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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Canada's governor general speaks on 'one of saddest stories' in history: internment operations

DAUPHIN, Manitoba — Speaking before members of the Ukrainian Canadian community at Dauphin's Selo-Ukraina during the annual Ukrainian National Festival, Canada's Governor General Adrienne Clarkson said on August 4 that the imprisonment of several thousand Europeans during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920 — the majority of whom were Ukrainian Canadian immigrants — represents "one of the saddest stories in our country's history," a part of Canada's history that remains relatively unknown.

Ms. Clarkson, accompanied by her husband, John R. Saul, viewed a trilingual bronze plaque that was unveiled officially later that day at Selo-Ukraina by the Ukrainian Centennial Memorial Committee in cooperation with the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

While there was no internment camp in the Dauphin area, this plaque is intended to symbolically recall all of the Ukrainians and other Europeans who were victims of Canada's first national internment operation.

Thousands of men, women and children were unjustly imprisoned, forced to register as "enemy aliens," work under trying conditions, while also suffering the confiscation of their properties and valuables, disenfranchisement and other state-sanctioned censures, as provided for under the terms of The War Measures Act and The War Time Elections Act.

The plaque unveiled in Dauphin recalls this episode in Canadian history and portrays, on a map of Canada, all 24 Canadian concentration camps where Ukrainian Canadians and other innocent victims of these internal security measures were held.

Commenting on the governor general's remarks, Borys Sydoruk, director of special projects for the UCCLA, said: "It was most reassuring to be able to witness just how sensitive the governor general of Canada, the representative of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, is in remembering what these innocent Ukrainians suffered during Canada's first national internment operations."

He added: "Without a doubt both Madame Clarkson and her husband, the distinguished philosopher and social commentator John R. Saul, are very much aware of the indignities and other difficulties that encumbered Ukrainian immigrants in Canada, and likewise appreciative of the fact that many members of our community somehow managed to persevere and contribute to the emergence of the far more accepting and Canadian society that we share today."

"We hope that her awareness of this issue will prompt the government of Canada, and specifically the Rt Hon. Jean Chrétien, our prime minister, to finally acknowledge this injustice and negotiate reconciliation."

Nine years after independence, mood in Kyiv is downbeat

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Days before Ukraine celebrates nine years of independence on August 24, which will also mark the beginning of preparations for next year's jubilee 10th anniversary show — and what undoubtedly will be the largest party this country has ever thrown — there is a decidedly downbeat mood in Kyiv regarding the country's achievements, its current situation and the future.

Pessimism, apathy, discouragement, hopelessness — any of these words properly describe the general feeling in the capital and in the country. People are fed up with politicians, expectations, Communists, unemployment and, mostly, their standard of living.

Based on the responses given by a score of individuals in an unscientific poll conducted in Kyiv by The Ukrainian Weekly on August 15-16, the people of Ukraine want jobs and more jobs, stable legislative policy, a normal tax code, and national and spiritual rebirth.

The soundings were far from positive. In fact, except

for a single individual who gave a thumbs-up before slipping behind the wheel of a late-model luxury sedan, nobody had a single good thing to say about life in Ukraine today.

Furthermore, few had clear ideas on what should be done in the country in the next year so that 10th anniversary commemorations become something to truly celebrate.

The prevailing attitude is indisputable: the economy needs to come alive before conditions on any level or in any sphere of life can improve. Everything else is secondary or associated with the economy.

"A lot must change — first off in the economic sphere. Everything begins with the economy. It is good that we have kept our independence, but that is not enough," said Tetiana Zelenka, 41, of Kyiv as she waited for a bus on Skovoroda Square across from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

Another Kyivan, Petro Kozub, 64, also put the onus

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A scene from Kyiv in 1998 during celebrations of Ukraine's Independence Day.

Ukrainian officials discuss ailing health-care system

by Yaro Bihun
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — A group of Ukrainian health-care officials visiting here on a U.S. government-sponsored program, discussed the shortcomings and accomplishments of the health-care system in Ukraine with a group of Ukrainian American physicians and specialists in that field.

It was not a surprise to any of the participants that the sad state of Ukraine's economy was seen as the overriding reason for the system's problems.

As Dr. Nina Goida, who heads the mother and child care department at Ukraine's Ministry of Health, pointed out that the Verkhovna Rada passes health-care legislation and the president issues decrees, but the programs remain underfunded.

The roundtable, held July 26 at the Embassy of Ukraine, came at the end of the group's 10-day visit here, which

included meetings with congressmen on health-care-related committees, U.S. government agency physicians and health specialists, and health-care system lobbying groups.

The roundtable was organized by the Greater Washington chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America.

"Our problem is not that someone does not want to fund these programs," Dr. Goida said, "it's basically the state of the economy."

Dr. Vitalii Chernenko, who chairs the Committee on Health in the Verkhovna Rada, provided the numbers: out of a total national budget this year of 31 billion hrv, health care was allocated 4.6 billion hrv — less than half the 9.5 billion hrv it would need for full funding, he said. The projections for the 2001 budget are not any better, he added.

In providing an overview of Ukraine's health-care sys-

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INSIGHT INTO THE NEWS

BY DAVID MARPLES

Ten years after the demise of the USSR: A report card on the new independent states

PART I

Upon beginning this paper, titled "Ten Years after the Demise of the USSR: Toward Democracy or Oriental Despotism? A Report Card on the Newly Independent States," the first question was how to divide the 12 republics of the former Soviet Union and the Baltic states. By what criteria should they be judged? It seemed to me that there might be several areas for comparison, though ultimately I narrowed it down to just four. These are as follows:

- **Economic reform:** The Soviet economic system, the so-called administrative-command system, utilized the centralized Soviet structure and combined the various assets and natural resources of the various republics. Ambitious land improvement and irrigation schemes were deployed to try to improve agricultural output; grandiose industrial objects required input from various republics, often based on programs that would have been inexpedient from a republican perspective. All the republics have faced a common task of implementing a new economic policy and plan, based on privatization, a mixed system, or state control from the new center. Not all the republics are economic reformers, but they are being judged here on precisely this process, the premise being that the centralized system of running the economy contained inherent inefficiencies and drawbacks.

- **Democratization:** To what degree have the republics made a transition from autocracy to democracies? Are their legislatures effective? How fair are the courts and are the judges appointed independently? Is there freedom of expression, freedom of the media? To what extent has corruption pervaded the system? Are there instances of quasi- or actual dictatorships, whereby the national leader has sought self-empowerment at the expense of the constitution or Parliament?

- **Nation-building:** This may seem an obvious criterion, but not all the Soviet republics formed natural nations. Not all of them have demonstrated that they are willing to start the arduous process of creating or building a national state. Some contained small or large enclaves that wished to break away from the larger portion or titular nation. Ultimately, however, a viable state has to be a national state, united by a common territory and usually (though not always) a national language and culture. The new independent states (NIS) fall into two continents, Europe and Asia. Only the United Nations covers all these states, but there have been options open to the different regions. There were four nuclear states where the USSR held atomic weapons — three of which chose freely to give up those weapons. The European republics have sought to join the Council of Europe, and, with more difficulties, the European Union. The Caucasian states have focused more on

the Black Sea region, etc. I have regarded the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as a stopgap rather than a serious attempt at integration. Manifestly it is falling apart, thus I have judged the NIS by the degree to which they have sought to put together viable alternatives or sought to join structures that may undermine or even end the CIS altogether. It is unfair to judge Russia in this way since for Russia the CIS makes more sense.

- **Human rights:** This seems to me a critical issue given the deceptively peaceful nature of the collapse of the Soviet Union. It is in my view quite distinct from democratization, since states that are blatantly undemocratic in structure can still respect human rights. Some potentially divisive issues remained after the dissolution of the USSR. An obvious example is the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian-populated enclave in Azerbaijan. Human rights encompass tolerance of minorities and of religious groups, and the freedom to demonstrate without arrest or detention.

For scholars studying the former Soviet Union, the big problem since 1991 has been how to switch from a pattern that allowed one to concentrate on Moscow-based diktat to certain republics. What was possible 10 years ago is no longer possible today because of the overflow of information: the media, the Internet, free and non-free republican press. No one can possibly cover all the states and all events (and likely no one would want to). I know, for example, scholars whose sole focus today is the republic of Kyrgyzstan, even though they were trained as Soviet specialists.

On the other hand, I have long felt that it is a mistake not to compare the progress of the 15 republics. They began more or less on even ground and it seems more realistic to compare them with each other rather than with Western countries or even the states of East-Central Europe. No one should work in a vacuum, and concentration solely on one republic can often provide a very misleading impression.

Economic reform

One has to make several distinctions among the various processes of economic reform. The three Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were already enjoying a higher living standard than the rest of the Soviet Union at the time of independence. They benefited from a high level of foreign investment and have moved quickly to remove any vestiges of the Soviet regime.

By 1999 65 percent of Estonia's trade was with members of the EU, predominantly with Sweden and Finland, and privatization was well under way by 1994. Latvia had more mixed fortunes. By 1994 it enjoyed the lowest rate of inflation among all the former Soviet republics, but in 1996 many of its banks went bankrupt because of bad loans. By 1998 the country once again had a balanced budget and the economic picture had improved dramatically. Lithuania's progress was also relatively slow until the defeat of the pro-Communist Democratic Labor Party in 1997 and the victory of the more pro-market Homeland Union. All three states can be categorized as "advanced reformers."

A second group of medium-level

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NEWSBRIEFS

Procurator says Lviv resolution is illegal

LVIV — The Lviv Procurator's Office had reviewed Lviv City Council Resolution No. 699 "On the Protection of the Lviv Sound Environment." After serious consideration of the resolution on Russian songs, the Procurator's Office stated that it contradicts the Constitution of Ukraine and Ukrainian laws. According to the Procurator's Office, the City Council took on the authority of a legislative body. Ihor Melnyk, Lviv City Council deputy, said: "The resolution was political by nature. We tried to create an act within our authority to protect our state language. The Procurator's Office stated that we exceeded our authority." (Eastern Economist)

Over 5 M tourists will visit this year

KYIV — Over 5 million foreign tourists will visit Ukraine this year, said the vice-chairman of the Department for Tourism at the State Committee for Sports and Tourism, Hennadii Naumenko. He added that the committee is studying the possibility of issuing visas for foreigners at border crossings and other measures to attract foreigners to Ukraine. Since independence the profits from tourism to the state budget were 18 billion hrv. On average each tourist spends \$500-600 (U.S.) in Ukraine. Around 60 percent of the tourists come from Russia, while 20 to 25 percent are from Belarus and Poland. (Eastern Economist)

Zhulynskyi promotes Orthodox unity

KYIV — Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Mykola Zhulynskyi said on August 14 that "Ukrainian Orthodoxy, which is today split into three branches, should be one and unified, and it should consolidate the Ukrainian people," Interfax reported. He added that the Russian Orthodox Church opposes the creation of a single Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Ukraine. Dr. Zhulynskyi was commenting on the meeting of the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow, which condemned the attempts of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate and some Ukrainian politicians to create a Church independent of Moscow. The Russian Orthodox Church considers the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate as the only canonical Orthodox Church in Ukraine and regards the Kyiv Patriarchate's followers as "schismatics." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Greens picket Austrian Embassy

KYIV — The Green Party and Green Youth of Ukraine picketed the Austrian Embassy in Kyiv after the signing of an agreement to import trash into Ukraine. "Ukraine is not Europe's waste dump," stat-

ed the activists during the picketing. The vice-chairman of the Green Party, Ihor Voronov, said that on May 31 Austrian Franz Glas and Mykolaiv-based TeploErgoServis had signed an agreement for joint activity to develop environmentally friendly refining of waste. Mr. Voronov added that Ukraine has accumulated over 10 billion tons of waste and the technology should be directed at refining this waste, rather than servicing the needs of developed countries. (Eastern Economist)

80 percent of debts to teachers are paid

KYIV — The government has paid 80 percent of the wage debts to teachers, said Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko during his meeting with medical workers. He added that the wage problems of the teachers and medical staff are similar, and the method of resolution should be the same. The government has allocated another 65 million hrv to the payment of debts to the teachers. The total debt for social payments to the medical workers is 133 million hrv and there are plans to pay them off by the end of the year. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine's GDP grows by 5 percent

KYIV — The State Statistics Committee reported on August 14 that in the first seven months of this year Ukraine's gross domestic product increased by 5 percent, compared with the same period last year. The government expects GDP to rise 2 percent this year. Last year's GDP shrank by 0.4 percent. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Foreign investment up by 58.6 percent

KYIV — Foreign investors injected a total of \$420.1 million (U.S.) into Ukraine's economy in the first half-year of 2000. This is 58.6 percent more than in the same period last year, according to the State Statistics Committee. The SSC also stated the total volume of foreign capital invested by non-residents as of July 1, since investments began was \$3.596 billion (U.S.). Furthermore, non-resident capital was \$221.2 million in the second quarter of this year, up from last year's \$117 million. (Eastern Economist)

Rukh's reunification seen as possible

KYIV — Rukh-Udovenko and Rukh-Kostenko plan to unite by year's end, said National Deputy Oleh Sheremet. He added the unification is opposed by individual national deputies in the administration of both parties. Mr. Sheremet added that he is a member of the initiative group for unification of the parties and stated that the unification should

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David Marples is a professor of history at the University of Alberta. This paper was delivered as the keynote address at the banquet of the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Slavists, held at the University of Alberta on May 29. Slight changes have been made in the format for this version. (The author wishes to thank Stephanie Langton for her assistance in gathering materials.)

Survey reveals improvement in agricultural sector workers' attitudes toward land reform

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A survey released by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) on attitudes toward the recently completed reform of collective agricultural enterprises indicates that the attitude toward land reform and the sale of land has improved among agricultural sector workers. However, workers still believe that their economic situation continues to worsen and that, whether or not they have an interest in the new corporations and cooperatives, they will continue to rely on garden plots as an assured source of income.

A second survey commissioned by the IFC, which is part of the World Bank Group, showed that nearly half of the farmers who have taken up free enterprise on their own are already making money.

Since a presidential decree on December 3, 1999, the Ukrainian agricultural sector has undergone extensive structural changes. Today government collective farms do not exist – save for less than a handful of exceptions. In the six months between the time of the decree and May 2000, thousands of collective farms were reorganized into limited stock corporations, farmers' cooperatives and private farms.

How the new arrangements will take hold will not be seen for several planting seasons, but a consensus is developing among experts that the Ukrainian farmer today is only beginning to see the advantages of private land ownership and a future for himself in a reformed agricultural industry.

The new attitude is developing slowly,

after a roller-coaster ride of expectations. In 1996 many agricultural workers still believed that it was only a matter of time before the rebirth of the Ukrainian village would take place. That was followed by a period of considerable pessimism and cynicism by workers who had come to believe that independent Ukraine had consigned them to a life of poverty and that perhaps the old Communist system was the best for which they could have hoped.

"In 1996 there was still a feeling of euphoria," explained Oleksander Honcharuk, a consultant for the IFC from the Center for Social Expertise and Prognosis, which conducted the surveys. "The thinking was 'today we will work and tomorrow we will be well off.' The slow tempo of reforms killed that hope and brought widespread discouragement."

He explained that a growing number of people are now beginning to feel more confident that land reform was needed. He said that slightly more than one-third of agricultural workers support continued reforms, including a move to treat land as a commodity, about a third continue to hold negative views; and a third have not yet made a conclusive decision. The numbers are up over a 1998 survey in which only 22 percent expressed support for reforms. In 1996 the figure stood at 40 percent.

Even more telling is the fact that better than half of the workers now believe that the reorganization of the agricultural sector as directed by the December presidential decree was a needed and positive development. They also believe that the new privatized agricultural structures are better managed and that crop cultivation and production will improve as a result.

In addition, the workers see less evidence of theft and drunkenness at the workplace

However, Mr. Honcharuk said that agricultural workers still do not fully understand the extent of their rights and opportunities in an agricultural system that has finally moved beyond government control.

Also, the survey released by the IFC on August 9 show that even as agricultural sector workers dare to think that they may have a future on the farm, they continue to see a worsening economic situation in the sector. One-fourth of the workers no longer see cash income and as such rely on their private land plots for their basic foodstuffs and for products with which to barter. Fully 85 percent evaluated their private plots as a significant source of income.

Reflecting a less than confident attitude towards going it alone, a majority of agricultural workers continue to keep their land shares within reorganized private agricultural enterprises (34 percent), although the figure has dropped considerably from 1998 when well more than half did so (60 percent). A third have said that they are ready to cede their land to others in kind or for lease, while another 7 percent said they would be willing to sell. Only 7 percent expressed a desire to form a private farm enterprise alone or with a partner.

Yet, just such agricultural units are showing themselves to be among the most profitable. Forty-seven percent of farm enterprises were profitable in 1999 with an average profitability level of 16 percent. Single families consisting of five members control about 60 percent of such farms. On average, private farmers cultivate three to four plots of land,

Nearly half of the farmers in Ukraine who have taken up free enterprise on their own are already making money.

which includes their home garden. The average area owned by a single farm is 4.4 hectares (10.8 acres). Farmers who also lease neighboring land cultivate plots averaging from 16.5 hectares (40.8 acres) to 20.9 hectares (51.6 acres). About 13 percent of private farmers currently lease land, while another 52 percent are planning to do so.

While the December presidential decree allowed for farmers to sell land that was distributed to them back in the early 1990 as long as it continued to be put to agricultural use, only 15 percent have done so thus far. Another 51 percent would like to buy additional land.

The surveys produced by the IFC came at the conclusion of a \$40 million, five-year agricultural and land reform project initiated by the World Bank organization at the request of the Ukrainian government.

Its task was to facilitate the reform process and execute an informational and educational hands-on program to make agricultural sector directors and workers more familiar with the legal and practical

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U.S. Department of Labor and Ukraine sign memorandum of understanding

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman on July 26 signed a memorandum of understanding with Ukraine, making it eligible to participate in the Labor Department's technical assistance initiatives. The agreement partners the department with Ukraine's Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.

"We have mutually shared interests in working together to build greater employment opportunities and social safety nets in Ukraine," Secretary Herman said. "We are ready to support the efforts that are under way there to address these priorities."

Ms. Herman signed the memorandum with her Ukrainian counterpart, Minister of Labor and Social Policy Ivan Sakhan.

Under the cooperative plan, the Labor Department will implement five projects in mine safety and health, dislocated worker services, child labor, industrial relations and gender equality. The Labor Department will budget \$3.75 million for the program in fiscal year 2000, the first year of the two-year program.

The administration designated Ukraine a foreign policy priority in recognition of the critical social and economic concerns facing that country in its transition to democracy and an open market economy. Last April the Labor Department conducted a project design mission to Ukraine and at that time secured the Labor Ministry's commitment to serve as a key partner in the project implementation activities.

The mine safety and health project component is in direct response to the Barakova mine accident this past March in which 81 miners were killed. This assistance will focus on inspector training, coal dust suppression and explosion prevention techniques.

Ukraine's move to restructure its economy has involved privatization and closure of bankrupt firms, which have produced layoffs and other worker dislocations. The department's project will be modeled on its successful displaced worker assistance programs in Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania and Macedonia.

In the child labor area, the Labor Department will work to help Ukraine develop a national policy, including a plan of action to combat child labor. The project will include specific measures to harmonize the coun-



U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman signs a memorandum of understanding with her Ukrainian counterpart, Minister of Labor and Social Policy Ivan Sakhan. Seated (from left) are: Ted Mastroianni, associate assistant secretary for Employment and Training Administration (ETA); Davitt McAteer, assistant secretary for the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA); Andrew Samet, assistant secretary for International Labor Affairs Bureau (ILAB); Ray Bramucci, assistant secretary for ETA; and members of the Ukrainian delegation, Volodymyr Makukha, Natalia Ivanova, Sergei Storchak and Vitalii Pechenuk.

try's laws with international standards and to improve its institutional capacity to investigate and monitor the problem. Lastly, it will involve undertaking a pilot program to replace exploitative work with educational opportunities. This work will be implemented through the International Labor Organization with funding from the Labor Department.

In addition, the International Labor Organization (ILO), again with funding from the department, will institute a program for Ukraine on fostering effective industrial relations activities to prevent and resolve

labor disputes and promote collective bargaining.

Finally, the department will fund an ILO project on gender equality that will be aimed at strengthening enforcement of non-discrimination provisions of the country's labor laws, promoting equality in the workplace and helping to improve Ukraine's laws and regulations overall on equality in employment.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of Ukraine will provide staff support and will share information as necessary for the implementation and evaluation of the program.

Seven Ukrainian survivors of the Holocaust are nominated for special memorial ceremony

TORONTO – At least seven Ukrainian survivors of the Holocaust have been nominated for inclusion in a special memorial ceremony being organized in Ottawa on September 27 by several Jewish Canadian organizations. The principal initiator of the commemoration is the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

Responding to a media release issued by the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, various Ukrainian Canadian organizations, as well as family members and friends, have put forward the names of Wasył Kardash and Nick Hawryluk (Toronto), Bohdan Krynycky (Ottawa), Stefan Kuzmyn (Kingston), Ivan Lahola (Edmonton), Michael Marunchak (Winnipeg) and Stefan Petelycky (Richmond) for inclusion in a "55 Years Since Liberation" memorial event, that will include presentations of certificates by Secretary of State for Multiculturalism Hedy Fry and a banquet address by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien of Canada.

The event organizers publicly confirmed that any Canadian citizen who is a survivor of the Nazi Holocaust is eligible to be considered for selection by a distinguished panel of Canadians as one of the 55 people to be included in this commemorative event. Nominations were closed as of July 31.

Commenting on the nominations, Dr.

Lubomyr Luciuk, director of research for UCCLA, said:

"Among the seven men who were nominated there are survivors of Auschwitz, Dachau, Majdanek, Buchenwald and some of the other more notorious Nazi concentration camps. Each of these individuals, Ukrainian patriots all, suffered enslavement, torture and horrors that most Canadians cannot even begin to imagine. Yet, somehow, they survived and have all gone on to rebuild their lives and make positive contributions to Canadian society, as educators, laborers, community leaders and businessmen."

"By putting their names forward for acknowledgment during this important national ceremony hallowing the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust," Dr. Luciuk continued, "we have underlined how important it is for such recognition to be inclusive, recalling not only the millions of Jewish victims of Nazi tyranny, but also the many millions of Ukrainians and other non-Jews who perished."

"Of course, we appreciate that it will now be up to the committee reviewing these nominations to determine which 55 names are put forward to symbolically represent all of the victims," Dr. Luciuk added. "We remain confident they will be mindful of the need to be inclusive when making their selections."

Ukrainian Canadian professionals intervene in support of Ukraine's position with IMF

OTTAWA – The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation has played an interventionist role in positioning Canada on Ukraine's side in discussions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation has intervened twice to solicit Canada's support in this effort," said its president, Oksana Bashuk Hepburn. The IMF had suspended credits to Ukraine last September due to the slow pace of reform in the country.

On the eve of Foreign Affairs Minister Boris Tarasyuk's visit to Canada in May, the UCPBF wrote to Prime Minister Lloyd Axworthy seeking Canada's support in this critical matter.

The letter noted: "We have been quite concerned about the economic situation in Ukraine and the lack of progress on the long-awaited reforms. However, we are very optimistic that the government is now making serious progress under the leadership of Prime Minister [Viktor] Yushchenko. It is our view that this renewed effort must be encouraged and rewarded."

"To this end we seek your support, and the support of the Canadian government, to ensure that the IMF loan will be extended to Ukraine at this time. It is our view that failure to do so at this critical point in time could pave the way for increased pressures on Ukraine to gravitate back into a Russian sphere of influence."

Following his meetings with Canadian colleagues in Ottawa in July, Ukraine's Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Mykola Zhulynskyi reported that Canada had promised to support Ukraine in its dis-

cussions with the IMF.

"This makes our efforts worthwhile. It is important to voice our views in these matters," commented Ms. Hepburn.

Ukraine is very keen on renewing its relations with the IMF. If successful, it can seek further financial support from the Paris Club, a group of leading countries mandated to assist governments in restructuring their debts. Ukraine's debt is some \$500 million.

"We raised the idea of Canada's support of Ukraine in the Paris Club last spring in a document to the government via the Ukrainian Canadian Congress [and] also with Ambassador [Yuri] Shcherbak," said Ms. Bashuk Hepburn.

The UCPBF's position stated "Canada is much loved in Ukraine and more of its good counsel and intervention would be welcomed. Canada can seize the moment and show global leadership in its dealing's with Ukraine by putting forward new approaches that will yield results," she said.

According to the UCPBF president, these might include "supporting a better loan repayment deal for Ukraine with the international lending institutions via the Paris Club ... as part of the settlement of its international debt."

Canada's policy towards Ukraine will be one of the topics discussed at the Canadian Issues Roundtable being organized by the UCPBF on September 16-17 on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. For information on how to participate in the event contact Peter Sorokan: telephone, (613) 523-7818; e-mail, sorok@ftn.ca

President signs law on NBU, NBU moves into e-commerce

Eastern Economist

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma this week signed a law amending existing legislation on the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU).

Passed by the Verkhovna Rada on July 13, the law changes the status of the NBU Supervisory Council from an administrative body to a management body on the same level as the NBU.

The number of members of the Supervisory Council will be increased from 14 to 15. Up to seven members must be appointed both by the Verkhovna Rada and the President, while the 15th member is the chairman of the NBU.

The NBU intends to regulate activity in electronic commerce using its own norms until such time as e-commerce legislation is passed. The bank has developed a project called "Requirements for the Organization of E-Commerce in Ukraine," which regulates the organization of electronic stores, formation and execution of electronic orders, payment for orders using a variety of payment instruments (including bank cards), a bank-client system and the organization of bank services using new technologies.

The gross international currency reserves of the NBU as of August 3 were \$1.2 billion (U.S.), compared to \$1.035 billion on July 1, according to NBU Hard-Currency Regulations Department Director Serhii Yaremenko. The main source of replenishing the NBU currency reserves is purchases on the inter-bank market.

In the first half of 2000 the NBU bought \$729 million. Mr. Yaremenko added the NBU plans to purchase another

\$500 million in the second half of this year. The NBU's foreign currency reserves are the main source of servicing Ukraine's domestic debt. In the first half of the year internal payments were \$955 million.

The NBU changed the rules for moving cash and other payment documents across the border without individual licenses. New regulations for carrying Ukrainian currency, foreign currency, payment documents, other bank documents and payment cards across the border of Ukraine will go into effect on October 1. According to the new provisions, an individual crossing the border of Ukraine can carry up to \$1,000 (U.S.) on his/her person on the condition of a verbal declaration, or the equivalent in another currency at the official exchange rate of the hryvnia to the dollar on the day of the crossing.

100,000 military are homeless

Eastern Economist

KYIV – Over 100,000 military servicemen and 50,000 employees of other law enforcement agencies do not have housing, stated Vilen Martyrosian, chairman of the Coordinating Council for Social and Legal Protection of Military Employees. He added that this is the result of poor fulfillment or non-fulfillment of presidential and Cabinet orders.

UCC appears before parliamentary committee to promote an inclusive museum of genocide

WINNIPEG – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) responded to the Third Report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage concerning Bill C-224, "An Act to Establish by the Beginning of the 21st Century an Exhibit in the Canadian Museum of Civilization to Recognize the Crimes Against Humanity, as Defined by the United Nations, that have been Perpetrated During the 20th Century." Bill C-224 was introduced into the House of Commons by Sarkis Assadourian, member of Parliament for Brampton Center.

The UCC appeared before the standing committee on June 8 and stressed the importance of the establishment of an all-inclusive Canadian genocide museum as an educational tool for future generations. The creation of this museum, noted the UCC, would also be a noble and fitting tribute to those who lost their lives through man's inhumanity to man. In creating such a museum, Canada would once again be a world leader in showing the strength which has made it one of the envied nations in the world; namely, a nation whose values make it always vigilant against intolerance and tolerant of diversity.

"The UCC is pleased that the standing committee is recommending that Heritage Canada entrust one or more academic centers with the task of researching all genocides and crimes against humanity. We hope that this is a

first step towards the establishment of an all-inclusive Canadian genocide museum in the nation's capital," said UCC President Eugene Czolij.

The UCC will continue working towards the establishment of a Canadian Genocide museum. The report of the standing committee, tabled on June 15, provides much needed support in order to continue the work already started, the UCC noted.

"Ukrainian Canadians can take pride in the fact that they have contributed to furthering the concept of an all-inclusive Canadian genocide museum to honor the victims of all genocides," said Mr. Czolij. "As the work continues in this important area, our community will continue to provide the necessary leadership to ensure the success of this venture."

Olympiad results: a correction

The table of medal winners published along with the report on the Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad 2000 (August 13), incorrectly listed only Lviv-Cleveland as the third-place team in the men-over-age-30 division of the soccer competition. In fact, bronze medals were awarded to both the Cleveland team and the Levy (Lions) of Chicago, as both squads completed the tournament with records of eight points.

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

REPORT OF THE UNA FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT RECONCILIATION OF LEDGER ASSETS

	January 2000	February 2000	March 2000	April 2000	May 2000	June 2000	Total For Six Months Ended June 30, 2000
INCREASES IN LEDGER ASSETS							
Dues And Premiums From Members:							
Dues From Members	\$ 157,864.30	138,050.14	151,780.23	135,048.30	139,147.96	239,693.45	961,584.38
Annuity Premiums From Members	7,252.94	60,455.61	98,568.95	53,750.08	64,676.00	1,125.00	285,828.58
Universal Life Premium	11,994.40	8,047.45	14,638.06	8,813.26	9,571.86	12,940.41	66,005.44
Reinsurance Premiums Paid	-70.28	0.00	-7,666.76	-1,095.76	-8,973.08	-1,208.68	-19,014.56
	\$ 177,041.36	206,553.20	257,320.48	196,515.88	204,422.74	252,550.18	1,294,403.84
Dividend Accumulations	\$ 0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,636.81	1,636.81
Investment Income:							
Banks	\$ 421.39	145.90	80.28	497.63	159.96	138.62	1,443.78
Bonds	257,331.45	322,982.16	291,990.40	211,647.92	209,964.72	325,015.07	1,618,931.72
Certificate Loans	35.46	1,701.66	3,171.46	2,507.66	2,568.93	1,181.90	11,167.07
Mortgage Loans	25,995.02	46,458.34	46,786.46	23,768.39	35,020.00	112,797.70	290,825.91
Real Estate	53,926.60	40,907.57	19,643.12	35,843.38	77,545.55	139,273.76	367,139.98
Short Term Investments	2,638.95	1,287.53	1,270.28	1,944.74	2,456.55	1,699.17	11,297.22
Stocks	16,773.41	23,299.36	30,444.18	16,168.68	30,027.17	23,560.44	140,273.24
Urban Renewal Corporation	0.00	0.00	37,375.00	0.00	12,458.00	33,042.00	82,875.00
	\$ 357,122.28	436,782.52	430,761.18	292,378.40	370,200.88	636,708.66	2,523,953.92
Net Profit(Loss) On Bonds And Stocks Sold Or Bonds Matured	\$ 0.00	0.00	57,018.41	0.00	3,308.36	14,571.22	74,897.99
Official Publications Income	\$ 68,142.88	134,387.01	104,650.91	76,605.94	127,279.38	118,419.03	629,485.15
Miscellaneous:							
Donations To Fraternal Fund	3,300.00	750.00	0.00	-250.00	0.00	1,775.00	5,575.00
Donations To Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	45.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.00
Due To Ukr Nat'l Foundation	744.99	1,215.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,975.99
Exchange Account-UNURC	47,707.69	33,403.12	39,696.25	-79,192.08	72,385.19	50,277.27	164,277.44
	\$ 51,797.68	35,368.12	39,762.25	-79,442.08	72,385.19	52,052.27	171,923.43
Total Increases In Ledger Assets	\$ 654,104.20	813,090.85	889,513.23	486,058.14	777,596.55	1,075,938.17	4,696,301.14
DECREASES IN LEDGER ASSETS							
Paid To Or For Members:							
Death Benefits	\$ 73,591.87	77,146.00	86,556.00	60,392.00	84,696.00	78,972.00	461,353.87
Endowments Matured	40,460.00	70,188.00	48,384.00	66,019.00	59,725.00	63,140.00	347,916.00
Annuity Benefits And Partial Withdrawals	170,616.74	182,096.21	205,474.72	149,314.61	209,788.12	74,358.85	991,649.25
Cash Surrenders	25,115.38	52,578.72	100,378.79	51,278.95	20,017.70	112,137.39	361,506.93
Universal Life Withdrawals	0.00	6,695.74	0.00	0.00	6,466.50	0.00	13,162.24
Interest On Death Benefits	243.23	377.10	66.08	240.00	47.32	96.73	1,070.54
Dividend Accumulations	2,233.54	3,102.41	3,026.43	1,006.37	1,373.28	781.72	11,523.75
	\$ 312,260.76	392,184.18	443,886.02	328,251.01	382,113.92	329,486.69	2,188,182.58
Commissions, Rewards And Refund Of Expenses:							
Commissions And Overrides On Universal Life	482.30	324.77	947.12	450.68	392.15	274.69	2,871.71
Reward To Organizers	17,946.88	18,228.22	18,422.87	21,408.31	18,052.31	20,313.65	114,372.24
Reward To Special Organizers	1,000.00	3,310.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	7,310.00
	\$ 19,429.18	21,862.99	20,369.99	22,858.99	19,444.46	20,588.34	124,553.95
General Expenses And Fraternal Payments:							
Actuarial And Statistical Expenses	0.00	12,507.00	36,671.00	26,973.87	22,326.00	24,293.00	122,770.87
Advertising	1,106.80	65.00	2,276.00	1,909.10	3,921.90	861.80	10,140.60
Auditing Committee Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,985.55	0.00	2,985.55
Bank Charges	1,411.20	461.74	1,078.24	685.33	447.94	744.86	4,829.31
Bank Charges For Custodian Account	3,494.90	0.00	0.00	3,462.50	5,894.79	557.23	13,409.42
Books And Periodicals	353.97	0.00	125.80	1,783.63	169.93	123.23	2,556.56
Depreciation Of E.D.P. Equipment	0.00	0.00	6,700.00	0.00	0.00	7,100.00	13,800.00
Depreciation Of Printing Plant	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	4,900.00
Depreciation Of Real Estate	0.00	0.00	21,400.00	0.00	0.00	21,600.00	43,000.00
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00
Dues To Fraternal Congresses	240.00	255.00	180.50	469.00	0.00	0.00	1,144.50
Employee Benefit Plan	28,210.49	10,491.29	16,574.88	57,822.27	69,990.17	16,783.39	199,872.49
Field Conferences	66.25	203.35	4,582.83	3,538.51	976.93	662.68	10,030.55
Fraternal Activities	0.00	799.23	150.00	0.00	0.00	950.00	1,899.23
Fraternal Bebenefit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	99,663.63	99,663.63
General Office Maintenance	1,384.00	2,175.74	1,529.05	1,112.18	143.51	1,717.34	8,061.82
Indigent Benefits Disbursed	400.00	198.00	200.00	400.00	180.00	80.00	1,458.00
Insurance-General	384.00	603.00	997.00	384.00	1,362.22	384.00	4,114.22
Insurance-Workmens Compensation	219.00	0.00	219.00	219.00	219.00	219.00	1,095.00
Investment Expense	0.00	110.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,875.00	5,485.00
Legal Expenses-General	10,163.91	636.05	0.00	0.00	838.44	360.00	11,998.40
Medical Examiner's Fee	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	4,000.00
Medical Inspections	109.11	857.83	220.89	215.13	59.42	584.33	2,046.71
Operating Expense Of Canadian Office	0.00	0.00	524.30	0.00	0.00	513.60	1,037.90
Payor Death Benefits	0.00	1,017.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,017.76
Postage	6,243.57	3,193.79	4,893.02	553.01	4,100.07	12,763.77	31,747.23
Printing and Stationery	5,435.17	2,135.28	2,315.56	2,920.14	1,558.59	5,238.90	19,603.64
Professional Fees	12,840.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-375.00	12,465.00
Rent	37,812.78	37,812.78	37,812.78	37,812.78	37,812.78	37,812.78	226,876.68
Rental Of Equipment And Services	5,284.49	7,791.10	5,911.33	4,777.22	7,942.40	4,693.58	36,400.12
Salaries Of Executive Officers	14,099.20	14,099.20	14,099.20	14,099.20	14,099.20	14,080.82	85,304.82
Salaries Of Office Employees	42,201.12	43,233.81	64,236.35	41,042.66	41,894.27	41,681.04	274,289.25
Scholarships	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Telephone	1,089.78	6,997.87	0.00	4,257.29	6,177.45	7,467.56	25,989.95
Transfer Account	549,793.52	-548,478.05	0.00	0.00	286.74	0.00	1,602.21
Traveling Expenses-General	119.20	189.89	325.10	0.00	115.00	242.90	992.09
Traveling Expenses-Special Organizers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
	\$ 722,662.46	-402,643.34	231,722.83	204,436.82	226,502.30	310,157.44	1,292,838.51
Taxes, Licenses And Fees:							
Insurance Department Fees	1,926.00	29,023.43	5,554.46	17,910.92	14,280.56	18,790.04	87,485.41
Taxes-Federal, State And City On Employee Wages	6,058.29	6,648.13	9,849.34	5,802.76	5,027.99	5,699.18	39,085.69
	\$ 7,984.29	35,671.56	15,403.80	23,713.68	19,308.55	24,489.22	126,571.10
Loss On Bonds, Stocks and Foreclosed Properties	\$ 37,137.08	0.00	63,862.31	0.00	1,906.50	3,383.97	106,289.86
Loss On Canadian Exchange	\$ 0.00	171,325.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	98.47	171,423.47
Real Estate	\$ 111,913.16	61,073.25	61,118.93	53,554.29	114,382.22	178,335.00	580,376.85
Official Publications Expenses	\$ 55,978.64	118,819.44	129,998.76	82,608.71	102,600.99	82,438.79	572,445.33
Miscellaneous:							
Convention Expenses	\$ 0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Certificate Loans Adjustments	5,641.23	3,711.58	15,564.46	8,642.75	7.68	16,606.79	50,174.49
Due To Broker	744,286.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	744,286.85
Due From Ukrainian National Foundation, Inc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	567.17	567.17
Trust Fund Disbursed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	\$ 749,928.08	3,911.58	15,564.46	8,642.75	7.68	17,173.96	795,228.51
Total Decreases In Ledger Assets	\$ 2,017,293.65	402,204.66	981,927.10	724,066.25	866,266.62	966,151.88	5,957,910.16
Increase(Decrease) In Ledger Assets During The Period	\$ -1,363,189.45	410,886.19	-92,413.87	-238,008.11	-88,670.07	109,786.29	-1,261,609.02
Amount Of Ledger Assets At The Beginning Of The Month	\$ 68,547,798.35	67,184,608.90	67,595,495.09	67,503,081.22	67,265,073.11	67,176,403.04	68,547,798.35
Amount Of Ledger Assets At The End Of The Month	\$ 67,184,608.90	67,595,495.09	67,503,081.22	67,265,073.11	67,176,403.04	67,286,189.33	67,286,189.33

	January 31, 2000	February 28, 2000	March 31, 2000	April 30, 2000	May 31, 2000	June 30, 2000	Six Months Ended June 30, 2000
Cash	\$ 79,096.17	148,943.01	281,187.74	484,425.61	540,353.06	808,117.01	808,117.01
Short Term Investments	24,303.97	409,278.33	736,367.30	349,811.03	162,443.41	196,044.22	196,044.22
Bonds	47,778,559.69	47,777,185.14	47,273,119.12	47,259,498.20	47,157,412.39	47,157,236.42	47,157,236.42
Mortgage Loans	6,471,895.53	6,438,449.49	6,409,413.84	6,389,591.29	6,364,708.42	6,269,764.92	6,269,764.92
Certificate Loan	704,235.52	690,326.86	639,776.17	613,050.98	612,504.31	540,550.68	540,550.68
Real Estate	2,899,719.08	2,899,719.08	2,881,351.49	2,883,107.82	2,889,447.84	2,867,847.84	2,867,847.84
Printing Plant & E.D.P. Equipment	174,146.37	174,146.37	163,246.37	162,124.83	164,367.91	156,567.91	156,567.91
Stocks	6,648,101.53	6,652,895.77	6,214,068.15	6,218,912.31	6,380,614.66	6,385,509.29	6,385,509.29
Loan to D.H.-U.N.A. Housing Corp.	104,551.04	104,551.04					

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A glimmer of hope

An informal and unscientific survey of Kyivans conducted by our Kyiv Press Bureau to determine the mood in the capital city on the eve of the ninth anniversary of Ukraine's independence shows that few people are happy with most facets of life in the country today and that most do not believe that a prosperous future is possible in the near term. They see little reason to celebrate independence this year and cannot fathom that next year's 10th anniversary jubilee will give them any more reason.

People are fed up with insincere political promises that have led to false expectations. They believe that nothing can change in the country until the economy begins to move. They want jobs and are impatient for a better life. And they don't see a light at the end of the proverbial tunnel.

Whether visible or not, however, a tiny incandescent stream of light has begun to emit from the black hole that has been the Ukrainian economy for nearly a decade now. It may only be a microscopic pinhole to most economists, but no one can deny that a breakthrough has occurred this year in the Ukrainian economy.

Initially, some economists were skeptical when the government announced that industrial growth had climbed by more than 10 percent in the first couple of months of this year and that the gross domestic product had exceeded expectations as well. They called the numbers a temporary blip on the economic radar screen that had resulted from a devaluation of the Ukrainian currency, the hryvnia, at the end of 1999.

But the numbers have remained steady, with GDP continuing to expand at a 5 percent clip through July and industrial output continuing to climb.

Economic indicators are blocks of numbers that do not put money in people's pockets or new clothes on their backs. The statistics do, however, give an indication of where an economy is headed. And the Ukrainian economy is heading upward.

Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko must receive much credit for the turnaround because he succeeded in convincing lawmakers that Ukraine needed a balanced budget and a strict fiscal policy. President Leonid Kuchma must also get a share of the credit. He chose Mr. Yushchenko to be his prime minister over bitter backroom protests by the president's cronies. He has stuck with Mr. Yushchenko, albeit in a rather lukewarm manner, while a concerted if quiet political campaign has mounted to remove the reformist prime minister, who is despised by the business clans that control the Ukrainian economy.

Meanwhile, the prime minister struggles to implement his agenda – one very much in line with recommendations from the West, which includes bureaucratic streamlining and a new tax code.

For people to readily acknowledge that the economy is moving forward they must feel it in their pocketbooks. That is yet to happen. Economic revitalization still has not gathered sufficient critical mass to make it felt on an everyday basis. Too many people remain unemployed, and no one is seriously talking about wage increases.

It is understandable that Ukrainians are leery of believing that there may be an economic future of some prosperity for them. After all, they have heard the fleeting promises of economic reform for several years now. In prior decades many wanted to believe the Communist slogans of coming future prosperity, only to be disillusioned. After the Communist hoax was finally debunked and the system thrown off, they took to heart the pronouncements that a free-market economy would finally bring prosperity and eagerly awaited the good life. Today they are still waiting, but with little real hope that it will soon arrive.

To be sure, Ukraine will not climb out of the decade-long muck into which its economy has sunk overnight, or even before next year's 10th anniversary of independence. Too much of the political and economic infrastructure continues to require either reconstruction or fine-tuning. Foreign investors still are leery of the Ukrainian market, even as they laud its potential. More administrative housecleaning needs to take place, and the tax system still needs an overhaul.

The institutionalized corruption and lack of political will that has characterized this country in the last nine years has exacted a heavy toll and will continue to do so.

But things are slowly beginning to change.

The recent improvement in the economy shows that perhaps the country is beginning to bounce back. Now a steady, if not spectacular, economic expansion may begin. We think that Ukrainians really do have reason to believe that tangible evidence of an invigorated economy will soon follow and that by this time next year, as the nation prepares for its 10th anniversary jubilee, there truly will be something to celebrate. Many may even have new jobs.

August
19
1990

Turning the pages back...

Ten years ago on August 19, The Ukrainian Weekly commented on yet another in a series of events under that changed forever the course of events in the Soviet Union.

On August 13 President Mikhail Gorbachev of the USSR had issued a sweeping decree denouncing the crimes of Stalin and urging the restoration of rights for all victims of Stalinist repressions. It was Mr. Gorbachev's strongest condemnation to date of Joseph Stalin's mass repressions, deportations, murders and sentences of death by famine caused by his brutal forced collectivization of agriculture.

The Weekly reported that Mr. Gorbachev had ordered the blanket rehabilitation of persons who died of starvation, were shot or sent to labor camps as "enemies of the people" who opposed collectivization.

"Repressions conducted ... during the period of collectivization" were "unlawful and contradictory to the main civil and economic rights of human beings," Mr. Gorbachev stated. The decree similarly condemned as illegal and unjust Stalin's repressions against "all citizens on political, social, ethnic, religious and other motives in the 1920s through the 1950s" and moved to completely reinstate the rights of these citizens.

(Continued on page 14)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Another look at the language issue

by Bohdan Vitvitsky

Roman Karpishka's thoughtful analysis of the need for Ukraine to employ affirmative action-type principles in actively promoting the primacy of the Ukrainian language in Ukraine ("Ukraine Must Be Re-Ukrainianized," letter, August 6) is right on the mark. And the perspectives he offers not only as a Ukrainian-Canadian who frequently visits Ukraine but as a lawyer who practices in Montreal and who is thus familiar with the policies and practices applied to the promotion of the French language in Quebec are particularly valuable.

I am somewhat at a loss to understand why it is not yet obvious to everyone in Ukraine and the diaspora that Ukraine should – immediately and forcefully – employ a whole range of formal and informal policies to promote the primacy of the Ukrainian language. There are numerous reasons this should be done. The most obvious is that, since it is normal to hear French in France, and Russian in Russia, and Polish in Poland and so on, it should similarly be normal to hear Ukrainian in Ukraine.

But let me suggest three additional reasons that might not be quite as obvious.

First, why is language an issue at all in Ukraine? The principal reason has to do with the artificial suppression of the Ukrainian language by Ukraine's Russian colonizers. We all know about the tsarist policies that outlawed the use of Ukrainian dating back to the 19th century and the various Stalinist Russification campaigns beginning in the 1930s. But let me focus your attention on the much more recent past. In "The Press and Soviet Nationalities: The Party Resolution of 1975 and Its Implementation," a fascinating article first published in 1986 – fascinating both in itself and in relation to the discussion about language going on now – Prof. Roman Szporluk wrote about two much more recent campaigns to artificially suppress the use of Ukrainian and to artificially advance the use of Russian. The first campaign was launched without any official declarations after Petro Shelest was deposed as Ukraine's Communist boss (because he was viewed as being insufficiently anti-Ukrainian). It began in 1972 and was specifically directed against Ukrainian publications.

Then in 1975 Moscow decreed that the publication of and subscription to Russian-language periodicals should be expanded, and the publication of and subscription to all non-Russian language periodicals reduced. Ukrainian publications thus sustained a second hit almost immediately on the heels of the first. (As with everything else, the Soviets had a mechanism for controlling subscriptions in that all subscriptions to all periodicals had to be registered by being processed through a central subscription bureau, not by individual publications. And the press runs of individual publications could, of course, be controlled directly through the allocation of newsprint.)

As Dr. Szporluk explains, the first campaign against Ukrainian publications that began after Shelest was deposed resulted in the outright closings of numerous Ukrainian-language scholarly journals. Thus, for example, Ukrainian

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journals of geology, chemistry, physiology, biochemistry, physics and mathematics were closed altogether. And the press runs of the popular illustrated weekly Ukraina were reduced from a range of 300,000 to 360,000 per week in 1970 down to 120,000 to 124,000 by 1985.

The second campaign, the one directed at all of the non-Russian publications, began in 1975 and lasted for a decade. Dr. Szporluk shows that at the end of that decade, namely, when comparing publication figures for 1975 with those for 1984, total Ukrainian-language newspaper circulation decreased by about 8 percent while Russian newspaper circulation increased by 13 percent. Total Ukrainian-language journal circulation decreased by 18 percent (this was after many of the Ukrainian scholarly journals had already been closed down prior to 1975), while Russian-language journal circulation increased by 19 percent.

Special emphasis was placed on reducing access to Ukrainian publications in cities. In 1975 the Ukrainian-language Vechirniy Kyiv had a daily press run in Kyiv of 344,550. This was reduced to 200,000 in 1980. In 1983 a Russian version of the same paper appeared, and by 1985 approximately 100,000 copies of each was published. In Kharkiv the Ukrainian-language version of this same newspaper went from a circulation of 158,000 in 1979 down to 84,000 in 1980. And in Dnipropetrovsk Vechirniy Kyiv simply was replaced by a Russian newspaper. Apparently, an awful lot of Ukrainians forgot how to read Ukrainian overnight.

Second, Ukrainians should try to learn from others similarly historically situated. When Czecho-Slovakia was created after World War I, no one spoke Czech in Prague or in any of the other cities. Because of the many years of foreign rule, everyone spoke German (remember in which language Kafka wrote?). Then in the 1920s and 1930s the Czechs successfully embarked on a quiet campaign to eliminate the use of German and to promote the use of Czech. By the end of the 1930s, the predominant language in Prague and other cities in the Czech half of Czecho-Slovakia was Czech.

Third, there is an economic dimension to language use. Presently, various American and European magazines have either begun to publish or are planning to publish Eastern European native language versions of National Geographic, Cosmopolitan, Vogue and their European equivalents. When these periodicals publish in, for example, Hungarian or Czech, they make local investment in equipment and training in Hungary or the Czech Republic, and they also typically require that each national version of their magazine have a specified amount of local subject content – sometimes as high as 70 percent. Are any of these magazines publishing Ukraine-language versions of their periodicals? (Don't forget, Ukraine's population is much larger than that of Hungary or the Czech Republic.) Are they investing in Ukraine? Are they hiring and training Ukrainians, and writing about what's going on in Ukraine as regards fashion, or whatever else? No. Want to know why? Because the Russians publishers of the Russian-language versions of such magazines have convinced the magazines' home offices that their Russian-language version of the given magazine covers the Ukrainian market as well.

It is economic suicide for Ukraine not

(Continued on page 16)

NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

Statement by the UACC

Statement of the Executive Board of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

Until August 1991, the phrase "short-lived" was the usual characterization when historians wrote about Ukraine's attempts at independence. It now is nine years since Ukraine reappeared on the map of consciousness of the world. Looking back at the history of Ukraine of the past 350 years since Bohdan Khmelnytsky made Ukraine a European power, nine years is a considerable period of time.

On the threshold of its 10th year as an independent and internationally recognized state, Ukraine continues to grow while simultaneously removing the vestiges of three and a half centuries of colonialism. As two American legislators Rep. Steny Hoyer and Sen. Paul Sarbanes noted when independent Ukraine's fifth anniversary was observed in Congress, Ukraine was doing much better five years after independence than the United States was five years after July 4, 1776. This still holds true as Ukraine celebrates its ninth anniversary. The model American Constitution was not even ratified until 14 years after independence, while the American currency was hardly coveted nine years after "the shot heard around the world." Ukraine, on the other hand, already

enjoys a working Constitution and its currency is real. As Americans of Ukrainian descent we should be happy and proud of all this and celebrate the achievements for which we and our ancestors waited so long.

There are many ways we as Americans can celebrate Ukraine's good fortune. We can look for ways to attract American investments for Ukraine, keeping in mind that it was foreign investment that helped the poor and debt-ridden United States stand on its feet. We can help Ukraine tear down the decrepit vestiges of the old Soviet system and its unproductive command economy. But the most effective way we Americans can help Ukraine is by nourishing good U.S.-Ukraine relations, and this can best be done through our active participation in the American political process.

This is the quadrennial big election year in the United States, and we should not remain on the sidelines with the 60 or 70 percent of our fellow Americans who don't bother to vote.

All of us who are citizens by birth or naturalization should be registered as voters and we should cast our ballot in every election from that for the local school board to the election of the president of the United States.

Our motto should be: "I'm a Ukrainian, and I vote." This would be our most tangible action in honor of Ukraine's ninth anniversary of independence.

Greeting from the UCCA

Greeting on Ukraine's ninth anniversary of independence from the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

This year the Ukrainian nation will be celebrating its ninth anniversary of independence. After many decades of Soviet Russian oppression and domination, August 24, 1991, has become an important date in Ukraine's history, when the hopes and dreams of many were realized – not only to live in freedom, but in a nation where religious, cultural and economic needs are met.

During this past year alone, many positive steps have been taken, namely the democratic re-election of President Leonid Kuchma, the formation of a reform-minded government headed by Viktor Yushchenko and the reorganization of the Verkhovna Rada, which has led to greater cooperation between Ukraine's branches of government. Furthermore, the year 2000 has seen significant economic improvements, including decisive steps towards land privatization and greater support for Ukraine's national language. On the international arena, at the 54th session of the U.N. General Assembly, Ukraine was elected a non-permanent member of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning on January 1. All these steps assist Ukraine in consolidating its independ-

ence and rightful place among the world community of democratic nations.

However, we must not overlook the negative aspects still facing Ukraine or the lack of progress in many areas, including the growth of corruption, the strangling of the free and independent press, and attempts at authoritarianism as illustrated by the April 2000 referendum. Additionally, pervasive Russification prevails and this year has led to tragic results with little government concern.

Although the first nine years of independence have brought many accomplishments – a long road fraught with obstacles still lies ahead. May the Ukrainian people find the strength and courage to implement the necessary reforms needed to establish a free-market democracy and as a result reap the long-deserved prosperity and freedoms that come with independence.

At the dawn of the new millennium and on the ninth anniversary of independence, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America sends its warmest greetings to our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, and to every individual who is proud to call him or herself Ukrainian. Glory to Ukraine!

For UCCA's Executive Board,
Askold Lozynskyj, President
Andriy Szul, Secretary

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas

**Holocaust exploitation**

Some weeks ago I reviewed "The Holocaust in American Life," a scholarly study by a University of Chicago professor, Peter Novick. Among other things, Prof. Novick declared how Jewish spokespersons have consistently manipulated and exploited Holocaust perception to suit the Jewish agenda of the moment. During World II the Jewish leadership was anxious to convince Americans that Hitler wasn't just persecuting Jews. Christians also were vulnerable, especially Polish Catholics. At the end of the war Jewish leaders thanked Pope Pius XII for his efforts to rescue Jews.

Today the political winds blow in a different direction. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has all but said that the Holocaust was Catholic-inspired. Pope Pius XII ("Hitler's Pope") is condemned for his "silence" during the war. Apologies to the Jews by the Pope John Paul II are not enough because, in the words of World Jewish Congress (WJC) President Edgar Bronfman, the pope failed to apologize for all of Catholicism's sins against the Jews, "especially the Holocaust."

The Holocaust was all but ignored by Jews (some were even ashamed to discuss it) until the 1967 Six-Day War in Israel. Today the Holocaust is the shield that deflects criticism of Israeli policy; even to question Israel's behavior is to risk being branded an "anti-Semite."

Now comes a book titled "The Holocaust Industry: Reflections on the Exploitation of Jewish Suffering" by Norman G. Finkelstein, the son of Holocaust survivors, which picks up where Dr. Novick left off. A professor at Hunter College in New York, Dr. Finkelstein believes the Jewish elite is exploiting the Holocaust for personal, political and economic reasons which have little to do with their professed goal of enhancing "Holocaust awareness." Respected Israeli writer Boas Evron describes "Holocaust awareness" as "an official, propagandistic indoctrination, a churning of slogans and a false view of the world, the real aim of which is not an understanding of the past, but a manipulation of the present."

According to Dr. Finkelstein, Holocaust revisionism has made it possible for "one of the world's most formidable military powers, with a horrendous human rights record," to "cast itself as a 'victim state,' and the most successful ethnic group in the United States has likewise acquired victim status. Considerable dividends accrue from this specious victimhood – in particular, immunity to criticism, however justified."

Today, Prof. Finkelstein argues, more Americans know about the Holocaust than about Pearl Harbor. "All 50 states sponsor commemorations, often in state legislatures. The Association of Holocaust Organizations lists over 100 Holocaust institutions in the United States. Seven major Holocaust museums dot the American landscape." The Holocaust has become such a unique event that to compare it to genocides against other groups is viewed by the Holocaust industry as a form of Holocaust denial.

Prof. Finkelstein exposes those Jewish leaders who use the Holocaust to blackmail American politicians into unconditional support for Israel. Lawmakers who have adopted a balanced approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict can suddenly find their careers destroyed. Jews in Illinois have been especially effective in this regard, helping to defeat Rep. Paul Finley and Sen. Charles Percy, two Republicans who mis-

takenly counseled a more even-handed U.S. foreign policy towards the Middle East.

"Two central dogmas underpin the Holocaust framework," writes Prof. Finkelstein: "1) The Holocaust marks a categorically unique historical event; 2) The Holocaust marks the climax of an irrational, eternal Gentile hatred of Jews." The "most practiced purveyor" of the uniqueness of the Holocaust, according to Prof. Finkelstein, is Elie Weisel (who once said "all of Ukraine is Babi [Babyn] Yar"), who has declared on various occasions that the Holocaust is "never to be comprehend or transmitted" because it "lies outside, if not beyond, all history." The unique evil of the Holocaust, according to Jacob Neusner, not only sets Jews apart from others, but also gives Jew a "claim upon those other."

Much of the literature on Hitler's Final Solution "is worthless as scholarship," writes Dr. Finkelstein. "Indeed, the fold of Holocaust studies is replete with nonsense, if not sheer fraud."

The first major Holocaust hoax was "The Painted Bird," purported to be an autobiographical account by Polish émigré Jerzy Kosinski who "recalled" the sadistic torture of Jews by Polish peasants. Almost all of it was a lie. In reality, Polish peasants harbored Mr. Kosinski and his family from the Nazis at great risk to their own safety.

Another hoax was Benjamin Wilkomirski's book "Fragments," which the author represented as "recovered memory" of the sadism of German guards. Hailed as a classic of Holocaust literature, it was exposed by the renowned Holocaust historian Raul Hilberg. "Half-fruitcake, half-mountebank," writes Dr. Finkelstein, "Wilkomirski, it turns out, spent the entire war in Switzerland. He is not even Jewish." Following current academic trends, Yad Vashem Director Israel Gutman, a former inmate of Auschwitz, argued that "it is not important if 'Fragments' is a fraud. Wilkomirski has written a story which he has experienced deeply ... his pain is authentic." A similar "authenticity" argument was made for Nobel Peace Prize laureate Rigoberta Menchu, when it was discovered that her heart-wrenching autobiography of racist oppression in Guatemala was pure fabrication.

Dr. Finkelstein reserves his most explosive rhetoric for the "outright extortion racket" that demands billions of compensatory dollars from Germany and Swiss banks because little of the money goes to actual Holocaust survivors. The cash left after the lawyers take their share is earmarked for various pet projects of Jewish leaders, such as Holocaust museums, Holocaust publications and university chairs of Holocaust studies.

Big money drives the Holocaust industry. Former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger earns \$300,000 per year as chairman of a Holocaust claims organization. Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, has his wife and son on the center payroll; their combined family income five years ago was \$520,000. Simon Wiesenthal himself commands \$25,000 per appearance plus expenses. WJC President Bronfman claims that his organization has amassed "roughly \$7 billion" in compensation monies.

To survive, the Holocaust industry is always searching for its next mark. Ukraine's turn is just around the corner.

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

A friendly reminder

If you have not yet sent in your remittance for the first volume of "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000," please do so as soon as possible.

The book's price is \$15. Please send checks for that amount (plus any additional sum you may designate as a donation to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund) to:

The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10. P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Nine years after...

(Continued from page 1)

on the economy, but blamed politicians for creating the current situation. He did not have anything good to say about Ukraine's northern neighbor either.

"Those who stole their share live well today. But the average person, the farmers and workers, still suffer," said Mr. Kozub. "Nine years ago they told us that we would live like France. [We have] land, 'chornozem' [rich, black soil found throughout Ukraine]. Then they stole everything for their pockets. We must develop our economy. If Russian gas is unaffordable, we must look elsewhere. [Russia] united everything in the name of brotherhood and Christianity. Now they strangle us."

Like Mr. Kozub, nearly all the respondents were quick to criticize politicians, whom Ukrainian society views as corrupt and self-interested. One person said Ukraine must get rid of the whole lot, from the president down to the district leaders.

Then there was Mykola, who refused to give his last name. The 65-year-old embittered pensioner, who walked along Kyiv's Independence Square cloaked in a tattered sports jacket and carrying a satchel in even worse condition, said independence had destroyed society.

"What independence? Who needed it? I worked all my life. My life savings were destroyed. In my old age I have to gather bottles. I'd like to take a machine gun and go to Bankova 2 (the Presidential Administration Building)," said Mykola.

The new impetus given economic and administrative reforms by the government, which has been publicized widely in the press, is not a relevant concern for this poor pensioner. Mykola needs money for a loaf of bread and a piece of meat, and he needs it today. His pension of 26 hrv monthly (about \$4.79), does not pro-

vide for the entire month.

Understandably, he has no interest in economic indicators, which show that in the first half of the year the Ukrainian economy finally may have awakened and that life may soon improve. He has heard before that life will soon improve, he explained.

Judging by their responses, the respondents put little faith or importance in the economic indicators as well. But the numbers indicate that in the first six months of this year the gross domestic product has risen at an unexpectedly strong 5 percent. The surprising and steady economic performance led Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko to declare on August 15 that the economy will outpace earlier predictions of 2 percent GDP growth for the year. Industrial output also continues to rise. July figures rose by 4.2 percent over the previous month and by 16.1 percent over the same period last year.

Although Mr. Yushenko has moved decisively to complete economic and administrative reforms during his nine months in office, only one person lauded his work and pointed to it as a source of optimism.

"If Yushenko, an intelligent and good person, is given the chance to work, we will have everything. A good person is working in a position where he belongs. What Yushenko has done for Ukraine in a half-year, no one did in nine years," said Liudmilla Druhova, 62, as she sat on a bench in Independence Square.

Perhaps people are unwilling to express satisfaction with Mr. Yushenko's efforts because they have not felt the economic improvements – if one is to believe the statistical indicators – in a tangible way. Then again, it may be too early for the numbers to translate into more jobs and higher wages.

Official figures in Ukraine, which state that unemployment is around 6 percent, are deceptive. Joblessness continues at

extremely high levels – many put it at about 40 percent. Also, people still do not receive their monthly wages. Although the government has again promised to pay out all back wages, this time by the autumn, no one is ready to begin promising wage hikes.

Kyivans have heard it all before: the rhetoric of imminent reform followed by affluence. Respondents said they have had enough of empty promises and future expectations. They said they want results now, and that jobs should be the priority.

"Ukraine needs jobs right now. I have been unemployed for two years. When a person has a job she can consider more uplifting matters," said Olha Hrazhdak, 45, of Kyiv.

Another person noted that until a middle class and a free-enterprise attitude emerges in Ukraine, the country will remain mired in its Soviet past.

Even as Kyivans admitted that an invigorated economy is a priority in their eyes, others said that something deeper and more sublime is needed. What Ms. Hrazhdak called "uplifting matters" other respondents alternately referred to as "a need for spiritual rebirth," "a deepening of consciousness," or "cultural reinvigoration."

Strolling down the historic Andriivskii Uzviz, the center of Kyiv's artist community, Elena Lemisheva, 62, of Boryspil could only decry the deteriorating state of society.

"For me this is a very hurtful subject. The nine years of independence have brought me nothing," explained Ms. Lemisheva. "It's only gotten worse. And I don't see any escape from the situation. It's all so very dark, I don't see a light anywhere. I believe that ours is a sick society. Until we understand that we need spiritual health – which we have very little of now – until we have that and understand what it is, we will have nothing."

The weariness expressed by Ms. Lemisheva was evident in statements by

other respondents as well. On Sahaidachnyi Street, which cuts through the heart of the Podil district, 25-year-old Andrii Petrov had no reason to be any more optimistic.

"I don't know what to say. Nothing in this country is possible in the current situation," said Mr. Petrov.

He explained that politicians care only about protecting their own interests and have little time for the well-being of the populace.

His friend, Oleh Udolskyi, 27, said he believes the nation's leaders must find inspiration in a higher power. "Today many people are putting their faith in God," explained Mr. Udolskyi. "And so should the president and our national deputies. They have to believe in God so that things will change for the better."

Others used the word "consciousness" to describe what is lacking in Ukraine. One said it would take decades for a true Ukrainian consciousness to develop.

Oleksander Ranshukov, who sells trinkets on the Uzviz, explained it differently. He said that Ukrainians lack cultural development, that no economic or political improvements will succeed until society returns to its core cultural values.

"By culture development I mean in all aspects – individual behavior, political development, national expression – the meaning of the word in its full complexity," said Mr. Ranshukov.

His words must have echoed off the century-old buildings of the Uzviz and ricocheted up the hill to the city center. For on Independence Square, Volodymyr Zaikov, 27, gave a direct rebuttal to Mr. Ranshukov's assertion.

"What culture can one discuss when poverty rules?" Mr. Zaikov asked. "People think about surviving, not about culture." He added that a Ukrainian cultural renaissance is possible only after the economy improves.

Several people said Ukraine continues to suffer the aftereffects of 70 years of Soviet rule, which has left society uncertain and passive. Others said the remaining Communists in Ukraine are responsible for the lack of economic and political progress, and that the party must be banned before Ukraine becomes a democratic and economically viable state.

Vasyl Pechyborshch, 24, visiting from the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine, expressed the strong patriotic feelings and blunt talk associated with people from western Ukraine. He noted that, although Ukrainians have an independent state for the first time in their history, they have yet to understand that they are independent – that this is their country and they are the masters.

"Ukrainians have become accustomed to having others control them. Ukrainian independence is truly a great event, but we have yet to understand that," Mr. Pechyborshch observed.

Not everybody criticizes life in Ukraine and the current political, economic and cultural situation. Some are far less pessimistic about the future as well. There are Ukrainians who have taken advantage of the limited economic opportunities in Ukraine and have succeeded in building a good life based on risk-taking, political contacts or membership in business clans. These "Novi Ukraintsi" (new Ukrainians) make up about 5 percent of the population. Their trademarks are luxury automobiles, designer suits and heavy gold jewelry.

One such gentleman, who wished to remain anonymous, hustled across the street from the Bessarabskyi Market before entering a late-model Mercedes Benz with darkened windows. Before driving off, he gave a wink and a thumbs up sign, and said that from his vantage point life was fine. "I really cannot say that anything needs to improve. I have what I need to live. Everything will be fine."

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Ukraine's television broadcasts new series on Ukrainian diaspora

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A television series on the Ukrainian diaspora – part of an extended film festival on the same subject – is currently being broadcast on the Ukrainian government network UT-1. The program, "Foundations," hosted by Khrystyna Stebelska, is a presentation of submissions by the Ukrainian diaspora and archival material of the Soviet era.

The television program concerns the organizational and everyday life of Ukrainians scattered across the globe, with the focus on noteworthy individuals and events. Although Ihor Vynnychenko, chairman of the Institute of Diaspora Studies that developed the series, said there is plenty of material garnered from Soviet archives, he has very few video pieces from the Western diaspora. As of today, the series has merely seven video films and vignettes to offer Ukrainian viewers.

The series is part of a larger Ukrainian video film and cultural festival on the accomplishments of the Ukrainian diaspora near and far titled: "Our Blossom – Across the World" ("Nashoho Tsvitu – Po Tsilomu Svitu").

The festival will culminate in August after Ukrainian Independence Day when a panel of excerpts will convene to judge the submissions and decide on the best films. Mr. Vynnychenko stressed that the judging will be based on content and the story told, and not on film-making techniques and creativity.

Afterwards, the festival organizers will show the winning entries at selected movie cinemas across the country. Also planned is a touring exhibition of the films down the Dnipro River and along the Black Sea coast, which will make nine stops at major ports between Kyiv and Sevastopol.

Mr. Vynnychenko said those video entries that do not arrive in Kyiv in time for this year's judging will be considered next year.

The Institute of Diaspora Studies, a non-profit organization that works with the Ukrainian government, also has planned a radio series on the international Ukrainian theater titled, "Theater Scattered Across the World," hosted by Valerii Haidabura, an

expert on Ukrainian art and theater.

The television series, however, remains the centerpiece of "Our Blossom – Across the World."

The first installment of the television series, "Kuban Kozaks, 200 Years," dealt with the life of Ukrainians, ancestors of Kozaks of the Zaporizhian Host, who were exiled to the Kuban region, east of the Azov Sea, at the end of the 18th century. Documentary footage of the inhabitants of this land, historically considered to be ethnographic Ukrainian territory, tracks how Ukrainians have retained their separate language and traditions in the face of years of Russian and Soviet pressure to assimilate into what is now a Russian culture.

In the works are programs based on film footage found in the cinematic archives of the Ukrainian SSR, including a 1984 production, "Betrayal is Their Trade," which gives the Soviet view of such U.S. organizations as the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Voice of America, as well as profiles on Yaroslav Stetsko, Valentyn Moroz and Zbigniew Brzezinski, international figures close to the Western Ukrainian diaspora. The archival footage will be accompanied by appropriate commentary to set the historical record straight.

Another Soviet production from 1934 shows a meeting of the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics at the Philadelphia editorial offices of the newspaper America. There is also a series of vignettes created between 1930 and 1938 on the Ukrainian National Aid Association.

The Institute of Diaspora Studies and the "Our Blossom – Across the World" video film festival are requesting additional video materials from diaspora individuals and organizations, on notable figures, organizations or events. It is not necessary that the footage be of a highly professional level, only that it tell a story and have a definite beginning, middle and ending. Although the organizing committee would prefer that entries be on Super VHS or Betacam SP videotape in PAL format, they will accept other types of standard videotape.

The films should have a Ukrainian narrative (dialogue can be in any language) and be no longer than

30 minutes in length, with at least 50 percent of the material directly related to the topic, "Ukrainians in foreign lands."

Two Ukrainian companies, Golden Telecom GSM and Intertrans, are partial sponsors of the various events associated with the video film festival. However, the organizing committee is seeking more sponsors. Money is especially needed to fund the transfer of archival film material to videotape, as well as office services and equipment.

For more information please see the festival's website at www.ukrsvit.kiev.ua; e-mail ukr-svit@iptelecom.net.ua; phone (380-44) 244-2911; or fax (380-44) 513-7132.

Video materials should be mailed to: Orh-komitet "Nashoho Tsvitu – Po Tsilomu Svitu," a/c 507, Kyiv, Ukraine 01034.

At the end of last year the Institute of Diaspora Studies released the first comprehensive bibliographical index "The World Community of Ukrainians – 99" along with an associated catalogue that includes listings of all Ukrainian organizations in the Western and Eastern diasporas.

The catalogue was prepared with the financial support of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and its publication was financed by Ivan Puio of New York.

The institute currently is preparing an even more comprehensive 2000 update. Mr. Vynnychenko also has compiled a two-volume monograph, "The Historical-Geographic Phenomenon of Ukrainians on the Territory of Post-Soviet Countries."

This is the first study of the various deportations and agricultural, industrial and Komsomol migration of Ukrainians within the Soviet Union, which the author researched in special archives in Russia, archives and libraries of the Baltic countries and Belarus, as well as at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and the State Security Service of Ukraine.

Unfortunately, no one has come forward to finance the publishing of these projects. The Institute of Diaspora Studies asks that interested sponsors contact the institute at: e-mail, ukr-svit@iptelecom.net.ua; telephone, (380-44) 244-2911; or fax, (380-44) 513-7132. The address is: a/c 507, Kyiv, Ukraine 01034.

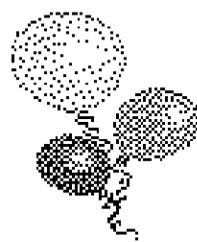
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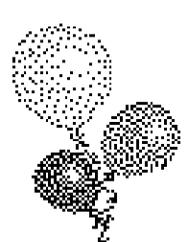


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CHANGE OF VENUE ANNOUNCEMENT

Soyuzivka's Saturday, August 26, 8:30 p.m. concert
featuring
violinist **SOLOMIYA IVAKHIV** of Lviv
and
pianist **CHRISTINA ANUM-DORHUSO** of Odesa
will be held in the
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(across from Soyuzivka)

Mistress of Ceremonies – **ADRIANNA RUDYK**
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BOOK NOTES

A newly revised travel guide to Ukraine offers more than travel tips

"Language and Travel Guide to Ukraine," Third Edition, by Linda Hodges and George Chumak. New York: Hippocrene Books Inc., July 2000, 378pp., \$16.95 (paperback).

Originally published in 1994, the "Language and Travel Guide to Ukraine" has now been thoroughly revised and updated in the new millennium. This best-selling guidebook provides essential language instruction and intimate insight into Ukraine's unique history and culture - religion, arts, literature and regional customs.

Not only does the book help to ease the traveler's journey to the country with

information on visas, travel agencies, airlines, hotels and customs, but it also enriches any visit with invaluable tips on shopping, entertainment and special seasonal events. Popular tourist destinations are highlighted as well, particularly in the detailed chapters (with maps) of the cities of Kyiv, Lviv and Odesa, and Crimea.

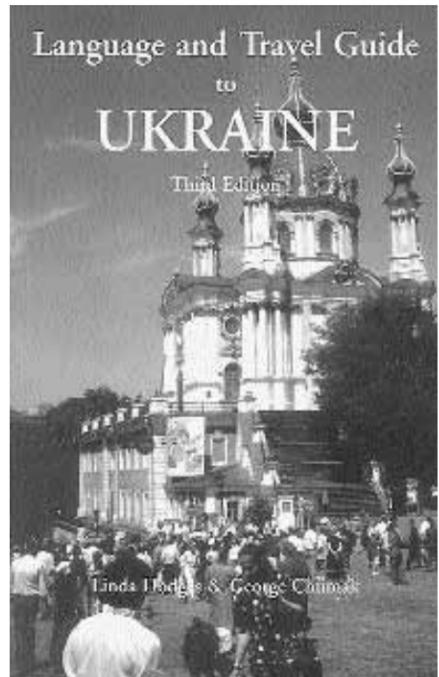
The importance of developing a Ukrainian perspective - being knowledgeable about the language, history and

culture of Ukraine, is strongly emphasized in the book. The purpose of the guidebook is made clear within its preface, as co-author Linda Hodges writes: "This book fills a need for the traveler who regards Ukraine as a destination in itself, not a stopping point of a larger itinerary. It's for the traveler who is sensitive to the differences between national groups and who appreciates the distinctiveness of the Ukrainian language, history and culture."

The introductory chapters offer a concise description of historical highlights, heroes, poets, patriots, national emblems and the anthem. In addition to crucial background information, the guidebook provides a list of recent changes in Ukraine in order to prepare the traveler for what to expect during his/her trip.

The Ukrainian language guide presented in the book consists of a large array of words and phrases accompanied by a highly comprehensive phonetic guide. The phrases are designed to cover the most basic situations that a visitor to Ukraine might encounter.

Ms. Hodges, a second-generation Ukrainian, is a freelance food and travel writer in Ames, Iowa. She has written articles on Ukrainian subjects for the Des Moines Register and The Ukrainian Weekly, and is active in Ukrainian causes on the Internet and in Iowa.



George Chumak is from Lviv. An internationally known laser spectroscopist, he serves as an assistant professor of chemistry at Clemson University in South Carolina.

Hippocrene Books, a New York-based publishing house, has published a number of Ukrainian-interest titles, including dictionaries and a collection of classical poetry.

In the words of the author.....

When our "Language and Travel Guide to Ukraine" first came out in 1994, my co-author, George Chumak, and I never dreamed that it would go into repeated printings and editions.

Since Ukrainian independence, many Ukrainian-Americans (myself included) have strengthened ties with relatives in Ukraine, while many Americans who never dreamed they'd travel to Ukraine have gone over as part of helping organizations; on educational exchanges; partner city exchanges; to

find a wife or adopt a child.

Our book was especially geared to providing those with no previous knowledge of Ukraine with the necessary background information, including history, culture and language.

But our original idea in writing the book has never been more true: Ukraine is a wonderful country to visit for its own sake. I have just returned from a vacation in Ukraine and find it better than ever for tourists!

-Linda Hodges

The Ukrainian Weekly 2000

Throughout its history, The Ukrainian Weekly has been a chronicler of the times, a reflection of our society, a purveyor of information, a leader of public opinion.

To mark the end of this millennium and the beginning of a new one, the editors of The Ukrainian Weekly have prepared "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000," a two-volume collection of the best and most significant stories that have appeared in the newspaper since its founding through 1999.

Volume I, now available, covers events from 1933 through the 1960s.

All subscribers to The Weekly should have received their copies in the mail. To order additional copies of this unique book, please use the clip-out form below.

"The Ukrainian Weekly 2000" is sure to become a resource for researchers, and a keepsake for readers. A great gift idea!



THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY 2000 VOLUME I

Order form with checkboxes for purchasing books, donating to the press fund, and subscribing to the newspaper. Includes fields for name, address, and phone number.

Form for mailing the order to The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

A handbook on organizations active in post-Soviet societies

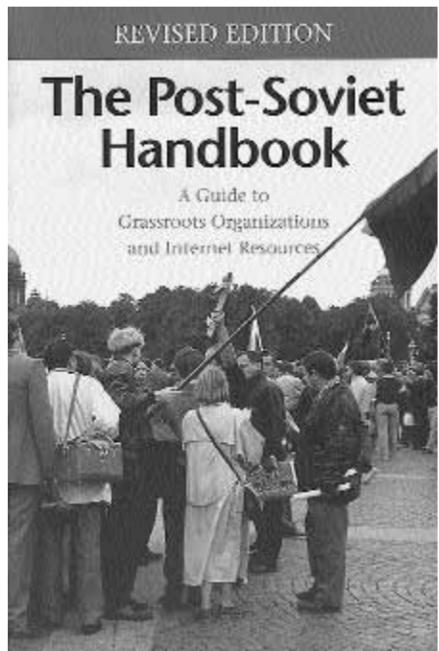
"The Post-Soviet Handbook: A Guide to Grassroots Organizations and Internet Resources, Revised Edition" by M. Holt Ruffin. Seattle: Center for Civil Society International in association with University of Washington Press, October 1999, 416pp., \$19.95 (paper).

This handbook has been revised since its first publication in 1996. It documents the variety of grassroots efforts in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, these new independent nations have been faced with great challenges. They are striving to restructure their economies and alleviate crime and corruption. The urgent need for change has spurred the formation of thousands of new dynamic organizations by people who are looking to improve their society's economy, environment and legal system.

The handbook includes names and background information on North American organizations as well as NIS-based organizations. The contact information, missions, achievements and/or future plans of each organization are concisely outlined. Internet resources are also posted. For the readers' convenience, e-mail lists and websites are organized in the back of the book, under subjects ranging from the environment, health and religion, to funding and the media.

"The Post-Soviet Handbook" not only



serves as a link between these grassroots organizations, but is also a guide of practical information for students, researchers or anyone interested in making the societies of these new independent states more humane.

A promotional banner for 'THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY' with the text 'Visit our archive on the Internet at: http://www.ukrweekly.com/' and a background image of a church.

BOOK REVIEW: Telling the story of Ukraine through postcards

"In Memory of Native Land: Ukraine in Old Cards" by Mykhailo Zabochen, Oleksander Polishchuk and Volodymyr Yatsiuk. Kyiv: Krynytsia Publishers, 2000 (printed at the Polygraf Printing House, Priashiv, Slovakia). 505 pages, over 100 pages of color photos/reproductions, 400 pages of black-and-white miniatures, hardcover. ISBN 966-7575-02-0.

by Marta Kolomayets

Close to five years in the making, "Ukraine in Old Cards" is more than just a 505-page coffee-table book about Ukrainian postcards. It is a unique catalogue of close to 8,000 Ukrainian cards, dating from the 1890s to 1990, depicting Ukraine and its people as they struggled for independence over the centuries. The encyclopedia is divided into four sections: Ukraine and Ukrainians; Ukraine in the Struggle for Independence; Taras Shevchenko: Poet, Artist, Symbol of Ukraine; and Ukrainian Culture. Although the introduction is written in four languages – Ukrainian, Russian, English and German – the comprehensive narrative is provided only in Ukrainian.

Compiled over many decades by Mykhailo Zabochen, 75, who has been called a genius and a gentleman by his collector colleagues, it chronicles the history of the Ukrainian postcard from both the days of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the times of the Russian Empire, as well as the Soviet period.

Painstakingly researched by Mr. Zabochen and his team, the postcards not only tell the history of Ukraine, they fill in the blank pages of the Soviet era, picturing monuments and churches that were destroyed during Communist times. Published in April, the album is dedicated to the well-known Ukrainian collector and benefactor Vasyl Tarnovsky (1837-1899) and brings to the fore the names of a number of Ukrainian artists and ethnographers whose works were destroyed during the Stalinist period of repressions, but whose postcard images survive to the present day.

A collector for more than 50 years, Mr. Zabochen told the Kyiv Post that his hobby was no easy task during Soviet times. But what started out as a hobby turned into a passion. In his essay on the history of postcard collecting, he recalled the period from 1932 to 1957 when collections of printed material were strictly forbidden and the year 1967, on the eve of the Soviet World Youth Festival, when the ban was lifted as Soviet authorities were embarrassed to find that there was no literature on stamp and postcard collecting in the USSR.

It was then that Mr. Zabochen, who had illegally collected postcards throughout the decades, emerged as an expert collector. By the early 1970s he began publishing articles on postcard collecting. By this time, his collection was quite impressive.

His colleagues agree that he perhaps had an easier time collecting Ukrainian postcards in Moscow, where he resided, than he would have if he had lived in Ukraine.

And, all agree that the publication of such a jewel of a book would have been impossible in Soviet Ukraine.

"We could not have even dreamed of something like this before Ukraine became independent," said Volodymyr Yatsiuk, who spent thousands of hours picking, choosing, researching and investigating the myriad postcards for the publication. According to American Morgan Williams, an avid collector and friend of the authors, the three men have pulled together 15,000 additional Ukrainian postcards showing Ukrainian towns, villages, buildings, markets, most of which are pre-Russian revolution and did not make it into the first book; they already have plans for a companion to this volume.

In addition, Mr. Yatsiuk, who is an expert on Shevchenko, bemoans the fact that only 1,000 postcards picturing Shevchenko made it into a book of 8,000 cards.

"You don't understand, Shevchenko's image on a postcard is unrivaled by any other literary figure in history, because for Ukrainians he is a literary figure, an artist, a symbol of national identity, a hero," he underscored. Mr. Yatsiuk is already planning an extensive volume on postcards relating to Taras Shevchenko, many of which are on exhibit at the Shevchenko Museum in Kyiv until the end of August.

But the problem of financing such professional ventures remains. Thanks to Oleksander Polishchuk, enough money was raised to publish 1,000 copies of this wonderful treasure, but such a small print run will deprive so many who want to learn more about Ukraine, its people and culture. And, unfortunately the high cost and low quality of printing in Ukraine remains a problem, as this volume had to be printed in Slovakia. Curiously, many of the postcards that deal with Ukrainian developments through the last century also were printed beyond the borders of Ukraine, in such cities as St. Petersburg, Vienna, Krakow and Stockholm, precisely because of low-quality printing facilities in Ukrainian cities at the beginning of the 20th century.

"It's wonderful that there is something for everyone in this book, in this encyclopedia," said Mr. Yatsiuk, one of the authors of the book during a recent inter-



"It Seems There's No Better..." Published in Kyiv, 1910, by D. Markov.

view. "The audience is broad – historians, Ukrainianists, artists, architects, teachers, ethnographers, museum curators, political scientists, journalists, publishers, book lovers, people interested in the history of printing – the list goes on," he noted.

Although the book itself is exceptional, the real phenomena are the three authors – Messrs. Zabochen, Polishchuk and Yatsiuk – who managed to compile such a vast collection of both color and black-and-white postcards, trace their origins and history, catalogue their findings and secure money for the publication of this historic work.

"Here you have three men, three different talents, all true collectors, all very committed and dedicated to the project, all in love with Ukraine – for without this love the book would never have been completed. This book was a labor of love for these three men," explained Mr. Williams, who describes himself as a cheerleader for the project. Mr. Williams and 20 other collectors contributed to this book, but the bulk of the postcards come from Mr. Zabochen, whose collection numbers over 140,000 postcards.

Mr. Williams explained that this project was monumental in scope and he has yet to hear of any authors in any other country who have even attempted to produce a book of such magnitude.

In the foreword to "Ukraine in Old Cards," Pedro Pablo Villanueva, United Nations resident coordinator and U.N. Development Program resident representative in Ukraine, whose fund helped promote the book, noted: "This book is important not only because it promotes Ukraine's history and culture, but because it brings out true Ukrainian identity, which has often been overlooked. This is a wonderful way to continue the integration

process necessary for Ukraine in regard to the international community. For the UNDP this project is part of larger comprehensive efforts in supporting the continuous development of Ukraine. This book has captured the spirit of Ukraine, and the UNDP is proud to be a part of it."

"I think the postcards and photographs from Ukraine are especially interesting as historical documents in light of all the turmoil Ukraine has experienced in the last 100 years. One can experience history in a special way as it marches by when one discovers photographs and postcards both for the image on the card and for the message written on the card," said Mr. Williams.

Readers of The Ukrainian Weekly will come upon names familiar in the diaspora, such as Jacques Hnizdovsky, Yaroslava Surmach-Mills, Sviatoslav Hordynsky, Edward Kozak and Mykhailo Moroz, whose works of art contributed to the history of the Ukrainian postcard so splendidly documented in this volume.

Mr. Zabochen said there is no other book like this in Ukraine, and that it will probably remain the only one for years to come.

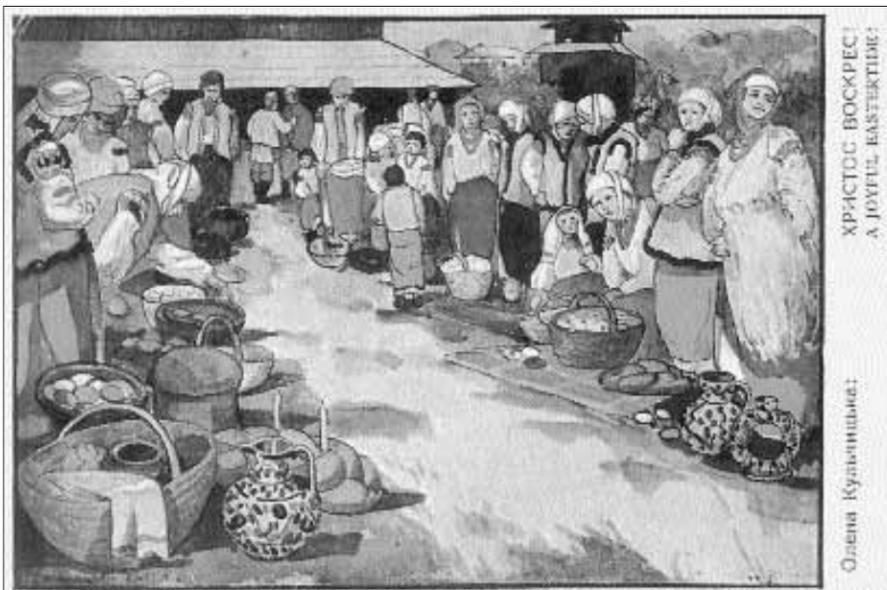
The book can be ordered in the United States for \$100 (postage included) from E. Morgan Williams, P.O. Box 2607, Washington, DC 20013; telephone/fax, (703) 241-7881; e-mail, MorganKyiv@yahoo.com.

In Canada it may be ordered for \$100 (U.S.) from Irena Fotieva, 8-4258 Maywood St., Burnaby, British Columbia V5H 2J3; telephone, (604) 439-9577; e-mail, Ifotieva@yahoo.com.

In Ukraine it may be purchased for \$75 (U.S.) from Lena Marina (in Kyiv) at: telephone, 380-44-494-07-46; e-mail, lenamarina@ukrpost.net.



"In Memory of Major Battles of the Ukrainian Legion, 1914-1918," by Yu. Butsmaniuk. Published in Vienna, 1918, by the Ukrainian Sichovi Striltsi Central Board.



"At Eastertide" by Olena Kulchytska. Published in Lviv, 1930s, by Rusalka Publishers.

With a little help from its friends, Batkivschyna steals the show in Connecticut

by Alexander Kuzma

NEW LONDON, Conn. – Between July 11 and 15 the newly renovated State Pier here became the site of the largest gathering of tall ships and sailing vessels in U.S. history. According to some newspaper accounts and naval historians, the festival known as OpSail 2000 brought together more tall ships than the Spanish Armada.

At the center of the celebration in Connecticut was the Ukrainian gaff schooner Batkivschyna, which captured the headlines and the hearts of thousands of Americans who traveled from as far as California, Alabama and Florida to witness the five-day spectacle.

By some estimates, OpSail 2000 attracted over a million visitors, and thousands were drawn by the extensive press coverage devoted to the harrowing journey of the Batkivschyna, which crossed the Black Sea, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean with little in the way of navigational instruments or modern technology.

Compared to the spectacular South American frigates that docked near her on the Thames River, the Batkivschyna was small and nondescript. Yet the Ukrainian vessel was never overshadowed by Chile's Esmeralda, Argentina's Libertad Colombia's Gloria, or any number of impressive sailing ships that towered over the modest schooner. It was precisely its small size and its low profile that awed many sailing experts.

"I can't imagine the amount of courage and skill and sheer audacity, it took to cross the Atlantic in this tiny boat," said one admirer, echoing the sentiments of many passers-by who boarded the vessel and visited its cramped quarters below.

The Ukrainian ship was dubbed "The Sweetheart of OpSail" by the New Britain Herald, and the legendary voyage and the "never say die" attitude of its crew led many to compare its tale to the classic story of "The Little Engine That Could."

"This ship has come to symbolize the toughness and resiliency of the Ukrainian people," said Oleh Weselyj of Marlborough, Conn., one of several local activists who lent his support to the publicity campaign surrounding the Batkivschyna.

The schooner's arrival was greeted

with a gala reception on July 11 at the Morton House, overlooking the picturesque Niantic harbor. Hundreds of supporters from across the state took part, and the story of the Batkivschyna became a catalyst for an energetic grassroots organizing drive among several small Ukrainian communities in Southern Connecticut and Rhode Island.

A coordinating committee led by Steve Femiak, Bohdan Les and Mike Lamperelli worked with local businesses and government leaders to maximize the visibility of the Ukrainian presence at OpSail. Beginning with a front-page feature in The New York Times, their efforts culminated in a four-hour-long radio program broadcast aboard the Batkivschyna hosted by one of Connecticut's most venerable talk show hosts – Brad Davis of WDRC. The Friday morning broadcast on July 14 featured special guests Gov. John Rowland and First Lady Patty Rowland, Mayor Ronald Nossek of New London, as well as retired Gen. David Gay, the commander and chief operating officer for OpSail 2000.

Interspersed between the governor's interview were numerous musical interludes provided by Petro Vashchyk, a member of the Batkivschyna crew who is also a historical re-enactor of the Zaporozhian Kozak era, and a virtuoso on several Ukrainian folk instruments. Spurred on by an enthusiastic response from his usually drowsy early morning radio audience, Mr. Davis repeatedly asked Mr. Vashchyk to sing more traditional Ukrainian folk songs. And Mr. Vashchyk obliged with rousing Kozak battle hymns and playful romantic tunes, including a "kolomyika" limerick he composed especially for the governor and his wife.

On a more serious note, Gov. Rowland hailed the cultural vitality of Connecticut's Ukrainian community, and he especially praised the work of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund that has launched 25 airlifts and delivered more than \$45 million worth of medical aid to Ukraine. Gov. Rowland cited the CCRF's success in reducing infant mortality and in combating children's cancer in several hospitals in Ukraine, and he pledged his support to further strengthen the fund's humanitarian mission.



Joseph Sywenkyj

Gov. John Rowland of Connecticut and Capt. Dmytro Birioukovitch examine a map that traces the harrowing cross-Atlantic voyage of the Ukrainian schooner Batkivschyna.

Following the morning talk show, the governor and Mrs. Rowland took time to visit the special exhibit of Ukrainian folk art designed by the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Center of New Haven, coordinated by Gloria and Donald Horbaty, Maria Antonyshyn, Irene Hladkyj and a large brigade of volunteers.

Adjacent to the Ukrainian exhibit, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund raised thousands of dollars for the fund's sixth neonatal intensive care unit. (The newest installation is scheduled to begin in Rivne this fall.)

Later in the afternoon, the focus on Ukraine continued with performances by the Zoloty Promin Children's Dance Ensemble under the direction of Orlando Pagan, the Hartford-based Yevshan Ukrainian Folk Choir and the Ukraina Dance Company of Toronto.

The Ukrainian component of OpSail 2000 received extensive and repeated coverage on at least three of Connecticut's evening television news programs: WFSB-Channel 3; WVIT-

Channel 30, and WTIC-Channel 61 (Connecticut's CBS, NBC and FOX affiliates, respectively).

At the conclusion of the on-stage performances, an impromptu songfest ensued at the Batkivschyna dock with members of the Yevshan choir joining Mr. Vashchyk and a trio of bandurists regaling a large audience with rowdy folk songs.

Throughout the four-day festival Ukrainian activists mingled with and distributed literature to thousands of visitors eager to find out more about Ukraine and to learn more about the little ship that defied all the odds to participate in the OpSail extravaganza. Ukraine's Black Sea Kozak tradition became part of the fabric of the OpSail tapestry, as fully integrated as Irish sea chanties and re-enactments of pirate raids.

When it was all over, the crew of the Batkivschyna and scores of volunteers from the small Ukrainian parishes of Colchester, Willimantic and Norwich had demonstrated that even small communities can have a powerful impact on the public consciousness regarding Ukraine.

Instead of becoming discouraged by the numerous setbacks suffered by the Batkivschyna en route to New London, the coordinating committee led by Messrs. Les, Femiak and Lamparelli worked masterfully to reverse every obstacle and to convert every negative development into a positive result.

Said one activist: "OpSail has turned the prevailing wisdom on its head. We've shown that our Ukrainian community has plenty of potential and plenty of clout, if we can just leverage it wisely. There is no reason for us to think of ourselves in a state of irreversible decline." As one of the co-founders of the Connecticut Friends of Ukraine Expedition, Mr. Femiak reveled in the moment: "This ship is doing a world of good ... I got such a good feeling when someone told me that the ship stole the whole show."

In the wake of OpSail's success, Batkivschyna's captain, Dmytro Birioukovitch, is now discussing the possibility of staging a Great Lakes voyage next summer. The way Mr. Femiak sees it, "If we could achieve results like these with small Ukrainian enclaves like Colchester and New London, why not in Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit?"

For more information on the Batkivschyna's future plans, e-mail the Connecticut Friends of Ukraine Expedition at CFUE@webtv.net, or call (860) 691-0756.



Against the backdrop of the Batkivschyna and an array of South American frigates, Jaroslaw Zastawsky of Rocky Hill, Conn., leads the Yevshan Choir in a rousing rendition of the independence hymn "Nalyvaimo, Brattia" ("Let us fill our glasses to the brim").

REFLECTIONS: A visit to Ukraine nurtures Ukrainian identity

by John Fedynsky

Despite the fact that my permanent mailing address has not changed since 1980, I have known many homes in my 20 years. Included among them are relatives' homes, my parish, several college dormitories and a few tents I called home while scouting. Last spring, I found a new one to add to my list: Ukraine. On March 24 I finally set foot in the cradle of my family, the land that seemed little more than a distant memory I could never experience.

I came back to Ukraine for the first time.

It was a bittersweet experience. I felt at home much of the time, but there were moments when I was alien and far removed from my surroundings. In Kyiv I was met with the grim, unwelcome sight of red stars and hammers and sickles that remain etched prominently in places like the Verkhovna Rada and the history museum. I struggled in communicating with people whose first impulse is to speak in Russian. When I would insist on Ukrainian and tell others that I know Ukrainian well but have hardly any understanding of Russian, I was met with perplexed stares. For native Ukrainians, if you know Ukrainian, then you must know Russian as well, and vice versa. I was in little position to criticize however, for I'm just as Americanized as they are Russified.

But I never felt as Ukrainian as I did when I stood in Independence Square during the requiem gathering commemorating the first anniversary of Vyacheslav Chornovil's untimely death. As the speakers and singers communicated in perfect Ukrainian, I wondered just how amazed my late paternal grandfather would have been had someone told him his grandson would one day stand in the middle of the capital of an independent, democratic Ukraine commemorating one of its fallen national heroes. He would have leapt for joy, and I felt his spirit do just that as I gazed at all the blue-and-yellow flags and sensed a pride and a hope for the future that absolutely permeated the air. I stood in and breathed, if only for a moment, the kind of Ukraine of which my grandfather and countless more had steadfastly dreamt, but could never know.

The dream is somewhat clouded by the economic situation, which is particularly evident in Lviv. A quick economic barometer I found is in the money itself. The lower the denomination, the more worn the bill generally is, which suggests that only the smallest exchanges dominate the economy. World-class museums are deserted despite admission prices that are the equivalent of a dime. Elderly women would follow me around inside and flick lights on and off for me as I entered and exited empty galleries. It was a somewhat comical cost-cutting measure, yet woefully revealing. Everywhere on the street there are people selling whatever produce they can pull together to get their hands on some money, any money. Those who sell more durable goods, like arts and crafts, seemed even more desperate. Their faces lit up with excitement when they would see a Westerner approaching. Some even remembered my name from day to day.

Incidentally, Lviv seemed to have very few foreigners like me, which made me quite the novelty. It seemed as though people could spot me from a mile away as an "inozemets," a foreigner. It was funny how people would stare at me out of curiosity. More self-conscious adults disguised it, looking away as I would make eye contact. But the little kids are too unsophisticated to care. They would fix their eyes on me and turn their heads to follow my path as I would walk by. I would try not to smirk when I noticed. And God forbid if I spoke in public with my highly detectable accent, which would always cause a stir.

But what stirred me was a richness that transcended the economic reality. I enjoyed wonderful hospitality everywhere I went and adjusted to having two dinners a night since everyone insisted on feeding me. I met some family for the first time and feasted in their company as they shared artifacts and other family heirlooms with me. They showed me the vestiges of what remained of my family in Ukraine – houses we once called home, and ancestors' gravesites.

We drove to Strilkivtsi, the village where my father spent his first few years. Word spread of my arrival, and by the time I made it through our old house, the church where my great-grandfather was a priest and the cemetery where some of my family is buried, I had attracted a crowd. I had my own entourage – some of whom remembered my father – following me around! I felt like I could stay forever, but I

John Fedynsky of Detroit is a senior majoring in philosophy at Georgetown University. He is editor of the university newspaper, The Independent, is a John Carroll scholar at Georgetown, and spent his junior year abroad at the London School of Economics. He is an active member of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and a graduate of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School.



John Fedynsky in Strilkivtsi, his father's village.

had to leave after only a few hours, which is metaphoric for my whole experience in Ukraine.

All my life, I was removed by space and time from my roots. I overcame the spatial divide, but as I stood at grave after grave and looked at my childless uncle and thought about how I would leave after a few days, I knew time would have the last say. I could never go back to the time when my ancestors lived, and I could not remain with my uncle forever. And then the spatial divide re-emerged. I felt so at home, yet very distant at the same time, as though I was in two places at once.

Then I looked deep within myself and saw to what extent I am Ukrainian and just how un-Ukrainian I am. Now I better know the limitations of my knowledge of all things Ukrainian, including language, culture, history and literature especially. I feel watered-down in my Ukrainian-ness

as I witness my and my family's Americanization. On balance, though, my trip made me more Ukrainian and convinced me that I would like to return one day for a longer period of time.

An even greater conviction that my experience reaffirmed is that my generation cannot simply be Ukrainian by blood. We must be Ukrainian by choice and by association, by word and deed. There is a framework of organizations and traditions that we must come to embrace individually. Through them, we can look for inclusion, not assimilation, in whatever wider society, such as America, where we equally belong.

We all nurture a remnant, however great or small, within us that remains Ukrainian through and through. Hold on to that remnant! It is who you are. It is who I am.

Myroslava Futey: Embassy's dedicated volunteer

by Ariadna Voitko
Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – Myroslava Futey never actually thought about working at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, yet when the idea was suggested to her in 1991 she asked herself, "why not try it?" – even if for a short while.

This "short while" has become nine years of dedicated volunteerism, a span of time during which Mrs. Futey has seen the Embassy grow from a temporary set of offices in the business district of Washington to a large complex in one of the city's most prestigious neighborhoods.

Ukraine's first ambassador to the United States was Dr. Oleh Bilorus, and since in those early days there was very little staff at the Embassy, Mrs. Futey began working with the ambassador on a variety of tasks as soon as he arrived. She continued to help out with each new ambassador – Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, Anton Buteiko and Kostyantyn Gryshchenko – and since she was comfortable working in both worlds, the Ukrainian and the American, she became a de facto volunteer public relations office for the Embassy.

The ambassadors and Embassy staff over the years have only kind and warm words of praise for the efforts of Mrs. Futey. She not only helped mediate between two worlds, including assisting with Ukraine's first state visits to the United States, but on a personal level organized Christmas parties for the children of the Embassy, and

recruited friends and family to help out with the numerous delegations that travel from Ukraine. Regardless of the fact that she was a volunteer, Mrs. Futey put in incredible hours to help out in critical times of the Embassy's growth and development.

Mrs. Futey now comes less frequently to the Embassy, since in the last few years she has become the proud and busy grandmother of three. However, the Embassy is never far from her concerns, as she often calls to see if help is needed, to offer advice and to suggest solutions to problems.

And Ukraine is never far from her heart. She and her husband, Judge Bohdan Futey of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, are planning a trip with their family to visit the country that is so dear to them – one whose heritage they have passed on to their children, and now hope to do for their grandchildren as well.



Myroslava Futey (center) with President Leonid Kuchma and her husband, Judge Bohdan Futey (right).

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Ukrainian officials...

(Continued from page 1)

tem, Dr. Goida noted that Ukraine "did not inherit the best of health-care systems" when it became independent, but it decided to retain the system, for the sake of some of its positive aspects, rather than start from scratch. But there are problem areas, she said, among them a hospital system with 400,000 beds – three times the per-capita level in the United States – which devours 85 percent of the country's health-care budget.

Ukraine, however, cannot apply the American ratio, she explained, because the circumstances are different: the frequency of illness requiring hospitalization in Ukraine is much higher than in the United States, and the patients cannot be released as fast for recuperation at home as they are here.

This is especially true in the rural areas, where there is a lack of physicians, medications, telephones, transportation and other necessities, said Dr. Dmytro Zabolotnyi, a national deputy and head of the Ukrainian Medical Association.

As a result, Dr. Goida pointed out, the average hospital stay in Ukraine is 12 days – needlessly long by American standards.

Dr. Goida said the government is working on establishing some sort of health insurance system in Ukraine, but all realize that it will not be easy.

Dr. Chernenko said that Ukrainian experts have studied health-care systems in the West, the East and in Central Europe. "And I'll tell you very frankly that we would never recommend the adoption of the American system in Ukraine today," he said. Ukraine would do better with a system that is partially financed by government funds and partially by insurance programs, he noted.

At this time, however, because of the economic situation in Ukraine, insurance payments would be an unwelcome additional financial burden on the individual, he said.

"I am an optimist among our Verkhovna Rada deputies with respect to our economic and health-care problems," Dr. Chernenko said. "We will overcome them, but it will take some time."

There will be some privatization, he said, "but we do not need a revolution." Asked which of the world's health-care systems he would like to see adopted in Ukraine, he said, "Given a good economy, the Canadian system."

U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), who had met with the Ukrainian health-care group earlier in the week, also participated in the UMANA roundtable and spoke about health insurance for Ukraine.

It will not be an easy choice, she said. "We have debates in our own country as to what the most appropriate system is. And we struggle with this all the time," Rep. Kaptur pointed out.

The American doctors at the roundtable asked questions about the Ukrainian system and commented on the good and bad points of the health-care system in this country, including the wastefulness of the multiplicity of insurance programs and health maintenance organizations, as was pointed out by Dr. Daniel P. Shmorhun, a pediatric cardiologist at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and the lack of attention to preventive medicine, a point addressed by Dr. Daniel Hoffman of George Washington University.

Both Drs. Chernenko and Goida stressed, however, that the foundation for a viable health-care system is in place in Ukraine.

"We are moving forward," Dr. Goida said. Programs exist and they reflect the government's health-care priorities: dealing with tuberculosis, heart disease, childhood diseases and reproductive health.

"Our demographic situation is catastrophic," she pointed out. "Statistically, deaths outnumber births two to one."

While some health indicators continue to worsen, she said, others are showing signs of bottoming out and improving.

One of the alarming health problems facing Ukraine today is tuberculosis, which is aggravated by declining living conditions, its prevalence in the prison system and the unavailability of medications, Dr. Goida said.

Another problem, she said, is AIDS. "While today's numbers may not appear so catastrophic," she said, "its rate of growth in Ukraine is the worst in all of Europe."

Dr. Roman Goy, president of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, pointed out that, despite its many problems, the Ukrainian health-care system appears to be holding its own, according to a 1997 World Health Organization study. It was ranked 79th out of more than 180 countries in "overall health-system performance." The United States ranked 37th, while Russia came in at 130th.

The statistics look even better, Dr. Goy added, when one compares the per capita expenditures that brought about these performances: \$4,000 in the United States \$150 in Russia, and only \$50 in Ukraine.

The coordinator of the U.S. Agency for International Development program that brought the Ukrainian officials to Washington, Dr. Olena Radziyevska, said a major goal of the program was to show the health-care experts from the executive and legislative branches in Ukraine how these two branches cooperate in the United States and to engender this same spirit of cooperation among the Ukrainian officials.

"And I think it worked," she said.

The UMANA roundtable discussion was organized by Daria Massimilla of the National Institutes of Health, who is president of the Greater Washington Area Chapter of the UMANA, and Dr. Roksolana Horbovyj of the Food and Drug Administration.

Turning the pages back...

(Continued from page 6)

Though a special commission previously had been created to study repressions under Stalin and had already rehabilitated thousands of victims, Mr. Gorbachev noted, "even now, thousands of cases haven't been considered, and a stain of injustice hasn't been removed from the innocent Soviet people who suffered during forced collectivization, who were sentenced, deported with their families to remote regions without means of existence, without a right of appeal ..."

The Weekly's editorial commented:

"Clearly, the decree, with its broad call for rehabilitation of Stalin's innocent victims, will affect millions. In Ukraine alone between 7 and 10 million died as a result of famine, countless numbers were shot, exiled and otherwise repressed. The Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches were liquidated, their clergy and hierarchy killed, and faithful persecuted. Crimean Tatars were deported en masse out of their native lands.

"Mr. Gorbachev has now given the all-union government and the parliaments of Soviet republics until October 1 to formulate proposals on how to restore all civil rights to surviving victims of Stalinism. ... For now, we must hail Mr. Gorbachev's decree denouncing Stalin's heinous crimes. But, we reserve final judgement until it is clear just how the injustices of the past are to be rectified."

Source: "Stain of injustice" (editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 19, 1990, Vol. LVIII, No. 33.

TRAVEL TIP: Ukraine's spas have much to offer visitors

by Bohdan Nehaniv

Are you tired of conventional medical treatment? Of swallowing pills, chemicals, drinking bitter syrups, the high cost of medical treatment in the United States?

Then go to Morshyn, Truskavets or other spas in Ukraine where the basis of the healing treatment are natural mineral waters supplemented by diet, physical exercises, massages, jacuzzis, etc. The highest cost here will be your round-trip ticket to and from North America; the rest is a bargain.

Canadians and Americans are popular here. On an excursion into the mountains our tour guide had asked me where I am from and, upon hearing that I am from Detroit, announced proudly that we have a "Canadian visitor." At that instant I became a celebrity, other travelers promptly switched from their commonly used Russian into Ukrainian to be able to converse with me.

But back to the spa.

You don't have to be sick to come here. Do it as a preventive treatment, get pampered. Daily body massages, the jacuzzi, walks and numerous excursions into the country at bargain rates will bring you back to your best.

The language you hear in Morshyn is Ukrainian; however, mostly visitors speak Russian.

Truskavets, on the other hand, is more of an international spa; even President Leonid Kuchma is a visitor here. There is an impressive pavilion, Karpaty, where the flavor is international and so are the prices - about four times that at Morshyn.

So, let's us stick to Morshyn. In order to get here you will need an invitation from the spa, or from someone in Ukraine. This you need to get from the Ukraine's

Consulates in Chicago and New York or its Embassy in Washington. The spa will be glad to invite you for a full course of 24 days or half of that (which is what I opted for).

After you arrive in Lviv, it is only an hour ride by train to Morshyn. The best is to be picked up by friends or relatives at the Lviv airport and be driven to Morshyn by car, (and in this was also get help with filling out admission papers, which are in Ukrainian).

A doctor or nurse will meet you and prescribe a particular treatment for you. It is advisable to bring some current medical documents to testify about your present state of health. Your doctor will assign you a special diet to follow and your daily routine such as massages, jacuzzi treatments and mud baths, or whatever is necessary in order to improve your health. If you like Ukrainian food, there is plenty of it. A common offering is apricot nectar, which is produced locally. The personnel/patient ratio is quite high, so you will get a lot of attention. (Don't forget to bring some personal gifts as thank-yous.)

Here is a word of caution: do not expect to get all the effectiveness and punctuality of the Western world here, time goes by slowly. The appearance of buildings could be shabby, floor tiles could be missing - the buildings have not been remodeled since the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the privatization process is slow and tedious. Resources are limited, but progress is being made slowly.

But there are magnificent exceptions as well. The people are sincere. The country is free and eager to learn what the West is willing to offer.

Better times are coming. Be part of it. Support Ukrainian tourism!



Bohdan Nehaniv

A gazebo in the park at the spa in Morshyn, Ukraine.

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The Carpathian Ski Club of New York

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Ukrainian Sports Association of USA and Canada (USCAK)

will hold

the annual Labor Day weekend
SWIMMING COMPETITION

at Soyuzivka

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2000

Swim meet

Saturday, September 2, 2000, 10:30 a.m.

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

Boys/Men	TABLE of EVENTS INDIVIDUAL	Girls/Women
1	100m im	13/14
3	100m im	15 & over
5 ..	25m free	10 & under ..
7	25m free	11/12
9	50m free	13/14
11	50m free	15 & over
13 ..	50m free	10 & under ..
15	50m free	11/12
17	50m back	13/14
19	50m back	15 & over
21 ..	25m back	10 & under ..
23	25m back	11/12
25	50m breast	13/14
27	50m breast	15 & over
29 ..	25m breast	10 & under ..
31	25m breast	11/12
33	100m free	13/14
35	100m free	15 & over
37 ..	25m fly	10 & under ..
39	25m fly	11/12
41	50m fly	13/14
43 ...	50m fly	15 & over
RELAYS		
45 ..	4 x 25m free	10 & under ..
47	4 x 25m free	11/12
49	4 x 50m free	13/14
51	4 x 50m medley	15 & over

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

Entry deadline: Entry forms, provided below, must be submitted by August 23, 2000, to Marika Bokalo, Swim Meet director. There will be no registration at poolside. Registration fee is \$5.00 per swimmer.

Name: (English)

(Ukrainian)

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Club/Youth Association

Event _____ Entry time _____

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Toronto channel to air "Virsky" video

TORONTO – Public broadcast channel WNET will launch its fall season on September 7 by featuring the Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company in a one-hour made for television production: "Virsky – The Spirit of Ukraine." Speaking from her Toronto KINOFILM studio, producer/director Myroslava Oleksiuk-Baker said: "Of course, we are delighted that the incredible and sustained effort required for a project of this nature is being rewarded by recognition from one of North America's premiere arts-oriented TV broadcasters."

"Virsky" was chosen by WNET to kick off the season during its annual fall membership drive. "We're honored to be added to their list of productions, along with such notables as The Three Tenors, Riverdance, and Les Miserables," Mrs. Oleksiuk-Baker added.

A Canadian/Ukrainian co-production, "Virsky" was filmed in both countries, with stage lighting and sets designed in Toronto.

To enhance the understanding and appreciation of Ukrainian folk dance for non-Ukrainians, the video's creators have masterfully interwoven between the dances, colorful and sensitive visual vignettes that delve into the history, the culture and the spirit of the Ukrainian people.

The New York Times dance critic Anna Kisselgoff picked the Virsky performance at the New York's City Center as one of

the top 10 dance events of 1998.

"Virsky – The Spirit of Ukraine" airs on WNET-PBS Channel 17, Cable 18 on Thursday, September 7, at 8 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. and at 1 a.m. on Friday, September 8.

For further information, and a video clip, visit <http://www.virsky.com/videoontheweb>, or call Encore Productions at (416)-239-7121.

Another look...

(Continued from page 6)

to ban the importation into Ukraine of international versions of magazines published in Russian. More importantly, it is linguistic and cultural suicide not to try and reverse the devastating effects of the decades and centuries of the various policies and campaigns to suppress, denigrate and destroy Ukrainian language and culture. Today the attempt to implement such reversals of past injustices is called affirmative action. But the Czechs did it even before the concept of affirmative action was invented. The Czechs apparently just thought it was common sense.

Dr. Szporluk's article has been reprinted in "Russia, Ukraine and the Breakup of the Soviet Union," a just published compilation of his writings over the last 30 years that is essential reading, and about which I hope to write in an upcoming issue of The Weekly.

Survey reveals...

(Continued from page 3)

mechanisms of private farming and ownership. The goal was to show the government what could be done and lay the groundwork for the changes that have finally taken place, explained Lubomyr Markevych, the assistant director of the privatization and land reorganization project of the IFC.

"Our intention was not to reform the agricultural sector," explained Mr. Markevych. "We wanted to develop the models and explain the resources needed to begin the process, so that there would be opportunities for the future."

Since August 1995 the IFC project has helped reorganize on a voluntary basis 86 collective agricultural enterprises, creating 163 private enterprises and 830 private family farms. The project involved more than 55,000 people and 240,000 hectares in 41 raions of the Donetsk, Chernihiv and

Volyn oblasts, as well as Crimea.

Mr. Markevych said that initially the work was difficult because some raion and oblast leaders were hesitant and tended to look to Kyiv for direction. But in other areas, like the Volyn region, where the regional leaders took to reforms aggressively, success came more quickly.

Mr. Markevych explained that the December presidential decree psychologically offered a breakthrough moment for the agricultural sector because it gave executive authority to the changes, which propelled other previously hesitant oblasts into the reform process. It also closed the circle on the first stage of agricultural reform, with which the IFC was so closely associated.

"Now we are handing the baton over to the Ukrainian side," said Mr. Markevych. "Much effort still will be needed to continue forward and to solidify what has begun."



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бл. п.

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бл. п.

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Нар. 16 січня 1926 р. в селі Тростянець, Золочівського району, Львівської області, в Україні.

Покійний належав до різних організацій та товариств, був активним та діяльним членом української громади в Дітроїті.

ПАНАХИДА відбулася в середу, 2 серпня, в похоронному заведенні Христофора Бугая, в місті Гемтремк.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в четвер, 3 серпня, в українській греко-католицькій церкві Непорочного Зачаття, в місті Гемтремк, а звідти на цвинтар „White Chapel Memorial Cemetery“ в місті Трой, Мишиген.

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Born 1863, Holohory, Ukraine



In Memoriam

Martha Karpa
Born 1864, Halushchynsi, Ukraine
Both Grandparents



In Memoriam

John Karpa
April 3, 1890 - July 2, 1970
Ukraine



In Memoriam

Elizabeth Karpa
Nov. 16, 1896 - Jan. 13, 1973



In Memoriam

Steve Karpa
Sept. 2, 1922 - Aug. 19, 1957
Chicago
Brother

*With all my love and your guiding light, forever,
Bill Karpa*

Olha Antonyshyn Sharabura

Born September 7, 1912,
selo Hryniv, Povit Bibrka, Ukraine,

died July 20, 2000, in Astoria, N.Y.

Funeral Mass at St. Mary's Chapel, Hamptonburgh, N.Y.
Burial at Holy Spirit Cemetery, Hamptonburgh, N.Y.

Greeted Archbishop Andrey Sheptytsky
in the foothills outside Bibrka, Ukraine, in 1930.
Pioneer member with husband,
Mykola Sharabura, deceased in 1996,
of St. George Parish in New York.
Member of Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church
in Astoria, N.Y., since 1951.

Daughter – Catherine Sharabura
Granddaughter – Nancy C. Bilas

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SEPTEMBER 2-4, 2000 (LABOR DAY WEEKEND)

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Qualifications: This competition is open to any player whose club is a member of USCAK. – Singles matches are scheduled in the following division: Men, Women, Women (35 and over), Junior Vets (35-44), Senior Men (45-55), Junior (Boys and Girls). Juniors are persons aged 18 and under, while seniors are those over 45 years of age.

Registration for tennis matches, including name, age divisions and the fee of \$15.00 should be sent to:

Mr. George Sawchak
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Registration should be received no later than August 28, 2000. No additional applications will be accepted before the competitions, since the schedule of matches will be worked out ahead of time.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:

G. Sawchak, R. Rakoczy, Sr., Z. Snylyk, G. Popel, G. Hrabec.

Schedule of matches:

Saturday, September 2, Soyuzivka, 8:30 a.m. All players must contact the Tournament Committee: They will be informed of the time and place of their first matches, as well as matches in subsequent rounds. In case of rain, all players meet in the Main House.

Because of limited time and the large number of entries, players can compete in one group only; they must indicate their choice on the registration blank.

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REGISTRATION FORM

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Ten years after...

(Continued from page 2)

reformers comprises Russia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova. These are countries that have clearly made some positive steps but subsequently have run into problems.

In Russia's case the turning point was the financial crisis of August 1998, an event that affected most of its neighbors. Kazakstan from the outset maintained a distance from Russia and modeled its reform on a combination of programs undertaken in China and South Korea. In 1993 it joined the International Monetary Fund, but the situation degenerated in the late 1990s thanks to a political crisis (discussed later) and the personal ambitions of the president. For foreign investors, Kazakstan is a less attractive prospect today than it was five years ago. The small republic of Kyrgyzstan made some positive steps – particularly the establishment of a stable currency by 1996 – but official endorsement of land privatization came only last year and only amid widespread protests in the southern part of the country. Moldova's progress was restricted by explosive questions regarding the status of the Transdnister region, independence and language questions that plagued the republic into the mid-1990s.

A third group, which can be termed the "slow reformers" brings together republics with diverse political structures: Ukraine, Belarus, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Of the four, Ukraine clearly had the best opportunity to embark upon radical economic reforms in 1992 but became embroiled instead in territorial and constitutional disputes with Russia and its autonomous republic of Crimea, respectively. Both Ukraine and Belarus suffered a dramatic fall in GDP in the early post-Soviet years as traditional industries contracted or became obsolete. Foreign investment declined as businesses became discouraged by a plethora of laws and high taxes. Resource-rich Turkmenistan also began positively with progressive laws for privatization of land already on paper by the summer of 1992, but in practice little was done. Economic reform remains the major priority of President Saparmyat Niyazov but the prime goal of a pipeline for the export of oil and gas to the countries of Western Europe has yet to be fulfilled. Uzbekistan, the former cotton capital of the USSR, has a system of partial privatization but the population subsists on an agricultural economy with a powerful state sector.

The final group in the economic reform process is made up of republics that have been severely hampered by civil conflict that has prevented significant progress being made: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Tajikistan. To paraphrase the former Prime minister of Great Britain, Margaret Thatcher: "It is hard to do business in a war zone."

Of the four countries beset by conflict –

it has virtually ended in three of them – Georgia and Armenia seem to be in the best position and have the most will to embark on most radical economic changes, many of which found their way into law in the early 1990s. However, Georgia is also the republic in which new civil clashes threaten to break out regularly, particularly on the border with Abkhazia. Armenia, on the other hand, introduced a radical economic reform program in the early 1990s and by 1993 most retail trade had been privatized.

Democratization

There are several characteristics that are similar in the democratization process in all the NIS other than the three Baltic states. These are a gradual or sudden enhancement of the authority of the presidency with a concomitant weakening of the legislature and, in most cases though far from all, the judicial system. The difference lies in the degree of presidential control. All the current presidents have some linkage to the old Soviet system, though many of the present group held positions of secondary rank in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and most do not formally declare themselves to be Communists today.

In general, the Central Asian republics and Kazakstan are the least democratic of all the former Soviet states. The Baltic states have parliamentary systems and form coalition governments. Their presidents are less powerful – closer to the model of Germany than the United States.

Uzbekistan is arguably the most unreformed of all the republics. The head of state, President Islam Karimov, was elected by the Uzbek Supreme Soviet in March 1990 and extended his term in office by government-run referenda until the year 2003. Opposition parties are virtually nonexistent and the president appoints all the representatives of the judicial system.

Close to Mr. Karimov in terms of length of time in office is President Niyazov of Turkmenistan, who is also chairman of the Council of Ministers, and began his term in October 1990. In 1994, Mr. Niyazov ran unopposed for a renewal of his presidency, receiving a reported 99.5 percent of the vote, but was gracious enough to decline a 1998 request to be "president for life" because it would be in contravention of the Turkmen Constitution. He has, however, adopted the title, "Father of all the Turkmens."

A solid third on this list of mini-dictators is Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakstan, a country the size of India, but with a sparse population of 15.6 million. Mr. Nazarbayev was also the first secretary of the Communist Party of Kazakstan since June 1989. He subsequently ran unopposed for the presidency of the independent Kazak state in December 1991, increased his powers at the behest of Parliament (the Supreme Kenges) in December 1993, and naturally took the appropriate step of dissolving the Parliament and ruling by decree in March 1995. A referendum followed on

(Continued on page 19)



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Ten years after...

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extending the president's term of office until December 2000, which was approved by 91 percent of the dotting faithful. Gaining faith in his own immortality, President Nazarbayev decided to build his own palace in the remote region of Akmola in 1995 (eventually renamed Astana), which today is the new capital of Kazakstan. A new presidential election was suddenly announced in January 1999, and the government promptly banned the candidacy of the leading oppositionist. Mr. Nazarbayev is officially in office until 2006 (the term has been extended from five to seven years), but unless he dies (in Astana this is considered no more than a remote possibility), there is little prospect of a change of leadership.

What happens when a dictator dies? In Azerbaijan, the likelihood is that power will remain in the family. Former Azeri KGB leader Heidar Aliyev has run the country since 1993, virtually without a Parliament, and he has nurtured his son as his successor – the health of the 76-year-old leader is beginning to fail. When he was re-elected in 1998, Aliyev and his government appointed the Central Election Commission, and used police and security forces to run the polling stations. His official tally of 72 percent of the votes is the only suggestion that President Aliyev lacks the universal adulation of his Central Asian counterparts, though the media have done their utmost to create a personality cult out of an aging ex-Soviet bureaucrat. These then are the extreme examples.

They are followed closely by Belarus' Alyaksandr Lukashenka, a 45-year-old former KGB border guard and state farm chairman, who studied well the tactics of Central Asian dictators and extended his own term of office via a doctored referendum of November 1996 and created a new rubber-stamp Parliament and judiciary. The difference is that Belarus is in the center of Europe rather than in Asia.

Tajikistan, while somewhat less extreme in terms of official propaganda, remains the least changed of all republics in that the Communists continue to rule virtually as in Soviet times, led since November 1992 by President Imomali Rakhmonov. In Kyrgyzstan, President Askar Akayev, in office since October 1990, appeared to be following the path of his Central Asian counterparts, albeit with a more human face, until the legislative assembly vetoed a proposal to hold a referendum in 1995 that would have extended his term of office until 2001. Four months later, however, Mr. Akayev was reconfirmed as president with almost 72 percent of the vote.

Moldova, Armenia and Ukraine can be described as authoritarian rather than dictatorial. In all three cases the initial post-Soviet leadership has been replaced: in Moldova, Petru Lucinschi defeated the first President, Mircea Snegur, in January 1997; in Armenia, Levon Ter Petrosian resigned in February 1999 and was replaced by Robert Kocharian; whereas in Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma narrowly defeated Leonid Kravchuk in July 1994 and was then re-elected late last year. In Moldova and Ukraine, at least until very recently, the parties of the left (Communists, Socialists, Agrarians) held the balance of power in the legislature, though a referendum of dubious legality in April 2000 in Ukraine addressed this problem by providing enhanced powers to the executive. Both Moldova and Ukraine have held elections decreed to be fundamentally fair by international observers.

In Armenia there clearly was official tampering with the results of the 1996 presidential election, but in 1998 there was a general consensus that the election of Mr. Kocharian reflected the wishes of the majority of voters. However, Armenian

politics have been subject to violent and destructive interludes, culminating in the assassination of both the prime minister and the Parliament chairman last October. These events have served to negate democratic progress in Armenia.

Lastly, Russia and Georgia have maintained a certain stability in office: in Russia's case this occurred after President Boris Yeltsin's military assault on the Parliament building in October 1993, and in Georgia's case after Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, took over from the ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia in early 1992. While recent elections have been fair, both countries have taken steps to end separatist movements by military force rather than negotiation, which significantly detracts from the democratization process as a whole.

Corruption has pervaded all the republics to a greater or lesser degree. The period of the legalization of the black market – what might be described as the heyday of economic liberalization plans – also saw the partial and even complete control over resources, exports of precious materials, management of private businesses and farms by groups formerly influential in the shadow economy.

In Georgia, President Shevardnadze has sometimes seemed helpless to control gang leaders; Russia allegedly went to war with the republic of Chechnya to eliminate Chechen terrorism in the capital city though Russia's "home grown mafia" is far more formidable; Ukraine has a former prime minister, Petro Lazarenko, currently a fugitive seeking political asylum in the United States rather than return to face charges of corruption while the Central Asian states have divided into various tribes struggling for power, though with the proviso that the head of the dominant tribe in most instances is the president himself.

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11	87	36	208	61	475	86	826
12	90	37	215	62	489	87	837
13	93	38	223	63	504	88	848
14	96	39	232	64	518	89	858
15	100	40	240	65	533	90	868
16	103	41	249	66	547		
17	107	42	258	67	562		
18	110	43	267	68	576		
19	114	44	276	69	591		
20	118	45	286	70	606		
21	122	46	296	71	622		
22	126	47	306	72	637		
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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

happen at the lower level. Rukh should become a democratic organization where the lower level controls the administration. Mr. Sheremet added that both Rukhs are influenced by groups of oligarchs; in such a situation a unification initiative from the administration is as possible as "the unification of political interests of Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Ihor Bakai and Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko," said Mr. Sheremet. (Eastern Economist)

Air crash in Congo kills 28

KYIV – According to preliminary information, two Ukrainian citizens were aboard an AN-26B aircraft, which crashed in the Republic of Congo. All 28 passengers and crew of the aircraft died in the crash. The aircraft was piloted by a Russian-Ukrainian crew. (Eastern Economist)

Kyiv to repay \$200 M ahead of schedule?

KYIV – Serhii Yaremenko, head of the hard-currency regulation department at the National Bank of Ukraine, told journalists on August 10 that the International Monetary Fund is likely to demand that Ukraine return \$200 million worth of credits ahead of the repayment schedule, Interfax reported. According to Mr. Yaremenko, the IMF Board of Directors can make such a demand as a sanction for the bank's overstating of its hard currency reserves in 1997. Mr. Yaremenko said the bank is able to return such a sum immediately because Ukraine's hard currency reserves are currently at \$1.22 billion. He admitted, however, that the earlier repayment would harm Ukraine from a political viewpoint, causing "losses in other operations with capital." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine prepares for more gas debt talks

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko has said Ukraine's delegation for another round of gas debt talks with Russia will be headed by Fuel and

Energy Minister Serhii Yermilov, the Eastern Economist Daily reported on August 10. Mr. Yushchenko added that the status of the delegation has not yet been determined and will depend on the status of its Russian counterpart. He noted that Kyiv's gas debt payment proposals include granting Russia a concession to part of Ukraine's gas transportation network. According to the prime minister, the concession will extend from five to 10 years and details will be determined during the upcoming meeting. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Pension debts to be paid by mid-September

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko on August 10 pledged that the government will repay all pension debts by September 15, Interfax reported. This is the third consecutive promise by Mr. Yushchenko's Cabinet of Ministers to do away with the country's pension backlog, which on July 1 amounted to \$478 million hrv (\$88 million U.S.). In February the government said it will pay all pension arrears by the end of this year, while last month it promised to do that by October 1. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Cabinet pledges support to coal industry

KYIV – Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told the Trade Union of Coal Industry Workers on August 12 that the government will soon earmark 55 million hrv (\$10.1 million U.S.) to support domestic coal mines and 25 million hrv to buy coal from them for power plants, Interfax reported. Ms. Tymoshenko also said that in September the government will be able to pay in cash for all coal purchased from domestic mines for electricity and heat-generating plants. Last month the government selected 15 Polish and Russian companies to deliver coal to Ukrainian power plants for this winter. It is estimated that by the end of the year those plants will buy a total of about 3 million tons of imported coal worth 400 million hrv. (RFE/RL Newsline)

(Continued on page 21)



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By Appointment

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 20)

11.7 percent industrial growth reported

KYIV – The State Statistics Committee reported on August 4 that Ukraine's industrial production grew by 11.7 percent in the first seven months of this year compared with the same period last year. In another report on what seems to be an economic recovery after years of decline and stagnation, the State Committee for Industrial Policy said Ukraine's industrial exports in the first six months of this year increased by 22 percent compared with the same period in 1999. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yuschenko visits Georgia

TBILISI, Georgia – Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko and Georgian State Minister Gia Arsenishvili signed four bilateral cooperation agreements in Tbilisi on August 4, Caucasus Press reported. Mr. Yuschenko also met with Parliament Chairman Zurab Zhvania and President Eduard Shevardnadze, and announced that Kyiv will donate 50,000 tons of grain to Georgia. During his talks with Mr. Zhvania, the Ukrainian prime minister proposed that the GUUAM member-states (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova) create a free trade zone. He further complained that it is not economical for Ukraine to import oil from Georgia as the transit tariffs imposed by the latter raise the price too high. In his weekly radio broadcast on August 7 President Shevardnadze characterized Ukraine as occupying "a special place" among the states Georgia considers its friends. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine reports deflation in July

KYIV – The State Statistics Committee on August 3 reported that the country posted a 0.1 percent deflation rate in July. The committee attributed the deflation to a seasonal drop in food prices, saying that food prices dropped 0.4 percent, while non-food prices went up 0.6 percent. Inflation was 18.7 percent in the first six months of 2000, well above the government's projected year-end inflation rate of 15.9 percent. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Renewal of IMF loan affects inflation

KYIV – Acting Economics Minister Viktor Kalnyk said on August 2 that the level of inflation in Ukraine in 2000 will depend on whether the IMF renews its suspended \$2.6 billion loan program by November, Interfax reported. "If we restore cooperation with the IMF, the inflation rate will be moderate – no more than 24 to 25 percent. If we fail to do this, this figure will be much higher," Mr. Kalnyk told journalists. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma signs telecom privatization bill

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on August 8 signed the long-debated bill on the privatization of Ukraine's telecommunications giant Ukrtelekom, Interfax reported. The Parliament approved the bill last month. The bill calls for the government to keep a controlling 50 percent plus one share stake and auction off at least 25 percent of the company's shares. The State Property Fund estimates that the budget may obtain \$548 million from Ukrtelekom's privatization. Ukrtelekom's gross revenue in 1998 was 2.4 billion hryv (\$440 million U.S.). (RFE/RL Newsline)

World Bank projects amount to \$1.9 B

KYIV – Dusan Vujovic, head of the World Bank's mission in Ukraine, has said the total portfolio of projects developed under the bank's new strategy for Ukraine may amount to \$1.9 billion over three years, Interfax reported on August 7. Mr. Vujovic noted that the bank's key program in

Ukraine may be a three-year loan of some \$750 million, provided that Kyiv continues its reformist course and resumes cooperation with the International Monetary Fund. According to Mr. Vujovic, the loan is intended to support the government in implementing reforms and fulfilling its program, which was approved by the Parliament in April. (RFE/RL Newsline)

36 illegal migrants detained near border

KYIV – Border guards in Ukraine's northern Sumy region recently detained 36 illegal migrants from Asian countries. Three Pakistanis, 26 Indians and seven Afghans illegally crossed into Ukraine from Russia, and border guards stopped their truck 15 kilometers inside Ukraine, said Oleksander Sluma, a border guard spokesman. Mr. Sluma said 33 other migrants had been detained in the region in the previous two weeks. The detained were from India, Bangladesh, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, he said. Last year 14,646 migrants were detained in Ukraine, up from 11,744 in 1998 and 10,776 in 1998, Mr. Sluma said. Ukraine has seen a growing influx of illegal migrants since the 1991 collapse of the USSR and a loosening of its border regime. Many migrants try to sneak into Europe with the help of guides. (Associated Press)

St. Petersburg: new capital of union

MOSCOW – The secretary of state of the Union of Belarus and Russia, Pavel Borodin, and St. Petersburg Governor Vladimir Yakovlev announced on August 8 that within two to three years St. Petersburg will serve as the base for the new Parliament of the Union of Russia and Belarus, the Kommersant Daily reported on August 9. According to Mr. Borodin, construction of a new center for the legislators will be undertaken by the U.S.-based firm of Cushman & Wakefield. He added that he has already directed the president to draft the appropriate decree authorizing its construction. "The only thing remaining is a political decision about the creation of a single government of Russia and Belarus," Mr. Borodin said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

New economy minister is named

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on August 9 appointed Vasyl Rohoyi as minister of the economy, Interfax reported. Mr. Rohoyi was minister of the economy from April 1998 to January 2000, when he was appointed first deputy head of the presidential administration. Mr. Rohoyi's predecessor, Serhii Tyhypko, resigned in June and won a parliamentary seat in by-elections held that same month. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Population continues to decrease

KYIV – The State Statistics Committee reported on August 9 that the population of Ukraine fell to 49.47 million from 49.71 million at the beginning of this year. The committee said deaths are outpacing births in the country by more than two to one. Ukraine's population has been declining steadily since 1991, when it stood at 52.06 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

100,000 government jobs to be cut

KYIV – About 100,000 employees of the budget sector administration will be dismissed by the end of the year, stated First Vice Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov. This step will be taken to lower the pressure on the state and local budgets next year, and are a part of the administrative reform program. Mr. Yekhanurov added that in the second half of the year the state will not save any money on these dismissals, since compensation payments must be issued to those dismissed. (Eastern Economist)

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

UNWLA branch active in central New Jersey

by Anna Krawczuk

MATAWAN, N.J. – “Good Foot Health,” a lecture by Margaret Zakanycz Putykewycz, D.P.M., board certified in podiatric medicine, was the last scheduled event of Branch 98 before the summer break. Dr. Putykewycz is a life-long resident of Middletown, N.J., and is on the staff of Jersey Shore Medical Center. She is also a past president of UNWLA Branch 98.

Guests and members enjoyed professionally presented information about the problems, ailments and care of feet. With explicit visual effects, everyone present realized that good health and the general well being of a person depends on proper footcare. Discussion following the presentation was very active and interesting. Dr. Putykewycz underlined the importance of proper footwear for all ages, especially children and pointed out that people from different cultures have different foot problems.

Founded in 1988, UNWLA Branch 98 chose St. Olga as its patron. Located in Monmouth County (in Central New Jersey), it is the southernmost branch of the UNWLA's New Jersey Regional Council. From the very beginning its local activities included Ukrainian folk arts and crafts exhibits in Holmdel, Middletown, Manalapan and Shrewsbury

libraries.

To further propagate the true history and information about Ukraine and in celebration of the UNWLA's 75th anniversary, the branch presented UNWLA convention books, Our Life magazine and “Ukraine: A History” by Orest Subtelny to the Monmouth County Library's reference department in Manalapan, N.J., and “The Sky Unwashed” by Irene Zabytko to Holmdel Library.

At the annual elections held in March, M. Orysia Jacus was elected president. Past presidents were: Vera Yurechko, Christine Roland, Dr. Zakanycz, Anne Pederson, Victoria Mischenko and Mary Bonanno.

Those interested in joining the diverse group of individuals united in UNWLA Branch 98 are encouraged to call Ms. Jacus, (732) 264-8820, or Victoria Mischenko, (732) 671-1914; or to write to: UNWLA Branch 98, P.O. Box 24, Matawan, N.J. 07747-0024.

The branch's membership includes Ukrainian Americans, as well as Ukrainian women who came to the United States from Argentina, Brazil, Poland and other countries. What unites all is a belief in the ideals and causes of this renowned women's organization which this year is celebrating its 75th anniversary.



At the Monmouth County Library (from left) are: UNWLA Branch 98 President M. Orysia Jacus, Chief Librarian Joyce Smothers, UNWLA Honorary President Anna Krawczuk and Branch 98 Secretary Victoria Mischenko.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

Branch 30 of Yonkers will be starting its Ukrainian Preschool (“Svitlychka”) for children age 3-4. The Svitlychka will meet on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon at St. Michael's church. For additional information or to register call Nadia Cwiach, (914) 949-7010.

Monday, September 11

TORONTO: St. Vladimir Institute is offering Ukrainian language classes for the general public interested in learning Ukrainian as a second language. Three levels will be offered at the institute, 620 Spadina Ave., at 7-9 p.m. from September 11 through April 30, 2001. The fee is \$195 for 30 sessions. For information or to register call (416) 923-3318.

Tuesday, September 12

TORONTO: The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogical Group, a newly formed club, will be meeting on the second Tuesday of

each month at St. Vladimir Institute. Come out and learn to research for your ethnic Ukrainian ancestors or share your experiences in the best ways to access information. The institute is located at 620 Spadina Ave. Meetings are at 7 p.m. Fee: \$5 each meetings. For information or to register call (416) 923-3318.

Thursdays, September 21-November 23

TORONTO: St. Vladimir Institute is pleased to offer an intensive hands-on Byzantine-style icon-writing course with iconographer Olexa Mezentsev. Start with an introduction to icons using visuals to illustrate past and current iconography. Write your own icon using the ancient technique of egg tempera in just 10 weeks. The institute is located at 620 Spadina Ave. The course meets at 6:30-9:30 p.m. Fee: \$15 for introduction to icon writing; \$195 for 10 sessions plus supplies. For information or to register call (416) 923-3318.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, August 24

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: Ukrainian Independence Day will be celebrated at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, at 7 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Serhii Nechyporenko, naval attaché, Embassy of Ukraine in Washington. The Dumka Ukrainian Choir from New York City will perform with musical director/conductor Vasyl Hrechynsky and soloist Roman Cymbala, Opera Theatre of Lviv. Admission: \$10, adults; \$5, students; children to age 12, free. For more information see www.ukienet.com or call the UECC, (215) 663-1166.

Saturday, August 26

SANDY POINT STATE PARK, Md.: The Washington Group invites all to the Independence Day Picnic at the beautiful Sandy Point State Park in Maryland (picnic area and beach) at the Heron Shelter at 11 a.m. until closing. Includes swimming, fishing, hiking — don't forget your sports equipment. Also available is a spacious children's playground, food concession stands and much more. Feel free to bring your own food and beverages. Admission is \$3 per person. For more information contact Oles Berezhny, (703) 534-0309, or olesberezhny@hotmail.com. Directions: Located at the western terminus of the Bay Bridge, off U.S. routes 50 and 301. If traveling from Washington or Baltimore, the park is located just past Annapolis and before the Bay Bridge.

HUNTER, N.Y.: Violinist Solomia Soroka and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky will appear in concert at the Grazhda, adjacent to St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church on Route 23 A, at 8 p.m. The concert program will include works by Vitali-Charlier, Brahms, Ravel, Lysenko, Dvorak, Stankovyich, Bartok and others.

Sunday, August 27

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian Sports Center Tryzub will celebrate the ninth anniversary of Ukrainian Independence Day with a festival at Tryzubivka, located at Lower State and County Line roads. The festivities are scheduled for 1-8 p.m. Admission is \$10; children under age 13, free. For information call Adrian Hawryliw, (215) 722-6566.

Wednesday, September 6

NEWARK, N.J.: St. John's Ukrainian Preschool will re-open with Ukrainian-language Montessori sessions each weekday morning from 9 a.m. to noon. Extended hours from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. are available to serve working parents. Minimum age is 2 years, 6 months. We emphasize respect for the child, individualized learning and promotion of the child's independence. For more information call Olenka Makarushka-Kolodiy, (973) 763-1797.

YONKERS, N.Y.: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA)

(Continued on page 23)



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SUMMER 2000

Saturday, August 19

8:30 p.m. — concert
UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS
"Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Dance Workshop"
10 p.m. — dance — music by SVITANOK

Sunday, August 20

2:30 p.m. — concert — composer Myroslaw Skoryk;
8:30 p.m. — concert — Anna Kovalko, soprano, from Lviv, Ukraine

Saturday, August 26

8:30 p.m. — concert — Solomiya Ivachiv, violin;
8:30 p.m. — concert — Christina Anum-Dorhuso, piano
10 p.m. — dance — music by VIDLUNNIA

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Friday, September 1

10 p.m. — dance in the Trembita Lounge — music by LUNA, ZONE

Saturday, September 2

8:30 p.m. — concert — SYZOKRYLI Ukrainian Dance Ensemble
Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky — choreographer;
LISOVA PISNYA bandura duo:
Alla Kucevycz and Liuda Hrabovska;
CHERESHENKY duo: Lidiya and Gabriella Oros
10 p.m. — dance — music by TEMPO, ZOLOTA BULAVA

Sunday, September 3

8:30 p.m. — concert — Oksana Krovytska — soloist, New York City Opera
Thomas Hrynkiw — concert pianist
10 p.m. — dance — music by ZOLOTA BULAVA

PLUS: Enjoy the sounds of Greg and Stefan every Wednesday at Hutsul night at 6 p.m., starting June 28.

Dance to the tunes of Vidlunnia every Friday evening starting July 14.