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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXVI

No. 20

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2008

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Historical exhibit in Kyiv dedicated to Ukrainian prisoners of Auschwitz



Anatoliy Musiyenko/Museum of War, Kyiv

President Viktor Yushchenko (left) meets at the exhibit on Ukrainian inmates of the Auschwitz concentration camp with the president of the World League of Ukrainian Political Prisoners, Bohdan Kaczor (right).

by Illya M. Labunka

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — As part of the 63rd annual Victory Day commemoration marking the end of World War II, a special exhibit dedicated to Ukrainian prisoners at the Nazi death camp in Auschwitz was opened on May 9 at the National Museum of the Great Patriotic War in Kyiv.

Although the official opening of the exhibit was low-key, among those who attended the opening was President Viktor Yushchenko and members of his family, who spent half an hour reviewing the exhibited items. President Yushchenko's father, Andriy Yushchenko, was a prisoner of war at Auschwitz.

Titled "The Auschwitz Concentration Camp — A Ukrainian Aspect," and organized jointly under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ukraine, and the National Museum of the Great Patriotic War, the exhibit is the first step in what is being called an effort to finally research and document the fate of Ukrainian prisoners in Nazi concentration camps. The museum is located in the base of the 61-meter high "Motherland" statue that depicts a fierce woman warrior.

In addition to archival documentation provided by the National Museum of the Great Patriotic War, various materials for the exhibit were also contributed by the Central State Archive of Civic Organizations of Ukraine, the Security Service of Ukraine, and the family archive of the artist Zinovii Tolkatshev, a Belarusian-born Jew who grew up in Kyiv and witnessed the horrors of Auschwitz as a Soviet Army officer when the death camp was being liberated from the Nazis.

Over 300 items, consisting of original

and scanned photos of prisoners, memoirs and artists' sketches featuring various aspects of daily existence in Auschwitz, are currently displayed at the exhibit which, according to Stephen Bandera, a member of the organizing committee, took just over a month to organize.

"The response from the community, particularly in the diaspora, was tremendous," said Mr. Bandera. The support of the Ukrainian World Congress and the volunteer efforts of such individuals as Ihor Mirchuk of Philadelphia, son of Auschwitz survivor Dr. Petro Mirchuk, and Bohdan Kaczor, himself an Auschwitz survivor and current head of the World League of Ukrainian Political Prisoners, were all very beneficial in assuring the exhibit's success, added Mr. Bandera. Dr. Roman Procyk, executive director of the Ukrainian Studies Fund, whose father, Stepan Procyk, was also an Auschwitz survivor, offered logistical assistance by volunteering his time to scan some of the photographs lent to the exhibit.

According to official information provided by sources at the National Museum of the Great Patriotic War, the exact number of those who spent time and/or ultimately perished in Auschwitz, has never been fully assessed, as most of the documentation regarding prisoners' statistics was destroyed immediately prior to the arrival of the Soviet Red Army. Nevertheless, according to the same sources, official estimates suggest that as many as 15,000 residents of what was then ethnic Ukrainian territory may have spent time in Auschwitz.

Amidst the visual horror surrounding each visitor to the exhibit, a noticeably

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Tymoshenko Bloc's protest halts work at Verkhovna Rada

KYIV — President Viktor Yushchenko was forced on Tuesday, May 13, to cancel his annual state of the nation speech to the Verkhovna Rada when national deputies of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) blocked the speaker's rostrum. The blockade continued into Wednesday and Thursday, as Tymoshenko Bloc deputies protested what they saw as inaction on a package of the Cabinet's anti-inflation measures.

The parliamentary session on May 13 was opened by Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk, who was prevented from taking his place at the rostrum by YTB members. A total of 256 national deputies were registered at the time in Parliament. The chairman then adjourned the meeting and invited heads of parliamentary factions to meet in his office that afternoon in hopes of defusing the crisis.

The Tymoshenko Bloc, which remains an ally of the president via Ukraine's coalition government, blocked the podium to protest what it considers Mr. Yushchenko's inaction on its top-priority bills on combating inflation, as well as due to the continuing controversy over the leadership of the State Property Fund (SPF). The YTB wants the issue of SPF Chair Valentyna Semeniuk-Samsonenko's dismissal to be placed on the parliamentary agenda.

At the heart of the matter, however, is the issue of government authority and who wields more power: the president or the prime minister. The crisis is taking place against the backdrop of discussions concerning constitutional reform, with Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko supporting a parliamentary republic, with significantly reduced presidential powers, and President Yushchenko saying Ukraine is not ready for that form of government.

President Yushchenko said the blocking of the Parliament's work by a member-group of the majority coalition was "unprecedented." After meeting with Rada Chairman Yatsenyuk and faction leaders on May 13, the president announced from the parliamentary rostrum that evening: "I am surprised that for the first time in our history we have an unprecedented case when a coalition majority, which shoulders responsibility for the Ukrainian Parliament's work, has started to block it."

He commented: "I was to implement my constitutional duty and deliver this report. That did not happen. As noted by both the majority faction leaders and the Parliament chair, this is taking place for concocted reasons, allegedly through the attempt of a part of the majority, the YTB faction, to immediately raise the question of an anti-crisis package."

Ms. Tymoshenko attributed the May 13 blockade of the parliamentary rostrum by her faction to the need to stop "political talk" and start passing anti-crisis laws. Speaking at a news briefing at the Verkhovna Rada, she said, "Our faction clearly outlined the terms to have been implemented four months ago. Now we believe it is high time to stop empty talk and get down to concrete deeds."

According to the prime minister, her government has failed to overcome a standstill because of certain politicians' actions and the Parliament's inaction. "In the past four months, the Rada did not pass a single law useful for Ukraine except for ratification of the WTO protocol. The standstill has been continuing. So, we would like to start with the anti-inflation package and 30 other vital bills, which were proposed by the gov-

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Serhii Svetlytskyi/UNIAN

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk adjourns the session on Thursday, May 15, as members of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc continued to block the Parliament's work.

ANALYSIS

Russia prepares for battle over Ukraine's orientation

by Victor Yasmann
RFE/RL

Russia's pro-Kremlin mass media has lauded the recent NATO decision in Bucharest to delay issuing Membership Action Plans (MAPs) to Ukraine and Georgia, hailing it as a victory for departing President Vladimir Putin.

However, many serious pundits in Russia have been less smug. They appear to regard the objections formulated by Germany and France as temporary obstacles and think that NATO remains bent on including Kyiv and Tbilisi around its table. Ukraine is of particular concern, because, as the emerging neo-nationalist ideology in Russia argues, without that country, Moscow cannot restore its status as "the center of power in Eurasia."

"NATO membership for Ukraine means death for Russia," nationalist publisher Aleksandr Prokhanov has said.

At the same time, Russia's ruling elite is acutely aware of its significant geo-economic interests in Ukraine, particularly since Ukraine and Belarus are the main conduits for Russian hydrocarbon exports to Western Europe.

Finally, Mr. Putin has a personal stake in the outcome. During Ukraine's 2004-2005 Orange Revolution, Mr. Putin personally intervened on the side of then-Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who led the "anti-Orange" camp. The failure of that heavy-handed intervention was presented around the world, including in Russia and Ukraine, as a major foreign-policy fiasco for Moscow. Media reports at the time indicated that the failed effort in Ukraine was coordinated by Mr. Putin's then chief of staff, Dmitry Medvedev.

Russian analysts realize that support in the United States for Ukraine's eventual NATO membership is not limited to the administration of George W. Bush. It has bipartisan backing in both houses of the U.S. Congress, both of which this year passed resolutions of support. Russian media have noted that all the remaining U.S. presidential candidates – Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.), Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), and Barack Obama (D-Ill.) – support NATO membership for both Ukraine and Georgia. Mr. Obama was an initiator of the corresponding resolution in the Senate.

In addition, the concluding document of the NATO summit in Bucharest, which was endorsed by all NATO members of both "old" and "new" Europe, clearly states that Ukraine and Georgia should become members of the alliance.

Russian pundits have also noted with concern that, although a majority of Ukrainians still opposes NATO membership, that majority is slipping. The pro-Kremlin news agency RosBalt earlier this month published research that indicates the percentage of Ukrainians actively opposing membership has fallen from 70 percent to 35 percent in the last two years. Other research indicates that 60 percent of Ukrainians oppose joining NATO, while 40 percent favor membership.

Moreover, the Ukrainian government is working to continue turning this tide. President Viktor Yushchenko told Germany's ZDF television recently that he thinks the percentages can be reversed within two years. Mr. Yushchenko's belief is well-founded, as the country's political elite – with the exception of left-leaning parties – is solidly pro-NATO and Ukrainian media – which, unlike Russia's, are genuinely independent – broadly sup-

port membership.

Observers in Moscow have also expressed concern that the traditionally pro-Russian elements in Ukraine have been antagonized by the recent gas wars and various other clumsy efforts initiated by Moscow. In October 2007, for instance, the pro-Kremlin Eurasian Youth Movement (EYM) entered Ukraine and vandalized some state symbols at the summit of the country's highest peak.

The protest outraged the Ukrainian authorities and public opinion, especially after press reports suggested that the instigator of the action was International Eurasian Movement leader Aleksandr Dugin. The EYM is part of Mr. Dugin's umbrella organization. In the wake of the scandal, Mr. Putin fired Modest Kolerov, the head of the presidential-administration department in charge of ties with CIS countries, who

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had enlisted Mr. Dugin as an adviser.

Pro-Kremlin propagandists also emphasize the idea of a "military threat" from the alliance, even though some of Russia's top defense officials are skeptical of such a threat. First Deputy Prime Minister and former Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov, for instance, said in April 2007 that Russia faces no military danger on its Western borders, saying that the real potential danger lies in the Far East and the Pacific region.

"It is true," Mr. Ivanov said, "that we have NATO [in the west], but we have acceptable relations with it and a system of treaties and mechanisms has been established." This assessment, made during a speech in Vladivostok, went little noticed by the central mass media. As a result, a significant segment of Russian public opinion is convinced the Western alliance presents a military threat to Russia.

Meanwhile, the war of words is continuing. CIS Institute Director Konstantin Zatulin debated Anatolii Hrytsenko, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's National Security and Defense Committee, recently on NTV. Mr. Hrytsenko laid out a passionate defense of the pro-NATO position.

"The richest people in both Russia and Ukraine long ago made the decision in favor of NATO," Mr. Hrytsenko said. "Their children study in universities in NATO [countries]. They buy property and yachts in NATO. They send their wives to give birth in NATO countries. They buy soccer clubs in NATO countries. Do you think the citizens of Russia are stupid? If not, then you are. How long will you continue to inflict Soviet-propaganda stereotypes on them?"

Unable to respond logically, Mr. Zatulin simply accused Mr. Hrytsenko and Ukraine of "treason." In general, Russian media hit the theme of Ukraine's "treason" heavily in the days surrounding the Bucharest summit.

In refusing MAPs for Ukraine and Georgia, NATO explained that the step is unwarranted because of "unfavorable public opinion [in the two countries] and unre-

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NEWSBRIEFS

Yushchenko to visit Canada

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine will visit Winnipeg on May 27, reported the local news media. "We're very excited to have the president in Winnipeg," Lesia Szwaluk, president of the provincial council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, said on May 8. She told the Winnipeg Free Press that the date of the visit has been confirmed by a member of the Embassy of Ukraine, although the itinerary has yet to be ironed out. Sources said that, tentatively, Mr. Yushchenko would meet with Premier Gary Doer, receive an honorary doctorate from the University of Winnipeg and visit the monument to 19th-century poet Taras Shevchenko that is located on the legislative grounds. It was reported that there might also be a private reception at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Tentatively, the Ukrainian president is also scheduled to visit Ottawa, Edmonton and Toronto, in what will be his first visit to Canada. Dwight MacAulay, chief of protocol for Manitoba, said Ukrainian and Canadian officials were working on a visit by the Ukrainian leader, but that details wouldn't be ironed out until after a May 17 advance meeting of government officials. "The truth is, nothing's confirmed yet," MacAulay told The Winnipeg Free Press, including the date of a visit. "Everything that we're planning right now is still tentative until we get a final OK on it." (Winnipeg Free Press)

Klitschko hires Giuliani

NEW YORK – Rudy Giuliani, former New York City mayor and former candidate for the Republican Party's nomination for president, has been hired by ex-champion boxer Vitali Klitschko, one of the top candidates for mayor of Kyiv. At a news conference in Times Square, Mr. Giuliani appeared with Mr. Klitschko, a.k.a. Dr. Iron Fist. Mr. Giuliani said the Klitschko campaign is looking for his company, Giuliani Partners LLC, to offer advice on how to battle corruption in the Ukrainian capital. Mr. Klitschko, 36, a Kyiv city councilman, called the former mayor "a huge name," and explained that his hope was to make Kyiv a modern city "like Paris, like

London, like New York." Mr. Giuliani told the boxer-turned-politician, "They need a leader like you who can deal with corruption, who can deal with reform of government, which is so necessary." He went on to compare Mr. Klitschko to New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in that both were new to politics when they ran and won election. The announcement of the Klitschko-Giuliani partnership was made at NASDAQ in Times Square to highlight the Ukrainian candidate's commitment to bring U.S. businesses to Kyiv. The Kyiv mayoral election is scheduled for May 25. (The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times)

Two new political parties in Ukraine

KYIV – The Justice Ministry of Ukraine has registered two new political parties, the All-Ukraine Kozak Party and Rusychi, the ministry's press service reported on May 12. Thus, a total of 146 political parties are now registered in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

News on Odesa-Brody pipeline

KYIV – Oleh Dubyna, the head of the state-owned Naftohaz Ukrayiny, told journalists in Kyiv on May 7 that the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline will start pumping oil from the Ukrainian port of Odesa to Brody "by the end of the first half of 2008," Interfax-Ukraine reported. Mr. Dubyna added that "485,000 tons of light crude will be bought to use [the pipeline in] the other direction." The pipeline, built by Ukraine in 2002, was originally intended as part of a project to transport Caspian Sea crude to the Polish port of Gdansk and on to other points in Europe. But in 2004 the Ukrainian government gave permission for the Russian-British TNK-BP holding to use the Odesa-Brody pipeline to transport Russian oil in the opposite direction. Poland has repeatedly promised to help Ukraine use the pipeline according to its original intention, but progress on the Odesa-Brody-Gdansk project has been extremely slow because of its estimated cost of \$2 billion and doubts whether oil shipped via this route can compete with Russian oil transported to markets through

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices.
(ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:

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

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editor: Matthew Dubas

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, May 18, 2008 No. 20, Vol. LXXVI
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NEWS ANALYSIS: Moscow mayor, Russian defense minister question status of Sevastopol

by Vladimir Socor

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov called for the "return" of Sevastopol to Russia during a visit to that Ukrainian territory on the anniversary of Russia's Black Sea Fleet. The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry implicitly backed Mr. Luzhkov in a follow-up statement, and Russian Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov, attending the anniversary events in Sevastopol, hinted that Russia would seek to retain its naval base there beyond the 20-year time frame of the agreement, that Russia signed with Ukraine in 1997.

Mayor Luzhkov, who has made such statements "spontaneously" on several previous occasions, acted methodically this time, with seemingly planned pronouncements, amply televised by Russian channels, at each of his three stops during the visit.

At a festive concert in Sevastopol, Mr. Luzhkov blamed today's territorial status quo on former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev's decision to transfer Crimea to Soviet Ukraine (other Russian politicians use similar arguments attempting to delegitimize this and other post-Soviet borders). Mr. Luzhkov, moreover, maintained that the city of Sevastopol was not covered by that decision: "This issue remains unresolved. We are going to resolve it in favor of Russia's truth, its state positions and its state right regarding its naval base Sevastopol" (Interfax-Ukraine, May 11).

On board the cruiser Moskva, the flagship of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, Mr. Luzhkov claimed that "Sevastopol, as a city with its boundaries [i.e., not only the naval base], has to belong to Russia, because it

was never handed over to Ukraine." Irrespective of the limited duration of the basing agreement, he said, "Sevastopol is a Soviet naval base that has to be returned to the Russian Federation."

While urging the Russian government to pursue this case in international courts, the mayor of Moscow hastened to prejudge the outcome: "Based on the documents that can be submitted, an international court has no right to take any other decision" than one in Russia's favor (ITAR-TASS, Center TV, May 12).

Speaking to journalists in Sevastopol, Mr. Luzhkov declared, "I officially ask the leadership of our country, the Duma and the Federation Council, to raise the issue of Sevastopol again," this time apparently in retaliation for Ukraine's recent request to NATO for a Membership Action Plan. "When Ukraine strives at the state level to join NATO, [it] undermines our relations as inscribed in the Friendship Treaty. If we do not react, it would be another big mistake."

The treaty, which was signed by Russia and Ukraine in 1997 and recognizes the inviolability of the existing mutual border, expires in 2009, unless renewed. Mr. Luzhkov called for Russia to abandon the treaty: "By quitting it, we shall be able to reopen the question of Crimea and Sevastopol" (Interfax-Ukraine, May 11).

Ukrainian authorities have declared Mr. Luzhkov persona non grata on Ukrainian territory in the wake of these statements. Given his track record of inflammatory remarks, Mr. Luzhkov had been met on arrival at Symferopol airport by officials of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) who gave him a written warning against violating Ukrainian law or undermining Ukraine's territorial integrity. In front of tel-

evision cameras, Mr. Luzhkov read out the warning derisively and, with his entourage, burst out laughing at the Ukrainian document (Russian Television, May 10).

Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) defended Mr. Luzhkov in a special statement, seemingly inspired by Vladimir Putin's comments while president about the collapse of the USSR: "Yuri Luzhkov never made unfriendly remarks toward Ukraine. ... He only expressed a view reflecting that of most Russians, who feel pained by the fall of the Soviet Union." The Russian MFA described Ukraine's decision to ban Mr. Luzhkov from further visits as an "unfriendly move" toward Russia, harmful to bilateral relations (Russian MFA statement, May 12).

No major Russian politician is known to have disavowed Mr. Luzhkov's remarks, except former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev; who said, "It concerns me, it disturbs me, it bothers me, it worries me – it worries me very much" (Ekho Moskv, May 12).

It is a fairly common view among Duma

members, though not in the Russian government, that the "transfer" of Crimea to Ukraine did not apply to Sevastopol, notwithstanding the bilateral Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership signed in 1997 and the treaty on state borders signed in 2004, both ratified by both countries.

For his part, Defense Minister Serdyukov seemed to cast doubt on Russia's intention to withdraw its fleet from Sevastopol upon the expiration of the basing agreement. While in Sevastopol, he declared, "In order to expand the [Russian] Black Sea Fleet's basing system, much is being invested into building the naval base at Novorossiysk, which will become one more stronghold of the fleet." This wording suggests the possibility that Novorossiysk may be envisaged as a supplement to, rather than a substitute for, the Sevastopol base.

Mr. Serdyukov described the Russian naval base in Sevastopol as a factor that "unites the Russian people with the Ukrainian people in Crimea" (RIA-Novosti, Interfax-Ukraine, May 11).

Gorbachev urges respect for Ukraine

Ukrinform

KYIV – Russia should avoid making statements that may worsen its relations with Ukraine, said former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in a radio interview with Ekho Moskv (Moscow Echo). He was commenting on the recent declaration by Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov questioning Ukraine's sovereignty over the city of Sevastopol.

"We should treat relations with the

brotherly people of Ukraine with great care, so that they do not worsen," Mr. Gorbachev said. He added that problems in relations with Ukraine are rather painful to him.

During a concert marking the 225th anniversary of the Black Sea Fleet, Mr. Luzhkov said Sevastopol had not been included in the Crimean territory ex-Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev had transferred to Ukraine.

Tymoshenko Bloc's...

(Continued from page 1)

ernment and deliberately not put on the agenda," she said.

Ms. Tymoshenko charged that the Presidential Secretariat, headed by Viktor Baloha, "every day aims to prove it is impossible to cope with inflation in Ukraine" and she accused the president, via his decrees, of preventing oblast state administration chairs from participating in government consultations and meetings.

She continued: "Every minister has three managers – one order is given by the prime minister, another contrary order is given by the president, and the third one by [Presidential Secretariat Chair] Viktor Baloha. Where should the minister should run and report? And this situation happens every day."

The Verkhovna Rada on Wednesday, May 14, was to consider a package of bills on regulation of trade, as well as bills sought by the Tymoshenko bloc, including commodity rules for the purchase of meat products, tariffs and customs procedures.

At a subsequent news briefing the president called on the parliamentary majority "to assume responsibility for the situation in Parliament, to assume commitments on Parliament's stabilization, to start pragmatic work and immediately adopt a new budget, and a package of bills on social, economic and humanitarian initiatives." In addition, he cited the important role of the parliamentary majority in fighting inflation. "It is possible to do so effectively and responsibly only through immediate revision and amendment of the national budget," he said.

Mr. Yushchenko emphasized, "We need to return to a constructive path and take responsibility. We have a nation behind us, the progress of this country."

On May 14, with the Tymoshenko Bloc continuing its disruption of the Rada's work, Parliament Chairman Yatsenyuk stated: "The Parliament can cope with purely internal crises on its own, but crises coming from the outside take external interference." He added that the Verkhovna Rada is ready for constructive work, but what is going on now is far from constructive. He noted that the Parliament was scheduled that week to examine 34 bills proposed by the Tymoshenko government.

Mr. Yatsenyuk said that it appears "someone" has been misinforming the prime minister in alleging that the Rada is dragging its feet on the government's bills. "I am ready to shoulder personal responsibility as the Parliament speaker for all the real facts of such procrastination," he added.

Meanwhile, during a meeting on May 14 the leaders of parliamentary factions, the president and the prime minister were unable to reach an agreement on how to end the political crisis. Consultations were continuing on May 15.

Sources: *Ukrinform, BBC.*

Ukrainian, Lithuanian presidents meet

Ukrinform

KYIV – Presidents Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania met in Vilnius on May 12 to discuss bilateral cooperation and intensification of trade relations, as well as Ukraine's integration with NATO and the European Union, reported the press service of the Ukrainian president.

President Yushchenko noted the importance of enhancing interregional economic ties and strengthening bilateral investment cooperation. He said Ukraine is interested in attracting Lithuanian businessmen to implement projects within the framework of preparations for the Euro-2012 soccer championship.

Mr. Yushchenko also said Ukraine appreciates the clear and public support of Lithuania in opening up European prospects for Ukraine. He thanked his Lithuanian counterpart for the country's principled stance on the eve of and during the recent NATO summit in Bucharest. Mr. Adamkus responded by promising continued support for a NATO Membership Action Plan for Ukraine during the alliance's next meeting of foreign ministers in December.

The two presidents said in a joint declaration signed in the Lithuanian capital on May 12 that close relations between the countries had entered a new stage of strategic partnership. They pledged that their countries would further contribute to energy safety and energy transparency, integration in the European energy market and joint participation in energy projects, and would deepen consultations on alternative energy sources and green technologies.

The declaration noted that Ukraine and Lithuania will cooperate on further development of a transport corridor between the Baltic and Black Sea regions, and expand this transport corridor toward the Caspian-Caucasian and Scandinavian-West European directions.

Presidents Adamkus and Yushchenko also said in the joint declaration that they would unite efforts to honor the memory of victims of totalitarian regimes, including the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 and repressions of civilians in Ukraine and Lithuania, as well as other Central and Eastern European countries.

The two presidents participated in the opening of an exhibition on the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in the

Lithuanian capital's Museum of Genocide Victims. In his speech near the Memorial to Genocide Victims, Mr. Yushchenko noted that Ukraine considers it to be its sacred duty to convey to the international community the truth about this terrible page of its history. During this 75th anniversary year of the Holodomor, Mr. Yushchenko said, "Ukraine is doing and will do everything possible so that the world recognizes the Holodomor as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people."

The Holodomor has already been recognized as a genocide of the Ukrainian people by 14 world parliaments, including the Lithuanian Sejm in 2005.

Ukraine very highly appreciates the opening of the Holodomor exhibition in Lithuania, Mr. Yushchenko stressed, seeing this as a manifestation of solidarity and sympathy, understanding and support, and a token of sincere respect for the Ukrainian people.

In turn, Mr. Adamkus said that he highly appreciates the exposition dedicated to this tragedy of the people of Ukraine. He said that preservation of a nation's historical memory is key to a civilized society, adding that this exposition should be seen by as many people as possible, in particular young people.

During his visit to Lithuania the Ukrainian president also met with Lithuanian Prime Minister Gediminas Kirkilas, discussing bilateral cooperation in trade, simplification of the visa regime, and Ukraine's European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

Ukraine and Lithuania also signed an intergovernmental memorandum on the energy sector. The document confirmed their commitments on implementing the Odesa-Brody-Plock international oil transport corridor and stressed cooperation in nuclear energy.

Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Prodan, who signed the document on behalf of Ukraine, said that Lithuania, which promised the European Union it would close the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, planned to build a new nuclear power plant by 2015 and that Ukraine is interested in participating in this project.

Mr. Prodan also noted that the memorandum foresaw Ukrainian electricity exports to Lithuania, adding that Ukraine could cover up to 20 percent of Lithuania's electricity needs.

Ukraine's ambassador speaks on Famine-Genocide at George Washington U.

by Lidiya Zubytka

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

WASHINGTON – The Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, the Petrach Program on Ukraine, and the Project on History, Memory and the Politics of the Past of George Washington University on April 29 hosted a lecture by Dr. Oleh Shamshur, Ambassador of Ukraine to the United States, on “Stalin’s Policy between the Two Wars: Genocide of Ukrainians.”

The lecture was part of Ukraine-led worldwide commemorations of the 75th anniversary of 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide perpetrated in Ukraine by the Communist regime. According to the most recent estimates, in the span of 17 months around 10 million Ukrainian people – including 3 million children – died from forced starvation, Dr. Shamshur said.

He provided an analysis of the historical events leading up to the Holodomor and exposed the mechanism of its infliction by Stalin’s Communist apparatus along with other Soviet measures to consolidate control over Ukraine. He also discussed the demographics of the tragedy’s human toll and world reaction to the horrors in Ukraine in 1932-1933. Ambassador Shamshur also emphasized in his lecture the detrimental effect to the Ukrainian psyche caused by the genocide, which was followed by the atrocities of the Great Terror and the World War II period.

Providing the historical context surrounding the events of 1932-1933, Ambassador Shamshur said Stalin concluded that two emerging forces in Ukrainian society of the time – the newly formed rural businessmen class and the new intellectual elite – presented a real threat to the Communist regime, insofar as they began to pull Ukraine away from Soviet dominance.

The new class of small village entrepreneurs appeared in Ukraine as a result of the New Economic Policy (NEP) developed by the Soviet government to counter the acute economic crisis in the aftermath of the civil war. NEP encouraged farmers to boost their private agriculture production and engage in market interactions. But the growing economic independence of well-off peasants soon became a blight in the eyes of the all-controlling regime that hoped to impose a new anti-capitalist economic order, the ambassador continued.

However, the threat of political revolution was more palpable for the Communist authorities due to the young Ukrainian national elite. This was a generation of intellectuals that flourished briefly in the early 1920s – a time of short-lived courtship by the Communist leaders of local national movements, which allowed the Soviets to gain more legitimacy and reinforce their dominance. During this brief yet potent national revival, the regime increasingly started to hear from Ukrainian economists, historians, activists and even



Andrew Nynka

Ambassador Oleh Shamshur

local Communists the disturbing slogan “Away from Moscow.”

A plan of retaliation was immediately forged by Stalin and his entourage: the authorities needed to eliminate this Ukrainian double danger by exterminating the inconvenient. In terms of Stalin’s state management philosophy this meant: “No man, no problem.” In the place of the eliminated strata of society a new race of a uniform “Soviet man” should rise, with no ethnic attachments and no alternative political or economic aspirations, Dr. Shamshur explained.

Stalin and his cronies conceived a multiple-step plan to crush the Ukrainian nation. First, the annihilation of the elite was launched with accusations of anti-state activities and staged trials of writers, church leaders, academics and many others. Started in 1929, these court cases culminated in 1930, and were followed by indiscriminate arrests, imprisonments, deportations and executions into the late 1930s. Only in the 1932-1933 period alone, around 200,000 of the intelligentsia are believed to have perished at the hands of the regime.

Second, the Soviet authorities undertook statewide collectivization, stripping peasants of their private property which was declared to be the property of newly created collective farms under state ownership. Small businessmen and other private owners were viewed as a corruptive and subversive element and were ordered to abandon their properties and their lands and forced into exile. As a result, out of the 1 million well-to-do Ukrainians of that time about 830,000 were forcibly deported from their homeland with no right to return.

The next step in Stalin’s plan, the Holodomor, may be viewed by some as simply a tool of continued collectivization with unpredicted consequences. However, a careful historical analysis reveals that, in reality, collectivization in Ukraine was already completed by 1930. Hence, stated Dr. Shamshur, the clear intentionality of this horrendous action, the magnitude of human loss and the cruel death inflicted through starvation all point in one clear direction: the Holodomor was a premeditated government action enforced with the intent to break down the Ukrainian nation and leave no chance of its possible revival as a distinct people in an independent state.

This intent of the Communist regime can be traced to archival evidence in the correspondence of the time: Stalin’s telegrams to Ukrainian Communist leaders, political discourses of lower-level bureaucrats and other key documents. Contrary to Communist propaganda of

later years, there were no poor harvests in 1932 or 1933 to blame for the tragedy, the ambassador noted. On the contrary, the archival evidence proves that the Soviet Union was able to increase its grain export, from Ukraine to the West in these years and earn profits that were spent on refitting the Soviet army and boosting industrialization.

The mechanism of the Famine-Genocide was graduated: first, the Soviet authorities established unfeasibly high quotas for grain to be collected from Ukrainian villages. Since the demanded amount was not collected, the local Communists proceeded to seize the seed grain and any “extras” from village farms. Yet the state quota for grain still was not completed, and so, as punishment, Communist squads started to raid peasant homes and levy “food fines” – anything edible (grain, vegetables, any other food items), was seized.

The infamous law of August 7, 1932, tightened the punitive measures even further: imprisonment of up to 10 years was the sentence for those who dared to glean a few wheat stalks on a collective farm field after the harvest was reaped. Villages that fell greatly behind in delivering government-commanded quotas were put on a blacklist: they were cut off from any supplies coming from the outside, barred from engaging in trade with neighboring communities and cordoned off by a regiment of the Soviet army or the secret police. As 25,000 people were dying every day from starvation, Dr. Shamshur noted, innumerable others were suffering from hunger and many fell victim to cannibalism. The Law of January 22, 1933, limited their chances for survival: the Ukrainian peasants who tried to move around in search of food were banned from migrating or leaving their places of residence. This was also the beginning of USSR system of passports and residency records that forbade anyone from relocating without an official state permit, the ambassador explained.

Although no statistics were kept at the time, estimates of the human toll of this tragedy range from 3.8 million (according to some Russian demographers) up to 10 million people who died in the Famine-Genocide. Ambassador Shamshur remarked that, although historically significant, disagreements about the exact figure are not of paramount importance, since the mere fact that losses are counted in the millions is a clear indication that the events of 1932-1933 bore a genocidal character.

The most useful sources in estimating the magnitude of Holodomor deaths are the Soviet censuses of 1926, 1937 and 1939, Ambassador Shamshur said. Among them the most dependable is the former, since the figures of the 1937 census are known to have been doctored after Stalin was presented its results and, unsatisfied with them, ordered the execution of the commissioned demographers. The 1926 census states that the population of Ukraine was 29 million, and the 1939 census gives the figure of 30 million. Considering comparable birth rates in neighboring Belarus and Russia, the estimates for Ukraine are that the population should have constituted 7.5 million more people. Thus, these are the victims lost to the Famine-Genocide. However, the corrected real figure for the Ukrainian population of 1939 suggests that the actual population size was 27.5 million, which is another 2.5 million short of what the expected birth rate should have yielded. Hence, the total adds up to 10 million victims of the cruel death by starvation in 1932-1933, Dr. Shamshur explained.

For a long time, the ambassador stated, the Holodomor was, or even remains, an inconvenient truth. In the Soviet Union this

(Continued on page 21)

Holodomor Memorial Day Act introduced in Ontario Parliament

TORONTO – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), the League of Ukrainian Canadians and the League of Ukrainian Canadian Women extended their support and gratitude to Member of the Provincial Parliament Dave Levac (Brant, Ontario) for introducing the Holodomor Memorial Day Act in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario on April 17.

“This important piece of legislation will finally recognize and pay tribute to the victims of the Ukrainian Genocide. Between 1932 and 1933, close to 10 million people were starved to death by the regime of Joseph Stalin. We are so grateful to Dave Levac for supporting us in raising awareness of this immense human tragedy,” said National UCC President Paul Grod.

Should this legislation be passed, then Ontario will join the over 40 international jurisdictions that recognize and remember the victims of the Holodomor. The fourth Saturday in November would be marked each year as Holodomor Memorial Day.

“We have lost the adults who lived through this calamity, and we are now beginning to lose the children. Before this generation is gone, I truly want to see these victims acknowledged. This legislation would do that, and go a long way in healing the wounds still felt by the community 75 years after the Famine,” said Oleh Romanyshyn, President of the League of Ukrainian Canadians.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the League of Ukrainian Canadians and the League of Ukrainian Canadian Women encourage all parties to support this much needed bill.

“Recognizing genocide should never be a political issue, and we call on MPPs of all political stripes to support this initiative to commemorate the fallen,” said

Orest Steciw, Holodomor Projects Coordinator for the League of Ukrainian Canadians and League of Ukrainian Canadian Women.

The text of the Holodomor Memorial Day Act follows.

Preamble

The Holodomor is the name given to the genocide by Famine that occurred in Ukraine from 1932 to 1933. As many as 10 million Ukrainians perished as victims of a man-made Famine under Joseph Stalin’s regime, with 25,000 dying each day at the peak of the Famine.

The government of Ukraine, the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, the Senate of Canada, UNESCO, the United Nations and over 40 other jurisdictions around the world have officially condemned the Holodomor or recognized it as genocide. Ukraine has established the fourth Saturday in November in each year as the annual day to commemorate the victims of the Holodomor.

It is appropriate to extend the annual commemoration of the victims of the Holodomor to Ontario. A memorial day provides an opportunity to reflect on and to educate the public about the enduring lessons of the Holodomor and other crimes against humanity.

Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

Holodomor Memorial Day

1. The fourth Saturday in November in each year is proclaimed Holodomor Memorial Day to commemorate the genocide by famine that occurred in Ukraine from 1932 to 1933.

Commencement

2. This Act comes into force on the day it receives Royal Assent.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Soyuzivka prepares for new season

UNA Executive Committee meets



KERHONKSON, N.Y. – A shipment of mattresses arrived at Soyuzivka recently in preparation for the start of the 2008 summer season. Eighty-five old mattresses have now been replaced, guaranteeing Soyuzivka guests a more restful sleep during their stays at the Ukrainian heritage center. In addition, Soyuzivka is changing bedspreads and creating more sleeping accommodations in many rooms (e.g., changing from one double bed per room to two double beds where possible, adding sleeper sofas). The summer season gets off to an early start over the Memorial Day holiday weekend, when Soyuzivka will host its second annual Ukrainian Film Festival and will officially inaugurate the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy. Also on the agenda for the weekend: a Friday pub night, a Saturday evening dance and Sunday night entertainment at the Tiki Bar.

by **Christine E. Kozak**
UNA National Secretary

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association Inc. held its first meeting of 2008 on Friday, March 28, here at the UNA's Home Office.

Present were Stefan Kaczaraj, president; Zenon Holubec, first vice-president; Michael Koziupa, second vice-president; Myron Groch, director for Canada (linked telephonically); Christine E. Kozak, national secretary; and Slavko Tysiak, auditor. Roma Lisovich, treasurer, was unable to attend.

The members of the Executive Committee heard year-end reports for 2007.

President Kaczaraj reported a better year for the UNA in 2007. Reserves increased due to the sale of the building in June 2007, the increase in annuity sales, as well as an increase in investment bonds.

Mr. Kaczaraj reported the UNA's premium income, which encompasses life and annuity premiums and income from investments, increased by \$2,357,343 in comparison to 2006. Annuity income increased by \$1,955,921 over and investment income by \$418,972 from the previous year.

The net loss from Soyuzivka operations decreased due to the seasonal closure as the heritage center undergoes renovations (installation of a new air conditioner in Veselka, a new dance floor) and other improvements in preparation for

the 2008 summer season.

Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly decreased their expenses in 2007 in comparison to 2006. The number of subscribers fell, however. Subscriptions to Svoboda will soon be available online. Also, the archives of both publications are being readied for digitization and will be accessible on-line.

National Secretary Christine E. Kozak reported that, at year's end 2007, the UNA's in-force file of 32,002 certificates totalled \$136,093,002 in life insurance. This total does not include the 2,039 accidental death and dismemberment (ADD) certificates with a face amount of \$10,195,000. New business in life insurance showed an increase of 274 policies for an annual premium of \$234,477 and a face amount of \$7,155,141. In comparison, 2006 brought 333 policies with an annual premium of \$142,272 but only \$3,474,000 in face amount.

The proposed new plans and new rates written on the 2001 CSO mortality table were presented to the Executive Committee. Already applied for are the 20-Year Term with a return of premium rider and the Immediate Annuity – two new products the UNA will be offering as soon as approvals are received. Another radical change will be the discontinuation of the rate book which is outdated and very costly to reprint. The UNA is looking into various substitutes for the rate book, including rate cards, sales kits and CDs, which are used in today's market.



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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A war of ambition?

Another season, another crisis. That seems to be the trend in Ukraine.

This week, as President Viktor Yushchenko was to deliver his annual state of the nation address, national deputies of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc prevented him from doing so by blocking the Parliament's rostrum. In fact, the blockade disrupted all work by the Verkhovna Rada and, as we write these words, it continues.

It was an unprecedented act as one segment of the majority coalition in Ukraine blocked the work of its own coalition. You just can't make this stuff up.

First off, we'd like to submit that, even if Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her bloc are in conflict with the president, there is such a thing as respect for the office he holds. Like it or not, he is the president and he deserved to have the opportunity to address the Verkhovna Rada and the nation. (Can you imagine the Democrats not allowing President George W. Bush to deliver his state of the union address?)

And, we just can't fathom how the matter of which bills and issues are to be on the Verkhovna Rada's agenda, and in what order, could not be ironed out peacefully at a meeting of faction leaders.

Surely there must be more to this blockade of the Rada.

It's all about power (what else?) – who will have the upper hand in controlling the ship of state, who will push through his or her version of constitutional reform, who will win the next presidential election, and who will get the blame (or not) for various failings. And it has precious little to do with national interests.

If there is one thing of which we are certain it is that there is enough blame to go around. The simmering conflict between the president and the prime minister has now, once again, reached crisis proportions. Each is trying to show the other who's right and who's top dog. Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko, it seems, simply cannot – or will not – work together. A pity that they and their colleagues cannot set aside personal animosity for the good of the country and the people who elected them.

Yurii Lutsenko, leader of People's Self-Defense – which is part of the pro-Yushchenko Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, and in this situation one would say an opponent of the Tymoshenko Bloc – said PSD is demanding the resignation of the meddlesome chair of the Presidential Secretariat, Viktor Baloha, whom many blame for the tense situation that has developed. He also observed the following: "The Cabinet's leaders and the Presidential Secretariat chair went too far in their confrontation and the war of ambitions."

If only it were just that. Unfortunately, this is also a war of dissolution that threatens Ukraine at a crucial juncture. Think about it: Russian officials are threatening the territorial integrity of Ukraine; and Ukraine seeks to be granted a NATO Membership Action Plan in December when the alliance's foreign ministers are to meet.

Cui bono? To whose benefit is this?

It is high time for Ukraine's president and Ukraine's prime minister and Ukraine's national deputies to act like responsible leaders of the country. They must rise above personal rivalries, resolve muddled lines of government authority, and take the helm – together – to lead Ukraine into the next stage of its political, economic and social development.

May
24
1988

Turning the pages back...

Twenty years ago, the International Commission of Inquiry into the Famine in Ukraine 1932-1933, initiated by the World Congress of Free Ukrainians (known today as the Ukrainian World Congress) held a conference at the Brussels Europa Hotel on March 24-27, 1988.

The commission comprised: Prof. Jacob Sundberg, Sweden; Prof. G.I.A.D. Draper, United Kingdom; Prof. John Peters Humphrey, Canada; Prof. George L'Assesseur, France; Prof. Ricardo Levene, Argentina; Prof. Covey Oliver, United States; and Prof. Joe Verhoeven, Belgium.

Dr. Robert Conquest, author of "The Harvest of Sorrow," testified before the panel that The New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty, who was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the Soviet Union, did not report about the 7 million to 10 million deaths that resulted from the Soviet-engineered Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933 because it was believed that Duranty was being blackmailed by Soviet authorities.

Information found in the second volume of former New York Times Moscow correspondent Harrison Salisbury's autobiography suggests that the Soviet authorities held sensitive information about Duranty and pressured him to toe the Soviet line in his reporting to the West.

"It was a most unfortunate phenomenon that Duranty was able to give his authority and the authority of The [New York] Times to these false accounts [about the existence of the Famine]," Dr. Conquest said. Duranty "had told the American Embassy in Berlin that he was writing the Soviet line" and that he "admitted his reports were false to his colleagues and to the British Embassy in Moscow."

Dr. Conquest explained that the Famine in Ukraine was a conscious and deliberate action by the Soviet government. "Clearly, the grain requisition targets were intentional," and "Stalin was told that they were too high, but they were enforced nevertheless. There could have been no other result but famine, and he knew it at the time."

Judge John Sopinka, who on May 24, 1988, was appointed to Canada's Supreme Court and served as legal counsel for the World Congress of Free Ukrainians, said, "The Famine was an act of genocide. ...Special measures against Ukraine were designed to break the spirit of the most recalcitrant of peasants opposed to collectivization" under Joseph Stalin.

Source: "International panel investigates famine," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 29, 1988.

NEWS AND VIEWS

L.A. media miss the mark on Famine-Genocide coverage

by Andriy J. Semotiuk

Two women, both in their 80s and both survivors of the events, were there. So were four priests, dressed in religious vestments, representing the various Ukrainian parishes of Los Angeles. Two ambassadors – one the Ukrainian ambassador to the United States, the other the Ukrainian ambassador to the Vatican – were present. The consul general of Ukraine in San Francisco also was there. In addition to these dignitaries, a small crowd came to huddle around the monument in the Los Angeles County Mall previously erected to honor those who perished. They all came to mark the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, the genocide initiated by Moscow that killed 10 million Ukrainians through starvation in 1933.

What was most significant, however, was who was not there, namely, the media.

The event was purposefully held on Tuesday, May 6, at 3:30 p.m. – a time that was convenient and close-by for those who were invited. Not even the Los Angeles Times, which was contacted no less than six times, could be bothered to come – even though the event took place one block from its building.

This would not be so significant were it not for the fact that 75 years ago, according to survivors, the biggest fear of those who perished in the Holodomor was that the world would never know how and why they died or care about them. Back then, on orders from Moscow, government troops came to villages requisitioning grains to meet the Kremlin's quotas and, at gunpoint, took away grain even when peasants did not have enough grain to feed themselves. Those peasants who had no grain were deprived of any other food stocks they had, including cattle.

While these requisitions proceeded in the Ukrainian countryside, the entire country was sealed off. Nobody was allowed to leave or enter. Meanwhile, Moscow exported over 1.5 million tons of grain abroad to sell at reduced prices. The result was mass starvation in Ukraine.

Stalin and the Kremlin leadership did a good job of covering up the evidence. Thanks to their denials and the disinformation of journalists like The New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty (a Pulitzer Prize winner who falsified the true situation in Ukraine, writing instead

Andriy J. Semotiuk is an attorney practicing in Los Angeles. A former United Nations correspondent stationed in New York, Mr. Semotiuk wrote articles for Southam News Services and other newspapers in the United States and Canada. Mr. Semotiuk is a member of the Los Angeles Press Club and of the law firm of Manning and Marder in Los Angeles.

that there was an abundant harvest), the Ukrainian genocide is not widely known even today. Judging by the actions of the media in Los Angeles, this is not going to change any time soon.

So the question arises, what were the media covering on that day?

The big story for the media was taking place next door to the Holodomor remembrance. At the county courthouse, Britney Spears was applying for custody of her children. Two television network vans were there to broadcast the news live around the world. A score of reporters jostled with each other to be the first to report the court decision. Meanwhile, the remembrance event was no more than 50 feet away.

One can always argue that television and radio can only cover so much. Their capacity to cover news is restricted by the medium. The print media, on the other hand, have more space to devote to news events. The Wednesday, May 7, edition of the Los Angeles Times, therefore, merits special attention. So what did the Times consider newsworthy on Tuesday, May 6?

The lead story was the race between Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton for the Democratic Party's nomination for president. Fair enough. Indeed there were some important stories worthy of the attention of the Times on that day. The aftermath of the Myanmar cyclone, U.S. border patrol apprehensions of illegal immigrants, the police bust of a college drug scene, Cuban aid, a Chilean volcano and Palestinian clashes with police in the West Bank were just some of these. But let us consider what other stories appeared that day that the Times considered more significant than the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor.

A long lead story involved bicyclists in New York. There was also story about China lending Japan two pandas. A story about rules that limit home sizes and hotel conversions made it into the paper that day. A Villa Park eyesore being torn down was important. The Orange County emergency center needing repairs and the lack of proof that a Taser at the county jail killed a cat were among other stories published on May 7.

These were the stories that the Los Angeles Times, self-styled "leading source for local, state, national, world, entertainment and sports news" – led by David D. Hiller, publisher and chief executive officer; Russ Stanton, editor; Megan Garvey, assignment editor; considered worthy of attention. Let them stand by this legacy.

It was the philosopher George Santayana who said those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Let us hope that the news blackout of the Holodomor remembrance in Los Angeles on May 6 was not a symptom of a society that has not yet learned Santayana's lesson.

RE: QUESTIONS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Readers:

When sending letters seeking replies from editors, readers should include either a daytime phone number or an e-mail address so that we may answer your queries in a most efficient matter.

Please note that the editorial staff does not have a secretary who is able to answer readers' letters in writing.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

- The Ukrainian Weekly editorial staff

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Public, and historians, often uninformed

Dear Editor:

British historian Norman Davies had a discussion on C-Span about his latest book, "No Simple Victory-World War II in Europe, 1939-1945." At the start of his talk he presented his audience with five simple questions:

1. Can you name the five biggest battles of the war in Europe?
2. Can you name the main political ideologies that were contending for supremacy during the war in Europe?
3. Can you name the largest concentration camp that was operating in Europe in the years 1939-1945?
4. Can you name the European nationality (or ethnic group) which lost the largest number of civilians during the war?
5. Can you name the vessel that was sunk with a record loss of life in the war's largest maritime disaster?

The above questions stumped the assembled group of people (many of them historians) and was met by silence and some guesses. From Dr. Davies' presentation and from his book one can conclude that historians and the public here in the U.S. and in Europe are not properly informed and, therefore, often wrong or biased on the most important issues and factual knowledge concerning World War II, even now, more than 60 years later. The reason: The wartime histories are often written "for political purposes, dictated by national or particular interests" often by victors with built-in bias.

For example, if historians commented about the Eastern Front they tended "to repeat Soviet interpretations without comment" and without independent research. In another example the author corrected the statement that the war on the Eastern Front took place "in Russia." He documented that it happened mainly on Belarus's and Ukraine's territories, that is why the answer to question No. 4 is: "It is no accident that Belarus lost a higher proportion of its civilian population than any other country in Europe, and that Ukraine lost the highest absolute number. The history of these countries deserves to be better publicized."

Dr. Davies's last sentence brings us to the question of Ukraine's history of that period, which needs to be presented in the English and other languages in order to clarify some of the thorny and controversial issues. There is a great need for Ukrainian historians or commentators to write an English language factual and documented history of the Ukrainian nationalist movement before and during World War II as represented by Stepan Bandera and others, and about the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and its leader Gen. Roman Shukhevych in English. Dr. Davies book has large bibliography and sources, but not even one is by a Ukrainian author.

The author has to be congratulated for his effort to present his honest historical studies of the World War II era. In regard

We welcome your opinion

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

to the UPA he writes: "In Ukraine, an independence movement surfaced in 1941 – as in the first world war – only to find its leaders cast into German concentration camps. From then on, the Ukrainian Insurrectionary [sic] Army (UPA) attempted the impossible by fighting under slogan 'Neither Hitler nor Stalin.' It soon became entangled in multi-sided conflicts with Poles and Soviet partisans as well as with the Germans." However on page 352, the author using several Polish sources, describes the most horrific atrocities committed on "helpless Poles" by the UPA.

Myroslaw Burbelo, M.D.
Westerly, RI

Needed: support group for Ukrainians

Dear Editor:

As I sit in my home and look at how life evolves, it dawns on me to write this letter. Other ethnic groups, based on what I see work together to help their community. As far as I know, we do not have a support group for the 30-55 age group. I can only speak from my own experience. My brother was very chronically ill due to no one's fault; Dad passed away and Mom was grieving. We had no one. As a family we had our civil rights violated and were taken advantage of.

When I went to my Ukrainian pastor, I was pretty much ignored and treated poorly. Other Ukrainians either made unprofessional comments or seemed to delight in our misfortune. We always had God, but there was not much support. It turned my brother totally against the Ukrainian community and baffled me.

The great news is that we persevered and my brother, against all odds, is doing exceptionally well. I am very proud of him. If my father, Peter Smarsh, could endure a hard labor camp and survive in a new country even without family, I knew we were going to make it.

My purpose in writing this letter is that I would like to see a support group that meets once a week to discuss social issues that pertain to everyday living. Those of you who are doing well could donate your time or service (for example, lawyers, accountants, etc). I would like to see ways to bring prosperity into our lives and for us to work together. It has been a dream of mine to perhaps buy a tenant building in the tri-state area where residents could pay towards their investment instead of throwing money to a property owner. We could discuss job issues, (perhaps even create jobs), how to obtain grant money for different projects, and how to get help in the legal system. We could write to our congressmen on issues of concern to us and we could gain more support as a group. We can even have fun doing all this. We can even utilize our public access TV if needed.

Of course, I would not be writing this if I did not need help. If anyone in the tri-state area, especially in the brokerage industry, knows of any administrative work, please do call me.

To sum up, if you help one person, you are making a difference; and if you ignore one person, you have no one to blame but yourself. One person truly can make a difference.

Mary P. Smarsh
Kendall Park, N.J.

Editor's note: The letter writer has requested that her phone numbers be published for those who might like to contact her. They are: 732-821-7217 and 609-610-9652.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Georgia on my mind

A May 10 editorial in the Wall Street Journal informs us that Vladimir Putin, now Russia's prime minister, is still the imperial enforcer. Russia's No. 2 bully is warning the "near abroad" to behave.

This time, Abkhazia and South Ossetia, regions which Russia once recognized as sovereign Georgian territory, are feeling the now-so-subtle stroke of Russian imperialist interference. If Russia is able to destabilize Georgia, "the message to larger Ukraine will be similar," concludes the Wall Street Journal: "You're part of our world too, whether you like it or not."

The Kremlin is following an old, but tried and tested Soviet road map. It goes like this: create chaos and uncertainty in a particular region of a specific country and then rush in to restore order and stability. Prop up a pro-Russian rump regime in the invaded area and hold a proctored referendum during which a "threatened" citizenry votes overwhelmingly for incorporation into an expanding Russian empire. After much discussion, a benevolent Russian Duma votes to honor the request and, voila, another nation loses its independence.

Is Russia really threatened by a united Georgia? Hardly. Mr. Putin is busy rebuilding the Russian empire and to do so he needs to disestablish the pro-Western government of Georgia. Such a move will re-establish Russian hegemony in the energy-rich Caucasus and inform the near abroad that an imperial Russia is back on track.

"The spark for the latest Russian aggression," believes the Wall Street Journal, was the NATO summit in Bucharest, where Germany succumbed to Russia's will and, despite the best efforts of the United States, blocked plans to offer Georgia and Ukraine Membership Action Plans. Attending the NATO conference as a guest, Mr. Putin sensed Western wobbliness and concluded that Russia's fondest dream, the eventual collapse of the Euro-Atlantic alliance, was a distinct possibility. If Russia frustrates the United States and negates NATO membership for Georgia and Ukraine, eventual EU membership for these two former Soviet republics becomes a chimera.

Two questions arise.

First, is it in Ukraine's interest to join NATO? If NATO membership offers military protection from Moscow, the answer is a qualified yes. Qualified because NATO is militarily weak, and there is no knowing what America's next president would do should Russia invade Ukraine.

The second question: Is European Union membership a plus for Ukraine? Here the answer is an unambiguous yes. EU membership would force Ukraine to transform itself. Edward Lucas, who has covered Eastern Europe for The Economist for 20 years, addresses this issue in his book "The New Cold War: Putin's Russia and the Threat to the West."

"Euro-Atlanticism is not an easy ride," he writes, "but it is clearly a beneficial one. Joining the EU means a commitment to cleaning up and modernizing all the debris of totalitarian rule. It means everything from making the courts and police honest and efficient to ensuring solid property rights and strong anti-monopoly laws; introducing internationally recognized education and environmental standards; sticking to the stable macro-economic policies necessary to adopt, eventually, the

euro as common currency." Small wonder that the Kremlin-oriented oligarchs in Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada are vehemently opposed to the EU. Is Ukraine corrupt? Oh yeah! A May 12 article in the Wall Street Journal cites the Berlin-based watchdog, Transparency International, which ranks Ukraine "among the most corrupt countries in the world, below Uganda, Moldova and Cuba."

To join NATO, Ukraine must first overcome resistance from Germany, which has tight financial ties to Russia. Some of its elite have been riding the Kremlin gravy train for decades. According to Mr. Lucas, Nord Stream, a proposed gas pipeline to Europe, for example, "is the child of the most notorious diplomatic alliance in Europe's modern history, between the previous German government headed by former Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and Putin's Kremlin. It was blessed with a secret 1 billion euro loan guarantee issued just days before the German leader left office – shortly to become chairman of the pipeline consortium... The biggest shareholder in Nord Stream is Gazprom – in effect the gas department of the Kremlin." Mr. Schroeder admires Mr. Putin, describing him as a "flawless democrat."

Fortunately, Angela Merkel is Germany's new chancellor. She grew up in totalitarian East Germany, speaks Russian and is not allied with Germany's power elite. According to Mr. Lucas, "she regards Putin with the deepest suspicion" and "repeatedly and publicly raises embarrassing questions about political repression in Russia. Schroeder shunned Russian human-rights activists; Merkel makes a point of seeing them when she visits there." Unfortunately for Ms. Merkel, German public opinion sides with the Kremlin. She heads a coalition government and is forced to fight "on two fronts: against the anti-American left, and against the pro-business right, both of which are willing to overlook the Kremlin's shortcomings for reasons of their own," writes Mr. Lucas.

Unlike Chancellor Merkel, Italy's new prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi, is Russia-friendly; according to Mr. Lucas, he once said, "only half-jokingly, that he was Putin's 'advocate' in the EU."

France also opposes Ukraine's membership in NATO. Nikolas Sarkozy, who replaced Jacques Chirac as France's president, finds himself in a bind as well. Reflecting French public opinion, President Chirac was pro-Putin and anti-Bush. French business interests see opportunities in Russia and appear prepared to do the Kremlin's bidding.

Mr. Putin's bullying of Georgia is a prelude to what Ukraine can expect in the near future, and Western Europe can anticipate in the not-so-distant future. When it comes to Russia, post-Christian, pre-Islamic old Europe appears paralyzed, like a shaking mouse in the path of a python. The big prize for the Kremlin's imperial designs is Ukraine. "Only with Ukraine in the Russian camps," concluded the Wall Street Journal, "can Russia become an empire again." Time is on the side of Mr. Putin. Will the free world wake up before it's too late?

Myron Kuropas's e-mail address is kuropas@comcast.net.

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UMANA board meets at new Ukrainian American Cultural Center of N.J.

by George Hrycelak

WHIPPANY, N.J. – The New York Metro Branch of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) hosted the board of directors spring meeting at the Ukrainian

American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany on April 12.

Board members regularly travel to branch cities at their own expense to maintain contact with branches. Non-traveling directors participate via teleconference. The board enjoyed visiting



Members of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (from left) Dr. Viktor Gribenko, Dr. Adrian Baranetsky, Dr. Maria Hrycelak, Dr. Borys Buniak, Dr. Ariadna Holynskyj, Lyudmila Lachac, Dr. Borys Mychalczak and Dr. George Hrycelak at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.

New York Metro as UMANA's original chapter, founded in 1950. This branch has consistently adopted a leading role in activity and member participation, numbering over 100 active members.

Deliberations were attended by Drs. Ariadna Holynsky, president; Borys Buniak, secretary; Roman Prawak, treasurer; Wayne Tymchak, president-elect; George Hrycelak, executive director; Maria Hrycelak, UMANA Foundation president, Alexandra Kushnir, membership director, Roxolana Horbowyj, liaison to the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations; and chapter presidents Borys Mychalczak, NY Metro, and Luba Komar, Toronto.

After a long search period, a new editorial board was appointed to oversee the continued publication of the Ukrainian-language medical professional journal Likarskyi Visnyk (JUMANA). This journal unites medical colleagues in the diaspora, serving as UMANA's flagship publication and its professional portal to the world. The new editorial board, chaired by Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj, consists of experienced and qualified volunteers Drs. Vassyl Lonchyna, Pavlo Pundy, Volodymyr Pyatokha and George Truchly. Preparation for the next issue of

JUMANA is their immediate goal.

The board confirmed President-Elect Tymchak's proposal to hold UMANA's next Scientific Conference and Assembly of Delegates in Vancouver, British Columbia, on July 2-6, 2009. The conference committee will begin work in preparation for the 2009 meeting shortly.

Following the board meeting, the New York Metro branch held a regular meeting chaired by branch President Dr. Borys Mychalczak, with President-Elect Dr. Viktor Gribenko, Secretary Lyudmila Lachac and branch member Dr. Adrian Baranetsky joined by the national board members.

At the conclusion of the meetings, members enjoyed a memorable and first U.S. performance of the musical play "Natalka Poltavka," staged by Kyiv's famed Ivan Franko Theater before an energetic and receptive audience that packed the auditorium to capacity. After the play, the audience had an opportunity to mingle with the cast over delicious hors d'oeuvres and enjoy an international repartee well into the warm spring evening.

For further information about UMANA readers may call 773-278-6262 or visit the website www.umana.org.

City of Parma to create "Ukrainian Village" concept

PARMA, Ohio – Mayor Dean DePiero recently announced the formation of an advisory committee to research and establish guidelines for the creation of a "Ukrainian Village" concept for State Road stretching from Brookpark Road to Grantwood Avenue.

"The idea was originally proposed by parishioners of St. Vladimir Ukrainian

Orthodox Cathedral who felt that the concentration of Ukrainian-owned or-based businesses, churches and banks should be recognized and celebrated," stated Mayor DePiero.

"After further discussion with my development staff, we felt that the proposal had merit and could be an important first step as we look to upgrade the

appearance and viability of our retail and commercial districts. It's a great example of how the citizens of Parma can play an active role in determining the future of their neighborhoods and their city," he added.

According to the city of Parma, repre-

sentatives of St. Vladimir and St. Josaphat parishes, Cleveland Self Reliance Credit Union, Osnova Credit Union, LVIV and State Meats will work with the City's Community Services and Economic Development Department staff on the project.

Famine expert from Ukraine to speak at Library of Congress

WASHINGTON – Stanislav Kulchytsky, a professor of Ukrainian history, will speak on "The Famine of 1932-1933: Case of Genocide," at noon on Friday, May 30, at the Library of Congress, in the European Reading Room, on the second floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, First Street and Independence Avenue, SE. Washington, D.C.

The program, sponsored by the European Division and the Library of Congress Professional Association's Ukrainian Language Table in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, is free and open to the public; tickets are not required.

According to Dr. Kulchytsky, the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, established in 1985, successfully recreated the events of 1932-1933. Under the direction of the late historian Dr. James E. Mace, the commission published several volumes of eyewitness testimony. The commission called the 1932-1933 Famine an act of genocide and presented its findings to Congress in April 1988. These publications had a profound effect on Dr. Kulchytsky and other historians in Ukraine.

Dr. Kulchytsky is deputy director of

the Institute of History at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv. His degrees include a doctorate in history from Odesa University. He has written more than 40 books and hundreds of articles.

A reader's guide to resources on the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in the collections of the Library of Congress will be available in the next few weeks. For more information about the Library's European Division and its reading room, readers may log on to www.loc.gov/rr/european/.

Founded in 1800, the Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution and the largest library in the world, with more than 138 million items in various languages, disciplines and formats. As the world's largest repository of knowledge and creativity, the library is a symbol of democracy and the principles on which the U.S. was founded. Today the Library serves the U.S. Congress and the nation both on site, in its 22 reading rooms on Capitol Hill, and through its award-winning website at www.loc.gov.

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Changes in the number and composition of Ukrainians in the U.S.: 2000-2005

by Oleh Wolowyna

Background

Recently available information allows us to update the analysis of Ukrainians in the United States we made based on 2000 census data, which was published a few years ago in this newspaper. In this article we analyze the changes in numbers and composition of Ukrainians in the U.S. that occurred during 2000-2005, for the whole country and by state. (A companion article will look at changes for the same period observed in different cities). Four main findings are:

- the number of Ukrainians in the United States continues to increase mainly due to further immigration from Ukraine;

- given that a large percent of the more recent migrants from Ukraine speak Russian at home, the overall percent of persons of Ukrainian ancestry in the United States speaking Russian at home is still larger than the percent speaking Ukrainian;

- the process of geographical dispersion from states with large communities to states with few or no Ukrainians continues, and the dispersion is wider than before;

- states are becoming more diversified in terms of Ukrainians' nativity and migration waves.

By necessity we present here data on only a small number of states. Complete data for all states, as well as many cities-metropolitan areas can be accessed at our website: www.inform-decisions.com/ukrus. Data on this site will be upgraded and expanded with time, and we welcome comments and suggestions. This is a service Informed Decisions Inc provides for those interested in persons of Ukrainian ancestry in the United States.

The recent data is from the American Community Surveys (ACS) for 2005 and 2006. As these surveys have smaller sample sizes than the sample data used from the 2000 census, estimates based on these survey data for a small ethnic group like Ukrainians – who constitute only 0.3 percent of the total U.S. population – are less precise due to sampling errors. In order to increase the stability of these estimates, we average the values from the 2005 and 2006 surveys (we will use 2005* to refer to this average).

Ukrainians are defined here as persons who declared (in the census or the ACS) "Ukrainian" as their first or second ancestry. Most if not all illegal immigrants are probably not captured by these data; thus, the actual number of Ukrainians in the United States is almost certainly larger than indicated here. Also the great majority of immigrants from Ukraine during 1990-1994 were mostly Jewish; only starting in 1995 did the migration stream from Ukraine become predominantly ethnic Ukrainian. Thus later in the analysis we will define Fourth Wave immigrants as those who arrived in the United States in 1995 or later.

According to the 2000 census there were 896,930 persons of Ukrainian ancestry in the United States; five years later this number increased to 953,784, a gain of 56,854 or 6.3 percent. The composition of Ukrainians in 2005* is presented in Table 1, with 70 percent U.S. born and the rest immigrants who arrived in the United States at different times.

In the last 15 years (1990-2005*) a total of 196,400 immigrants of Ukrainian ancestry arrived in the United States, and they constitute 21 percent of the total number of persons of Ukrainian ancestry.

Immigrants who arrived in the United States before 1990 number only 87,200 and make 9 percent of the total group. Thus, the last immigration wave surpasses by far the number of survivors of the all previous immigration waves.

In the last two rows of Table 1 we show how many of the immigrants in each period were born in Ukraine, and what percent they constitute of all immigrants arriving in that period. We see that the great majority of immigrants (over 80 percent) in the last 15 years were born in Ukraine. (The data do not indicate country of origin of the immigrants, only country of birth; thus immigrants from Ukraine are approximated as those who were born in Ukraine). Comparing immigrants arriving in 1995-1999 with those arriving during the last five years, we see that, although the total number of immigrants has declined from 71,400 to 67,500, the number of immigrants born in Ukraine has remained almost the same at 58,000 in each period.

Analysis by states

In Table 2 we list the 10 states with the largest number of Ukrainians in 2005* and their respective numbers for 2000. Few changes are observed in the 2005* ranking of the states in this list compared to 2000, but they vary greatly in terms of relative gains or losses of Ukrainians during the last five years.

The state of Washington had the largest relative increase with 34.5 percent, followed by California with 16 percent and Florida with 8 percent; New Jersey and New York had only about 1 percent increase each.

All the other states on the list experienced losses in the last five years. Ohio had the largest loss with -9 percent, followed by Michigan with -6 percent, Illinois with -5 percent, and Massachusetts with -2.5 percent, while Pennsylvania had a very slight loss of -0.4 percent. Thus, almost all states with well established large Ukrainian communities continue to lose population.

Practically all states with very large increases in the number of Ukrainians in the last five years have relatively few Ukrainians and in some of them the relative increases were quite significant (Table 3). For example, South Carolina and Idaho more than doubled their numbers and Kentucky had a relative increase of over 85 percent. Iowa, Montana, West Virginia and Alabama had relative increases in the 45-68 percent range (not shown in Table 3), but the number of Ukrainians in 2005* was less than 3,000 in each state. Relative increases in the order of 30 percent-50 percent were observed in the District of Columbia, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Washington, Georgia, Arizona and Delaware. These states had significantly more Ukrainians than the states with the larger relative increase; with the exception of the District of Columbia each of these states had more than 7,000 Ukrainians in 2005*.

At the other end of the growth spectrum, all states with relatively large losses in the last five years had few Ukrainians to begin with. Mississippi and Rhode Island, with a -41 percent relative loss each had less than 1,000 and about 3,000 Ukrainians, respectively, in 2000. Other states with relative losses in the -30 percent to -40 percent range are Vermont, Kansas, Nebraska and Utah, and they had between 2,000 and 3,000 Ukrainians in 2000.

We turn now to the composition of Ukrainians in a state by nativity and time of migration to the United States. Some states had no or very few foreign-born persons of Ukrainian ancestry in 2005*. For example, 100 percent of persons of

Table 1.- Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry by Nativity and Period of Immigration to the United States: 2005*

	Total	US born	Period of Immigration to the US			
			2000-05*	1995-99	1990-94	<1990
Total persons	953,784	670,198	67,458	71,373	57,551	87,205
% distribution		70.3%	7.1%	7.5%	6.0%	9.1%
Migrants born in Ukraine			58,177	58,435	47,983	45,405
% of all migrants			86.2%	81.9%	83.4%	52.1%

2005* = average of 2005 and 2006 values

Source: 2005 and 2006 American Community Survey

Table 2.- Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry in 2000 and 2005*: Ten States with the Largest Numbers in 2005*

State	2000	2005*	2005*-2000	Relative % Difference
Total US	896,930	953,784	56,854	6.3%
New York	147,303	148,741	1,438	1.0%
Pennsylvania	122,150	121,721	-430	-0.4%
California	83,641	97,050	13,409	16.0%
New Jersey	72,941	73,494	553	0.8%
Florida	42,655	46,033	3,378	7.9%
Illinois	48,268	46,003	-2,265	-4.7%
Ohio	49,376	44,663	-4,713	-9.1%
Washington	32,320	43,467	11,147	34.5%
Michigan	46,062	43,452	-2,610	-5.7%
Massachusetts	22,915	22,335	-580	-2.5%

2005* = average of 2005 and 2006 values

Sources: 2000 census and 2005 and 2006 American Community Survey

Table 3.- Selected States with More than 30% Gain in the Number of Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry, between 2000 and 2005*

State	2000	2005*	2005*-2000	Relative % Difference
South Carolina	3,386	7,652	4,266	125.3%
Idaho	1,791	3,742	1,951	108.9%
Kentucky	1,897	3,557	1,660	87.5%
D. of Columbia	1,154	1,758	604	52.3%
New Hampshire	3,263	4,642	1,379	42.3%
North Carolina	10,268	14,484	4,196	40.8%
Washington	32,320	43,467	11,147	34.5%
Georgia	10,116	13,335	3,219	31.8%
Arizona	10,920	14,370	3,450	31.6%
Delaware	5,618	7,226	1,608	30.9%

2005* = average of 2005 and 2006 values

Sources: 2000 census and 2005 and 2006 American Community Survey

Table 4.- Selected States with Large Percentages of Migrants who Arrived in the US During 1995-2005*

State	Total 2005*	Arrived in US during 1995 - 2005*			
		All Migrants	% of Total	Born in Ukraine Number	% of Migrants
Total US	953,784	138,930	14.6%	116,612	84.0%
South Dakota	1,263	727	57.6%	727	100.0%
Oregon	17,766	7,770	43.7%	6,338	81.6%
Washington	43,467	18,702	43.0%	15,537	83.1%
Kentucky	3,657	1,383	38.9%	1,171	84.7%
North Carolina	14,484	3,475	24.0%	3,025	87.0%
South Carolina	7,652	1,754	22.9%	1,365	79.0%
California	97,050	21,924	22.6%	18,733	85.4%
Massachusetts	22,335	3,785	17.0%	3,024	79.7%
New York	148,741	23,711	15.9%	21,679	91.4%
Illinois	46,003	7,152	15.5%	6,652	93.0%
Georgia	13,335	1,976	14.8%	1,645	83.3%
Virginia	19,627	2,197	11.2%	1,760	80.5%
Florida	46,033	4,940	10.7%	3,968	80.9%
Arizona	14,370	1,383	9.6%	335	24.2%
Michigan	43,452	2,946	6.8%	2,691	91.3%
Pennsylvania	121,721	6,410	5.3%	5,048	78.8%
New Jersey	73,494	3,797	5.2%	3,054	80.4%

2005* = average of 2005 and 2006 values

Source: 2005 and 2006 American Community Survey

Ukrainian ancestry in Mississippi and North Dakota were U.S.-born. States with close to 100 percent Ukrainians that are U.S.-born are Pennsylvania, Montana, Vermont and New Mexico.

States with 90 percent-95 percent U.S.-born are Rhode Island, Delaware, West Virginia and Wyoming; of the states with large numbers of Ukrainians, only Michigan and Virginia are in this range.

It may be useful to find out which states have significant proportions of Fourth Wave immigrants from Ukraine. Table 4 provides the answer and also

presents this information for states with traditionally large Ukrainian communities. For each state we list the number of immigrants in the last 10 years and how many of them were born in Ukraine; we see that in most cases the majority of all immigrants were born in Ukraine.

In order to estimate the potential of the Fourth Wave immigrants for the Ukrainian community in the United States, we limit the period of immigration to 1995-2005*. (As mentioned previous-

(Continued on page 11)

The voting potential of Ukrainians in the United States

by Oleh Wolowyna

Since Ukraine's independence the organized Ukrainian diaspora has lost its compass and is still looking for a new direction. A significant amount of our attention and resources have been channeled to Ukraine and institutions and causes of all kinds in Ukraine, at the expense of the development and support of diaspora institutions. We seem to have forgotten that the best and most effective way of helping Ukraine in particular and the Ukrainian cause in general is to exercise our rights as citizens of our countries who also happen to be of Ukrainian ancestry.

In a democracy one of the most powerful tools a citizen has is his/her vote. In recent years a number of elections in the United States were decided by very close margins. Although proportionally the number of Ukrainians in the United States is relatively small, there is ample evidence that a small but well organized group can have a significant influence on which candidate wins the election, especially at the state and local levels. One of the main objectives of the Ukrainian diaspora in a country should be that elected officials are favorably disposed to our ethnic community, to Ukraine and to Ukrainian culture and history.

Here we present some data on Ukrainians in the United States that can help achieve this objective. These numbers of potential voters by state and large metropolitan areas (MAs) can be used to inform national and local party officials and candidates about the issues that these potential voters are concerned about, and to influence candidate's positions on these issues.

The first table shows the number of potential voters by state; potential voters are persons of Ukrainian ancestry as reported in the American Community Surveys of 2005 and 2006, who are U.S. citizens and 18 years of age or older. The total number for each state is disaggregated into four age groups, as age is an important factor in determining who registers to vote and who actually votes. We present here the 15 states with the largest number of Ukrainian American potential voters (the full list of states can be seen on the Informed Decisions website). The number of potential voters for the whole country is about 642,000, which is not a trivial number, especially in strongly contested elections. New York has the largest number of potential voters with 103,000, followed by Pennsylvania with 96,000, California with 58,000 and New Jersey with 56,000. Florida, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan have about 30,000 potential voters each, and the other states are in the 10,000- to 17,000-voter range.

In the second table we show the 18 metropolitan areas with the largest numbers of potential Ukrainian American vot-

ers. The New York metropolitan area has the largest number of potential voters with 91,000. This MA is composed of the city of New York and Northeastern New Jersey (45,000), Nassau County (12,000), Bergen-Passaic (6,000), Jersey City (2,000), Newark (14,000) and Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon (12,000).

Philadelphia has the second largest number of potential voters with 39,000, followed by Chicago with 30,000, and Pittsburgh, Detroit and Los Angeles with about 20,000 each. Washington, D.C., Cleveland, San Francisco and Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Pa., have between 10,000 and 17,000 potential voters, while the numbers for the other eight MAs are between 7,000 and 9,000.

It is important to note that a very high proportion of Ukrainians in the United States are U.S. citizens. For the whole country the percentage is 85 percent. In several states 100 percent of all persons of Ukrainian ancestry are U.S. citizens, and only in six states is this percentage less than 70 percent. Due to the high proportion of new immigrants from Ukraine, in Oregon and Washington state only half of all Ukrainians are U.S. citizens. A similar situation is found in metropolitan areas; in most MAs the percent of U.S. citizens among persons of Ukrainian ancestry is very high. In very few MAs is the percent of U.S. citizens less than 50 percent, and most of these MAs have 1,000 or less potential voters.

The age composition of potential voters varies significantly among states and MAs. Florida, as expected, has a higher than average number of older citizens (65 years or more), while Ohio and Michigan have proportionally more young potential voters (age 18-24). Virginia has a high concentration of potential voters in the 25-44 age group. The Los Angeles MA has only 6 percent of young potential voters (age 18-24) and a high percent of U.S. citizens in the 45-64 age group. Scranton, Pa., has a high proportion of older potential voters, while Atlanta has the highest percent of young and very few older potential voters.

These numbers represent all persons who declared "Ukrainian" as their first or second ancestry, and not all of them are active in the community. They represent a potential maximum of voters who are likely to care about Ukraine, the Ukrainian diaspora and/or issues related to Ukrainian culture or history. The challenge is to try to reach these potential voters and motivate them to register and vote, urge them to evaluate each candidate in terms of his positions regarding issues important to Ukraine and to the Ukrainian American community, and then vote accordingly.

During the previous national election of 2004, at the national level, only 66 percent of all potential voters registered to vote and 58 percent voted. The lowest

Table 1.- Number of Potential Voters* among Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry by State: 2005-06*****

State	18 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 +	Total
United States	64,138	197,389	249,288	131,113	641,827
New York	9,541	29,578	40,676	23,508	103,305
Pennsylvania	8,842	28,600	36,360	21,845	95,648
California	4,613	19,163	21,921	12,103	58,000
New Jersey	4,576	16,672	21,718	12,811	55,778
Florida	2,972	8,133	12,622	9,389	33,115
Ohio	4,345	8,315	12,822	7,188	32,670
Illinois	3,637	9,638	12,699	5,809	31,783
Michigan	4,234	9,302	12,204	5,437	31,176
Maryland	1,277	5,763	8,387	3,191	16,617
Connecticut	1,385	4,384	5,958	3,630	15,358
Washington	1,692	5,000	5,421	2,673	14,786
Virginia	1,630	5,382	5,640	1,656	14,307
Massachusetts	1,307	4,244	6,435	1,850	13,836
Texas	1,284	3,703	4,621	1,875	11,583
Arizona	820	3,248	3,704	2,186	9,957

NOTE: 15 States with the largest number of potential voters. For a list of all States go to the web site: <http://www.inform-decisions.com/ukrus>

* US citizens 18 years or older
 ** Persons with first or second Ukrainian ancestry
 *** Average of 2005 and 2006 ACS values
 Sources: Public Use Microdata Survey files of the American Community Surveys (ACS), 2005 and 2006

Table 2.- Number of Potential Voters* among Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry by Metropolitan Area: 2005-06*****

Metro area	18 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 +	Total
United States	64,138	197,389	249,288	131,113	641,827
New York, NY-Northeastern NJ	6,984	27,744	34,661	21,917	91,305
Philadelphia, PA/NJ	3,712	12,785	15,185	7,600	39,281
Chicago, IL	3,141	8,552	12,718	5,259	29,669
Pittsburgh, PA	1,795	6,000	7,888	5,049	20,731
Detroit, MI	2,304	5,755	8,054	4,001	20,114
L. Angeles-Long Beach-Orange Co., CA	1,162	5,428	8,609	4,458	19,657
Washington, DC/MD/VA	1,489	6,429	6,407	2,230	16,554
Cleveland, OH	941	3,721	6,128	3,080	13,869
San Francisco-Oakland-Vallejo, CA	688	4,553	4,408	2,853	12,501
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA/NJ	1,012	3,623	3,396	2,167	10,198
Rochester, NY	1,137	3,110	3,632	1,620	9,499
Monmouth-Ocean, NJ	974	2,919	3,241	2,241	9,375
Boston, MA-NH	938	2,712	4,330	1,163	9,143
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, PA	450	2,268	3,150	3,222	9,089
Baltimore, MD	672	2,789	3,289	1,637	8,387
Seattle-Everett, WA	1,036	2,903	2,475	1,568	8,002
Syracuse, NY	917	2,159	3,126	1,788	7,990
Atlanta, GA	1,215	2,615	2,516	520	6,865

NOTE: 18 Metropolitan Areas with the largest number of potential voters. For a list of all Metropolitan Areas go to the web site: <http://www.inform-decisions.com/ukrus>

* US citizens 18 years or older
 ** Persons with first or second Ukrainian ancestry
 *** Average of 2005 and 2006 ACS values
 Sources: Public Use Microdata Survey files of the American Community Surveys (ACS), 2005 and 2006

percent voting, 42 percent, was among the younger group (age 18-24), while the oldest age group (age 65 and up) had the highest percent voting with 69 percent. If the Ukrainian American voters can be motivated to vote in significantly higher proportions than the national level, this would leverage their relative small numbers.

Active participation in the election process by our community leaders and by Ukrainian Americans active in politics while taking into account our interests as Americans of Ukrainian ancestry, is not only a civic duty but should be part of our obligations as citizens and Ukrainian American community members. A favorable public statement by a

high-level government official in support of a Ukrainian cause or a vote by the U.S. Congress regarding issues like the World Trade Organization or favorable treatment of Ukrainian imported goods may have the equivalent effect of many modest financial or in-kind donations to different groups in Ukraine. One thing does not exclude the other; both are needed.

The issue is that relatively little attention has been paid to the policies of the U.S. and local government vis-à-vis our interests and priorities as Americans of Ukrainian ancestry, while a lot of diaspora resources are being channeled to Ukraine. It is time to change to a more balanced strategy.

Changes in the...

(Continued from page 10)

ly, before 1995 the majority of immigrants from Ukraine to the United States were Jewish, and it is unlikely that they would become active in the Ukrainian community.) As can be seen in Table 4, of the 954,000 Ukrainians residing in the United States in 2005*, 139,000 (or close to 15 percent) came to the US after 1994, and 84 percent of them, or close to 117,000 were born in Ukraine.

South Dakota has the highest percent of Fourth Wave migrants (defined here as immigrants who arrived in the United States in 1995 or later), close to 60 percent, but the total number of Ukrainians in

this state in 2005* is very small (1,263). It is followed by Oregon with 44 percent, Washington with 43 percent and Kentucky with 39 percent of all persons of Ukrainian ancestry residing in the state being recent immigrants. In North Carolina, South Carolina and California the proportion of Fourth Wave immigrants is in the 22 percent to 24 percent range. North and South Carolina were States with relatively few Ukrainians 20 years ago, but they have experienced significant growth in the number of Ukrainians in the last two decades, mainly migrants from Northern and Northeastern states with large Ukrainian communities, complemented by a sizeable migration stream from Ukraine in the last 10 years.

Among states with large and well-

established Ukrainian communities, California leads the list, with 23 percent of all Ukrainians being Fourth Wave immigrants; it is followed by Massachusetts with 17 percent and New York and Illinois with 16 percent each. Michigan, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have not attracted many new immigrants, as they only make 5 percent-7 percent of the total Ukrainian population in these states.

As indicated by the last column of Table 4, most of the immigrants arriving in the United States in the last 10 years were born in Ukraine, and it is fair to assume that the great majority of them came from Ukraine.

Two states in the second group of Table 4 that deserve special attention are Georgia and Arizona.

The experience of Georgia is similar to that of North Carolina, that is, significant growth in the number of Ukrainians in the last two decades fueled by migration from Northern and Northeastern states with large Ukrainian communities, complemented by a sizeable number of Fourth Wave immigrants. In 2005* 2,000 of a total of 13,300 (or 15 percent) were immigrants who arrived to the United States in the last 10 years, and 1,600 of them were born in Ukraine.

Arizona is the only state where the majority of immigrants arriving in the United States in the last 10 years were not born in Ukraine. Out of the almost 1,400 immigrants only 335 were born in

(Continued on page 19)

Soyuzivka Heritage Center 2008 Summer Programs

Memorial Day Weekend: Kino-Q Film Festival, Music with Matthew Dubas, Zabava with Hrim, and Zuki and Friends! **May 23-26**

Seniors Week: Come meet old friends and make new ones! **June 8-13**

4th of July Weekend: Celebrate with friends, family, dancing, and fun! **July 4-6**

Cultural Festival: Ukrainian delicacies, stage performances and exhibits! **July 10-13**

Miss Soyuzivka: Witness the crowning of Miss Soyuzivka 2009! **August 9**

Labor Day Weekend: Say Farewell to summer! **August 29-September 1**

Tennis Camp

Ages 10-18

\$675 UNA Member

\$725 Non member

Intensive ten day instruction and competitive play directed by George Sawchak. Limited to 45 participants.

June 22-July 3

Exploration Day Camp

Ages 7-10

\$150 per week, per child

\$25 per day, per child

Five hours of fun-filled outdoor activities.

Session 1: June 23-June 27

Session 2: June 30-July 4

Tabir Ptashat

A Plast day camp for little campers.

Session 1: June 22-June 28

Session 2: June 29-July 5

Bandura Camp

5 days of professional bandura instruction by Ukrainian bandurists from Lviv.

July 7-11

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp

Ages 4-7

\$160 per child staying on premises

\$200 per child staying off premises

Day camp program designed to instill a love for our Ukrainian Heritage through song, dance, arts and crafts

Session 1: July 13-July 18

Session 2: July 20-July 25

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

Ukrainian Dance Workshop

Ages 16 & up

\$950 UNA Member

\$1000 Non Member

Vigorous two week dance training for intermediate and advanced dancers, culminating with performances on stage at our festival.

June 29-July 13

Discovery Camp

Ages 8-15

\$400 UNA Member

\$450 Non Member

Sleep away camp filled with outdoor activities, sports, arts and crafts designed to enhance the Ukrainian cultural experience.

Week: July 13-19

Scuba Diving Course

Ages 12-Adult

\$400 per person

Students will complete confined and open water requirements for PADI open water certification.

Classes are given by George Hanushevsky, scuba diver instructor.

Week 1: July 13-July 19

Week 2: July 20-July 26

Ukrainian "Sitch" Sports Camp

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\$390 per session per camper

\$190 for commuters or day campers

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This camp will focus on soccer, volleyball, swimming and tennis.

Contact Marika Bokalo at (908) 851-0617.

Session 1: July 20-July 26

Session 2: July 27-August 2

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

Ukrainian Dance Camp

Ages 8-16

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\$1000 Non Member

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych, daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky.

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Session 1: July 20-August 2

Session 2: August 3-16



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INTERVIEW: Christina Kotlar of Kino-Q Ukrainian Film Festival

The director of the upcoming Ukrainian film festival at Soyuzivka, Christina Kotlar, is an independent writer/producer, founder and producer of the podcast *Film Festival reViews* (www.filmfestivalreviews.com). Ms. Kotlar hosts conversations with filmmakers and film festival programmers, assessing current trends in independent filmmaking, emerging film markets and festival venues and digital cinema industries; she writes, blogs and podcasts for various new media outlets. Currently, she is with Emerging Pictures, a film distribution company in New York City. Her passions include indie films and film festivals, where she often takes to the stage to introduce this relatively new art form, explaining that "cinema has only been around for a hundred years."

Below, Ms. Kotlar responds to *The Ukrainian Weekly's* questions about the 2008 film festival at Soyuzivka, which has been renamed the Kino-Q Ukrainian Film Festival.

What can audience members expect from the film festival?

Film festivals have opened a window of opportunity for independent filmmakers searching for a broader audience to show their low-budget indie films. While it's considered low-budget – according to Hollywood standards – projects shot on film or in high definition video formats can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to produce. And, filmmakers now have to take it upon themselves to raise money, sell and distribute their own films and so they have become transformed into promotional distribution machines.

There are over 6,000 film festivals scheduled worldwide, screening hundreds of films out of thousands of submissions, and people are going to film festivals to become a part of something more than the run-of-the-mill mainstream movie-goers. So, the film festival becomes the first "film life" for a film with opportunities for it to find an audience and, better yet – the brass ring – a distribution deal that takes it into the public arena, to the theatrical exhibition circuit.



Christina Kotlar, director of the Kino-Q Ukrainian Film Festival at Soyuzivka.

This year the film festival is being run separately from Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival. Why is that?

In July 2007 I was invited to be film festival director – to organize and emcee the Ukrainian cinema program of the Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival held at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center in Kerhonkson, N.Y. Over the five days the curated film programs included features, shorts, animations and documentaries screened indoors during an outdoor summer festival. This was done in conjunction with the Columbia Film Club of Columbia University in New York City (under the leadership of Yuri Shevchuk), and films were screened in segmented time slots. Its success was measured by a respectable audience attending sessions scheduled throughout the day and evening despite coinciding with international talent and elaborate festival programming, outdoor activities, cultural arts and crafts booths.

This is the second film festival at Soyuzivka. How is this year's festival different from last year's?

While it is considered the second film festival at Soyuzivka, it really will be the first of its kind. This year I'm back again as festival director. There is more film festival programming, and this time Ukrainian cinema gets its own weekend, renamed as the Kino-Q Ukrainian Film Festival. It's scheduled for Memorial Day weekend, beginning on Friday, May 23, until Sunday, May 25.

The festival was advertised and opened for submissions, but is also curated, which means that certain films were sought out and scheduled as part of a program segment. The search includes filmmakers who are Ukrainian, or come from Ukrainian heritage, and films about a Ukrainian topic or in Ukrainian. One of the highlights will be "Rediscovering Ukrainian Classics" with "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors," a film by Sergei Paradjanov.

Are any of these filmmakers emerging young talents? Who are they?

It's always difficult to find places where up-and-coming and emerging filmmakers have an opportunity to be introduced to the Ukrainian film community and show their work. This year, American University students Olha Onyshko and Sarah Farhat submitted their school project, a work-in-progress titled "Galicia: Land of Dilemmas."

Last spring, as MFA students, Olha and Sarah created a video installation "Galicia: Land of Dilemmas," as part of a "Radical Image" class, and it won the Visions Festival Award for Best Installation. They are now working on expanding the project into a full-length documentary and their professor, Academy Award-winning cinematographer Gary Keith Griffin, is scheduled to be present at our festival with comments on the challenges of documentary filmmaking.

What filmmakers are being spotlighted this year? And what types of films are being shown?

The weekend is packed with recognized and
(Continued on page 19)

Kharytia Bilash stars in musical "Beauty and the Beast"

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – "...Spunky, appealing, lovely and with a flawless, crystalline voice" (Edmonton Sun), "an Edmonton-born charmer [with] one of those big, juicy, unerringly accurate pop voices and a ravishing smile." (Edmonton Journal) – these were some of the reviews that Kharytia Bilash received for her portrayal of Belle in the musical "Beauty and the Beast."

Staged at the Citadel Theater in Edmonton, it ran from January 19 to March 2, after which it was transferred to the Epcor Centre in Calgary where it will run until April 27.

"Beauty and the Beast" is based on Disney's Oscar-nominated 1991 animated film, adapted for the stage. It is a fairy

tale, in which a selfish prince has a curse cast upon him because he cannot love. He becomes an ugly Beast. When he imprisons a merchant in his castle, the merchant's beautiful daughter Belle (played by Ms. Bilash) volunteers to take her father's place and, eventually, the Beast learns about love and the curse is lifted.

Ms. Bilash, 25, recent performing arts graduate who has been taking singing, dancing and acting lessons since she was 4 years old. At age 10 she toured Canada as a member of the children's chorus in "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" that featured Donnie Osmond in the title role.

"It was an incredibly rewarding and exciting experience. If I didn't know I



Kharytia Bilash as Belle and Rejean Cournoyer as the Prince in "Beauty and the Beast."

wanted to be an actress before that tour, I certainly did afterwards," said Ms. Bilash. After graduating from a Ukrainian bilingual school in Edmonton, she attended the Brentwood School in Victoria, British Columbia and took a year of studies at the Canadian College of Performing Arts in Victoria. She studied music and drama at the University of Alberta and then moved to Toronto, where she completed two years of musical theater at The Randolph Academy of Performing Arts.

While doing a summer stint at a Niagara Falls dinner theater, she showed up at the Citadel Theater's "Beauty and the Beast" audition in Toronto, not known to anyone. But, said associate director James MacDonald, "Kharytia

blew us all away with her voice and ability."

Getting the part is a major coup for Ms. Bilash, for it marks her debut in a leading role in a major Canadian regional theater. "Beauty and the Beast" was sold out in its month long run in Edmonton and received excellent reviews: "The production is an enormously appealing mix of style, grace, romance, music and magic," wrote the Edmonton Sun. In Calgary, its original run has been extended by a week.

An active member and longtime youth counselor of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization in Edmonton, Ms. Bilash invited her former patrol (hurtok) to visit her at the theater, and took them on a backstage tour of the Citadel.



Kharytia Bilash with her Plast "hurtok."

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

pipelines without sea transport. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Bulgaria eases travel restrictions

SOFIA, Bulgaria – The Bulgarian government has ratified agreements on visa-free travel with Ukraine and Moldova, the Associated Press reported on May 8. The government press center said the same day that Bulgarians can now visit the two countries for up to 90 days without entry visas. The same applies to citizens of Ukraine and Moldova traveling to Bulgaria, a member of the European Union. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Lytvyn replaced at Taras Shevchenko U.

KYIV –President Viktor Yushchenko amended his decree of April 10, concerning the removal of Viktor Skopenko from office of rector of the Kyiv's Taras Shevchenko National University, it was reported on May 6. National Deputy Volodymyr Lytvyn, head of the university's supervisory board, had been tapped to temporarily fulfill the responsibilities of rector. In accordance with the amended presidential decree, those functions will now be fulfilled by the director of the International Relations Institute, Leonid Huberskyi. (Ukrinform)

Divorces on the decline

KYIV – A total of 41,500 couples have divorced in Ukraine since the beginning of 2008, a decrease of almost 6.8 percent compared to the same period in 2007, Justice Minister Mykola Onyschuk said on April 25. The figures for the first quarter of the year confirmed a trend that had been observed for many years: a gradual decline in the number of Ukrainian citizens who express their desire to divorce. The number of registered marriages had exceeded the number of divorces by 15-20 percent in recent years. This year, Ukraine has registered a total of 50,200 marriages since the beginning of the year, exceeding the number of divorces by 18 percent. (Ukrinform)

PSD demands Baloha's resignation

KYIV – The leader of People's Self-Defense, which is part of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc (OU-PSD), Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko, stated on May 12 that his political force is demanding the resignation of Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha. Mr. Lutsenko explained that the government and the democratic coalition have become more and more noticeable hostages of his destructive policy. "We do not see another variant for calm and efficient work of the parliamentary coalition and the democratic forces' government," Mr. Lutsenko stressed. He noted that "the authorities may be criticized, but they should be given a possibility to work." He added, "The Cabinet's leaders and the Presidential Secretariat chair went too far in their confrontation and the war of ambitions." Mr. Lutsenko made a number of charges against Mr. Baloha, accusing him, among other things, of an attempt to hamper voting in the Parliament on the election of Yulia Tymoshenko as prime minister. Later, according to Mr. Lutsenko, there was an actual disorganization of the OU-PSD faction as a result of "the artificial set-up of the Single Center ... group." But Mr. Baloha's opposition to the government's removal of the State Property Fund's management was over the top, Mr. Lutsenko stated. In this case, Mr. Lutsenko emphasized, the matter concerns blocking privatization and disrupting fulfillment of the state budget. "Despite obvious mistakes by Yulia Tymoshenko in financial-economic policy that resulted in a rapid price hike and a noticeable worsening

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

of the population's incomes, I consider Baloha's principle – the worse the people live, the easier it is to criticize the government and then to replace it with a more convenient one – to be amoral," he concluded. (Ukrinform)

NBU reports on government spending

KYIV – The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) said in a paper dealing with fiscal policies in Ukraine in the first quarter of 2008 that the government's rising spending on social programs remains a major inflationary factor in the country, Interfax-Ukraine reported on May 5. Inflation in Ukraine from January to March was 9.7 percent, demolishing the government forecast of 9.6 percent for the entire year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Mass sales of Hitler dolls denied

KHARKIV – A human rights group called on the leading foreign media to retract false information about a sale of Adolf Hitler toys to Ukrainian children, it was reported on May 5. According to group member Halyna Coynash, in late April a popular Ukrainian weekly, Zerkalo Nedeli, published materials about the sale of Hitler dolls in Ukraine. In fact, she emphasized, such items were sold only in a specialized shop for collectors. Yet, Ms. Coynash noted, Russia's central news channels very soon generalized the information, and reported on alleged mass sales of Hitler miniatures in Ukraine. The reports were immediately rebroadcast by the BBC, DPA, Daily Mail and other international news media, without any further fact-checking. None of them has released any retraction of the false information, which did severe harm to Ukraine's image, the Kharkiv human rights group said. (Ukrinform)

Customs officials seize Scythian artifacts

KYIV – Customs officers of the Symferopol airport post of the Crimean Customs House prevented the smuggling

of a unique collection that included 94 ornamental objects from Ukraine dating back to the period of the eighth to first centuries BC. A Turkish citizen flying from Symferopol to Istanbul tried to carry the collection of great historic and cultural value in his luggage together with his personal belongings. The man was arrested while passing through the Customs "green corridor," where an X-ray device located the 94 items made of clay, glass and metal (rings, wristbands, bells, crockery). The man said that he bought the items at a market and paid \$250 (U.S.) for them, adding that he did not know their real cultural value. According to experts, the condition of the confiscated items indicates that they could have been taken from Scythian burial grounds and were discovered by so-called "black archaeologists." (Ukrinform)

Transport Ministry prepares for Euro-2012

KYIV – Ukraine's Transport and Communications Ministry has endorsed a state program for preparing the country's road and transport sector in time for the Euro-2012 finals, the ministry's press service said on May 5. The document paid particular attention to funding that is to be allocated for Euro-2012 projects. The overall cost of the road and transport projects will be approximately 74.4 billion hrv (\$15.8 billion U.S.), including 12.8 billion hrv that will be allocated from the national budget, 7.5 billion hrv from local budgets, 13.5 billion hrv from the transport sector's enterprises, 11.9 billion hrv in loans, 10 billion hrv in investment, and 18.7 billion hrv will be offered by concessionaires. (Ukrinform)

13th century castle discovered

KYIV – Archaeologists have discovered the remnants of a 13th century castle atop Tsar Mountain in the Irshava district, Zakarpattia region of Ukraine, it was reported on May 7. The fortress stood on rock surrounded by important trade and economic routes in the 13th and 14th centuries. Archaeologists found the walls of the castle and numerous artifacts, including a battle knife, a spur and a deer horn. (Ukrinform)



В глибокому смутку ділимося сумною вісткою, що 16 квітня 2008 р. на 99 році життя відійшла у вічність наша найдорожча і улюблена Мама, Бабця і Тета

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- Внуки** Ігор і Таня Гук
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- братова** – НІНА з родиною
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ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 10 травня 2008 р. в церкві св. Івана Христителя у Випані, відтак на цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н. Дж.

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найдорожчої ДРУЖИНИ МАМИ і БАБЦІ

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Philadelphia Generously Supports the Ukrainian Catholic University



The March 30th dinner benefiting the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) testified to the generosity and goodwill of Philadelphia-area Ukrainian-Americans. With the cooperation and assistance of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, the Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University hosted a dinner at the Ukrainian Center. Over 150 supporters of UCU were treated to an informative update about the university by Fr. Borys Gudziak, rector of UCU.

The Committee gratefully acknowledges each and every one of the supporters who both recognize and support the vital mission which UCU serves: educating a new generation of leaders in all areas of Ukrainian life, both religious and secular. The following supporters made this benefit dinner a spectacular success: a night truly to remember!

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Boston College Ukrainian Society hosts conference on economic potential of Ukraine

by Michael O'Brien

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. – The Boston College Ukrainian Society, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI), and the Boston College Carroll School of Management, on Saturday, April 19 hosted an economic conference, “Unlocking the Economic Potential of Eastern Europe: Sustainable Development in Ukraine.”

The event featured three panelists: Morgan Williams, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council and government affairs director for the SigmaBleyzer Private Equity Investment Group; Dr. George Gamota, a professor at the University of Michigan and president of Science & Technology Management Associates; and Ruslan Piontkovsky, an economist from the World Bank. Andriy Tsintsiruk, a graduate student in the political science department at Boston College, served as moderator. Andrii Bukvych, first secretary of the Embassy of Ukraine, was also scheduled as a panelist but inexplicably cancelled at the last moment.

In his opening statement, Mr. Tsintsiruk touched upon why the topic of sustainable development is important for Ukraine and gave some background information on the country’s political and economic history. After the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, its constituent republics became independent states. As parts of the Soviet empire, they participated in a centrally planned economy. Following the collapse, the newly formed governments faced a number of challenges in forming economic policies. Since then, most of the states have experienced economic growth, but all have grown at different rates.

Like its neighbors, Ukraine is currently undergoing a period of economic reforms, which have a huge impact on the direction the country is going. “A lot remains to be done, however, until Ukraine becomes a powerful member of the global marketplace,” said Mr. Tsintsiruk.

He added that many in the West see Viktor Yushchenko’s Orange Revolution as a promise for economic reforms, but added that these changes cannot take place overnight – rather, it’s going to take years, possibly decades.

The three panelists discussed the role of foreign investment in the Ukrainian economy and the country’s economic outlook, and they shared their first-hand experience working there.

Mr. Williams, the first panelist to speak, stated that Ukraine is a critical part of Eastern Europe. He mentioned President George W. Bush’s recent trip to the country and the drive to get NATO to give Ukraine a Membership Action Plan. He also touched upon the critical questions regarding the country’s stability and Western influence – noting the speed

with which it has transitioned from the Soviet system to an independent one.

“The United States has put a lot of effort and interest in moving Ukraine to integrate with the West,” said Mr. Williams. “It wants to move the country out of the influence and from under the wing of Mother Russia – and of course we like to remind Russia that it is the younger brother of Ukraine since Kyiv has been around a lot longer than Moscow.”

Ukraine’s history, over the past 100 years, has been very convoluted and difficult. It’s hard to find very many countries that have had a more difficult history as whoever was “king of the mountain” in the region wanted control of the country, Mr. Williams said. Many people find it shocking that Ukraine has been independent since 1991, which is the longest time it has been independent in 300 years. Some have described Ukraine as functioning as a post-genocidal society as it has suffered some of the 20th century’s worst atrocities.

Under the Soviet Union’s control, nationalism was suppressed and Ukraine was made dependent on Russia, the dominant force in the country. This connection remains to the present day as Ukraine is economically tied to Russia more than any other country. It still is under a lot of pressure from its notorious neighbor. [Russian President Vladimir] Putin plays games with economic pressure and power,” said Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams argued that, despite Russian influence, Ukraine’s Euro-Atlantic integration is going to take place. The events in the business community – not the political community – corroborate this. Mr. Williams was critical of the Yushchenko administration and added that not many people, from a global perspective, are impressed with the country’s past or present leadership.

“Everyone will tell you that the doors to Europe, the United States, and the world are open. Ukraine doesn’t have to knock on those doors,” he continued. “The problem is that everyone is saying get your act together, Mr. Yushchenko. Stay home. Take care of business. Get your economic reforms finished. Get your military modernized. Lower the level of corruption.”

Because Ukraine has a totally underdeveloped financial system, it was critical for the banks of Europe to come in. Plagued by remnants of the Soviet system, the country lacks a traditional financial structure. Even so, Mr. Williams said he is positive that the United States is willing to invest a large amount of money in Ukraine.

Dr. Gamota first mentioned that he strongly agreed with Mr. Williams. On the topic of corruption, however, he differed. “There is corruption – there’s no question about it,” Dr. Gamota said. “But what I found more frustrating was



Vsevolod Petriv

During the conference (from left) are: Ruslan Piontkivsky, Andriy Tsintsiruk and Morgan Williams

bureaucracy.” Even though corruption is deplorable, Dr. Gamota said, it at least allows one to get his or her business done in the end. Bureaucracy, on the other hand, totally halts progress, he explained.

Regarding post-Soviet Ukraine, Dr. Gamota drew a parallel to the American Revolution. One-third of the American population were revolutionaries, one-third were loyalists, and one-third were neutral. He said the situation is similar for Ukraine – the west supports Mr. Yushchenko’s Orange Revolution, whereas the east is tied to Russia. “Give them time. I am optimistic that Ukraine is never going to go back, but the question is how fast it is going to go forward,” said Dr. Gamota.

The rate of improvement is dependent on the work that is put into improving the country, he noted. Dr. Gamota spoke of his trip to Ukraine in May 1992 to illustrate this point. He traveled from St. Petersburg to Moscow to Kyiv and

described the populations in each city: those in St. Petersburg were friendly, those in Moscow were glum and disappointed, and those in Kyiv were ecstatic. The latter population’s sentiment disappeared in about six months. Initially many Ukrainians thought that they would be prosperous just because they were independent from the Soviet Union.

“Well, independence and sovereignty are great, but it also means you have to have a lot of work. In the American Revolution being free from Britain was one thing – actually building a country is another,” he added.


Mr. Piontkovsky, the last panelist, discussed Ukrainian economic trends, policies and future outlook. He showed that the average growth in gross domestic product (GDP) from 2000 to 2007 was 7.5 percent. In 1999 GDP reached its lowest point and has continued increas-

(Continued on page 21)



Speakers and officers and members of the Boston College Ukrainian Society.

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Changes in the...

(Continued from page 11)

Ukraine; most of the new immigrants in Arizona came from Canada in search of a warmer climate.

Summary and conclusions

The number of persons of Ukrainian ancestry in the United States has increased by close to 57,000 (or 6.3 percent) between 2000 and 2005*, from 897,000 to 954,000. This increase is due mainly to the continuing immigration from Ukraine. This immigration is still the main source of growth of the number of Ukrainians in the United States, contributes large numbers of Ukrainian-speakers of all ages and provides potential members with useful skills for the organized community.

One negative effect of the "Fourth Wave" migrants on the whole community that was detected in 2000 persists five years later. A high proportion of immigrants from Ukraine who have arrived in the last five years speak Russian at home, and thus the overall percent of all Ukrainians in the United States speaking Russian continues to be somewhat larger than the percent speaking Ukrainian – 14.9 percent and 13.7 percent, respectively (in 2000 the respective percentages were 14.1 percent and 13.1 percent).

However, it is fair to assume that the great majority of the new immigrants are also fluent in Ukrainian and speak Russian at home because it is easier for them. (The census question is about language spoken at home and does not provide information about language used outside the home). It is quite possible that the same persons speak Ukrainian when interacting with other Ukrainians in the United States.

The process of geographical dispersion of Ukrainians in the United States continues. Most states with large communities composed of U.S.-born and members of the first three migration waves continue losing population to states without organized Ukrainian communities, and this is further aggravated by the tendency of new immigrants to settle in states that have no Ukrainian organizations.

Between 2000 and 2005* some states like South Carolina and Idaho more than doubled their number of Ukrainians, and states like Kentucky, Iowa, Montana and West Virginia increased the number of Ukrainians by more than 50 percent.

Some states with small numbers of Ukrainians like Mississippi, Rhode Island, Vermont or Kansas experienced high relative losses of Ukrainians in the last five years but, more importantly, states like Michigan, Illinois, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania continue

losing Ukrainians, and New York and New Jersey had practically zero growth during this five-year period, despite significant inflows of immigrants from Ukraine. This means that these key states are losing Ukrainians due to internal migration to states with few or no Ukrainians. In many cases persons who were active in their communities of origin become inactive because there are no Ukrainian churches and organizations at the places of destination.

Another important development is the diversification of Ukrainians in the different states in terms of nativity and the different migration waves. In 12 states the percent of U.S.-born among all Ukrainians was more than 90 percent, and this list includes important states like Pennsylvania, Michigan and Virginia. On the other hand in 24 states more than 15 percent of all persons of Ukrainian ancestry were immigrants of the Fourth Wave (arrived between 1995 and 2005*). In three states – South Dakota, Oregon and Washington – this percentage was more than 50 percent, and in important states like California, New York, Illinois and Massachusetts 15 percent to 23 percent of the total number of Ukrainians were immigrants of the Fourth Wave.

These results show a demographic dynamic with important implications for the future of the organized Ukrainian community in the United States. The continuous influx of immigrants from Ukraine provides the potential for strengthening and rejuvenating current organizations or creating new ones, as well as the possibility of organizing new communities in states with originally few or no Ukrainians.

Organizations like churches and credit unions should pay special attention to these settlement patterns and look for opportunities for new parishes and branches. Further dispersion of Ukrainians in the United States poses challenges of communication and coordination, and extensive use of modern communication technologies has become a necessity. Organizations that do not take advantage of these technologies run the risk of becoming extinct.

The increased diversity among states in terms of U.S.-born, old and new immigrants, poses challenges and opportunities. The integration of Fourth Wave immigrants into the organized community requires flexibility, accommodation and compromise. An analysis of the U.S.-born and new/old immigrant composition of Ukrainians in different cities, to be presented in a companion article, will provide a better understanding of these communities and help structure organized community work to better respond to local conditions.

Kino-Q...

(Continued from page 13)

award-winning short and feature documentary films such as "High Expectations," written and directed by Yuri Shapochka, "Freedom Had a Price," directed and produced by Yuriy Luhovy and "The English Surgeon," written and directed by Geoffrey Smith.

Other films by Ukrainian filmmakers include "Kinomaniya" by Anna Javorenko, "Oiura" by Vladislav Chabaniuk and "Birdwatcher" by Larysa Artiugina. "A Kingdom Reborn: Treasures from Ukrainian Galicia" by Danielle Stodilka was premiered at the Potocki Place in Lviv, Ukraine.

And, in tandem with the arrival of the Holodomor torch at Soyuzivka, a trailer will be screened of "Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-33" produced by Moksha Films & Tomkiw

Entertainment. This documentary short film/trailer has been accepted as an "official selection" at the Cannes Film Festival Short Film Corner. Incidentally, I'm going to be at Cannes this week and will keep an eye out for it.

What would you like to tell potential audience members for the film festival?

The Kino-Q Ukrainian Film Festival is the best opportunity for audiences to see films that are part of their cultural community alongside great art and literature, often with a capability to send a message out to a broader audience past the immediate Ukrainian one. Or the film festival's selections can entertain, the way many films do at mainstream theaters.

The end result is that people come out and see these films and then have a chance to congregate afterwards and talk about what they've just seen. That's what the Tiki Bar is for.



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Bandura Workshop

This workshop covers the basics of playing bandura and bandura history. Participants are introduced to ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed). This workshop is designed for children ages 9 - 11.

This one-week program is held August 10 - 17.

VOCAL PROGRAMS

Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop

This workshop provides an opportunity to sing sacred works by Ukrainian master composers and provides practical pointers for church singers, cantors, and conductors alike relative to common areas of church singing. Listening lectures will open up many hidden aspects of sacred music traditions. This course is designed for older teenagers (ages 17 and older) and adults of all ages.

This 4-day program is held August 14 - 17.

Ukrainian Vocal Music Workshop

This intensive and enjoyable workshop focuses on the singing and performance of Ukrainian folk music. Participants will take part in various ensembles, private lessons, and be instructed by teachers with extensive backgrounds in Ukrainian vocal music. This course is designed for older teenagers (ages 17 and older) and adults of all ages.

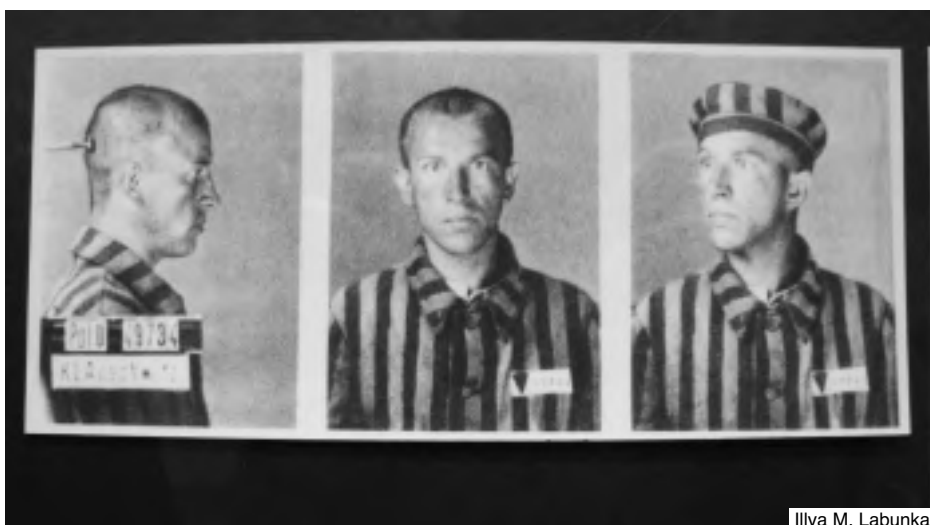
This one-week program is held August 17 - 24.

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Illya M. Labunka

Dr. Petro Mirchuk, a member of the OUN since 1932, spent three years in the Auschwitz concentration camp. As Soviet forces advanced westward, he was transferred to the Mauthausen concentration camp.



A panel about Vasyl Bandera, brother of Ukrainian nationalist leader Stepan Bandera.

Historical exhibit...

(Continued from page 1)

positive feature is the objective depiction of the various categories under which ethnic Ukrainians were fated to find themselves as inmates in the Auschwitz concentration camp.

While the bitter circumstances surrounding the lives of Ukrainian Red Army prisoners of war, and so-called "Ostarbeiters" (forced laborers) are poignantly displayed, the tragic stories of 35 Ukrainian political prisoners are also documented. Approximately 250 Ukrainian political prisoners were imprisoned at Auschwitz during the course of the camp's existence as a mill of death. These prisoners were members of the movement for Ukraine's national liberation.

As a result, the exhibit features a section displaying the fates of, among others, Petro Mirchuk, Vasyl Bandera, Leonid Mostovych, Stefan Petelycky, Lidia Hoyaniuk, an "Album of a Political Prisoner" (featuring drawings by prisoner Petro Baley) and Mr. Kaczor. In addition, memoirs and historical monographs by Mr. Petelycky, Danylo Chajkowsky, Petro Mirchuk, Yuro Pasternak, Mykhailo Marunchak and Mykola Klymyshyn are also on display.

It should be noted that the museum was also provided with scanned copies of various documents relating to the Auschwitz fates of Mr. Chajkowsky, Boris Witochynsky, Wasyl Kardasz, Ivan Lahola, Petro Bashuk, Wolodymyr Marynets and Mykola Staszko, but most were not replicated for display purposes.

Among some of the more fortunate individuals to survive Auschwitz was Mr. Kaczor, who, at age 84, found the energy to fly to Kyiv from New York to attend the official opening of the exhibit.

As the current head of the World League of Ukrainian Political Prisoners, Mr. Kaczor delivered an official letter to President Yushchenko during the exhibit's opening on May 9 as a gesture of gratitude for the president's concerted effort in attempting to secure a permanent exhibit site which would feature Ukrainian prisoners at the actual Auschwitz camp site.

Apparently, Barracks No. 14 at Auschwitz has been secured for such a permanent exhibit. However, according to members of the organizing committee of the Kyiv-based exhibit, as a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Soviet legacy at Auschwitz has been inherited by the Russian Federation and this has caused certain delays in establishing a permanent exhibit featuring Ukrainian prisoners at the camp. Furthermore, for unspecified reasons, the Russian exhibit has recently been closed for "renovation."

One of the more interesting cases involving Auschwitz survivors is the story of Hryhorii Zhulynskyi, father of current presidential advisor Mylola Zhulynskyi. Hryhorii Zhulynskyi – separated by the war from the rest of his family – was deported to Auschwitz for slave labor, but cheated death in the camp and eventually emigrated to the United States. On April 14 the elder Mr. Zhulynskyi returned to Ukraine to live with his son, on what turned out to be the Auschwitz survivor's 100th birthday. Hryhorii Zhulynskyi lived outside his homeland for 65 years, before finally being coaxed to return to his native Ukraine. Following the war, Mr. Zhulynskyi had spent most of his life in upstate New York.

In response to the various uncertainties that have recently surfaced regarding Ukrainians' rightful recognition at the Auschwitz camp site, Prof. Oleksander

(Continued on page 21)

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Illya M. Labunka

Bohdan Kaczor (left), head of the World League of Ukrainian Political Prisoners and Prof. Volodymyr Serhiychuk, professor of Ukrainian history at Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University, following their discussion on collaborative publishing endeavors at the Kyiv headquarters of the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists.

Historical exhibit...

(Continued from page 20)

Lysenko, a scholar at the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and a member of the Ukraine-Auschwitz Committee, offered a somewhat disappointing assessment of the current situation.

"This year, as a member of the Auschwitz committee, I took part in the meeting of the international committee and, as it turns out, no one is really expecting us there with a Ukrainian exhibit. There is certain opposition, however faint, and some Jewish groups have expressed hesitation, while Polish authori-

ties, I would say, are regarding this question with caution," commented Prof. Lysenko.

The current exhibit at the National Museum of the Great Patriotic War is scheduled to run through the summer and well into the fall. Afterwards, plans call for opening the exhibit in Auschwitz, but no definite date has yet been set due to the various political hurdles yet to be overcome.

In addition, the Kyiv-based organizing committee is planning to set-up a traveling multi-media exhibit in September on Ukrainians in Auschwitz, which may also include other concentration camps. Finally, there are plans to establish an appropriate website on the subject.

Russia prepares...

(Continued from page 2)

solved ethnic conflicts." Since Moscow feels it can do little to turn the current tide of public opinion in Ukraine, policy analysts are looking at the second issue. The Kremlin has successfully manipulated "unresolved ethnic conflicts" in Abkhazia, South Ossetia and Kosovo to advance its geopolitical interests.

In a March 31 article in *Izvestia*, Moscow Mayor Yury Luzhkov, who is a leader of the pro-Kremlin Unified Russia party, urged Moscow not to extend its treaty of friendship, cooperation and partnership with Ukraine. That document expires on April 1, 2009. The 1999 treaty establishes the border status of the Crimean Peninsula and the right of the Russian Black Sea Fleet to use its base at Sevastopol. Mr. Luzhkov argued that withdrawing from the treaty would allow Russia to reopen its territorial claims on Crimea, which has an ethnic Russian majority and was part of the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic (RSFSR) during the Soviet period.

The day after Mr. Luzhkov's article appeared, some Duma deputies made similar arguments in hearings on the question of Ukraine's possible NATO membership.

On April 7 *Kommersant* reported that President Putin had questioned Ukraine's right to exist during a closed-door Russia-NATO Council meeting in Bucharest. Citing an unidentified NATO source, the daily said Mr. Putin told his counterparts that, in order to prevent Ukraine from join-

ing the alliance, Russia was prepared to claim the eastern and southern parts of the country. "Ukraine will cease its existence as a state," Mr. Putin purportedly said.

Ukraine's reaction to the report was surprisingly muted. Verkhovna Rada chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk told journalists in Moscow that he does not consider such threats "realistic," adding that the idea of splitting Ukraine is "illusory." In fact, Mr. Yatsenyuk has good reason to be sanguine.

The Ukrainian public and the political elites are united in opposing any division. Even the pro-Moscow Party of the Regions and the pro-Russian oligarchs of eastern Ukraine have little taste for division. Perhaps more importantly, a split Ukraine would not satisfy Russia's economic interests, since even the rump western portion would be able to disrupt flows of Russian energy exports to Western Europe.

This does not mean that Russia will stop playing this card. Vladimir Batyuk, an expert with the Institute of the U.S.A. and Canada, has said the Kremlin's goal is to split the alliance as deeply as possible on the issue of further eastward expansion, not the absorption of Ukrainian territory. In fact, he added, the Kremlin does not want to see too great a weakening of the alliance, to say nothing of its disintegration: "If NATO disintegrates or is defeated in Afghanistan, then Russia will face a Taliban threat again, just as it did eight years ago."

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Ukraine's ambassador...

(Continued from page 4)

truth was buried until perestroika; in the West it was misrepresented and believed to be a hoax or a lie at the time when it was going on. There were some rare exceptions, for example, the reports of German and Italian diplomats from Ukraine of that period. But the truth was too inconvenient for the West to take any action at a time when it was cautiously watching the emergence of the USSR as a new military and political power. But, Ambassador Shamsbur remarked, "if civil society was more active on this issue... then perhaps [the] Holocaust

could have been avoided."

When in our modern world we continue to face the tragedies of Rwanda and currently of Darfur, no doubt that the topic of genocide remains globally relevant and important, Ambassador Shamsbur added. And so the goal of Ukraine's continued work with international bodies is to gain acknowledgement of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide so that the world is able to draw lessons from it for the future.

In the question-and-answer part of the presentation Ambassador Shamsbur expounded on commemorative events marking the Holodomor which are to take place in the United States.

Boston College...

(Continued from page 17)

ing since. Another encouraging sign is that Ukraine's stock market growth was second in the world in 2007, following China with an increase of 135 percent.

Mr. Piontkovsky said he believes Ukraine's macro performance has held up so because of several factors. First,

the country's underutilized capacity allows it to increase output without major investments. Regarding terms of trade, the strong growth in the price of metal offsets gas price stock. In addition, the strength of the euro and the ruble against the U.S. dollar keeps the real effective exchange rate in check. Russian growth also is a key impetus because, as Mr. Williams mentioned, the Ukrainian and Russian economies are tied together.



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

A Distinguished College Scholar

AUSTIN, Texas – Craig Andriy Wilson, son of Chrystyna Wynnyk and Grant Wilson, was one of 250 students out of the 5,000 in the Cockrell School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin to receive the university's highest honor, the Distinguished College Scholar Medal, at the 60th annual Honors Day Convocation on April 12.

The UT Honors Day Program was established in 1948 to honor students who achieve the highest level of academic excellence. A student must have completed 60 credit-hours and have a minimum grade point average of 3.8 to be honored as a distinguished scholar.

The convocation included ceremonial

elements, such as an academic procession, orange and white honors cords worn by students, medals presented to distinguished scholars by their dean, heraldic banners, inspirational messages and celebratory music. The Cockrell School of Engineering and Dean Ben Streetman hosted a luncheon for the honorees, their families and guests. In recognition of those honored at the program, the University Tower shone a bright burnt orange on the night of April 12 to represent academic achievement.

Craig is a junior studying Electrical and Computer Engineering on a full four year academic scholarship that also includes an undergraduate research stipend. He is specializing in communications networking and digital signal processing and will apply for Ph.D. programs next fall.



Craig Andriy Wilson (center) with his parents, Chrystyna Wynnyk and Grant Wilson, at the Honors Day Convocation at the University of Texas at Austin.



Joy Brittan

Show biz star to teach pysanky

LAS VEGAS, Nev. – Joy Brittan, an apprentice to master pysanka teacher Zoria Zetarak, has finally branched out on her own. After an interview with representatives of the Nevada Arts Council, Ms. Brittan plans to teach this ancient art to the public. Ms. Brittan, who resides in Nevada, is known for her show biz act and performing Ukrainian songs in the Las Vegas area schools. On April 19 Ms. Brittan performed at the International Food and Folklife Festival in Henderson, Nev.

Teen takes 9th at Intel competition

PORT WASHINGTON, N.Y. – Alexis Mychajliw, 16, a junior at Paul D. Schreiber High School in Port Washington, N.Y., took ninth place in the 2008 Intel Science Talent Search, and received \$20,000 for her research project on wetland habitats.

In the March 9 issue of The Weekly, it was first reported that Miss Michajliw was named a finalist in the competition. (For more information see the March 9 issue.)

She is a member of Branch 184 of the Ukrainian National Association.

Immigrant from Ukraine recognized for play

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Svitlana Bosovyk, a junior at Solvay High School near Syracuse, N.Y., was recognized for her original play "Her Own Happy Day" during this year's Young Playwright's Festival on April 28 at Syracuse Stage.

Miss Bosovyk, who moved from Ukraine approximately two years ago, entered the Syracuse Stage Young Playwright's Contest along with the rest of her English as a Second Language class to improve their writing skills and learn more about drama writing and production.

The contest leaders said her play showed an "impressive use of the English language."

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OUT AND ABOUT

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|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| Through June 30
Winnipeg | Art exhibit, "Far, Far Away: Postcards from Pre- Revolutionary Ukraine," Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, 204-942-0218 | Stanford, CA | Treasures for Ukrainian Galicia" by Dani Stodilka and Peter Bejger, Stanford University, 650-723-3562 |
| Through November 30
New York | Exhibit, "Holodomor: Genocide by Famine," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | May 29
Baltimore, MD | Holodomor Torch lighting and candlelight vigil, War Memorial Plaza, 410-303-0440 |
| May 22
New York | Performance by Mariana Sadowska and friends, Joe's Pub, 212-967-7555 | May 30
Philadelphia | Film screening, "Galicia: Land of Dilemmas" by Olha Onyshko and Sarah Farhat, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-3548 |
| May 26
Ottawa | Holodomor commemoration, Ukrainian Canadian Congress Holodomor Committee and the Embassy of Ukraine, Parliament Hill, 613-733-7000 | May 30
Washington | Lecture by Staislav Kulchinsky, "The Famine of 1932-1933: Case of Genocide," Library of Congress, www.loc.gov |
| May 26
Toronto | Concert, "An Evening with Pavlo Hunka and Friends: Discovering the Art Songs of Mykola Lysenko," Four Seasons Center for the Performing Arts, 416-769-5757 | May 30
Stanford, CA | Film screening, "Import/Export" by Ulrich Seidl, Stanford University, 650-723-3562 |
| May 27
Washington | Lecture by Izyaslav Darkhovskiy, "Under Three Empires - The Thorns and Roses of a Life," Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 202-691-4000 | May 30
Vancouver, BC | Presentation by Orysia Tracz, "Songs Your Mother Should Not Have Taught You: Erotic Symbolism in Ukrainian Folk Songs," Ukrainian Hall, 604-873-1738 or 604-942-4317 |
| May 27
New York | "Walk Against Genocide," Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, 212-228-6840 | May 31
New York | Literary evening with Ukrainian authors, Cornelia Street Café, 212-989-9319 |
| May 28
Washington | "International Symposium on Medical-Pharmaceutical Research and Business in Ukraine," Maxwell USA, Ritz-Carlton Hotel, infousa@max-well.com or www.max-well.com | May 31
Burnaby, BC | European Festival, Scandinavian Community Center, 866-749-9208 or www.eurofestbc.ca |
| May 29 | Film screening, "A Kingdom Reborn: | | |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

UKRAINIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

On the church grounds at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church N. Broadway & Shonnard Pl., Yonkers, NY

FRIDAY JUNE 13
6 TO 10 PM

SATURDAY JUNE 14
1 TO 10 PM

SUNDAY JUNE 15
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The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section

Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement.

The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – offers readers of The Ukrainian Weekly the opportunity to place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 6, 2008.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 22:

- your note of congratulations, in Ukrainian or English, which should be no more than 50 words, including names;
- in English, the full name of the graduate, the degree completed or diploma received, along with the date it was presented, a list of awards and honors given the graduate, and the name and location of the school;
- a photo of the graduate (optional);
- payment for the ad;
- your daytime phone number.

The ad sizes for the greeting are a 1/8 page horizontal for \$100 or a 1/4 page for \$180.

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:
The Ukrainian Weekly – Congratulations Graduates!
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Parsippany, NJ 07054
Attn. Maria Oscislawski

Or e-mail: adsukrpubl@att.net

For further information, please call (973) 292-9800 ext. 3040 or visit www.ukrweekly.com

Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|---|
| May 24 – Memorial Day weekend
Official Soyuzivka Reopening
Kino-Q Film Festival
Friday – Matthew Dubas
Saturday – Zabava with Hrim
Sunday – music by Walter Mosuriak and friend | July 10 - 13 – Soyuzivka Cultural Festival Weekend |
| May 31 – New Ukrainian Wave Convention | July 13 -18 – Heritage Camp session 1 |
| June 2 - 5 – Stamford Diocese clergy retreat days | July 13 - 19 – Discovery / Cultural Camp |
| June 7 – Wedding | July 20 - 25 – Heritage Camp session 2 |
| June 8 - 13 – Seniors' Week | July 20 - 26 – Sitch Sports Camp session 1 |
| June 14 – Wedding | July 20 - August 2 – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Camp session 1; recital Saturday, August 2 |
| June 15 – Father's Day luncheon and cultural program | July 27 – August 2 – Sitch Sports Camp session 2 |
| June 21 – Wedding | July 27 - 31 – Adoptive Ukrainian Children and Parents Heritage Camp session co-sponsored by Ukrainian Embassy |
| June 22 - 29 – Tabir Ptashat session 1 | August 3 – 16 – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Camp session 2 |
| June 23 - 27 – Exploration Day Camp session 1 | August 9 – Miss Soyuzivka Weekend |
| June 22 - July 3 – Tennis Camp | August 9 – Club Suzy-Q Week – 25th Anniversary |
| June 28 - 29 – USCAK tennis tournament | August 16 – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Camp session 2 recital |
| June 29 - July 12 – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Workshop | August 17 - 23 – Joseph's School of Dance (Ballroom Dance Camp) |
| June 29 - July 6 – Tabir Ptashat session 2 | August 25 – September 1 – Labor Day Week |
| June 30 - July 4 – Exploration Day Camp session 2 | |



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
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Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 24

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Oksana Blashkiv titled "Dmytro Chyzhevsky and Roman Jakobson: A History of Relations." Ms. Blashkiv is a graduate student in the department of comparative literature at the Ivan Franko Drohobych Pedagogical Institute and a 2008 Shklar Fellow at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Sunday, June 8

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) cordially invites the Ukrainian American community in the Philadelphia area to attend its traditional

annual "Youth Day" and picnic on the grounds of the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, located at Lower State and County Line roads in Horsham, Pa. The official program will commence at 11 a.m. with flag-raising and opening ceremonies, commendations and awards for active members of the UAYA branch, and a divine liturgy. Sports will include soccer, volleyball and track and field events. The artistic program in the afternoon will feature the winners of national competitions. There will also be a performance by the branch's well-known dance ensemble Vesna. Throughout the day, there will be a picnic with plenty of delicious food, and hot and cold drinks. There will also be music in the evening for the public's entertainment and dancing. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. For further information call Michi Wyrsta, 215-379-3676.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$20 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510; e-mail, preview@ukrweekly.com.

MEET THE FILMMAKERS @ the League



Filmmakers Sarah Farhat and Olha Onyshko

Would you risk your life to save your enemy? In their film *Land of Dilemmas*, Olha Onyshko and Sarah Farhat bring to light ordinary Ukrainians, Poles and Jews who took extraordinary risks under very difficult circumstances, becoming role models of tolerance and understanding for future generations. Olha and Sarah visit the League to introduce themselves and to screen segments of their film (currently in production), and to discuss the film's universal theme of inter-ethnic reconciliation.

8pm Friday May 30, \$7 entry
Ukrainian League of Philadelphia
www.kinofilmproject.org



MARK THE DATE! LET US NOT FORGET!

Join us at Soyuzivka!

The International Holodomor Remembrance Flame (Ukrainian Genocide Torch Relay), lit by Ukraine's President, Viktor Yushchenko, left Ukraine last month on a worldwide tour.

It will reach Soyuzivka heritage center, Sunday, May 25 at approximately 1:00 PM on its travels through 33 countries.

Please join us for this memorable occasion. A brief ceremony and panakhyda service will take place in commemoration of this tragic event.

As part of the remembrance ceremony, we invite the public to the world premier showing of the movie trailer, "HOLODOMOR: Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-33" which is in production at this time. Upon completion, it will be the first documentary about the famine in Ukraine 1932-1933 produced in the United States. "HOLODOMOR: Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-33" is being shown as part of the Memorial Day weekend KinoQ Film Festival taking place at Soyuzivka.

Please call 845-626-5641 for more information.

