social situation in the country. Decrees, such as one that will raise the minimum monthly pension from 16.60 hrv to 24.90 hrv, are bound to find favor with the older segment of Ukraine's population, which historically has voted with the Communists.

Another decree, which will impose a 1 percent tax on real estate, a 5 percent tax on tobacco and a 6 percent tax on mobile telephones, is meant to replenish Ukraine's pension fund and help pay wage arrears.

For pensioner farmers, the president ordered an increase in the minimum amount of rent they can collect when leasing their government-distributed plots of land to collective farms. He also gave them the right to retrieve that land to use as extended garden plots.

Other executive orders deal with tax changes and business stimulants long sought by the International Monetary Fund and Ukraine's business interests, such as a graduated tax subsidies for new businesses.

The latter will allow newly formed medium-size businesses to pay only 25 percent of their assessed tax in their first year of operation, 50 percent in their second year and 75 percent in their third.

The president also ordered special tax and customs incentives for the Mykolaiv shipyards and the port of Odesa, two areas through which Ukraine hopes to stimulate its international trade.

The president was far from shy in taking credit in his speech for the adoption of the Constitution, as well as for the few accomplishments that his management of the economy has produced.

Mr. Kuchma noted that the "Constitutional Night," during which the national deputies sequestered themselves in the Verkhovna Rada Building and did not emerge until a new

(Continued on page 7)

Dynamo Kyiv's Shevchenko expected to be signed by Milan

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Andrii Shevchenko, the young and gifted forward for the Dynamo Kyiv Ukrainian soccer club, will soon sport the colors of Italian soccer powerhouse AC Milan.

Unless the Italian soccer club, or the city, disappears from the face of the map – or Dynamo Kyiv's owner Hryhorii Surkis can convince his star player that it has – Mr. Shevchenko will seal a deal with the AC Milan at the beginning of July that will pay

him an expected \$25 million.

At a June 25 press conference at the Mirage Casino and Bowling Club in Kyiv, Mr. Shevchenko acknowledged that he had spent the prior week in Milan at the invitation of the Italian club's management and that serious discussions had taken place about his future services.

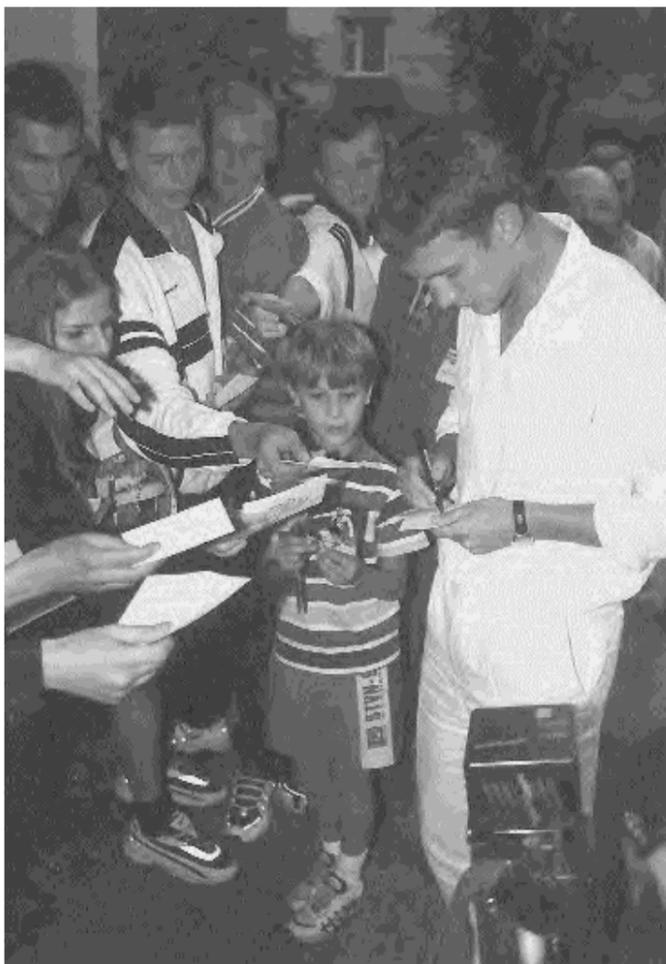
The shy and soft-spoken Mr. Shevchenko, who came dressed for his press conference in a simple polo shirt, khaki trousers and white deck shoes, would not state whether an agreement had been reached with Milan, but suggested that he

would be returning to the city on July 1-2 for the official signing.

Asked when the world should expect the announcement of his signing, the Kyiv player would only say, "At the time when the contract is signed."

Mr. Surkis, who was present at the press conference during which his star performer was presented the Golden Goal award by Ukrainian Television News for the most spectacular goal in the month of May, admitted that an agreement with AC Milan

(Continued on page 16)



The star forward signs autographs for young fans.



Andrii Shevchenko accepts the Golden Goal award at a press conference in Kyiv.

Kingston's Ukrainian community opens doors to Kosovar refugees

by Roberta Rodgers

KINGSTON, Ontario – Every year for the past 30 years, Kingston's Ukrainian community has sponsored the Lviv-Ukraine pavilion at the Folklore Festival held during the second weekend of June. This year was very special, however, as the Ukrainian community of Kingston, one of the founding groups of the Kingston and District Folk Arts Council, was marking the 30th anniversary of its commitment to sharing Ukrainian culture with the public.

At the same time, Ukrainian community members opened their doors to some truly unexpected guests. For at this year's festival, traditional Ukrainian hospitality was extended not just to the almost standing-room-only crowds of Kingstonians, but also to hundreds of the Kosovar refugees who are currently living at the Canadian Forces Base in Kingston.

I was there when the first busloads of the Kosovars arrived for the opening ceremonies at the pavilion on Friday night, June 11. I paid particular attention to their facial expressions, as I wanted to get some idea of what they were feeling.

Upon entering Regiopolis Notre Dame High School, where the Lviv pavilion has been held for several years, the refugees appeared to be filled with curiosity, but also somewhat bewildered, even anxious. Those emotions soon faded, however, replaced by what I could see was eager anticipation. I took photographs of a few of them and almost all of them were soon smiling. Many seemed eager to talk with me. I soon learned to say "hello" in Albanian and that really brought smiles to their faces. Hearty laughs greeted my attempts to learn and say a few more words in Albanian, like "thank you." They were starting to enjoy themselves, not at my expense, but through our mutual efforts to understand each other despite the barriers of different cultures, languages and experiences. It was fun.

As soon as the Ukrainian folk dancers began their performance, the Kosovars really opened up. The expressions of joy on their faces were truly moving. Their fascination was obvious as they watched the swirling and leaping Ukrainian Kozaks and the beautifully embroidered Ukrainian women folk dancers of the Maky Dance Ensemble perform the traditional Hopak. I especially observed one young Kosovar, a girl who appeared to be about 7 or 8 years old; she had an almost ethereal expression on her face, especially as she watched Ukrainian Canadian dancers of her own age performing before her.

Considering what she and her fellow refugees had only recently gone through, I wished I'd had a video camera handy to capture her pleasure. As I watched her I could not help but think how fortunate she and the others were to have been given sanctuary in Canada. I am sure they are all truly grateful; but just being safe is not enough. What these refugees need to do is to get their lives back on track, and what I got to see over this weekend was the beginning of that process. That little girl was showing me that she and many of these refugees are already beginning to recover happiness in their lives. It was simply wonderful to witness this transformation.

For three decades the Lviv Pavilion and its organizers have provided the public with an absolutely overwhelmingly positive experience, a great introduction to the culture, history and heritage of the Ukrainian Canadian community. Many of the Lviv pavilion's organizers were once



Kassandra Luciuk (center), her aunt, Nadia, and Kosovar refugees at the Lviv-Ukraine Pavilion of the Folklore Festival.

themselves refugees, fleeing Soviet tyranny. They well understand how tragic and hopeless the plight of these Kosovars might appear to be to the public and to many of these displaced persons themselves.

So, in welcoming the Kosovars to Kingston, the Ukrainians spoke of their own experience of exile, of preserving their heritage in the freedom of Canada and of finally being able to see the re-emergence of a free Ukraine. They gave the Kosovars reasons for hope by saying, in effect: "You, too, someday will be able to return to your homes and to your lives in Kosovo. Just never give up believing that." I think that message got through.

Later, when the Kosovars spontaneously sang one of their own folk songs, harking back to the homeland they had been driven from, there was scarcely a dry eye in. Those genuine emotions, if nothing else, helped these refugees appreciate that they are truly welcome in Kingston. The Ukrainian Canadian community, whose members did all they could all weekend long to make and remake that point, and all of their own supporters, who provided transportation and treats for the Kosovars while they watched the folk dance shows, really brought out a truth about our country: Canada is a safe haven for real refugees.

As a Kingstonian and a frequent visitor to the Lviv Pavilion over the years, I have come to think of many of its organizers as friends. So, I say this to all of the good folk who were involved in hosting the Lviv-Ukraine Pavilion at the Folklore Festival this year:

Thanks for the excellent shows, thanks for so warmly welcoming me and my friends back again this year. But, especially, thanks for being so hospitable to the Kosovar refugees. I saw how you put a bit of sparkle and hope in their eyes. That's the true spirit of Folklore.

Community activist comments on invitation

KINGSTON, Ontario – Commenting on the invitation extended to the Kosovar Albanians to attend this cultural event, Nadia Luciuk, organizer of the Ukrainian Maky Dance Ensemble, observed:

"Many members of the Ukrainian community in Kingston were once themselves refugees, displaced persons and victims of war. They arrived in Kingston half a century ago, but never forgot who they were. Nor did they give up hoping for Ukraine's independence."

"Inviting the Kosovars to join our annual celebration of Folklore [Festival] gives us, and the generous Kingstonians who have donated goods to help us welcome them, a chance to offer them traditional Ukrainian hospitality. We will also remind them that they should never give up the hope of seeing their homeland free again," she continued. "It happened for us. We believe it will happen for them. And, in the meantime, we are sure they will find Canada to be as welcoming, as generous and as fine a country as many other immigrants and refugees of different ethnic, religious and racial heritages have. That is truly what Folklore is all about, and what we celebrate again this year at our Lviv-Ukraine pavilion."

Kuchma, citing...

(Continued from page 6)

Constitution had been adopted the following morning, was the result of his signing of a decree the previous day calling for a national referendum on adoption of the Constitution.

"After that the Verkhovna Rada adopted it in one night," said President Kuchma.

He stated that his use of the economic decree tool had allowed the government to withstand the aftershocks of the economic collapse of the Russian market that resulted from the Asian crisis.

He also took credit for bringing 1 billion hrv into government coffers to help pay pension and wage arrears of the past.

The president's speech was followed by a 30-minute live studio hook-up with groups of Ukrainian citizens in various regions of Ukraine, which gave the president the ability to further expound on his goals and aims in a very politi-

cized manner.

National deputies in the Verkhovna Rada were quick to react to the president's assertions and derisions. Many called his actions and statements just as populist and overtly political as those of which he had accused them.

National Deputy Yurii Kostenko, leader of the splinter faction of Rukh, criticized the scatter-shot manner used in targeting the decrees. He noted that it would have been much more effective from an economic point of view for a wide-ranging decree on foreign investment stimulation, which could have leveled the legal playing field for foreigners and brought in much-needed foreign business and hard currency.

He also questioned the president's decision not to address the problem of huge government subsidies to failing joint ventures involving the government and the private sector.

"Today the lack of stability in the market is due to the government," said

Mr. Kostenko. "The government pays for electricity to cover the outstanding bills of private industry. This is money that is not being returned to government coffers. About 40 percent of industries, according to unofficial figures, are not profit-making, yet the government supports them."

The day after the president's speech, National Deputy Hryhorii Omelchenko, who is not aligned with any faction, criticized the general way in which President Kuchma organized his Constitution Day address. "Yesterday's political theatrics with the single actor Kuchma are proof of the complete paralysis of the executive branch and the inability of the president to guide the nation," Mr. Omelchenko told a session of the Verkhovna Rada to roaring applause. "But it doesn't matter because the end of the Kuchma regime in Ukraine is only 140 days away."

With presidential elections scheduled for October 31 and 15 of the presidential

aspirants being members of the Verkhovna Rada, some political observers here have said the president's action was an overtly political strategic move to dump large amounts of economic legislation on the Verkhovna Rada just prior to the summer break. When the national deputies return to work in September, six weeks before the elections, hopelessly bogged down in the political maneuvering of the campaign season and unable to pass anything of substance, the president will portray himself as the only candidate actively working to reform the economy and improve the lives of Ukraine's citizens.

Other political observers agree with Mr. Haidutskyi that the 39 executive orders were needed to circumvent continued stalling by the leftist-dominated Verkhovna Rada on economic issues, which is meant to portray the president as politically impotent and unworthy of re-election.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Joint Conferences: a new model

The recent Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations held outside of Washington was terrific, excellent. Coordinated with volunteer effort — the first effort to bring together, simultaneously, several professional associations and community organizations — it was a resounding success. Congratulations to the organizers and to all the panel participants!

The five-day event reflected a very high level of professional achievement among individuals in the Ukrainian American community, a continuing commitment to their heritage, as well as concern for the ongoing challenge of making the new Ukraine a much better country. More than a half dozen professional associations and several community organizations presented panel after panel of interesting information, new ideas, reports of achievements, recognition of failures. These conferences made it clear that Ukrainian Americans feel comfortable combining their commitment to Ukraine with their commitment to their profession. It was important for us to see what we intuitively knew: that it is no small feat to straddle two worlds, and this group of presenters and participants proved not only that it can be done, but done well.

Besides the conference panels, the schedule included a variety of other events — receptions, banquets, tours, cultural presentations and exhibits. The wide variety of events was reflected in the diversity of the people attending. The conference audience and panelists ranged from students to retirees — the vast majority were in the age range of 25-55; from surgeons, engineers, executives, attorneys and designers to public policy experts — top professionals in many fields from the United States, Canada and Ukraine. Of the more than 600 attending the conferences, and close to 800 at the gala banquet, most had traveled to Ukraine and many have or do work there. In short, an impressive group of individuals.

The gathering was also a satisfying community event, especially to those who remember another event 35 years ago to the day — June 27, 1964 — the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko Monument in a small park in Washington. The unveiling of the statue also was a tremendous occurrence: it was one of the very first large-scale events that brought together the post-war and pre-war immigrants from the many corners of this country and was symbolic of the determination of Ukrainian Americans. The Joint Conferences allowed us to take a moment to quickly reflect on those 35 years — and the speed with which they have passed — and take a moment to take pride in our achievements.

The keynote speaker at the gala banquet on Saturday evening, Vice-President Al Gore's national security adviser, Leon Fuerth, seemed unprepared for the achievements and degree of commitment reflected in the audience seated before him and readily admitted, "I was going to conclude my speech with a challenge to your community to get involved in helping Ukraine, but I now see that you've risen to the challenge. Whatever you're doing now — do as much of that and more — that very well may make the difference. ... I salute you for doing what I've just learned that you are doing here ..."

Throughout the five-day event, people relaxed, enjoyed themselves, and talked and talked and talked. There was a palpable sense of friendliness and intimacy and comfort among the participants. We can only hope that this event provided a new model of cooperation for the future for our associations and organizations — the synergy that the conference organizers had envisioned.

July
6
1896

Turning the pages back...

Ivan Tyktor vies with Yevhen Chykalenko for the title of the most successful and influential Ukrainian publisher ever. Born on July 6, 1896, in Krasne, Zolochiv county (about 40 miles east of Lviv, where the main railway line running eastward from the

Galician capital forks north and south), he attended gymnasiums in Rohatyn and Lviv, then studied law and commerce at the underground Ukrainian University in Lviv.

When the first world war broke out in 1914, Tyktor enlisted in the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen, and as the wider conflict devolved into a more localized armed struggle for Ukrainian independence in 1918, he continued his military service in the Ukrainian Galician Army (UHA) until 1920.

He resumed his studies the following year, graduating from the Lviv Trade Academy in 1922, and securing a law degree from the underground university in 1925. In the meantime, he launched his spectacular career in publishing. In 1923, he founded the *Ukrainska Presa* publishing house, which until the outbreak of the second world war in 1939, was the largest, most important and most successful Ukrainian operation in western Ukraine.

He employed over 100 writers, editors, administrators and printers, a staff that included some of the most prominent writers, journalists and artists in Halychyna. Tyktor's flagship was the Lviv-based daily newspaper *Novyi Chas*, which became the most widely read Ukrainian paper in the region.

He also issued the weekly *Narodnia Sprava* for the rural population, whose circulation reached 40,000 in 1938, partly because of an inventive policy of providing financial support to subscribers who suffered fire damage or losses in livestock. Other leading concerns of the Tyktor house were the children's monthly *Dzvinochok*, the semi-monthly *Nash Prapor* and the semi-weekly *Nash Lemko*.

In 1933, when the monthly satirical magazine *Zyz* closed up shop, Tyktor stepped in to further the career of its increasingly famous editor and illustrator, Edward Kozak. The result was *Komar*, a vehicle for Kozak's caricatures and writings that served as the eventual template for the émigré monthly *Lys Mykyta*. The press run of these four publications of Tyktor's house peaked at 106,500 in 1938.

Tyktor published over 400 titles in this period, including a range of almanacs, pamphlets, booklets and short books. The latter were often sent to his periodicals' regular sub-

(Continued on page 17)

NEWS AND VIEWS

12-step "miracles" help Ukraine combat problem of alcoholism

by Nancy Stek

I have heard countless people share the miracles of 12-step programs. I have spoken of them myself. But never before have I truly experienced those miracles as profoundly as I did in Ukraine, where Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is barely 10 years old. Alanon a self-help organization to support family members of alcoholics, has been struggling along for eight years. Naranon, a self-help organization that assists families of drug addicts, is just being born.

A change in beliefs about alcoholism and the emergence and success of AA's self-help model are beginning to be woven into the damaged fabric of Ukrainian families and society. Solutions to the problem of alcoholism — successful treatment and recovery — are being experienced and shared.

I went to Ukraine last June through September as one of four dozen volunteers — all American alcohol and drug treatment professionals — who have gone to Ukraine in the past 18 months to help teach Ukrainian alcoholism professionals how to help alcoholics get sober using a self-help model. For the treatment community in Ukraine, self-help is a radical adjustment to the accepted treatment methodology of institutionalization, archaic thinking and approaches upon which they depended in the past.

While browsing the Internet one day last year I read about a group called First Light Partners (FLP) whose mission is to bring recovery and updated treatment methods to Ukraine. The information about the group just jumped out at me and struck me as something I'd like to do. I don't know why I connected, maybe because I'm interested in Eastern European culture. I sat on it for a couple of months, interviewed with FLP's director, and in June found myself in Ukraine working with physicians, psychologists, nurses and social workers.

It was an astounding experience. I watched these professionals move from a highly suspicious, yet curious, challenging and defensive posture to one of openness, acceptance, self-examination and self-discovery. They came to see their patients as themselves in that very same light. I was in the midst of their personal, intellectual and philosophical struggles daily for three months. I watched these professionals change and grow, and pass their knowledge and experiences to the patients as they brought their patients through a treatment cycle. Patients and professionals alike learned to apply the concepts of self-help and the steps of AA to their own life.

I witnessed countless miracles. One of them was meeting a woman, Ukraine's Lois Wilson (wife of AA founder Bill Wilson). The woman started Alanon in Ukraine and was the sole member at meetings in her town for at least three months. Immediately I loved her. I loved her hope, faith and belief in the possibility of something being done differently. That Alanon exists in Ukraine today truly is her doing.

Nancy Stek is director of training and education at the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County in New Jersey. This article is reprinted with permission from Perspectives, a bimonthly journal on addiction prevention and public policy published by NCADD — New Jersey.

The ability to capture the essence of a nation, describe the nuances of its people, and tell the story of alcoholism and treatment within the Ukrainian cultural framework is a skill that I am not certain I have. However, Ukraine's story deserves to be told, no matter how briefly.

Ukraine is a country in crisis — political, economic and social. Since gaining its freedom from the former Soviet Union, it is experiencing serious growth pains and faces countless challenges. Ukraine is a beautiful country full of pastoral scenes. There are many quaint cities and towns with ancient roots and a rich history. Mountains and the sea line its borders.

The people there have survived the devastation of wars, politically engineered famines, cultural cleansings, the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl and daily conditions so severe that many of us would be unable to tolerate them. Yet Ukrainians have persevered, survived the decimation, and gained their independence as a nation whose people exude a deep and abiding pride in their country and culture.

There is another side of Ukraine: the side that is rapidly losing two of its most valuable resources — people and hope — to the disease of alcoholism. It is estimated that one out of five [adults] in Ukraine — 5 million all told — has a problem with alcohol. Alcoholism in Ukraine resembles alcoholism in America in that it plays a major role in family violence, crime and suicide. There also has been a decline in the life expectancy of Ukrainian men, down to age 57 from 63, and alcohol has been identified as a major contributing factor.

Alcoholism hits Ukrainian children hard as well. About 30 percent of its newly orphaned children are "social orphans," meaning their parents are alive but have abandoned them because of alcoholism. Ukraine's rate of fetal alcohol syndrome is the highest in the world.

There is no lack of medical professionals or treatment facilities in Ukraine; however, alcoholism in Ukraine has been treated solely as a biological problem — with detoxification until the immediate physical need for alcohol is eliminated. The country lacks accurate information about the concept of alcoholism as a disease and a treatment method that also address the psychological, emotional and spiritual impact of the disease.

The medical community has been reluctant to incorporate the principles of self-help to break the alcohol addiction and thus has not been successful in treating alcoholism. And alcoholics themselves have hesitated to assume any responsibility for their own recovery, believing instead that "it's the doctor's job to cure me." Therefore, alcoholics and treatment professionals alike felt hopeless.

Being alcoholic in Ukraine has been a death sentence — until recently. As alcoholism treatment methods in Ukraine have been changed by knowledge brought by Americans, so have I because of my experiences in Ukraine. I have a greater appreciation for how deeply 12-step programs can bring about change in the midst of economic and political despair. The structure of the 12 steps is an intense light of hope that reinforces the Ukrainian people's internal determination and strength to survive. Now their struggle is to survive more than physically. It's to survive spiritually as well.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commendations on N.J. festival article

Dear Editor:

I commend Stan Jakubowycz for his article about the New Jersey Ukrainian Festival (June 6). So much of what he wrote needed to be publicly aired.

At one time, the Ukrainian Festival was, indeed, the showcase of the Garden State Arts Center; sold-out performances were the norm. The secret to the success of those festivals was dedicated committees and outstanding shows.

For the years 1979-1982 I had the privilege of serving as treasurer and then co-chairman of the festival committee. I vividly remember the dedication, commitment and professionalism of the members of those four committees. I recall that each year the committee set as its goal the organization of yet a better festival than the year before, and each year they succeeded. They succeeded because the committees brought in new talent from throughout the United States and Canada, thus attracting not only the previous year's audience, but new people as well.

Not only were these festivals artistically successful, they were financially successful also. While the cost of sponsoring professional talent from far away was high, the sold-out performances meant profits for the New Jersey Arts Center and the festival committee. In 1979, when I took over as treasurer, I was handed a treasury of \$647.50 – the profit of the first four festivals. After the 1982 festival, the festival treasury had grown to \$17,500.

I share Mr. Jakubowycz's sadness about no longer seeing signs on the Garden State Parkway for the Ukrainian Festival while so many other ethnic groups continue organizing their own. It is heartbreaking to have watched the Ukrainian Festival go from being the best and most successful to non-existent.

The community has the right to be told why New Jersey, a state with the third largest concentration of Ukrainians in the U.S., no longer hosts a Ukrainian Festival at the Garden State (now PNC Bank) Arts Center.

Michael J. Iwanciw
Chatham Township, N.J.

UOC-U.S.A. status has poor prognosis

Dear Editor:

I was so impressed by Z.L. Melnyk's letter (May 23) that I feel the need to congratulate him for his perceptiveness. In view of a possible papal visit to Ukraine in future months, Mr. Melnyk questions the Ukrainian Catholic Church hierarchy's silence regarding the Vatican's recognition of the UOC-Moscow Patriarchate as the only canonical Orthodox Church in Ukraine, and wonders if it is too much to expect courage and leadership from his Church authorities. If the hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. have set the precedent, then, unfortunately, the obvious answer to Mr. Melnyk's question is: yes, it is too much to expect.

As a practicing Ukrainian Orthodox Christian and president of St. Mary Protectress UOC parish board in Clifton, N.J., I've followed with great disappointment the recent decisions and actions of the UOC-U.S.A. leaders.

Since the signing of the "Eucharistic Union with Constantinople," those of us

who still consider ourselves committed Ukrainians have been absorbed into a vortex of unwelcome change and unresolved issues.

As a sequel to the "great union" with Patriarch Bartholomew (and, as an extrapolation from there, a union with the Moscow Patriarchate), public documents/articles and common knowledge inform us of a new mentality in the UOC-U.S.A.: an ongoing, steady departure from the condemned "provincialism" of our Ukrainian practices and traditions to achieve the ultimate goal of generic, non-ethnic Orthodoxy here in the United States. Slowly, yet very surely, "Ukrainian" is being weeded out. Examples abound.

Many parishes in the area have now decreased Ukrainian language usage and have incorporated and increased English (and at times Greek) into weekly services. Portraits of Ukrainian leaders, notably Metropolitan Vasyl Lypkivsky's, have been removed from churches in the Midwest. In many parishes, "Bozhe Velykyi" (Lysenko) has been eradicated from the conclusion of liturgy because of its purported political message. Has anyone picked up a recent issue of *The Ukrainian Orthodox World*? The bilingual publication has subtly reversed the order of presentation, placing the larger, English section first. Furthermore, news stories include coverage of pilgrimages to Kenya and religious services at Russian churches and monasteries.

At one of the largest commemorations of the Great Famine to be held in the New York City area in recent years – last November 8 when more than 4,500 people gathered at St. Patrick's Cathedral – none of the UOC-U.S.A. hierarchs or senior clergy felt it important to concelebrate the moleben, though there is no question that they had been invited and were expected. An ecumenical moleben is a traditional part of the way our communities commemorate the Great Famine. In previous years it would have been inconceivable for UOC-U.S.A. hierarchs or senior clergy to not be there.

However, according to the new policy set forth by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, UOC-U.S.A. hierarchs and clergy cannot participate in "political" activity – by which the patriarch of Constantinople means any activity that acknowledges a distinct Ukrainian identity. Ukrainian Orthodox hierarchs should not be seen commemorating in public prayer, along with other Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians, the lost lives of the millions of Ukrainian Orthodox Christians that perished in one of the largest genocides in history, because doing so would be a "political" activity. For not being at this moleben and for adhering to this policy, the UOC-U.S.A. hierarchs should feel nothing less than complete sorrow and shame.

Hand-in-hand with the aforementioned examples, our UOC-U.S.A. Church hierarchs confirmed their anti-Ukrainian, pro-Russian stance when they basically ignored the visit of Patriarch Filaret to the U.S. this past November. Claiming the UOC-Kyiv Patriarchate to be unstable and non-canonical, they boycotted all public events involving Patriarch Filaret. A message was sent loud and clear: Ukraine and Ukrainian is out, self-aggrandizement for the cost of alliance with Istanbul, and thereby Moscow is in.

How sad and disappointing that the UOC-U.S.A. to date presents such a moribund prognosis. Has anyone else noticed? Apparently, Mr. Melnyk is on the ball. Kudos to him.

Ivan Bilobron
Clifton, N.J.

CANADA COURIER

by Christopher Guly



A special Canadian coin in Sergiy Minenok's pocket

Sergiy Minenok left his native Ukraine for Canada in December 1997, seeking new opportunities for himself, his wife, Anzhelika, and their 5-year-old daughter, Natasha.

Today he has a special Canadian coin in his pocket: a 25-cent piece bearing his initials.

Mr. Minenok is among 12 Canadians whose coin designs have been selected from more than 50,000 entries for use in special millennium quarters being issued by the Royal Canadian Mint every month this year to celebrate the past. Another 12 designs – ones that look to the future – will be issued in the same cycle next year, marking the first time in Canadian history that coins will bear the month of circulation.

Mr. Minenok's winning design was the selection for May 1999. Called "The Voyageurs," it depicts a canoe, the type used by fur traders and explorers in opening up vast areas of North America from the mid-17th century to the mid-19th century. An image of Queen Elizabeth II appears on the front of the coin.

Explorers who married aboriginal women produced an entirely new generation called the Métis. Two of those voyageurs (French for travelers), who were also known as coureurs des bois (trappers), Pierre Radisson and Médard Chouart Des Grosilliers, are credited with the formation of the famous Hudson's Bay Co. in 1670, the holdings from which eventually formed today's Canada.

Appropriately, Mr. Minenok's special quarter was unveiled at a ceremony at Winnipeg's historic Forks Junction, where the Red and Assiniboine rivers meet. The site has been a meeting place for centuries, dating back to the voyageurs themselves. Manitoba's capital city also was an important fur trading and administrative center for the Hudson's Bay, whose archives are located in the city. Coincidentally, the Royal Canadian Mint's circulation-coin production facility also is based in Winnipeg.

Mr. Minenok's coin, which went into circulation in May, is also available in a sterling silver proof version for \$14.95 (\$9.95 U.S.) and may be purchased directly from the mint by calling 1 (800) 268-6468 in the United States or 1 (800) 267-1871 in Canada.

On a historical note, the last time the mint issued a coin with a voyageur theme was in 1935, when Prime Minister R.B. Bennett commissioned a silver dollar to commemorate the King George V's silver anniversary on the throne. That coin later became known as "The George." The image remained a part of the dollar coin for the next half-century, until the release of one depicting a loon, known as the "loonie," that replaced the dollar bill in 1987.

Mr. Minenok, who has an interest in history and experience as a participant of several archeological expeditions in Ukraine, decided to try his hand in designing Canadian currency. He pored over historic paintings and engravings depicting voyageurs and the clothing of the era (deerskin moccasins, red-colored shirts, colorful finger-woven waist sashes, toques).

Mr. Minenok entered the mint's "Create a Centsation!" Coin Design

Contest with an image of three voyageurs and aboriginal guides paddling a canoe through the Canadian wilderness along a shoreline of rock outcrops and trees symbolic of the rugged Canadian Shield. It was one of six designs portraying early European contact with the New World that he submitted.

"My design was inspired by my childhood visions of the North American wilderness, and the romance and excitement of early explorers, adventurers and fur traders depicted by such writers as James Fenimore Cooper and films I saw as a child," explained Mr. Minenok. (Cooper is perhaps best known for his 1826 classic "The Last of the Mohicans.")

In the annals of Canada's numismatic history, Mr. Minenok's name will be listed along with that of renowned Canadian sculptor Emanuel Hahn, who created the first voyageur design six decades ago. According to the mint, Mr. Minenok's voyageur depiction, which shows a party of three, is "more historically accurate" than the Hahn coin, which had only two passengers traveling in a canoe.

A graduate of both Ukraine's Technical College of Art, where he earned an honors diploma as an industrial art technician, and the Art Academy of Ukraine's graphic arts program, Mr. Minenok has seen his art featured on three Ukrainian coins. One is a gold collector's coin honoring celebrated poet and artist Taras Shevchenko; the other two commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster (1996).

Mr. Minenok's artistic works have been reproduced also on two of four Ukrainian postage stamps created to mark the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Skilled as a modeler, oil painter, book designer and illustrator, wood and stone carver, he is now establishing his professional career in British Columbia.

In describing his winning entry, Mr. Minenok said: "The images of strong and brave people who were seekers of new adventures have remained in my heart all my life. In my mind, they are firmly connected with the word 'Canada'."

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Once upon a time in Jersey City ...

by DMZ

I was sad to see Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly and their parent institution, the Ukrainian National Association, move from Jersey City, N.J. It was the passing of an era. The old Ukrainian institution was part of my Jersey City experience.

Aside from the magnificent view of the Statue of Liberty from my window and the view of Manhattan by night, both of which were good enough for The National Geographic, the rest of Jersey City had a far less admirable description. But it was "home" for me during the my teenage years in the 1950s. We were little DPs just off the boat, learning English and speaking it with an accent. There was the rough Waterfront nearby and one even got to see gangsters on the street. Yet, ignorance was bliss. They were special years, indeed, and I remember them fondly.

In fact, I feel sorry for the youngsters of my present-day affluent suburbs, when I see the shallowness of their material lives. In comparison, I think of the simple riches that my contemporaries and I had.

In the 1950s we actually had a social strata as teenage members of the Jersey City Ukrainian community. Everyone knew each other; we felt no isolation. Our life followed a set routine since all of our parents had to work. TV was an extravagance no one had, an automobile a great luxury. Our families huddled together in very reasonably priced railroad-car-style apartments with meager conveniences.

Yet there always was a grandmother or some other relative to greet you when you got home from school. In those households where there was no one to help, parents would work different shifts, mothers worked during the day, fathers worked evenings or vice-versa to ensure that the children were never alone. We were not encouraged to get teenage jobs because youth was considered a precious time in life, and our parents wanted us to have that time. How generous they were!

Long before the Saturday schools were organized into Ukrainian language and culture school (Ridna Shkola) in Jersey City, a childless couple, Mr. and Mrs. Kots, gathered the young ones together and opened for us an enormous treasure chest of all that was Ukrainian. We discovered such things as the Trypillian culture and read "The Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors." This chiseled in our minds the richness of our ethnic heritage. So, as we evolved into Americans, we did not feel poor and ignorant, but like a group that had something to offer our new country.

The article above is an entry from "the diary of a Ukrainian housewife," who writes under the pen name "DMZ."

A youth organization based on the ideals of scouting called Plast came with us from the old country and it became our "gang." We hung out in storefronts rented and paid for by our parents' donations. From a storefront on Essex Street, which was our first Plast den, to a storefront on Varick Street, which had particularly special memories, our gatherings – and there were many – were always constructive and well-guided. A large range of activities included everything from making traditional Easter eggs (pysanky) to dance and etiquette lessons. Hikes were organized, and so were trips to summer camp.

All was paid for by our parents out of their minimum-wage jobs. For, in their wisdom, their budgets had priorities, their housekeeping was frugal, their personal needs were minimal, and their obligation to their children great. This gift of time and attention paid better dividends than any fancy material resources. In return, we respected our elders, and we had no desire to rebel. Life was fair. How this happened so smoothly seems strange now – but it did.

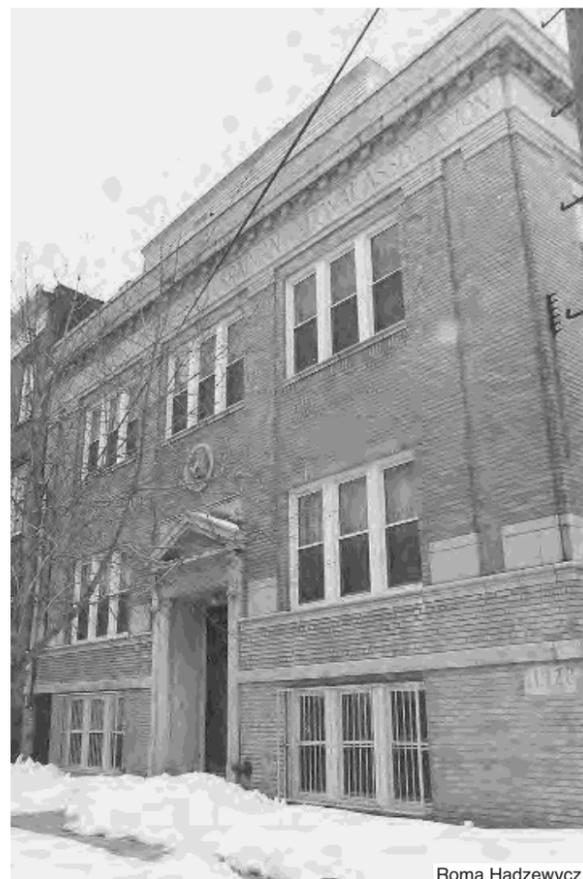
On Sundays there was service in one of the oldest Ukrainian churches in America. It was a warm and beautiful church, as Byzantine-style churches often are. Our church, as I remember it, was burgundy and gold with little red lanterns flickering about, beckoning to come and pray awhile. There were great holiday celebrations when the church was full of people and the sound of a great choir would proclaim glory to God.

I cannot help but feel such great disappointment now, when I think that old church was sold to the big sudsy Colgate Co., and in turn got torn down along with it. Had there been the vision not to sell the church, it would have been a landmark right on the bank of the old Hudson River, where the Colgate Co. has now made room for a beautiful promenade.

Not too far from the old Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church was 81-83 Grand St., the headquarters of Ukrainian National Association. Its publication Svoboda was the longest-running Ukrainian daily newspaper in print. That was clout in those days. Even before you entered the building you could hear the linotypes clicking away in the basement. One was greeted with the smell of printers' ink and large rolls of paper parked in the hall.

On the first floor to the right was the holy of holies: the office of the editor-in-chief. Or so I thought, for I had visited that office on occasion, accompanying my father. I remember it cluttered with several yearbooks of the broadsheet newspaper, mixed together with books and papers that told so much about our existence in this hemisphere.

The Cold War was raging then, and a free Ukraine was a dream with little hope of ever coming true. Yet, in this little two-story building on Grand Street, a sample of our Ukrainian DNA was being stored and carefully protected.



Roma Hadzewycz

The erstwhile headquarters of the UNA on Grand Street in Jersey City, before the fraternal organization (now based in Parsippany, N.J.) moved into its 15-story headquarters building several blocks away.

My friends and I were privy to this.

But the most remarkable aspect of our lives in Jersey City was the fact that Manhattan was just a dime away. A 20-minute train ride inside a giant tube under the Hudson River took you to the downtown of America. New York City was ours for the walking, exploring, sightseeing and window shopping. We stayed in tune with the world through the Big Apple. And it wasn't just the music and the styles and the pizza for us, it was the molding of an attitude based on proven foundations.

All that touched my life during those years was nothing short of amazing. I left Jersey City when I married, so much has changed since. Our "gang" is all over now. Some are rich and famous, some are just like me. We run into each other in places we never dreamed of meeting, like Kyiv or Lviv. Sometimes we meet in South Bound Brook. We all look a bit different now. We're older – the blondes are gray, the brunets are blond.

And when we meet and introduce each other to our families, we say: "Oh! This is so and so, who grew up with me in Jersey City!"

BOOK REVIEW: Poetry by Larissa Szporluk in "Dark Sky Question"

by Rachel Safko

BOSTON – Samuel Johnson once described Alexander Pope's poetic genius as "always investigating, always aspiring in its widest searches, still longing to go forward in its highest flights, still wishing to be higher, always imagining something greater than what it knows." While poet Larissa Szporluk has unveiled her own unique and distinctly modern genius in "Dark Sky Question," for which she was awarded the 1997 Barnard New Women Poets Prize, the sentiment, nevertheless, applies. The evidence lies in the poem "Biology of Heaven," where Ms. Szporluk describes herself in heaven without support "where the totality/of light is frightening."

As her description may suggest, the poem has large thematic ambitions, typical of a poetic series that aims for the sublime. Ms. Szporluk frequently inhabits the subjunctive; the voice in this poem literally descends from a heaven she has imagined. Inverting a situation like this is classically Ms. Szporluk. While her approach may seem somewhat oblique at times, Ms. Szporluk is probing a very labyrinthine region between heaven and earth, and actually planting some flags.

Because she is asking some complicated questions about the self's relationship to God, many critics have regarded her as a religious or metaphysical poet. Others suggest she is writing in the tradition of Dickinson or Plath.

Rachel Safko received her degree in English from the University of Virginia. She is currently enrolled in the Graduate Creative Writing Program at Boston University.

Metaphysical, no doubt, topically religious, often dark and compressed, "Dark Sky Question" undoubtedly creates its own rhythms.

Poems in "Dark Sky Question" often strain against each, sustaining the volume's atmosphere tension. As a result of this strain, "Dark Sky Question" often feels as if it is revising its own dialectic. In "Benefits of Drowning," Ms. Szporluk uses the following metaphor to communicate this endless emotional struggle: "They say there is an end/but I go round and round/with unscrupulous desires/in regions of my throat."

Once you are caught in this emotional carousel, it is virtually impossible to get off. Despite the frustration that accompanies this sense of being "half torn in the clouds, half-sated" Ms. Szporluk undergoes an emotional transformation that captivates and ultimately transforms the reader who is "lulled by the sound/of the carriage, pulled by the waist/then raised, a gift to the hottest place./life's dark weight/sublimed into violet." The violet Ms. Szporluk describes is no simple region. Like the regions in her throat, this violet sublime is a psychological maelstrom, the unfathomably complex realm of human consciousness pushed to its darkest extremes. A siren in dangerously frightening straits, Ms. Szporluk lures readers to Scylla and Charybdis, but the experience is somehow illuminating, surprisingly redemptive.

No doubt, Ms. Szporluk is aggressive in her pursuit of complicated truth. Describing a character in "Libido," she effectively describes her own poetic method: "asks around, asks how/where do we feel to find who we are." In an effort to find the source of things, Ms. Szporluk "listens to parrots/true inner birds never at rest," a testament to the spiritu-

al momentum in this series which is ultimately that desire hath no rest.

Whether she is or is not a religious poet in the traditional sense, Ms. Szporluk is thoroughly and constantly revising her faith in the human spirit, so ruthless in her revision that these poems are frequently pushed to the edge of despair. In "Ignis Fatuus," translated from the Latin as foolish, clumsy, light, Ms. Szporluk is brutally honest about her own incapacities: "I can't cope in the bog light. I was made big and not great. Moths swarmed in from the plains./wings of all sizes./And to think I did the same/half-cry of a star/whose boundaries were torn."

The bog light she describes, this ignis fatuus, is the violet sublime, the maelstrom of consciousness where she is half-torn, sounding her half-cry of a star. Though it is fully submerged in the bog, Ms. Szporluk's voice emerges with blazing clarity. However bog-like or surreal the landscape of her poetry may be, she is brilliantly lucid, a thoroughly impressive achievement considering the elusiveness of her subject.

"Dark Sky Question": the title itself seems to refute all the answers, deny any hope of illumination.

Seems to refute. Seems to deny. But Ms. Szporluk dispenses the fog with language so sharp, so incisive, you believe her implicitly when she drives the stake in, the solid word, the solid line which makes her claim for poetry: "Part of the sky is all of the sky./The rest is wasted."

"Dark Sky Question" may not and cannot realize its unattainable spiritual ambitions. Nothing can. But Ms. Szporluk ravages the violet sublime with so much energy that she generates a stunningly vibrant language in the process – so vibrant, in fact, that the half-cry for a star is enough.



FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inger Kuzych

Postal history 1: a postcard of the "Greycoat" Division

All of my "Focus on Philately" articles to date have dealt, in one form or another, with Ukrainian stamps. However, most Ukraine philatelists do not restrict themselves to collecting only stamp issues; they frequently also go after examples of what is termed "postal history" by acquiring Ukrainian-related materials from a certain time period or a certain locale. For example, I specialize in the postal history of Lviv and especially like postcards and covers (a cover is an envelope carrying a stamp or stamps that have been canceled; most often it has passed through the mail stream) from the Hapsburg Period of Austrian rule (1772-1918) and the Western Ukrainian National Republic (1918-1919).

For "Focus on Philately" this month and next, I will present two examples of postal history items – one a postcard, the other a cover – that illustrate the tremendous range of materials that can make up postal history. In addition, they will show how a fascinating story, either national or personal, can lie hidden behind a piece of stationery.

For the first example of postal history, we travel back to the spring of 1918. Ukraine had declared its independence on January 22 of that year, but was engaged in a fierce struggle with the Bolsheviks who had occupied large areas of the country. Ukrainian government leaders determined that a separate peace with the Central Powers (Austria-Hungary, Germany, Turkey and Bulgaria) and German military aid were the only hope for survival. On February 9, 1918, the Peace Treaty of Brest-Litovsk between Ukraine and the Central Powers was signed. According to the treaty provisions, as well as some supplementary agreements, both Soviet Russia and the Central Powers recognized Ukraine as a sovereign state. While Russia agreed to conclude a peace treaty with the Ukrainian National Republic and to withdraw pro-Soviet troops from Ukraine, the Central Powers agreed to return Ukrainian prisoners of war (especially numerous in German and Austrian camps) and to equip them for any struggle that might take place with the Bolsheviks.

Two army divisions, nicknamed the Synozhupannyky (Bluecoats) were formed from Ukrainian POWs in Germany. They arrived in Ukraine in March 1918, but were disbanded on April 26-27 in Kovel (present-day Volyn Oblast) and in Kyiv on the eve of the April 29 coup d'état that ushered in the Hetmanate.

Beginning in the latter half of February 1918, another military unit was culled from Ukrainian POWs in Austro-Hungarian camps. Stationed at Volodymyr-Volynskiy (also in present-day Volyn Oblast) it came to be called the Sirozhupannyky (Greycoats) after the color of its uniforms.

Originally, its title was the 1st Kozak-Riflemen Regiment; sometime after May 29 it became the 1st Kozak-Riflemen Division. In late May the size of the regiment was over 3,000 men and one of its units was the 1st Kozak-Riflemen Artillery Squadron. The illustrated postcard bears a violet handstamp of this squadron.

Locating any mail of the Bluecoats or Greycoats is extraordinarily difficult, as a large percentage of the soldiers were illiterate or semi-literate. The illustrated card was sent to Lemberg (Lviv) in late May 1918 by a higher-ranking Ukrainian (not one of the former prisoners) who was transferred to the regiment from some other Austro-Hungarian regiment in order to help form the new division (see Figure 1).

The date stamp is indistinct on the card, and it is difficult to make out any cancel details. However, computer enhancement reveals the cancellation to be from the Austro-Hungarian field post office HP167 (Hungarian Base Post Office No. 167) and to have been mailed on May 26 (see Figure 2).

HP 167 opened in October of 1915 and closed in November of 1918. Probably due to extensive use, the datestamp HP 167 ornaments on either side of the number became disfigured after December 1917; this unique disfiguration is evident on the card. The large cursive initials under "Stril. Koz." are made with a blue pencil and would appear to be a censor marking.

Despite the agreement with the

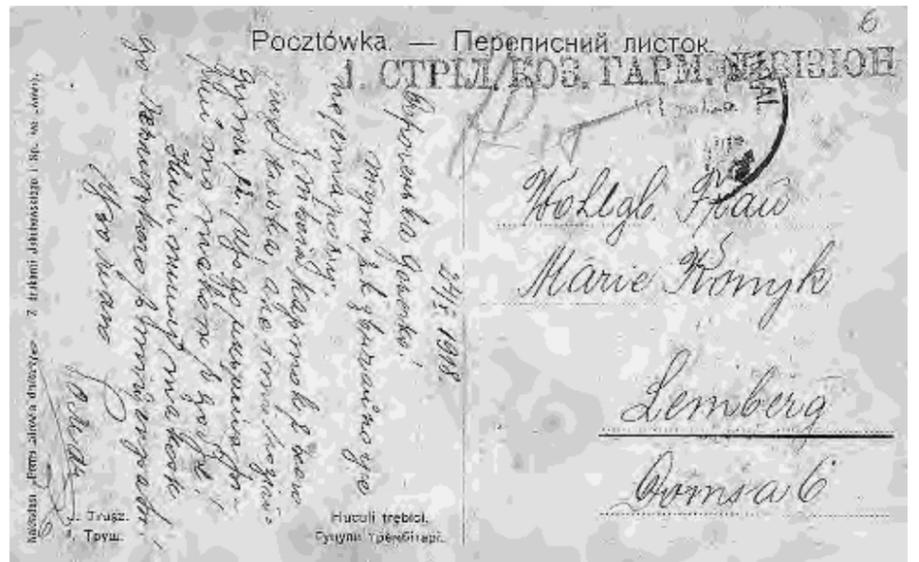


Figure 1. An illustration of the only known piece of mail with a Sirozhupannyky marking. The violet "1. STRIL. KOZ. HARM. DIVIZION" inscription was made with a rubber hand stamp; it translates as the "1st Kozak-Riflemen Artillery Squadron." Note, a postage stamp was not necessary for military mail.



Figure 2. A computer enhancement of the same postcard clearly shows the mailing date of May 26, 1918, and the Austro-Hungarian field post designation (HP 167).

Ukrainian government, Austria-Hungary proved reluctant to turn over the 1st Kozak Division and curtailed the movements of the men from Volodymyr-Volynskiy. Only after lengthy negotiations and unrelenting Ukrainian insistence did the Austrians finally agree to release the division to Ukrainian jurisdiction under a special convention. Interesting details of the formal handover, which took place over a period of days, have been preserved.

Following the inspection of the division at Volodymyr-Volynskiy on August 26, the Ukrainian government appointee Gen. Sokyra Yakhontiv took command. The force consisted of four infantry regiments, machine gun commands, telegraph and construction squadrons, a field ambulance unit, divisional cavalry, and a cannon division and transport; it was made up of 140 officers and 3,300 combat soldiers. On August 27, the day it began transferring to Kyiv, the division took a solemn oath of allegiance to the Ukrainian state and Hetman Pavlo Skoropadsky. On September 1 the division held a formal parade before the hetman in Kyiv; from there it was moved to the Chernihiv region, where it was stationed near Starodub and Konotop.

The following is an excerpt of the description of the parade, which took place on Katerynska Street Square in Kyiv, as reported in Visnyk Polityky, Literaturny i Zhyttia, No. 37, p. 514, and quoted in "History of Ukraine 1917-1923" by D. Doroshenko:

"Shortly before 11 a.m. various units of the division briskly drew up at the square in the presence of ... [various German, Austrian, Hungarian and Hetmanate military officials].

"The hetman arrived by car punctually at 11 a.m. As the hetman approached, the soldiers presented arms and the Serdiuk Choir rendered the national anthem. The hetman walked along the front columns of

the division and greeted the Kozaks. A prayer service followed during which the division chaplain spoke. The troops then saluted the hetman by smartly executing a ceremonial march-by.

"The hetman thanked the men with the following words: 'I greet you, Kozaks, upon your return from captivity, and happiness touches my innermost soul that God has helped you to return to your fatherland, the Ukrainian state, which has been so impatiently awaiting you. Yours is the 1st Division of the Ukrainian Army, and I sincerely believe that the order I saw in your ranks on parade today will become the basis for the creation of our own mighty Ukrainian army founded on a firm national foundation and upon strict discipline. Pray remember always that upon discipline in our army, as in every army, rests the might and the power of our state. Again I thank you for the disciplined order that I witnessed today in your parade and for your sincere readiness to serve our state to the utmost of your strength. For the glory and prosperity of the Ukrainian state, let's all shout with feeling our Kozak call 'Slava!'

"The hetman's words were greeted with a spontaneous and prolonged storm of 'Slava'..." And so was established Ukraine's first military division of the 20th century.

Sincerest thanks to Peter Cybaniak for providing me with such fine computer-enhanced copies of this postcard and considerable information about the Greycoats. Chris Ceremuga, John-Paul Himka and Val Zabijaka assisted me in tracking down additional information for this article.

1. "Slava," literally "glory," is an expression used as a shout of joy, triumph or applause, similar to the way "hurrah" is used in English.

Postcard commemorates EU-Ukraine Summit



The official postcard above was released by the Austrian-Ukrainian Society on the occasion of the European Union-Ukraine Summit held in Vienna on October 16, 1998. The design of the card – featuring Viktor Klima, federal chancellor of Austria, and Leonid Kuchma, president of Ukraine, the Austrian and Ukrainian national colors and the emblem of the EU – is by Erhard Steinhagen. Also seen is an official cancellation marking the historic meeting.

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CIUS establishes Struk Program

TORONTO – In memory of Prof. Danylo Husar Struk who died on June 19, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is establishing the Danylo Husar Struk Program in Ukrainian Literature at the Toronto office of CIUS. Plans are for the program to develop into a major center for research and publishing in the field of Ukrainian literature.

The primary aim of the Danylo Husar Struk Program in Ukrainian Literature is to broaden familiarity with Ukrainian literature in the English-speaking world. The program activities towards this goal will include sponsoring research, scholarly writing, translation and other activities, such as

workshops, public lectures and readings. The program will support research visits to Toronto by scholars, writers and translators.

In special tribute to Prof. Struk, the program will organize an annual public lecture, titled the Danylo Husar Struk Memorial Lecture, to be delivered by a distinguished scholar, critic or writer.

Prof. Struk was editor-in-chief of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine and director of the Toronto Publications Office of the CIUS. Memorial donations may be sent to: Danylo H. Struk Fund at the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies, 2336A Bloor Street West, Suite 202, Toronto, Ontario, M6S 1P3.

Cultural center in Toronto...

(Continued from page 1)

lition daily in the city, the Toronto Star, telephoned the center on June 29 seeking information.

Mr. Mihowich said the center's administration and the Ukrainian community has been outraged and concerned because the facility is visited daily by both Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian groups.

The center official said multi-ethnic kindergarten classes and Language Instruction to Newcomers in Canada (LINC) classes are conducted there for the broader community.

Various Ukrainian choirs and dance groups use the theater as a rehearsal space, and the facility is used by the Ukrainian

Youth Association (SUM) for meetings. The center also houses a library, a gymnasium, a Ukrainian school and a banquet hall.

In the fall of 1998, the convention of Ukrainian Political Prisoners, victims of the Nazi and Soviet regimes, was held at the center.

In a press release issued on June 25, John B. Gregorovich, chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association was quoted as saying: "Defamation of an entire community by cowardly racists has, regrettably, become ever more common in Canada ... we are also issuing a warning to Ukrainian Canadian communities and cultural centers across the country, asking them to be especially vigilant against persons or extremist groups who are attempting to [propagate] the lie that there are Nazis hiding in the Ukrainian Canadian community."

Amnesty International...

(Continued from page 2)

committed itself to sign and ratify Protocol No. 6 to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European Convention) relating to the abolition of the death penalty within three years of its accession to the Council of Europe. Neither of these commitments was fulfilled by the Council of Europe's deadline of November 1998. After joining the Council of Europe, the Ukrainian Parliament debated the question of abolition of the death penalty on a number of occasions but without reaching a consensus on abolition in law.

Amnesty International calls on the Ukrainian authorities to take the following steps:

- The Ukrainian Parliament should move swiftly to ratify Protocol No. 6 to the European Convention on Human Rights and abolish the death penalty at

the very latest by the next session of the Parliamentary Assembly in January 2000.

- The Ukrainian Parliament should enact legislation to remove the death penalty from the Ukrainian penal code.

- All existing death sentences should be commuted and no further death sentences should be imposed.

- The authorities should publish comprehensive information about the use of the death penalty, including the names and case details of all prisoners executed and all prisoners currently under sentence of death.

In addition to the abolition of the death penalty, the Parliamentary Assembly is requesting from Ukraine substantial developments by its next session in January 2000 in several areas, including the enactment of a framework law on legal policy for the protection of human rights as well as a framework law on legal and judicial reforms and the adoption of a new criminal code and code of criminal procedure.

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AIHA announces health care partnerships in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine

WASHINGTON – The American International Health Alliance Inc. (AIHA), in conjunction with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), has announced the formation of seven new partnerships between U.S. health care institutions and their counterparts in the countries of Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. Five of the partnerships are in Ukraine.

Partnership activities will be carried out under a cooperative agreement from USAID to AIHA to foster more effective and efficient delivery of health services in the Western NIS. The program builds upon the model developed by AIHA over the past seven years to address local, national and regional health care issues in the new independent states (NIS) and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

In support of USAID's promotion of sustainable, decentralized approaches to meeting social services needs in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, the new partnerships will emphasize institutional development, capacity building, and community-based approaches for improving basic urgent and primary health care services for the average citizen.

The AIHA and USAID selected the U.S. partners after a rigorous proposal review process. The seven new partnerships announced today are:

- **Donetsk:** Magee-Women's Hospital of Pittsburgh will work with its sister-city, Donetsk, to develop model community-oriented primary care sites that provide services to targeted populations. Donetsk is a medium-sized city with coal mining and power plant industries. A special focus of this partnership will be occupational health and, in particular, the prevention and treatment of mining industry-related problems, such as black lung disease. Implementing a model program for improving the health of women in the rural environment outside the city, training and retraining staff in clinical and management areas, workplace safety, injury prevention, health promotion and disease prevention will also be major priorities of the partnership. A model management

information system will be developed to track referrals and client outcomes. Magee-Women's Hospital has enlisted the support of the Allegheny County Department of Public Health, the United Mine Workers of America, and the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health and the Department of Family Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology in the partnership.

- **Kharkiv:** The Wisconsin-based La Crosse International Health Partnership will lead a coalition of U.S. organizations in a partnership to integrate community-oriented primary care services in Kharkiv, a major industrial city in eastern Ukraine. The partnership will work with an existing urban polyclinic to develop a model for the provision of primary care in the city. The partnership will then assist in the reorganization of the primary care network and the replication of additional sites within the Kharkiv region. Training and retraining of staff in clinical and management areas will be a major focus of partnership activities. A health promotion and disease prevention unit will be created to target education activities for "healthy child and adult" programs. Development of a referral system to track client outcomes is also anticipated. The following U.S. organizations will participate in the La Crosse consortium: Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, Franciscan Skemp Healthcare, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Western Wisconsin Technical College, Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services, La Crosse County Health Department, Viterbo College, Medical College of Wisconsin, La Crosse Dubna Friendship Association, Optimists Club, La Crosse Police Department, City of La Crosse, National Association of Social Workers, Midwest Securities Insurance Company, St. Clare's Health Mission, American Heart Association and the La Crosse Public Library.

- **Kyiv:** Temple University of Philadelphia will lead a Philadelphia-based partnership that will assist the Kyiv City Health Administration to integrate commu-

nity-oriented primary care services into an urban polyclinic setting. The polyclinic will serve as a model for the future development of primary care in the city of Kyiv and the Philadelphia partners will assist the city in reorganizing the primary care network and the replication of additional sites in the future. Training and retraining of staff in clinical and management areas will be a major focus of partnership activities. A health promotion and disease prevention unit in the Kyiv City Health Administration will be created to target education activities for "healthy child and adult" programs. Development of a referral system to track client outcomes is also anticipated. In addition, the partnership will develop a set of primary care guidelines, create a residency course in primary care, and develop Ukrainian-language, patient-education materials. Widener University, the Health Federation of Philadelphia, Crozer-Keystone Health System and Elwyn, Inc. will participate with Temple University in the partnership.

- **Lviv:** The Cleveland International Program of Ohio will lead a coalition of northern Ohio-based organizations in a partnership with Lviv Regional Health Administration to establish model community-based primary health care centers in the city and region of Lviv in western Ukraine. The partnership will assist in conducting a thorough review of local health facilities, taking into account such items as patient flow and physical plant, to ensure that the primary health care centers are cost-effective, cost-efficient and offer client-centered care. Training and retraining of staff in clinical and management areas will be a major focus of partnership activities. The partnership will also emphasize disease prevention and health promotion aspects of primary health care and will integrate health education into all its activities. Interest has also been expressed in developing a set of primary care standards for use by staff, and for dissemination to other primary care providers working in Ukraine. The partnership will analyze data and offer recommen-

dations for the improvement of service delivery. Northern Ohio area organizations participating in the partnership include: Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland State University, Federation of Community Planning, The MetroHealth System, Cuyahoga County Mental Health Board, United Way Services of Greater Cleveland, Ohio Department of Health, Cuyahoga County Early Start, Cuyahoga County Department of Senior and Adult Services, Marymount Hospital, the Resource Development Network and the Northern Ohio Pediatric Society.

- **Odesa:** Boulder Community Hospital in Colorado will partner with local health administrations in the City and Region of Odesa and the University of Odessa to create model occupational and primary health care centers responsive to the needs of the community's workforce and families. It is likely that there will be several urban sites for partnership activities and that some of these sites may be located in some of the Ukrainian Black Sea port's related enterprises. The partnership plans to develop and disseminate a set of methodological guidelines for the implementation of occupational health care services, and coordinate with the Odesa State Medical University to establish a primary care residency training program and clinic management training model. The partnership will also address issues typical of large sea port cities such as drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, and infectious diseases. Boulder Community Hospital has enlisted the support of the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Boulder County Health Department, Beacon Clinic and the Boulder County Healthy Communities Initiative.

- **Miensk, Belarus:** Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, located in New Brunswick, N.J., will work with the Miensk City Health Administration and the Ministry of Health of Belarus to develop disease prevention, health promotion, and early detection and treatment programs in existing

(Continued on page 14)

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Julian K. Jastremsky

On June 18, 1999, the well-known Ukrainian architect, and member of the American Institute of Architects, Julian K. Jastremsky, passed into eternity after a short illness.

He was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, in 1910, and moved to the United States in 1939. Mr. Jastremsky is survived by his wife, Olga, nephews and nieces.

Requiem Services for the repose of his soul were conducted at the Peter Jarema Funeral Home, New York, on June 22. The funeral and Requiem Divine Liturgy were celebrated at the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, New York, followed by the interment at Holy Spirit Cemetery, Hamptonburg, N.Y., on June 23.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Self Reliance Association organizes trip to Pennsy

NEW YORK – The Self Reliance Association of American Ukrainians (N.Y.), as part of its continuing recreational program for senior citizens organized a bus trip to Pennsylvania Dutch country in Lancaster, Pa., on May 20. Forty-seven members of the Self Reliance Association toured the sprawling farms of the Amish. The participants particularly enjoyed their visit to a 200-year-old Amish farmhouse, where they learned about the Amish customs, crafts, religion and lifestyle. During a visit to the Anderson Pretzel Factory, the tourists stocked up on pretzels for the ride home. On the way home, the seniors entertained their bus driver with a variety of Ukrainian songs. The trip was made possible in part by the New York City Department for the Aging, and was coordinated by Oksana Lopatynsky and Irena D'Alessio.



AIHA announces...

(Continued from page 13)

polyclinics. Initial partnership activities will be directed toward developing local community involvement, conducting a needs assessment, and building consensus around community issues and problems to be addressed. Subsequently, the partnership will focus on the development of quality services at a model site to meet community needs and improve access to services with an emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion for adults and children. The partners will collaborate closely with other international organizations supporting the development of primary health care (PHC) services in Belarus. Robert Wood Johnson Medical School has enlisted the

support of the Robert Wood Johnson Health Network, Brown University Center for Primary Care and Prevention, and the Primary Care Fellowship Society in the partnership.

• **Chisinau, Molodova:** Hennepin County Medical Center of Minneapolis, will be paired with the Botanica Medical District in the capital of Moldova to implement a model, family-centered, primary care service delivery site and supportive health professional education programs. Initial activities will be directed toward the development of consensus for local community involvement and local needs assessment – the goal of which will be the establishment of a healthy community's process for change. After the identification of an appropriate site by the MOH, the partner-

ship will focus on the development of quality services to meet community needs and improve access to services with an emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion for adults and children. The partnership is also expected to develop programs for the retraining of health professionals in Moldova in support of the model primary care site and its replication. The Hennepin County Community Health Department, Family Medical Center and University of Minnesota School of Community Health will also participate in this partnership. The new partnership will continue a six-year partnership between Hennepin County Medical Center and health care institutions in Chisinau.

Since 1992, the AIHA has supported 50 partnerships involving health care providers

and educators in 20 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the NIS. To date, U.S. partners have volunteered more than 140,000 days of their professional time via 8,000 professional exchanges.

U.S. partners and their private sponsors have also brought in-kind contributions of medical and educational equipment and supplies. Since the inception of the program in 1992, the total voluntary contribution by AIHA partners now exceeds \$120 million.

For further information, interested parties should consult the AIHA website at <http://www.aiha.com>. E-mail inquiries may be addressed to Donald Harbick, associate executive director for partnership programs, at donald@aiha.com or call (202) 789-1136.



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Visiting scientist from Ukraine works with community group

by Bohdan Z. Malaniak

LOS ANGELES – Prof. Rostyslav Stoika's first step of his journey to Los Angeles began in May 1991, when Ukraine was still under Soviet rule.

A Los Angeles-based scientist, Paul Micevich, Ph.D., a professor at the department of neurobiology at the UCLA School of Medicine, traveled to Ukraine, where his parents were born, for the first time. It was suggested that Dr. Micevich visit with Dr. Stoika, in-as-much as they both had an interest in biology, and Dr. Stoika was fluent in English. They met in Moscow because, at that time, everything went through Moscow, including direct flights.

Shortly after Dr. Micevich returned to Los Angeles, he invited Dr. Stoika to the UCLA School of Medicine as a visiting scientist in the department of neuro-endocrinology for the first six months of 1994. While in Los Angeles, Prof. Stoika met with the leadership and Friends of the California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU).

Dr. Stoika, who was born in Uzhorod, lives with his wife, Ariana Ilkiv-Stoika, and their daughter, Bohdanna, in Lviv. Bohdanna recently completed her medical studies at Lviv Medical University.

Dr. Stoika also studied in Lviv and in 1993, he completed his studies by earning a doctorate of biological sciences from the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NANU) in Kyiv. He is the director of the division and chief of the department at the A.V. Palladin Institute of Biochemistry, NANU in Lviv.

He also serves on numerous editorial boards and teaches at the department of biochemistry of Lviv State University and the department of biology at Lviv's Medical University. Dr. Stoika is a frequent lecturer and presenter at international conferences, and has over 70 publications to his credit.

In 1986, he received the NANU A.V. Palladin Medal and Prize in

Biochemistry. He has been involved in more than half a dozen research projects, several of which were funded by American and Swedish research organizations.

When he returned to Ukraine from his six-month excursion in Los Angeles, Dr. Stoika worked with Arkadi Mulak, chairman of the board of CAAU. Through CAAU resources and encouragement, Dr. Stoika formed the West Ukraine Biomedical Research Center. The center annually selects and awards grants to young researchers in order to assist their scientific investigations.

With the help of Mr. Mulak and Dr. Ihor Masnyk of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Washington, Dr. Stoika successfully obtained funding from NCI to pursue his scientific interests. Dr. Stoika and CAAU played a major role in the publishing of the Ukrainian-language edition of the journal of Scientific American (Svit Nauky).

In 1996, another collaborative project was developed by Dr. Stoika and CAAU – the organization of the First Ukrainian-Polish Scientific Conference, in Lviv, which honored the world renowned professor Jakub Karol Parnas (1884-1949), biochemist and founder of schools of biochemistry in Ukraine and Poland.

Dr. Stoika also played a major role as the Ukrainian co-organizer for the second Parnas conference, hosted by the Medical University of Gdansk, Poland, in September 1998. The third Parnas conference is scheduled to take place in the year 2000, in Kyiv.

CAAU was successful in obtaining a visiting researcher position from May 1999 to April 2000 for Dr. Stoika with the Burns & Allen Research Institute at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Dr. Stoika will be working with scientists at the research institute, particularly with Dr. Shlomo Melmed, senior vice president of academic affairs and director of the research institute.

University professors' association holds annual meeting at Kent U.

by Assya Humesky

KENT, Ohio – The executive and the auditing boards of the Ukrainian American Association of University Professors (UAAUP) held an annual meeting on May 22 here at Kent University.

Present were: Assya Humesky, president; Lubomyr Wynar, vice-president; Myroslav Melnyk, secretary-treasurer and director of research endowment; Michael Kalinski, member of the auditing board; and Martha Trofimenko, member-at-large. Other executive board members sent proposals that were discussed during the meeting.

Mr. Melnyk reported that the organization's investments amount to over \$100,000; however, only \$3,000 of interest is actually at the disposal of the association, as formulated in its statutes. This amount is insufficient to cover any large-scale plans. A committee was to review and recommend to revise, if necessary, the statutes.

Other decisions included: providing financial support for the International Association of Ukrainianists for the upcoming congress in Odesa; conducting a search campaign throughout the U.S. scholarly institutions for

Ukrainian scholars, especially of the younger generation; searching for valuable scholarly works in Ukraine for the purpose of publishing them here in English translation; establishing ties with Ukrainian universities; organizing yearly scholarly conferences; creating a scholarship fund for able and nationally conscious Ukrainian students in Ukraine; and establishing cooperation with other Ukrainian scholarly institutions.

Realization of the last decision has already begun: at the Odesa congress the association is sponsoring a round-table on the topic of the present status and future plans of Ukrainian scholarly institutions in the diaspora. The panel will include representatives of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh); Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences (UVAN); the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University; and other universities and scholarly associations of Canada, Europe, Australia and the United States.

It was reported at the UAAUP annual meeting that the association is now a member of the Scientific Council of the World Congress of Ukrainians.

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Swim meet

Saturday, September 4, 1999, 10:30 a.m.

Warm-up at 9 a.m. for individuals championship of USCAK and Ukrainian National Association Trophies & Ribbons

TABLE of EVENTS

Table with 3 columns: Boys/Men, INDIVIDUAL, Girls/Women. Lists various swimming events like 100m im, 25m free, 50m free, etc. with age groups and relay events.

Swimmers can compete in three (3) individual and one (1) relay events. Relay teams will be established by team coaches or representatives.

Entry deadline: Entry forms, provided below, must be submitted by August 23, 1999, to Marika Bokalo, Swim Meet director. There will be no registration at poolside. Registration fee is \$5.00 per swimmer.

Registration form fields: Name (English), (Ukrainian), Address, Zip, Telephone, Age, Male, Female, Club/Youth Association, Event, Entry time.

Please send this entry form with entry fee (checks made out to "Ukrainian Sports Federation") to: Marika Bokalo, 742 Linden Ave., Rahway, NJ 07065 (732) 382-2223

Dynamo Kyiv's...

(Continued from page 6)

is imminent, but said he would not cease trying to convince Mr. Shevchenko to stay in Kyiv for at least another year.

"We want to make sure that Shevchenko doesn't end up like Mikhailychenko and Blokhin," explained the Dynamo owner.

Oleh Blokhin and Oleksii Mykhailychenko were two former Dynamo stars whose dazzle quickly faded when they made the switch to the European leagues. Mr. Surkis attributed the failure of the older Dynamo stars to make the transition smoothly to a lack of psychological and cultural preparedness.

Mr. Shevchenko, unlike Messrs. Blokhin and Mikhailychenko, who played for a Soviet system that sheltered its athletes and limited their exposure to Western lifestyles and perks, has played against and with Europeans for years.

Mr. Shevchenko said a contract with AC Milan would be the fulfillment of a long-sought goal. The Kyiv star first became enamored of the Italian soccer club, which regularly leads the Italian premier league, when he participated in a tournament in that city as a 15-year-old.

"Quite honestly, it has been a dream of mine to play for this club for some time," said Mr. Shevchenko. "Eight years ago, when I still was a member of the Dynamo junior club, I played in San Siro [stadium]. I told myself that I would play in this stadium again. This club became a family for me."

The 22-year-old athlete, whose talent for putting the black-and-white ball past the goal posts is considered on par with Ronaldo of Brazil, has been rumored to be headed for the Milan club for several years. In 1997 such rumors, reported as fact in the Kyiv newspaper Kievskie Vedomosti, led to the filing of a lawsuit by Kyiv Dynamo, which eventually cost the newspaper more

than 1 million hryvnia and forced it to shut down for nearly a year.

Today there is little doubt that Mr. Shevchenko will sign. The only question appears to be whether he will be able to learn Italian sufficiently to feel comfortable in the country. Although the Milan newspaper Carriera della Sport reported that Mr. Shevchenko is intensively studying Italian, the soon-to-be Milanese said he had not yet found the time for language lessons.

Since joining the senior squad of Dynamo Kyiv in 1995, Mr. Shevchenko has scored more than 50 goals in over 100 games. He is the star of a team that has won the Ukrainian National League championship 18 times, most recently in 1998-1999.

The current Dynamo Kyiv squad has appeared in the European Champions League tournament the last two years, reaching the quarterfinals in 1998 and the semifinals this year.

Vitalii Klychko wins...

(Continued from page 6)

Mr. Klychko, who fights for the Universum club in Hamburg, is scheduled to call a press conference upon his return to Kyiv next week, at which time it is expected he will announce his future professional plans and any intention to go toe-to-toe with either of the other two super heavyweight champions.

Tens of thousands of Kyivans who assembled on June 26 in the city's Independence Square had an opportunity to view the Klychko-Hide fight live from London. In celebration of Youth Day, which was observed on the day of the fight, and Constitution Day, commemorated two days later, the city sponsored a series of concerts dubbed "Steps to Victory." The day's events culminated in the showing of the Klychko-Hide fight on a huge screen erected above the square.

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900 attend...

(Continued from page 5)

described as a major contribution to the world.

Today, "the objective of U.S. policy must be to make sure Ukraine is firmly anchored in a network of relations, not just with us, but with our friends in Europe," Mr. Fuerth stated.

Speaking about the Binational Commission, he said this is "an extremely strong piece of machinery for government-to-government relations. It is oriented toward results – and it works." He pointed to such areas of cooperation as public health, law enforcement, anti-corruption efforts, privatization, macro-economic reform and military cooperation.

In conclusion, Mr. Fuerth read a message from Mr. Gore, in which the vice-president greeted the Joint Conferences and thanked organizers for presenting him their Friend of Ukraine Award. Mr. Fuerth offered the Ukrainian American community his personal pledge that he would arrange a meeting with Vice-President Gore.

Conference coordinator Dr. Goy responded by stating that he is looking forward to an opportunity when Joint Conferences representatives can personally present the award to the vice-president.

In his remarks at the opening of the banquet, Dr. Goy pointed to the unique nature of the Joint Conferences, noting that "this is the first time that Ukrainian American organizations came together to do something in a concerted fashion."

"Our motto," he stated, "is synergy, whereby the action of the whole is greater than that of its parts." This conference, he continued, "is significant, not in its perfection, but in the teamwork that it is building for the Ukrainian community. Through this kind of work we will create

a better society, not only for our community, but for our country."

On a historical note, Dr. Goy reminded his audience that 35 years ago almost to the day, Washington had witnessed a truly momentous event: the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko Monument on June 27, 1964.

Addresses were delivered as well by Ambassador Buteiko, who read a message from President Leonid Kuchma (the full text appears on page 4), and Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress.

A conclusion and a concert

The program for the Joint Conferences' final day, Sunday, June 27, encompassed panel presentations on "The Growing Role of Ukrainian American Financial Institutions" and "Political Empowerment of the Ukrainian American Community," as well as an open session dedicated to "Finding Direction for Our Organizations" that featured representatives from a dozen Ukrainian American organizations.

A highlight of the Joint Conferences, judging by the audience's standing ovation and resounding applause throughout the performance, was the Sunday brunch headlined by Pikkardiiska Tertsiia, the noted a cappella group from Lviv, whose repertoire ranges from Ukrainian folk to doo-wop.

"Wow!" was the reaction of Dr. Goy at the conclusion of the sextet's concert. "How could anyone not feel proud to be Ukrainian?" he added.

And that, perhaps, could also sum up the feeling of most attendees as they headed for home at the conclusion of the first Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations.

NEXT WEEK: Details on separate sessions held during the Joint Conferences and reactions of participants.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 8)

scribers free, and included the series *Ukrainska Biblioteka* (Ukrainian Library), *Ridne Slovo* (Native Word), *Ranok* (Morning), *Amatorskyi Teatr* (Amateur Theater), *Muzyczna Biblioteka* (Musical Library) and *Biblioteka Tserkovno-Relihiinykh Knyh* (Library of Church and Religious Books).

Major ventures Tyktor embarked on were issued under the *Istorychna Biblioteka* (Historical Library) series, including a history of Ukraine (1931), a history of Ukrainian armed forces (1935) and a history of Ukrainian culture (1937).

During the war, he ran the Krakow-based *Nove Zhyttia* religious publishing house and served as *Ukrainske Vydavnytstvo's* trade department director until 1941. That year, he moved to Rivne where, together with Stepan Skrypnyk (who later became Patriarch Mstyslav of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church) he founded the Volyn publishing house. In the spring of 1943 he was arrested and tortured by the Gestapo and held in the local prison until November, narrowly avoiding the executions that claimed the lives of 870 fellow inmates.

Tyktor managed to escape, fleeing to Austria in 1944, where he headed the Ukrainian Students' Aid Commission, then emigrated to Canada in 1948, settling in Winnipeg. There he initially served as general manager of the *Novyi Shliakh* publishing house (the concern had not yet moved to Toronto), but soon returned to his private efforts. In 1951 he founded the Club of Friends of the Ukrainian Book publishing house, which revised and reissued several of *Ukrainska Presa's* most important titles, as well as about 40 books of prose and poetry.

In his declining years, Tyktor moved to Ottawa to live with his daughter. He died on August 27, 1982.

Sources: "Tyktor, Ivan," *Ukrainska Presa*, *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Vol. 5* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993); "30-ty Littia Vydavnychoii Dialnosti Ivana Tyktora, 1923-1953," (Winnipeg: Club of Friends of the Ukrainian Book, 1953).

Notice to publishers and authors

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals, only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: The Editor, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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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.

The Weekly will be happy to help you publicize them. We will also be glad to print timely news stories about events that have already taken place. Photos also will be accepted.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Rabinovich, an Israeli citizen, president of the R. G. Holding Group and representative of the Ukrainian Jewish Congress, was banned for causing "considerable damage to Ukraine's economy" through his business activities. Mr. Rabinovich reacted by announcing the next day that he would hold a press conference in Tel Aviv on June 30, during which he will comment on SBU's decision to ban him from traveling to Ukraine for five years. He described the move as an "obvious provocation based on personal motivations committed by a number of persons without the knowledge of Ukraine's top leadership." Mr. Rabinovich said the charges are baseless and expressed his surprise at being stripped of the opportunity to come to Ukraine and offer explanations. Mr. Rabinovich said he invited Ukrainian journalists to the press conference, but expressed his doubts that they will be allowed to make public what they learn. At the press conference Mr. Rabinovich accused Volodymyr Horbulin secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, of being the instigator of the ban. He cited personal and long-standing "unpleasant conflicts" with Mr. Horbulin. (RFE/RL Newsline, Eastern Economist, Den)

Aide accused of money laundering

KYIV - The June 16 issue of the Kyiv-based newspaper Den reported that a parliamentary investigation commission has accused National Deputy Oleksander Volkov, President Leonid Kuchma's close aide and chief of his re-election campaign, of money laundering. The commission said the accusation is based on information received from Belgian judicial authorities. According to the commission, a Belgian judge has ordered a freeze on 135 million Belgian francs (\$3.5 million U.S.) in Mr. Volkov's Belgian bank account and the confiscation of his private property and luxury cars. (RFE/RL Newsline)

OSCE closes down Crimea mission

KYIV - Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesmen announced the closing of the OSCE's mission in Ukraine and the end of its approved five-month mandate to stabilize the situation in Crimea. Volodymyr Belashov, head of the ministry's department for Euro-Atlantic integration, said a memo-

randum of agreement outlining future activities in Ukraine of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has been drafted and 99 percent agreed upon. Mr. Belashov said that under the new arrangement the OSCE will assist government agencies carrying out state-approved projects which are "in Ukraine's interests, based in reality and supported by the OSCE." (Eastern Economist)

Republican Christian Party for Kuchma

KYIV - The Republican Christian Party's third congress on June 6 nominated the incumbent, Leonid Kuchma, as candidate for president. The congress called on all pro-state political parties and non-governmental organizations to support President Kuchma, but allowed the Ternopil and Lviv regional RCP organizations to take an independent policy with respect to Mr. Kuchma's candidacy. (Eastern Economist)

Poltava Oblast becomes subsidized

KYIV - "In recent years Poltava Oblast was a net contributor [to the state budget], one of the very few in the country, but beginning this year it has been forcibly made a subsidized oblast," Poltava Oblast Council Oleksander Poliyevets complained in the June 16 issue of Holos Ukrainy. That change in the oblast's financial situation followed the government's decision to reduce the oblast budget's share of taxes collected locally. Thus, the oblast deduction from the income tax paid by state-owned enterprises was lowered from 70 percent to 50 percent; the share in the income tax paid by municipal enterprises was reduced from 100 percent to 50 percent; the share in the excise tax imposed on domestic commodities shrank from 20 percent to 10 percent. Mr. Poliyevets also complained that Kyiv takes all proceeds from the oblast's gas and oil extracting companies, while giving back only a "tiny bit" that in no way covers the costs of extraction. (RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report)

Italians plan new presence in Odesa

ODESA - Paying a visit to Odesa University, Italian Ambassador to Ukraine Luca Bertinetto expressed his readiness to promote cooperation in education. "Italy is planning to open a

(Continued on page 19)

Ukrainian National Association



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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 18)

Consulate and an Italian Culture Center in Odesa that will house a collection of print media, video materials and Italian language courses," he said during his meeting with Odesa University Rector Valentyn Smentyna. Ambassador Bertinotto also met with Odesa City Mayor Ruslan Bodelan and Odesa Oblast Administration Chairman Serhii Hrynevetskyi to discuss, among other things, stepping up twin-city relations between cities in Ukraine and Italy. An association of twin-cities, including Odesa, Mariupol, Genoa and Savona, will soon be established. (Eastern Economist)

Ukrainian establishes relations with Congo

KYIV – Ukraine has established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Congo. Congo became 155th country with which Ukraine has diplomatic ties. (Eastern Economist)

Rada passes resolution on media

KYIV The Verkhovna Rada on June 1 adopted a resolution on the country's information policy, UNIAN reported. The resolution stipulates that investigations must be carried out into all complaints about the persecution or harassment of non-state media by the State Tax Administration, the Procurator General's Office or the presidential administration. The document requires that by September 1 the Cabinet of Ministers submit draft laws on freedom of speech and on information-related activities. The Parliament also requests that the Cabinet "create mechanisms" that will ensure the Verkhovna Rada, as a co-founder of national television and radio companies, has a say equal to that of the government as well as the right to appoint the directors of those bodies. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Economy predicted to decline further

KYIV – The International Center for Policy Studies on June 2 released a report forecasting a 4 percent decrease in Ukraine's GDP in 1999 and a 1 percent decrease in 2000, InfoBank reported. The center predicts that the hryvnia will devalue by 31 percent this year and 11 percent in 2000. "State policy does not stimulate economic growth," center analyst Hlib Vyshlinskyi commented. Ukraine's main problem next year will be to pay off its foreign debt, which may reach \$3 billion, he commented, adding that "the best way to pay is rapid privatization for cash." The report estimates that real incomes of Ukrainians will drop by 2.5 percent in 1999 and by 3 percent the following year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Party chief cites 'anti-Communist hysteria'

KYIV – Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko has accused President

Leonid Kuchma of stirring up "anti-Communist hysteria" in the lead-up to the presidential elections on October 31, the Associated Press reported. According to Mr. Symonenko, President Kuchma is afraid of losing power and facing responsibility for his policies and, therefore, is seeking to shift the blame for his mistakes onto the Parliament and the left-wing camp. "Instead of repentance in front of Ukraine and its people, the dirty political affair of advancing the incumbent president in the elections is continuing," the agency quoted Mr. Symonenko as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine switching to volunteer army

KYIV – Internal Affairs Ministry Military Chief Volodymyr Povazhniuk said on May 29 that the ministry has begun the first stage of Ukraine's plan to switch to an all-volunteer army by the year 2005. He noted that security personnel at all nuclear power plants, scientific-research institutes and nuclear material storage facilities are all professionals recruited on a contract basis. As for troop mobility and equipment, Mr. Povazhniuk reported that three AN-72 and AN-74 aircraft, eight helicopters and approximately 100 Mercedes and Jeep vehicles had been transferred to the special forces. The ministry will purchase 500 Ukrainian-produced mobile radio stations for its troops, who will be armed with domestically produced Fort-12 and Fort-14 pistols. (Eastern Economist)

Moldova, Ukraine to sign border treaty

CHISINAU – Moldovan Vice Prime Minister Nicolae Andronic and visiting Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko of Ukraine told journalists in Chisinau on June 1 that the treaty on the demarcation of their countries' joint border will be signed during President Petru Lucinschi's official visit to Ukraine in July, Reuters reported. Mr. Tyhytko said the text has been finalized and that an official map will be completed within two weeks. Under the agreement, Moldova will receive a 100-meter swath of land along the Danube River, near the village of Giurgiulesti, which is essential for the construction of a Moldovan oil terminal. The two states will swap plots of land near the southern Moldovan town of Basarabesca, and Moldova will give up a seven-kilometer portion of the road near the village of Palanca. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Transport Ministry reports on roads

KYIV – Transport Ministry spokesmen said on June 2 that UkrAvtoDor plans to repair up to 8,300 kilometers of highways in the first half of 1999 and 7,800 meters of bridges. A mere 50 kilometers of new highways are to be constructed during the same period. Traffic accidents decreased by 20 percent in 1998 from the previous year. (Eastern Economist)



SUMMER PROGRAMS 1999

- Sunday, July 4**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **BURYA**
EXHIBIT – Ukrainian Items - all weekend

- Saturday, July 10**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – Vocal Ensemble **PROMIN**, Director **BOHDANNA VOLANSKY**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **VIDLUNNIA**

- Saturday, July 17**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – soprano **HALYNA KONAREVA**
Composer **LEONID VERBYTSKY**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **SWITANOK**

- Saturday, July 24**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – soprano **LILEYA VOLANSKY**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **VODOHRAY**

- Saturday, July 31**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – **DUMKA CHORUS**
Conductor – **VASYL HRECHYNSKYJ**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **CRYSTAL**
EXHIBIT – works by **TARAS BILTCHUK**

- Saturday, August 7**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – Ensemble **UKRAINIAN FAMILY**
Director – **OKSANA LYKHOVYD**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **LUNA**
EXHIBIT – works of the **KOZAK FAMILY**

- Friday, August 13**
MIDNIGHT BIGUS – Trembita Lounge

- Saturday, August 14**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – Bass **STEFAN SZKAFAROWSKY**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **FATA MORGANA**
Midnight **Crowning of MISS SOYUZIVKA 2000**
EXHIBIT – works of **ZENOBIA HULEY**

- Saturday, August 21** **UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – **SOYUZIVKA DANCE WORKSHOP RECITAL**
Director: **ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **TEMPO**
EXHIBIT – works of **DARIA "DYCIA" HANUSHEVSKY**

- Sunday, August 22** **UNWLA DAY**

- Saturday, August 28**
8:30 p.m. **CONCERT** – Soprano **OKSANA CHARUK**
Pianist **THOMAS HRYNKIV**
10:00 p.m. **DANCE** – music provided by **NA ZDOROVJA**
EXHIBIT – works by **TARAS BILTCHUK**

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, July 16

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will open an exhibit of work by the acclaimed Ukrainian artist Jacques Hnizdovsky. The exhibit will be on view through August 14 at the HURI Seminar Room. Gallery hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 1-5 p.m.; Wednesday, 4-8 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sunday, July 18

FALLS VILLAGE, Conn.: The Leontovych String Quartet and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky will appear in concert at Music Mountain in a program of works by Weber, Piano Quartet in B-flat Major; Brahms, String Quartet in C minor, Op. 51, No. 1; and Cesar Franck, Quintet in F Minor for Piano and Strings. The concert begins at 3 p.m. For tickets and information call (860) 824-7126 (credit card only).

Thursday, July 22

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute presents a lecture by Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky on "The North American Ukrainian Diaspora in 2020. Will it Exist And Will it Matter?" Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky is a federal prosecutor and member of Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association. The lecture will be held at Sever Hall 103, Harvard Yard, at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 29

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute presents the Cheres Ensemble of New York, in a lecture and performance of Ukrainian music under the direction of Andriy Milavsky. The event begins at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Church, Harvard Yard.

ONGOING

CHICAGO: "From the Outside Looking In," a one-woman show by painter Elena Diadenco, will be presented at Hokin Hall, Columbia College, 623 S. Wabash, through July 29. Hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; admission is free. The opening reception is on July 6 at 6-8 p.m. The show will feature six paintings completed by the painter for her master's thesis proposal at Columbia.

Ms. Diadenco, an immigrant from Ukraine, uses these paintings to provide a fresh, outsider's perspective to the age-old issue of racism in America. She interviewed hundreds of people of all races and religions, and collected their viewpoints, along with portraits and collages, into an original protest against racism. Also included in the show will be sculptures and paintings by Ms. Diadenco. The opening reception will also include poetry readings from various noted Chicago poets.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday, August 15

SLOATSBURG, N.Y.: The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate will hold their 45th Holy Dormition (Assumption) Pilgrimage at St. Mary's Villa. Divine liturgies with intentions will be celebrated both days with a pontifical divine liturgy celebrated at the grotto at 10:30 a.m. by the Bishop Robert Moskal of Parma, Ohio, delivering the homily. As part of the pilgrimage there will also be moleben services and an akathist, as well as blessings of the sick and of families, as well as of religious articles and a hymn fest for youth. Among celebrants/homilists are: the Rev. James Spera; Bishop Michael Dudick; the Rev. Edward Young; the Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan; the Rev. Peter Skrincoy and the Rev. John Terlecky; with the Msgr. Leon Mosko, acting as spiritual moderator. For additional information call (914) 753-2840.

Sunday, August 22

LAC NEWCOMB, Quebec: The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Ottawa is seeking individual volunteers to help organize concurrent programming, including sports and leisure activities, for all age groups for the upcoming Ukrainian Day Celebrations to be held at St. John's Ukrainian Camp, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of Ukraine's independence. Rain date: Sunday, August 29. A special appeal is directed at parish councils; community, youth and student organizations, as well as choirs and dance ensembles to designate representatives to the organizational committee in order to assist with various programming. Please contact Borys L. Gengalo, secretary, UCPBA, Ottawa, at (613) 562-0650; or e-mail pentlandite@intranet.ca.

PLEASE NOTE PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

• 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.

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Next weekend: The Promin Vocal Ensemble, Saturday, July 10, 8:30 p.m.