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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

## U.S. continues aid to Kharkiv region with \$16.5 million medical shipment

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The United States government continued to expand its involvement in the Kharkiv region of Ukraine on August 25 when it delivered \$16.5 million in medical equipment and medicines to the area's hospitals and clinics.

The humanitarian assistance project, the first and largest U.S. government effort in one of Ukraine's most heavily populated regions, is part of the Kharkiv Initiative, a program to stimulate economic activity in

the region and improve the life of Kharkiv's residents, which until now had produced few tangible results.

"This is the first real investment in terms of money," said Olha Myrtsal, an information officer at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv. Sponsored by the Department of State, the humanitarian assistance program called "Project Hope" delivered 130 containers totaling \$8 million in medical equipment and supplies, and two airlifts of some \$8.5 million in pharmaceuticals, medicines and medical supplies. The materials include x-ray machines, operating room equipment, medical instruments and hospital beds, and consumable items such as bandages, surgical gloves, syringes and sutures.

The Counterpart Alliance Program, a non-governmental organization funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, will oversee the distribution of the equipment and supplies in the next two months, assisted by the international private volunteer organizations MAP International, the International Medical Corps and Heart to Heart.

Counterpart International Deputy General Director Sergei Zhgirov said that

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## Bloc of 20 parties endorses Kuchma

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma's election campaign gathered steam on August 31 when the National Democratic Party organized an assembly of 20 political parties that vowed to support the incumbent in the presidential elections.

Although most of the parties had jumped aboard the bandwagon much earlier, the shindig thrown for the president, a drawn-out three-hour affair filled with speeches and promises, was a solid expression of the rising political tide in the center-left and center-right of the political spectrum for Mr. Kuchma. The parties supporting the president comprise more than a fourth of the 76 registered in Ukraine.

With eight weeks left in the campaign, President Kuchma leads the candidate pack with popular support of about 20 percent. The president's campaign team has been searching to build a widely based coalition for some time in order to achieve a quick victory for Mr. Kuchma in the first round of voting. They fear that in a second round the president would become susceptible to an organized effort from the left, currently splintered among four candidates, which could lead to the president's downfall.

Among the political organizations that signed on to the affair, called "Our Choice is Leonid Kuchma," were political opposites such as the Ukrainian National Conservative Party and the Republican Christian Party from the right and the Labor Party and the Party for the Regional Rebirth of Ukraine from the left.

Many of the organizations that expressed their support for the president by agreeing to be represented at the event are smallish political organizations

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## Pustovoitenko meets in Moscow with Russia's new prime minister

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko flew to Moscow on August 27 to meet with the latest Russian prime minister, Vladimir Putin, and to discuss current relations and, more specifically, how to liquidate Ukraine's billion dollar oil and gas debt to its northern neighbor.

After two days of talks the two sides agreed only that more discussions are needed. However, both prime ministers inferred that the next meeting, slated for late September, may produce concrete results. Mr. Pustovoitenko went so far as to assess that by the beginning of next year Ukraine's largest gas debt will have been at least reduced.

"Ukraine will most likely begin the year 2000 free of indebtedness to Russia's Gazprom," said Mr. Pustovoitenko after the two government leaders had concluded their talks. Gazprom is the second largest Russian oil and gas supplier and is 51 percent owned by the Russian government.

Kyiv and Moscow have been at loggerheads for months over an ever-

increasing Ukrainian debt for Russian oil and gas. The disagreements have centered on the method of payment and the amount.

Ukraine has stated that it owes \$1 billion, while Russia claims that the costs should include money owed by private Ukrainian enterprises, which raises the figure to \$1.8 billion. The two sides also have had difficulties agreeing on a method of payment. Although consensus was reached during a visit to Kyiv in July by Sergei Stepashin, Mr. Putin's predecessor, that Ukraine would pay in commodities, the parties could not agree on a pricing structure. After Mr. Stepashin was ousted and yet another Russian government installed, Kyiv was concerned that the progress that had been made would be halted or even reversed.

But Mr. Pustovoitenko said he had found common language with Mr. Putin and that more meetings between the two are planned.

Russia has demanded that Ukraine charge no more than the domestic price of Russian commodities, which are much cheaper than on the world market

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## Horyn says Ukraine's political maturity is being tested

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — At the last Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations of this millennium, the speakers at the official ceremonies held at the St. Volodymyr Cultural Center in Oakville, Ontario (about 30 miles west of Toronto) on August 22 allowed themselves — perhaps for the first time — to be negative about the state established in 1991.

Ukrainian World Congress Vice-President Maria Szkambara said, "We had expectations that Ukrainian consciousness would grow once independence was achieved, that youth would embrace the new state, but it appears it is not so."

She urged the 1,400 people assembled under the cloudless sun-filled sky to support the UWC's open letter to Leonid Kuchma, in which the diaspora umbrella body expressed grave concern about the Ukrainian state's commitment to its own official language.

One could hardly fault a diplomat for accenting the positive, and yet the progress Ukraine's Consul General in Toronto Mykola Kyrychenko reported is mirrored by failure in reality. Mr. Kyrychenko claimed that the pace of reform in his country has accelerated, that the drop in the country's productivity has been arrested, and that respect for the legal foundations of democracy in Ukraine has grown.

The day's keynote speaker was

Mykhailo Horyn, Ukrainian World Coordinating Council executive member and former Soviet political prisoner.

Mr. Horyn, who was on a visit to Canada from Ukraine, said his country's people "are still learning how to be a people with a state." The man who suffered imprisonment in the Soviet gulag said that securing statehood is difficult work. "Who knew that it required sacrifice and dedication?" he asked with heavy irony.

The former national deputy of the Verkhovna Rada said the task is "no easier now that we've been asked to break with the past, and many have found it difficult to unhitch themselves from the Muscovite wagon."

He invoked the Biblical story of Moses, who wandered in the desert for 40 years to rid his nation of those who could not let go

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Mykhailo Horyn addresses crowd in Oakville, Ontario.

Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Forced/slave labor compensation negotiations to continue in October

by Myroslaw Smorodsky

The fourth round of negotiations regarding reparations to forced/slave laborers who were unwillingly conscripted by Nazi Germany to work in its industrial war machine during World War II ended on August 26 in Bonn, Germany. Although the discussions did not resolve the compensation matter, the negotiating parties were of the opinion that progress has been made at these talks and agreed to reconvene the negotiations in early October in Washington.

The negotiations were initiated in February by German industry as a result of the numerous class action lawsuits that are being filed in the United States seeking compensation for forced/slave laborers. These suits named specific corporations such as Daimler-Chrysler, Bayer and BMW, among others, charging that these companies conspired and willingly participated with the Nazi regime to violate the laws of nations by enslaving and forcibly deporting millions of persons from Eastern Europe to work for the Third Reich and that these companies had profited from their criminal actions.

The number of forced/slave laborers alive today is estimated to be between 1.5 million to 2.3 million survivors worldwide, with 600,000 to 850,000 in Ukraine alone.

The German government was not named as a party in the litigation since all governments are immune from prosecution in this country. Among the lawsuits that have been filed is a class action matter filed on behalf of Ukrainian forced/slave laborers by the law firms of Smorodsky & Stawnychy of New Jersey, Pyotr Rabinovich P.A. of New York and Ukriniurkolegiua of Kyiv. This writer and Oleksandr Storozhuk of Ukriniurkolegiua participated in the Bonn talks on behalf of the Ukrainian claimants.

German companies have vigorously denied any legal responsibility for the war atrocities that occurred over 55 years ago. Among the numerous arguments made to support their claim of non-culpability, the German companies argue that American courts should not have jurisdiction over these issues, since nearly all of the claimants are located in Europe and the events in question occurred on that continent. The companies further argue that the war crimes were committed by the Nazi regime and not by the companies themselves.

German industry further states that the German government has adequately compensated and made reparations in the past. (In 1993, billions of Deutsche marks were paid by the German government to "Reconciliation Funds" in each of the East European countries for distribution to forced/slave laborers and other victims of the Holocaust. Ukraine received approximately 400 million DM.)

On the other hand, the claimants argue that U.S. courts are an appropriate forum since the German companies or their subsidiaries have a presence here and foreign citizens are permitted access to the court system under U.S. law. (Class actions are not permitted in any of the jurisdictions of Europe, only individual lawsuits can be filed.)

The question of jurisdiction of the U.S. courts is presently under consideration in two class actions. The determination of this issue is anticipated in the very near future and the decisions reached will have a major impact on the negotiations now pending between the parties.

The claimants further argue that, even though more than 55 years have passed

since these events occurred, their claims are not time-barred for various legal and historical reasons, and because of the magnitude of the atrocities.

According to the filed class action complaints, these corporations have grown to the importance and economic stature that they have today in part because they benefited and profited from forced/slave labor for which they, as individual business entities, never compensated the victims.

They further argue that the funds paid by the government of Germany in the past were not compensation but merely a humanitarian gesture, which does not amount to the fair value of the services rendered by forced/slave laborers while forcibly detained in Germany under inhumane circumstances.

Despite their legal position, the German corporations state that they recognize their moral obligations to compensate in part for the wrongs committed by the Nazi regime. On February 16, German industry announced it would undertake a voluntary initiative to settle all potential present and future claims that any party could have against German industry as a result of any alleged actions committed by the German companies during World War II. In essence, German industry demands legal peace so that no further legal actions would be instituted in the future against it anywhere in the world.

However, German industry clearly indicates that its moral obligations do not encompass the forced laborers who were employed by publicly owned entities, such as the railroads, or who were forcibly employed in the agricultural sector. In order to obtain an all-inclusive resolution, the German industry initiative envisions the participation of the German government, which would create a special fund to compensate these non-industrial workers. Such actions require German parliamentary funding and approval.

As a result of this German Industry Initiative, a progression of settlement conferences have occurred in Germany and in Washington since May of this year, with the recent Bonn conference being the fourth in this series of meetings. All of these conferences were hosted and moderated by high-level representatives of the German and U.S. governments.

The German representative is Otto Graf Lambsdorff; the U.S. representative during all of the talks is Undersecretary Stuart Eizenstat.

Other participants in these conferences are representatives of German industry, the attorneys for the claimants in the various class actions, representatives of Belarus, the Czech Republic, Israel, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and the Jewish Claims Conference.

The scope of the issues in these negotiations is extremely broad and complex. They range from the legal question of how to obtain legal peace or "legal closure" for German industry to issues of determining the compensation amounts that would be within the economic capabilities of German industry and within the borders of German political will. The compensation levels, however, must be of sufficient magnitude to be meaningful to the surviving victims of German forced/slave labor.

Within this spectrum of issues are questions relating to the definition and categories of forced/slave labor, the determination of the number of present-day survivors, agreeing on the mechanisms for distribution of the funds, etc. Since most of the victims of forced/slave labor are dead

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Patriotic forum calls for single candidate

KYIV – A forum of "patriotic, anti-corruption, pro-independence and democratic forces" took place in Kyiv on August 22, Interfax and RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. The forum was organized by the Open Politics association and attended by five presidential hopefuls: Yuri Kostenko, Yuri Karmazin, Volodymyr Oliynyk, Vasyl Onopenko and Oleksander Rzhavskiy. Candidates Hennadii Udovenko, Yevhen Marchuk and Vitalii Kononov did not attend. Anatolii Matviienko, who heads the association and resigned the leadership of the National Democratic Party after it pledged support to Leonid Kuchma's reelection bid, urged all presidential candidates to agree on a single candidate to represent the right-wing in the elections. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kharkiv trade unions favor Moroz

KHARKIV – A poll among trade union members in the Kharkiv Oblast showed that presidential candidate Oleksander Moroz, leader of the Socialist Party, has the strongest support among these organizations, polling 35 percent approval. Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko was second with 19 percent, followed by Natalia Vitrenko with 16.9 percent. President Leonid Kuchma received only 12 percent support. (Eastern Economist)

### Deputies prepare for hectic autumn

KYIV – Ukraine's national deputies plan to begin their work in parliamentary committees on September 1. The next session of the Parliament's 14th convocation will begin its work on September 7. According to Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko, the session will be difficult and intense. The first two weeks will involve half of the working day in plenary sessions and the rest in committees. Over 400 draft bills have been prepared. President Leonid Kuchma has submitted a range of economic draft laws in the form of decrees. Thus, the workload, especially in committees for Budget Affairs, Finance Affairs and Banking, and Social Policy and Labor will increase sharply. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Communists may join Kaniv pact

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko said he believes that Communist leader Petro Symonenko will join the so-called Kaniv agreement signed on August 24 by four presidential candidates on joint actions in election campaigning. Mr. Tkachenko also said the presidential election should be held in one round

since the state lacks the funds to hold a second round. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Incumbent starts re-election campaign

MYRHOROD – "I can say only today that I have started working for the future election," President Leonid Kuchma told journalists on August 19, after visiting Ukraine's famous Sorochynskiy Fair in Myrhorod, Poltava Oblast. Mr. Kuchma, who was accompanied by Moldova's President Petru Lucinschi, noted that the presidential campaign is "becoming a negative factor in Ukraine's life," primarily because of the "frenzied, dirty" criticism by other presidential candidates of the incumbent. "They resort to methods originally used by the KGB," Mr. Kuchma commented. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Top court upholds death sentence

KYIV – The Supreme Court on August 26 rejected the appeal to commute to life imprisonment the death sentence handed down to serial killer Anatolii Onopriienko. Mr. Onopriienko was sentenced in April after being found guilty of 52 murders. However, he may avoid execution because in 1997 Ukraine introduced a moratorium on carrying out the capital punishment. The Council of Europe is urging Ukraine to abolish the death sentence. There are more than 410 persons currently on death row in Ukraine, according to ITAR-TASS. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Tyhytko urges zero deficit budget for 2000

KYIV – Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko said on August 26 that a "zero budget deficit should be approved for next year's budget." Mr. Tyhytko argued that if the Parliament approves a large budget deficit, the government will have to take out foreign loans to cover it. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Tyhytko comments on talks with IMF

KYIV – Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko said on August 19 that he "cannot regard the recent talks with the International Monetary Fund a success." Mr. Tyhytko added that Ukraine complied with all but one of the IMF requirements for obtaining the next loan tranche of \$180 million. The exception is the increase in tariffs on public utilities. According to Mr. Tyhytko, the IMF has approved the Ukrainian Cabinet's effort to balance the budget, which was the key issue in negotiations with the IMF mission in Kyiv last month. During a subsequent meeting in Washington, Ukrainian representatives presented a program for

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# INTERVIEW: Oleksander Moroz, candidate for president of Ukraine

The interview below with Oleksander Moroz, leader of the Socialist Party and a candidate for president of Ukraine, was conducted in Kyiv by Stefko Bandera, a Kyiv-based writer who works for the Canadian political consulting firm Romyr and Associates.

**When you were in the United States last year, the media reported that you are categorically opposed to the privatization of land in Ukraine. In the West, this is perceived in a negative light. Ukraine's greatest assets, perhaps, are the land and its people. If you are against the privatization of land, how do you propose Ukraine use this resource and regain its status as breadbasket of Europe?**

The fact is that when Ukraine was the breadbasket of Europe, land was also not for sale. The success of the agricultural sector does not depend on who owns the land, but on organizing the way in which the land is used, by providing necessary support for farmers and allowing them to reap the benefits of their work. Laws for improving this organization already exist, but there are at least three more fundamental measures that can only be realized with the help of the state.

First of all, the entity that works the land, be it a collective or private farm, farmers or agricultural firms, needs to have access to credits. These credits must be offered at reasonable rates that will allow repayment by reasonably profitable enterprises. If the credits are offered, as they are today, at interest rates in excess of 80 percent, then no one will take advantage of them. Let the farmer have the right to sell his land 20 times over, and even use land as collateral, but he will never be able to pay these credits back [at current rates]. This is unacceptable. I don't know of a single country in the world that allows for this type of arrangement. This is one of the first issues that need to be settled.

Secondly, the tax burden on the farmer needs to be significantly alleviated. Working towards this, the parliamentary committee I head has developed a number of legislative acts that will decrease the tax pressure on the farmer, and even create tax breaks for a few years, thus giving the agriculture sector an opportunity for revival.

The third step the state needs to take is to establish minimum price levels for selected staple agricultural goods like seeds, sugar, vegetable oil, meats and poultry. This is not an unusual practice; similar policies are pursued in various forms in the European Union and the United States through subsidies, fixed prices, etc.

If these three measures are implemented, then the issue of whether or not to sell the land will lose the urgency certain Westerners place on the matter. In fact, current legislation allows for various forms of ownership, including private ownership. In 1992, 25 percent of Ukraine's agricultural lands were already out of the state's hands. However, at this time of deepening crisis, when our currency is being devalued, with the "dollariza-

tion" of our economy occurring even at the basic, consumer level, allowing for the sale of land would be simply criminal.

There are a few examples when, in defiance of the Constitution, but based on presidential decrees, several farmers took the risk of selling their land. They sold it for \$10 (U.S.) per hectare! You don't have to be a specialist to understand the absurdity of that price. I am categorically opposed to these type of scenarios. There are successful agricultural enterprises in Ukraine that prove that the sale of land is not necessarily the only answer, and show that more emphasis should be placed on creating economic conditions favorable to the development of agricultural enterprises.

The value of the land should be included in the price of the final product, along with the cost of maintaining the land and operation, i.e., the costs of fuel, energy, farm equipment, herbicides, other chemicals, etc., at current world prices. If the land's value is not included in the price of the final product, this will result in the economic discrimination against farming activities and wages will remain very low.

This is also unacceptable. This is basically my stand on the issue of privatization [of land]. To make land a commodity will mean losing it. I do not want to see that happen because I am a Ukrainian patriot and would not want to see non-Ukrainians doing as they please with our land. If investors are interested in working with us on our land, then we can explore different options for privatizing individual land plots, subordinating them to privatized manufacturing and industrial enterprises, for example.

**After Ukraine has managed to bring its agricultural affairs in to order, which markets can the country expect to service? Can Ukraine ever regain its status as "breadbasket of Europe"?**

I don't think Ukraine will ever become the "breadbasket of Europe" that it once was because Europe has managed to develop its own agricultural sectors to the point that the European countries are able to satisfy their own demands. Certain Ukrainian goods can be sold in Europe, especially our vegetable oils, which cannot be surpassed in quality by any other country's product, except perhaps by a small part of Argentina. These oils can claim their own niche on European markets. Ukrainian apples, grapes and melons can also be sold in most of Europe. Our hard grains can claim yet another niche. Ukraine's eastern regions have the right climatic conditions for growing hard wheat, and its successful sale alone will significantly strengthen our agricultural sector.

Ukraine's markets are to the East and Middle East, but first and foremost we need to focus on completely satisfying our domestic demand. So, you can see that Ukraine's land does have a future.

First, however, we need to change the way crop rotation is practiced, increase the sowing of feed grains, grasses, etc. This will be easier on the land and will also allow for our agricultural sector to develop animal husbandry, for example. This is especially important for the country's southern regions, including the north of the Crimean peninsula, because the sowing practices there over the past few decades have depleted the land of its nutrients, and farming there means incurring significant maintenance costs. In order to keep costs down, we should limit the use of farm equipment to ensure that the tractors, combines, etc., spend less time in the fields.

And this will happen only after significant structural changes in the agricultural

sector are implemented, while the industrial manufacturing sector of the economy is given a new impetus. This all means that basic changes in agricultural policies are required. These changes can be intensely and swiftly implemented only after Ukraine's agricultural goods improve their market positions within the country, in the East and, to an extent, in Europe.

**In 1998, the International Center for Policy Studies in Kyiv reported that a bumper sunflower harvest was sold abroad at world prices. Meanwhile, domestic sunflower oil manufacturers were underemployed, because they couldn't compete with those foreign manufacturers who were able to pay the price for Ukrainian sunflowers. In the end, Ukrainians ended up purchasing the more expensive, imported sunflower oil that was made from Ukrainian sunflower seeds. This is a classic colonial arrangement. Why can't Ukraine export its own sunflower oil instead? Who in Ukraine benefits from this "colonial" status?**



Oleksander Moroz

After the period of artificially created hyperinflation in the early 1990s, many Ukrainian farmers and agricultural enterprises lost their basic operating capital. Moreover, a barter system of payments

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## BUSINESS IN BRIEF

### Moody's says Ukraine may default on debt

NEW YORK – The investment department of Moody's rating agency announced on August 26 that of all the countries with transitional economies, Ukraine, Ecuador and Moldova are closest to defaulting on their external debts. According to the agency, experts believe that the default could be caused by internal domestic struggle, falling export revenues, limited access to international capital markets, the growing perception of debt restructuring as a solution to economic problems and a Parliament that hinders the integration of the country's economy into the world system. According to Moody's, at the end of 1999 and beginning of 2000, Ukraine is due to repay \$1.4 billion (U.S.) worth of external debt, and \$2.3 billion in total for the year 2000, while Ukraine's currency reserves total just \$1.1 billion. Moody's predicts that, as has previously happened, payment of Ukraine's external debts will be postponed. Its experts share the belief that the best thing for Ukraine to do is to default, as "the internal benefits from such actions will override sanctions after the default." (Eastern Economist)

### Report released on economic indicators

KYIV – Preliminary analysis shows that prices on the consumer market are under control and this year's inflation rate is 7.5 percent, down from the predicted figure of 9 percent, said First Vice Minister of the Economy Viktor Kalnyk. Prices for petroleum products have not yet been determined, but they tend to decrease. Prices for fuels and lubricants have risen by 99.3 percent, impacting the entire pricing scheme. Food prices are expected to rise by 4-5 percent by year's end. Consumer prices are going to be influenced by the hryvnia's inflation rate. According to Mr. Kalnyk, if the hryvnia is kept within the specified currency limits during September and October, predicted inflation rates will be maintained. The inflation rate of utility prices is 3 percent, down from the predicted 9 percent. It can grow by another 4 percent after the population in all regions begins to pay the entire cost of utility services. Wholesale prices in general have stabilized following last year's crisis, while wholesale prices in the energy sector, chemical and petroleum industries have dropped. The current wholesale price index is 6.7 percent and it is expected to reach 16 percent by year's end, down from 35.4 percent of the last year. (Eastern Economist)

### Kyiv shipyard unveils new cargo vessel

KYIV – The Kyiv-based Leninska Kuznia shipbuilding plant on August 26 released a 110-meter-long cargo vessel, FEWI. The ship was ordered by Dutch Robo International B.V. and is designed to carry a load of 1,617 tons. "This is the largest vessel that our plant has ever produced," stated the plant's president, Petro Poroshenko. The ship was sold for 1.2 million marks. Only Ukrainian-made materials were used in construction, and the plant financed all works without state support. (Eastern Economist)

### Stakes in 16 firms on sale via exchange

KYIV – The State Property Fund has decided to sell stakes in 16 domestic companies undergoing privatization. The most lucrative stocks include a 49.54 percent stake in the Nadvirna woodworking plant, and a 6.84 percent stake in the Rodon JSC, both in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, and a 27.59 percent stake in the Zaporizhia-based Konstanta air company, a 0.13 percent stake in the Zdorovia pharmaceutical company and a 22 percent stake in the Holosiyivskiy Hotel in Kyiv. All stakes are to be sold via the Ukrainian Stock Exchange. A 17.42 percent stake in the Kyiv Aviation Technology Research Institute is to be offered via the Kyiv International Stock Exchange. (Eastern Economist)

### SPF to sell stake in Lysychansk plant

KYIV – The State Property Fund has decided to sell a 3.84 percent stake in the Lysychansk-based technical rubber plant via the stock exchange by December 1. Another 3 percent stake was to be sold for cash via certificate auctions centers by August 31. To date,

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## Quotable notes

"A regime of 'banditocracy' has become firmly established in Ukraine."

– Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz in his party newspaper, *Tovarysh*, on June 17 (as reported in RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report).

# A look at student life in Ukraine: a kaleidoscope of experiences

by Mariana Voronovich  
and Olena Fadeicheva

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – The life of students in Ukraine does not seem to differ from that in other parts of the world.

Student life does not consist solely of red-letter days filled with fun and visits to concerts, night clubs, pubs and cinemas, as these activities cover no more than 25 percent to 30 percent of students' time. The other 70 to 75 percent of their time is spent studying.

Ukrainian students study hard and run neck-and-neck with their peers from other countries, even outrunning them in some categories. Official figures show that 93 percent of Ukrainian college sophomores go on to graduate, while in the United States that figure stands at around 53 percent.

There are two types of students who study in Kyiv: those who have grown up and live in the city, and those who come to study in the capital from other cities, towns and villages of Ukraine.

It is generally believed that students who reside permanently in Kyiv have a more secure and comfortable life. Non-residents live in dormitory housing that is of poor quality and full of hazards. Two-thirds of all Kyiv university students live in dorms that do not meet satisfactory standards of living. Nonetheless, living independently gives them more freedom and a chance to experience life in different ways – or so we have been told.

To find out for ourselves, we decided to visit the main student housing district for Kyiv university students, home of the non-resident students of Kyiv State University. The student housing complex is located on the outskirts of the city, about an hour away via public transportation.

## Arranging for basics

At the housing campus we first encountered Oleksander, a third-year student. We asked him if student housing is as bad as we had heard. He replied: "You know what they say, 'It is not the money, but the amount of it that matters.' Our situation is similar to that; our problem is not the accommodation but its quality. But to tell you frankly, I'm surprised that for the money we pay we even have a place to live, cook and relax."

In the beginning, it is not easy to get used to such a way of life. It is the humor and inventiveness of the students that helps them get through it all.

For example, each floor of the dormitory has its own kitchen. But only one of the two gas stoves works, and that is far from enough to satisfy the needs of 50-60 students who live on the floor. That is why, now and then, students play "kitchen tricks" on each other. What this means is that, if a student is cooking his meal, and has to leave the kitchen for a moment, he may return to find everything gone but the pan.

It's okay when it is done in the proper spirit, and then everyone can laugh together about it. However, one should never forget that next time it could happen to him or her.

Another problem students have is a shortage of showers. This is a problem better explained by the girls, for whom this is "closer to the heart."

Several girls whom we approached had

*Marianna Voronovich, 18, and Olena Fadeicheva, 20, are students at Kyiv State University. Miss Voronovich is a sophomore studying mass communications at the Institute of International Relations, while Miss Fadeicheva is in her fourth year at the Institute of Journalism. Both are Kyiv residents who live with their parents.*

much to say, but only Oksana, who is a freshman, agreed to speak for the record.

"There are different types of dorms that provide various amenities, depending on the monthly payment. It varies from 6 hrv to 10 hrv per month. Students pay 10 hrv for a single shower/bath for two rooms, which is considered to be rather comfortable. It is unfortunate that I decided not to live there," she said.

Oksana continued: "In my building the planning is totally different; there is only one shower/bath for the whole dormitory. Even worse, it is situated in a dark basement with no locks, and there is not even a proper partition between the men's and women's facilities. "You can hardly imagine how I feel as I stand under the shower, knowing that behind the thin plywood partition some unknown boys are also taking a shower. Almost everybody is frightened and nobody goes alone to shower. "So that there would not be any problems, we have arranged 'bath days' (separate days for males and females). This may seem excessively cautious, but that way we feel safer."

## Campus housing history

As we talked, an older lady, who turned out to be Maria Ivanivna, the eldest governess of the campus, approached us. First she asked us who we were and what we wanted. Afterward she imparted some interesting information about the history of the campus.

Ms. Ivanivna explained that she had taken part in the planning of the complex and that the initial plan of the campus layout was superb because everything was to be close by.

It was planned that the office of the director of studies and the military department were to be located a few steps from the apartments. The preventive medicine clinic and the swimming pool were to be located nearby, and the polyclinic and kindergarten were to be at the heart of the campus. In the end, only the kindergarten was built, she noted.

The polyclinic was moved to another district far from the campus, which has caused major problems. Students have little chance of obtaining urgent medical assistance.

The lack of medical care in the area has been an issue that two other students, Halyna and Maria, spoke to us about.

"There is no first aid post on our campus. Ambulances answer student calls reluctantly. Doctors seem to think that we are only looking for doctor's certificates to excuse our absences from classes. If a girl calls for an ambulance, the on-duty doctor [who rides with the ambulance team] makes a standard diagnosis without a medical examination: 'You are pregnant.' Even if she has other symptoms, they simply reaffirm, 'It is a pregnancy with complication.'"

The two girls added, "The only alternative for students who need medical attention is a student hospital, but getting there takes an hour. The question is whether this is a realistic alternative when you are feeling terrible and have a high fever."

## Crime a threat

Having heard an awful lot of things (or maybe a lot of awful things) about the problems of robbery and thievery, we asked the criminal statistics department of the Kyiv militia to provide information on crime. It turns out that the city district in which the student housing complex is located is the worst crime district in Kyiv.

We asked the housing administration whether it had considered hiring security guards who could be paid from the students' monthly rent.

An administration representative explained: "There were even more pressing

problems four years ago. The most serious of which was not robbery, but the sale of drugs. The thing that attracted the drug suppliers and users was not the students, but the outsiders [who were living in the dorms]. Because of a lack of supervision, access to the territory was open. This guaranteed a rather secure and profitable business for the newcomers.

"When the criminal situation in the district and around the dorm became critical, the university administration started to take an active role in resolving the problem. We found the financial resources for a professional night guard for the campus territory and the dormitories. A checkpoint and permit system for entering the dorms also was established.

"We cannot yet say that the problem as a whole has been solved, but due to these and other measures, tensions were reduced about a year and a half ago. As you may well know, our inspections have become much more strict. Dormitory students who return home late without their identity cards are not allowed pass the checkpoints. Neither the student on duty [in the dormitory] nor friends can help. In fact, these controls brought safety."

## Models for the future

A few years ago the university built a model dormitory building that upholds standards accepted in the West. This hotel-style dormitory differs appreciably from the present buildings. Its lodgings consist of apartments with two or three rooms, with a separate kitchen and other amenities. Why not provide all the students with this type of housing?

## U.S. continues aid...

(Continued from page 1)

Kharkiv hospitals need not worry about receiving expired medicines or outdated equipment. He explained that, in conjunction with Kharkiv Oblast authorities, his organization accepted only medical supplies with expiration dates well in the future.

"We noticed on some insulin packages expiration dates of October 1999, which we declined to accept, even though the insulin is especially needed here, as you well know, and would have been used up immediately," said Mr. Zhigirov.

The pharmaceutical supplies and technical equipment were donated by multiple U.S. donors, said Ms. Myrtsal of the U.S. Embassy. She added that in the next two months another shipment of up to \$2 million of additional consumable medical supplies is expected in Kharkiv.

## Forced/slave labor...

(Continued from page 2)

and since their heirs are so numerous, meaningful compensation to each is not feasible. The German Industry Initiative includes plans to develop a "Future Fund" that will give some meaningful assistance to forced laborers' heirs through various programs and also initiate permanently funded programs that will have as their goal the prevention of a repetition of the atrocities of World War II.

The negotiations are further complicated by the fact that these talks involve various industry and public-sector parties, government representatives and lawyers for the various claimant groups. This multi-party aspect of the talks requires multi-faceted discussions and compromise. Although the Bonn Conference did not resolve all of the problems involved, substantial progress was made toward achieving a solution to many of the complex issues and closing the gap on others.

One answer, of course, is the cost to the students. The monthly payment for students here is 70-80 hrv (under \$20), which is still cheaper than renting a private apartment, even one far from downtown Kyiv, which can go for \$80 to \$100 per month.

We were curious about whether students had thought of moving out of their dormitories into more Western-style student housing or even into private apartments.

Many students' answers were similar to that given by a second-year student named Yuri: "Because I am not a Kyiv resident, I am required to live in a dormitory, as are many of my friends. I am sure that only a small number of non-residents can afford to rent an apartment for \$100 a month. To be honest, I am not thrilled with the conditions of life on campus, however, I can afford it given my financial resources. Besides I have friends here whom I do not want to leave. Living alone can be lonesome and boring; it is more difficult to find help, support and even good times.

"But if the decrees that the Ukrainian government handed down in November 1998, concerning the social welfare of students had been implemented, my monthly stipend would not be 13 hrv to 16 hrv a month, but 40 hrv to 50 hrv. Then, I would have willingly moved to the new Western-style dorms, to a one-bedroom apartment with a separate bathroom and kitchen."

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Thus, on the basis of our informal interviews, we concluded that student life here in Kyiv is a kaleidoscope of experiences, and challenges, all of which are part of the education process.

The Kharkiv Initiative resulted from a U.S. decision to compensate the region for the loss of money and jobs after Turboatom, one of Kharkiv's largest manufacturers, agreed to stop the construction of turbines for a nuclear plant in Iran at Washington's insistence.

The U.S. Embassy has cooperated with the region's local governments and businesses to stimulate U.S. commercial investment in the region. It has organized exchanges of Ukrainian and U.S. businesspeople and worked to make Kharkiv businesses more investor-friendly. Ms. Myrtsal explained that no contracts have yet been signed with U.S. businesses.

Ambassador William Taylor, coordinator of U.S. assistance to the New Independent States, and Chargé d'Affaires David Hess of the U.S. Embassy led a delegation of officials present for the delivery of the medical shipment.

The conference ended in an atmosphere of confidence that the next round of talks in Washington would achieve an amicable resolution of these difficult issues. As one delegate stated: "We are doomed to succeed – history demands this of us." In his closing remarks, the Ukrainian delegate, Ihor Lushnikow, observed: "[but] success is built on mutual compromise by all."

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## Pustovoitenko meets...

(Continued from page 1)

since the drastic depreciation of the ruble. Ukraine has objected, especially since Russia has charged Ukraine world prices and better for its oil and gas in the past.

The two prime ministers now apparently have turned to military goods as a form of payment. There has been conjecture that Moscow and Kyiv have found common language in the sale of several Ukrainian strategic bombers as compensation.

In fact, Ukraine's recently appointed first vice prime minister, Anatolii Kinakh, alluded to reporters in Luhansk, after his return from Moscow on August 28, that an agreement had been reached on the sale of the military aircraft.

He said that by September 20 the two sides will have worked out "the mechanism for the formation of prices of the goods to be supplied by Ukrainian manufacturers in repayment of the debts" and said that it would include the supply of special technologies, including strategic bombers and auxiliary equipment, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

However, as Mr. Kinakh admitted, first the Ukrainian side must determine

how the sale would affect the disarmament agreements Ukraine has signed with the West, and particularly the United States.

Russian Prime Minister Putin clouded the issue further when he refused to confirm at a press gathering in Moscow whether an agreement had been reached. "Russia has not received the bombers, and we are not yet quite sure whether we need them or not," explained Mr. Putin, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

The Russian prime minister admitted that Russia had disregarded debts by Russian manufacturers to Ukrainian suppliers, especially in the military-industrial sector, a problem that had been remedied during the Moscow talks, he said.

The two prime ministers also discussed continuing import barriers on Ukrainian sugar and alcohol products, the ongoing border demarcation negotiations and the Black Sea Fleet, as well as Mr. Pustovoitenko's pet project, the development of a free trade zone across the entire region of the Commonwealth of the Independent States.

In Kyiv, Mr. Pustovoitenko said that it is becoming increasingly doubtful that all the CIS countries will agree to a free trade zone, but that Ukraine should, nonetheless, move toward such a policy.

## Bloc of 20 parties...

(Continued from page 1)

with little popular support, such as the Party for a Beautiful Ukraine, which as far as most political analysts can surmise has an organization but no real membership list.

There are others, however, that carry much political influence and financial resources. Among them is the National Democratic Party led by Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko and the Social Democratic Party (United) headed by Second Vice-Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Viktor Medvedchuk, whose membership includes former President Leonid Kravchuk and powerful businessman Hryhorii Surkis.

The gathering, held at the International Cultural and Arts Center, better known as the October Palace, resembled a convention, sans the balloons and much of the hoopla.

No united platform was offered, but several resolutions were passed, all unanimously. One called on the need to "ensure the predominance in society of the champions of reform over those who dream of an administrative command economy" – an obvious reference to the Communist Party.

The assembly agreed that its main goal, one expressed by their candidate, should be to lay the groundwork for Ukraine's vigorous advancement toward free market reforms and further democratization of the state, and to exclude any possibility for Ukraine to move back to its Communist past.

After Prime Minister Pustovoitenko kicked off the event, many of the party leaders took to the rostrum to offer words of encouragement, including Mr. Medvedchuk of the Social Democratic Party (United), Liberal Party leader Volodymyr Scherban and Democratic Party leader Hanna Antonieva.

Ms. Antonieva's party had thrown its support to Mr. Kuchma only days prior to the assembly, a move that was made after its first presidential choice, Yevhen Marchuk, joined three candidates from the left – Oleksander Tkachenko of the Peasants Party, Oleksander Moroz of the Socialist Party and independent Volodymyr Oliinyk – in a loose coalition.

The unexpected announcement of the



Leonid Kuchma

new coalition, made on Independence Day from Tarasova Hora in Kaniv, has changed the political make-up in the presidential horse race inasmuch as the "Kaniv Four," as some in the press are calling them, may just have the strength to offer President Kuchma a serious challenge.

The Kuchma organization is using the Democratic Party's defection to its ranks as evidence that the coalition is fragile and will collapse.

President Kuchma, the center of all the fuss and the attention at the International Cultural and Arts Center, said he was humbled by such an expression of support and that the show of unity would help to raise cooperation among political parties to a higher level. He called the centrist political unity that the event symbolizes decisive for Ukraine.

"The assertion of political centrism and the formation of the middle class will be decisive in our breakthrough to a better life and ending the crisis in Ukraine," President Kuchma told the audience during a lengthy discourse on his plans and goals for the next four years.

Mr. Kuchma explained that he hoped the unity among the parties shown toward his candidacy would carry on after the October 31 elections and lead to the formalization of a political coalition and a parliamentary majority in the Verkhovna Rada.

## Lviv Theological Academy's vice-rector visits Kyiv to study needs of Catholic faithful

by Illya Labunka

KYIV – On the cramped, second floor of a belltower, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak celebrated liturgy this past spring on the premises of St. Mykola the Benevolent Ukrainian Catholic parish in the Podil region of Kyiv. This tiny space inside the belltower is one of only two places in the entire capital city where Ukrainian Catholics can gather to worship.

The Rev. Gudziak, who is vice-rector of the Lviv Theological Academy, visited Kyiv in order to familiarize himself with the needs of the Ukrainian Catholic community in Ukraine's capital, home to thousands of Ukrainian Catholic faithful. Celebrating his first liturgy in Kyiv since being ordained a priest in November 1998 in Lviv, the Rev. Gudziak stated in his sermon that, "On the eve of the third millennium when Ukraine is in transition, in political, cultural and economic crisis, there is a particularly urgent need for clear signs of hope and new incarnations of the Christian tradition that has been the lifeline of Ukraine from the beginning of its history. The social ministry of mercy and the arduous 'podvyh' (task) of creating new visions for the future is what Ukrainian society expects from the Church."

Reflecting on the spiritual and pastoral needs of Ukrainian Christians throughout Ukraine, the Rev. Gudziak proclaimed that, "as a thousand years ago, the Church is called to spread the good news from the hills of Kyiv."

Although work has been initiated to build a cathedral on Kyiv's Left Bank and the Basilian fathers are constructing a church in the center of town, according to the vicar-general, the Rev. Lubomyr Sanotsky, with whom the Rev. Gudziak met with at the parish site following liturgy, "as of today the Ukrainian Catholics of Kyiv still do not have an appropriate house of worship in which to practice their faith."

Frequently, due to limited space, faithful are compelled to stand and pray outdoors at one of two locations: the parish of St. Mykola the Benevolent in the belltower of a destroyed church and the parish of St. Mykola in the small rotunda at Prince Askold's Tomb. "Often, and particularly when the weather cooperates, we see

approximately 500-600 faithful here participating in holy liturgy on Sunday," added the Rev. Sanotsky, with the result that most people stand outside.

The Rev. Gudziak was born in Syracuse, N.Y., to Ukrainian emigré parents. In 1980 he received a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University with a double major in philosophy and biology. He then enrolled in the College of St. Sophia of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Rome, under the tutelage of Cardinal Josyf Slipyj. As a student of eastern theological studies, the Rev. Gudziak became inspired by Patriarch Josyf's vision and dream to one day establish a Catholic university in Ukraine. The foundations of this dream were laid in 1994 with the revival of the Lviv Theological Academy, which had been founded originally by Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky.

After receiving a licentiate in theology in 1983, Mr. Gudziak entered Harvard University from which he received a doctorate in Slavic and Byzantine Church history in 1992. In autumn of that year, the Rev. Gudziak established permanent residency in Lviv and planted the first seeds of the now-revived Lviv Theological Academy by creating the Institute of Church History. In 1995 Mr. Gudziak became vice-rector of the Lviv Theological Academy.

"I had been preparing myself for the priesthood for 20 years," said the Rev. Gudziak. "I never doubted that the day of my ordination would arrive, however, I always struggled with the question for whom, and who is calling me to this consecration. My association with the students and faculty of the Lviv Theological Academy, our camaraderie and my familiarity with their spiritual needs became the impetus and guiding light that led me towards the decisive moment."

The following day, the Rev. Gudziak participated in a liturgy of Christian burial for human rights activist Vyacheslav Chornovil, member of Parliament and leader of Rukh.

For more information or to make a donation on behalf of the Lviv Theological Academy, contact: The Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 West Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; telephone (773) 235-8462; fax, (773) 235-8464; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org.

## Ukrainian World Congress moves headquarters

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – The Ukrainian World Congress on August 1 issued a terse press release, signed "UWC Presidium," informing the community that its headquarters had moved downtown, to the Ukrainian Credit Union building near the intersection of College Street and Spadina Avenue, from its long-standing seat in the area known as Toronto's Bloor West Village.

The move also ends a long-standing association with the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation (UCAF). In 1975 Mykhailo and Yaroslava Szafraniuk, both art collectors and real estate developers, co-founded the UCAF and decided to donate premises to both a UCAF gallery and to the diaspora umbrella body, then known as the World Congress of Free Ukrainians, on Bloor Street West near Jane Street.

In 1978 came a shift to larger facilities at 2118A Bloor St. W., a white-brick edifice built on the slope of Bloor Street, rising westward away from High Park; both institutions made the move.

Subsequently, they were joined by, among others, the Toronto branch and the Ontario Provincial Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, and the Shevchenko

Scientific Society of Canada. More recent arrivals included the Consulate General of Ukraine and Kontakt-TV.

Mr. Szafraniuk died in November 1991 and Mrs. Szafraniuk in August 1996, and in recent years the terms granted to Ukrainian organizations came under increasing scrutiny by their inheritors.

Ruslana Wrzesniewska, a veteran community activist (project coordinator of the Help Us Help the Children charitable foundation) and a real estate broker, has assumed a majority share in the building and in the past year had signalled that, for various economic reasons, the almost ruinously generous terms of previous leases could not be continued.

As recently as the UWC's Presidium meetings in May, UWC President Askold Lozynskyj had been optimistic about extending arrangements favorable to the UWC, but according to UWC General Secretary Victor Pedenko, in the president's absence from Toronto, differences between lessor and leasee proved insuperable. UWC Chief Financial Officer William Sametz was urged to redouble his efforts in finding alternate accommodations.

Mr. Pedenko said that at a closed meet-

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Multiculturalism and inclusiveness

The debate in Canada over a museum of the Holocaust now seems to have been transformed into a dispute over parallel versus combined efforts to set up an institution that commemorates victims and draws lessons from the past to give instruction to the present and future.

Some quarters, including the B'nai Brith, insist on a "dedicated" Holocaust project, noting that such a facility "could provide an environment for learning about the many acts of racism and atrocity around the world ... which have their parallels in the various stages of the Holocaust." Thus, the argument goes, it would be "inclusive of the experiences of many ethnic groups." Others have suggested two separate museums: one dealing solely with the Holocaust; the other a "generic" genocide museum.

We strongly resist both the comparative genocides approach, whereby one genocide is elevated above others, and the idea of two separate museums, which to us smacks of segregation and discrimination. Why should there even be a conflict over an all-inclusive museum dedicated to recognizing the victims of genocides?

Member of Parliament Sarkis Assadourian, who earlier this year introduced a bill to mandate the commemoration of the 20th century's crimes against humanity via an exhibit at Canada's Museum of Civilization, is now urging that Canadian citizens and other concerned individuals write to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to support the creation of a Canadian Museum of Reconciliation. Such a museum, Mr. Assadourian believes, would give due recognition to all victims of genocide and crimes against humanity in the 20th century.

Mr. Assadourian's office suggests the following arguments: Canadians from many diverse backgrounds have been affected by crimes against humanity that have taken place throughout the 20th century. As we approach the new millennium, the creation of the Canadian Museum of Reconciliation will assure equality and justice to all victims without classification or prioritization. An all-inclusive museum reflecting Canada's multicultural make-up and serving to build unity among all communities in Canada will also illustrate the importance of peacekeeping to Canada's foreign policy as it continues to oppose crimes against humanity.

Furthermore, the MP suggests that Mr. Chrétien be urged to make the Canadian Museum of Reconciliation a reality at the beginning of the 21st century by announcing its creation in the upcoming Throne Speech (which outlines the government's plans), a move that would make this issue a matter of consideration for the Cabinet. (The PM's mailing address is: The Right Honorable Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister of Canada, Langevin Block, 80 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6.)

The Ukrainian Weekly joins with such Ukrainian organizations as the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, as well as other ethno-cultural groups, to voice its strong support for Mr. Assadourian's efforts. At the same time, we call on Canadian Jewish organizations to support this initiative.

Canada has the opportunity to be an innovator and leader on this issue. Its multicultural society deserves no less than an all-inclusive Museum of Reconciliation.

NOTEWORTHY UKRAINIANS

Vasyl Yaroshenko: writer, restless traveler, humanitarian

by Danylo Kulyniak

Vasyl Yaroshenko's life was one of rigorous self-sacrifice and dedication to his ideals.

In the foreword to one of Vasyl Yaroshenko's works, Lu Hsun, a Chinese scholar, wrote about the blind writer from Ukraine: "His naive beauty and the reality of his dream became clear to me. Perhaps this dream was a veil that covered the tragedy of an artist? I also was a dreamer, I called upon the author not to part with his beautiful childish dream. I called upon the readers to enter this dream, to see a genuine rainbow and understand that we were not sleep-walkers."

What exactly was the dream that inspired "Iosianke," as the Chinese called Mr. Yaroshenko?

Forced by his blindness to look inside himself, Mr. Yaroshenko envisaged a realm of universal concord and fraternity, a realm where neither language, disease nor want would divide people. When his concept was complete, he moved towards making his vision a reality. He traveled to Britain, where he became one of the Esperantists (a group that included Anna Sharapova, a sister of Leo Tolstoy.) The philosophy of a "universal language," Esperanto, became an ideal for Mr. Yaroshenko, offering as it did an entry to the world scientific community, encouraging him to seek universal values and truths, to synthesize the cultures of West and East.

At the same time, the blind youth became interested in Buddhism. While in Japan, Mr. Yaroshenko attended a series of lectures by a leading intellectual, Rabindranath Tagore. Tagore, lecturing at Tokyo University, defined European culture as material and Eastern as spiritual; Christianity, maintained Tagore, was pragmatic, while Buddhism strove to elevate human consciousness. Mr. Yaroshenko disagreed, stating that although the cultures had little in common, they could not be opposed to one another. He felt that one should look for factors that unify people and help them understand one another in all areas of life. The poet was to dedicate his life to this principle.

"Living is the main art for me, life itself is a drama, and every man performs his role on this great state," Mr. Yaroshenko wrote. He saw his own role as being a guide for the people who found themselves in spiritual darkness. The inner dictates of this role compelled Yero-san, as the Japanese called Mr. Yaroshenko, to leave Japan, where he had spent seven years and found great contentment. "There is too little land and too much happiness here," said Mr. Yaroshenko about Japan, the country where he fell in love for the first time, where he began writing in the language of his mistress, where his works were first published and where he was recognized as a writer.

Mr. Yaroshenko's travels led him to northeastern Asia, where he established a school for blind children in the city of Moulmein. He taught the children how to read and write in Braille and wrote stories for them using this system. Later, on arriving in Russia, Mr. Yaroshenko organized a similar school in the extreme north in Chukotka.

The way of life that Mr. Yaroshenko

adopted for himself at the time was not without its dangers. He insisted on traveling independently (unheard of for a blind person at the time) and for this purpose learned to ride a dog sled, but on one occasion fell from the sled while crossing the tundra and almost froze to death.

However, his restless spirit always overcame such obstacles and even enabled him to deal with the arbitrariness of the machinations of government. He was expelled from India (then a part of the British Empire) because of his sympathy with the anti-colonial movement, he was imprisoned in Japan for the participation in the work of the Second Congress of the Socialist League, and only the intervention of the respected writer Lu Hsun saved Mr. Yaroshenko from arrest by the Chinese authorities.

But Mr. Yaroshenko had no real interest in politics for its own sake. His participation in political movements was a result of his actively "pervading" the soul and customs of the people among whom he lived at various stages of his adventurous life. Acquaintance with a new culture resulted in mastery of new languages, in ethnographic expeditions, in literary works. The Chinese poet Hu Yuo-Ji acknowledged that nobody had so deeply penetrated the problems and misfortunes of the Chinese as Iosianke in his "Moan of a Solitary Soul" and "The Tale of a Solitary Tree."

Mr. Yaroshenko constantly carried out scientific and research work; in 1923 he was awarded a prize at the International Congress of Esperantists of Nuremberg and next year delivered a speech at the International Congress of Blind People in Vienna. In his later years Mr. Yaroshenko taught, translated from Eastern languages and took part in international events.

He lived modestly, almost in poverty, sending his generous fees for translation work to a fund for blind people.

Mr. Yaroshenko died in 1952 in Obukhivtsi (now the Kursk region in Russia).

Horyn says...

(Continued from page 1)

of the past, and asserted that many of his fellow citizens lack the self-respect necessary to embrace a Ukrainian identity.

Mr. Horyn also quoted the 19th century leader Antonio Garibaldi, who said, "We have built Italy, now we must build Italians."

He said Ukraine is being tested for political maturity. The party structure and the political spectrum must re-evaluate its commitment to the state within which it operates. "Today, not every party functionary works for the state and the country," Mr. Horyn said, "most are concerned only with themselves."

However, Mr. Horyn ended on a hopeful note, with a captivating image. He likened Ukraine to a lady who has yet to join a dance, unsure of herself. He said that in the 21st century his country could yet emerge on the European ballroom floor as a model of democracy, social justice and ethnic harmony.

"Only for this kind of Ukraine is it worth living," the former dissident said.

Sept. 9 1912

Turning the pages back...

Zenon Tarnavsky was one of the leading lights of 1930s Ukrainian Galicia's "Bohema," a group of witty literateurs and artists, many of whom carried on their careers in the displaced persons camps in Germany and in the post-war diaspora.

Born on September 9, 1912, in Sambir, an ancient town located about 40 miles southeast of Lviv, he began his studies in law at Lviv University, then switched to art history at Warsaw University, but graduated from the Warsaw School of Journalism.

Tarnavsky greeted the decade of the 1930s by publishing his first short story in the journal Novyi Chas and by joining a group of café-going artistes dubbed by Edward Kozak as "Dvanaitadka" (The Twelve). He took a stab at acting (appearing in Petro Soroka's production of "Akordy" by Hryhoriy Luzhnytsky); translated 19th century French comedies, such as Eugène Labiche's "Tu Seras Mienne" into Ukrainian; and wrote stage adaptations of novels such as Alexandre Duval's "Stéphane" for Volodymyr Blavatsky of the Zahrava theater, and Ulas Samchuk's "Hory Hovoriat" (The Mountains Speak) for Mykola Bentsal at the Tobilevych Theater.

Commissioned to adapt the Austrian writer Jozef Polaczek's "Dr. Berghof" by the City Theater of Lodz, he remained briefly in the Polish city to study directing under Leopold Kielanowski. In 1938 he wrote his own play, "Taras Shevchenko," which Blavatsky premiered that year at the Zahrava Theater.

Inspired by a desire to create "an urban theater close to Lviv's city folk and its streets," he founded and acted as the artistic director of the influential Veselyi Lviv theater in 1942. For two years it drew on the talents of such luminaries as Blavatsky, the Berezil veteran actors/directors Yosyp Hirniak and Olimpia Dobrovolska, the composer/conductor Mykola Kolessa, the painter Myron Levytsky and fellow writer Bohdan Nyzhankivsky (who later made a name for himself as the wise-cracking versifier "Babai" in Kozak's satirical illustrated monthly "Lys Mykita").

Unfortunately, because of Tarnavsky's conviction that "drama belongs to life in the theater, as a basis for theatrical spectacle, not as reading material in leisure time," few if any of the scripts survived. But, as he noted himself in a letter to a friend, "many of the songs and skits created for 'Veselyi Lviv' are sung and recounted today, as they were by the fighters of the [Galicia] Division and the UPA [Ukrainian Insurgent Army]."

As his collegiate path suggests, Tarnavsky's parallel profession and passion was journalism. In the 1930s, he worked for the Lviv-based daily Ukrainski Visty and the weekly Batkivshchyna, and contributed to countless others under various pseudonyms.

In September 1939, as the tanks of the Soviet occupation of Galicia rolled into Lviv, Tarnavsky was moved by an ambition to become the first Ukrainian radio reporter in the region, and joined the Ukrainian Radio Committee. Two years later, from the station's headquarters on Bathory Street, he read out Yaroslav Stetsko's ill-fated proclamation of

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

## Canadian care-giver program among the best for immigrants

by Andriy Semotiuk

Of all the programs the Canadian government has to offer immigrants, the best has to be the care-giver program under which an individual who is prepared to look after children, or the elderly, can come to Canada and eventually qualify to stay permanently. The beauty of the program rests in the fact that, unlike the others that require wealth, unique skills or family connections, this program helps ordinary people immigrate to Canada.

For as long as I can remember, the program has been the bane of the existence of the Immigration Department yet, thankfully, its supporters in Canada have had the strength to keep it alive. The requirements of the program are quite straightforward, and the process under which the applicants have been allowed into Canada is interesting. The program is of particular importance to Ukrainian Canadians, since it offers a way for them to find Ukrainian care-givers for their children and the elderly, sometimes even involving relatives from Ukraine. The United States has a similar program, but it falls short of the mark when compared to the Canadian one.

To qualify under the program the would-be care-giver must meet four requirements.

- First, the care-giver must have completed high school. The program requires the equivalent of Canadian high school completion.

- Second, the applicant must be willing to live in the home of the sponsoring family. This implies that the house has suitable accommodation for the arriving person.

- Third, the immigrant must have either six months of full-time training or one year of experience in paid employment in a field related to care-giving. Thus, for example, a teacher would qualify for a nanny position with a Canadian family.

- Finally, the care-giver must be able to speak, write and understand either English or French.

In some ways these are onerous requirements. For example, a nanny who is going to care for the children of somebody who speaks German in the home will not qualify if her English is not good, even though she may speak perfect German, and even though she may have a Ph.D. in education and meet all the other qualifications. Similarly, does somebody who may not intend to settle in Canada permanently really need to have a high school education to look after the elderly? Some changes to the program would make it even better, but there can be no denying the fact that the program, even as it is, helps a great many people who are in need in Canada.

One of the main reasons for the program's survival has been the fact that most Canadian care-givers are not prepared to move in with the family of the individuals who need care. While there may be unemployed nurses and other medical personnel looking for work in Canada who, in theory, could fill these needs, the fact of the matter is that such unemployed individuals do not like the concept of being available at odd hours of the day and night by living in the relevant home. And this is just what is need-

ed to keep the door open to the foreign care-givers.

Sometimes these foreign care-givers are family members who are welcomed into the new home with glee, since this not only helps the Canadian family, but also makes it possible for these families to help their kin move here. This, of course, raises eyebrows and elicits snarls from Canadian visa officers who see it as an attempt to circumvent normal immigration procedures. But it is tolerated.

The process for sponsorship of a foreign care-giver begins within Canada when the relevant family applies to Human Resources Canada. They are given a booklet that explains the program and invited to enter into a written contract with the immigrant in which the duties, money and living arrangements are spelled out. Basically, the foreigner is paid about \$1,200 per month from the host family and can be required to pay about \$300 per month for room and board. Working conditions must satisfy local labor laws. The signed contract and an application are submitted to Human Resources Canada, which usually takes about three weeks to approve the matter.

When the application is submitted, the people at Human Resources must be told where to send the approval letter. Sometimes the applicant for the job is visiting Canada when the application is filed. In this case Canadian immigration law requires the applicant to leave the country and apply from a foreign Canadian consulate. For example, the Los Angeles Consulate can be designated as the Consulate where the applicant wants to be interviewed to obtain his/her visa. Human Resources Canada will then send its approval letter to that consulate and that is where the applicant must travel to take the next step.

If the applicant is within Canada when the initial steps are taken, the applicant must contact a U.S. Consulate in Canada to get a visa to travel to the United States for the interview at the Canadian Consulate. Just to be clear here, we are now talking about two different visas and two different Consulates: the Canadian visitor's visa and the American visitor's visa.

The Canadian visa is what the applicant got when he or she first entered Canada; the American visa is what the applicant now wants from the American Consulate in Canada in order to attend the interview scheduled at the Canadian Consulate in the United States.

Thus, for example, in Alberta, the applicant who has been approved by Human Resources Canada and been notified the approval letter has been sent to the Canadian Consulate in Los Angeles, will then turn to the U.S. Consulate in Calgary to get a visa to travel to the United States. Assuming that the applicant has renewed his or her visitor's visa in Canada after a six-month stay, and has therefore been required to pass a medical exam, the applicant can apply from the United States to be approved for care-giver status in Canada. Passing a medical exam is one of the prerequisites.

Since applications for care-givers often arise when a visitor to Canada is asked by a Canadian family to become a care-giver here, it is worth taking a moment to discuss what that proposed care-giver will need to obtain an American visa to travel there for an interview at a Canadian Consulate in the United States. To arrange an American visa, the applicant should come to the U.S.

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## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



## Manipulating the Holocaust

Once again Ukrainian Canadian leaders are engaged in an acrimonious debate with Jewish Canadian leaders over historical truth. Jewish leaders are promoting an exclusively Jewish Holocaust museum, similar to the one in Washington, to be built in Ottawa at taxpayer expense. Ukrainian leaders support a more universal genocide museum that would include the Holocaust as well as the Great Famine and other crimes against humanity.

As accusations and counter-accusations are published in the Canadian press, compromise between the two groups appears unlikely. Why? Much of the reason can be found in a new book by a University of Chicago professor, Peter Novick, titled "The Holocaust in American Life."

Like the Jews, Ukrainians have suffered the horrors of regimes whose bestial savagery threatened their very existence as a people. And, like the Jews, Ukrainians want their suffering to be recognized and never forgotten. There is a difference in approach to past horrors by the two groups, however. Writes Prof. Novick: "In Jewish discourse on the Holocaust we have not just a competition for recognition ... but a competition for primacy." Jews have succeeded in making their tragedy the benchmark against which all other atrocities are to be judged. In American usage, a Holocaust survivor is always a Jew. When Ukrainians and Poles voice their resentment, Jews such as Sol Littman of the Simon Wiesenthal Center accuse them of "Holocaust envy." And it's not just the Holocaust. It's also genocide, a term that some Jews now claim can apply only to them.

It wasn't always that way. "After the war began, and after the main outlines of the Holocaust had become known," writes Dr. Novick, "it was common for Jewish writers to interpret Nazi atrocities in a universalist fashion - stressing that Jews were far from the only victims." A 1944 American Jewish Committee staff memorandum urged emphasis on "the new spirit of Poland under the heel of the Nazis, the new spirit of kinship and camaraderie among all sections of the Polish population - Catholics, Protestants, Jews."

These sentiments were essentially a political ploy. Anti-Semitism was relatively prevalent in America during the war; some Americans believed that President Franklin D. Roosevelt was a closet Jew and that this was the main reason he concentrated our military might not on Japan, which had attacked America, but on Germany, which hadn't. Jewish leaders feared that emphasizing Jewish suffering would lend credence to this canard. Defeating Hitler took precedence over Jewish rescue.

Today, of course, the situation is quite different, especially at the Holocaust Museum in Washington where it is claimed that Jewish leaders petitioned the war department to bomb Auschwitz. Not so, argues Prof. Novick.

When the war ended, Jewish survivors were held in contempt by Jews in Israel and America because they didn't resist Hitler's murder machine. A top leader of the AJC, for example, wrote to a colleague in 1946: "Those who have survived are the not the fittest ... but are largely the lowest Jewish elements, who by cunning and animal instincts have been able to escape the terrible fate of the more refined and better elements who succumbed."

Between the end of the war and the 1960s, the Holocaust was rarely discussed among Jews. In his 1957 scholarly survey

of Jews in the 1950s, Prof. Nathan Glazer noted that the Holocaust "had remarkably slight effects on the inner life of American Jewry." The Holocaust was not even mentioned in a similar survey by Norman Podhoretz that same year. The Cold War notion that criticism of Germany played into the Communists' hands also contributed to making the Holocaust yesterday's news for American and Jews alike. The inclusionary perception remained, however. Even Simon Wiesenthal spoke of the 11 million victims of Nazism.

The Eichmann trial changed all that, both in Israel and the United States. Attempts by the Anti-Defamation League and the AJC to present the trial in a universalist fashion soon dissipated as the prosecution placed Eichmann "in a genealogy that extended from Pharaoh through Haman, Chmielnicki [Khmelnitsky] and Petlura [Petliura]." Survivors such as Elie Wiesel ("all of Ukraine is Babi Yar," he once wrote) were suddenly sanctified. For Mr. Wiesel, the Holocaust became "equal to the revelation at Sinai" in its religious significance, a symbol of eternal Jewish vulnerability.

Beginning in the late 1960s and especially in the 1970s, Jewish leaders promoted the idea that a new anti-Semitism had arisen and that Jews, as perpetual victims, were always at risk. Heightened Holocaust awareness one rabbi argued, would prepare American Jews for the day when they might have to flee the U.S. Ironically, Prof. Novick writes, "anti-Semitism in the United States was, by every measure, continuing its long-term decline, diminishing to the point that it presented no significant barriers or disadvantages to American Jews."

Why the disparity between reality and reaction? According to Dr. Novick, a significant reason is assimilation, the "vanishing Jews" phenomenon. At a time when neither religious beliefs nor cultural traits unite most Jews, and as Israel is no longer perceived as pristine, the Holocaust has become "the defining Jewish experience," he writes. "Insofar as it attained mythic status, expressing truths about an ensuring Jewish condition, all were united in an essential victim identity."

I can appreciate Jewish concerns with assimilation. Ukrainians have similar worries about their future in North America. What I resent, however, is the way Jewish leaders have manipulated public discourse on the Holocaust to the point that any discussion that is not in lock-step with their position can be interpreted either as "anti-Semitic" or "bordering on anti-Semitism" - accusations for which there is no defense.

Yes, the Jewish Shoah is unique. "But to single out these aspects of the Holocaust that were distinctive (there certainly were such)," writes Prof. Novick, "and to ignore those aspects that it shares with other atrocities, and on the basis of this gerrymandering to declare the Holocaust unique, is intellectual slight of hand. The assertion that the Holocaust is unique - like the claim that it is singularly incomprehensible or unrepresentable - is in practice deeply offensive. What else can all this possibly mean except your catastrophe, unlike ours, is ordinary; unlike ours, is comprehensible; unlike ours, is presentable."

Few nations suffered more anguish and misery in this century than Ukraine. No group has the right to pervert this historical fact for its own convenience.

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## DATELINE NEW YORK: Village life, complete with rituals

by Helen Smindak

Manhattan's East Village teems year-round with artists, craftspeople, sidewalk vendors, New York University students and tourists. In the fall, winter and spring it also comes alive with intense Ukrainian activity that generally goes into hiatus during the warm-weather months. This summer, however, was different.

The area that harbors the largest concentration of Ukrainians in New York City has been surprisingly active in recent months: concerts by two touring ensembles from Ukraine (one of these, Dity Ditiem, or Children for Children, was movingly reviewed by Bohdanna Wolanska in the August 15 issue of *The Weekly*); a series of unique programs centering around off-beat poetry, music and folk rituals; participation by the Cheres folk ensemble in the annual summer concert series in Abe Lebewohl Park; an appearance by the Gogol Bordello ensemble at the popular Joe's Pub; and a turn at experimental theater by actress Tannis Kowalchuk at La MaMa Theater.

Abetting the performing arts, The Ukrainian Museum offered a summer exhibition of works from its fine arts collection. The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America hopped aboard the summer bandwagon, too, inviting the public to attend brown-bag lunches and hear speakers from Ukraine and the United States discourse on political topics.

### Pikardiiska Tertsiiia

Bearing the intriguing name of Pikardiiska Tertsiiia, a six-man vocal troupe from Lviv held a full house spell-bound at the Ukrainian National Home in June, sans microphones, musical instruments or printed programs.

In a non-stop 90-minute program, they beguiled the audience with harmonies that ranged from a heavenly sounding chorus of angels "Sad Anhelskykh Pisen" (Garden of Angels' Songs), folk songs like the yearning "Tuman Yarom" (Mist-Shrouded Hillsides) to hearty country-western and electrifying rock 'n roll music.

Along the way, the singers imitated the sound of guitar strings and mouth organs and the twang of the small, metal "drymba" (mouth-harp), and accompanied themselves with rhythmic clapping, foot-stomping, wordless crooning, humming and whistling.

Tenor Volodymyr Yakymets, the ensemble's director, explained the absence of amplifying equipment. "We want to bring our songs to you raw and fresh – without any apparatus."

Tertsiiia's vocal formation also included tenors Andrii Kapral and Yaroslav Nudyk, baritone Roman Turianyn



Tannis Kowalchuk (foreground) with Allison Waters.



Yara's Eleanor Lipat, Katie Takahashi and Tom Lee celebrate the feast of Ivan Kupalo.

and basses Andrii Shavala and Bohdan Bohach. All are graduates of the Lysenko Music Institute in Lviv.

The blending of voices was smooth and melodious, the style unique. The sextet sang in Ukrainian, although English took over in two rock 'n roll pieces.

Among the liveliest selections were a Ukrainian folk song "Tam za Lisom, za Luhom" (Beyond the Forest, Beyond the Plain), jazzed up by variations of tempo and beat, and a rock 'n roll number that ended with a long, drawn-out "Oh, yeah." In the number "Tanok" (Dance), a piece written by Yevhen Stankovych as an exercise for his music students, the ensemble went to town with an entire gamut of sounds, as well as combinations of sounds and tempos.

Caught up in Tertsiiia's fervor, the audience clapped along with the singers and shouted "sche, sche" (more, more) at the end of the show, and got more – a lively rock 'n roll number reminiscent of joyous Afro-American gospel singing.

Beginning its tour in Washington during the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations, the ensemble swung through several Northeast states, making New York its final stop. Word of the group's outstanding presentation had preceded it to New York, attracting music lovers of all ages.

Tertsiiia's manager, Roman Klymovsky, said the group is heading to appearances in Warsaw and Kyiv, and Peter Rybchuk, editor of *Zakordonna Hazeta*, which co-sponsored the tour with Air Ukraine/Uzbekistan Airways, added that the ensemble will be back in the U.S. during the Christmas season.

The name Pikardiiska Tertsiiia? It's a musical term – picardy third that comes from the French "tierce Picardie." According to the *Harvard Dictionary of Music*, it was popular from 1500 to 1750 and denotes "the major third used for the final chord of a composition in a minor key."

### Kupalo rituals

Pre-Christian Ukrainians celebrated the end of the summer solstice and the beginning of harvest time by honoring Kupalo, the god of love and the harvest, and the personification of the earth's fertility. Though this pagan festival has been supplanted on the Christian calendar by the feast day of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, it has remained part of Ukrainian folk ritual as the festival of Ivan Kupalo. Nikolai Gogol (Mykola Hohol) drew world attention to the rituals in his short story "Nich pid Ivana Kupala" (The Eve of Ivan Kupalo).

On a warm summer evening in July, Virlana Tkacz, members of the Yara Arts Group, bandurist Julian Kytasty and others re-enacted Kupalo rituals for a multi-ethnic throng amid the lush plantings and rustic grapevine trellises of the Community Garden at the corner of Sixth Street and Avenue B.

Flickering candlelight led participants from one garden spot to another. Katie Takahashi recited water incantations and told fortunes beside a rock formation

and the accompaniment of ancient Kupalo songs compiled by Ms. Tkacz and electronically processed by Alex Kytasty. At the gazebo in the garden's center, Irina and Genya from Kyiv assisted everyone in making wreaths of freshly picked wildflowers. Elsewhere, Mykhailo Andrec strummed his bandura, providing background music for simultaneous English and Ukrainian readings of Gogol's Kupalo story by Tom Lee and Taras Los.

Eugene Hutz, standing in front of a video projection of Vadym and Yuriy Illienko's 1967 film "The Eve of Ivan Kupalo" read original stories from his Ukrainian-language collection "New York Fables" to bandura accompaniment. Listeners showered him with buckets of water, Kupalo-style, at the end of each story.

In another corner, choreographer Dyane Harvey led participants in a candle dance to Meredith Wright's fascinating improvisations on the traditional folk song "Hold a Candle." Tristra Newyear, Eleanor Lipat and Julian Kytasty sang Kupalo songs in the traditional folk style known as "bilyi holos" (white voice), adding another entrancing facet to the evening.

Fortunes written by each participant and hung on the "hiltse" (branch) at the start of the evening were now plucked at random from this tree of fortune and eagerly scanned by the light of candles floating on water.

These Kupalo festivities formed a Julian-calendar follow-up to a Kupalo evening held in June at the Ukrainian Sports Club. That event featured a talk by filmmaker Andrea Odezynska and the screening of her award-winning film "Dora Is Dysfunctional," an uproarious look at the diaspora's attempts to preserve old country rituals in the United States. There were also excerpts of Kupalo scenes from such famous films as "Andrei Rublev," "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors" and "Time of the Gypsies," improvisations on a Kupalo song by soprano Natalia Honcharenko and readings of water incantations by Ms. Tkacz.

The initial event of Yara's Nova Nomada series was held at the Big Bar on East Sixth Street, combining an ethno-electronic piece, "Bicycling in Transylvania" by the Staroviry trio (Mr. Hutz and the Kytasty brothers), a hilarious storytelling performance by Mr. Hutz and "Ukrainian-American" poetry by Ms. Tkacz.

At another event, New York author and Svitovoyd editor Maria Rewakowicz piqued the interest of an audience at the Sports Club as she read selections from her books of haunting love poems, some in Ukrainian, others in English translation. Julian Kytasty offered flute and bandura improvisations, and Mr. Andrec performed the "Mosaic" bandura piece he composed with computer assistance. Yuriy Fedynsky of Raleigh, N.C., back from bandura studies in Lviv and Kyiv, simulated the sounds of a cascading waterfall in his "Bandura Piece No. 1." Mr. Hutz rounded out the program by acting as DJ for his special blend of electro-music.

Now that the momentum has begun, Ms. Tkacz says the Nova Nomada gathering will continue every two

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# Toronto artist creates icons for Basilian Sisters' chapel in Rome

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – A recent visit to the studio of artist Sophia Lada was an almost spiritual experience. Along one wall of the studio hang panels of a 6-by-11-foot triptych, the central part a life-size rendering of the Oranta with arms uplifted – Mary the Protectress of All. To her right, three saints: the Venerable Mary of Egypt, St. Helene (mother of Emperor Constantine) and St. Mary Magdalen. To the left of the Oranta: the martyr St. Barbara, St. Olha the Great, princess of Kyiv, and St. Catherine of Alexandria. The triptych is destined for the chapel of the Mother House of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great in Rome.

Several years ago, the Sisters of St. Basil the Great approached Lada [who prefers to be called Lada – no Ms.] with a proposal to paint the walls of their chapel, which is located in an older building, a former villa adapted for the order's use, in the Avatino district of Rome. The Basilian Sisters were familiar with Lada's work as she had been artist-in-residence at Manor College in Philadelphia, which is run by the order.

The initial stage of the project involved a trip to Rome where Lada discussed with Mother Dia Stasiuk and the Basilian Sisters the selection of saints to be painted and made a plan of how to divide the walls of the chapel. Although the chapel is not large – 15 by 45 feet – it has a very high ceiling that gave the artist lots of space in which to work.

The Basilian Sisters wanted the iconography of the chapel to observe the canons of Byzantine ecclesiastical art; they helped choose the specific icons to be featured. The choice of colors was governed both by the fact that certain colors are attached to different saints and that colors have symbolic meanings of their own. Colors were chosen to evoke a spiritual response and to achieve a harmonious whole.

Where had Lada learned iconography? "The acclaimed iconographer Sviatoslav Hordynsky introduced me to the history of iconography. During the 1970s I assisted him in the execution of several church projects (for Munich and western Canada) in his style and technique. I learned a lot from him. It is unavoidable that, at the present time, his influence is visible in my work," Lada said.

Since the paintings were to be done in Toronto and had to be rolled up and transported to Rome, Lada chose to do them on canvas in acrylic paints. Traditional

iconography is done in egg tempera for which a rigid surface is required. Canvas was also chosen because Aventino, where the chapel is located, is sometimes subject to earth tremors that can crack walls. Canvas is more flexible.

Part of the icons of the project have already been installed. They included the composition on the wall behind the altar with the Pantokrator (Enthroned Christ) surrounded by the Seraphim and symbols of the Four Evangelists. To his right is the Blessed Mother and Archangel Michael; to the left – St. John the Baptist and Archangel Gabriel. On the side walls are St. Macrina, the patron saint of the Basilian Sisters, and St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great, fathers of the Church.

Lada went to Rome in the spring of 1998 to do the installation. The canvas was applied to the wall by a local craftsman; Lada painted the ornamentation and applied the goldleaf. She was assisted by Sister Selina also an iconographer.

The second phase is to be completed this October, with Lada again going to Rome to oversee the installation. In addition to the triptych, which will be put on one wall of the central part of the chapel, icon paintings of St. Nicholas the Great, Ss. Cyril and Methodius and the Grand Prince of Kyiv, St. Vladimir, will be installed. The back wall of the chapel, which includes the exit, will feature the Guardian Angels of Day and Night, whose depiction was inspired by the collection of daily prayers "Prayers for a Planetary Journey."

To make sure that the second phase of the icons matched the first, Lada said, "I made color samples from the icons already in Rome and matched them up. The second part of the project was easier to do than the first. At first, it was hard to envision the icons in their place. After the first installation, I knew what the colors would look like. That was the most challenging part of the project – not doing the work there, on site, and not being able to see the work as it progressed within the environment it was to go into."

With this years-long project nearing completion, Lada said, "This has been the biggest project that I have worked on independently. I am looking forward to doing my own work and preparing an exhibit, but it takes time to adjust. Doing iconography takes a specific frame of mind. It is altogether a different spiritual journey, because, as an artist, my work is mostly inspired by the culture of pre-Christian Ukraine. But I do apply certain principles of Byzantine art in composition and in the



Sophia Lada in Rome putting finishing touches on the icon "Christ Enthroned."

philosophy of inner light. This project has been a very rewarding experience because it has given me an opportunity to execute work which is a part of my heritage and personally to see the treasures of Rome and the surrounding cities of Italy."

## Village life...

(Continued from page 8)

weeks, "tying together rock 'n roll, theater, poetry and traditional music in an untraditional manner."

### Exploring new territory

Tannis Kowalchuk is drawn to projects that present a foray into new territory, so she enjoys working in a creative style that blends physical theater, song, stilt-walking, music and original text into a multi-layered experience that has been likened to "Beckett on stilts."

A core member and collaborator with Primus Theater, a prominent Canadian experimental theater troupe, the Winnipeg-born actress has been active in New York since 1997 as a co-founder and member of the North American Cultural Laboratory (NaCl).

She has created and performed roles with NaCl in "The Secret Storey" and "A Canon for the Blue Moon." Last year, premiering in Cleveland and New York in the one-woman avant-garde production "The Passion According to G.H.," she dramatized a life-changing encounter with a huge cockroach simply using her body, voice and costume.

Ms. Kowalchuk returned to the New York stage a few months ago in another original, highly unusual piece, "Asphyxia and Other Promises," a modern absurdist tale based on an Italian fairytale. Written by poet/playwright Henry Israeli, "Asphyxia" tells the story of a woman who is tricked into giving up her unborn child to the Order of Disorder, and the child is raised in a magical cloister by a giant, insect-like stilt figure, ministered to by mischievous spirits and tutored by a mad and rebellious "Sister."

During its three-week run at La MaMa, the experimental theater company on East Fourth Street, "Asphyxia" stirred patrons with its dramatic imagery and revolutionary sounds. Ms. Kowalchuk, playing the roles of Asphyxia and Sister, and Allison Waters, as Beatrix, the child, turned in dynamic, finelycrafted performances.

Ms. Kowalchuk has performed in Canada, Italy, France and Denmark, taught a unique approach to physical and vocal training in universities and schools in North America and Europe, and created a children's performance, "Journey of the Dragon Boy," which was produced in Canadian regional theaters.

The actress and her husband, Brad Krumholz, who directed "Asphyxia," founded North American Cultural Laboratory in order "to create situations for communication and human interaction between fellow theater artists and spectators from all walks of life." Together with Ms. Waters, they practice daily actor-training sessions and spend four months to a year on each project created by NaCl, a resident company of La MaMa.

### Cheers for Cheres

This past July, the Ukrainian folk ensemble Cheres assembled in Abe Lebewohl Park in front of historic St. Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery to give a noontime concert of Carpathian music. Attired in traditional Hutsul garb, the group of musicians led by director Andriy Milavsky performed on native woodwind and string instruments.

It was the group's second appearance in three years in the series of summer musical programs started by local institutions to encourage neighborhood residents and visitors to use the park. Originally named St. Mark's Park, it was renamed Abe Lebewohl Park to honor the memory of the philanthropic owner of the Second Avenue Deli who was murdered in 1996.

The series is sponsored by the Third Street Music School Settlement and the 10th and Stuyvesant Streets Block Association in cooperation with St. Mark's Church, and receive funding from several local institutions.

Last season, Cheres enjoyed successful runs at Karpo's Restaurant on Blecker Street, as well as what the troupe described as "really wild" weekend gigs at Brewsky's Tavern on East Seventh Street. The ensemble appeared at Harvard University this summer in con-

junction with Mr. Milavsky's lecture on Hutsul music for students of Harvard's Ukrainian studies summer school.

Mr. Milavsky, who began his career at the exclusive Kyiv School of the Arts as a teacher of woodwind instruments in both classical and folk genres, recently formed a classical woodwind quintet in New York. He also teaches jazz, plays in the Amato Opera orchestra and serves as choir director at All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church. He and his wife, Lila Dlaboha, a professional editor who handles percussion instruments in the Cheres ensemble, are working on a Cheres video that they expect will match the popularity of the Cheres CD "From the Mountains to the Steppes" released in 1998.

### Gogol Bordello

"If you can make it there, you'll make it anywhere," goes the popular Frank Sinatra song "New York, New York." Those words could be the theme for the Ukrainian surrealistic punk cabaret band Gogol Bordello. The four-man group, fronted by singer/songwriter Eugene Hutz, has appeared in almost every New York club that presents punk cabaret music. Now Gogol Bordello has added a hip new club – Joe's Pub – to its list of "been there, done that."

Open seven nights a week, Joe's Pub is the Joseph Papp Public Theater's new nightclub on Lafayette Street, offering a changing roster from ethnic music ensembles and spoken-word artists to promising young musical-theater composers and performers. Celebrities like Giorgio Armani, Donald Trump and composer-songwriters Adolph Green and Betty Comden ornament the place.

Says Mr. Hutz, "Gogol Bordello puts the accent on theatrics and storytelling, and is heavily influenced by Ukrainian, Romanian and Gypsy folk music. We're a very live act; we don't stand around." He expects his group will be invited to Joe's Pub for a return engagement.

# President-elect Oksana Bashuk Hepburn to steer Canadian Ps and Bs from nation's capital

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – Delegates of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation's biennial convention, held in Canada's largest city on July 1-4 under the slogan "Catch the Global Spirit," voted Oksana Bashuk Hepburn of Ottawa as their president – the third woman in succession to hold the post.

At the UCPBF's Nation-Building Awards Banquet at the Holiday Inn on King Street, the convention venue, Ms. Bashuk Hepburn announced that Canada's former Governor General Ramon Hnatyshyn had agreed to serve as the organization's patron, and that entrepreneur William Teron, chairman of a highly successful development firm, had been designated honorary president.

At the initiative of Toronto-based lawyer Eugene Zalucky (UCPBF president, 1991-1993), it was decided that a Past Presidents' Club would be formed as an executive advisory body. Raya Shadursky of Toronto (1995-1997) and Oshawa's Peter Zakarow (1987-1989) agreed to play an active role.

Assuming office unopposed was a slate that included Executive Vice-President Peter Sorokan and Secretary Marilyn Dolenko (both also from Ottawa); Treasurer Mike Stebila of Windsor, Ontario; seven regional vice-presidents, two communications directors and five ex-officio representatives from affiliated organizations.

The composition of the core executive body suggests a shift eastward after a troubled two-year term that saw Donna Korchinski of Calgary, Alberta, resign as president mid-term, and other officers also finding it difficult to serve out their commitments. Doris Watson of Calgary, who took over as acting president when Ms. Korchinski stepped down, will stay on as past president.

The directorship of Internet communica-

tions moved westward from Ottawa (Michael Kostiuk, who held the post since its inception in 1995) to Calgary (Roman Zakaluzny).

The convention adopted no formal resolutions, but Ms. Bashuk Hepburn is no stranger to taking initiative. Judging from her acceptance speech following her acclamation, her address at the banquet later that evening, and her comments during the new executive's first meeting on July 4, the UCPBF's agenda is likely to be full.

## The president's many ideas

At the awards banquet the president announced that the UCPBF, the umbrella group for organizations of professionals and businesspeople (popularly referred to as Ps and Bs) will undertake a "Millennium Project" focusing on the contributions of Ukrainians in Canada, which will include a publication to be issued in cooperation with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and a mentoring program between Canadian and Ukrainian counterparts.

Ms. Bashuk Hepburn, who is also Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) Ottawa Branch president (since June 1998), noted that "As a major constituent member of the UCC, we [the UCPBF] support the UCC as the leading voice representing our community, since the UCC is very strong in this area [Ottawa], as demonstrated by its initiatives concerning denaturalization and deportation, the internment of Ukrainian Canadians in 1914-1920, the Museum of Genocide/Reconciliation and immigration policy." She added, "However, perhaps the federation can undertake some initiatives of its own."

The new president expressed hope that life would be breathed into a Friends of Ukraine Parliamentary Committee at the federal legislature, and suggested the UCPBF could play a role in evaluating the Canadian International Development Agency's programs for Ukraine. She raised the possibility

that the federation could sponsor or conduct a survey concerning the often-decried brain drain of Canadians to the United States in order to determine what effect this has had on the Ukrainian community.

"We should explore the possibility of asking the federal government, which is about to embark on a \$170 million study of the reasons for the waning of French culture in western Canada, to afford Ukrainian culture, also part of the Canadian multicultural mosaic, similar attention," Ms. Bashuk Hepburn said.

As a measure of balance for the often critical stance taken by the community towards the government, the Ottawa-based activist suggested that the federation could initiate a "Thank You Canada" program to "celebrate the various advantages that our community has been afforded in this country."

"We should also focus on the various vacancies in our country's institutions and nominate individuals for positions such as governor general, director of the National Arts Center, Supreme Court justice, Federal Court justice," she said, adding, "We should reacquire the mindset that is directed at the very top spots in the country and help one another in striving for them."

As another "Millennium Project," Ms. Bashuk Hepburn said the UCPBF could establish a special scholarship. "Our forebears' focus on education in the 1930s was so strong that it produced a wave of strong leaders and professionals.

"We want our children to be the best qualified, so that we and they can capitalize on what this country and the world at large have to offer."

## Optimistic opening

The optimistic tone of the convention was set by its opening act: a "Canada Day Gourmet Boat Cruise" on Lake Ontario aboard the Jubilee Queen Showboat on the evening of July 1. Also notable was that among the 200 attending, there was a significant number of new immigrant professionals and businesspeople seeking involvement in the established community.

About 60 people attended the formal opening of the convention on the morning of July 2. A former UCPBF president and convention organizer Raya Shadursky began the proceedings with a speech noting that the organization effected a group of Canadian nation-builders, who contributed to the authoring of Section 26 of Canada's Constitution, which describes the country as multicultural.

She commended past members for their instrumental roles in creating the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (its founding director, Prof. Manoly Lupul, was UCPBF president in 1973-1975) and the Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at Edmonton's Grant MacEwan College; for supporting the publication of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine; for traveling to Ukraine in 1989 on a fact-finding mission and establishing the first business council formed with a country of the former Warsaw Pact.



Oksana Bashuk Hepburn delivers her acceptance speech.

## Biennial meeting

The UCPBF's biennial meeting, held July 3, began with outgoing Treasurer Ron Maleshewski's report which indicated that while many of the local associations are behind in the payment of dues, the overall financial health of the organization is sound, showing a small surplus of \$4,270.

Acting President Doris Watson presented a sketch of the past two turbulent years, concentrating on positives such as the UCPBF's assistance to Natalia Polataiko in her efforts to compile an updated directory of Ukrainians in North America and humanitarian aid work in the form of assistance in organizing soup kitchens in Ukraine.

In her first official act as UCPBF President, Ms. Bashuk Hepburn asked the assembly to stand for a moment of silence "in memory of one of us," Prof. Danylo Husar Struk, who died in Munich, Germany, on June 19.

Asked to comment on the low number of registrants, as compared to the 900 attracted to the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations, Ms. Shadursky said: "I see our convention as successful. We may not have a multitude assembling here, but we do have representation from across the country of the leaders of the local associations. Those are the people who want to meet, those are the people who will go back to their associations, who are going to make plans and provide leadership for the community."

"I think we have to get away from the thinking that demands that you need to fill a room to be successful. What you need is good people who will make good suggestions, take action and provide leadership."

The former federation president added: "We've had discussions about this and have decided that instead of spending 80 percent of our time chasing after membership numbers, we'll start concentrating on issues that are more important. If anything, this also allows for a more realistic separation of the social aspect of belonging to an organization of professionals and businesspeople from the actual work that has to be done."

## Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation National Executive for 1999 - 2001

Patron: **Ramon Hnatyshyn**, former governor general of Canada  
Honorary President: **William Teron**, Chairman, Teron International  
President: **Oksana Bashuk Hepburn** (Ottawa)  
Executive Vice-President: **Peter Sorokan** (Ottawa)  
Secretary: **Marilyn Dolenko** (Hamilton, Ontario)  
Treasurer: **Mike Stebila** (Windsor, Ontario)  
Interim Past President: **Doris Watson** (Calgary)

### Directors:

Communications: **John Chilibeck** (St. John, New Brunswick)  
Internet: **Roman Zakaluzny** (Calgary)

### Regional Vice-Presidents:

British Columbia: *vacant*  
Alberta: **Steven Jakymiw** (Edmonton)  
Saskatchewan: **Zenia Stechishin** (Saskatoon)  
Manitoba: **Nadia Maksimiw** (Winnipeg)  
Ontario: **Marika Lawrentiw** (Toronto)  
Quebec: **Olya Kowal** (Montreal)  
Maritimes: **Olya Williams** (Halifax, Nova Scotia)

### Representatives:

Ukrainian Canadian Congress:  
**Adrian Boyko** (Saskatoon), **Nestor Budyk** (Winnipeg)

Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK):  
**Michael Ilnycky** (Calgary)

Taras Shevchenko Foundation:  
**Andrew Hladyshevsky** (Edmonton)

Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies:  
**Olya Kuplowska** (Toronto)

### Past Presidents' Club:

**Raya Shadursky** (Toronto)

## The Weekly's collection of materials about the Famine

The Ukrainian Weekly's official website contains the largest collection of materials on the Internet dedicated to the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

Located at [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com), the special section includes a chronology of the Famine years, eyewitness accounts, editorials, media reports, stories about observances of the Famine's 50th anniversary in 1983, scholarly articles, interviews with journalists who reported on the Famine, transcripts of testimony on the Famine commission bill ultimately passed by the U.S. Congress, texts of statements before the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, references and other documentation, as well as the full text of The Ukrainian Weekly's special issue on the Great Famine published on March 20, 1983. The section is completely searchable.

## Professionals and businesspeople recognize exemplary achievements with special awards

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – The Ukrainian community too rarely reaches out to recognize those who have left their mark on the wider world.

However, two years ago, the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation decided to establish a program of awards “to recognize Ukrainian Canadians who helped build Canada through local, national and international endeavors,” noted Olya Kuplowska, past president of the Toronto Ukrainian Professional and Business Association and master of ceremonies, as well as chair of the awards jury of the UCPBF’s awards banquet held here July 3.

“More specifically, they were set up to recognize exemplary individuals who through their vision, creativity and perseverance have achieved personal, professional and business successes, and in so doing promoted the stature of Canada, the profile of Ukrainians in Canada, and who have contributed to Ukraine’s growth and development,” the banquet master of ceremonies added.

The awards were first presented at the UCPBF convention in Calgary in 1997. The four categories and respective award recipients were: Friend of Ukraine, presented to Canada’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy; Personal Achievement presented to Saskatchewan Provincial Premier Roy Romanow; Business Achievement presented to Baton Broadcasting President Ivan Fecan; and Youth Achievement presented to former president Jon Thomas of the Ukrainian Canadian Students’ Association.

The award itself was designed and produced by Chris Kowalsky of Chris Ceramics. In the shape of a pyramid, the award symbolizes movement into a new millennium under the leadership of the honoree and, as a mountain peak, the heights scaled by the individual being honored.

Ms. Kuplowska announced that this year a special jury category was created to recognize Ukrainian philanthropy via a Humanitarian Award.

**Bohdan Lahanky:**  
Friend of Ukraine

New Brunswick-based entrepreneur Bohdan Lahanky was recipient the Friend of Ukraine award.

Mr. Lahanky is a major supporter of the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund, and the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine. Thanks to his contributions, the church in his native village of Zubiv in Halychyna, destroyed by the Soviet regime, was rebuilt and reopened in 1997. He operates a joint



**Roman Kroitor, recipient of the Business Achievement Award.**

venture project in Ukraine.

In Canada Mr. Lahanky sponsored dance and choir performances, donated books on Ukrainian topics to university and municipal libraries, and supported a wide range of charitable and community projects and activities

Donna Lahanky accepted the award on her father’s behalf, and read a statement in which he thanked his family, Bishop Isidore Borecky of the Toronto Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and Gloria Drayson of the Moncton, New Brunswick, UCPBA for providing direction to his philanthropy. He also entreated the Ukrainian Canadian community to “open your hearts and help your brothers and sisters in a poor, but free and democratic country of Ukraine ... and [do not] forget the land of your ancestors.”

**Terry Evanshen:**  
Personal Achievement

Montreal-born Terry Evanshen, who received the award for personal achievement had a 14-year career as a pass receiver in the Canadian Football League, playing for the Montreal Alouettes, Calgary Stampeders, Hamilton Tiger-Cats and Toronto Argonauts, setting records in various categories and winning the Schenley Award as the league’s Most Outstanding Canadian twice (1967, 1971). He was inducted into the CFL’s Hall of Fame in 1984.

In July 4, 1988, he suffered a near-fatal car accident as a result of which, along with severe physical injuries, his memory was absolutely wiped out. Basic motor skills, emotions had to be rebuilt from scratch. His success in doing so prompted Mr. Evanshen to establish a motivational program called “Seize Each Day.” In 1994 the CFL Hall of Fame honored him with a special Courage to Come Back Award.

Mr. Evanshen thanked the “wonderful team of doctors and nurses who put me back together again”; fellow players who “would tell me stories about myself ... so eventually I became an actor interpreting my first life, so I could retell the story although I can’t add many of the details to it”; and his wife and three daughters who “made me realize, day after day, that it’s just too easy to quit.”

He thanked those assembled for the award and for Walter Maceluch of the Toronto UCPBA for drawing him back to the Ukrainian community.

**Roman Kroitor:**  
Business Achievement

Saskatchewan native Roman Kroitor, recipient of the Business Achievement Award, began his career as a film-maker for the Canada’s National Film Board, and one of his early efforts, “Paul Tomkowicz” (1954) about a Ukrainian Canadian railway worker, was recognized as a milestone in documentary making. In 1960 he co-produced a pioneer film on space exploration, “Universe,” which was used by NASA in pilot training and which strongly influenced the late director Stanley Kubrick in making his film “2001: A Space Odyssey.”

The huge success of his multi-image film “Labyrinth,” shown in several pavilions at Expo ’67 in Montreal, led to the formation of the IMAX Systems Corp., of which he is vice-president and director, and whose revolutionary IMAX giant-screens he helped design, launching a worldwide industry. Continuing to innovate, he produced and directed the first OMNIMAX 3-D movie, “We Are Born of Stars,” for Expo ’85.

While thanking the UCPBF for the



**UCPBF President Oksana Bashuk Hepburn with Terry Evanshen, recipient of the Personal Achievement Award.**

recognition. Mr. Kroitor recalled his childhood filled with Ukrainian song and dance and plays put on by his mother, a teacher in rural Saskatchewan schools, that filled his life with inspiration

**Lubko Belej:**  
Youth Achievement

The Guelph, Ontario-born immediate past president of the Ukrainian Canadian Students’ Union (SUSK), was a member first of the SUM Ukrainian Youth Association and is currently an active member of Plast’s “Vovkulaky” (Werewolves) fraternity. Attending Brock University in 1995-1999, he revived the Ukrainian Students’ Club there, has been instrumental in bringing a renewed vigor to the activities of SUSK, and participated as a panelist at the Youth Conference at the recent Ukrainian World Congress in Toronto in December 1998.

Mr. Belej told the banquet attendees he would “continue to encourage young

Ukrainians to involve themselves in community organizations” and expressed gratitude for having been “plugged into the Ukrainian professional and business network.”

**Yorkton UCPBA:**  
Humanitarian Award

The UCPBA branch of Yorkton, Saskatchewan, was honored with the special Humanitarian Award for the branch’s selfless support of two families who had immigrated to the area from Ukraine, as well as support for other individuals from Ukraine, for two years.

Ms. Wanio, a member of the UCPBF jury, stated that the jury decided to reward a gesture that was symbolic of the sacrifices made by Ukrainian Canadians for their families from their homeland.

Harry Krumyk, president of the Yorkton branch, accepted the award on behalf of the organization, commenting

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### Oksana Bashuk Hepburn: UCPBF president for 1999-2000

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – Upon announcing the new slate of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation’s executive for the 1999-2000 term at the body’s biennial convention on July 3, event organizer Raya Shadurska provided a biographical sketch of the incoming president, Oksana Bashuk Hepburn.

Born in Ukraine, Oksana Bashuk-Hepburn immigrated to Canada with her parents after the war and settled in Winnipeg. She graduated with a B.A. in political science from the University of Manitoba in 1963 and joined the federal public service that year, moving to Ottawa in 1965.

In 1970 she traveled to Australia to be with her first husband (the late Lubomyr Zyla) during his three-year diplomatic posting in Sydney, and set up a management consulting business while there. Returning to Ottawa, she ran her consulting firm until she rejoined the public service at the executive level in 1980, working as a “troubleshooter” at the Federal Treasury Board.

Over the course of the next 13 years, Ms. Bashuk Hepburn handled a

number of top-level bureaucratic tasks. She served as director of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and of Health and Welfare Canada.

In her capacity as senior executive advisor to a number of ministries, she was instrumental in the formation of tripartite community-government-industry consultation boards at the ministries of Labor and the Environment; was part of a team that reorganized the Canada Transport Investigation Board, which deals with marine, rail and air traffic accidents; and oversaw executive personnel programs at the Public Service Commission and the Treasury Board.

In 1991 she left the public service to found Ukraine-Canada Relations Inc. (UCAN), a consulting firm that oversees governmental exchange programs between the two countries. Two of Ukraine’s prime ministers – Pavlo Lazarenko and Valerii Pustovoitenko – have been high-profile participants.

Also in 1991 she remarried. She and her husband, Ken Hepburn, run Bashuk Hepburn Associates, a consulting firm handling non-Ukrainian contracts.

In 1998 Ms. Bashuk Hepburn was elected president of the Ottawa branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

## Convention presentations and panels cover issues facing Ukrainian Canadian community

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – Throughout the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation's biennial convention delegates were drawn into intense discussions of issues that face them and their community at the turn of the century.

On July 2, following the keynote address by former astronaut Roberta Bondar (see separate report on page 13), delegates attended the first plenary session, which addressed the questions: "Who are we? Where are we? What does the future hold?"

Panelists included: Michael Kostiuk, a geographer-cartographer of Ukrainian-Irish background, who served as the UCPBF's vice-president of Internet communications from 1995, maintaining the organization's website and in the winter of 1995, who also worked on a project to connect seven health organizations in Ukraine to the Internet; and Paul Grod, chairman and founder of the Canada Ukraine Internship Program (CUIP), a former president of the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) and an executive member of the Conference of Ukrainian Youth Organizations (CUYO), currently pursuing a career in law and business at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

### The statistics of identity

Mr. Kostiuk presented data gathered from Statistics Canada to present a picture of Ukrainian Canadian demographics based on the 1996 Census.

The report, accessible at <http://fox.nstn.ca/~mkostiuk/ukcandem.html>, presents a the dramatic decline of position of Ukrainians among Canada's leading ethnic groups.

In 1971 Ukrainian was third, behind German and Italian, as a mother tongue for a language other than English or French – a reported 309,890 speakers; it slipped to fifth, behind Portuguese and marginally ahead of Polish (with Chinese rising to second place) by 1991 (down to 201,320 speakers); by 1996 Ukrainian dropped to ninth on the languages list (174,830 speakers), falling well behind Polish and Punjabi and just ahead of Arabic. Of those listing Ukrainian as their mother tongue, 47 percent were age 65 or older.

As to Ukrainian in the home, the language has not registered a position in the top 10 since it disappeared from the top-15 list prior to the 1991 census.

The most dramatic statistic dealt with language shift between 1971 and 1996, indicating the use of Ukrainian in Canadian homes declined by 76.5 percent (only German, at 71.2 percent, showed a comparable shift, and only Dutch fared worse, at 87.2 percent).

Mr. Kostiuk also presented information indicating the distribution of those profess-



Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

**UCPBF Convention Organizer and Past President Raya Shadursky introduces panelists for plenary discussion of Ukrainian demographics, youth and future community directions: geographer-demographer Michael Kostiuk (left) and Pavlo Grod (center), founding chairman of the Canada-Ukraine Internship Program.**

ing knowledge of Ukrainian and actual use of the language across the country. Toronto led the country with 35,220 claiming knowledge of Ukrainian and 11,580 professing to use it at home; in Edmonton, 26,430 reported knowledge of the language, but only 2,320 use it at home; and in Winnipeg there were 2,550 home users among the 24,530 who reported knowing Ukrainian.

### Identity maintained, but mixed

For Mr. Kostiuk, these grim statistics were not portents of doom, but markers of a reality that Ukrainian organizations in Canada needed to face. He derived comfort from the apparent fact that people continue to identify themselves as Ukrainians, despite their gradual mixing with other heritages.

He emphasized that in the 1996 census, 1,026,475 individuals reported a Ukrainian background, with those of mixed heritage outnumbering the "single response" Ukrainians 694,790 to 331,680.

Mr. Kostiuk's survey also gave figures for the number of individuals who reported that they had recently immigrated from Ukraine. Toronto was the leader, this time by a disproportionate margin with 4,030; Montreal at 785; Vancouver at 635; Edmonton, 515; Ottawa-Hull, 250; Winnipeg, a surprisingly scant (given the province's special immigration programs) 235; while 145 settled in Calgary; 120 in Oshawa, Ontario; and 100 in Hamilton, Ontario.

### Give youth a "fix" of belonging

Mr. Grod began his presentation with the truism "the future equals youth," then outlined some of the challenges that Ukrainian Canadian organizations face.

The former SUSK leader and current SUM activist pointed out that most youth "don't tend to belong to a particular organization, and keep mostly to themselves, but show a need for an occasional fix of altruism and a sense of belonging – they will show up if made aware of specific projects and drives."

Mr. Grod said it is paramount for organizations to become more professional, engage in more strategic planning and rely on entirely different strategies than appeals to guilt or responsibility to the community.

The CIUP chair said his program is part of a movement that needs to be expanded – one that capitalizes on the emergence of an independent Ukraine by creating opportunities for individuals to express their altruism. Mr. Grod praised the Help Us Help the Children initiatives in support of orphans in Ukraine, and suggested that kibbutz-type efforts could be initiated in the eight-year-old country.

Mr. Grod said organizations had to begin "thinking outside the box" of their traditions and current practices, and address controversial questions. The questions the young banker-lawyer posed were provocative, including: Should all youth organizations be amalgamated into one? Should all unsuccessful organizations be disbanded? Should people agree to a minimum of two or three people on all executives?

Mr. Grod saw a further challenge in the apparent reversal in social mood away from the "ethnic chic" that prevailed in the 1970s and 1980s, to a darkening mood against them. He said Ukrainians have to be vigilant against the vilification of Ukrainians and the tainting of their history.

### Tainted perceptions

At a workshop after the panel, the theme

"Global Impressions: Perception versus Reality" addressed Mr. Grod's point about the vilification of Ukrainians.

Andrew Gregorovich of the Toronto-based Ukrainian Research and Documentation Center denounced as "historically myopic" the recent decision by the Liquor Control Board of Ontario to bow to a complaint by a Toronto resident offended by the fact that a line of the Ukrainian-made "Hetman" vodka carried the likeness of 17th century Kozak leader Bohdan Khmelnytsky.

Mr. Gregorovich also presented a reading list of materials to be used to blunt arguments presenting Ukrainians as anti-Semitic.

Lesia Jones of Media Watch Ukraine recapitulated the history of the deportation, trial in Israel and subsequent continuing efforts to prosecute retired Cleveland auto worker John Demjanjuk.

Olya Odynsky Grod focused on the strongly negative impact that the Canadian Justice Department's program of denaturalization and deportation has had on the image of Ukrainian Canadians and on her own family (her father is the object of proceedings).

Volodymyr Halchuk, the newly elected president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) Ontario Provincial Council, galvanized the audience with his outrage at the defacing of the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Toronto's Christie Street on June 20.

UCC Toronto Branch President Maria Szkambara decried the lack of fortitude shown by lawyers of Ukrainian background in not standing up in defense of the community's good name.

A convention guest from the United States, Bohdan Vitvitsky, president of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons of New York and New Jersey, rose to commend the panelists and participants for their fervor and convictions, but urged them not to allow "short-term discussions to turn into dilettantism" and called on the Ukrainian Canadian community to "call a conference and decide whether an appropriate amount of resources would be allocated to influence the media, government and the society at large in a proper direction."

### Building an Internet community

The next plenary session was titled "The New Millennium: Modern Telecommunications" and chaired by the Ontario Advocates' Society Executive Director Alexandra Chychij. Ms. Chychij pointed out that one of the factors that accelerated the fall of the Soviet Union, particularly in the immediate aftermath of



**"The International Marketplace" panel: at the podium, Zenon Kulchisky, partner in Trident Video, speaks about doing business in Ukraine; seated (from left) are Stephan Bihun, communications and marketing consultant; Eugene Luczkiw, founding director of the Institute for Enterprise Education; and session moderator Zenon Holadyk.**

(Continued on page 18)

# Canada's first woman astronaut, a Ukrainian, gives environmental focus to "Global Spirit"

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – The organizers of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation's convention made many inspired choices in gathering its list of panelists and participants.

However, before they asked Dr. Roberta Lynn Bondar, the first Canadian woman in space, to be their keynote speaker – a perfect selection for a gathering whose slogan was "Catch the Global Spirit" – they must have wondered whether they should also automatically present her with an award for personal achievement. Her curriculum vitae is humbling, if not mind-numbing.

Dr. Bondar was born December 4, 1945, in Sault-Ste.-Marie, Ontario. According to the Great Canadian Scientists website, while still a child she dreamed of becoming Flash Gordon and doing battle with Ming the Merciless. She got her private pilot's license while still in high school.

Dr. Bondar earned a doctorate in neurobiology from the University of Toronto in 1974, an M.D. from McMaster University in 1977 and, after a stint at the neuro-ophthalmology unit of the Tuft's New England Medical Center in Boston and the Playfair Neuroscience Unit of Toronto Western Hospital, as well as having completed post-graduate medical training in neurology at the University of Western Ontario in London, she was admitted in 1981 as a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada as a specialist in neurology.

Dr. Bondar was one of the six original Canadian astronauts selected in December 1983, while working as an assistant professor of neurology at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario (1982-1984).

Although she began astronaut training in February 1984, a long waiting period on the ground was standard. Dr. Bondar did not spend the time idly. She conducted research at the Pacific Vascular Institute in Seattle and at Toronto's Sunnybrook Medical Center, among others.

It was not until early 1990 that she was designated for a mission – the first involving the International Microgravity Laboratory. Dr. Bondar flew on the space shuttle Discovery during Mission STS-42 on January 22-30, 1992, and she performed life science and material science experiments in the Spacelab and on the shuttle's middeck.

Since that flight, her efforts exploded. She taught and conducted research as an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico's departments of neurology and biology (1992-1994), was accepted into the faculty of the Center for Advanced Technology Education at the Ryerson Polytechnical Institute (1992), and served as visiting distinguished fellow, department of medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University (1993-1994); and as a visiting distinguished professor of kinesiology at the University of Western Ontario (1994-1998).

Dr. Bondar conducted research in the U.S. at Boston's Deaconess Hospital, the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Edwards Air Force Base in Texas, and the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

She even excels at hobbies, (she was an honors student in professional nature photography at the Brooks Institute of Photography, Santa Barbara, Calif.). In 1995 her book "To Touch the Earth," graced with NASA's and her own photography and with a text inspired by her space journey, was published by the

Toronto-based Key Porter Books.

In 1997 she was appointed to a special advisory panel by Canada's Minister of Health Allan Rock.

On June 24 Dr. Bondar was accepted as a specially elected fellow into the Royal Society of Canada. According to her citation, as a member of the University of Western Ontario Faculty of Health Sciences, Dr. Bondar conducted pioneering neurological research, for her "unique ability to capture the minds and imaginations of people of all ages," for her tireless promotion of the appreciation of sciences and encouragement of learning and research at all levels, "for expanding opportunities for Canadian scientists to participate in research in space, and for developing international collaboration in life sciences for Canada."

Sault-Ste.-Marie has gone Bondar-happy, renaming a plaza, several schools, resource centers, libraries, scholarships and athletic awards after the astronaut. Towns across the country have followed suit. The province of Ontario renamed its Science and Technology Awards in her honor and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada established a fellowship in her name.

The website of the Roberta Bondar Earth and Space Center Planetarium at Toronto's Seneca College, <http://www.senecac.on.ca/bondar/astronauts.html>, provides a comprehensive list of her achievements.

## Cosmic keynote address

For a woman of learning, Dr. Bondar phrases her credos in disarming fashion. "I think it's very important that when we do stuff," she said, "we don't assume that's the only accomplishment we'll attain in life – there's always something beyond that we can work toward."

The astronaut said the space program is unique in that "there are only about 500 people out of a global population of 5 to 6 billion that have experienced space flight, and yet these individuals were not selected because of their wisdom or their potential to bring back fresh ideas to Earth."

"You're probably aware," the scientist added, "that there has been no great poetry that has come from space flight, or any truly good books – although I did attempt to write one –" written by any of the program's participants.

"Sometimes pure science does not bring that experience back, nor change our lives and our attitudes as perhaps it should," she noted.

Because of the technical experience necessary and the emphasis of the pre-flight training, Dr. Bondar said that, by and large, "people who go up lack the kind of mind that might embark on a path of deeper understanding."

To compound this problem, the shuttle scientist said: "Everything flashes by very quickly, 90 minutes around the Earth means 9 kilometers per second, few colors are visible, and it is very difficult to recognize specific features on the ground."

Dr. Bondar said the primary thing she gained was a certainty that the environment is non-negotiable. Her focus on the fragility and uniqueness of Earth's beauty amidst the vastness of space is common among former astronauts. However, the Sault-Ste.-Marie native suggested that, for the most part, astronauts have come down the same as they went up – perhaps with convictions more strongly entrenched.

Jokingly, the astronaut said there are two myths about the space program she wanted to dispel: "No. 1, you can't see the Great Wall of China from up there;



Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

**Ukrainian Canadian Shuttle Astronaut Roberta Bondar poses next to the "Ukrainian Achievements in Space" Exhibit at the UCPBF Convention.**

No. 2, we don't drink Tang."

Returning to the serious tenor of her talk, Dr. Bondar explained that the 55 experiments she conducted, based on research carried on by 13 countries, concerned human adaptation to space conditions and the methods by which invertebrates, such as insects, and vertebrates, such as humans, function in gravity.

The astronaut commended organizers for having given Roman Kroitor, one of the creators of IMAX systems, an award, since it very closely matches the size and clarity of the film used in both the U.S. and Soviet/Russian space programs.

Dr. Bondar began her slide show with a photo, taken from the Russian MIR Station, of the shuttle Discovery with its bay doors ajar, which to her represents "the opening up of a person's mind."

The astronaut-activist said she has taken leave from her academic duties to embark on a cross-Canada campaign called "Passionate Vision: A Photo Journey," to show people from sea to sea the beauty of their country through photographs she herself has taken.

She was harshly critical of the industrial policies that have left entire ranges denuded of trees, degrading the soil. "There are three things we need: clean water, clean air, and trees and plant life," Dr. Bondar said. "We cannot eat soil, [trees] can. We need them to keep the cycle of nutrients going, otherwise we will starve as a species."

"We've developed technologies to get us into space, and this enables us to view things from a wiser perspective, and yet we've developed technologies that can do us in," the activist said.

"One thing you feel very starkly when you're in space is that the Earth is all we have – there are just billions of stars, and nothing else," she added.

Dr. Bondar showed examples of her stunning images of rugged mountains, lush temperate rainforests, resplendent fall colors, and close-ups of fauna, such as porcupines, and flora, such as caribou mosses and ferns.

Dr. Bondar then turned to shuttle-eye-view shots, contrasting the look of protected wildernesses such as the Pacific Rim National Park, the Banff, Yoho and Jasper national parks, the wilderness

around Lake Huron's Georgian Bay and the St. Lawrence Islands Provincial Park with the stark white patches of logged terrain, as well as the relatively denuded urban environs of Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Montreal and her native city.

The astronaut said, "in the shuttle's photographs, places taken up by cities and suburbs look like someone has taken a razor to velvet and shorn away all the pile."

Dr. Bondar said she is driven by a sense of responsibility that falls to her as an explorer to convey the issues facing humans as inhabitants of the planet. She also said she feels duty-bound to people in Canada who don't get a chance to see first-hand both the richness of its natural inheritance and what is being done to it.

As someone who immersed herself in science, she said it was time for her to assist in prompting "society [to] ride a pendulum swing away from the culture of technology in order to attain some balance."

She said that taking her message to corporations has been very important. "They've been treating me with a lot of respect, for a hippie," she quipped. "For me, education is the thing. Children are very important, but education shouldn't stop with childhood," Dr. Bondar added.

During the question and answer session, she conceded she hadn't been aware that she was the second Ukrainian woman in space, after the Soviet cosmonaut Valentyna Tereshkova, and said she still looks forward to visiting Ukraine.

Prompted by the editor of Forum magazine, Andrew Gregorovich, the astronaut said she would make a point of trying to meet the Moscow-based Ukrainian former cosmonaut Pavlo Popovych at one of the annual meetings of the International Association of Space Explorers, which brings together the elite club of space flight veterans.

Dr. Bondar pointed out with determined humor that, while there are vast differences in technological level between the U.S. and Russian space programs, "there are still many Russian cosmonauts and American astronauts who don't take women as seriously as they should."

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## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

raising budget revenues and cutting expenditures, and proposed their own solution to non-payment for utilities services. A three-year \$2.205 billion (U.S.) EFF program for Ukraine was approved in September 1998. (RFE/RL Newswire, Eastern Economist)

### Finance Ministry to shape tax policy

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree putting the Finance Ministry in charge of taxation policies, a key requirement for the International Monetary Fund to resume its \$2.6 billion aid program to Ukraine, the Associated Press reported on August 27. The decree deprives the State Tax Administration of policy-making duties and orders the Finance Ministry to set tax collection targets and propose new taxes. The State Tax Administration retains the right to monitor tax collection. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### World Bank may provide \$100 M loan

KYIV – The World Bank has tentatively agreed to provide Ukraine with a \$100 million (U.S.) loan by September 7 to pay off back wages, pensions and other social programs, Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko said. He stressed that the final decision depends on “the positive development of Ukraine-IMF relations.” Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov pointed out that if the funds are granted, the situation among the recipients of social payments will improve significantly. Mr. Tyhytko stressed that when the funds are received they will be disbursed

proportionally in order not to destabilize the hryvnia. (Eastern Economist)

### New USAID director for Kyiv sworn in

KYIV – Christopher Crowley was sworn in on August 26 in Washington as the new mission director to USAID Kyiv, covering Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. He is due to arrive in Kyiv on August 29 and will replace Gregory Huger, who served in the Kyiv post since 1995. Mr. Crowley will oversee the USAID's third-largest program, which manages approximately \$270 million in annual assistance. Since 1992 the USAID has provided over \$1.4 billion in technical and humanitarian aid in support of Ukraine's democratic, economic and social transition. (Eastern Economist)

### Tkachenko calls for Cabinet's resignation

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko said on August 25 that the legislature should reconsider the issue of the Cabinet's resignation, UNIAN reported. Mr. Tkachenko added that in July he voted against dismissing the government because he did not want “to upset the balance between Ukraine's branches of power at harvest time.” Now, however, Mr. Tkachenko said he believes the Cabinet of Ministers “pays absolutely no attention to national economic issues but is wholly engaged in the president's election campaign.” Mr. Tkachenko criticized Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko for his involvement in the campaign. “Pustovoitenko was appointed prime minister to head the government ... and not the [pro-presidential] Zlakhoda association,” the chairman said. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### Tkachenko again urges Slavic union

KYIV – “Ukraine urgently needs to set up economic and defense unions with Russia and Belarus,” said Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko. Mr. Tkachenko, who is the Peasants Party's candidate for president, also advocates that Ukraine join the CIS customs union. (Eastern Economist)

### Symonenko would eliminate presidency

KYIV – Petro Symonenko, presidential candidate and leader of Communist Party, once again pointed out that if he became president he would eliminate the presidential post in Ukraine. Mr. Symonenko also boasted that he will resolve the main economic issues in Ukraine during the first five years of his term. (Eastern Economist)

### Ukraine sends rescuers to Turkey

KYIV – An aircraft with 37 rescuers on board has been sent to Turkey by the Ukrainian Emergencies Ministry. UNIAN learned that the rescue group, which included six dog handlers and dogs, were flown to Istanbul on August 18. The group then traveled to Sakarya, near Izmit, the epicenter of the devastation, where it immediately began search and rescue operations. All expenses connected with the work of the Ukrainian rescue group, as well as its flight to Istanbul airport, were covered by Ukraine. It is likely that a second aircraft will be sent with a joint unit on board. (Eastern Economist)

### Ukraine, Greece sign cooperation treaty

KYIV – Greek Defense Minister Akis Tsokhadzopoulos arrived in Kyiv on

August 30 on a two-day official visit. According to the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's press service, he met with Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk and Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko to discuss the deepening of bilateral military, military-political and military-technical cooperation, and to coordinate the views of the two states on the issue of European and regional security. The two sides also discussed the possibility of Greece buying Ukrainian military equipment, like the AN-32P firefighter aircraft and the T-84 tank. An agreement on military and technical cooperation between Ukraine and Greece was signed August 30 by Industrial Policy Minister Vasyl Hureiev and Greek Defense Minister Akis Tsokhadzopoulos. (Eastern Economist)

### Independent TV channel may face closure

KYIV – Tax authorities in Kyiv on August 26 ordered that the bank account of the private STB television station be closed because of the station's failure to submit tax documents for examination, the Associated Press reported. STB President Dmytro Prykordonnyi told journalists that his station cannot submit the required documents because they are being held by eight other state bodies. “I haven't dealt with television proper for the past two months. Instead, I've been working with the nine controlling agencies,” Mr. Prykordonnyi commented. He added that the channel will have to close in September unless it is granted access to its money. STB has vowed to give equal air time to each of the leading candidates in the upcoming presidential ballot. (RFE/RL Newswire)

## Canadian care-giver...

(Continued from page 7)

Consulate with his or her passport, Canadian visitor's visa, a letter from the sponsoring family evidencing financial support for the trip to the U.S., a return air ticket and a copy of the letter from Human Resources Canada indicating the matter has been transferred to the Canadian Consulate for an interview in the United States.

The U.S. Consulate wants reassurance that if the care-giver is allowed to travel into the U.S. he or she will leave the U.S. after the interview. For visitors to Canada who have a current unexpired Canadian visitor's visa, a trip to the United States is possible even though the Canadian visa does not allow for multiple entries. So long as the Canadian visa is current when the applicant returns to Canada, Canadian border officials will allow the applicant to re-enter Canada – but only once. This is important to applicants who may be denied care-giver's status since they can still return to Canada despite

the refusal. Once the immigrant has obtained the visitor's visa from the American Consulate, he or she is ready to travel for the interview at the relevant Canadian Consulate in the United States.

Having a visa to enter the United States as a visitor in order to attend an interview at a Canadian Consulate is not a guarantee of entry into the United States. When flying to the United States care-givers are often re-examined by U.S. immigration officials on the reasons for their trip and the documents they produce. These officials have the final say and, believe it or not, can refuse entry even to someone with a visa from the U.S. Consulate. Therefore, it is helpful for family members to remain at airport gates until they can be certain the care-giver has passed through U.S. immigration and to help out with respect to translations or arguments on why the person should be let through if problems do arise. The occasional border crisis can be averted through a timely intervention with U.S. Immigration at a Canadian airport by helpful family mem-

bers at the scene who argue the merits and purpose of the proposed U.S. visit.

Once the care-giver arrives in the United States he or she can proceed directly to the relevant Canadian Consulate. My experience has been it is best to show up early and to expect to be there all day. The care-giver should produce a copy of the Human Resources Canada letter, a passport and \$50 (Canadian) processing fee. He or she will also need to produce original and English translations of all diplomas and other pertinent documents, which should include letters from the home country attesting to the applicant's experience or training and good moral character. These documents will be required during the interview itself. The same goes for interviews in the applicant's home country where the application is made from overseas.

The applicant's papers are collected by the receptionist, and the applicant is told to sit and wait for the interview. Usually, about an hour or so later, the applicant is given another form to fill out at the Consulate. This form inquires into the applicant's work and educational history. Care should be taken in completing this application since it must correspond to the assertions being made about previous relevant education or work experience related to care-giving. In particular, dates should correspond to the dates that are on diplomas or other documents submitted to prove the applicant fits the required criteria. Conflicts between this form and other documents related to education or work experience feed the suspicions of visa officers who are looking for reasons to deny applications.

The interview is usually next and is usually conducted in the absence of counsel. Applicants outside Canada do not have the right to have their lawyer present. The questions asked usually start off with the who, what, where, why and how of the situation and cover the four grounds for legal admission to Canada. Invariably I have found that the visa officers cannot locate the medical clearance that was obtained by the applicant when they renewed their visitor's visa after six months in Canada, although in every case eventually it is found it. Because this can cause a delay, it is helpful to bring a

copy of the medical report from the doctor who performed the exam to prove the medical exam was completed.

Assuming all goes well, it is possible to get approval from a Canadian Consulate in the United States for the care-giver in one day. As for applications overseas, the medicals usually hold things up since they take some time to be approved and are not something already completed before the interview, as they are in the U.S. case.

Assuming all goes well, the applicant is given a letter of approval which he or she presents to the Canadian immigration official on returning to Canada. The letter basically states that the applicant has been approved as a care-giver and requests the border official to issue the person a work authorization and visa. The visa is issued for one year and assuming the care-giver encounters no troubles, is renewed for the second year almost automatically.

At the end of the second year the care-giver can then apply for permanent residence in Canada which usually takes about three months. If Canada Immigration has some suspicions about the care-giver's life in Canada and his or her compliance with the rules, the applicant may be invited in for an interview. Such an interview is designed to inquire into whether the applicant has set down roots in the community. Evidence of involvement in community affairs, taking English or other evening course, savings and friendships will help the applicant in this back-end review before permanent residence is granted.

The beauty of this program lies in the fact that those individuals who are successful in their applications can improve their lives, and the lives of their descendants, forever. Through this program they can change their destinies, and the destinies of those who follow them. Few opportunities like this exist in the world for ordinary people, and for that reason, Canada should be very proud of this aspect of its immigration policy.

As for the Ukrainian community, it should try to make as much use of this program as possible, since it offers a way we can help Ukrainians from Ukraine while helping ourselves at the same time.

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## Ukrainian Dance Camp participants display talents at Verkhovyna resort

by W. Bruce Potter

GLEN SPEY, N.Y. – What a delight it is to spend a leisurely summer afternoon up in the mountains of New York state, enjoying the sunshine, warm breezes and bugs, mosquitoes and spiders.

No, I'm not kidding.

On Saturday, August 7, the ensemble presentation of "Mukha – The Fly" premiered here at the Verkhovyna Resort, under the inspired artistic direction of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky.

Once again, Ms. Bohachevsky took traditional Ukrainian folklore themes and molded them into an exhilarating ballet that allowed young Ukrainian dancers to demonstrate their practiced technique, while showcasing the exquisite classic skill of the principal dancers.

Coming from New York, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Texas, Connecticut, Ohio and as far away as California, the young participants of this year's Ukrainian Dance Camp prepared themselves for long hours at the ballet bar and in practicing intricate footwork and hand movements. Two weeks of hard work culminated in the performance that family and friends had traveled far to see. What resulted was a joy to experience.

The first act was a wonderful pastiche with a magical midsummer night's glow that told of a world of insects, all celebrating the name's day of Mukha who, along with her friends, the ladybugs, caterpillars, beetles, ants, moths, cockroaches, butterflies; experienced an adventure of romance and spidery malevolence that could only be expressed through the storytelling of ballet. Special recognition goes to Boris Bohachevsky, who wrote the story and selected the music.

Using an ensemble of over 70 young dancers, various bugs revealed the story of the young heroine's attraction to the evil spider and his web, her hypnotic capture via beautiful silks and the eventual heroic battle to release her. A plot worthy of Shakespeare with a Ukrainian flavor, the story was a perfect plot to enable the various ballet skill levels of the students to express their accomplishments in dance.

The four principal dancers – Mr. Bohachevsky as the beetle that tangoes; Andriy Cybyk as the heroic Komar, the green-eyed mosquito; Adrienne Gawron as Mukha; and Orlando Pagan, the evil black spider – brought great professional style to their roles. Through their dance "language" they conveyed a fully developed understanding of what their characters represented in the play. By including traditional Ukrainian dance steps, their performances set the tone for a Carpathian folktale.

Messrs. Bohachevsky, Cybyk and Pagan, Ms. Gawron and Christina Izak were the camp's instructors.

While all were magnificent in their performances, several highlights are memorable. Particularly moving was the nervous, though courageous re-enactment of the capture of Mukha for the brave Komar by the fluttering moth. Mr. Pagan's spider was wonderful. His portrayal of an evil force in the bug kingdom put many in the audience in awe of his controlled malevolence, even cheering for him during the final battle. The narcotic mood of the silks bringing in Mukha was captivating.

A special note also must be made of the costumes and music. Dancers were festooned with magnificent outfits and the colors of the various insects they represented. The flowing wings of the butterflies, the multi-colored silk banners of the worms, the mushroom-capped young dancers and cute ladybugs all created the



The finale of the dance campers' performance.

fantasy images for the performance. Again, Mr. Bohachevsky scored the dance with music that fit the plot. From Beethoven to Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, the instrumental music chosen for each of the scenes, though eclectic, tended to blend, rather than distract from the story.

After a brief intermission, the ensemble re-convened to demonstrate its skills in traditional Ukrainian folk dance. Five separate pieces were presented, each using traditional music and themes, some with interesting interpretation through choreographic innovation.

In the first one, "Hutsulka," two country bumpkins try to capture beautiful fish, only to be outsmarted. In "Volynianka,"

"By the River" and "Flirtation Dance from the Lemko Region," the performers took traditional dance themes from various regions of Ukraine and used them to highlight the skills learned during many hours of camp training. The "Hopak" finale allowed all the participants to demonstrate their athletic precision and artistic discipline.

Behind the scenes, but working just as diligently were Ada Helbig as the practice accompanist and Marusia Darmohraj-Mulyk, the camp director.

\* \* \*

Finally the hours of sweat were over, the performance was complete. The camp

slowly began to wind down, as young people gave one last hug to their friends and one last thank-you to their counselors. Automobiles trunks were packed with sheets and towels; one last run down the hill to the lake to catch a frog was squeezed in.

As parents drove tired young people from that mountain resort in New York, it seems sad that so much effort was expended for only one performance. Yet maybe it was the discipline, the cultural experience, the participation in what it means to be a Ukrainian that made these two weeks important. Thank you, Ms. Bohachevsky, for keeping this tradition alive and well.

## Chornomorska Sitch conducts 30th anniversary Sports School

by Christine Kozak-Prociuk

GLEN SPEY, N.Y. – The Chornomorska Sitch Sports School completed its 30th anniversary season at the Ukrainian Fraternal Association's Verkhovyna resort with more than 80 campers from various regions of the United States and Ukraine participating in the four weekly sessions beginning July 25 and ending August 21.

Soccer instruction was conducted by Andrew Panas and Roman Holowinsky for the first two weeks, and by Ihor Czeszko and Greg Serheev for the second two weeks. Messrs. Panas, Holowinsky and Serheev all are former sports school participants. Various drills and exercises were conducted, and techniques and "moves" were taught, augmented via audio/visual training. The campers participated in extensive competitions for best dribbler, best juggler, most penalty shots, etc.

Swimming instruction was given by Mary Kate Farrell and Orest Hawryluk. Swimmers learned proper stroke and diving techniques, and each swimmer was given specialized instruction for his/her ability. Weekly swim races were enjoyed by all as swimmers exhibited their newly learned swimming skills and competed for medals. Some of the campers were also training for the swim meet to be conducted by the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada at

Soyuzivka during Labor Day weekend.

Tennis was instructed by Yuri Saldana, Mr. Hawryluk, Jane Brynzak and Dan Lewycky. Players were taught terminology in both Ukrainian and English; drills, exercises and stroke clinics were held throughout the four weeks. Tennis players were grouped according to ability and competed in tennis tournaments – even the youngest of players, 8-year-olds, participated.

Volleyball instruction was conducted by Adrianna Hordynsky and Mr. Hawryluk. Players underwent numerous eye-hand-ball coordination, technique, running and strategy drills, and learned scoring techniques. Volleyball players competed against each other using their new skills in setting, digging, bumping, spiking and serving. Volleyball tournaments were held biweekly.

Other activities featured during sports school were: talent/variety shows, singing, dances and the trademark obstacle course "Journey through Ukraine," which features obstacles named after Ukrainian cities in geographical order. (Due to drought conditions, the traditional weekly bonfires were not held.)

Nightly league games were the highlights of each sports-filled day for the campers. Using Ukrainian cities and team names, the campers competed against one another. Sports videos, educational and recreational movies, the

singing of the Ukrainian national anthem, the lowering and folding of the American and Ukrainian flags and evening prayers, ended the campers' fun-filled days under the starry skies of Verkhovyna.

Counselors play an important part integrating youths into camp life. The year's especially selected counselors were Ms. Farrell and Ms. Hordynsky, girls' counselors; Alexander Napora, younger boys' counselor; and Walter Wasylak, older boys' counselor. Counselors supervised the campers as they made their beds, and cleaned, swept and mopped their barracks daily for inspection. Many a parent commented on the improvement of their children's abilities. Counselors provided supervision in both the Ukrainian and English languages.

Camp administrators were: Myron Stebelsky, director for first two weeks, Omelan Twardowsky, director for second two weeks, Mary Bokalo, secretary and federal food program administrator, and Christine Kozak-Prociuk, medical director.

At the camp closing on August 2 the camp directors thanked the campers, parents and guests, and urged all campers and their parents to compete in sports throughout the year, honorably representing their Ukrainian heritage.

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## Oleksander Moroz...

(Continued from page 3)

was introduced that led to the violation of price parity and lowering of agricultural product prices. Basically, energy and fuel were purchased by farmers at world prices, but they paid in goods, not cash. The middleman in the barter system simply dictated the value of the farmers' goods to the farmers. For Westerners this type of arrangement may be difficult to understand, because it is basically a leftover from the Stone Age. The farmer was told, and accepted the fact that his production must be sold at a significant discount, because the costs of manufacturing and the middleman's services will be included in the final product's consumer price.

So, when it came down to determining the comparative price for the sunflower seeds, or any other agricultural product for that matter, in relation to the price of fuel and energy, the volume of produce required to "pay" world prices was artificially high. The produce, consequently, fell in value. This created conditions that were extremely unfavorable for the farmer.

All of these barter arrangements (in some regions 70-80 percent of all transactions were conducted on this basis) made the agricultural producer completely dependent on the middleman. At the end of the day, the farmer already "owed" his production even before he had sown his fields. The tragedy of all of this lay in that the producer essentially gave away the fruits of his labor at a price far lower than their actual market value. He was forced into this arrangement because otherwise he wouldn't have any produce, be able to sow his fields and operate his farm.

I believe that we currently have an opportunity to change this "system" in Ukraine, and we are preparing to take the necessary steps via legislation and state regulation of these processes. There are factories like the Lenin Factory in Dnipropetrovsk that produce very high quality sunflower oil. This factory is even ready to pre-pay farmers for their sunflower production. Farmers, however, already owe their produce to someone else, and cannot take advantage of the offer. The factory is ready to pay the equivalent of \$211 per ton of sunflower seed, but the farmers cannot sell it to them because his harvest is already committed as payment for the costs of maintaining the farm. This calls for state intervention into the matter, even more so because the value added to sunflower seeds after they are processed into oil is approximately six times the price of the harvested seed. For the good of Ukraine's economy and the state budget, it makes sense for that value to be added within the country. No one can disagree that the full employment of our processing facilities with our own raw materials is a desirable goal. If it is up to me, this will be done.

**What role should Western investors play in Ukraine? Are they welcome here, does Ukraine need foreign investments? Or can the country make it on its own?**

In the last few years, Ukraine has taken a 40- to 50-year step backwards in terms of economic development. At the time of independence, our investment funds were already relatively old, because the USSR focused its capital investments primarily in the eastern and northern regions of the union where new territories were being developed.

Ukraine simply cannot manage without foreign investments. The fact that we need them is undeniable. The operating conditions offered in return for investment are designed to be attractive. The current law "On Foreign Investment" has been analyzed by both foreign and Ukrainian specialists and economists, who have commented that investor interests are very

favorably treated in the law.

There is still another objective reason the West should invest in Ukraine. It lies in the fact that one of the biggest problems in Europe today is that of unemployment. At the European Socialist Congress earlier this year, this topic was a subject of heated discussion, and the congress passed a resolution on combating unemployment in Europe. This is characteristic of current priorities for Europe. Combating unemployment has never had such widespread, concerted support in Europe as it does today. This also reinforces the powerful idea of the complete socialization of European society.

At the same time, and in the context of European progress, there exists an attitude that Ukraine is not exactly developing along the same lines. Ukraine needs to be reoriented on a path of development that will correspond to Europe's. Europe will not be able to conquer the unemployment problem on its own, even if combating unemployment become top priorities in Ukraine and Russia. The common unemployment concern can be tackled in two ways. One, Europe produces goods for mass consumption and sells those goods, for example, in Ukraine, thus creating a consumer market here for European producers. Or Europe can research and develop new means of production and then, by creating technology sector jobs and other forms of capital, invest in our economy. This will create jobs in Ukraine to produce products that will satisfy the domestic market and be exported. I am for the latter approach. My discussions with leading Western corporations have shown that they, too, are interested in this type of cooperation. I believe that our future lies therein.

**What is your view on concessions as a means of attracting foreign investment?**

I consider concession agreements to be acceptable. Each project that involves concessions, however, needs to be looked at closely in terms of its economic sense, because there are both current and long-term benefits to be reaped. We need to observe and analyze the worldwide market in terms of dynamics, trends and developments. Then the process of implementing concessions must be planned beforehand. I do not have any specific reservations because concessions are a normal practice used around the world, and we, too, can benefit from such arrangements.

**Analysts have suggested that the incumbent president's campaign managers' greatest fear is a Kuchma-Moroz showdown in the second round of elections. Why do they fear you so?**

This is the ideological situation at hand: they want to maintain their status. And there is no other candidate that is an adequate substitute for the incumbent, from their point of view. Their campaign is based on certain stereotypes, and their underlying message is that a candidate cannot be allowed to lead the country. This is specifically intended for the West in order to secure support for the incumbent and the existing regime. This explains our position, and indicates that if we come to power, we will replace the existing regime. I do not want to lose the opportunity to do so.

**In your opinion, what is the greatest threat to Ukraine's national security today?**

The economic threat.

**By this you mean "dollarization," colonization?**

Yes, all of these are components, but the

(Continued on page 17)

# Oleksander Moroz...

(Continued from page 16)

most significant threat to our national security lies in the fact that unemployment and the current social malaise can lead to the type of cataclysms that will leave an indelible mark on Ukrainian statehood. Everything must be done to create employment for the people and pay their wages.

**About Ukraine's entry into the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly. As a politician, do you think that this brings about real change? Will Ukraine be better off, or will the country simply be forced to contribute financially to this institution?**

Ukraine can't be a mere observer when discussions concerning legislative models for CIS IPA member-countries are underway. I think this is yet another vehicle for representing Ukraine's interests. Ukraine's sovereignty and independence cannot be guaranteed by simply being or not being members of various international organizations. Pursuing smart politics in these types of institutions, however, will serve as guarantees. The task at hand is to represent Ukraine's interests in all available manners, to take advantage of all possibilities and options.

That is why I think that membership in the IPA will not present even an elementary threat to Ukraine's sovereignty. The objections to IPA membership are not grounded in genuine concern about Ukraine's interests, but are more ideological in nature, basing themselves on slogans such as "Away from Moscow!" In my view, this is an unwise slogan, and will be quickly forgotten once the benefits of IPA involvement are seen through the preparation of various legislative acts that will guarantee effective economic cooperation among the member countries. The rest, in my view, cannot be taken seriously. No one considers Ukraine's membership in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to be a threat to our sovereignty.

**This year, 1999, marks the 65th anniversary of the Great Famine in Ukraine. This anniversary appears to have been largely ignored on the official level. At the same time, we see demonstrations, left-wing rallies, with people carrying images of Stalin. Ukrainians vote for the Communist Party, the party that created the Great Famine. In the West, this appears to be very contradictory, and even serves to lower the opinion held about Ukrainians because some Ukrainians talk about a Great Famine while others vote the Communists into Parliament where they command the largest faction. Is it possible that the Great Famine never happened?**

This is not an altogether accurate assessment. Christians, for example, have no problems calling themselves Christians despite some controversial periods in the history of Christianity. It is a system of beliefs and ideas, and even though the Church has made mistakes in the past, Christianity as an idea has not been discredited.

In the same way, I would not associate the Great Famine exclusively with the Communist Party, although I understand that the Western reader does have preconceived notions on the subject. I was a member of the Communist Party for 18 years and can say honestly that I served the people of Ukraine honestly and conscientiously, and defended our national and social interests.

The Great Famine was very brutal in the village where my family comes from, and I heard about it first-hand from my grandfather and parents. Interestingly, I

remember that when my grandfather spoke about the Great Famine, even during the 1960s (a period of relative liberalization), he never attributed the Great Famine to the activities of the Communist Party. He simply spoke about it as historical fact. He spoke about why it happened, and the reasons he cited were not unlike the rationale offered by the (post-Stalin) Communists who spoke about the "objective" reasons.

When I analyze those years, I think that we, today's politicians, cannot forget about those terrible times, but more importantly we must make sure that they will never be repeated. That would be perhaps the best way to show what we think about those times. Everyone should know the truth about those events, know about the criminal actions of Stalin and his regime and call things by their real names. But, I repeat, attention should be placed on the current state of affairs and not allow them to get any worse than they already are. I think that is possible.

Regarding those people who show up at parades and sometimes carry relics from the past. They believe in them. This is not something welcomed by myself or our party. Moreover, Stalinism and the dictatorial regime were condemned and that is clearly stated in our party's program. But, if a person walks around with a sign, then it reflects the type of person. Did you know that placards with Stalin's picture were not carried between the 1960s and 1990s? Where these people kept them, I do not know.

**Imagine people in Berlin today walking around with pictures of Hitler in public.**

Why imagine? There are people that do it in Berlin. It's all a matter of time. It will pass, and too much attention shouldn't be paid. No one, for example, condemns Austrian social democrats who demonstrate in the center of Vienna on May Day with red flags. The Austrian chancellor sometimes even addresses these gatherings.

**When did you realize that the Soviet Union would be no more? Did it come as a surprise to you?**

It was 1990, and I remember speaking about it with my colleagues-parliamentarians. When Gorbachev began talking about a new union agreement, which basically initiated the demise of the old union, I remember saying that we should welcome a new union not as a weight around our neck, but as a form of independence. We should have sat down, enlisted the services of a specialist who could have determined what belongs to us and what does not in terms of the energy sector, defense, debts, responsibility for Chernobyl, matters concerning the fleet, etc.

This wasn't done because matters were settled in a manner not uncommon for us and first we broke "the clay pot" into thousands of pieces and then took those pieces and tried to figure out where they belong. Had we taken a calmer approach, and itemized all of our concerns and interests, then Ukraine would be a very different place today. Today, nobody in Moscow knows where all of the gold, financial assets, etc. disappeared. In Ukraine, those who once cried out "Away from Moscow!" are now talking about mutual forgiveness, audits and the like. Who is going to take up the matter today?

**Which political leaders or style of leadership appeal to you?**

I admire Roosevelt of the 1930s. I have read quite a bit about him, and there are a lot of interesting lessons to be learned. Recently, while in Bonn, I visited their historical post-war museum and also found it very interesting. It's a testament

to the transition of a society from totalitarianism to democracy. It is very convincing and should be utilized in education about the importance of living in accordance with the rule of law. As it turns out, this is the most important cause.

**A question on geopolitics. Ukraine seems to be in a position where it is being pulled in two different directions at once by the Russians on the one hand, and the Americans on the other. Is Ukraine nothing more than the subject of deals struck between these two powers? Does Ukraine have any independent influence in international politics?**

Perhaps (Ukrainian poet) Vasyl Symonenko's words are appropriate today when he wrote about Ukraine:

Pearls for the soul I sow for you,  
And create and ponder for you,  
Be away America and Russia  
While I am conversing with you.

People are constantly asking: "Where is Ukraine headed - East or West?" Ukraine has nowhere to go right now but up and out of the hole it finds itself in. In this sense, the roads of progress will lead to greater economic integration with both Russia and the West. But Ukraine should remain an independent and influential player on the international scene. In my view, not only Russia, because that isn't the full picture, but also America, shouldn't use other states for political barter. And if certain people consider nations to be geopolitical "goods," then that is truly a sad state of affairs, even for those states that engage in it.

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## Convention presentations...

(Continued from page 12)

the attempted coup of August 1991, was the plethora of fax machines that had been smuggled into the moribund empire from the West.

Ms. Chychij said that computer technology has further democratized access to information and called on the Ukrainian diaspora's organizations to use this technology to expand on the traditional links among its members and accelerate the decision-making process that has made them slow-footed in the past.

Panelist William Roberts, current secretary general of the North American Broadcasters' Association, former senior vice-president for television at the Canadian Association of Broadcasters and former senior policy analyst at the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications

Commission (roughly the equivalent of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission, provided an excellent overview of the changes in telecommunications.

Mr. Roberts said massive changes are ongoing in the telecommunications industry, with the big companies that have dominated telephone, television, cable and Internet access services scrambling to assert control over the emergent "Wild West" in telecommunications.

The media analyst said the democratizing trend mentioned by Ms. Chychij offers opportunities for small players, such as small organized communities (ranging from a group such as the Ukrainian community in Canada, to farm cooperatives, to a neighborhood association active within six city blocks) to bypass the networks set up by the larger companies or ride piggy-back on them.

Mr. Roberts pointed out that setting up

websites is relatively inexpensive, and through them everything from research information to radio and television broadcasts can be carried. However, he cautioned that the marketing of such sites so that a sufficient number of people are aware of the service being provided can be very capital-intensive.

"The future leans to the nimble," the media expert said, "and the nimble are often the smaller."

The other panelist in that afternoon's session, Donald Guy, is vice-president of the Toronto-based firm POLLARA, which conducts public opinion surveys, convenes focus groups for various clients and conducts executive interviews. His prior experience includes service as an advisor to an Ontario Provincial Cabinet minister, as a corporate government relations officer and a research analyst for the federal Ministry of Transportation.

Mr. Guy cited statistics suggesting that two-thirds of Canada's population had used the Internet in the past year; with 76 percent sending electronic mail, 74 percent conducting research (mostly consumer-oriented), and 62 percent buying goods or services.

He pointed out that privacy concerns are paramount. Anonymity is often preferred, and as such is an impediment to "relationship marketing" and the forming of stronger community ties.

The amount of time people devote to the computer screen has to come from somewhere, the analyst said, and he suggested that computer users often "cannibalize" the time previously devoted to community involvement.

And yet, Mr. Guy averred that since Ukrainians have a "brand identity" — their ethnicity — the Internet can serve as a neutral "guilt-free" medium that can attract those who have been at the community's fringes or not participating at all. This is particularly true of youth, the analyst averred, who can be drawn to the tasks of operating and troubleshooting for communications systems.

The double-edged sword, noted Mr. Guy, is that people can communicate with one another almost instantaneously via e-mail across vast distances, or download material from publications or data bases operating afar, yet they become less involved with their own local community.

Veteran UCPBF activist and panelist Olya Kuplowska, senior producer at the publicly funded television station TVO, suggested that Ukrainians have already made a good start in staking a presence on the Internet, but have to expand in a more coordinated and concerted fashion and noted that Ukrainian studies could be easily expanded because the Internet makes it easier to share material and to focus interest strategically.

### Ukrainian entrepreneurial buzz

Participating in the plenary session "The International Marketplace," on July 3, was Eugene Luczkiw, an internationally recognized expert in the field of entrepreneurial development and enterprise education, founding director of the Institute for Enterprise Education (website at <http://iee.vaxxine.com/iee/ented.html>), a non-profit facility affiliated with Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, and an adjunct member of the faculty of business.

His noted success was in turning a company in Ontario's wine industry (formerly a laughingstock) into a presence in the world market. He has been a consultant to the World Bank, the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., among others, and accompanied an Enterprise Canada delegation to Ukraine in 1995.

Mr. Luczkiw's talk was peppered with the buzz that seeks to "change the world by changing attitudes," boldly strike out into new conceptual territory with assertions such as "every citizen, every worker should think like an entrepreneur" and "attitude is

more important than knowledge and skill."

Stephan Bihun, another panelist, joined Bell Canada as a repairman in the 1960s, rose through various management positions, exhibiting talent in marketing, and took on numerous overseas assignments on behalf of Bell Canada International until his retirement in 1994. Drawing on this experience, as well as a two-year period in which he helped break up British Telecom's monopoly in the United Kingdom, Mr. Bihun then ventured into business opportunities in telecommunications in the U.K., Thailand, Australia, France, the Netherlands and Ukraine.

### Ukraine's business climate evaluated

The Bell veteran concentrated on dispelling any illusions businesspeople might have about opportunities in Ukraine, and of relying on the Canadian government's agencies to smooth the way.

"CIDA [the Canadian International Development Agency] is hopeless. Their business planning stuff is doing more harm than good," Mr. Bihun opined. "It has been proven to fail in North America and now it's being inflicted on Ukraine."

Mr. Bihun said the only hope is to sell Ukraine's politicians and leaders of vested interests on the benefits to their constituencies and their own pockets if they adopt proper business practices.

Mr. Bihun took up on the idea voiced earlier by Mr. Luczkiw, suggesting that what is required in Ukraine is a business concept that prompts workers in the country's industries, highly trained but inappropriately employed in labor-intensive projects, to embark on grass-roots entrepreneurship.

It was Mr. Luczkiw's turn to be grimly realistic, pointing out that most in Ukraine are forced by their circumstances into a different mentality. "People are in survival mode in Ukraine, and it is difficult, given the current situation, to switch over to self-actualization, the driving force in the West."

Mr. Luczkiw mentioned an interesting possibility that might allow Ukraine to capitalize on growing opposition to lumber-based paper production around the world, suggesting that if the country's traditional hemp (konopli) industry were to be revived, it would be very well positioned in terms of the world market in the coming decades.

The two-brother team of Andriy and Zenon Kulchisky also offered their insights during a session titled "Learning the Ropes in Ukraine." Investing the money they made in a successful video rental business in Hamilton, Trident Video, they established Marcan International, a joint venture producing bathroom products in Ukraine. Initiated in 1993, the company was eventually run into dormancy and has now been taken over by the Ukraine-based partner.

Zenon Kulchisky, a former lecturer in political science at York, McGill and St. Mary's universities, related that the most demanding task faced by a foreign entrepreneur is keeping track of the changing laws. "If you invest there, stay there with your money, read every issue of Halyski Kontrakty and Dilo [two business-oriented newspapers], and whenever you're confronted by an official demanding a payoff, pull out your clippings," he said, "otherwise you'll be stiffed."

Mr. Kulchisky said there was no getting around the Soviet legacy in Ukraine. "You have to be able to deal with the burden of history," the businessman-scholar averred, "If the arrival of prosperity in Ukraine depends on the reduction of state power, as we believe in the West, the process will be excruciatingly slow."

In a nutshell, his advice to prospective investors: "Don't put all your eggs in the Ukrainian basket, but if you are Ukrainian yourself and are willing to stay in for the long haul, you can watch the gradual process and feel the rewards of having helped the economy in the land of your forebears."

## Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

Ukrainian statehood over the airwaves.

Fleeing westward in 1944, Tarnavsky settled in Munich, where was the first editor of the Munich-based newspaper Ukrainka Trybuna (among the most widely read in the DP camps). He co-founded and served as managing editor of the cosmopolitan literary and arts journal Arka.

Tarnavsky emigrated to the United States in 1949 and settled in Detroit, working as an industrial graphic designer, but also resumed his efforts as a literary translator. He staged and directed his own rendering of the Medieval English morality play "Everyman" and directed its premiere in his adopted city in 1961.

He translated Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," wrote Ukrainian adaptations of the works of Aristophanes and Sophocles, and penned countless radio plays for children.

Reunited in artistic collaboration with Nyzhankivsky, Tarnavsky co-wrote several plays that have been staged but have remained unpublished, including the satirical comedy "Chai u Pana Premiera" (Tea at the Premier's), the historical drama "Attila in Rome," a Ukrainian adaptation of Sophocles's "Antigone." They also began work on a stage adaptation of the medieval "Chronicle of Bygone Years."

Zenon Tarnavsky died in Detroit on August 8, 1962.

A year after his death, his translations of T.S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral" and Georges Bernanos "Dialogues des Carmelites" was published by the prestigious Na Hori series, while a posthumous edition of his selected prose, memoirs, essays and journalistic writings appeared in 1964, titled "Doroha na Vysokyi Zamok" (The Road to the High Castle).

Sources: "Tarnavsky, Zenon," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993); Zenon Tarnavsky, "Doroha na Vysokyi Zamok" (Detroit: Institute of Ukrainian Culture in America, 1964); Terem, No. 8 (1982).

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# Ukrainian Independence Day to be marked on Capitol Hill

by Michael Sawkiw Jr.

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – The Capitol Hill commemoration of Ukrainian Independence Day is becoming an important tradition here and on this eighth anniversary of Ukraine's August 24 declaration of independence, the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (CUC), the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC) are coordinating this commemoration to provide a forum for members of Congress to express their solidarity with the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian American community.

In observance of the anniversary, a special congressional reception will be held on Capitol Hill on Wednesday, September 22, at 6-8 p.m. in the Rayburn House Office Building, Room B369, South Capitol and Independence streets, SW. More than 30 senators and representatives have endorsed the congressional reception by serving as sponsors and supporting members of the event.

Beginning at 6 p.m., the congressional event will feature a buffet reception and remarks from members of Congress and the Ukrainian government. Hierarchs of the Ukrainian Churches (Catholic, Orthodox and Baptist-Evangelical) have been invited to participate, along with leaders of Ukrainian American organizations. The Ukrainian American community is invited to participate in order to convey the community's appreciation to the members of Congress who will join in the celebration of Ukraine's eighth anniversary of independence.

The cost of the congressional reception is \$30. RSVP requested by Friday, September 17. Checks should be made payable to the UCCA and sent to the following address: Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), 311 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002. For further information, contact Michael Sawkiw Jr., UNIS director, at (202) 547-0018, or Ihor Gawdiak, president of the UACC, at (301) 680-0415.

## Professionals...

(Continued from page 11)

that the collective memory of the difficulties endured by the first wave of immigrants to a strange land prompted the community to lend a helping hand.

### George Luckyj honored by CFUS

The Canadian Foundation of Ukrainian Studies is an institution closely affiliated with the UCPBF. As part of the banquet program, CFUS President Christina Stodilka presented the CFUS Award for Contributions to Ukrainian Studies to George S.N. Luckyj, professor emeritus of the University of Toronto's department of Slavic languages and literatures; an endowment in support of scholarly work in his name will be established.

The distinguished Ukrainian-born, Columbia University-educated scholar published several influential works of literary history, including "Literary Politics in the Soviet Ukraine: 1917-1936" (1956, second edition, 1990), "Between Gogol and Shevchenko" (1971); "Shevchenko and the Critics" (1980); "Panteleimon Kulish: A Sketch of His Life and Times" (1983); "Young Ukraine: The Brotherhood of Ss. Cyril and Methodius" (1991); and "Ukrainian Literature in the Twentieth Century: A Readers' Guide" (1992). Many of these titles have appeared in Ukrainian translation in Ukraine since 1991 and have already had a profound effect on scholarship in the field.

Prof. Luckyj served as the first editor of the journal Canadian Slavonic Papers (1956-1961); was among the editors of the two-volume Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia (1963, 1970); and was the English-language editor of the first volume of the five-volume Encyclopedia of Ukraine (1984).

Prof. Luckyj has also been a prolific translator, aided by his wife, Moira, producing renderings of works by Panteleimon Kulish, Ivan Bahriany, Mykola Khylyoviy, Valerian Pidmohylny and the classic biography of Taras Shevchenko by Pavlo Zaitsev, as well as collections of modern short stories and poems.

Ms. Stodilka said that among the last recommendations made by the recently deceased Prof. Danylo Struk was that Prof. Luckyj should receive this year's CFUS award and that an endowment in his name be established.

Prof. Luckyj was unable to attend the banquet for health reasons, and forwarded a recording in which he expressed his gratitude and a request that the endowment be applied to reward the best translation from Ukrainian into English, "of which the field is in dire need."

Prof. Luckyj's junior colleague, Prof. Maxim Tarnawsky, accepted the award on his behalf, and paid tribute to the contribution the scholar made, ranking him along with Prof. George Shevelov of Columbia University, Prof. Omeljan Pritsak of Harvard and Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky of the University of Alberta, who "paved the way for Ukrainian scholarship into the North American academic world, combating both the prejudices of non-Ukrainian scholars and the provincialism of Ukrainian academics."

Prof. Tarnawsky praised the honoree's dedication, perseverance and adherence to the highest standards of research and scholarship.

### John Stetch soars

A wonderful performance by pianist John Stetch brought the evening to a close.

Mr. Stetch has five recordings to his credit, including "Rectangle Man," "Carpathian Blues" and "Stetching Out" on Terra Nova Records, and his most recent, "Green World" on Justin Time Records. He won the 1998 Prix de Jazz du Maurier at the Montreal International Jazz Festival, placed second in the 1993 Thelonious Monk International Composers Competition in Washington, is often on tour with his eponymous band, and is frequently heard on national radio in both the United States and Canada.

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## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Couple to wed on September 25

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. – Roksolana Luchkan is engaged to be married to Nicholas Charles Humphries on September 25 at the St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral on West 82nd Street in New York City. A reception will be held at The Ukrainian Institute of America.

Ms. Luchkan and Mr. Humphries met six years ago while traveling in Ireland.

After they met, both Ms. Luchkan and Mr. Humphries lived in Australia for three years. They will reside in New York City.

Nicholas, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Humphries, hails from Sydney, Australia. His father is a self-employed architect, and his mother works for the Malleson, Stephens and Jacques law firm in Sydney.

Roksolana is the daughter of Valentina Luchkan and the late Jaroslav (Slavko) Luchkan. The Ukrainian Weekly recently published an article about Mr. Luchkan and his leadership in Plast, as well as his

work on Apollo 13 – the first shuttle to land on the moon. Mrs. Luchkan is currently employed by Aetna US Healthcare as a benefits consultant, and is a self-taught artist and singer.

Roksolana works for Thomson Financial Securities Data as an account executive. She is a graduate of the University of Southern California where she studied international relations.

A former member of Plast, Ms. Luchkan stays active in the Ukrainian community by acting in Ukrainian plays under the direction of Lydia Krushelnytsky. She is a member of the Ukrainian Institute of America and Ukrainian National Association Branch 12.

Nicholas recently completed a graduate certificate degree at Oxford University in England. He is an accomplished rugby player. He has played for Manly Rugby Union in Sydney Australia, the Penguins International team, Oxford Rugby Blues, as well as the New York Athletics Club.

This fall Mr. Humphries will begin work at Arthur Anderson in the business fraud division.



Roksolana Luchkan and Nicholas Humphries.

### Ukrainian World Congress...

(Continued from page 5)

ing of the UWC executive on July 10 (with Mr. Lozynskyj and other senior officials present), negotiations with the former landlords were broken off and a unanimous decision was made to accept an offer from the Ukrainian National Federation (UNF), which owns the UCU building.

Mr. Pedenko is in charge of the headquarters' day-to-day operations. Contacted by The Weekly at his new offices, he expressed great satisfaction with them. "Very spacious and very comfortable," Mr. Pedenko said.

Even the downsides have upsides, as the UWC official saw it: "It's somewhat removed from the center of Ukrainian life,

where the former location was, but it's at the center of the city, and this has many advantages."

However, the solution is temporary. "We're not sure how long we'll be able to stay here," Mr. Pedenko averred, "we might have to move at any time from five months to five years."

The UNF itself is in flux, having decided to sell the Ukrainian Credit Union Building part and parcel with its current headquarters next door.

The transition to another facility, on Evans Avenue in Etobicoke (a Toronto suburb) has begun, but is in abeyance, pending the sale of the buildings on College Street.

The UWC's new coordinates are: 295 College St., Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1S2; telephone, (416) 323-3020; fax, (416) 323-3250; e-mail, congress@htplus.net.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Members of the Ukrainian National Association who are 79 years or older and are still paying premiums on their insurance with UNA are entitled to a fraternal benefit. The UNA will pay the annual premiums for policies issued in classes 1, 5, 6, 21, 51, 26, or 56. This payment is automatic and members do not need to do anything. Any member who has insurance in any other class is not entitled to this benefit. All members 79 years and over who have dividend options other than cash must continue to pay their insurance premiums. With Dividend option 2 or 4 (accumulation of interest on the dividend or additional paid-up insurance), the UNA will pay their dividend option but not the premium. Members may cancel their dividend option if they wish to have the UNA pay their premiums. Please contact the UNA Home Office or your branch secretary.

The Executive Committee

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# NASA engineer is working on personal satellite assistant

by Olena Welhasch

PARSIPPANY, N.J.: Imagine having a softball-sized personal assistant floating around your house or office and taking care of time-consuming tasks. NASA astronauts may soon have access to this luxury thanks to the work of Yuri Gawdiak and his NASA research team.

The Personal Satellite Assistant (PSA) is an astronaut support device designed to move and operate independently in the microgravity environment of space. The fan-propelled PSA will monitor the space station's environment, testing sensors, fans, communication control and navigation, and will even be able to make minor repairs, leaving the astronauts free to work on other matters. The PSA will be instrumental in measuring temperature, air pressure and gas levels. "Gases behave differently in space. They have a nonpredictable distribution, so the hard-wired sensors won't pick up a given gas. The PSA can hunt and search for gases," said Mr. Gawdiak.

Due to its size, the PSA will be able to investigate areas of the spacecraft that people cannot. This technology would have been useful when a fire broke out on the Mir space station, to ensure that the entire fire had been extinguished.

Equipped with a camera, microphone, speakers and display terminal, the PSA will enable the scientists on Earth to interact with crew members while providing a unique view of the mission operation. The on-board sensors may also be used to monitor the status of lab animals. Ideally, the apparatus will have plug-and-play capabilities, allowing the astronauts to outfit the PSA with particular tasks to complete that day.

The PSA concept was presented at a Silicon Valley conference on data fusion this summer. Today, the concept mock-up, which is about the size of a basketball, floats over a table on Earth. The challenges facing the design team includes decreasing the size of the PSA while maintaining enough power to keep it functioning and creating sensors sensitive enough to prevent it from bumping into objects on board. According to a recent article in New Scientist, NASA scientists predict that it will be about two years before the PSA is ready for the space shuttle or international space station.

Yuri Gawdiak, 36, originally of Silver Spring, Md., dreamed of working for NASA since he was a child. Today he does. Mr. Gawdiak is a team experiment lead engineer at NASA, Ames Research Center (ARC) in California.

In addition to the PSA project, Mr. Gawdiak was involved in the successful Mir Wireless Network Experiment (WNE), which was the first test of a wireless client-server network in the space environment. Mr. Gawdiak was also involved in a NASA (ARC) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) alliance formed to build a full mission-simulation facility that will be used to validate future airport surface and air traffic control tower technologies.

Mr. Gawdiak was an active member of Plast Youth Organization and was head of the Plast branch in Washington. As a youth he attended bandura camp and Ukrainian school. In his free time Mr. Gawdiak said he enjoys hiking, biking and skiing with his wife, Lada, and immediately added that he has fun at work, too. Mr. Gawdiak is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 15.

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**Business briefs**

(Continued from page 3)

a 20.57 percent stake in the plant has been sold via auctions for privatization property certificates and a 1.55 percent stake on favorable terms. The plant's leaseholders already own a 21.04 percent, with the state retaining a 50 percent controlling stake. (Eastern Economist)

**Russia accused of airlines discrimination**

KYIV - Russia's aviation authorities are conducting a discriminatory policy in respect to Ukrainian airlines, said a Ukrainian Transportation Ministry official. According to the inter-governmental agreement on air traffic between Ukraine and Russia, Ukraine does not levy a value-added tax for services provided by Russian airlines in Ukrainian airports, while the Russian side taxes services provided by Ukrainian airlines in Russia because Russian legislation does not regard flights between the two countries as international, which makes it possible for the Russian side to levy VAT on CIS airlines. Such an approach violates the provisions of Russia's Air Traffic Code of February 19, 1997. Ukrainian airlines to date have paid Russia more than \$3.2 million (U.S.) in VAT. (Eastern Economist)

**Big Antonov line-up for Russian airshow**

KYIV - About 300 aviation associations, design offices, plants, research institutes and enterprises participated and demonstrated more than 130 new aircraft at the fourth International Air Show MAX '99 held recently in the Russian town of Zhukovskiyi. Ukraine's Industrial Policy Minister Vasyl Hureiev, his deputy, Valerii Kazakov, and the deputy chief of armaments of Ukraine's armed forces, Mykhailo Mytrakhovych, were in attendance. According to Mr. Kazakov, Ukraine displayed the AN-70, AN-140, AN-38 and AN-3, the AN-32P firefighter and the converted AN-74TK-200. The AN-140 was to have its first air demonstration ever. Mr. Kazakov said the aim of the show was to convince prospective partners that the AN-70 "has not been the only success of the national aviation industry." Ukraine will continue with its policy of promoting Antonov planes by holding talks with German and Italian delegations. The first passenger AN-140 could be assembled in the Iranian city of Isfahan by the end of 1999. Ukraine gained the rights for serial production of AN-140 in December 1995. (Eastern Economist)

**South Africa intends to order Motor-Sich engines**

ZAPORIZHHIA - South Africa intends to place an order for engines for 12 top-class fighting helicopters with the Ukrainian company Motor-Sich, Dellari van Tonder, South African Ambassador to Ukraine, said while visiting this company. The decision was reached after South African aircraft engineers had visited the La Bourget and Moscow air shows and learned of aircraft engine production at the Ukrainian company. (Eastern Economist)

**Ukraine, Russia aim to begin production of AN-70**

KYIV - Ukraine and Russia plan to begin joint serial production of AN-70 military transport aircraft in 2001, according to a senior Ukrainian official. Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko said on August 30 that the two countries would include expenses for the project, which is 75 percent financed by Russia and 25 percent by Ukraine, in their budgets for next year. He also confirmed that Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and his Ukrainian counterpart Valerii Pustovoitenko had come to such an agreement in Moscow a week ago. Mr. Tyhytko added that Russia had also agreed to pay a \$52 million debt owed to the AN-70's designer, Ukraine's Antonov Design Bureau. Antonov predicts demand for the AN-70 at 1,500 units worldwide. The AN-70 is able to carry 35 tons of cargo. A version built with Germany called the AN-7X was offered in a tender for new military cargo aircraft for European armed forces earlier this year. The preliminary results of the tender were to have been announced on July 2, but are still being awaited. The base price of the AN-70 is expected to be about \$40 million (U.S.), compared to \$50 million (U.S.) for the AN-7X. There seems to be great interest in the AN-7X as well. Antonov has held talks with the Airtruck consortium uniting eight German aerospace firms on a trilateral agreement between Ukraine, Russia and Germany to supply the AN-7X plane to the air forces of Germany, Denmark and Portugal. The plane is a modified version of the new AN-70 aircraft. Under the proposed trilateral agreement, a total of 305 planes will be supplied to the armed forces of the three countries. In addition, Denmark and Portugal have announced plans to buy between three and five AN-7X planes. (Eastern Economist)

**Variah aircraft carrier is half paid-for**

KYIV - Only half of the cost of the Variah aircraft carrier has been paid to date. Speaking on August 11, Oleh Firsov, deputy director of Black Sea shipbuilding plant, said the ship will not leave the shipyard until the buyer, a company based in Portuguese Macao, pays the total sum, \$20 million (U.S.), in accordance with the contract signed in May of this year. (Eastern Economist)

**Cabinet supports liquid pharmaceuticals**

KYIV - The Cabinet of Ministers instructed the State Innovation Fund to provide funding for a project aimed at starting the production of liquid pharmaceuticals packed in tubes and droppers. The project will be implemented at the Styrol concern in Horlivka, Donetsk Oblast. The cost of the project is 21.9 million hrv. Styrol must present guarantees to the SIF for the repayment of the credit in 2002. (Eastern Economist)

**Ex head of alumina plant is reinstated**

KYIV - A ruling by a Mykolaiv regional court on August 6 reinstated the former general director of the Mykolaiv Alumina Plant, Vitalii Mieshyn, to his post. The court acknowledged that, in accordance with the articles of association of the MAP open joint-stock company, Mr. Mieshyn should manage the plant until privatization is completed. In accordance with his contract he will remain in his post until December 2000. The court ruled that the National Agency of Ukraine for Management of State Corporate Rights did not have the powers to break labor contracts concluded with the heads of joint-stock companies. (Eastern Economist)

**Arrests made at Kryvorizhstal works**

KYIV - Six managers of the Kryvorizhstal steel works have been arrested, and a total of 60 employees are under investigation, according to Interfax-Ukraine. Quoting a source at

(Continued on page 23)

**Ukrainian National Association**



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# Business briefs

(Continued from page 22)

the law enforcement agencies, on August 11 the news agency reported that 40 criminal cases have been filed. Among the charges are theft, bribes and abuse of authority. Yet, the enterprise officials are denying accusations. "I don't know anything about any arrests or criminal cases," said Evgen Auer, assistant to general director. (Eastern Economist)

## September launch planned for rocket

KYIV - A commercial satellite launch under the auspices of the Sea Launch international satellite program is planned to take place in mid-September. The first launch will involve launching a DIRECTV 1-R telecom satellite into orbit using the Ukrainian Zenit booster rocket. The satellite will broadcast 20 television entertainment shows for direct satellite TV subscribers. (Eastern Economist)

## Coal industry makes strides, says minister

KYIV - Amidst all the closings of unprofitable mines, a new coal mine is to be opened in Ukraine for the first time since independence, Coal Minister Serhii Tulub announced. However, the coal sector was to receive 110 million hryvnia to finance objects of major importance, according to a March 23 Cabinet of Ministers decree, and only 9.3 million hryvnia has been provided thus far. Mr. Tulub warned that since the legislature overturned a presidential veto on changes to the law on revenue taxes, the coal sector lost one source of financing and any further reductions could lead to "the full destruction of mine-building industry." As a result of major changes in the management structure of coal industry which started in the second quarter of 1998, coal miners were able to reach some stability in the sector, Mr. Tulub said in his report to President Leonid Kuchma. He lauded the mechanisms of state support distribution, higher control for budget funds allocated from the sector, individual management at almost each of coal mining enterprises, capital construction financing only under tender conditions, and also development of a number of anti-barter, technical and social programs. The measures taken have made it possible to increase coal extraction and labor efficiency, lower production costs and increase quality. Given the positive experience of crediting mining enterprises in 1996-1998 and the increased productivity that resulted, Mr. Tulub suggested that President Kuchma allocate 160 million hryvnia for providing one-year loans for coal-mining enterprises for the purchase of equipment. He said that with enough unextracted coal remaining and new horizons developed, equipment remains the only obstacle to increased coal output. Since the beginning of the year, domestic mines have extracted 50 million tons of coal. The yearly plan for 1999 is 80 million tons; nearly 33 million tons have already been sent to consumers. In order for thermo-electric stations to accumulate the necessary reserves for the winter period, mines are being instructed to send 100,000 tons daily to the stations. (Eastern Economist)

## Sugar beet crop to meet last year's volume

KYIV - The sugar beet crop harvested this year will be almost 16 million tons - the same as was brought in last year, announced the new Agro-Industrial Complex Minister Mykhailo Hladii on August 5. The harvest will ensure the production of around 1.9 million tons of sugar by Ukraine's 161 sugar refineries. The minister forecast that the total sunflower harvest is expected to reach 2.5 million tons, or 300,000 tons more than last year. The increased volumes are mainly due to better yields and increased acreage being seeded, 2.5 million hectares in all - substantially more than the initially planned 1.9 million hectares. According to Mr. Hladii, the state will not interfere in farm activities and will not restrict the movement of sunflower seeds from the region or from export. (Eastern Economist)

## PrivatBank offers gold bullion service

KYIV - PrivatBank announced on August 5 that it has introduced a new service: operations with bank gold bullion. The bank can now offer buy-sell operations with 999.9 standard gold bullion in weights of 5-12,500 grams, store gold and provide special precious metals accounts that would enable the clients to do operations with gold bars. (Eastern Economist)

## Professional women mark anniversary

KYIV - The League of Professional Women celebrated its second anniversary in August. The organization's goal is to protect labor rights and assist professional career women in business, science and education, public administration and the mass media. Partners of the league include the Institute of Philosophy of Ukraine, the Business Incubators Development Program in Ukraine, IREX, CIPE, ACCELS and the Women's Consortium of the NIS-USA. The League of Professional Women publishes an information bulletin and a newsletter to inform businesswomen about grants, training, education, conferences, and small and medium-sized loans. To date, seven members have won international individual grants with the advisory support of the league, while the league's consulting group recently published Dr. E.V. Lazorenko's book "Power in Ukraine: Non-Trivial Political Analysis for Those Who Are in Power and Those Who Want to Be in Power." (Eastern Economist)

## Law set to exempt cognac producers

KYIV - President Leonid Kuchma signed a decree on August 10 exempting cognac spirit from customs duties until January 1, 2001, if the spirit is to be used for the production needs of domestic cognac manufacturers. The list of importers is to be approved by the government. The same law also imposes a privileged rate of excise, or 0.02 ecu per 1 liter of 100 percent alcohol, for ethyl alcohol used by domestic producers of pectin, vinegar, pharmaceuticals and veterinary medicines. The government must approve the supplies procedure and regulate the use of alcohol. (Eastern Economist)

## German company orders bulk vessels

KYIV - UkrExImBank is to sign a loan agreement with Japanese Export-Import Bank worth 14.8 yen before September 10, intended for the Okean shipbuilding plant. The plant is to purchase equipment for the construction of 10 Panamax-class bulk vessels for the German Horizont Schiffahrtsgesellschaft. A contract for the construction of two such vessels had already been signed earlier. The construction of 10 ships will cost \$240 million (U.S.). Okean has already finished 67 percent of the first bulk vessel, which was originally built for the Black Sea Shipping Company but then halted due to lack of funds. (Eastern Economist)

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**PREVIEW OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, September 8-Friday, October 8 Sunday, September 26

**WASHINGTON:** "My River: Recent Paintings of the Potomac River" by Andrei Kushnir will be on view at the gallery of Taylor and Sons Fine Art, 666 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. A reception for the artist will take place Saturday, September 11, at 5-8 p.m. at the gallery. Mr. Kushnir has painted in oils since 1980 and has displayed his work in juried and group shows. His works have frequently been accepted in gallery shows by curators from prestigious galleries such as the National Gallery of Art and the National Museum of American Art. For information contact Taylor and Sons, (202) 546-0021.

**Sunday, September 12**

**NEW YORK:** Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 83 invites the Ukrainian community to the screening of the documentary film "Eternal Memory," directed by David Pultz and narrated by Meryl Streep, at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave., at 1:30 p.m. Admission is \$5. Refreshments will be served. A discussion with the director will follow the screening. This film is a historic documentary of the Stalinist purges and terror in Ukraine during the 1930s and 1940s.

**Tuesday, September 14**

**IRVINGTON, N.J.:** The first session of Muzychne Doshkillia - Music and Me will take place on September 14. The program features classes for pre-schoolers age 2 1/2 to 5 at three locations: the Ukrainian Community Center, 140 Prospect Ave., Irvington, N.J.; the Ukrainian Youth Center, 301 Palisade Ave., Yonkers, N.Y.; and (starting September 15) at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., New York. For more information call Marta Sawycky, (908) 276-3134 or (973) 374-8079.

**ROCHESTER, N.Y.:** The 20th anniversary dinner of the Mosaic Ukrainian Heritage Center will be held at 1 p.m. at St. Josaphat School Auditorium, 910 E. Ridge Road. Guest speaker will be Lubow Wolynetz, curator and librarian of the Ukrainian Cultural Center, Stamford, Conn., and curator, Department of Folk Art, The Ukrainian Museum, New York City. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Mosaic gift shop, Ukrainian Federal Credit Union and the lower level of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church until September 19. In conjunction with the anniversary, an exhibit and sale of paintings by Bohdan Borzemyk will be held at 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The exhibit opening will be held at 6-9 p.m. on September 25. For more information call Irena Russnak, (716) 342-8423.

**SOUTHPORT, Conn.:** A hospitality gathering for the Ukrainian National Women's League of America will take place at 4-6 p.m. at the Ukrainian American Club, 279 Kings Drive (I-95, Exit 19.) Guest speaker Nadia Shmigel, chair of the national Social Welfare Committee, will discuss the UNWLA's achievements, college scholarships, aid to victims of Chornobyl, orphans and the aged, and future plans. The meeting is open to the public. Contact Roma Hayda, (203) 261-4530, or Helen Balaban, (203) 255-5461.

**Sunday, October 10**

**WASHINGTON:** The parish 50th anniversary celebration at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family will be held at 4250 Harewood Road NE. At 9:30 a.m. there will be a liturgy and dedication of the upper church structure with a banquet to follow. Tickets to the banquet must be purchased before September 26; admission for adults is \$30; children age 12 and under, \$15. For more information and reservations contact Deacon T. Staruch, (703) 765-6769.

**PLEASE NOTE NEW REQUIREMENTS:**

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$10 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$10 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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